



## COPE

*Sunday October 6*

*3:00 – 5:00 PM*

*When Jews Organize...*

Jews organize. Jews have organized to strengthen labor across America and famously organized airlifts in order to emigrate Jews from disparate countries to Israel. Jews marched and protested in the long Civil Rights movement. The Jewish Federation has organized social welfare and education initiatives too numerous to count. Jews organize regularly to provide leadership. When we organize we create and wield significant power.

*We must organize  
now to prepare our  
neighborhoods for  
emergencies. We live  
in a high risk area.*

We must organize now to prepare our neighborhoods for emergencies. We live in a high risk area. We know the danger of wildfires this time of year. This is earthquake country. It's not enough to have emergency supplies in our own homes. There is strength in numbers. One of your neighbors may have medical training and another may know how to

deal with a downed wire. Who could your children contact if you were injured during an earthquake? What would happen to the elderly widow down the street?

CITIZENS ORGANIZED TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES (COPE) can help. It is a volunteer emergency preparedness group under the Santa Rosa Fire Department charged with organizing the entire city of Santa Rosa, street by street, block by block, into manageable groups that can look after each other if disaster strikes. We cannot count on government assistance quickly. FEMA says we must be prepared to go it alone for at least 3 to 5 days. COPE can help organize your own block and provide training to you and your neighbors. If you don't live in Santa Rosa you can still learn to organize your street and save your family and your neighbors. It only takes a few hours of your time.

Others before us have organized our world into better places to live and give, to work and learn. It's our turn here, now. The Social Action Committee invites you to learn how to COPE....to organize your neighbors and how to prepare yourself and your family for wildfires and earthquakes. Join us on October 6, 3-5 pm at CST. We wish to thank CST member, Angela Gelber, for her leadership on this issue.

## Santa Rosa Earthquake circa 1906



Before

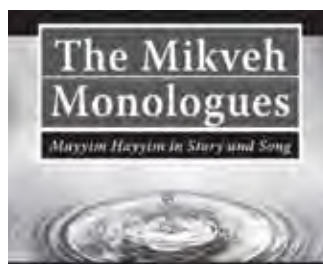


After

## Immerse Yourself!

*Saturday October 12*

*8:00 PM*



It's almost curtain time for CST's presentation of The Mikveh Monologues, an original play written by Anita Diamant, the author of "The Red Tent". Don't miss your fellow congregants in this wonderful performance. The talent in our community is phenomenal! The stories of human triumph and grief are deeply moving; most teach how to create new meaning and personal renewal from observing an ancient ritual.

At this event, we will be honoring fourteen of our dedicated volunteers. Please buy a ticket and come to the event to show your gratitude to these members who have given so much time and energy to our synagogue.

Curtain Time: 8:00pm - the play will be followed by a dessert and wine reception

Tickets: \$36 adult, \$18 student. Purchase online at [shomreitorah.org](http://shomreitorah.org), or send a check to the temple office. Questions?: Contact the CST office at 707-578-5519.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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## Stranger in a Strange Land: My Unlikely Deployment as a Military Chaplain

*Rabbi's Tisch*

*Friday October 11, 6:15 PM*

David Frommer, Cantor, Liberal, Yalie, Jew. Which of these would you be least likely to meet in the US military today? David Frommer served as all four on his recent deployment to



Kuwait and Afghanistan. It didn't make sense, but it made for a valuable year with America's other one percent—her servicemen and women stationed overseas. Join us for a unique Shabbat experience with a catered dinner. Reservations are greatly appreciated. Call the CST office at (707) 578-5519.

## Learning to Talk Jewish: Words Used in Synagogue Life

*Wednesdays October 2 & 9,  
7:00–8:30 PM*

Taught by Rabbi George and Rabbi Kramer

Are you tired of feeling left out when Hebrew terms are bandied about the synagogue? Would you like to learn what some key words mean and a great source for future reference and study? If so, this class is perfect for you.

The class is free, but we strongly suggest you purchase the book "These are the Words" by Arthur Green. The CST office has a few copies available.

