



October 2014 - Tishrei / Cheshvan 5775, Volume XXVII Number 7

# **Yom Kippur Schedule**

Erev Yom Kippur-Kol Nidre							
6:00 PM	Family Service	Shomrei Torah					
8:00 PM	Adult Service	Center For Spiritual Living					
10:30 AM	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Center For Spiritual Living</b>					
1:30 PM	Jewish Journeys	Shomrei Torah					
3:00 PM	Torah Reading/Jonah	Shomrei Torah					
3:45 PM	Healing Service	Shomrei Torah					
4:30 PM	Yizkor Service	Shomrei Torah					
5:30 PM	Neilah Service	Shomrei Torah					
	6:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:30 AM 1:30 PM 3:00 PM 3:45 PM 4:30 PM	6:00 PM Family Service 8:00 PM Adult Service  10:30 AM Morning Service 1:30 PM Jewish Journeys 3:00 PM Torah Reading/Jonah 3:45 PM Healing Service 4:30 PM Yizkor Service					

Afternoon service times at CST are approximate



The solar panels are in the lower left in this aerial photograph by congregant Bill Skoonberg.

# **Here Comes** The Sun

Shomrei Torah goes solar! The greening of Shomrei Torah continues! In accordance with our congregation's commitment to a clean energy future, we have installed solar panels and are generating electricity. There are 104 individual modules generating up to 34 kW. Due to when the electricity is generated, this will allow us to reduce our annual

electrical bill by 90-95% and provide approximately 75% of the electricity the synagogue uses. This was accomplished without any upfront cost to the congregation, will immediately reduce our costs, and increase our savings each year. A celebration is being planned stay tuned for notice of the event.

### Sukkot

# Saturday, October 11 6:15pm

To celebrate the Feast of Booths, we are going to travel from sukkah to sukkah around town as we take our Progressive Sukkot Dinner on the road. Our meal will begin with appetizers hosted in the CST sukkah, and will be followed by potluck dinner and dessert at volunteer members' sukkahs in northern and southern Santa Rosa, Sebastopol and Petaluma. There is a group traveling near you! Want to make new friends or connect with existing CST members? This is a great way to mix, mingle, and munch. Please call Denise at 707-578-5519 to sign up so we know how many will be in each group.

# Simchat Torah

# Wednesday, October 15 6:15pm

Join us as we celebrate the unfurling and rerolling of our Torah with lively music, singing and dancing. This family-oriented party is a wonderful opportunity to see the Torah unfold in all its glory. Full community participation is encouraged and welcome; come shake it up with us at Shomrei Torah!

# HIGHLIGHTS

Israel Trip page 2 Who Shall Live... page 6 B'nei Mitzvah page 10

# Rabbi's Tisch Jonathan Carey, "Answering the 10 Toughest Questions about Israel"

Friday, October 10 6:15 PM

Israel is often in the news-and much of the coverage can be downright critical (e.g., "Israel is an uncaring bully in a lopsided conflict"). Hear Jonathan Carey explain the facts and help us answer some of the toughest questions about Israel. Jonathan is the president of LegalVision and also heads Blue Star, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping Jewish students and others develop accurate and thoughtful responses to the vitriol directed against Israel. Join us for a delicious catered meal. Please RSVP to Denise in our office at 707-578-5519 or denise@cstsr.org.

"Hear Jonathan
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facts and help us
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toughest questions
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#### **Business To Business**

Connecting with others' in business at CST *Tuesday, October 14 – 7:30 AM* 

You are invited to the next B2B@CST meeting on Tuesday, October 14, at 7:30 AM for coffee and business networking with other members of Congregation Shomrei Torah. All Temple members are welcome.

Our September meeting featured Stormy Knight of Net101 talking about how members of the B2B@ CST group can help other members do better on the internet quickly and easily. The upcoming October meeting will have a 10 minute presentation from Jessica Kahn Wichmann of Zeitgeist Sonoma, a design and architectural firm located in Santa Rosa. Jessica, along with her husband Efraim, provide a complete package of services to anyone looking for changing where they live and work. Jessica will discuss the types of clients that Zeitgeist Sonoma is suited for and the kind of work that they most love to do.

