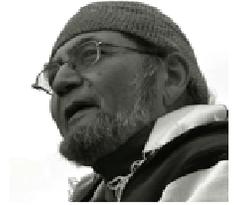


Weighing Our Words: Thoughts on the High Holyday Theme

by Rabbi David J. Cooper



Every High Holydays we sing *Mi Ha-Ish* (from Psalm 34:13-14), a simple prayer that asks nothing but is rather advice on living well. Some early rabbis considered it the distilled essence of the Torah:

Who is one who desires life, savoring each day, and seeking goodness? So guard your tongue from doing wrong, and your lips from speaking deceit. Avoid doing wrong, but do good. Demand peace and pursue it.

I find it compelling that the psalmist's prime advice centers on how we use our words. You'd think other actions might receive a higher priority. But perhaps it makes sense because Jewish civilization is one built on words and our biblical mythos even posits the idea that the universe itself was built on such words as "Let there be light." And then, the most frequent sentence in the Torah mentions speech twice: "YHVH spoke to Moses and said."

It's not that the Torah is all words and no action. Rather words *are* action, often even more determinative than what we do with our hands.

Kehilla's spiritual leaders considered several themes for this year's High Holydays, and the more we discussed them, the more we returned to the issue of speech.

How we use our words frames our interrelationships: how we relate to each other, to God, to the universe. It frames how cohesive we are as a community of interrelating individuals. Rabbi Dev has emphasized that how we use our words is a major component of our spiritual path.

In community, the conscious—or unconscious—use of our words is one of the central issues in the Jewish ethical tradition, *mussar*. So much so that one of the leading teachers of *mussar* almost entirely focused on

the issue of how we use speech. This was Rabbi Israel Meir Kagan (1839-1933) who took the nom de plume Chofetz Chaim, "one who desires life" inspired by the psalm mentioned above.

The Chofetz Chaim explored issues of right speech, "*lashon tov*," and its opposite, "*lashon ha-ra*." He emphasizes that *lashon ha-ra* cannot be reduced to lying or false statements. After all, Psalm 34:13 specifies refraining not only from deceit but also from using one's tongue to do wrong—which implies that sometimes damage is caused even when speaking the truth.

So what is right speech and what is harmful speech is complicated and thus grist for Kehilla to delve into during the holidays when we ask ourselves whether we are living according to the values that we profess and when we resolve to do better.

In my experience this is already a congregation that uses speech better than many. I see us using our ears to actually listen to each other rather than to determine how to argue back. I hear us speaking not to assert our power, but rather to be of assistance. Sure we fall short of this at times, but I am impressed by how well and how often we succeed.

Nevertheless, it behooves us to become even more conscious of how we communicate, and also to learn more of the rich lessons about speech that the Jewish tradition provides to us. And by doing this together we can perhaps as a community better share a vocabulary about right speech and the power of words.

That verse from Psalm 34 pops up in a different form in the last segment of the Amida prayer. There it is within a prayer of supplication: "My God, guard my tongue from doing wrong and my lips from speaking deceit." Well, I'm not sure it's God's responsibility to do this guard duty, but I do agree that each of us could use as much help as we can get.



*Rabbi Shifrah
Tobacman*

Kabbalat CHAI Shabbat & Potluck Dinner

Celebrating Shifrah Tobacman's Rabbinic Ordination from ALEPH

Friday, June 5

6pm: Arrive in Social Hall

6:15: Welcome, Shabbat Table Blessings & Veggie Potluck Dinner

7:30pm: Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'arive Services in the Sanctuary

9:15pm: Oneg Kiddush sponsored by Ruth Atkin & Rabbi Shifrah Tobacman

Come enjoy all the drumming and joint leadership of Chai Shabbat but on a Friday night! But first, join us for Shabbat dinner (*some supper food provided but please bring a dish if you can*) and a musically rich, soulful prayer service during which we will also honor R. Shifrah Tobacman's ordination by the Aleph Rabbinic Program. Services led by Hazzan Shulamit, Debbie Fier, and our Spiritual and Musical Prayer leaders.

Kehilla Social Justice Activists: The Economic Justice Committee Invites You to A Social Gathering for All of Us!

Sunday, June 14, 4:00-7:00pm



Over the last few months, the Economic Justice Committee (EJC) has examined our relationship to Kehilla spiritual leadership and Kehilla as a whole. This process has led to wonderful meetings with Rabbis David and Dev, Executive Director Michael Saxe-Taller, and EJC Board liaison Carol Rothman.

