A story from the Talmud:

Back in the time when our sages were creating a radical new practice that we now call Judaism, their laboratory was the Beit Midrash, the house of study, where they learned how to live in alignment with the wisdom of their ancestors, and with the truth of their own experience. They learned, and discussed, and reflected and argued – arguments for the sake of revealing truth so that everyone could grow.

At one time, there was a brilliant man who was the head of the Beit Midrash, Rabban Gamaliel. But he was also impatient and very strict, and as time went on, his brilliance was dulled by his harshness with his students. One day, he went too far, letting his need to be right overcome his compassion, he terribly humiliated one of his students in front of the whole community, The other leaders of the Beit Midrash saw that it was time to appoint a new leader, and Rabban Gamaliel was deposed.

After much thought, they settled on Rabbi Eleazar ben Azaria as the right choice to take his place. Rabbi Eleazar was only eighteen at the time, and that night he confided in his wife his worry that he wouldn’t be taken seriously because of his youth. He woke up in the morning with eighteen rows of white hair in his beard!

That morning Rabbi Eleazar set out to assume his new position as head of the Beit Midrash. Now, Rabban Gamaliel had imposed a rule restricting who could come and learn in the Beit Midrash – the rule was that “no one whose inside is not like their outside may enter to learn.” As his first act, Rabbi Eleazar ben Azaria lifted the restriction, inviting anyone who wanted to learn Torah to come in.

On that day many benches were added to the Beit Midrash. There is a difference of opinion on this matter between Abba Joseph b. Dosetai and the rest of the Rabbis: one says that four hundred benches were added, and the other says seven hundred benches.

Rabban Gamaliel became distraught and said: What if, G-d forbid, I withheld Torah from Israel?!

For centuries, girls, women and openly queer people have been kept out of most of the holy spaces of Jewish learning. Beginning in the 1970s, the doors of the Beit Midrash opened to women, then gay people, then trans* people.

We live in an amazing time, when the first generation of people-who-were-kept-out are now running their own yeshivas and teaching their own students. We get to live in a time when this wave of Torah-through-fresh-eyes is cresting. We get to be part of a new kind of radically inclusive, pulsing, breathing Torah of Now, in deep conversation with our ancestors who, in their own time, were creating their own amazing Torah of Now.

With 700 Benches, we’re launching a new, collaborative Beit Midrash that’s dedicated to making sure that everyone who wants to learn, gets to learn—in direct, un-translated relationship with the Hebrew and Aramaic texts of our tradition. All you need to know is the Hebrew alphabet and vowel marks, so that you can sound out Hebrew words. And if you don’t know that yet, there are always opportunities to learn. Just ask me, and I’ll hook you up.

Kehilla and Chochmat HaLev are launching this project together, inspired by SVARA, the yeshiva founded by Rabbi Benay Lappe, and following many of Rabbi Lappe’s methods.

Our first class is starting in April. We’ll be learning from Tractate Yoma of the Babylonian Talmud, uncovering the very beginnings of our
contemporary practice of Yom Kippur and teshuvah, spiritual turning.

Joining me on the Beit Midrash teaching team are:

Maggid Jhos Singer, Spiritual Leader of Chochmat HaLev
Rabbi Gray Myrseth, Kehilla School Director
SAM Luckey, Kehilla Rabbinic Intern
Jenna Stover-Kemp, Kehilla member and PhD Candidate at UC Berkeley in Hebrew Bible

Please be in touch with me if you have any questions. We have a bench waiting for you!
Over the past several years, we have had many important priorities – a rabbinic transition, hiring new staff, solidifying our financial situation, increasing our membership, putting new administrative systems in place, and figuring out how to respond to our current political reality. We have made enormous strides in all of these areas. I am excited to say that I believe the time has come for us to turn our full attention to our physical home.

Purchasing a building in 2004 was a very significant milestone for Kehilla. Having a permanent physical location has enabled us to deepen our communal connections, has facilitated the growth of our community in many different ways, and has made it possible for us to play a more significant role in the broader community.

Our 1300 Grand Avenue building is a very important resource for us; one that we must attend to with the same care that we bring to supporting our human resources (that means each other). We bought an old building, and it requires improvements that fall into three main areas:

1. Structural repairs that ensure the sustainability of the building for many years to come.
2. Upgrades that make our building more accessible.
3. Improvements that increase the esthetics and the functionality of the building.