Our mission is to build each others businesses and create more opportunities together within the CST community. We would love to have you join us! Please contact the CST office for more information or to join the B2B@CST mailing list

# Mourners Kaddish—What is it? Death and Mourning Rituals

Class taught by Rabbi George and Rabbi Kramer Wednesdays, October 15, 22, & 29 - 12:00—1:30 PM

When someone we love dies we feel bereft, bewildered and alone. Judaism offers a comforting and psychologically sound approach to "walking through the shadow" of death. This three-session class will introduce you to the Jewish response to death, the rituals and the meaning behind them. There is no charge for the class, however reservations are requested by contacting the office at 707-578-5519 or shomrei@cstsr.org .

# New Member and Not-so-new Member Shabbat and Oneg

Friday, October 17 – 6:15 PM

Are you a new member or an established member who'd like to feel more at home at CST? The clergy, staff, Board of Directors and the Membership Task Force are planning three events for new members, those who feel disconnected or want to meet more people and established members who'd like to help welcome new members. The first event is a special new-member Shabbat and Oneg on October 17. Future events are an adult-only reception on January 11 and a family pot-luck on May 3. Watch the Voice and Chai-Lites for information on the new-member events and join us on October 17.

# CST Congregational Trip to Israel

led by Rabbi George



We are pleased to announce that there will be a congregational trip to Israel on **April 18-30, 2015**. An informational meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21 from 7-8:30 PM in the Kolbo room. Rabbi George will review the highlights of the itinerary. This trip is suitable for veteran Israel travelers and for first-time visitors.

# **Portrait of Sonoma County**

SAC Hosts County Health Action Manager Monday, October 6 — 7:00 PM

How much do you know about our county? Consider this: When you're here, you can be in one census district with a Human Development Index higher than Connecticut, then walk, bike or drive five miles to another that scores lower than Mississippi!

Jen Lewis, Health Action Program Manager for the Sonoma County Dept. of Health and contributor to "A Portrait of Sonoma County," will speak on the report on October 6 in CST's Kolbo Room at 7 PM. The report was commissioned by the Sonoma County Department of Health Services with support of the County Board of Supervisors.

The report tackles numerous issues focused on health, education, and family income. Whether you are simply curious or if you want the knowledge to power change, the Portrait is a must! You can find it at http://www.sonomahealthaction.org/.

Jen Lewis' report will precede the regular Social Action Committee meeting.

# The Community Within the City

What You Don't Know About Santa Rosa Junior College Wednesday, October 22 — 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Even if you or your child attended SRJC, you'll be surprised by what you don't know about this thriving educational, cultural treasure that's educated Sonoma County for nearly 100 years. SRJC President Dr. Frank Chong will discuss the role of the College in training our local nurses, police, and firefighters, as well as the next generation of scientists and political leaders. He'll talk about the impressive affordability and quality of SRJC, and about restoring classes for learners of every age and prior educational experience (even PhDs, JDs, J.D.s, and MDs). And you'll find out why Measure H, SRJC's bond on this November's ballot that will upgrade aging facilities and technology at the college, is so important.

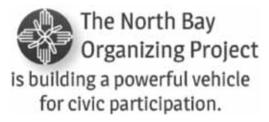
Dr. Chong, known for his wit and down-to-earth approach, grew up in New York's Chinatown. The child of Chinese immigrants, he has much common with us as Jews, including appreciating humor and loving Chinese food. Snacks and beverages will be served. Jointly sponsored by Social Action and Lifelong Learning Committees. Introduced by CST President Rachael Cutcher, Scholarship Programs Manager at Santa Rosa Junior College.

# Social Action Committee

# Walk in Roseland with Rabbi George

Sunday, October 19 — 4:00 — 6:00 PM

Join Social Action Committee members and Rabbi George walking a precinct in Roseland as part of the North Bay Organizing Project's



(NBOP) Voter Engagement effort. Between now and Election Day, NBOP will focus on four precincts in Roseland, in an effort to increase voter turnout by at least five percent. Voter turnout in this area tends to be somewhat lower than in other parts of the county, even among registered voters, so we are participating in a community-wide effort to get out the vote. This is not just about Roseland, but about our whole County. We will not be advocating for particular candidates or measures; simply encouraging registered voters to make their voices heard. Each of the twenty organizations that are part of the NBOP has committed to one day of precinct walking. CST members will walk for two hours on Sunday, October 19. We will gather in Roseland at 4 PM and finish at 6 PM. We will walk in pairs; usually, a CST member will be paired with a bilingual young person who can interpret if needed. Worthwhile and fun! We would like to have 15 volunteers from CST.