One theme that emerged from our conversations was the sense of isolation some of us feel in regard to the work we are doing. We recognized that many Kehilla members are social and economic justice activists doing inspired work in a host of settings within Kehilla and outside of Kehilla. We became aware that we do not know who most of you are and what you do, and that many of you do not know who we are and what we do.

With the support of the leaders named above, we are organizing a gathering for all Kehilla activists regardless of activist setting. Either on a Kehilla committee, or in the larger community, are you involved with any of the following issues?

- Middle East peace
- Black Lives Matter work
- Environmental concerns
- Immigration
- Housing justice
- Criminal justice

- LGBTQI concerns
- Women's Rights
- Children's Rights
- Occupy groups
- Anti-death penalty work
- Anything else related to social change

The possibilities are endless: We know Kehillans are out there doing amazing things. It's time we meet each other.

We invite you to come to a celebration. We want all of us to get to know each other, to find out how to offer mutual support and appreciation.

This is a party! We will not be working. We will be schmoozing, eating, drinking, thanking and networking. By the time we head out, we'll all have had some fun, made a few new friends perhaps, and also gathered a much better idea of who's who in the justice work at Kehilla.

Please come join us for a vegetarian potluck dinner. It's about time!

In the Social Hall & Patio

For questions or to share information or ideas, contact: Karen Rachels at karenrachels@gmail.com or 510-653-7170.



A Kehilla Conversation—

PERSPECTIVES ON THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS **Considering Where We Go From Here**

KEHILLA COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE

Sunday, June 7, 3:30 – 6pm

Kehilla's Social Hall

1300 Grand Ave., Piedmont

Sponsored by:

Kehilla's Middle East Peace Committee

Light Bites

Donations Gladly Accepted

Join us for a panel presentation about the Israeli elections followed by a Kehilla group conversation considering where we go from here in their wake and the formation of the new right-wing coalition.

Barbara Epstein Ph.D., moderator, received her doctorate in U.S. History from UC, Berkeley. She is the author of *The Minsk Ghetto 1941-1943: Jewish Resistance and Soviet Internationalism*. At UCSC she taught courses on social movements in the U.S. and Jewish social movements in the U.S. and Eastern Europe.

David J. Cooper, panelist, is the community rabbi of Kehilla. A long-time activist on justice and peace issues in regard to Israel/Palestine he has served on the rabbinic cabinets of Brit Tzedek v'Shalom and J Street.

Marcia Freedman, panelist, is a good friend of Kehilla, an American-Israeli activist on behalf of peace in Israel/Palestine, women's and gay rights and a former member of the Israeli Knesset. She was the founding president of Brit Tzedek v'Shalom and a past president of the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival.

Penny Rosenwasser Ph.D., panelist, is a founding board member of Jewish Voice for Peace, the author of *Hope into Practice: Jewish Women Choosing Justice Despite our Fears* and a long-time Kehilla member.

Join the Greening Committee in Community Walk to Oppose Crude by Rail through Our Communities Saturday, June 20th



"Idle No More SF Bay" Refinery Corridor Healing Walk

The oil industry is pushing for major expansions of the five large fossil fuel refineries that line the Carquinez Strait in the northeast part of the Bay Area. The expansions and upgrades are intended to process "extreme fuels" such as Canadian tar sands and fracked shale oil. These crudes are more dangerous, more highly polluting and emit more climate-changing greenhouse gases than conventional oil. The refining and transport of these crude oils pose greater health and safety risks for residents of front-line communities like Richmond (home to the massive Chevron facility), Benicia and Rodeo (the sites of Valero and Phillips 66, respectively).

Of particular concern is the shipment of this volatile crude on rail lines that will send mile-and-a-half long tanker trains carrying millions of gallons of fuel per day through heavily populated communities like Berkeley, Oakland and Richmond, with schools, parks and other public places within a hypothetical one-mile "blast zone" in the event of an oil train explosion. Indeed such events are not hypothetical. In July 2013, for example, an oil train derailed and exploded in Lac-Megantic, Quebec, leveling the downtown and killing 47 people. Crude-by-rail has increased 4,000 percent since 2008. In 2013 alone, more oil spilled in rail incidents (1.1 million gallons), than in the previous 17 years combined. Our rail system, particularly in the Bay Area, was designed to

connect population centers, not move hazardous crude oil.

