

Emet ~ Truth ~ אמת

מייגור באהלך מיישכן בהר קדש? הולך תמים ופעל צדק ודבר אמת בלבבו:

Who lives within your tent? Who settles on your holy mountain? One who walks with integrity, and who acts justly, and who speaks truth in their heart.

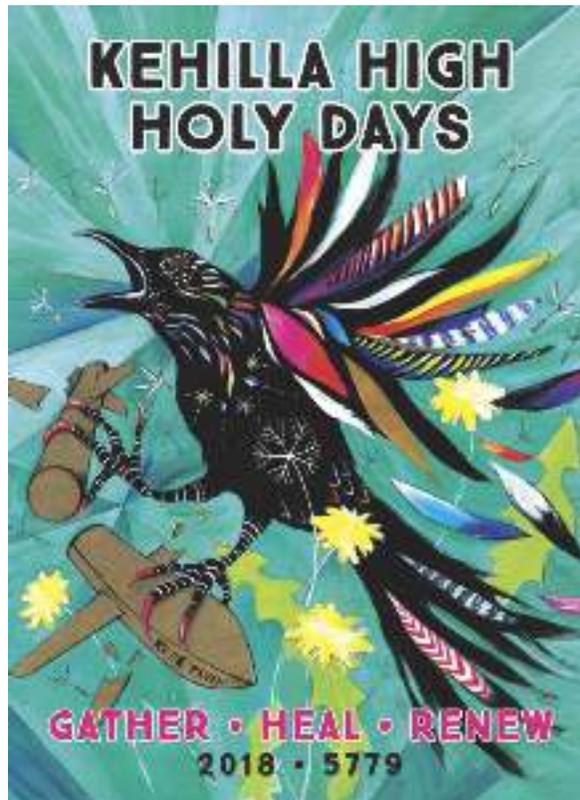
Psalm 15:1-2

Our High Holy Day theme this year is “truth”.

The Days of Awe bring us together in a community of spiritual practice that celebrates truth-seeking. We seek deeper understanding of the truth of our own experience and relationships. We seek to align ourselves with the moral and spiritual truths of our world. We seek courage in community to face the truths of our lives that can lead us toward greater wholeness. The many Jewish names for G-d can be understood as our people’s attempts, bound by the limits of our language and consciousness, to name the shared, ongoing truths of being alive. Seeking and being with truth is how we understand ourselves, each other and our world.

The spiritual practice of the Days of Awe is itself an act of resistance -- especially in these times. The three great themes of the shofar service direct us toward truth: Malchuyot (Power or Sovereignty), Zichronot (Mindfulness or Remembrance) and Shofarot (Sounding the Call to Wake Up).

Malchuyot calls us to come face-to-face with the power of truth - how ignoring or denying what is



• Selichot •
September 1

• Rosh Hashanah •
September 9-11

• Yom Kippur •
September 18-19

• Sukkot •
September 23-30

• Simchat Torah •
October 1

More info on page 11 or
Kehillasynagogue.org/hhd

true doesn’t change what is true. And opening to, accepting, and aligning ourselves with what is true is a path to wholeness and peace. Zichronot calls us to internalize what is true in our memory - to grow our roots and find our stability in the rich soil of our expanding understanding of the deepest truths we know. And Shofarot demands that we proclaim truth publicly - that externalize what we know within, and build a shared communal life in relationship to moral and spiritual truth.

By practicing together, we strengthen our muscles for discerning truth, we grow our capacity to recognize and name what is untrue, and we build our courage to speak truth to power.

Renew Your Kehilla Membership before High Holy Days

All members must renew to have tickets waiting for them at Will Call.

Can't find your renewal email? Contact Maya, maya@kehillasynagogue.org, 510.547.2424 x 106

Executively Speaking: A Fast Approaching New Year

By Michael Saxe-Taller, Executive Director



We are still in the midst of summer. Our days are warm. Young people are out of school, playing, exploring and learning. Many of us are taking weekend adventures or cleaning out our garages (happening at the Saxe—Taller home!).