# Why NBOP? Come to the 2014 Public Meeting

*Sunday, October 5 − 3:00 - 5:00 PM* 

Santa Rosa High School, 1235 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa

For the past year, CST has been part of the North Bay Organizing Project, along with twenty faith-based and community groups. Several SAC members have been increasingly involved with NBOP, and have been impressed with their accomplishments and witnessed the respect for them held by the Board of Supervisors, county staff, and other

political representatives. Most recently, NBOP mobilized a county-wide partnership to assist unaccompanied immigrant children. At the annual Public Meeting, this year's accomplishments will be highlighted—expansion of restorative justice programs in Santa Rosa Schools, free bus passes for students, and implementation of AB 60, so that undocumented immigrants can obtain drivers licenses. Start the new year right by connecting with our broader community.

For more information about the Precinct Walk in Roseland or the NBOP Public Meeting, please contact: the CST office.

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# Save The Date for the Congregational Retreat Weekend, April 10-12, 2015.

A treat for all ages. Our last one was a resounding success–mark your calendars.





Members planning the Congregational Retreat. Seated: Tom Meade, Melissa Kort, Tricia Goldberg, Ellen Robin, Marcia Gladstone. Standing: David Fichera, Brandon Binder

# Ethical Wills and Other Practical Estate Planning Tools

Sunday, November 9 3:00-5:00 PM

Come join members of the congregation and get started writing your own Ethical Will. This free two hour session will be taught by Marsha Jacobs, Marriage & Family Therapist, and Albert Handelman, attorney specializing in estate planning.

Each of us has values and wishes we would like to pass along to our children, grandchildren and future generations. These can be incorporated into a document called an Ethical Will. Though it is not a legal or religious document, it can be just as important as other aspects of what we leave to those we care about after we are gone. Some of the topics often included in an Ethical Will could include family genealogy, attitudes toward spirituality, education, parenthood, humor and much more. There will also be some practical tips for items to consider for your legal will.

Sponsored by the Endowment and Gifts Group and the Shomrei Torah Legacy Circle. Contact the CST office at 707-578-5519 or shomrei@cstsr.org to register.

# Collecting Warm Things This Winter

The Jewish New Year is a reminder of the change of seasons. We will soon be packing away our shorts and sandals to make room for sweaters and boots. Please consider what you no longer need and put it aside for our annual warm things drive to donate to the members of our community who are not as fortunate as we are. Ask your friends and neighbors to donate as well! The drive will be a little different this year. We are focusing on collecting warm coats and jackets (not formal dress jackets), sweatshirts, sweatpants, sweaters, rain gear, hats, scarves, gloves/ mittens and socks. Sleeping bags and warm blankets always go immediately and were especially needed last year when the temperatures dropped so low. Please donate your clothing and sheets to other community agencies. Collections will start the first of November and volunteers will be needed for sorting and distribution in December. Children are welcome to help out. Check upcoming Chai-lites for details.

Contact the CST office.



# Men's Bagel Club

Sunday, November 2 — 9:00 AM

The Bagel Club roster of speakers has wide appeal. For our kickoff session on September 7, Ellen Blustein, director of the Sonoma County Jewish Film Festival, showed trailers and discussed the 2014 films that all look great. We had a great time and are looking forward to this year's offerings.

There will be no Bagel Club in October as Yom Kippur conflicts. But in November, Bill Skoonberg will call upon his work knowledge and additional investigations to present "Understanding Your Electricity Bill and Saving Energy". We can all learn a lot from Bill about this complex arena.

In January, Charlie Rose (aka Jerry Newman) interviews Rabbi Kramer. Come get to know her even better.

If you have speakers or topics that you want us to schedule, contact the CST office.

