

## In honor of Rabbi Dev

by Kehilla's Clergy Team

Kehilla will officially welcome Rabbi Dev Noily as our Senior Rabbi on November 10–11, 2017 with a joyous Brit Kehilla – a Community Covenant. The whole Kehilla community will celebrate Rabbi Dev with music, blessings, learning, eating and dancing.

Our Kehilla Clergy Team is offering these words of welcome in preparation for the day.

### Welcoming Rabbi Dev Noily

by Rabbi Burt Jacobson

Soon after Rabbi Dev became Kehilla's school director Dev invited me to go to lunch, so we could begin to fashion a collegial relationship. We went to Little Shin Shin on Piedmont Avenue. It was truly a memorable occasion. Our conversation covered a wide range of topics. I could see that in Dev's understanding there was no separation between spirituality and politics, between love for Judaism and Jews and love for humanity. And I was deeply impressed by Dev's openness, presence, intelligence, levelheadedness, and joyous disposition. Dev radiated a quiet strength, inner stability and peace of mind.

I recall offering Dev some of my ideas for the school—and Dev's humble and openhearted reply: "This is a time of learning for me. Before initiating any changes, I need to learn more about the school and the synagogue." Dev asked to meet with me regularly to tap my experience and knowledge. I felt a deep sense of confidence in their ability to guide and direct the school.

A few days later I was speaking with Rabbi David and I told him about my meeting with Dev:

"David, if you ever decide to pull back from your role as community rabbi, or to retire, I think Kehilla might have its next rabbi." And David replied, "I already know this."

The quality that I most admire in Dev is their belief that every individual deserves to be equally loved, accepted and appreciated. It is out of this conviction that Dev's commitment to social justice arises.

I cannot adequately express my own joy and delight in welcoming Rabbi Dev as our new senior rabbi.



### Indispensable Rabbi Dev

by Rabbi David J. Cooper

While I was recovering from my cancer surgery 12 years ago, I found myself thinking about the inevitable need to replace me at some point in the future. I decided that during the next years I wanted to play a role in laying the groundwork for my eventual replacement.

We had criteria for selecting a rabbi back in the late '90s which eventually culminated in my being hired. These general criteria were still relevant. We were looking for someone who could "get" Kehilla and understand our unique combination of an open-spirituality with politically-progressive social action. And we were looking for someone who would work collegially and could understand how we embrace a shared leadership. And now, like most everyone else in the congregation, I wanted someone who would love the people in this community. And it should be someone who could appeal to a younger crowd.

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## **In honor of Rabbi Dev**

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When the position of the school principal became vacant, several candidates were interviewed and one of these was Dev Noily. Like the other folks who interviewed Dev, I was very impressed and hoped that they would be offered the position and would accept.

Dev made it clear that their family were members of a different synagogue where they felt at home, but that Dev intended to serve Kehilla School understanding its importance to the shul community. During that first year I was really surprised what a great principal they were even without considering that they had not prepared previously to serve as an educator for young people. Dev deepened the sense of community among the students and was a creative and loving rabbinical presence. After a while, Dev informed us that their family was now feeling more connected to Kehilla and so Dev was invited to participate in the spiritual leadership of the congregation, which they did.

I think it was about a year after that, that during a one-on-one talk with Dev, I said that I did not have the power to appoint a successor but that if I did, I would want it to be them. Among Dev's responses was that the idea of being a congregational rabbi was scary. I was very happy to hear them say that. It meant that Dev understood what a responsibility this was. So I said words to the effect, "Make yourself indispensable and I won't get in your way."

Well Dev did. The community has seen how great its next rabbi could be. And so it is.

## **Moving Forward Together**

by Hazzan Shulamit

Welcoming Rabbi Dev as our senior rabbi marks a generational shift in the life of our community from having rabbinic leadership from Kehilla's founding generation at the helm, to a new generation of clergy leadership. I experience Rabbi Dev's commitment to the dual task of carrying on the extraordinary legacy that's been passed forward while supporting our community

have wings. They approach this ongoing task with love, care, curiosity, and integrity.

To my delight, Rabbi Dev carries on a great tradition of Kehilla rabbis who share their love of music with the community. Most recently, they organized the newest incarnation of our community klezmer band that rocked the sanctuary on Simchat Torah. They'll be back to get us dancing on Nov 11!

Rabbi Dev has added to our rich adult education program and inspired a new buzz around Torah and Talmud learning, reaching old Jews, new Jews, young Jews, and non-Jews alike. Their vision for relevant and realized Jewish spiritual practice extends to the pursuit of justice and the healing of our world, as well as to the healing of our souls, and how we grow as a community together.

I cherish the big heart, the brave mind, and the beautiful spirit that is Rabbi Dev. Sitting in the Mystery with Rabbi Dev is one of my favorite things. It's an honor and a joy to partner with them on the "clergy team," and to serve together with our broader team of dedicated spiritual leaders and musical prayers leaders.

Whatever unfolds, we're in it together!

SAVE THE DATE



ברית קהילה

Brit Kehilla: Celebrating a  
Community Covenant with  
Rabbi Dev Noily

Please join the Kehilla congregation as we honor Rabbi Dev Noily, our new Senior Rabbi, with a Shabbaton filled with blessings, learning, prayer, music, food, and unbridled joy.

**Friday, November 10, 7pm**

Shabbat Evening Services

Reception and Refreshments

**Saturday, November 11, 10am**

Shabbat Morning Services and Blessings for Rabbi Dev

Childcare and Children's programming will be provided.