Nevertheless, here at Kehilla, there is a buzz of activity. Preparations are underway for the High Holy Days – which are coming very early this year. Our education staff is also hard at work preparing for a new Kehilla school year. So, if I can grab your attention away from the sun and the beautiful flowers, I want to let you know about some of the things brewing at Kehilla.

Membership Renewal and School Registration

On July 1, 2018, we began our new synagogue’s new fiscal year. By now, you should have received two emails asking that you renew your Kehilla membership and register your school age children for Kehilla School. About a quarter of our 460 member households have already renewed (thank you!!) and **because High Holy Days are coming early, I strongly encourage the rest of you to do so as soon as possible.**

We have made some upgrades to our renewal process and are excited for how they are working. Amongst other things, our forms are now being pre-populated with your contact information, and we have moved the payment process onto the actual renewal form itself. Thank you to our own Maya Joshua for making these changes possible.

High Holy Days

The Kehilla staff is deep into the many details of planning for our always ambitious High Holy Day services and programs.

This year’s theme is ‘*Emet ~ Truth ~ אמת*’, a theme appropriate to the times we live in. This issue contains details on services, and our ticketing system is now live.

As members (once you renew!), you receive High Holy Day tickets, though this year seems like a good time to invite friends to Kehilla’s services.

Staff and Clergy Changes

The most exciting news on the staff front is that there isn’t that much news. We have had an extraordinary number of staff transitions over the past couple of years. This year I am happy to say, we bring back our team almost fully intact, though I do have a few changes to report:

- After many years directing our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program, including the last year in a limited role all the way from Hawaii, Sandra Razieli has left her position. Our Kehilla School Director, Rabbi Gray Myrseth, has now taken over responsibility for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program and has the new title of Director of Youth Education.
- Hazzan Shulamit is now working full time.
- We have a new Bookeeping Assistant, Rachel Allen, who will be working Monday and Wednesday afternoons. This means that along with Bookkeeper, Molly Melamed, we now have a financial staff person in the office Monday-Thursday afternoons. [continued on page 3]

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Building Upgrades

Hopefully you have noticed that we have been paying more attention to our building. Over the past six months we have, among other things, redecorated and refurnished our lobby, painted all of our downstairs classroom, and beautified the courtyard. We upgraded our accessible Fairview street, with new sidewalks, ramps, fencing and lighting. We are now in the process of replacing the decaying brick on the front of our building, as well

as addressing issues with water drainage. We are also researching larger crucial issues related to the safety, sustainability and accessibility of our building. I will write more about this in the future.

As the summer winds down, don't hesitate to give me a ring or drop by if you need anything. And I look forward to seeing you at High Holy Days, if not sooner.

Love to chant Torah? We want YOU to leyn!

Teens and Adults, let's do this, one aliyah at a time :)
Hazzan Shulamit is eager to support you along the way.

Upcoming Opportunities:

- Saturday, Aug 25 (Ki Teitzei): contact Rabbi Dev at rabbidev@kehillasynagogue.org
- Saturday, Sept 22 (Ha'azinu): see description in the service listings at the end of Kol Kehilla and contact rabbidavid@KehillaSynagogue.org
- Monday night, October 1 (Simchat Torah - Breishit): contact Hazzan Shulamit at shulamit@kehillasynagogue.org
- Saturday, October 6 (Breishit): contact Sharon Grodin at sjgrodin@comcast.net

The Kehilla Shabbat at the Climate Action September 8

From Rabbi David and Kehilla's Greening Committee

We will observe the last Shabbat before Rosh Hashanah on Sept. 8 with a short service before the action: "Rise for Climate, Jobs & Justice." This is an action across the country and we will gather near the local convening point of the march on the Embarcadero Plaza in San Francisco. (We do not have exact details yet, but plan to be there at 9:30; although this may be subject to change.)

This is a perfect Shabbat for this action because *Nitzavim* is the Torah portion where we are asked to choose between life and death. The parasha also describes how negative climate change is an outcome of worshipping false idols. And *Nitzvaim*

means "Standing" and we will indeed be taking a stand on that day.