# Saul Kaye at Shabbat Services

Friday, November 7 – 6:15 PM

Join us for a wonderful free musical experience as Saul Kaye joins us for Friday evening Shabbat services. Saul is famous in the Bay Area for his unique fusion of traditional Jewish liturgy with the music of the Blues. He has performed nationally and released two acclaimed albums. "Not only is Saul Kaye a soulful and sincere player, he's also a fantastic teacher. More than just a blues show, this deepened our connection to history, philosophy, and Judaism." --St. Paul JCC



# **Performance Series Tickets Now On Sale**

Start your Hanukkah shopping early by purchasing a four-performance package to the cultural series starting January 24. Tickets are just \$100 for all four events, or \$36 if purchased individually.

The series features nationally known performers, including a mentalist and magician straight from Broadway, a renowned singer-songwriter duo, an ensemble theatrical performance about motherhood, and a special evening featuring the "Dueling Cantors," led by our own Cantor David Frommer.

Save the dates for these very special events:

<u>Saturday, January 24, 2015 – 7:30 PM:</u> Magician and Mentalist Marc Salem, fresh from his hit show on Broadway, offers a captivating excursion into the power and possibilities of the human mind.

<u>Sunday, February 15, 2015 – 4:00 PM:</u> Folk Musician and Cantorial Soloist Alisa Fineman and Kimball Hurd, the Monterey Bay-based duo have earned national acclaim for their songwriting and world music repertoire.

Saturday, March 28, 2015 – 7:30 PM: The Dueling Cantors, our own David Frommer and noted Cantor Josh Breitzer present an unforgettable evening of cantoring, kibitzing and competition. This special evening will include additional surprises – don't miss it!

Saturday, May 9, 2015, 7:30 PM: Celebrate Mother's Day with The Mama-logues: A comedy about motherhood, written and produced by CST member Laurie Levy. Forget brunch! What Mom's really want for Mother's Day is wine, chocolate and laughter!

Purchase tickets online at www.shomreitorah.org. Proceeds from ticket, food and beverage sales will support Shomrei Torah's ongoing cultural, religious and education programming. If you'd like to become a sponsor, please contact Fundraising Committee Chair Bruce Falstein.

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#### **Jewish Film Festival**

Want to keep that high of the High Holy Days going? Come to the movies that are made for us, chosen by us and watch with us, your community.

#### You'll love these films.

The JCC's Sonoma County Jewish Film Festival kicks off on October 7th. Tickets are now on sale and sales are brisk. Go to the JCC's website to see the films, trailers and purchase tickets: www. jccsoco.org. Call the JCC during business hours to order tickets at 707-528-4222.



# Don't Forget About Performance Series Dates:

Saturday, January 24, 2015 — 7:30 PM Sunday, February 15, 2015 — 4:00 PM Saturday, March 28, 2015 — 7:30 PM Saturday, May 9, 2015, 7:30 PM\*



more info at www.cstsr.org

# Who Shall Live...

"Who shall live, who shall die, who by fire and who by water..."

These words are part of the Holy Day prayer, *Unetanatokef*. According to this central piece in the Holy Day liturgy, during the *Yamim Noraim*, these Days of Awe, God sits in judgment of all humanity, with the *Sefer Chayim*, the Book of Life, open before him, writing in the ledgers who shall live, who shall die, and how, in detail.

No prayer in our tradition is more challenging and evocative for me than *Unetanatokef*. While I often rail against this idea of "The God of History", controlling our lives like a puppeteer manipulates her puppets, on another level I recognize its truth: some of us will not be here next year, some of us will get sick while others will enjoy good health. You may prosper and I may suffer. The truth is, we don't know what's going to happen in the year ahead and there is much we don't control. We can make good choices and we do control how we respond to our lot in life; in that sense it may be God's book but some of the handwriting is ours.

The Gates of Repentance has an alternative reading for *Unetanatokef* that I think hits the mark:

On Rosh Hashanah we reflect, On Yom Kippur we consider. Who shall live for the sake of others,

Who dying, shall leave a heritage of life.



This year, *Unetanatokef* has a new meaning for me thanks to my relationship with a member of our community, Richard Lazovick, who is in need of a kidney. Richard is my age, 51. His son Joshua's *Bar Mitzvah* is this December. Richard's kidneys have been in decline for years but now things have gotten worse; he's on dialysis, struggling to keep everything going for his son and himself.

I can only imagine what it is like for someone like Richard to recite *Unatanatokef*...

"Who shall live and who shall die, who by fire and who by...kidney failure."

But things can be different for Richard. There is a chance that Richard, with our help, can turn fate into destiny!