**12:45pm** Lunch

**2:00pm** Learning Session with Special Guest Rabbi Benay Lappe

**7:00pm** Brit Kehilla Ritual and Havdalah

**8:00pm** Party

We expect more than a full house, so please RSVP to get your name on the list. Let us know how many people will be in your party. Its first come, first served!

Please volunteer to help out or to bake for the occasion at:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2076107/false#/invitation>

Make a contribution in Rabbi Dev's honor:

<https://kehillacs.wufoo.com/forms/giving-to-kehilla/>

Offer a Blessing for Rabbi Dev:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeKmQ0J\\_cSI-5TsrEbx-5sb-8YiPETBVUul6ZH94vAvEAKZLw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeKmQ0J_cSI-5TsrEbx-5sb-8YiPETBVUul6ZH94vAvEAKZLw/viewform)

*Wheelchair Accessible*

All events at Kehilla are fragrance-free.

## Executively Speaking: Kehilla's Spiritual Audacity

by Michael Saxe-Taller, Executive Director



We recently completed a marvelous holiday season. More people than ever came to our High Holy Day services, including overflow crowds at our Family and Tot services. Powerful words were spoken on our theme of "Facing

Our Times with Spiritual Audacity" (see the sermons on our website). And we concluded the season with a glorious Simchat Torah celebration, highlighted by dancing and the music of the latest incarnation of the Kehilla Klezmer Band.

The following is excerpted from what I said to the community on Erev Rosh Hashanah:

Last November, the night after the election, many of us came to Kehilla to share our confusion, heartbreak and anger over the national election results. Rabbi Dev encouraged us to be patient, to take the time we need to process our reactions and only then choose to respond.

It was a shocking time, but we didn't wait long to respond. And we did so, in the words of this year's High Holy Day theme, with spiritual audacity.

Ten days after the election, we packed the Kehilla sanctuary to learn from our founding rabbi Burt Jacobson and renowned Buddhist teacher Norman Fischer. When asked how to respond to the new administration in Washington, Norman noted that more than ever, we need to do our activism as part of a spiritually rooted community – like Kehilla.

Throughout this year, we have continued to grow and build our spiritual community. We have done this by learning together, praying together and celebrating together.

And we have boldly worked for Justice together:

Kehilla's Immigration teams have now provided accompaniment for 12 immigrant and refugee families, couples or individuals

Kehilla school parents have organized a monthly "Let My People Go" protest at ICE's Richmond Detention Center

Our Economic Justice Committee held a wildly successful Political Engagement Workshop for those inspired to deepen their involvement in social change.

Kehilla supported indigenous struggles, including the "Save West Berkeley Shellmound" campaign (stickers available in the lobby!) and our first-time annual commitment to the Shuumi Land Tax / Sogorea Te Land Trust.

Kehilla had large contingents at the Women's march, Earth Day Climate Action and most especially we were a force around the responses to the Berkeley alt-right rally in August.

The afternoon before that rally, our sanctuary teemed with people at a Non-Violence and De-escalation Training, while our social hall was filled with families participating in an Art Build and Teach-In Against White Supremacy. The next day, Kehilla had large contingents at all three major public responses to the Berkeley rally and Rabbi Dev, Hazzan Shulamit and many Kehilla leaders took visible leadership throughout that day.

Soon after the White Supremacist rally in Charlottesville, we found three Alt-right stickers on the glass that covers our Kehilla sign. When, a few days later, a reporter asked me if the stickers made our community feel insecure, I reminded myself what Kehilla has been doing since November 8th and for the last 33 years. I told her that we feel secure because we are a part of a broad, multi-faith, multi-racial community that we know has our back, as we have theirs.

We can be proud of the work we are doing and pleased with the position we are in. In February, 400 people came out to celebrate Rabbi David and honor his lifetime of social justice activism. Rabbi David declared how fortunate we are that Kehilla was founded 33 years ago, because in these

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## **Executively Speaking: Kehilla's Spiritual Audacity** *[continued from page 4]*

challenging times, we would need to create Kehilla if it didn't already exist.

And we are well positioned to do more. We have a growing capacity to impact the way our broader Jewish community responds to repressive policies. And we are stepping into new leadership as the times draw us into broader coalitions and partnerships among social justice leaders and organizations.

As we enter our new year, I want to invite every one of you to be part of Kehilla's audacious community building and work for justice.

Be part of sustaining our community. Take leadership. Help out when asked, or offer to do so even before you're asked.

Make sure that Kehilla stays strong by contributing to our financial security. Make a

donation in Rabbi Dev's honor as we prepare for our Brit Kehilla – a Community Covenant to welcome Rabbi Dev as our Senior Rabbi or become a member of the Kehilla Legacy society by remembering Kehilla with an afterlife gift.

Whatever you do, cozy on up to the Kehilla community and be part of building something audacious – a community that loves boldly, learns boldly and acts boldly.

### **It's Bar/Bat Mitzvah Season!**

Dear Kehilla Community,

You are invited to join us at the following shabbat morning services as these amazing 7th graders become Bar/Bat mitzvah. Some of us may feel a little hesitant about coming to a shabbat service when a young person we do not know personally is becoming Bar/Bat mitzvah, but please be assured that having Kehilla community members present brings immense joy and liveliness to the service, which is greatly appreciated by the family and their young person. Furthermore, from the pride that the Bar/Bat Mitzvah families show while joining in the Kehilla community aliya to the Torah, to the joyful way that the students dance with that day's celebrant after s/he has finished reading from the Torah, to the beautiful words that are shared when representatives of the chavurah present a gift to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, the power of these services reaches all who attend.