We are already making important strides in each of these areas. We have a new building committee, led by board member Ruth Atkin (see the invitation on page 4) that will shepherd the process of setting communal priorities for the building projects. Kehilla member Michael Butler (a contractor by trade) has been working with us to chronicle the many improvements that are needed. Led by Lisa Korwin, we have a beautification team that is enhancing the look of our lobby.

And I am extremely excited to report that we recently received an incredibly generous donation from a Kehilla member to be dedicated to making our building more accessible for people with disabilities. We have already begun work on several accessibility projects, including upgrading our entrance on Fairview Avenue, improving the airflow in the sanctuary, and drawing up plans for a new wheelchair lift to allow accessible travel between the main and lower floors without having to go around the block.

The upgrade and improvement of our building is a long-term project that will no doubt take several years to complete. It will require the involvement of the whole community in planning, funding, and implementing the project’s many facets. We will welcome your participation, and I will keep you updated as we continue to develop our plans.

I have no doubt that the commitment and hard work required will be worth it in the end and will enable Kehilla to carry out its mission of community building, inclusive spirituality, and social justice for many decades to come.
Building Committee Recruitment
by Ruth Atkin

Our building, our mishkan, is a very special place. Within its walls we are able to hold school, services, adult education classes and so much more. Our congregation has deepened and grown tremendously since we acquired 1300 Grand Avenue.

Our congregational home is in need of repairs, maintenance, and improvements. Since I joined the board I would like to (re-)convene a building committee to shepherd and advise the congregation as a whole around these repairs, maintenance, and improvements. We are looking for people who have ever managed a home remodel, architects, people who may be DIYers (do-it-yourself), people with an artistic sense to advise about various desired improvements and others who simply want to see our collective home in as good shape as possible.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact Ruth Atkin at ratkin1@aol.com or 915-0167.

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.

• Elizabeth Davidson becomes Bat Mitzvah on February 17
**NEW!! Traditional-Style Kabbalat Shabbat**

**Friday, February 9, 7pm**

Join us for our NEW!!! Traditional-style Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbinic Intern SAM Luckey, Talya Husbands-Hankin and Frances Kreimer, in the Fireside Room.

A more traditional davenning style of Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv, the Shabbat evening service, songful and in Hebrew, following the full liturgy. Kiddush and light oneg after the service. Sponsored by Kehilla and Glitter Kehilla.

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**Work to Flip the House 2018 through Working America**

**Saturday, February 10, 4pm**

Join the Economic Justice Committee in an event featuring Fran Schreiberg and Lora Jo Foo from Working America. They will describe their Central Valley organizing project and train volunteers who want to canvass to flip the Bay Area’s closest swing district. This is Part 1 of and two-part training. The second training takes place on-site right before your first shift.

The event, 4:00pm - 6:30pm at Kehilla, will include a presentation of the fifteen-year history of Working America, the community arm of the AFL-CIO, and its successful actions in other states. Then, Schreiberg and Foo will describe the California project and sign up volunteers who wish to help with canvassing in CA Congressional District 10 (Tracy, Manteca, Modesto, Turlock). District 10 voted in incumbent Republican Representative Jeff Denham by only a 3% margin of the votes in the district that voted for Hillary Clinton for President.

Volunteers knock on doors in the district and ask people about various economic issues of concern to working people: jobs, health care, retirement, corporate accountability and education, finding out what issue is most pressing to them. Many people sign up with Working America for free. Later, after the primary, Working America will go back to those households and report how the candidates performed on those issues. In Working America’s national history, 70% of those who are canvassed and join Working America vote for the candidate that is recommended. The listening aspect of this project has been found to be very effective.

Feel free to contact Jeanne Finberg to hear about her extremely positive experiences working on this project, at jeanne.finberg@gmail.com.