Richard needs a kidney and you could be the donor that makes the difference.

Richard is currently on the kidney donor list but the estimated wait for his blood type is over eight years.

We are each born with two kidneys and can live well with just one, without any degradation in health or lifestyle -- many people do. Sometimes, the remaining kidney actually grows stronger. Who shall live and who shall die? Much of life is out of our control. Often all we can control is our attitude. Here's a chance to actually choose life for someone else, helping ensure that they will continue to be written in the Sefer Chayim, the Book of Life, for many years to come. Before someone can donate a kidney, they go through extensive testing to make sure they are both physically and mentally healthy and able to donate. All the donor's expenses will be

covered. Who shall live and who shall die? This is one instance when the choice could be up to you. If you would like to learn more about living kidney donations, with no obligation, please contact Richard directly at rbl@sonic.net or 707-292-5313. You can also get general information at www.ucdonor. org or call 415-353-1551 and ask to speak with a Living Donor Coordinator to have a confidential conversation.

B'shalom, George

## - President's **Message** -

# "Lurkers"

I have a confession. I'm a Facebook "lurker."

I post updates infrequently and comment rarely. Sometimes I don't have time to look at Facebook updates for a day or two. But when I do, I scroll through the recent and popular posts to find out what's going on. I'm curious about what people are interested in, what my friends are doing, and what's happening in people's lives. A couple of benefits of social media are the immediacy of information and a sense of connectedness. The payoff for engaging socially in my "virtual life" is when I then engage with my friends and family in real life. I enjoy finding commonalities, and yes, even differences, that can enhance our "live" conversations and face-to-face interactions.

Shomrei Torah now has over 450 member families and many of us are CST "lurkers." We read the Voice and Chai-Lites, and have



studied the new program guide. We visit the CST website. We even "like" the Shomrei Torah Facebook page! Because we have developed a strong "virtual" connection to CST, when we are together in community our experience is enhanced.

This month we're celebrating Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Join us for the CST Sukkot progressive dinner on October 11 (advance sign-ups requested) and dance with the Torah on October 15! As always, I look forward to connecting with you "live at CST!"

B'shalom, Rachael

# LEGACY NEWS

# Meet Legacy Circle Members Miriam and Roy Sparrow

Miriam and Roy joined Shomrei
Torah in 2006, before their move
to Santa Rosa from New York City,
where they had raised their children
and worked for 35 years. In moving
to Santa Rosa and joining CST, the

Sparrows were seeking a vibrant Jewish community where they could make strong friendships and contribute to the life of the congregation and the wider community. Shomrei Torah's welcoming embrace has fulfilled their objectives.

Two factors prompted Miriam and Roy to join the Legacy Circle and include Shomrei Torah in their wills. First, the future for individuals and institutions is unpredictable. Consequently, it is prudent to do what you can now to help secure cherished values. Second, Miriam and Roy feel a personal commitment to help build an enduring Reform Jewish presence in Sonoma County and believe that a legacy contribution is a particularly good way to achieve this.

The Sparrows chose to make an unrestricted gift based on their belief that the future leaders of CST will undoubtedly confront issues and problems not now foreseen. An unrestricted gift is the best way to permit CST's future decision-makers to be able to provide for these unforeseeable needs.

Roy and Miriam hope that their gift, together with those of hundreds of other families, will help establish a Jewish community that is widely recognized for taking pride in its heritage and for providing leadership to the community in repairing the world and advancing human understanding.



# Congregant Isaac Kort-Meade in Unique Summer Internship Program

This summer, congregant Isaac Kort-Meade's passion for Judaism, social justice, and advocacy brought him to Washington, D.C. for the Machon Kaplan program at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Machon Kaplan is a summer study-internship program that engages students on critical social justice issues from both an academic and practical viewpoint.

While in Washington D.C., Isaac worked with the AFL-CIO, the largest union in the country. Its mission is to encourage unions of all sizes, including local unions, to advocate for their rights. He worked in the state legislation department and kept the organization updated and informed on legislation related to working unions. "I love having a group of forty other people doing the same thing as myself... you have people to rely on... you aren't alone in the city," he said.

"I love having a group of forty other people doing the same thing as myself. . . you have people to rely on. . . you aren't alone in the city."