In recent years, groups in the front-line cities -- Pittsburgh, Martinez, Benicia, Rodeo and Richmond -- have organized a grass-roots movement to oppose refinery expansion and crude by rail. These include groups such as "Idle No More SF Bay," which is sponsoring a series of Refinery Corridor Healing Walks 2015. These non-violent walks are led by Native American elders and include prayers at the beginning and end. You can check out their web site at www.refineryhealingwalks.com.

The Greening Committee invites the Kehilla Community to join us for the June 20th walk from Benicia to Rodeo. There will be options to either walk the entire distance or to join a Kehilla "family-friendly" contingent to walk a shorter distance towards the end of the route. We will be arranging carpooling. Please look for further details in Kehilla's weekly e-mail. We hope you will join us for this wonderful community event.

Please RSVP to Ralph Silber at ralphsamuell@yahoo.com so we can give you more details when we finalize our plans.

Exploring Jewish?

Learning * Reflection * Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah * Conversion *

If you've been thinking about giving your interest in Jewish experience more focused attention, Kehilla would like to encourage, and help support your effort. However you define what "Jewish" (or "Kehillian") experience means to you, there are opportunities to explore and enrich that part of your life. You may have a desire to study toward a bar/bat mitzvah ceremony, or a conversion, or just to give yourself the gift of deeper personal exploration.

We invite you to a 6-month commitment starting at the High Holydays. Those interested will choose among

a variety of experiences: classes (Hebrew included), groups, partnered study (chevruta), solo study, personal reflection and exploration of mitzvot and the spiritual underpinnings of social action. Some participants will identify a concrete goal; others will just see what develops.

If this intrigues you, please respond ("I'm curious" is a sufficient response, more is welcome) to experience@kehillasynagogue.org. No commitment now—let's talk!



Executively Speaking: The Whole is Greater than the Sum of its Parts

by Michael Saxe-Taller, Executive Director

More than 70 Kehilla members gathered on the first Sunday in May for Kehilla's Annual Community Meeting. It was easy to see that people were happy to be there as they were chatting with friends and munching on snacks. We came together with a song, and then learned more about who makes up our community by doing an interactive, "step into the circle if..." game. I then had an opportunity to share my observations and my hopes with the group, and here is the gist of what I said.

Since arriving in mid-January, I have spent my time learning as much as I can about the members of Kehilla and what makes this community tick. I am struck by just how many different people are deeply committed to Kehilla. Those 75 who came to the Community Meeting on a beautiful, sunny Sunday afternoon sure are, as are so many others. Whether involved in Economic Justice Committee or Middle East Peace Committee actions, attending Kehilla School or Tot Shabbat, participating in the Bar/Bat Mitzvah program or coming for Chai Shabbat, Wednesday Morning Meditation or one of the rabbis' classes, hundreds of people are connected and dedicated to Kehilla.

Our incredible diversity is one of our greatest strengths, and we have dozens of areas of our community that are functioning well. It is because of the involvement and leadership of so many of you that Kehilla has come through its many transitions in such good shape. You can be proud and pleased with what you have built.

It is a common phenomenon that someone experiences a community and then assumes that is what the community really is and that others have the same experience of the community as they do. From what I have seen, this appears true for many of us at Kehilla. We make assumptions that our corner of Kehilla is what Kehilla is. And as board of trustees member, SAM Luckey, so aptly said to me as we planned the community meeting, this results in our not always communicating, coordinating or collaborating as well as we could (and want to!).

I have an opportunity that most of you don't, which is to learn about all of the many corners that make up Kehilla, and I can assure you, we are much more than any one of them. This is a diverse, multi-faceted, multi-generational community in which people live their Judaism and their Jewish values in many different ways.

Our distinctions are important, but the more we see ourselves as greater than the sum of our parts, the stronger our community will become. The more we can see the broad picture of Kehilla, the more different Kehilla members we can meet, and the more we can

experience the many facets of our community, the more effectively we can create the kind of Jewish community we want.

This is one of my goals, and I have known from my first interview for the executive director job, that it is a goal of many others here at Kehilla.