Please note that these services begin at 10am and please attend these (and all) services fragrance free.

- **Ruby Cohen becomes Bat Mitzvah on November 4**
- **Max and Steven Schlosberg (twins) AND their mother, Jenny Wong, are becoming B'ney Mitzvah on November 18**



## Faith Trio Harvest Dinner



**Saturday, November 4, 6pm**

Join us for our Faith Trio Harvest Dinner at Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Dr, Oakland. We will gather at 6:00pm and dinner begins at 6:30pm. Kehilla members and friends are requested to bring salads to our large vegetarian potluck. Families, children and youth are especially encouraged to come. There will be some fun games for children and others.

Kehilla members have joined in an interfaith alliance with congregants from Montclair Presbyterian Church and the Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, the “Faith Trio,” for over 10 years. We celebrate our friendships and the fall season each year with a large vegetarian potluck dinner, sharing the bounty of the harvest along with the opportunity to meet and become friends with people of other faiths. The theme of our Harvest Dinner this year is “Gratitude” and we are encouraged to consider this topic in our conversations over dinner. Blessings from Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders will frame our celebration.

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## Combatants for Peace Program



**Tuesday, November 7, 7pm**

**St. John’s Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley**

Join Kehilla’s Middle East Peace Committee and other Bay Area Interfaith congregations for an inspiring evening. Hear from visiting Palestinian and Israeli ex-combatants, Mohamed Owedah and Galia Galili, leaders of the Combatants for Peace. See “Disturbing the Peace,” the multiple award-winning film, that tells the story of this remarkable organization of Palestinian and Israeli former fighters, joining forces to work nonviolently for peace and justice. Q & A will follow.

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## Anti-Occupation Coalition Building with Achvat Amim

**Wednesday, November 8, 7pm**

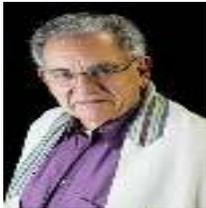
IfNotNow and Kehilla’s Middle East Peace Committee are stoked for this conversation with Karen Isaacs and Daniel Roth about how they’re working to end the Occupation through education and coalition-building.

Let’s hang and snack as we hear what’s up with these amazing organizers, how they’re responding to right-wing attacks, and how coalition building can make the movement to end the Occupation — and to build a just peace — more diverse and powerful than it’s ever been before. In the Fireside Room at Kehilla.

**Suggested donation:** \$5-\$20 (no one turned away for lack of funds!!)

# Transforming the Fear of Death

by Rabbi Burt Jacobson



These last years have been immensely challenging for me as my body has been experiencing its inevitable decline and I feel myself moving inexorably toward

death. At times I have been wrapped in fear. What will become of this person I am? Will my “I” continue in some other form? Or will it simply dissolve into the enigma out of which it arose?

I entered into the spirit of these past High Holy Day season reflecting on these questions, asking my inner guidance for some way to deal with this fear. A few days later I received this answer: “Embrace life fully; embrace death fully.” As I reflected on this response my thoughts went back to a teaching of the Ba’al Shem Tov’s that I first encountered over a decade ago, a process for the transformation of fear. I returned to that teaching and examined it to see if the master’s perspective could aid me in my present plight. And, indeed, it offered me a perspective that I find exceedingly valuable.

The Ba’al Shem spoke about two types of yirah, a word that is most often translated as “fear,” and sometimes as “awe.” The Besht calls the first kind of yirah “outer fear,” (yirah hitzonit). This is the existential fear or terror experienced by all living beings when they undergo extreme pain or face utter annihilation. How is one to deal with such raw fear? The Ba’al Shem states that there are two spiritual steps that need to be taken to move beyond this fear.

The first step is an enlargement of one’s outlook. The Besht suggests that the seeker step outside of his or her own body and consciousness and attempt to see the issue from a more universal perspective. If I am able to do this I become aware that my small self is only a particular cell in the body of this vast amazing universe. The cycle of my own birth, life and death is a single instance of a great archetypal phenomenon, for every creation in the cosmos is bound to go through such a process. If I can learn to identify with and accept this process I become amazed at the awesomeness of existence as a whole and I am astonished that I have been

privileged to be part of both its joys and its suffering for the span of my life. Such an expansion of consciousness allows me to begin to transform my personal or outer fears into what the Besht calls “inner awe,” (yirah peninit).

In my experience the transformation of external fear into inner awe comes about through my meditation practice, which enables me to detach myself from identification with both my body and my individualized consciousness and frees me to recognize that I am one with the fullness of Existence [HaVaYaH] itself.

The final challenge, the Besht tells us, is moving from yirah (awe) to ahavah (love). This requires the individual to surrender to the divine and to fully accept the inevitable. It was this call that I heard from my inner guidance: “Embrace life fully; embrace death fully.”

And what is this awe that has become love? It is the single Love that binds all things together. It is love for an Existence filled with pain as well as joy. It is a Love that tenderly embraces our smaller fearful selves. A Love that assures us, “It will be okay . . . death is no enemy.”