Come join us and help flip the House!
What were the Jewish origins of the spiritual and moral values that guided the fashioning of my vision of Kehilla Community Synagogue? Four prominent modern Jewish teachers influenced my life at crucial times during the 1960s, and the values I learned from them became vital to the founding of Kehilla. These teachers were Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, Martin Buber, Rabbi Arthur Green, and Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi. In this series of articles I hope to illuminate the lives, thought and activism of these teachers, and to share some personal memories of how they affected my life.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel was arguably the most prominent Jewish religious and moral presence in mid-twentieth-century America. Heschel was one of my teachers in the rabbinical school of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and I was able to study with him for four years. I was strongly drawn to his religious philosophy, which derived, in part, from his personal experiences of wonder, mystery and awe, what he termed “radical amazement.” One of the passages in his writing that I have returned to over the years is the following:

We live on the fringe of reality and hardly know how to reach the core. What is our wisdom? What we take account of cannot be accounted for. We explore the ways of being but do not know what, why or wherefore being is. Neither the world nor our thinking or anxiety about the world are accounted for. Sensations, ideas are forced upon us, coming we know not whence. Every sensation is anchored in mystery; every new thought is a signal we do not quite identify. We may succeed in solving many riddles; yet the mind itself remains a sphinx . . .

Heschel was a model of Jewish spirituality for me, a teacher who combined scholarship, prayer, spiritual searching and political activism into an integral religious life. During my years at the Seminary, he became a renowned social activist, addressing public issues such as health care, juvenile delinquency, the elderly, and racism. In 1963, he spoke these words at the National Conference on Religion and Race in Chicago:

This is not a white man’s world. It is God’s world. No man has a place in this world who tries to keep another man in his place. It is time for the white man to repent. We have failed to use the avenues open to us to educate the hearts and minds of men, to identify ourselves with those who are underprivileged . . . Racism is an evil of tremendous power, but God’s will transcends all powers . . . This world, this society can be redeemed. God has a stake in our moral predicament. I cannot believe that God will be defeated.

It was at that conference that Heschel first met the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the two became close friends and colleagues. Heschel gave himself to the cause of civil rights, marching alongside King in Selma, Alabama as they trooped to Montgomery.

Heschel also took an early and courageous public stance against the war in Viet Nam, at a time when few prominent American Jews dared to speak out about our involvement in that conflict. In 1972 Heschel stated:

The more deeply immersed I became in the thinking of the prophets, the more powerfully it became clear to me what the lives of the prophets sought to convey: that morally speaking there is no limit to the concern one must feel for the suffering of human beings. It also became clear to me that in regard to cruelties committed in the name of a free society, some are guilty, while all are responsible. I did not feel guilty as an individual American for the bloodshed in Vietnam, but I felt deeply responsible. “Thou shalt not stand idly by the blood of thy neighbor (Leviticus 19:15).” This is not a recommendation but an imperative, a supreme commandment. And so I decided to change my mode of living and to become active in the cause of peace in Vietnam.

I had been initially confused about the morality of the war—which the government always called a “police action.” Inspired by Heschel’s stance in opposition to the conflict, I finally decided to protest the war.
Immigration Committee Request:
Living Space Needed

One of our accompaniment teams is working with a young couple from Guatemala who need to rent a room/living space in the East Bay, ideally starting in February or March. They are able to afford $500-700 per month. It would be a mitzvah if you could accommodate them. If you can help, or if you have any leads/suggestions, please contact Laura Nelson at (510)725-9240, lauranelsonlcsw@gmail.com

Kehilla School Family Fun Day on the Farm

Sunday, February 18, 10am

Due to staff transitions at Urban Adamah, they are not available to run a spring program for Kehilla School this year. But we still have an opportunity to farm together!!

Join Natalie and Rabbi Gray on Sunday, February 18 from 10am-12pm at Urban Adamah (1151 Sixth Street in Berkeley). $5 per person or $20 per family. Students, siblings, and parents welcome. This is a family program, but if someone below high school age wants to come and there is no adult available to accompany them, please email Natalie - natalie@kehillasynagogue.org or Rabbi Gray - rabbigray@kehillasynagogue.org directly.

Planning to come? Considering it but still have questions? RSVP and share your questions/comments here!

Closing Reception of “Collaboration and Connection” Interfaith Art Exhibition

Saturday, February 24, 2 - 4 pm
Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California
1433 Madison Street, Oakland, CA, 94612

A final opportunity to see stunning collaborative artwork created by artists of all faiths working in collaboration... Jewish, Muslim, Christian, and others. Meet artists and hear them speak about their artwork and the collaborative process. Sponsored by the Faith Trio of Kehilla Community Synagogue, the Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, and Montclair Presbyterian Church.
A Universal Embrace:
The Faith Trio’s Interfaith Art Show
by Rabbi Burt Jacobson

A version of the talk below was delivered by Rabbi Burt at the opening of the Interfaith Art Show at the Northern California Islamic Cultural Center on December 3rd, 2017.