Son of members Melissa Kort and Tom Meade, Isaac is an incoming sophomore studying economics at the University of Oregon. With the experience and knowledge gained from his time at Oregon and with the AFL-CIO, he hopes to engage other students on his campus.

Most participants also live together, forming a residential community, participating in weekly programs that include exploring the city's monuments and museums, as well as studying various Jewish texts that connect to the contemporary policy issues that they are advocating for at their internships. To learn more about the Machon Kaplan Summer Social Action Internship program, please visit http://rac.org/mk.

# **College Care Packages**

Matzoh toffee, a wind-up dreidel, chocolate gelt—just a taste of what we sent last year to Shomrei Torah's college students! Would your college student enjoy some holiday treats this year? Let us know his or her college address and we'll send fun and delicious greetings from their Shomrei Torah family!

Please call (578-5519) or email the office (shomrei@cstsr.org) with the following information: your student's name, college name, college address, email, and move in date, plus your name, phone number and email.

We'd love to include all college students! If your student received mailings last year, you'll need to resubmit information to be included again this year, even if the address hasn't changed.

Would you like to help bake, shop, or pack? Contact the CST office.

### **JCC Chaverim News**

Chaverim is our teen education program, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center Sonoma County and supported by our Sonoma county Synagogues, open to any Jewish teen in the county. Each age group meets twice monthly for dinner or discussion. It is never too late to join or rejoin Chaverim.

For more information, go to jccsoco.org and use the "teen programs" tag.

80-100% of our Bnai Mitzvah students go on to become part of Chaverim and most stay through their Senior Year. Many of our students consider Jewish life on campus as a priority in their college choices and decisions.

Chaverim and the JCCSOCO encourage participation in SHORTY, our regional chapter of "The National Federation of Temple Youth". The social activities are engaging and exciting. Brandon Binder, SHORTY advisor can answer all of your questions. We all work together to serve our Sonoma County Jewish Teens!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 20, at Congregation Beth Ami and see the Reunion tab under the teen tab at jccsoco.org for our Second Sonoma County Jewish Teen Reunion, open to any Jewish teen alumni of any past era of synagogue, USY or NFTY, Jewish Community Center Sonoma County, Kehillah, Chaverim, Tzadikim and Madrichim. Information is available at http://www.jccsoco.org/clientuploads/teens/teenreunion2014.pdf.

Don't forget "Stop Parenting From Exhaustion" parenting talk by Rick Concoff. It will be on Wednesday, November 5, at 7 pm. Contact the JCCSOCO at 823-3916 or http://www.jccsoco.org/clientuploads/parenting/2014exhaustionparenting.pdf for more information.

Please have any Jewish teen who lives too far to make it to Chaverim contact Rick Concoff at 823-3916 for more information about our "Virtual Jewish Teen Program" which will offer students who live in the outskirts of the county a chance to connect with other Jewish teens via cyberspace.

# Thank you!

Thank you friends at Shomrei Torah for your cards, emails and support in memory of Donald. I am filled with gratitude for all that you have done.

**Patty Ross-Glickson** 

### **Environmental Action Committee**

# Tip of the Month

"....everything that I created I created for you. Be careful not to spoil or destroy my world -- for if you do, there will be nobody after you to repair it." ~ (DEUT. 30:19)

A reminder -- take your own bags when you go to the store (or pay 10 cents for a paper bag!). Since September 1, plastic bags have been banned in Sonoma County.

Simple ways to help you remember...

- Keep a few reusable bags in your car.
- · Place your bags by the door or near your keys.
- Jot a reminder on your shopping list or on your refrigerator.
- Keep some at the office, in your backpack or bicycle basket.

Plastic bags are a true menace to our ecosystems. Most are discarded and end up in landfills or in marine ecosystems.

#### **SCTRibe**

Are you (or someone you know) a Jewish twenty or thirty-something? Come join the Sonoma County Tribe! We meet once a month to celebrate holidays, eat delicious food, and just hang out. We had a Mexican-inspired Shabbat



potluck dinner at a tribe member's home in August. New and old members enjoyed a night of great conversation. This month we will be celebrating Shabbat in the sukkah! Join us for a dinner under the stars and don't forget a sweater.