I recently listened to a fascinating interview with the Zen teacher, Jun Po Denis Kelly Roshi, who is suffering from neuropathy, cancer and Parkinson’s Disease. In the interview, Jun Po calls attention to a number of points that I found in the thought of the Ba’al Shem Tov. He calls for radical self-acceptance. He states that witnessing one’s dying in an expanded state of consciousness is amazing. And he says that out of this “your heart breaks open into unconditional love.” The interview is entitled, “Falling in Love With Death.”

This insight dovetails with a conviction that the psychologist, Viktor Frankel came to while he was incarcerated in Auschwitz: “Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of human freedoms—to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s own way.” I cannot alter the process of aging. I cannot jettison my medical problems. I cannot avoid death. Yet I still have the ability to choose my attitude toward the fears that sometimes ambush me. I don’t have to be a victim.

## Meet the Artist Reception for Rita Sklar



**Sunday November 12, 3pm**

Long-time Kehilla member Rita Sklar will show her award-winning wildlife paintings and paintings of people in the Fireside Room. You may have seen her painting “Generations of Women” honoring women who have kept Judaism alive in the home. It is hanging outside the sanctuary and was a gift to the congregation.

Rita’s concern for the environment moved her to paint a series of paintings of birds and other wildlife. Conservation efforts have brought back the California brown pelican, the peregrine falcon, and the bald eagle. Sklar’s paintings of children and families are a celebration of diversity. Eight of

these paintings have been purchased by the Children’s Hospital at Stanford. A celebration of the artwork at the hospital is expected to occur before the end of the year.

All the paintings will be available for sale and a portion of proceeds supports Kehilla’s annual fund.

The show will run from November 6th through December 31 in the Fireside “Gallery” Room.

For a preview, visit Rita’s website at [www.ritasklar.com](http://www.ritasklar.com).

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## Book Discussion Group

All Kehilla members are welcome to join us for our customary meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7pm in the Fireside Room. These books are from the San Francisco Jewish Community Library. Contact Joseph Sklar [jsklar826@yahoo.com](mailto:jsklar826@yahoo.com) to see if any copies are available.

**Monday, November 13, 7pm**



### ***Fabulous Small Jews*, a collection of short stories by Joseph Epstein**

The stories are “populated by lawyers, professors, scrap-iron dealers, dry cleaners, all men of a certain age who feel themselves adrift in the radically changed values of the day.”

Are you looking for other good books with a Jewish theme to read? Perhaps you will find something you might enjoy. Here’s a few to get you started (more on the Kehilla website):

- Always from Somewhere Else – Marjorie Agosin
- Can’t We Talk About Something...Pleasant – Roz Chast
- The December Project – Sara Davidson
- Disobedience – Naomi Alderman
- Forgetting River: A Modern Tale – Doreen Carvajal
- Hare with Amber Eyes – Edmund de Waal
- House of Memory – Marjorie Agosin
- King’s Ransom – Jan Berasely
- Ophan #8 – Kim Van Alkemade
- Postville – Stephen Bloom
- Rashi’s Daughter I – Maggie Anton
- Rashi’s Daughter II – Maggie Anton

# Canvass Effectively and Joyfully in Modesto with Working America Right Now!

from the Economic Justice Committee

The Economic Justice Committee is offering a “Working America Training” on February 3, 2018, from 4pm to 6:30pm at Kehilla. Work is needed now, however, so anyone ready to jump in right now can!

Working America, the community arm of the AFL-CIO, has been working nationally for 15 years to engage workers in the electoral process. Now working in California, Working America locally is training volunteers to canvass areas such as Modesto, Tracy, and Turlock in hopes of getting working people engaged with choosing legislators who really represent their interests. Congressional District 10 in the Central Valley is the swing district closest to the Bay Area. District 10 voted for Clinton, but reelected their Republican Congressman by less than 3% of the votes.

Jeanne Finberg, EJC and Kehilla member, has been going out monthly with her husband, Bob, and finding the canvassing extremely effective, engaging and fascinating. Per Jeanne, “People out there don’t have many people knocking on their doors asking what is of interest to them. We have found many people opening their doors and being willing to talk to us. Some even tell us their stories about their lives, their decisions to not vote or just wanting change but not having accurate information. Most are working people wanting more secure and better jobs, stable, affordable health care and good education for their children. Despite everything, their voices haven’t been heard. We are trying to hear them and give them information to engage them in choosing legislators who will be responsive. We have been surprised and of course, thrilled, by the response. This method really works!”

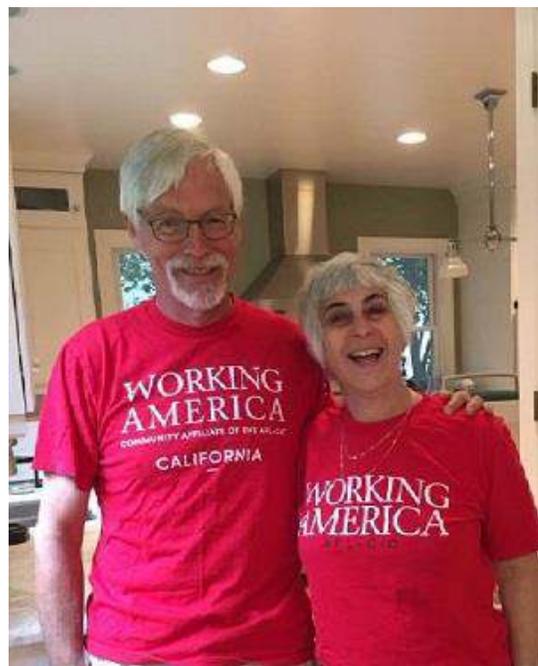
While the EJC plans its more extensive workshop training for February, Working America is requesting anyone who is ready to be a part of this change action to contact them NOW!