After I spoke, we heard from four congregants about how they had experienced the broader view of Kehilla in the past year, and then we broke into groups to give everyone the chance to put their minds to the issues that I raised. We asked:

1. *What have been your experiences with seeing the diversity in the Kehilla community beyond your specific niche?*
2. *What is your vision for how you want it to be and how can we get there? What can you do and what can the community do to realize that vision?*

When everyone came back together, a representative of each group shared an idea from their groups. Here are some of those ideas:

- Members should attend and experience Kehilla events and services that they haven't gone to before
- More communication about the different Kehilla committees, including articles about them in Kol Kehilla
- Renewed attention to the summer retreat
- A visual diagram of the many parts of the Kehilla community.
- A conference on social action and spirituality
- Get members connected through lifecycle events
- Hold community engagement events
- Set up buddies for all new members
- Have joint projects between committees and Kehilla School
- Have an activity that all can work toward in common, whether it be reading the same book, or working on a single project such as rebuilding together for a short period of time

We are having all of the ideas that came out of the discussions compiled, and they will be available for all members to read. We invited people to take the initiative on any of these or other ideas they have to strengthen the community

We concluded the meeting with reports on the state of the congregation financially, administratively, spiritually and in social action, and people left with a sense of pride, connection and hope for our community.



Beyond Shabbat

by Beth Bittle, Managing Director

Welcome to Beyond Shabbat. As you know Kehilla is a very busy community with many events, fundraisers, community building activities, classes and Shabbat services. This is the place you will find additional information about the many things happening here at Kehilla, as well as ways to become more involved in your community.

June 5th is **Kabbalat Chai Shabbat**. Don't forget to bring a potluck dish to share before the service. Volunteers are needed to help with setup before the potluck dinner and with light clean up after the dinner

The **Kehilla Retreat** is right around the corner on Saturday, July 18th! We urgently need people who would like to be **Kiddush Sponsors** for this wonderful and special event! We will also be needing volunteers to help with some of the small setup in the morning, mostly setting up chairs and help to set up for services.

On Sunday, June 14th at 4pm The Economic Justice Committee is hosting an **Activist Social**. This will be a wonderful opportunity to bring together all the different activists at Kehilla, to celebrate your work and to be in conversation with other activists at Kehilla.

For all Avodah opportunities, sign up by contacting me, Beth Bittle, at (510) 547-2424, ext. 106 or Beth@KehillaSynagogue.org.

Sign up with Jan Herzog, Kiddush Coordinator, at jankaye@juno.com to sponsor a Kiddush. Kiddush

Sponsors are responsible for purchasing and delivering Challot, grape juice, desserts and drinks, and having it set-up at Kehilla by 7:20pm on Fridays (5:50pm for Tot Shabbat) and 10:15am on Saturdays.

Upcoming Avodah Opportunities:

- 🕒 **Kabbalat Chai Shabbat**
 - Setup and Cleanup
- 🕒 **Kehilla Retreat**
 - Set up before service

Kiddush Sponsorships available

- 🕒 **Saturday, June 6th: Shabbat Morning**
- 🕒 **Saturday, June 13th: Shabbat Morning**
- 🕒 **Saturday, June 20th: Shabbat Morning**
- 🕒 **Friday, June 26th: Tot Shabbat**
- 🕒 **Saturday, July 4th: Shabbat Morning**
- 🕒 **Saturday, July 18th: Retreat**

Thank You Kiddush Sponsors

May 1: **The Economic Justice Committee**

May 2: **Beth & Scott Gelfand** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Talia Gelfand

May 9: **Marcie Rubel** in honor of Bill Rosenfeld

Kehilla Annual Retreat: Shabbat at Lake Temescal Saturday, July 18



Come celebrate Shabbat in a beautiful setting with your community!
Services led by Rabbi David, Rabbi Dev & Julie Nesnansky.

Auf Ruf to celebrate the upcoming marriage of Malka Stover & Jenna Kemp!

Lunch will be provided. (Sponsors are needed: contact Beth at 510-547-2424 x106.)

Playshops with Rabbi David & Beth Dickinson.

Stay tuned for more information soon!

2015 Rebuilding Together Report

by Alex Madonik

Kehilla has worked with the nonprofit organization, Rebuilding Together Oakland, for dozens of years, providing free home repairs for low-income residents in Oakland. Typically, we partner with Temple Beth Abraham and Temple Sinai to provide financial support and a robust crew for the project. This year's project, repairing the Fruitvale Avenue home of Mrs. Bertha Underwood, was a bit more low-key as these partners were unable to participate. RTO's tireless staff, however, found us new partners in veteran House Captain Harris Miller and the skilled team from DPR Construction, plus extra helping hands from the student Habitat for Humanity group at UC Berkeley. Our goals were to clear decades of hat-making materials and other accumulated stuff from Mrs. Underwood's home and then repair and repaint water-damaged walls and ceilings.

On the morning of April 11, the Habitat team, led by Ethan Xu, were the first RTO volunteers on the scene, working with Harris to remove flaking lead paint while also filling a huge dumpster with debris from the back yard.

Harris, Kehilla's Bob Olken, and I led small but dedicated teams on three successive Sundays (April 12, 19, and 26). Bob's wife, Amy Shutkin, made sure the Peet's coffee and Noah's bagels were there bright and early each day. Mrs. Underwood met us each morning with one of her spectacular hats and a matching outfit, while her son O.J. was ready to work from the moment we arrived. On April 12, we primed much of the

exterior. This work was completed by DPR on April 18 along with interior wall and ceiling repairs. Ethan and several students joined us on the 19th to prime the interior. The Kehilla team included Larry McSpadden and his wife Julie Mills, plus their son Alex, as well as Wendy Kupsaw, Kate McGlynn-Mandel, and Tree Gelb Stuber, aided by Louis Teitelbaum of Temple Beth Abraham.

When we returned on April 26, the interior painting was completed, and our task was to paint the exterior trim, including the eaves. We were a smaller group that day (Kehilla's Nelson Max was there, along with my friends Max Weinryb and Bob Farrell; Kate and Louis returned as well). Progress was slow because much of the work required high ladders, but by the time we left, the front looked great and most of the side window trim had been painted. RTO was able to complete the painting later that week with a small professional team, and Mrs. Underwood was overjoyed at the transformation of her home.

Many of our volunteers are veterans of multiple RTO projects, and continue to find them rewarding. We will start rallying support early for our next project, both within the Kehilla community and with our traditional partners in the larger community. I know I've learned a lot from our skilled volunteers and RTO's amazing House Captains, and there's no doubt we're making a difference in the Oakland community.



Bar/Bat Mitzvah Group Tzedakah Project

by Sandra Razieli

Each year Kehilla Bar and Bat Mitzvah students give and receive many gifts. For more than a decade members of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes have chosen that in lieu of giving gifts to each other, they would pool their gift money and donate it to an organization. We call this the Group Tzedakah Project.

As part of this project, the 2014 class participated in a workshop where they discussed the values that were important to them when considering how to give tzedakah. They concluded that they would like to donate to an organization that focuses on securing the future, long-term sustainability for the environment and humanity. Each chevruta (study group) was then asked to choose an organization to be the recipient of their tzedakah.

Through interactive discussions and email, the recipients were chosen to be: The Milo Foundation- www.milofoundation.org, kiva.org and the Kehilla Bar/Bat Mitzvah Scholarship Fund.

The Milo Foundation, is a local no-kill organization that focuses on Rescue, Adoption and Sanctuary for

domestic animals. They recently sent a thank-you note that included the following, "You are truly appreciated for choosing to give for the care and well – being of the rescued animals at Milo. Your gift of support will help make good things happen! Lives are saved, then once recovered and healthy, after being spayed or neutered. they are ready for adoption. We work hard to find them great homes. Thank you for being part of the solution."

Kiva's mission is to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. They sent a thank you-note that included the following: "Thank you for choosing to support Kiva. Your generosity will help us reach more entrepreneurs worldwide. Congratulations and welcome to adulthood."

And of course, the contributions to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah scholarship fund will help ensure the continuation of this unique program.

Thank you to the 2014 Bar/Bat Mitzvah class parents and students for participating in this worthy project.

Spiritual Life Practices Committee (SLPC) Update

The Spiritual Life Practices Committee (SLPC) will no longer be meeting on the first Thursday of each month. The committee is in the process of selecting a new regular meeting time, while meeting less frequently through the High Holydays. You can contact the SLPC through its co-chairs, Shoshana Finacom and Don Stone, at SpiritualLife@kehillasynagogue.org.

The SLPC was created to oversee and coordinate the spiritual life and ritual practices of the synagogue. Lay congregant members share responsibility with the Spiritual Leaders for discerning a "Kehilla way of being."

In practical terms, we try to articulate Kehilla's own halachic way of doing things, from our eco-Kosher practice in the kitchen, to fostering awareness of how to ritually support those in mourning, to mustering spiritual resources for responding to injustice and conflict. We

welcome feedback from congregants (and visitors) on services, rituals and spiritual matters. Currently this can be done by clicking the website home page Online Feedback Form GIVE US FEEDBACK button, or emailing SpiritualLife@kehillasynagogue.org, or by speaking to any SLPC member. Congregants may also arrange with a co-chair to attend the first part of a monthly meeting: current Co-Chairs: Shoshana Finacom & Don Stone.