One thing that makes this national action particularly appropriate for us is that it is not confined to the environment in a narrow sense, but recognizes that the justice we seek is environmental, economic and racial as well. The organizers describe the impetus as "a powerful movement of Indigenous people, frontline communities, immigrants, people of color, people of faith, young people, Californians, and people from across the world [who] are demanding real climate leadership to keep fossil fuels in the ground." [continued on page 4]

The action demands “just, equitable and resilient 100% renewable energy economy that rapidly expands economic opportunity, creates family sustaining jobs, and protects vulnerable communities, workers, and future generations.”

For more on the action and to sign yourself up as a participant go to <https://ca.riseforclimate.org> or Google “Rise for Climate” and “San Francisco.”

Clearly this one for us to join.

So please read Kehilla’s weekly emails and our Social Action Opportunity emails for updates about where we will assemble and other details. Also check out the Kehilla Calendar and the Social Action Opportunity’s calendar which you can access through the SAO emails and we will update these as new details come in.

The Jewish Roots of Kehilla’s Values: Martin Buber, Part 2

by Rabbi Burt Jacobson

I spent my junior year in Israel in 1964-65, and one of my teachers was Martin Buber’s closest friend, Ernst Simon. Prof. Simon had arranged for us to meet with Buber, but before this could take place, Buber became ill and died. Yet even though I never met him personally, Buber’s teachings had affected me indirectly as a child through my relationship with Milton Bendiner, my Bar Mitzvah mentor. Milton treated me and all of his young charges with respect, love and caring, exemplifying Buber’s I-Thou philosophy. It was only as an adult that Milton told me that the hour he spent with Buber in Jerusalem had been the most important experience of his life.

Buber’s spiritual understanding of human interactions had an important and direct influence on my own life from the time that I first read I and Thou as a rabbinic student. The book spoke deeply to me, teaching me to value my relationships as potential or actual epiphanies of the divine.

My rigorous practice of traditional Judaism eventually became oppressive, and I gave it up in 1970. I moved to California, searching for a life of greater openness and spontaneity. For a few years I remained hostile to Judaism, but in 1974 I discovered the Ba’al Shem Tov and soon after I moved to Berkeley to be part of the Aquarian Minyan. At that time I wondered how I might live a daily spiritual life as Jew now that I no longer observed the 613 commandments of Jewish tradition. It was Martin Buber who offered me the answer to this question. His writings enabled me to

adopt an existential approach to living guided in every situation by the Spirit, rather than by a book of laws. Here is what he wrote:

I do not accept any absolute formulas for living. No preconceived code can see ahead to everything that can happen in a man’s life. As we live, we grow and our beliefs change. They must change. So I think we should live with this constant discovery. We should be open to this adventure in heightened awareness of living. We should stake our whole existence on our willingness to explore and experience.

Reading these words was an aha moment! I was buoyed up by Buber’s faith in what he called “the voice of the situation” that speaks in every circumstance, and offers us guidance through the difficulties we may encounter in our daily lives. When we find ourselves in a moral quandary, Buber wrote, we can reflect on the entire situation and if we listen deeply enough we will be able to perceive the truth and know how to act. What a liberating way to live one’s life!

I started what I called “Kehilla: The Synagogue Without Walls” in 1978. The first project I initiated was a new and novel Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. Buber had written a striking essay on how to apply the I-Thou principle to the field of education, and that article was a clear influence on my thinking at the time. I also knew that I needed to treat my young students with the same kind of respect, love and caring [continued on page 5]

The Jewish Roots of Kehilla's Values [continued from page 4]

that I had received from Milton Bendiner as a child. Kehilla's Bar/Bat Mitzvah program still exemplifies Buber's educational philosophy.

Much later in my life, I came to spiritual direction, the practice of guiding seekers as they attempt to deepen their relationship with the mystery called God, learning to discern the presence of the divine in their daily lives. I studied to become a spiritual director at a Catholic institution in the early 1990s,

and I very much wanted to bring this discipline into a Jewish context. It was Buber's I and Thou understanding of human relationships that provided me with a framework for spiritual direction from a Jewish perspective. One of the chief functions of spiritual direction as I see it is teaching individuals how to reflect on their lives in a deep manner, so they will hear the "voice of the situation," and know how to act when facing difficult issues.