Canvassing happens on weekday (per their schedule) evenings from 4pm to 8pm and Saturdays from 11am to 4pm. For new volunteers, you will arrive an hour in advance for

your first canvass for training. You will be trained on how to use their iPad and how to engage with people in a manner that draws out their concerns, and most important, to get them to sign up as a member so they will get more information from Working America in the future. After the primary, Working America will go back to the doors with information on the candidates’ positions on the issues of concern to working families – jobs and the economy, education, health care, retirement security, corporate accountability, and workers’ rights.

Please contact Fran Schreiber at [fschreiber@kazanlaw.com](mailto:fschreiber@kazanlaw.com) or the Modesto Working America office, <http://www.workingamerica.org/centralvalley/volunteer> to sign up for a shift and get trained. Training is in Modesto, a 90-minute drive from Oakland. Links for carpooling are provided on the site. If you would like to talk with Jeanne about her experience, email her at [jeanne.finberg@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.finberg@gmail.com).

**JOIN US IN THIS EFFORT TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT LOCAL AND NATIONAL DIFFERENCE!!**



## Glitter Kehilla Kabbalat Shabbat & Trans Day of Remembrance & Resistance



**Friday, November 17, 7:30pm**

Glitter Kehilla invites the community to join us for our annual Shabbat observance that centers and honors the resilience of the Trans community and remembers lives lost to anti-trans violence.

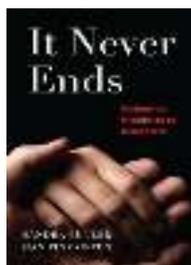
We will be collecting tzedakah for the Transgender, Gender Variant, and Intersex Justice Project (TGI Justice Project). If you can't attend but are moved to donate, you can do so at this link:

<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/TGIJP?code=Home>

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## It Never Ends: Mothering Middle-Aged Daughters – Book Discussion

**With Nan Gefen & Sandra Butler**



**Monday, November 20, 6:30pm**

Please join us for a workshop with Kehilla members and authors Nan Gefen & Sandra Butler, who will be presenting an interactive conversation from their book *It Never Ends: Mothering Middle-Aged Daughters*. In Social Hall

**Admission:** Free

***This event is hosted by Kehilla Community Synagogue.***

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## Ten Essentials of Judaism

**Taught by Rabbi Dev Noily**

Join Rabbi Dev for a deep dive into some of the juiciest parts of Jewish practice and life. This monthly class is required for Conversion and Adult B'nei Mitzvah Students and is open to all. All Session will meet on Tuesday's from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Fireside Room.

**October 17 - Session 1:** What is Judaism, Anyway?

**November 21 - Session 2:** A Brief History of Judaism Through Our Sacred Texts

**December 19 - Session 3:** Siddur & Liturgy: Jewish Prayer

**January 16 - Session 4:** The Jewish Year Cycle

**February 13 - Session 5:** The Jewish Life Cycle

**March 20 - Session 6:** Behaving – Halacha and post-Halachic Judaisms

**April 17 - Session 7:** Belonging – Community/Family as the units of Jewish practice

**May 15 - Session 8:** Believing – Jewish Theologies

**June 19 - Session 9:** Lashon Kodesh – Hebrew as a Holy Language

**July date TBD - Session 10:** Let's go to the Jewish Film Festival!

**Cost - Members** - \$198.00 for all sessions;

**Non-Members** - \$234.00 for all sessions.

***To register by going to the Kehilla website under Adult Education, or send check payable to Kehilla, 1300 Grand Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94610. (Make sure to indicate the class name in the "memo" section)***

**A Final Resting Place for Kehilla**  
**(Update from prior article in the *September Kol Kehilla*)**  
from the Chevra Kadisha Committee

Kehilla's Chevra Kadisha has begun looking at securing a Kehilla (and/or greater Bay Area Jewish) section at a local or nearby cemetery for our congregation. We have expanded our search to consider green burial. All places we include below bury cremains.

We recognize that thinking about a burial plot is often not first on someone's list of pleasant things to contemplate, or even onerous chores. But it is so important. We will all need to consider this someday and a group area requires advance planning.

Before we proceed, we need to know the wishes of our congregation. We need to consider the desires of as many of us as possible. We have previously sent out the link to a survey to elicit this information in a SurveyMonkey format. It will be enormously helpful to us if you would complete this survey.

We will be asking about your wishes for burial (green and conventional) or cremation. For clarification, we want to define three burial terms:

Many cemeteries impose the use of a concrete liner, which is a five or six sided concrete box surrounding the coffin. We refer to these concrete-lined graves as 'conventional.'

'Traditional Jewish' burial is done in an unlined grave.

A 'green burial' is done in an unlined grave, and may also allow placement of the body in the grave without a casket.

We have currently identified four possible cemetery scenarios for you to consider:

\* Mountain View in Oakland with conventional burial in a Kehilla section.

\* Gan Shalom in Briones with conventional burial in a Jewish cemetery in Kehilla section.

\* Lone Tree in Hayward with strong potential for development of green burial within a Kehilla or Jewish section.

\* Fernwood (Gan Yarok) in Marin with green burial in a green cemetery in a Jewish section.

Kehilla will not be subsidizing any purchases. Each congregant would pay directly to the cemetery. However, Mountain View Cemetery, Lone Tree Cemetery, and Gan Shalom, all require some amount of congregants to purchase their graves to make a new section.