For more information about the SLPC and the many spiritual roles at Kehilla, see "Spiritual-Ritual Leadership Guidelines" on the website in the "Policies and Resolutions" section under "About Kehilla." * <http://www.kehillasynagogue.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Spiritual-Ritual-Leadership-Guidelines-5-16-151.pdf>

Kehilla Book Discussion Group

by Jan Herzog

All Kehilla members are welcome to join us for our customary meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. Below are summaries of the books we will read in May and June, taken from Amazon.

June 8: *When A Crocodile Eats The Sun* by Peter Godwin. After his father's heart attack in 1984, Peter Godwin began a series of pilgrimages back to Zimbabwe, the land of his birth, from Manhattan, where he now lives. On these frequent visits to check on his elderly parents, he bore witness to Zimbabwe's dramatic spiral downwards into the jaws of violent chaos, presided over by an increasingly enraged dictator. And yet long after their comfortable lifestyle had been shattered and millions were fleeing, his parents refuse to leave, steadfast in their allegiance to the failed state that has been their adopted home for 50 years. Then Godwin discovered a shocking family secret that helped explain their loyalty. Africa was his father's sanctuary from another identity, another world.

When A Crocodile Eats The Sun is a stirring memoir

of the disintegration of a family set against the collapse of a country. But it is also a vivid portrait of the profound strength of the human spirit and the enduring power of love.

July 13: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Doerr's "stunning sense of physical detail and gorgeous metaphors" (San Francisco Chronicle) are dazzling. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, he illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. Ten years in the writing, a National Book Award finalist, *All the Light We Cannot See* is a magnificent, deeply moving novel from a writer "whose sentences never fail to thrill."

Mazel Tov

To **Sophia Cohn**, daughter of Jill & Russ Cohn, on her graduation Cum Laude from the University of San Francisco Law School on May 23. She was awarded the Juris Doctor degree--JD. **A note from Jill:** *Our Kehilla community members have been a wonderful source of support & influence for Sophia as she navigated law school. Her success is a shared accomplishment with the Kehilla community.*

To **Heather & Art Jolly** on their wedding on May 3.

To **David Lee** for being named by the NoVo Foundation as one of 20 new leaders selected to join its groundbreaking "Move to End Violence" program, a 10-year program to strengthen leaders and organizations, and build a breakthrough movement to end violence against girls and women in the United States. More info at <http://www.preventconnect.org/2015/05/preventconnects-david-lee-selected-for-prestigious-novo-foundation-program/>

To **Jon Levin** on his graduation from the California Institute of Integral Studies with a Bachelor of Arts degree in interdisciplinary studies, with a minor in critical psychology on May 17.

To **Eva Pettersson & Rochelle Towers** on the birth of Eva's grandson, Joaquin, son of Judith and Oji Peterson-Villegas, on May 18 in Talca, Chile.

To **Eveline Shen** on winning the "Groundbreaker Award" and being honored at Our Family Coalition's Annual Night Out in San Francisco in April.

To **Eliza Belle Stuber**, daughter of Tree Gelb Stuber & Jack Stuber, on her graduation from Humboldt State University with a Bachelor of Arts with honors in Psychology and minors in Environment Ethics and Child Development on May 16.

Thank You for Your Generosity

ANNUAL FUND

Erelah Gafni
Helen Hampton
Ari Krantz & Margot Kushel
Bill & Lynn Lazarus in memory of Bill's mother, Ruth Aron
Joan & Roger Lee Fund
Joseph Malloy & Alice Wilkins
Barbara Petterson & David Lee
Ralph Silber

GENERAL FUND

Ofelia Alayeto & Allan Solomonow
Chela Blitt
Heather & Art Jolly in honor of Hazzan Shulamit Wise Fairman officiating their wedding
Sandy Koshkin & Barbara Levin
Anonymous

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rachele Kanigel & Laird Harrison in memory of Beatrice Kanigel with thanks to the Chevra Kadisha.

TERUMAH FUND

Madeleine Adkins
Daniel Alpert
Leslie Baker
Julia Epstein & Betsy Sandel in memory of Julia's parents, Irene Raab Epstein & Aubrey Epstein
Steven Falk & Danielle Rosenman
Rachele Kanigel & Laird Harrison in memory of Beatrice Kanigel with thanks for Rabbi Dev for pastoral services
Barbara Petterson & David Lee
Nikki Sachs
Carolyn Schour
Ralph Silber
Richard Speiglmán & Ellen Bernstein

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Nelson & Mika Max
Barbara Petterson & David Lee
Ralph Silber
Richard Speiglmán & Ellen Bernstein

All Kehilla Congregants Deserve A Safe Home

If you or anyone in your home is experiencing:

- Child abuse ▪ Elder abuse
- Dependent adult abuse ▪ Teen dating violence
- Intimate partner violence (domestic violence)

The Kehilla Committee Against Abuse (CAA), working along side the Spiritual Life Practices Committee (SLPC), is here to help you become or remain safe.

If you are experiencing any kind of abuse, please call: Steven Falk, long-time Kehilla member, at (510) 708-0517; Julie Patrusky, experienced domestic violence counselor and long-time Kehilla member, at (510) 528-0299; or Rabbi David at (510) 547-2424 x103.

Call the Shalom Bayit (Peace in the Home) helpline for counseling and advocacy for teen dating violence and domestic violence issues at: (866) SHALOM-7 (742-5667) toll-free within the Bay Area or (510) 451-7233 (SAFE) outside the Bay Area.

Our Deepest Condolences

To Rafael Coto & Susan McKenna and their children, Elena and Marisa Coto-McKenna, on the passing of Rafael's mother, Luz Marina Chinchilla-Barboza, on March 28 in San Jose, Costa Rica.

May her memory be for a blessing.

To Jon & Ruthie Levin and their son, Quentin, on the passing of Jon's beloved step-father William Spencer Stull on April 24 in West Palm Beach, Florida.

May his memory be for a blessing.

Kehilla Community Synagogue
1300 Grand Avenue (at Fairview)
Piedmont, CA 94610
(510) 547-2424

Please come fragrance-free to all Kehilla events,
for the health of people with respiratory
conditions and chemical sensitivities.

www.KehillaSynagogue.org

June 2015

Tues., June 2, 1:45-3pm. **Yoga class.** Taught by Sandra Razieli. Fireside Room.

Tues., June 2, 6:45pm. (Dinner at 6:15) **Board of Trustees Meeting.** All are welcome. Emma Goldman Room.

Wed., June 3, 8-8:30am. **Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev. Join us for this weekly opportunity to sit together in silence. Fireside Room (enter through the Patio entrance on Fairview).

Fri., June 5. **Kabbalat CHAI Shabbat & Potluck Dinner and Officially Celebrating Shifra Tobacman's rabbinic ordination.** 6:00pm: **Gather & Blessings**, 6:30pm: **Veggie Potluck**, 7:30pm: **Chai Kabbalat Shabbat Service.** Social Hall.
(See announcement, p. 2.)

Sat., June 6, 10:30am, **Shabbat Morning Service**, with Rabbi David & Beth Dickinson. The secret meaning of Kehilla's bima design is contained in today's opening of today's parasha, *B-Haalot'cha* at Numbers 8:1-4 and most especially in the haftara from Zecharia 4:1-7. So we will gather in the sanctuary for the service. Kiddush/oneg to follow. If you can, bring veggie finger-food to share.

Sat., June 6, 12pm, **Oneg – Social Gathering.** Feel free to come for the oneg even if you can't make it for the service. If you can, bring veggie finger-food to share.

Sun., June 7, 3:30-6pm. **A Kehilla Conversation: Perspectives on the Israeli Elections: Considering Where We Go from Here.** A panel presentation with Barbara Epstein, Ph.D., Rabbi David, Marcia Freedman & Penny Rosenwasser. Followed by group discussion. Sponsored by the Middle East Peace Committee. Social Hall. (See p. 3 for details.)

Sun., June 7, 7-8:30pm. **Kehilla Caregivers Support Group.** Created to provide a safe space to explore the challenges we face as caregivers. Meets at a private home. For more information, contact Amy Shutkin at ashutkin@gmail.com.

Mon., June 8, 6pm. **Greening Committee Meeting.** Buber Room.

Mon., June 8, 7pm. **Book Discussion Group.** We will discuss *When A Crocodile Eats The Sun* by Peter Godwin. All Kehilla members are welcome to join us. Fireside Room. For more information, contact Jan Herzog at jankaye@juno.com. (See article, p. 9.)

Tues., June 9, 1:45-3pm. **Yoga class.** Taught by Sandra Razieli. Fireside Room.

Wed., June 10, 8-8:30am. **Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev. Join us for this weekly opportunity to sit together in silence. Fireside Room (enter through the Patio entrance on Fairview).

Fri., June 12, 6:30pm. **POP-UP Shabbat!** At "Bites Off Broadway," 45th Street between Broadway and Shafter in front of Studio One Art Center. Pop-up Shabbat is back! Join Rabbi Dev and friends to enjoy the Temescal's delicious and festive Friday night food truck event (food trucks open at 5:30).

Sat., June 13, 10:30am, **Shabbat Morning Service**, with Howard Hamburger & Beth Dickinson. Kiddush/oneg to follow. If you can, bring veggie finger-food to share.

Sat., June 13, 12pm, **Oneg – Social Gathering.** Feel free to come for the oneg even if you can't make it for the service. If you can, bring veggie finger-food to share.

Sun., June 14, 4-7pm. **Social Gathering for all Kehilla members who are Social Justice Activists, hosted by the Economic Justice Committee.** Whether you are doing work within Kehilla or outside of Kehilla, you are warmly invited. This is a party! We will not be working. We will be schmoozing, eating, drinking, thanking and networking. Social Hall & Patio. (See p.2 for details.)

Tues., June 16. **No Yoga class.**

Tues., June 16, 6:30pm. **"Spitting in the Rabbi's Face, and Other Sacred Subversions"** class with Rabbi Dev Noily. Fireside Room.

Wed., June 17, 8-8:30am **Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev. Join us for this weekly opportunity to sit together in silence. Fireside Room (enter through the Patio entrance on Fairview).

Wed., June 17, 7pm. **Economic Justice Committee Meeting.** Fireside Room.

Sat., June 20, 10:30am, **Shabbat Morning Service**, Rabbi David & Julie Nesnansky. In parashat Korach, especially in Numbers 18:8-30, the Torah names several means of "gifting." Taken literally, most of these are irrelevant today, but these verses are grist for a discussion about how actually we give of ourselves in our time. If you are interested in leyning, the verses are Num. 18:11-14; 15-17; 18-20. Email

RabbiDavid@KehillaSynagogue.org. Kiddush/oneg to follow. If you can, bring veggie finger-food to share.

Sat., June 20, 12pm, **Oneg – Social Gathering**. Feel free to come for the oneg even if you can't make it for the service. If you can, bring veggie finger-food to share.

Sat., June 20. **Community Walk to Oppose Crude by Rail through Our Communities**. The Greening Committee invites you to join us for the June 20th walk from Benicia to Rodeo. There will be options to either walk the entire distance or to join a Kehilla "family-friendly" contingent to walk a shorter distance towards the end of the route. We will be arranging carpooling. Please RSVP to Ralph Silber at ralphsamuell@yahoo.com so we can give you more details when we finalize our plans. (See article, p. 4.)

Tues., June 23. **No Yoga class**.

Wed., June 24, 8-8:30am. **Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev. Join us for this weekly opportunity to sit together

in silence. Fireside Room (enter through the Patio entrance on Fairview).

Fri., June 26, 6:30pm, **Tot Shabbat** For children up to 5 years old (or older if they would enjoy it) and their grown-ups. Led by Jen Miriam Kantor and her puppet friends. Please bring a vegetarian potluck dish to share if you can. Fireside Room.

Sat., June 27, 10am, **Shabbat Service and Eliana Tertes becoming Bat Mitzvah** with Rabbi David, Hazzan Shulamit, Bracha Stone and Debbie Fier as we celebrate Eliana's simcha. Kiddush provided by Eliana's parents, Julie Emden and Michael Tertes.

Tues., June 30, 1:45-3pm. **Yoga class**. Taught by Sandra Razieli. Fireside Room.

Tues., June 30, 6:30pm. **Spiritual Life Practices Committee (SLPC) Meeting**. Fireside Room. (See article, p. 8.)

Kehilla Community Synagogue

**Please use the following number for all staff:
(510) 547-2424**

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Associate Rabbi & School Director, Rabbi Dev Noily RabbiDev@kehillasynagogue.org	104	Events Line:	216
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Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program Director, Sandra Razeili Sandra@kehillasynagogue.org	105	Spiritual Life Practices Committee Co-Chairs: Don Stone & Shoshana Finacom Spirituallife@kehillasynagogue.org	
Rabbi Burt Jacobson: (510) 778-9451 RabBurt@earthlink.net		Website: www.kehillasyagogue.org	
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