## Sarah and Hagar: The Stories We Tell Ourselves

*Friday Shabbat Service October 25, 6:15 PM and*

*Saturday Torah Study October 26, 8:45 AM*

Sarah and Hagar share a story of rivalry, contempt, and competition. Or do they? Don't miss special Guest Teacher Rabbi Sarah Bassin, Executive Director of NewGround: A Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change, as she explores the relationship between these two women as understood in Jewish and Islamic traditions. What might the story of Sarah and Hagar teach us about the stories we tell ourselves?

Sarah will speak at Friday evening Shabbat services, which will be followed by a pot luck Oneg. Saturday morning she will lead Torah study in a comparative text study between Quranic and Biblical (and related traditional passages) on the relationship of Sarah and Hagar. Everyone is welcome; no reservations are required.

## Shalom Hartman Series Peoplehood and Its Role and Significance in Jewish Life

*Wednesdays October 16, 23, 30*

*November 6, 13, 20 7:00–9:00 PM*

Taught by Rabbi George and Rabbi Kramer



SHALOM HARTMAN מכון  
INSTITUTE שלום הרטמן

Members \$90, Non-Members \$100, + a \$20 source book for the course.

In this six-part video lecture and guided study series, senior Hartman Institute faculty members delve into the idea of Jewish Peoplehood—its complex origins, its implications and how it might be sustained.

The meanings and implications of Jewish Peoplehood have a direct impact on nearly all of the central questions and tensions of Judaism and modern life. Anxiety about a dwindling sense of Peoplehood is increasingly defining the agenda for Israeli agencies and Jewish institutions and federations worldwide. The six parts are:

1. The Meaning and Significance of Peoplehood in Jewish Life
2. Genesis and Exodus: Two Models of Jewish Peoplehood
3. Prioritizing Peoplehood: A Reading of the Book of Jonah
4. The Individual and the Collective
5. The Poetics of Peoplehood
6. Peoplehood and the Centrality of Place

Please RSVP to the CST office at 707-578-5519.

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## Scholar Lecture Series Begins This Month!

*Sundays October 13, November 3, & December 8, 3:00-4:30 PM*

**Come hear our Scholars teach their favorite texts.**

Pop in for \$18 a session or attend the entire three-part series for \$36.

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### Naomi Seidman **"Finding 'A Woman of Valor': Gender, Americanization, and the 1917 JPS Bible"**

*October 13*

We will explore the translation of Proverbs 31 as it appears in a number of Christian and Jewish translations, focusing in particular on the choice, in the 1917 JPS version, to translate eshet hayil as "A woman of valor" rather than (as the King James has it) "A woman of virtue."

Ms. Seidman is the Koret Professor of Jewish Culture and Director at the Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies of the Graduate Theological Union

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### Rabbi Jerry Danzig **"Maimonides' Philosophy of Ethical Responses to Aspects of Life That Do Not Admit Choice"**

*November 3*

Fate, astrological predetermination, predestination, and apocalyptic beliefs were orthodoxies of many religions of the middle ages. Adherence to these orthodoxies prevailed over ethics then and lingers today in the minds and behavior among the faithful of all religions. In the 12th century, Maimonides presents a polemic against these prevailing notions.

In examining the implications of Maimonides' philosophy, we will confront the challenge of, and ethical responses to, aspects of life that do not admit choice.

Rabbi Jerry M. Danzig is retired, from Valley Beth Shalom, Encino, CA; living with his wife, Joy, in Santa Rosa.

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### Rabbi Lavey Derby **"Where Can God be Found?"**

*December 8*

Rabbi Levi Yitzchok of Berdichev was a much loved and God-imbued spiritual teacher. We will study one of his famous teachings on God's presence in the world.

Rabbi Lavey Derby teaches meditation, mysticism and Hasidism around the country and is the eighth generation direct descendent of Reb Levi Yitzchok of Berdichev.

## **Affordable Care Act Explained at next Men's Bagel Club**

*Sunday October 6*

*9:00 AM*

ObamaCare  
begins to ramp  
up beginning in  
October 2013  
when sign ups  
for health care



insurance under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) begin. The CST Men's Bagel Club is sponsoring a talk on this exciting new and complex legislation that will affect many Americans.