The survey should not take more than 15 minutes to complete. Please click this link to access the survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/kehilla\\_burial](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/kehilla_burial)

For more information on green burials: [greenburialcouncil.org](http://greenburialcouncil.org). Check the Kehilla Chevra Kadisha webpage for updates, and links for specific cemeteries.

Please contact either Cathy Steirn 510-289-2363 or Jane Hoberman 510-333-1848 for any questions. Thank you so much.

**Qigong Workshop Instructor**

If you want to find out more about Qigong with Diana Lion (offered the Qigong workshop on Yom Kippur) you can contact her at [diana.lion@gmail.com](mailto:diana.lion@gmail.com).

## SAVE THE DATES

### Kabbalat Chai Shabbat & New Member Welcome



**Friday, December 1, 6:15pm**

Join us for a full evening with a potluck Shabbat Dinner, special blessings of our new members, and a spiritual and musical Shabbat evening service. This is followed by a kiddush in the Social Hall. If coming for the meal, please bring a veggie dish (fish okay), and if coming for the kiddush, bring veggie finger food to share. If you're interested in volunteering for this event, please email [admin@kehillasynagogue.org](mailto:admin@kehillasynagogue.org) w/the event name in the subject line.

6:15 Potluck dinner;

7:00 Blessing of new members;

7:30 Kabbalat Chai Shabbat service led by Hazzan Shulamit and our music team.

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### Kehilla Hanukkah Celebration



**Saturday, December 16, 5pm**

Join us for a fun-filled evening for **All Ages**! Doors open at 5pm with a Potluck Dinner; Performance by Octopretzel; and after dinner fun *To Be Announced*. We hope to see you there! If you're interested in volunteering for this event, please email [admin@kehillasynagogue.org](mailto:admin@kehillasynagogue.org) w/the event name in the subject line.

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### Arts and Crafts Sales



### Calling all Craftspeople: Kehilla Members and Friends!

Please donate items to the Arts and Crafts Holiday Sales happening at Kehilla **December 14th** and **December 16th**. All proceeds will go to support the urgent needs of immigrant and refugee families supported by Kehilla accompaniment teams (such as legal and housing costs).

We hope to be able to sell lots of small gift items (cost each \$5-\$75). To donate contact: Carol Rothman at [ImmigrationCommitteeChairs@kehillasynagogue.org](mailto:ImmigrationCommitteeChairs@kehillasynagogue.org) to arrange drop off/pickup as soon as possible.

## Thank You for Your Generosity

### **Annual Fund**

Lori Lefkovitz in honor of Rabbi Dev Noily

### **General Donation**

Chaya Gusfield in honor of Shoshana Finacom  
Justine W. MacNeil in honor of Michael and Julie Saxe-Taller  
Ralph Silber  
Lisa Korwin and Kip Walsh  
Laura Nelson  
Eva Pettersson in honor of the recent birth of my granddaughter Zoe Eva Lia and to all the leaders and staff at Kehilla  
Kaia Burkett

### **High Holy Days Tzedakah Fund**

Robert Kelly & Jane Hoberman in memory of Solomon Hoberman, William Kelly & Ruth Freidman  
Karen Friedman  
Julie Patrusky in memory of Hannah & Nathan Patrusky  
Kirsten Cros  
Beth Weinberger in memory of Frieda Winberger  
Susan Goldstein in memory of Max and Sylvia Winer  
Ruth and Jay Koch in memory of Ruth's father, Irv Teitelbaum  
Dolores Taller in honor of Stephen Lee Taller  
Jamie McGrath in honor of Wendy & David McGrath  
David Wright & Laurie Grossman  
Penny Rosenwasser in memory of Fran Rachel, Chef Yulanda, Liz Stevens, and Barrie Brewer  
Dvora Gordon in honor of Rabbi Discretionary Fund  
Simone Masson & Jaime Levy in memory of Terri and Diane Masson, Hanka Alter & Valia Langsam  
Michael Butler & Elissa Gershon  
Susan Greenwald  
Athalia & Aaron Sachawitz in honor of Rabbi Discretionary Fund  
Bonnie & Peter Lawrence  
Steven Falk & Danielle Rosenman in honor of Adele Essman & Lillie Falk  
Eleanor Susan Haney in honor of Alber Haney  
Sue Goldberg in honor of Manny Goldberg  
Lisa Cohen & Susan Borden in honor of Baci Cohen Borden  
Carla Schick in memory of Stanley Schick  
Leah Korican in memory of Peter Korican  
Monica Berson  
Barry Shapiro  
Jerry Baral  
Anne Schonfield

Catherine Lyons in memory of Gene & Micheline Lyons  
Gillies McKenna  
Claire Eustace & Amit Shoham in honor of Gerre Mckenna  
Ruth Tavlin  
Amy Mueller & Allison Rodman  
Vicki Alcoset  
Shoshana & David Finacom in memory of all beloved family & friends  
Carol Anne Gross  
Rhonda Barovsky  
Nancy Feinstein  
Janet Holmgren  
Jen Banta Yoshida in honor of Rabbi David Sarah Brody  
Varya Simpson & Liam Macdermed in memory of Jonathan Bernbuam

### **Rabbis' Discretionary Fund**

Josh Gershick and Elissa Barrett in honor of Rabbi David Cooper, for his generous and gracious spiritual guidance during Josh's transition  
Jay and Randi Rothman in honor of Carol Rothman  
Joshua Goldberg

### **Terumah Fund**

Kaia Burkett  
Susan Goldstein & Victor Herbert  
Michael David Sasson in honor of Rabbi David's sermon collection & a machzor

### *Thank You Volunteers!*



For all the volunteers who helped for High Holy Days in the office, at the Scottish Rite Center, at Kehilla and in every way. We appreciate you all.