The great mystics of the world’s spiritual traditions testified that during their mystical experiences the boundaries that circumscribed their everyday identities would dissolve and they would become part of a larger reality, somehow one with the universe or with the divine. Through such encounters these mystics realized the universal unity that embraces all of creation. These radical experiences of cosmic consciousness deconstructed and relativized the normal worldly identities that those mystics usually inhabited, opening them to the great mystery that lies behind and beyond all identities.

Part of what it means to be a spiritual person today is a recognition that there is more to who we are than our egos and our particular identities. Cultivating a larger sense of our spiritual potential is extremely necessary today, living in a world filled with divisiveness, conflict and hatred. The most powerful spiritual practices have this as their ultimate goal. And there are practices we can do together to foster this kind of universal consciousness, allowing each of us to reach out beyond the boundaries that divide us from one another, and connect with people whose identities differ from our own.

The artwork we see about us here embodies a definite movement in this direction. Working collaboratively with members of other faiths, each of the artists represented in this show extended themselves beyond their particular religious identities toward a more universal embrace, a recognition that greater truth lies in expanding our identities.

We are not just Jews, Christians or Muslims, we are all sisters and brothers, members of a single Abrahamic family. At an even deeper level, we are all members of the human race. And each of us is a creation of, a manifestation of a mysterious Source of existence. At that level of awareness our particular identities no longer limit who or what we are.

I’m not advocating the dissolution of our particular religious identities, mind you. Each of our faith traditions offers its followers a rich sense of ancestry, a deep set of values, and ideals to live by. But there is so much to learn from one another. The ancient Jewish sage Ben Zoma, said: “Who is wise? One who learns from all people.”

The great twentieth century orthodox Jewish mystic, Rav Abraham Isaac Kook, wrote: “Let love fill your heart and flow out to everyone.” I pray that the love exhibited in the works of the artists of our Faith Trio flow out, reaching more people with a love that embraces our common humanity and our common origins in the divine.
Saturday, February 24
7:00 – 9:00pm

Kehilla Community Synagogue Social Hall
1300 Grand Avenue, Piedmont

510.547.2424 | www.kehillasynagogue.org

$10-20 (No One Turned Away)

A Benefit for:
The Center for Jewish Nonviolence &
Breaking the Silence

The Kehilla Middle East Peace Committee is pleased to present Ayelet Waldman, award winning Israeli-American author of novels and non-fiction, who will discuss her latest book, Kingdom of Olives and Ash—Writers Confront the Occupation, a book of essays she co-edited with her husband, Michael Chabon. In order to bear witness to the human cost of fifty years of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza they teamed up with a host of illustrious writers as well as Breaking the Silence, an Israeli organization of former soldiers who served in the occupied territories and saw firsthand the injustices there. This program will benefit Breaking the Silence and the Center for Jewish Nonviolence.
Poems about Torah Portions in the book of Exodus
by Rabbi Gray Myrseth

I’ve had a practice for almost a decade of writing poems inspired by the weekly Torah portion. My discipline comes and goes—there are years where I write only a few and others where I’ve written one for nearly every parsha. I find that when I am able to follow this practice consistently, I discover new layers in the Torah and and new ways of connecting my own lived experience to this ancient sacred text. Below are two poems from my reflections on Sefer Shemot, the Book of Exodus.

**Beshalach / Bitter Water Sweet**

*The children of Israel walked on dry land in the midst of the sea and the water was like a wall to their right and to their left. (Exodus 14:29)*

No question
The sea took us in
Up to our necks
before doubt claimed our throats
Who could
unswine a sea-stretch
then
No wonder
No willing knees unbuckled
No back unbent
No higher ground

Cry mercy
Cry shallow
Cry harbor
Cry lifeboat
Cry warning
Cry shipwreck

The sea will swallow it as song

Ask nothing of the crossing that the mountains
don’t ask of their valleys
Ask nothing the orbiting bodies
don’t ask of the tide

Give me wilderness and I will swallow it
Take it in as tincture
As medicine
As scalded refuge
As unstrained balm and vast expanse

Aspirate the song’s initial phoneme
It will sear the tree of your lungs
and settle in the rootstock

They say a certain branch can render
bitter water sweet
A certain song can leech poison from a wound

Don’t stop now keep going

**Pekudei / Open Wide**

*There you shall place the Ark of Testimony and you shall spread the dividing curtain before the ark. (Exodus 40:3)*

Each animal knows its own mouth opens
in search of food or air, sound or water.