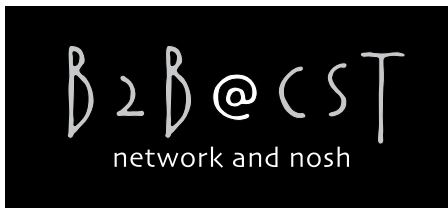
Mike Cohill, President of Sutter Health's West Bay Region, and formerly administrator of Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa, as well as CEO of Sutter Medical Foundation North Bay and Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation, will explain and educate us on the many aspects of this ground-breaking legislation that affects us.



**OBAMACARE**

All CST members are invited to attend and an RSVP for a reservation for breakfast is appreciated. RSVP to [cstbagel-men@gmail.com](mailto:cstbagel-men@gmail.com) or call the CST office at 707-578-5519 to reserve your spot. To study the issues, check <https://www.healthcare.gov>





## Monthly Business Networking

*Tuesday Oct. 8, 7:30 AM*

With its mission “to increase business opportunities through relationships from within the Congregation Shomrei Torah community”, the CST Business to Business (B2B@CST) networking group enables its members to tell their stories at our monthly meetings. The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 8th at 7:30 am and Norman Eisley will be presenting information on his business.

At the August gathering, professional photographer and teacher Owen Shirwo shared a selection of images from his many photo sessions that included portraits, pets and products. We soon discovered that Owen can shoot it all. Enhancements can



be applied to the original photo, through the technology of digital imaging, resulting in giving the image more emotion. This effectively raises the level from image taking to a type of fine art by getting the essence out of the picture.

After his presentation, a member of the audience commented **“This work is unbelievable...amazing.”**

Owen “really, really enjoys teaching photography” where he can pass on the knowledge he has accumulated over his 40 years of experience. He teaches classes at the Finley Center in Santa Rosa, Shutterbug Camera stores, and also offers private sessions.

## CST Men's Retreat

### October 18-20, 2013

**\$250<sup>00</sup>**  
*Scholarships Available*

CONNECT  
COMMUNE  
and CELEBRATE!

**“I was new to CST when I attended the men’s retreat; my wife said it was a good idea and, as usual, she was right. In three shorts days of fun, fellowship and spiritual reflection, I made friends and felt that I became part of the congregation.”**

**—Guy Kovner**

**Registration form available at [www.shomreitorah.org](http://www.shomreitorah.org)**

## Shomrei Torah to Host Sonoma County 75th Anniversary of Kristallnacht

*Sunday November 10, 3:30 PM*

Our Synagogue is hosting the Kristallnacht commemoration from 3:30 to 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The event, "Understanding the Evolution of Genocides through the lens of Kristallnacht" is designed to view Kristallnacht in the context of a common pattern of genocide that has tragically happened in many other countries.



Dr. Sergio La Porta will be the keynote speaker. The evening will include Kristallnacht survivors Alfred and Susanne Batsdorff, as well as music and poetry in commemoration of the victims of genocide.

Dr. La Porta is the Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno. He also taught at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for eight years in Armenian and Religious Studies. He is currently the chairman of the Armenian Genocide Centennial-Fresno Committee which is preparing for the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in 2015.

"Kristallnacht" is known as the night of shattered glass for the thousands of synagogue windows and store fronts destroyed on Nov.9-10, 1938 in Germany and Austria. It marked the progression from repression and ostracism to the wholesale physical destruction of Judaism's religious, economic, and cultural roots while those countries watched and did nothing.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. This is a project of Shomrei Torah's Social Action Committee.

In addition to Shomrei Torah, co-sponsors include the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, Armenians of the North Bay, Armenian National Committee-San Francisco Bay Area, B'nai Israel Center, Sonoma State University's Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, Committee for Immigrant Rights Sonoma County (CIRSC), Community Church of Sebastopol, Congregation Beth Ami, Congregation Ner Shalom, Faith Lutheran Church of Santa Rosa, Friends of Rwanda Association (FORA), Jewish Family & Children's Services of Sonoma County, the Muslim Institute for Interfaith Studies & Understanding, and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa.

## URJ Biennial

*December 11-15*  
*San Diego*



DECEMBER 11-15  
**2013**  
SAN DIEGO, CA

A Biennial is the convention put on by the Union for Reform Judaism every other year. Those who attend Biennials include Rabbis, lay leaders, congregants, educators... and anyone interested in Judaism from a Reform perspective. December 11-15, 2013, Reform Jews from all over North America will be meeting up in San Diego for the 72nd Biennial. It will be fun, informative, and inspirational – and this year it's all just 600 miles from home!