We know there's no "i" in Team, but we're so glad there's a "U" in volunteers because you ALL made it possible.

*Thanks from Kehilla's Staff & Clergy*

## November 2017

### Please remember that all events are fragrance-free

Wed., November 1, 2017, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room. Doors open at 7:50am, short teaching at 7:55am, silent sit from 8:00-8:30am, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30am. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Fri., November 3, 7:30pm. **Kabbalat Shabbat** with Hazzan Shulamit, Julie Nesnansky & Debbie Fier. Join us to light Shabbat candles and for a song-filled and soulful evening of both spirited and contemplative prayer. Kiddush follows the service. Bring veggie finger-food to share. In the Sanctuary.

Sat., November 4, 10am. **Shabbat Morning Service & Celebration of Ruby Cohen becoming Bat Mitzvah.** With Avi Rose, Hazzan Shulamit, Elizheva Hurvich and Debbie Fier. Join us as we celebrate Shabbat and Ruby's simcha. Kiddush provided by Ruby's parents, Jessie Cohen and Jane Bonacich. In the Sanctuary. (see p. 5 for details).

Sat., November 4, 10:30am. **Tot Shabbat with Jen Miriam Kantor, Alon Altman & Puppet Friends.** Especially for the littlest tots (0-3 years) and their grownups; children up to 5 are welcome! Join us for songs, prayers, friends and stories and end with challah and grape juice. Bring a snack to share if you'd like. Back Classroom Main Floor.

Sat., November 4, 6pm. **Faith Trio Harvest Dinner.** Join us for our Faith Trio Harvest Dinner at Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Dr., Oakland. We will gather at 6:00pm and dinner begins at 6:30pm. Kehilla members and friends are requested to bring salads to our large vegetarian potluck. Families, children and youth are especially encouraged to come. There will be some fun games for children and others. (see p. 6 for details).

Sun., November 5, 10am. **Joyfully Jewish.** Joyfully Jewish is our program for kindergartners and their parents. Joyfully Jewish meets from 10-11:30am in the Back Classroom – Main Floor.

Tues., November 7, 7pm. **Combatants for Peace Program.** Join Kehilla's Middle East Peace Committee and other Bay Area Interfaith congregations for an inspiring evening. Hear from

visiting Palestinian and Israeli ex-combatants, Mohamed Owedah and Galia Galili, leaders of the Combatants for Peace. **Location:** St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (see p. 6 for details)

Tues., November 7, 7:30pm. **Middle East Peace Committee Meeting.** Fireside Room.

Wed., November 8, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation Sit Morning Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room. Doors open at 7:50am, short teaching at 7:55am, silent sit from 8:00-8:30am, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30am. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Wed., November 8, 7pm. **Anti-Occupation Coalition Building with Achvat Amim.** IfNotNow and Kehilla's Middle East Peace Committee are stoked for this conversation with Karen Isaacs and Daniel Roth about how they're working to end the Occupation through education and coalition-building. **Suggested donation:** \$5-\$20 (no one turned away for lack of funds!!). (see p. 6 for details)

Fri., November 10, 7pm. **Brit Kehilla: Celebrating A Community Covenant with Rabbi Dev Noily.** Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Shulamit, Jenna Stover-Kemp, Julie Nesnansky & Beth Dickinson. Drash by Rabbi Dev. Special guest Rabbi Benay Lappe, Rosh Yeshiva of SVARA. This song-filled and soulful evening of both spirited and contemplative prayer kicks off our Shabbat-long celebration of Rabbi Dev becoming Kehilla's Senior Rabbi. Dev's teacher, Benay Lappe will offer a teaching. Dessert kiddush follows the service. In the Sanctuary. (see p. 3 for details).

Sat., November 11, 10am. **Brit Kehilla: Celebrating A Community Covenant with Rabbi Dev Noily.** Shabbat morning service with Howard Hamburger, Hazzan Shulamit, Rabbi David, Rabbi Burt and special guests. The Shabbaton continues with the morning service, including Torah reading from parashat Chayeh Sarah, and the ritual of passing the Torahs to Hazzan Shulamit and Rabbi Dev. Kiddush lunch to follow. (see p. 3 for details).

- 2:00 – 5:30pm. **Brit Kehilla: Beit Midrash/Talmud Study Session with Rabbi Benay Lappe.** Come and learn Talmud with master teacher and Rosh Yeshiva of SVARA, Rabbi Benay Lappe! Space is limited and the Beit Midrash will fill up! Please register ASAP! The Beit Midrash is open to all who know the Hebrew Alef-Bet. (There is a learning session on the Alef Bet on November 7 with Bracha Stone. More info on that when you register for the Beit Midrash.)
- 7:00pm. **Brit Kehilla: Blessing Ritual, Havdallah and Dance Party!** With Special guests Rabbi Margaret Holub and the Enhanced Kehilla Klezmers! Join us for the closing celebration of the Brit Kehilla weekend as we rejoice in the community covenant between Kehilla and Rabbi Dev. Bring your dancin' shoes!