 Doesn’t mean it understands the muscles involved in the opening. Doesn’t mean it shuts again in time.

This is the problem with daybreak: the light gets this far and then gets stuck.
We stumble around in the half-light,
seeing less than we did when it was dark.
Shapes wake up first, colors stay sleeping.

There was a time when dawn would have been a simple thing.

This is the problem with *petichat ha’aron:* you think you’ve done it a hundred times.
You think you know what to expect
You think you know when to expect it.
You open the doors and think you know the story that’s about to unfold. It is the story of your mouth, open wide enough to take in time’s limber span; the story of a tent built strong enough to hold the breath that breathed the time into being.

This is the problem with opening the doors of your house: outside has so many facets. Each of them alive, alight. Your house was built to keep that noise out or your noise in.
One is a song, the other is a song.

This is problem with opening the doors of your heart:
once you begin—once you are commanded to begin—you stand on both sides of those doors at once, waiting.

*Hebrew for "opening the ark," as in the beginning of the Torah service*
SAVE THE DATES
Kehilla School Purim Spiel!

Thursday, March 1, 5pm
Join us in the sanctuary at 5pm for Kehilla School's all grade, unforgettable, and extremely creative production of the Purim story!

Purim Carnival!
Sunday, March 4, 2pm
Come one, come all! Join us for games, prizes, hamentashen, a bounce house, and more! Sliding scale $10-$36 per family. Costumes are encouraged. We are also looking for volunteers to help power this amazing carnival- please email Natalie Boskin (natalie@kehillasynagogue.org) if you are interested in donating baked goods, making hamentashen, or helping at the carnival!

NEW!! Traditional-Style Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, March 9, 7pm
Join us for our NEW!!! Traditional-style Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbinic Intern SAM Luckey, Talya Husbands-Hankin and Frances Kreimer, in the Fireside Room.

A more traditional davenning style of Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv, the Shabbat evening service, songful and in Hebrew, following the full liturgy. Kiddush and light oneg after the service. Sponsored by Kehilla and Glitter Kehilla.
SAVE THE DATES

UNCOMMON VIEWS OF COMMON SPACES

Art Reception
Sunday, March 11, 3pm

Please join the Art Committee and Lili Shidlovski, a long-time Kehilla member, presenting a series of photographs that are imbued with spiritual and psychological realities of people and places. Some pieces are more meditative, some challenge our imaginations to create a storyline. They will be on exhibit in the Fireside Room from March 7-May 3, 2018. Please come to the reception on Sunday, March 11, from 3-5pm.

Theatre and Song to Support Refugees and Immigrants
Sunday, March 18, 5pm

Join us in enjoying Stagebridge Playback Theater, an improvisational performance based on the stories of refugees and immigrants. One refugee from Uganda will tell her or his story, which will be “played back” by the actors.

From 4pm-4:45pm, crafts will be available for sale in the Buber Room. The event starts promptly at 5 pm. Donation: $18 - $72. More information will be shared in the next Kol Kehilla. Keep your eyes peeled for more...

PASSOVER

Saturday, March 31

We warmly invite you to join us for our Annual Community Seder. All are welcome!

More details to come soon…
SAVE THE DATES

DACA
DETENTION AND DEPORTATION
TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS)

CURRENT THREATS TO IMMIGRANTS
MARCH 25, 2018

Come learn how recent immigration policies affect members of our community. Meet representatives from organizations working for immigrant justice.

1:00 PM: Nosh and Networking
1:30 PM: Presentation by a panel of experts on current immigration issues
3:15 PM: Opportunity to learn about groups doing political, educational, and direct service work with immigrants. Find out how you can participate.