To Members of Our Kehilla Community who Identify as JEWS OF COLOR:

Aurora Levins Morales will be leading an Affinity Group for Jews of Color, as part of our new Kehilla Racial Justice Initiative. Since the day & time of this meeting is still being set – though will likely be in August or early September– **if you would like to attend this meeting, please email Penny Rosenwasser, penro@comcast.net, with "JOC Kehilla Meeting"** in the subject line, and Penny will send you the meeting info.

*For information regarding other affinity groups being formed, contact the Kehilla office.

Elul CHAI Shabbat Morning Service, Aufruf, & Honoring New Members & New Jews

Saturday, August 18,
10am-12:30pm.

Join us for a celebratory and musical Chai Shabbat morning service, kicked off by Ketzav Kehilla, and led by members of our Bima Team. We'll begin to explore High Holy Day themes together, as well as honor our newest members, our beloved members who've affirmed their Jewish identity, and also celebrate the upcoming wedding of Talia Cooper and Andrew Gordon-Kirsch. Everyone's welcome! Kiddush luncheon following services, co-sponsored by Rabbi David Cooper and Marilyn Golden in honor of Talia and Andrew's simcha.

Special call from Penny Rosenwasser, middle class ally, to Kehilla members raised Middle/Upper Class!

Please save the date to attend our upcoming workshop:

Open Minds, Open Hears: Exploring Class Dynamics in Our Kehilla Community

*Sunday, October 7, 2018 – 1-5pm at
Kehilla*

RSVP via Kehilla website calendar or by emailing maya@kehillasynagogue.org

Update from Let Our People Go: A Win in the Struggle – the Struggle Continues

In a time of profound threats to human rights, we recognize and celebrate when our collective action has an impact. Standing up for our fellow humans in a visible, collective way **matters**. Achieving concrete wins invigorates the weary and inspires new activism.

On July 10th Contra Costa Sheriff David Livingston announced the cancellation of the contract with ICE at the West County Detention Facility (WCDF). This is an important victory. However, our work is **far from over**. The local closing of an ICE jail poses challenges and hardship for local communities whose loved ones have been detained there and now face transfer to ICE jails around the country. **We must demand the immediate release, not transfer, of detainees**, and we must mobilize to **abolish ICE** nationally and shut down the immoral system of mass incarceration.

Leading up to the ICE contract cancellation at WCDF

Years of community mobilization, with increasingly larger and more frequent demonstrations outside of WCDF, preceded Sheriff Livingston's decision to end the ICE contract. The Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity has been holding monthly protests at WCDF for the past seven years. After the Trump administration took office, members of the Kehilla Immigration Committee, along with members of Congregation Beth El, Mujeres Unidas y Activas, and Bend the Arc organized a second monthly protest, called Let Our People Go. Additionally, many Kehilla members have written letters to detainees, fundraised for bond/bail, supported families at immigration court hearings, and donated funds and necessities to families with detained loved ones.

The persistent protests at WCDF have provided inspiration to other progressive groups to work to

end immigration detention and mass incarceration. Some, for example, have responded by pressuring local politicians to end the ICE contract, while others have focused energy on SB10 to end discriminatory jailing for lack of bail.

Let Our People Go, in conjunction with Families Belong Together and Move On's National Day of Action organized a protest on June 30th. The "zero humanity" policy at the border and horrific footage of family separations spurred a crowd of about 3,000 people to come to WCDF to voice their opposition to inhumane policies and to hear rousing speeches from local activists and politicians

The subsequent July 8th Let Our People Go protest drew a crowd of around 300. The speakers that day focused on the plight and needs of queer, trans, and gender-expansive people of color and migrants who face particularly brutal treatment in the U.S. detention and prison system.

Next Steps

The cancellation of the ICE contract will not be the end of our demonstrations at WCDF. **Join us, invite others, and spread the word about the August 12th 11am Let Our People Go protest to demand Release, Not Transfer!** We will raise funds to free detained people, as we demand a humane asylum and immigration policy and an end to mass incarceration, bigotry, and poverty imprisonment.

Please also consider supporting the bond fund that aims to release every eligible person held in Richmond ICE detention before they are transferred away from their families.

www.aplos.com/aws/give/CIVIC/WCDFFund

August Book Discussion Group: The English Teacher by Yiftach Reicher Atir Monday, August 13, 7-9pm

All Kehilla members are welcome to join us for our customary meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. In September, we will vote to select books for the rest of this year and the beginning of next year. All Kehilla members interested in joining the book group are invited to nominate books and help us make the selection.

13th Annual Faith Trio Harvest Dinner

This year at Kehilla on Sukkot: Friday, September 28, 6:30-8:45pm

Join us in the Kehilla Sukkah for this annual tradition of the Faith Trio [Kehilla, the Islamic Cultural Center, and Montclair Presbyterian] as we gather in the autumn to be together in community. The Harvest Festival brings together Jews, Muslims and Christians from the three congregations to eat together, to get to know each other and to consider some concern that we share together. This year the theme is Sanctuary and Immigration in our three traditions. All three of our congregations have a deep concern for immigrants and it will be a mutual encouragement for us all to share what our respective traditions teach us about the divine instruction to shelter the vulnerable and greet the stranger.

There will be an interlude of music in the evening with a Jewish/Muslim combo with renewalist rabbi Tzvi Bar-David and Sufi musician Rashid Patch

Important: Kehilla people need to bring a **main vegetarian dish** enough for 6 people plus your party.

Ditty's Closet Q & A: Kehilla's Medical Equipment Resource

By the Chesed Coordinating Committee

Q: What is Ditty's Closet?

A: It's our virtual closet filled with real durable medical equipment. We have over 75 items that are housed in 25 Kehilla households. The equipment is available for loan, for free, to Kehilla members and visiting family members for short term use.

Q: What kind of stuff do we have?

A: Shower chairs, wheelchairs, walkers with seats, canes, crutches, ice machines, commodes, boots, grab bars, knee scooters, toilet seat risers ...a lot of stuff.

Q: How do I borrow equipment?

A: You must be a member. Email your need to chesed@kehillasynagogue.org We will match you up with the member that has what you need, and you work out the details of the loan together.

Q: Do you need more equipment? I have a bunch of stuff.

A: Yes, we could use especially popular items we never have enough of: walkers with seats and brakes; shower transfer benches, canadian crutches, knee scooters, transfer (lightweight) wheelchairs. For now, we don't need canes or regular crutches, or fold up walkers (with tennis balls) though, thanks. Email chesed@kehillasynagogue.org with what you've got, and we'll contact you to discuss adding it to our inventory.

Remember, equipment is kept by the owners because we don't have the facilities to store things. However, before you donate it elsewhere because of lack of space, please check with us ...if it's an item we do not have, we will try and find someone else to squeeze it in somewhere.

With gratitude to everyone who makes providing this resource to our community possible.

Kehilla Neighborhood Brunches: Sunday, September 30, 11am-1pm

If you have ever wanted to find out more about the Kehilla members in your neighborhood and to make connections in your local village – come to a Kehilla Neighborhood Brunch! This year our brunch is on the day of the first evening of Sukkot.

WHERE: We expect to have hosts for Berkeley, Richmond, South Oakland and the Rockridge/Temescal/Grand Lake/Piedmont areas.

WHAT: The hosts will provide juice, coffee and tea.

Guests are asked to bring vegetarian brunch items to share. Save the Date and look for further announcements in the weekly emails. We hope to see you there! If you are willing to volunteer your home, please email chesed@kehillasynagogue.org. Your offer will be much appreciated.

Open Minds, Open Hearts: Exploring Class Dynamics in Our Kehilla Community

Calling all Kehilla members!

You are all invited to participate in a FREE experiential workshop entitled 'Open Minds, Open Hearts: Exploring Class Dynamics in Our Kehilla Community,' on Sunday, October 7, 2018, from 1-5 PM. The workshop will be facilitated by Kehilla member Penny Rosenwasser and members of the Kehilla Working Class/Low Income Group.

Class issues can exist within all of our relationships, whether they are acknowledged or not. They can silently divide us, for example, as in the case of synagogue members dealing with dues and Hebrew School payments, etc. Members who cannot afford payments can feel shame and invisibility, and congregants with access to more money may not know how to reach out to those with less.

Let's reach across the divides that may be separating us, build bridges, and connect more deeply to one another. Likewise, we will also focus on making our wonderful Kehilla community an even more thoughtful, inclusive home for us all!

Please join us for this special opportunity to get to know your fellow congregants (and quite possibly yourself!) on a deeper level, while we also gain understanding and compassion as we learn about

our differences and similarities, and the ways that we have all been influenced by society's concepts of Jews, money, and power.

We will take time to notice the gifts we have all received from our class backgrounds, and how we can utilize this awareness in Kehilla and the wider community. We will recognize the value we ALL bring to the table, regardless of and because of our class backgrounds and current class statuses.

To RSVP for the workshop, follow the link on the website calendar or email maya@kehillasynagogue.org.

Interested in Helping / Getting Involved?

Kehilla middle/upper class members who would like to help with this workshop, please contact Sheella Mierson, who is coordinating tasks for before and for the day of the workshop. sheella.mierson@gmail.com – 510-236-2284.

Kehilla members who come from working class/low income backgrounds, or who are currently working class/low income, are welcome to join the Kehilla Working Class/Low Income Group. For info contact Maya Joshua at maya@kehillasynagogue.org.

B'nei Mitzvah on the Horizon!

Dear Kehilla community,

You are invited to join us at the following Shabbat morning services as these amazing humans 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. 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 they have finished chanting from the Torah, 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.

The following Shabbat morning services will include the following young people becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah:

August 4- Sevan Minassian-Godner

August 11- Nadia Gaskin

Please read this article as it has significant financial information about grave purchase

The process has begun to secure a Kehilla congregational section in lovely Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland. This is a three phase process contingent upon Kehilla members buying a minimum of 30 graves within the first year. At this time, more than 30 members have already indicated a desire to buy during the first phase at the introductory offer price. There are 48 graves total; Kehilla is purchasing two graves to hold a total of ten separate cremains. This leaves 46 graves available for individual members.

Phase One: **Through October 31, 2018, there is a price reduction for our members ranging from \$1980.00 to \$2970.00 off per grave** (depending on grave location). Some members have already bought graves with many more having already made a commitment to purchase and are about to do so. *At the time of this writing, there are still graves available to buy at the introductory prices.*

Phase Two begins Nov. 1, 2018 and lasts through July 31, 2019. If there are graves left to purchase

within this time period, members will still be able to buy graves to be with the Kehilla community, at currently set and known prices (not the reduced, introductory prices).

Phase Three starts if there are still graves left and would begin August 1, 2019. At this time, graves left to purchase in the Kehilla section will be sold at the then prevailing market rate. This last phase can last up to five years.

This area, known as Plot 70, will be consecrated as a Jewish cemetery.

Plot 70 is a specific area bordered by two oak trees. It cannot be expanded. Once all 48 graves are sold to our membership, this Kehilla section will no longer be able to have more graves added to it.

This is a monumental deepening of our Kehilla community. We invite you to join us.

If you are interested, please contact either Cathy Steirn: 510-289-2363, Jane Hoberman: 510-333-1848, or Jay Koch: 510-915-0255.

Community Klezmer Workshops for Simchat Torah

Help make our Simchat Torah Celebration a rockin' musical success. Join the Community Band!

Open to instrumentalists from Kehilla, Chochmat HaLev and Aquarian Minyan. Led by Chochmat HaLev clarinetist Mike Perlmutter and accordionist/singer Jeanette Lewicki with a series of workshops leading up to the event. Participants will learn tunes by ear and from reference charts and recordings. Participants will build on the repertoire from last year, adding some new tunes and working on strengthening ensemble playing and klezmer style. Participants will perform off book and from memory.

Workshops:

Monday Aug 6, at Chochmat HaLev, 7-9pm

Sunday Aug 19, at Chochmat HaLev, 7-9pm

Sunday August 26 at Kehilla 4-6pm

Sunday Sept 23 - at Chochmat HaLev 3-5pm with short performance to follow

Simchat Torah performance October 1 evening at Kehilla!

Sliding scale \$20-\$30/workshop for participants. Minimum 8 participants for each workshop. Register now! For more information contact Sharon Grodin (sjgrodin@comcast.net).

Nourishing Ourselves Wisely with Qigong – An Introductory Series

With Diana Lion –Tuesdays, Aug 14, 21, 28, Sept 4 – 6:30-8:30 PM

Come join a 4-week relaxing Qigong class series. Qigong is an embodied form of meditation, which acts on all aspects of the body, mind, spirit, and life force. This series is a wonderful way to nourish ourselves as we address what's happening in the wider world, as well as help us prepare for the upcoming High Holy Days.

Diana will be teaching several methods to support harmonizing all aspects of our beings. They combine movement with an alive stillness. These methods are helpful for people looking for more energy and vitality; less anxiety and worry; more clarity; and increased ease/sense of relaxed wellbeing. They can also be used to support other healing modalities we are using for specific health conditions. They are all based in ancient Chinese healing and wisdom traditions, and are from the Yuan Gong lineage, as taught by Yuan Tze.

These methods can be modified for people of all abilities. They can be done in sitting, lying, and standing postures. They are simple, enjoyable, and effective. This class series is suitable for people with NO Qigong experience, or who have studied in other Qigong traditions.

Cost: this is a benefit for Kehilla! Sliding scale: \$90-\$160.

Please note: this is not a drop-in class. People are asked to sign up for the series of 4 classes.

To register email maya@kehillasynagogue.org.

Kehilla's Little Free Library

Thanks to the collaboration of several congregants, Kehilla is now the proud owner of a Free Little Library that stands at the bottom of the stairs, at the main entrance to the building.

It all started when Amy Bat Tziporah offered to donate the handmade library to the community. The task of decorating it was then taken up by four artists - Dvora Gordon, Barbara Haber, Luz Honea and Raul D'Mauries made our little library the colorful, vibrant art piece that stands at our entrance! Bob Olken then worked with Josef, Kehilla staff member, to install the library, and Amy Shutkin helped guide fill it with books - and voilà, we have yet another fantastic community resource!

So what do we do now?

You can bring books to the little library whenever there is room. They should be the kind of books that

you think will interest the wider community - books in good condition and not textbooks. You can browse the current collection, and borrow anything that captures your fancy! When possible, trade the books you take with books you donate. If you end up bringing a book back, or passing it along to another reader - well, it's all part of the circle of books.

A big, big thank you to the team that made this happen. May the Kehilla community, and the community at large, enjoy Kehilla's Little Free Library!



High Holy Day Service Descriptions

Please remember that all events are fragrance-free

Selichot Evening Service

Saturday, September 1, 8-9:30pm at Kehilla

Selichot is our portal into the Days of Awe and the process of *teshuva*, of turning inward with love and curiosity to face ourselves with clarity and truth. *Slichot* limbers up our ability to ask for forgiveness. Before we enter the great hall of Rosh Hashana, we gather in the intimate circle of *Selichot* – just us – to begin the tender and life-giving practice of looking deeply and clearly at our lives. Join Rabbi Dev, Sharon Grodin, Hazzan Shulamit Wise Fairman, and Kehilla’s “bima team” for song, prayer, and story to get us on our way.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 9, 6:30-9pm at Scottish Rite Center

Welcome the new year, celebrate the birthday of the world, and gather with our community as we face this moment together, and begin to draw on the practices of this season to sustain us and uplift us in difficult times. Led by Sharon Grodin, Hazzan Shulamit Wise Fairman, Debbie Fier, Beth Dickinson, Avi Rose, and Julie Nesnansky.

Sermon by Rabbi Gray Myrseth.

Rosh Hashanah Morning

Monday, September 10, 9:30am-12:30 pm at Scottish Rite Center

Main Sanctuary Service

9:30 am Ketzev Kehilla drumming circle opens our service, continuing with Howard Hamburger, Rabbi David Cooper, Rabbi Dev Noily, Hazzan Shulamit Wise Fairman, Debbie Fier, Julie Nesnansky, and Avi Rose.