Learn more at <http://urj.org/biennial13/>, where Early Bird registration is now open. Discounted room blocks are available at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina and Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, and we are working on group travel discounts for CST members. Please let Denise know if you are interested in attending. Hope to see you in San Diego!

## Join the CHAI celebration!

*April 4, 5 and 6, 2014*

2014 will be a very special year for our synagogue—help us celebrate Rabbi George Gittleman's chai (18!) years with Congregation Shomrei Torah. We will have special guest speakers and services, an oneg, dinner, entertainment, music and a religious school gathering. Mark your calendars to share the simcha.

## CST Winter Warmth Drive

Although it may seem too hot to think about warm clothes now, winter will soon be creeping upon us. We will once again be collecting items to distribute to our friends and neighbors who are recipients of Elisha's Pantry. Please put aside any warm clothes, blankets/sleeping bags, coats, hats, scarves, gloves, socks and rain gear that you may not need



## Fifth Annual Gelt-a-thon

*Sunday December 8*

A Shomrei Torah Hanukkah tradition continues on Sunday, December 8, when a committed group of Shomrei Torah volunteers will be calling members of our congregation, asking for contributions to our fifth annual Hanukkah Gelt-A-Thon. This event not only raises much needed money for our operations and programs; it also brings us together as a community, celebrating the spirit of generosity and gift-giving for which this holiday stands. Watch for more details in the November and December Voice.

# Rosh Hashanah – A Time to Turn and Return

Imagine this scenario: you are lost, totally turned around in a deep, dark forest. You have no idea which way to turn and are about to panic when you hear something approach. Fear grips you at first. “Could it be a wild beast coming to eat me for dinner?”, you wonder. But then you see another human being appear, a person like yourself, and your heart lifts. “Surely she knows the way home,” you reason. You run to greet her, tell her your story, and ask for her help. She responds, “I am sorry to say I am as lost as you are, but perhaps together we can find our way home.”



*“...the Jewish New Year is a somber time of soul-searching and reflection ...”*

As the sun sets this Wednesday evening, Jews around the world will begin our observance of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. In contrast to the boisterous revelry of December 31st, the Jewish New Year is a somber time of soul-searching and reflection when we are called to do “an accounting of our souls” by asking these questions: “Was I the person I could have been these past 12 months?” “How can I do better in the year ahead?” (On Yom Kippur, ten days later, we are asked to

turn our attention outward by considering whom we have wronged and how to make amends, and who has wronged us and how to forgive.)

The theme running through this season is summed up in the Hebrew word “teshuvah”, which freely translated means “to return” or, more broadly, to find one’s way back to the place, and the person, you can and ought but have yet to be. This act of “returning” is a work in progress, never fully realized, always in front of us; a loadstar for our own personal, communal and global redemption. The language is particular to the Jewish people but the thrust, the movement, the hope imbedded in the Jewish New Year is universal: we’re not home until everyone is home.

What does it mean to be “home”? What does “redemption” look like for us as individuals, as residents of Sonoma County, as citizens

of the USA? A solution to our immigration crisis? Funding for education? Affordable housing? Environmental stewardship and alternative energy solutions? Security overseas and at home? Peace in the Middle East? The answers to these questions are as diverse as the people living in our country! One thing is certain: without dialogue, without compromise, without cooperation, we’ll never find our way home. Let’s face it: we are deep in the dark woods, divided by partisan politics, lost

in materialism, blinded by our own narrow vision. Hope lies only in seeing the forest from the trees; recognizing that what we have in common and what is at stake for all of us, far outweigh the differences that keep us a part. It’s easy to cast blame, much harder to take responsibility. Teshuvah starts with each of us, returning us to the person we ought to be, one turn of the heart at a time.

B’shalom,  
Rabbi George

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

### Welcoming

This year in preparation for the Holy Days, I immersed myself in personal reflection and self-work throughout the month of Elul. I read, reflected, and a couple of times jumped in with comments on CST’s new ElulBlog, created by Judith Richlin-Klonsky and the Ritual Committee. I signed up to receive a daily inspiration via email called the “Jewels of Elul.” How delighted I was to see the introductory remarks proclaiming this year’s theme: The Art of Welcoming. It struck a deep chord within me. In the last several months I have been having conversations with our clergy and members of the congregation’s board of directors about what I hope to accomplish this year. High on the top of my “To Do” list is membership engagement - including outreach into the community and in-reach to our member families. As Shomrei



Torah grows and we welcome new members into our congregation, are we taking the steps to make sure they feel part of us and not apart from us?

My family and I have been members since 1996. When we joined, we were on the “fringe” – an inter faith family standing at the edge, not sure where or when to jump in. We had a toddler and another on the way. We joined a Chavurah and attended Tot Shabbats. I was asked to bake something for a holiday gathering. Jim was

asked to help with schlepping. "Certainly! Of course! If we have time..." Sometimes we did. Sometimes we didn't. The key is that we were asked. We felt needed and appreciated. We started to feel as if we belonged.

We at Shomrei Torah take great pride in being warm and welcoming. And we are! Yet, I was nearly finished writing my remarks, when I received an email from member Susan Richter. Susan was wondering what happened to our tradition of welcoming newcomers as part of the announcements on Friday evenings. Sometimes we do. Sometimes we don't. Are we becoming complacent? Are we just not paying attention? I'm guilty of this oversight. I know we care and we want to meet you – whether you're attending one service or many.

*"I have a choice to make. I can ignore the person or I can initiate a conversation with a simple greeting of welcome."*

Author Ron Wolfson writes, "Welcoming is the first step in building a relationship with another. So when I see someone walk into a worship service..., I have a choice to make. I can ignore the person or I can initiate a conversation with a simple greeting of welcome. Without that crucial move there is no possibility of relationship."

*"Throughout this year, along with greeting family and friends, I invite you to spend time welcoming someone you don't know."*

On Shabbat and holidays we have greeters at our doors to provide our "initial" welcome. But we should not leave the welcoming of members and guests only to those labeled greeters. Throughout this year, along with greeting family and friends, I invite you to spend time welcoming someone you don't know. Together, let's take this simple first step towards building relationships.

As our community fosters, nurtures and hones our welcoming skills, I ask you to welcome the Shomrei Torah community into your life as well. Please consider sharing your time, talents, and resources. Being a well-spring of welcoming and a home of progressive Reform Judaism for all who seek it, takes resources both human and financial.

Welcome: "to greet, receive, or accept with pleasure." I look forward to seeing and greeting you throughout the year.

**B'shalom,  
Rachael**

## LEGACY NEWS

# Meet Legacy Circle Members Eleanor and Leonard Cohen



Elly and Len Cohen first found a Jewish home in the congregation that preceded the formation of Shomrei Torah. Their interest continued and they affiliated with Congregation Shomrei Torah about eight years ago. They attribute great value to the open and welcoming feeling they sense at CST. They describe CST as a *haimisheh* group from the Clergy to the Board to the Members and finally to the Havurot. They said, "We have benefitted from the variety of religious, social and education opportunities offered at CST. There always is more that we wish to participate in than is possible!"

Their intent to make a planned gift to the synagogue first was discussed with their family who know of their wishes. Elly and Len feel good that their plans are concrete and definite and everyone in the family knows and understands their intent. The second consideration for their legacy giving was to ensure the continuing existence of Shomrei Torah. They feel that it is vital to the health of our Jewish community that a congregation such as Shomrei Torah continues to be viable.

The Cohen's do not feel that they can predict where the future needs of the Temple may lie. Therefore, they are confident that the Board of Directors and Clergy of Shomrei Torah will find the best possible uses for their legacy. They hope to see Shomrei Torah continue to grow, attracting more and more of the unaffiliated Jews in our community; continuing to be the shining example of what a Jewish religious institution like Shomrei Torah can provide to its membership and its community.

Len and Elly state that the more they are involved in CST, the more beneficial their membership becomes to them. There are many significant, intrinsic rewards from tutoring the B'nai Mitzvah students, helping their families, attending lectures, the Bagel Club, men's and women's retreats, too many groups to mention; and, of course there are the emotional, and truly significant spiritual rewards from participation in Religious Services.





## Environmental Action Committee Investigates Sonoma Clean Power

Four members of the CST Environmental Action Committee (EAC) attended a public talk by Geoff Syphers, interim director of the newly formed Sonoma Clean Power (SCP). The brief prepared remarks and slide show were followed by a lively Q & A by the 30 attendees, many of whom appeared to be quite knowledgeable and supportive of the effort to contract for clean electrical energy locally.

While admitting that the electricity marketplace is indeed very complicated, he felt confident that the SCP would be able to 1) Have customer rates within 1 1/2 % of the rates for PG&E, 2) Offer electricity sources that were initially 33 % renewable compared with PG&E's present 20%, 3) Offer a deep green alternative of 100% renewable electricity for a premium monthly fee of \$5-10, and 4) Use inherent profits saved by SCP's structure (i.e., no stock owners profits) to invest in local alternative solar and wind facilities for electricity production.

The EAC continues to explore this dramatic local green initiative which has been adopted by Sonoma County and six of the local cities. Initial roll out to a small group of electrical customers is planned for May 2014 with the remainder over the next 2 years. The EAC is planning on a consumer education seminar prior to the initiation of the roll out so consumers can make an informed choice for their electricity source.

For some home study, go to [www.sonomacleanpower.org/app\\_pages/view/67](http://www.sonomacleanpower.org/app_pages/view/67)

## Environmental Action Committee

### *Tip of the Month*

**Make the right choice -- for you and for the future of our fragile planet! And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1.3)**

Beginning May 2014, residents of much of Sonoma County will have a choice of electricity providers -- Sonoma Clean Power or PG&E. Learn more so that you can make an informed decision when it's time to choose.



OR



In recent reports, scientists have "found greater certainty that the planet is warming and greater likelihood that humans are the primary cause" -- from Press Democrat article "Climate panel cites near certainty on warming", Tuesday August 20, 2013.

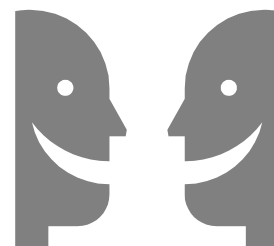
To begin your search for information on an electricity provider: [www.sonomacleanpower.org/app\\_pages/view/67](http://www.sonomacleanpower.org/app_pages/view/67) and [www.pge.com/en/about/environment/](http://www.pge.com/en/about/environment/)

## Do we want foster youth homeless?

The Social Action Committee recognizes the need for low income housing and services for teens aging out of foster care. On August 28 members of CST joined with other faith-based groups for a presentation at Warrack Hospital by Social Advocates for Youth (SAY) about the proposed Dream Center, which will house approximately 50 at risk youth facing homelessness. While there is resistance by a small, but vocal group of Bennett Valley residents, the faith-based community is standing together in support of the Dream Center coming to fruition. The Social Action Committees of CST and Congregation Beth Ami are setting up informational meetings—we will keep you posted about the dates, so you can learn about the project. If you would like more information or would like to help, please contact the CST office.

## 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.



Like Congregation Shomrei Torah on  **facebook®**



## This Year's Food Fest Even Better Than Last!

Many thanks to the entire congregation for making this year's Food Fest a big success! You were awesome. With over 300 volunteers, team leaders, office staff, clergy, and the Food Fest Steering Committee, our efforts were rewarded with an amazing event and very positive feedback.

We continue to hear enthusiastic comments from both members and non-members: **"Incredibly organized," "Lines moved quickly," "Enjoyed it much more this year--more relaxed and fun," "Parking was a breeze," "Food and entertainment were fabulous," "Latkes were to die for."**

From the CST Membership Committee: "Talked about membership today with a food fest attendee who said it was the best thing of this sort he had ever attended. And he is joining!"

This year's net income of \$17,624, is above last year's. Attendance was just over 1000. Next year's plans? We're taking a breather in 2014--Stay tuned in 2015.

A huge thanks to YOU for making this possible.



Photo by Shirwo



Photo by The Gelfmans



Photo by Shirwo



Photo by The Gelfmans



Photo by The Gelfmans

## Chaverim Notes

Sonoma County has one of the highest Post-B'nei Mitzvah rates in the country. Between 80 and 90% of our teens go on with Jewish education and or engagement into their High School years. Many consider Jewish life on campus as an important factor in choosing a college.

Chaverim and our other Jewish teen programs including NFTY, Diller Teens, Camp Chai and Madrachim, offer our young people opportunities to live and learn Judaism right here in Sonoma County.

This year, Chaverim is approaching a registration close to 100 members, and looks forward to a great year. Please visit our page at <http://www.jccsoco.org> and click on the menu item Teens/Young Adults, Teen Program Chaverim for more information about this and other JCC programs. All Jewish teens, affiliated and unaffiliated, are welcome to become part of this program. Thanks to Rabbis Gittleman and Kramer for their support of and participation in this program!

Also, starting Thursday Oct 3 and every non-vacation Thursday thereafter, join Rick Concoff from 9-10 am at the JCC for "2nd Cup Of Coffee" which will feature shared discussion on parenting with a Jewish twist. See [jccsoco.org](http://jccsoco.org) for more info.

Finally mark your calendar for our "Parent's Night Off", Sat. Nov 16th at Cong. Beth Ami from 5-9:30 pm. Leave your kids with us and enjoy an evening off. More info at [jccsoco.org](http://jccsoco.org).

**Shalom,  
Rick Concoff, JCC  
Teen and Chaverim Director**

## STARS

### Dear Parents;

I am so excited our new school year has begun! If you haven't already registered, there are still some openings. This year we are offering online registration. If you are a new family to STaRS, please call Vikki at 578-5519 to get started. If you registered last year, you can still use the same email (username) and password you were given. If you do not remember your password, please contact Vikki at [vrutherford@shomreitorah.org](mailto:vrutherford@shomreitorah.org).

### Kindergarten-3rd Grade Sunday 9:00am-11:15am

### 11:00am-11:15am All School T'filla (Services)

### 4th grade- 7th Grade Sunday 11:00am-1:00pm

### 4th-6th will continue to meet on Wednesdays from 4:00pm-6:00pm

There are limited funds for scholarships. If you are requesting a Religious School Scholarship, you must fill out the scholarship section of the registration process. And you must fill out the narrative section telling us why you need assistance. We do not turn students away due to financial constraints. To continue this long standing tradition, please consider making a donation to our scholarship fund to help pass down our tradition from generation to generation.

Volunteering at STaRS is an essential part of our school community. We appreciate your volunteering, but if you are unable to make this 4 hour commitment, you may "opt out" of your volunteer hours by paying \$100.

I am thrilled about our new year, and excited to see you all. Please feel free to call me or stop by with any questions or concerns.

**Warmly,  
Rabbi Stephanie Kramer**

### Dear Families,

A new year begins, a new school year and a new year of Tot Shabbat! Wishing everyone a very healthy, happy, sweet and good New Year. We look forward to seeing you at Tot Shabbat. As we end one year and begin a new one, I want to express gratitude for all the people that make Tot Shabbat happen – Rabbi Kramer and Lacey for everything they do for our program. Our thanks to Galya, Lacey's mom who does a lot of work behind the scenes. A big thank you to Vikki Rutherford and Denise Harrison for all they do, too. To Franny Posner, our grape juice and challah angel, and to all of our wonderful families who participate in our program. We really appreciate your support. It takes a village!

Look forward to seeing you at Tot Shabbat on Friday, October 11th at 5:00pm and please save the date for our special PJ library event Sunday, November 17th at 9:00am.

**Blessings,  
Tot Shabbat Lauren**



## SCTRibe

Come join us for a fun family-style shabbat dinner on October 4th at 6:30pm.

On October 19th we are having a hang-out-and-nosh brunch, complete with delicious treats and mimosas!

Keep an eye out for e-mails with more details coming soon. For any questions, comments, or to join our mailing list please contact [sonomacountytribe@gmail.com](mailto:sonomacountytribe@gmail.com)

# Bat Mitzvah

## Bella Nadler

*October 26, 2013 – 22 Cheshvan 5774*

Please join us in celebration as our daughter and granddaughter Bella Grace Nadler comes up to the bima to become a Bat Mitzvah on October 26, 2013. Kiddush luncheon will follow the service.

**Bodhi Nadler, Harry and Ellen Nadler**



## Caring Committee

If you can make extra food (soup, stew, veggies, etc.) to share with CST members home after surgery or chemo, the Caring Committee will deliver it. Please use freezer containers you don't need returned, label with ingredients and mark Caring Comm., and bring it to the CST freezer. This is a mitzvah that will nourish bodies and souls. Contact the CST office for more information.

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## Babies & Bagels

Do you have a baby? Do you like bagels? If you answered yes to those questions then this group is for you! Join us on Sunday, October 13 at 10:30 AM for a light nosh and some refreshing adult conversation, while you watch your child/children interact and play with others in their age group. This gathering will be held at the home of Nicollette & Eli Weinzev. Please contact the CST office for more information.

## Rabbi Michael Robinson Fund for Social Justice

In 2013, generous members John Weinstein and Heidi Stewart endowed the Rabbi Michael Robinson Fund for Social Justice with a major gift that will enable the fund to support Shomrei Torah's mission to perform tikkun olam through social action.

The donation was announced at the Rabbis' Tisch on August 9, where URJ President Rabbi Rick Jacobs was the featured speaker.

John and Heidi hope that others will add to the fund so that, over time, Shomrei Torah may amplify its voice in support of all those who suffer injustice.



Rabbi George, Shomrei Torah President Rachael Cutcher, Heidi Stewart, and John Weinstein

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### Office Hours:

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

[www.shomreitorah.org](http://www.shomreitorah.org)

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Shomrei Torah's dramatic and beautiful location provides an exceptional environment for all kinds of special occasions and celebrations. Our sanctuary, meeting rooms, and outdoor spaces can accommodate large events and small gatherings. A commercial style kitchen is available for preparing and serving meals.

Whether planning a wedding, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, organization meeting, community gathering, fundraising event, reception, or other celebrations, our staff can assist you to make your event memorable. Contact the CST office for additional information.



## CONSIDER JOINING the LEGACY CIRCLE



### LEGACY CIRCLE

Congregation Shomrei Torah has established the "Legacy Circle" to ensure the future of our Jewish community. Its members are individuals who have chosen to remember Shomrei Torah in their will or estate planning for the purpose of maintaining our vibrant Jewish community for generations to come.

Jewish tradition teaches that one of our key duties is to make the world a better place for future generations—*Tikkun Olam*. The act of creating a legacy empowers one to complete the work of the heart and enjoy the peace that it brings.





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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*.

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|                | <u>6-Month*</u> | <u>Annual</u> |
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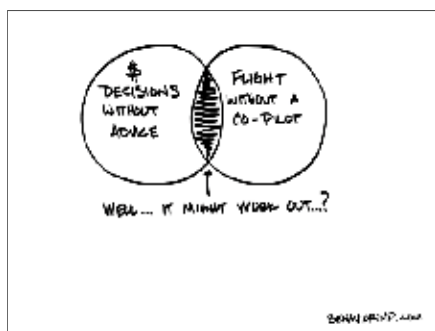
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## OCTOBER SERVICES

### Friday, October 4

6:15 pm

*Shabbat Service*

### Saturday, October 5

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am

*Shabbat Service*

### Friday, October 11

6:15 pm

*Rabbi's Tisch – Guest Speaker*

*Cantor David Frommer*

### Saturday, October 12

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am

*Shabbat Service*

### Friday, October 18

6:15 pm

*Shabbat Service,  
2nd & 3rd Grade Family Shabbat*

### Saturday, October 19

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am

*Shabbat Service*

### Friday, October 25

6:15 pm

*Shabbat Service with Rabbi Sarah Bassin  
Potluck Oneg Shabbat*

### Saturday, October 26

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi Sarah Bassin*

10:30 am

*Bat Mitzvah of Bella Nadler*

See our latest calendar at [www.shomreitorah.org/calendar](http://www.shomreitorah.org/calendar)

### THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONGREGATION

- To worship God in accordance with the beliefs and teachings of Reform Judaism.
- To cultivate and nurture in ourselves and our children a love and understanding of Jewish heritage.
- 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.