Sun., November 12, 11am. **Protest at the Richmond Immigration Detention Center.** Join Kehilla Immigration Committee and Our Family Coalition, FOR JUST ONE HOUR (11am-Noon). This is a multi-faith, accessible-for-all-ages action to call for an end to the detention/deportation and mass incarceration of our communities and neighbors. Bring signs and noisemakers to let those being interned—and forced to work—know we have not forgotten them. **Location:** the West County Detention, 5555 Giant Hwy, Richmond.

Sun., November 12, 3pm. **Meet the Artist Reception for Rita Sklar.** Long-time Kehilla member Rita Sklar will show her award-winning wildlife paintings and paintings of people in the Fireside Room. The show will run from November 6th through December 31 in the Fireside "Gallery" Room. (see p. 8 for details).

Mon., November 13, 7pm. **Book Discussion Group.** We will discuss *Fabulous Small Jews*, a collection of short stories by Joseph Epstein. All Kehilla members are welcome. In the Fireside Room. (see p. 6 for details).

Wed., November 15, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation Sit Morning Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room. Doors open at 7:50am, short teaching at 7:55am, silent sit from 8:00-8:30am, mourner's kaddish and announcements at

8:30am. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Wed., November 15, 6:30pm. **Economic Justice Committee Meeting.** Fireside Room.

Wed., November 15, 7pm. **Tikkun Ha'Nefesh: Spiritual Growth Circle with Rabbi Burt Jacobson.** This Fall's new Adult Education class continues as a new adult program that's called "Tikkun HaNefesh: Spiritual Growth Circle." If you have questions about the Spiritual Growth Circle, or you would *like to register, please email* [rabburt@icloud.com](mailto:rabburt@icloud.com), or call 510.283.5704. In the Back Classroom – Main Floor.

Thurs., November 16, 6:30pm. **Greening Committee.** In the Back Classroom – Main Floor.

Fri., November 17, 1:30pm. **Art Committee Meeting.** In the Fireside Room.

Fri., November 17, 7:30pm. **Glitter Kehilla Kabbalat Shabbat & Trans Day of Remembrance & Resistance.** Glitter Kehilla invites the community to join us for our annual Shabbat observance that centers and honors the resilience of the Trans community and remembers lives lost to anti-trans violence. We will be collecting tzedakah for the Transgender, Gender Variant, and Intersex Justice Project (TGI Justice Project). If you can't attend but are moved to donate, you can do so at this link: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/TGIJP?code=Home>. (see p. 10 for details).

Sat., November 18, 10am. **Shabbat Morning Service & Celebration of Max Schlossberg, Steven Schlossberg AND their mother, Jenny Wong becoming B'nei Mitzvah.** With Rabbi David, Julie Nesnansky, Marla Kolman Entebi, Rabbi Dev and Debbie Fier. Join us as we celebrate Shabbat and this triple simcha! Kiddush provided by the Wong - Schlossberg family in honor of Max and Steven and Jenny being called to the Torah as b'nei mitzvah. (see p. 5 for details).

Sun., November 19, 10am. **Joyfully Jewish.** Joyfully Jewish is our program for kindergartners and their parents. Joyfully Jewish meets from 10-11:30am in the Back Classroom – Main Floor.

Mon., November 20, 6:30pm. **It Never Ends: Mothering Middle-Aged Daughters – Book Discussion with Nan Gefen & Sandra Butler.** Please join us for a workshop with Kehilla members and authors Nan Gefen & Sandra Butler, who will be presenting and interactive conversation from their book. **Admission:** Free; **Location:** In Social Hall. (see p. 10 for details).

Tues., November 21, 7pm. **Ten Essentials to Judaism.** Join Rabbi Dev for a deep dive into some of the juiciest parts of Jewish practice and life. **Session 2:** A Brief History of Judaism through Our Sacred Texts. In the Fireside Room. (see p. 10 for details).

Wed., November 22, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation Sit Morning Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room. Doors open at 7:50am, short teaching at 7:55am, silent sit from 8:00-8:30am, mourner’s kaddish and announcements at 8:30am. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Thurs., November 23 & Fri., November 24. **Kehilla Administrative Offices closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

Thurs., November 23. **NO Kehilla School.**

Fri., November 24. **NO Tot Shabbat.**

Sat., November 25, 10:30am. **Shabbat Morning Service** with Rabbi David and Julie Nesnansky, Parashat Vayetzei. Kiddush to follow. Please bring a vegetarian offering to share.

Wed., November 29, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation Sit Morning Meditation Sit** with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room. Doors open at 7:50am, short teaching at 7:55am, silent sit from 8:00-8:30am, mourner’s kaddish and announcements at 8:30am. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Wed., November 29, 7pm. **Tikkun Ha’Nefesh: Spiritual Growth Circle with Rabbi Burt Jacobson.** This Fall’s Adult Education class continues as a new adult program that’s called “Tikkun HaNefesh: Spiritual Growth Circle.” If you have questions about the Spiritual Growth Circle, or you would **like to register, please email [rabburt@icloud.com](mailto:rabburt@icloud.com), or call 510.283.5704.** In the Back Classroom – Main Floor.

<b>Kehilla Community Synagogue</b> <b>1300 Grand Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94610</b> Please use the following number for all staff: (510) 547-2424			
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Active Emeritus Rabbi, David J. Cooper Rabbidavid@kehillasynagogue.org	x104	Youth Programs Coordinator, Natalie Boskin Natalie@kehillasynagogue.org	X107
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