#### **STaRS Registration**

Classes are forming for STaRS, the Shomrei Torah Religious



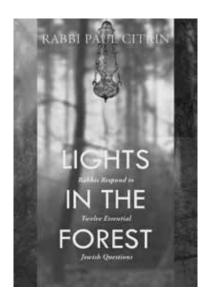
School! If you have yet to enroll your students, the materials are on our website. Also don't forget that in order for your child to be placed in their class you must renew your temple membership and submit the school deposit. Questions? Please call the office at 707-578-5519.

### **Todah Rabah!**

Thank you to all who sent good wishes and helped me celebrate my special birthday! You have truly made Shomrei Torah my home.

B'shalom,

Marlene W. Stein



# Rabbi George is a Contributor to New Book on Jewish Thought

Lights in the Forest: Rabbis Respond to Twelve Essential Jewish Questions is a newly released book for anyone interested in Judaism's big questions. With succinct, accessible responses, 12 rabbis — including Shomrei Torah's senior rabbi - respond to questions in one of three categories: (1) On God, (2) On Our Humanity, (3) On the Jewish People. Their responses include thoughtful, personal essays about God, ethics, humanity, suffering, evil, the soul, after-life, interfaith dialogue, and more. To order your own copy go to https://www.ccarpress.org/shopping\_ product\_detail.asp?pid=50133.



#### **SHORTY**

Shomrei Torah's Reform Temple Youth Group (SHORTY) will be attending our first regional event called "C-Dubb Smash" at URJ Camp Newman, here in Santa Rosa. This event will take place from September 19th through 21st. Highlights include a music festival, leadership training, and a "Camp Shabbat" experience. SHORTY will also be joining Jewish teens from throughout the Bay Area to celebrate Rosh Hashanah on a boat cruise in the San Francisco Bay. Registration is still open for this event! Contact Brandon Binder (SHORTY Advisor) at bbinder@urjcamps.org for more information.



# Cruise into 5775 at a floating dance party

Join your friends from around the Bay Area and beyond to celebrate Rosh Hashanah

- the Jewish New Year - with this one-night only teen event

Saturday, September 27th - 7:30pm-11pm

Music ★ DJ ★ Dancing ★ Refreshments Open to all Jewish high school students!

(you do not need to belong to a youth group or synagogue to come!)

Buy your ticket now for New Year's on the Bay at http://newman.urjcamps.org/yearround/new years on the bay/!



## **Cancer Resource Team At Your Service**

If you were recently diagnosed with cancer, there are other members of the congregation who have experienced similar challenges and want to help. Would you like someone to talk with you and/or members of your family? We are here to listen, answer your questions and hold your hand. Contact the CST office, to be paired up with a member of the team.





# **Bat Mitzvah**

# Mia Zechowy

October 11, 2014 – Tishrei 17, 5775

Please share our joy as our daughter, Mia, becomes a Bat Mitzvah. Service will be held at 3 pm.

#### Jill and Stefan Zechowy



# B'nei Mitzvah Maya and Joseph Harville

October 18, 2014 - Tishrei 24, 5775

Please join us in celebration as our daughter, Maya Rose, and son, Joseph Benjamin, become B'nei Mitzvah. Kiddush luncheon to follow.

Lisa Grossman and Billy Harville

### **Tot Shabbat**

Friday, October 10 5:00 PM

# Dearest Shabbat Families,

Wishing all of you a very healthy, happy and sweet New Year and an easy fast. We look forward to seeing you on Friday,



October 10th at 5pm for a Sukkot themed program.

Best wishes, Tot Shabbat Lauren

# **Babies & Bagels**

Do you have a baby? Do you like bagels? If you answered yes to the previous questions then this group is for you!

Join us for a light nosh and some refreshing adult conversation, while you watch your child/children interact and play with others in their age group. Come for the bagels, stay for the community! Please contact the CST office for more information. October date TBD.



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#### Office email:

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#### Office Hours:

Monday–Friday 9:00 AM–12 Noon, 1:00–5:00 PM

www.cstsr.org

Congregation Shomrei Torah 2600 Bennett Valley Road Santa Rosa, CA 95404 707-578-5519



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L to R: Board Members Ricki Nickel, Eli Weinzveg, Paula Duran, Roy Sparrow, Susan Bailyn, Shelley Brott, Rachael Cutcher, and Reed Ferrick. Not pictured: Garry Goodman, Shirley Liberman, and Jessica Wichmann

### **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors met on August 14, 2014 and took the following actions:

- Discussed and approved a new health insurance policy proposal for CST employees
- Approved 6 new families for membership
- Discussed and approved redistribution of unexpended income from the 2013-14 fiscal year

Any Shomrei Torah member is welcome to attend temple committee meetings and board meetings. Please contact the committee chairperson or board president to find out meeting times and agenda items.