Please RSVP to immigrationworkshop2018@gmail.com (Walk-ins Welcome)

BE INSPIRED, GET INVOLVED
ALL ARE WELCOME AT THIS INTERFAITH EVENT
TEMPLE BETH EL SOCIAL HALL
1301 OXFORD STREET, BERKELEY, CA
Co-hosted by Temple Beth El, Kehilla Community Synagogue, Temple Sinai, and Chochmat HaLev
Thank You for Your Generosity

**Annual Fund**
- Marcie Rubel and Michael Rufo
- Leslie Baker
- Dorothy and Paul Wachter in honor of the Shen-Wachter Family
- Bobby, Dee and Cota Ward in honor of the Kehilla Community for holding our family during a very difficult time. We appreciate the gifts, cards and all who attended the services for our son, Blake Owens.
- Marjorie Cox
- Jonathan and Laura Fairman in honor of Shulamit Fairman, our dear sister, friend and guide.
- Grace Laurencin
- Florence Lewis
- Lisa Friedman
- David and Shoshana Finacom

**General Donation**
- Ronald and Shoshana Levy
- The Maisel Foundation
- Laura Boxer in memory of Sam Boxer
- Skeist Family Charitable Trust
- Andrea Lappen
- Leanne Grossman
- Miriam and Carlos Zamora-Kantor family in honor of Molly Melamed
- Reni Aniela and Miguel Zuliani
- Eva Pettersson and Rochelle Towers in memory of her mother Rosa’s Yahrzeit

**In Honor of Rabbi Dev and the Brit Kehilla**
- Hedy Straus and Laura Boxer
- Zachary and Rachel Gratz-Lazarus
- Marjorie Cox
- SAM Luckey
- Jenny Wong and Mark Schlosberg

**High Holy Days Tzedakah Fund**
- Rachael Reiley and Emily Newfield

**Rabbis' Discretionary Fund**
- Alice Wilkins and Joseph Malloy
- Kathy Steirn in memory of Blake Owens
- Karen and Doree Friedman in memory of her mother Sylvia Smerling
- Barbara Haber
- Amy Weiss in honor of Rabbi Dev
- Jaime Levy and Simone Masson

**Terumah Fund**
- Cathy Steirn in memory of her father, Walter Steirn
- Hedy Straus and Laura Boxer
- Sara Felder and Dev Noily
- Carla Schick
- Irene McPhail
- Phoenix Lara and Vicki Alcoset
- Susan Coto-McKenna and Rafael Coto
- Jeffrey A. Mandel
- Miriam Abrams
- Ron Cohen
- Karen Rachels
- Andy Gold and Karen Cutler
- Gail Rubman
- Leslie Root and Evan Behar
- Jerry, Chris and Glenn Baral in memory of Annabelle Jeanette Nichols
- Edie Reba Murphy in honor of Shulamit Fairman, Shifra Tabacman, Sharon Grodin, Julie Nesnansky, Debbie Fier and in memory of my mother, Rosalind Leighton
- Barbara Cohen and Allen Price
- Catherine Lyons
- Janice Ruchlis
- Miriam and Carol Gross in memory of Mollie Polinsky
- Carol Rothman and Scott Ullman
- Heather and Art Jolly in honor of Shulamit Wise Fairman
- Karen Cohn and Teri Gruenwald
- Adria Blum
- Nicky Silver
- Dave Drum and Stephanie Hochman
- David Cooper and Marilyn Golden
- Shoshana and David Finacom
- Ruth and Jay Koch
- Ruth Mink
- Marjorie Cox
- Estelle Tarica
- Tree Gelb Stuber and Jack Stuber
- SAM Luckey
- Eric Boskin

**Youth Scholarship Fund**
- Jonathon Gray and Randi Myrseth
- Eric Boskin
February 2018

Please remember that all events are fragrance-free

Fri., February 2 - **NO Kabbalat Shabbat** this week - Kehilla Leadership Retreat.

Sat. February 3 - **NO Shabbat Morning Service** this week - Kehilla Leadership Retreat.

Sat., February 3 - **NO Tot Shabbat** this month - Kehilla Leadership Retreat.

Tues., February 6, 7:30pm. **Middle East Peace Committee Meeting.** Fireside Room.