Teen Sermon: Josh Bernard-Pearl

Torah Reading: Exodus 32: 1-12

Family & Youth Service

10:00 – 11:30 am, 3rd Floor

With Beth Dickinson, Rabbi Gray Myrseth and Jenna Stover-Kemp.

Stories, music and lots of participation fill this fun, kid-centered experience that includes Shofar sounding, Torah procession and other Rosh Hashanah traditions. Geared for children in grades 1 to 6, and open to all ages.

Tot Service (for kids up to age 5 and their grown-ups)

10:15 – 11:15 am, 3rd Floor

With Jen Miriam and Alon Altman. Enjoy a Rosh Hashanah experience with puppets, music and lots of fun for our youngest celebrants and the grown-ups who love them.

Tashlich at Lake Merritt

12:45-1:00 pm

Join Rabbi David immediately after morning services for the tradition of casting into the water the mistakes we’ve made over the last year, and cleansing ourselves to begin anew.

Second Day Rosh Hashanah Morning

Monday, September 11, 9:30am-12:30 pm at Kehilla

With Rabbi Chaya Gusfield and Eve Decker.

Receive the replenishment of contemplative song, story and silence. Rabbi Chaya and Buddhist teacher and musician Eve Decker use the beautiful complement of Jewish and Buddhist teachings, music and spiritual practices to delve deeply into the essence of this holy day. A more intimate service for the second day.

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, September 15, 10:30 am-12:00 pm at Kehilla

Practice in the power of this one Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur - the Shabbat of Turning. Led by Howard Hamburger and Julie Nesnansky.

Kiddush sponsored by Amy Bat Tzipora & Beth Weinberger.

Kol Nidre

Tuesday, September 18, 6:30-9:30 pm at Scottish Rite Center

Main Services

geared for adults – all ages welcome (see below for family & tot Kol Nidre)

On this holiest night of the Jewish year it's our custom to wear white, to avoid leather, to fast, and to pray wearing a tallit/prayer shawl – the only time in the year that a tallit is worn at night. This service, beginning with the chanting of *Kol Nidre*, initiates a practice period that will last for the next 25 hours. Led by Avi Rose, Hazzan Shulamit Wise Fairman, Debbie Fier, Beth Dickinson, and Julie Nesnansky. Sermon by Rabbi Dev Noily.

Family Kol Nidre

6:30 – 8:00 pm at Kehilla

geared for children in grades 1 to 6; everyone welcome

Join Kehilla's Director of Youth Programs, Rabbi Gray Myrseth, and local treasure and world musician Lior Ben-Hur for this special family experience of Kol Nidre. Enter into the holiness of Yom Kippur with music, story and tradition that brings families into the experience of this holy time together.

Tot Kol Nidre

6:30-7:30 pm @ Kehilla

geared for tots and babies and the grown-ups who love them

Jen Miriam and Alon Altman bring their warm, loving and puppet-filled world to a musical Kol Nidre experience for little ones up to age 5 and their grown-ups.

Yom Kippur Morning

Wednesday, September 19, 9:30 am-1:30 pm at Scottish Rite Center

Main Sanctuary Service (all ages welcome)

9:30 am Services open with a meditative soundscape by Debbie Fier, continuing with Rabbi Dev Noily, Sharon Grodin, Hazzan Shulamit Wise Fairman, and Julie Nesnansky.

Congregant Sermon by Hillary Brooks.

Torah Reading: Leviticus 16: 21-31

Teen Service

Time TBD, with Noa Grayevsky.

Family Storytime and Discussion

Time TBD, with Rabbi Gray Myrseth

Yom Kippur Afternoon Workshops at Kehilla

3:00-4:00 pm

The Kotzker & The Besht - Two Hasidic Takes on Truth with Rabbi Burt Jacobson Justice Focused Workshop

Qigong Practice with Diana Lion

Come join us for a relaxing Qigong practice, which will support us to harmonize our bodies, heart-minds, spirits, and life force. We will combine movement and stillness, in sitting, lying, and standing postures. The emphasis is on connecting internally, so anyone wanting to attend is welcome to adapt any movements to fit their own needs. Some props will be provided, but you are also welcome to bring your own.

Yom Kippur Afternoon & