

Rabbi Job Description

Havurah Shalom – Portland, Oregon

Havurah Shalom is a welcoming, inclusive, intergenerational community accepting of people from diverse Jewish and non-Jewish backgrounds. We are affiliated with the Reconstructionist Movement. Our community of 350+ families includes interfaith and same sex families and supports progressive social-justice causes. Our strong participatory culture is present throughout all aspects of programming and spiritual life. We value respect, inquisitiveness, music and connections across generations.

We are seeking a new rabbi to begin August 1, 2017. Minimum requirements and information are:

- **Ordination from an accredited rabbinical seminary**
- **3+ years experience as the rabbi of a congregation**
- **Acceptance of interfaith and same sex couples in all aspects of Jewish life, including weddings, Bnai mitzvah, funerals and other life events**
- **Experience working collaboratively with lay leadership**
- **Demonstrated experience in the areas detailed below**

Position Responsibilities:

Havurah's mission focuses on these areas: *Avodah (Spiritual Life and Religious Practice)*, *Limud (Education and Lifelong Learning)*, *Tikkun Olam, (Social Justice)*, *Kehillah (Community and Culture)*, and *Hadracha (Leadership and Governance)*. Rabbinic responsibilities, skills and attributes related to each area are detailed below.

Avodah – Spiritual Life and Religious Practice

- Skilled in all aspects of Jewish ritual practice
- Demonstrate fluency in Hebrew, ability to chant from the Torah and lead Shabbat and holiday services
- Support and value our non-rabbi centric approach through partnering with lay leadership for Shabbat and holiday services
- Lead relevant discussions at services pertaining to the weekly parasha and/or holiday
- Facilitate conversation and discussion by encouraging members to think through historical and contemporary issues
- Prepare and deliver meaningful drashot

- Collaborate with Havurah’s music director and other lay musicians for Shabbat and holiday services
- Perform life cycle rituals, including interfaith and same sex marriages
- Respect and support the variety of spiritual practices and Jewish backgrounds of our membership
- Embrace social justice as a part of spiritual education

Limud – *Education and Lifelong Learning*

- Work collaboratively with our Educational Director on all aspects of the lifelong learning experience
- Possess a deep intellectual knowledge of Judaism and a clear commitment to Jewish values around scholarship
- Make Torah ‘come alive’ and inspire the congregation through teaching in our Adult Education program and other venues
- Inspire our children through personal connections, guidance and presence at youth focused events
- Guide B’nai Mitzvah youth to find meaning in the studying and preparation for this life cycle event, through thoughtful conversations
- Engage our teens and inspire them to be involved in our community

Tikkun Olam – *Social Justice*

- Be a leader who embodies a voice of compassion, embracing a clear social justice perspective
- Bridge to the larger Portland Jewish community as a communal leader and public representative of Havurah
- Build strategic relationships and create community with the Portland and NW Jewish community including: the Jewish Federation of Portland and affiliate agencies, local synagogues and the Oregon Board of Rabbis
- Have a connection to Israel and be open to respecting and including diverse positions and opinions
- Facilitate engagement in interfaith conversations, including with the Muslim and Christian communities

Kehillah – *Community and Culture*

- Exhibit strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Be comfortable and experienced with collaborative leadership

- Demonstrate experience working with congregants of a medium to large sized participatory synagogue
- Help to foster participation and engagement among members
- Provide pastoral care; have experience in engaging with those who are ill, in physical or emotional pain, dying or grieving.
- Collaborate with lay members to provide adequate resources for pastoral care needs
- Be an engaging public speaker with well-developed skills
- Encourage participation in music and music leadership
- Be prepared to adapt to the changing needs of the congregation as we continue to grow

Hadracha – *Leadership and Governance*

- Attend and actively participate in committee, staff, executive committee and steering committee meetings
- Nurture lay committees and congregational members who participate in the strategic direction, implementation and relationship-building elements of Havurah Shalom
- Participate actively in the financial aspects of the congregation
- Build and value collaborative working partnerships with staff members
- Have strong facilitation skills, be a good listener, have experience with conflict resolution
- Be articulate and a clear communicator, with strong written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrate strong organizational skills, time and priority management and contemporary technology skills
- Reports to Havurah Shalom Co-Presidents

Applications are to be submitted to the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Placement Center. Contact: Rabbi Joel Alpert, Placement Director, (215) 576-0800 x304.

Applications should include:

- Resume
- Minimum of three references, contact information only