### New Waste Stations for the New Year

Now that we are familiar with CST's compostable waste system, we now have new waste stations to make disposal easier. Can you pass the waste test? It's really simple. While the signs provide detail so that all who visit or work at CST can read about specific items, most of us, in addition to praying, do one thing when we come to the synagogue. We EAT. Everything connected to an oneg or a meal — all food (cooked or raw), paper plates and cups, napkins and utensils, go in the green compostables slot. The kiddush cups and plastic drink cups and paper programs go in the blue recyclables slot. Paper, if soiled, goes in the compostables' slot. So whenever we eat at CST, we create no



waste — everything is either compostable or recyclable! Please help fellow congregants and guests if you see them lingering at a waste station. Todah Rabah!.

# **Israel Committee**

At its first meeting in August, the newly formed Israel Committee adopted as its Mission Statement: "To facilitate an informed connection between Congregation Shomrei Torah and the people of Israel."

The Committee will work towards the establishment of a community-wide celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut, create a link and a dialogue with a Reform congregation in Israel, and enhance educational opportunities at CST to learn about Israel and its culture.

The Committee selected Julie Stout and Howard Schoenfeld to serve as co-chairs. For more information or, if you would like to join the Committee, please contact the CST office.

# Environmental Action Committee Continues To Explore Issue Of Water

Some members of the Environmental Action Committee went to SF to hear the authors talk about their research book "The West without Water". Others recently went on a Sonoma County Water Agency tour of their facilities about the county and heard from some of their water experts. We're honing our knowledge together and looking forward to sponsoring a speaker, or seminar, or movie (or all three) to illustrate water issues and perhaps some solutions. So far, it has been fun and eyeopening.

Some of our previous projects are bearing some fruit as the plastic bag ban is now a reality in Sonoma County. The new waste containers that encourage recycling and composting are in use at CST (take time to acquaint yourselves with the educational graphic designed by Susan Richter). Bill Skoonberg will speak at the Men's Bagel Club on November 2 about "Understanding your Electricity Bill and Saving Energy".

If you want to get in on the fun and education, contact the CST office.

# **Scenes From Shomrei Torah**



Caring Committee, joined by staff and clergy, listen to a presentation on Helping Our Aging Community Live Safely. Presenting is Diana Klein of Jewish Family and Children's Services.



New member welcome baskets ready to be sent to our newest congregants. Many thanks to all of the volunteers with the Membership Committee.

Getting ready for High Holy Days, we're sprucing up our front entrance! You may have noticed our improved landscaping along Shalom Hall and our front doors. Take a look.











# Advertise in "The Voice"

Advertisements shall be limited to one-half page maximum size; advertisement positioning in *The Voice* will be on a rotating basis; the appearance and content of the advertisements shall be in good taste. Because this is a subjective assessment, final approval of any advertisement shall be at the discretion of the temple administrator, the Rabbi and/or the editor of *The Voice*.

# **VOICE Display Ad Rates**

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Half-page:	\$5 <b>40.00</b>	\$1,080.00	Half-page:	\$675.00	\$1,350.00

Ads and payment must be received in the temple office by the 5th of the month to start in the next month's issue. For more information, please call the temple office at 707-578-5519.

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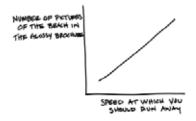
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### Saturday, October 18

Weekly Torah portion: Bereshit, Genesis 1:1 - 6:8 8:45 am Torah Study led by Rabbi George 10:30 am Shabbat Service

### Saturday, October 25

Weekly Torah portion: Noach, Genesis 6:9 - 11:32 8:45 am Torah Study led by Perry Angle 10:30 am

- To develop a sensitive, caring and supportive congregational community where all are welcome and included.
- To act with responsibility and compassion in our community.
- To support the principles of equality, freedom and shalom among all peoples.