Wed., February 7, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation** 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., February 9, 7:00pm. **NEW!!! Traditional-style Kabbalat Shabbat** with Rabbinic Intern SAM Luckey, Talya Husbands-Hankin & Frances Kreimer, Fireside Room. A more traditional davenning style of Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma’ariv, the Shabbat evening service, songful and in Hebrew, following the full liturgy. Kiddush and light oneg after the service. Sponsored by Kehilla and Glitter Kehilla. (see p. 5 for details)

Fri., February 9, 6:30pm. **Friday Night Peace Walk with OCO.** Join Rabbi David in this walk for peace in our own community led by Oakland Community Organizations’ Ceasefire campaign. Location: Meet inside First Mt. Sinai Church, 1970 86th Ave.

Sat., February 10, 10:30am. **Shabbat Morning Service-Parashat Mishpatim** with Rabbi David, Julie Nesnansky and Rabbinic Intern SAM Luckey. Please bring something veggie to share for the kiddush after the service.

Sat., February 10, 4pm. **Work to Flip the House 2018 through Working America.** Join the Economic Justice Committee is hosting an event featuring Fran Schreiber and Lora Jo Foo from Working America. This is Part 1 of two-part training. The second training takes place on-site right before your first shift. The event, 4:00pm-6:30pm at Kehilla in the Social Hall. (see p. 5 for details)

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

Sun., February 11, 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.

Mon., February 12, 7pm. **Book Discussion Group.** All Kehilla members are welcome. In the Fireside Room.

Tues., February 13, 7pm. **Ten Essentials to Judaism.** Join Rabbi Dev for a deep dive into some of the juiciest parts of Jewish practice and life. **Session 5:** The Jewish Life Cycle. In the Fireside Room.

Wed., February 14, 7:50am. **Morning Meditation** 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., February 16, 1:30pm. **Art Committee Meeting.** In the Fireside Room.

Fri., February 16, 7:30pm. **Kabbalat Shabbat** with Hazzan Shulamit, Julie Nesnansky and Rabbinic Intern SAM Luckey. Join us to light Shabbat candles and for a song-filled and soulful evening of both spirited and contemplative prayer. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something veggie to share.

Sat., February 17, 10:00am. **Shabbat Morning Service & Celebration of Elizabeth Davidson becoming Bat Mitzvah** with Rabbi Dev, Beth Dickinson, Natalie Boskin, and Debbie Fier. Join us as we celebrate Shabbat and this simcha! (continued on next page)
Kiddush provided by the Davidson/Lord family in celebration of Elizabeth being called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah. (see p. 4 for details)

Mon., February 19. Kiddush provided by the Davidson/Lord family in celebration of Elizabeth being called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah. (see p. 4 for details)

Tues., February 20, 6pm. Greening Committee Meeting. Back Classroom – Main Floor.

Wed., February 21, 6:30pm. Economic Justice Committee Meeting. Fireside Room.

Wed., February 21, 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.

Thurs., February 22. NO Kehilla School.

Fri., February 23, 6:30pm. Tot Shabbat with Jen Miriam & Alon Altman, Social Hall For children up to 5 years old (or older if they enjoy it) and their grown-ups. Join Jen, Alon and Jen’s puppet friends. Please bring a vegetarian potluck dish to share.

Sat., February 24, 10:00am. Shabbat Morning Learners’ Service-Parashat Tetzaveh with Rabbi Dev, Hazan Shulamit and Howard Hamburger Parashat Tetzaveh. Once a year our Shabbat morning service transforms into a laboratory for learning what the service is all about - where things come from and why we do them. Join us for this interactive experience where all questions and interruptions are welcome! Please bring a veggie dish to share at the Kiddush afterwards.

Tues., February 27, 6:15pm. Board of Trustees Meeting. Dinners starts at 6:15pm. All members are welcome. In the Back Classroom – Main Floor.

Wed., February 28, 6:00pm. EREV PURIM at URBAN ADAMAH. Put on your costume, and join Kehilla with our friends from Chochmat HaLev and Urban Adamah at the UA Farm for our annual Purim Megillah and blowout. Programming for all ages! Get more information at: https://urbanadamah.org/events/purim-like-its-5778/

Thurs. March 1, 5pm. Kehilla School Purim Spiel and Celebration. Join us in the sanctuary at 5pm for Kehilla School’s all grade, unforgettable, and extremely creative production of the Purim story!

Sun., March 4, 2pm. Purim Carnival! Come one, come all! Join us for games, prizes, hamentashen, a bounce house, and more! Sliding scale $10-$36 per family. Costumes are encouraged.
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED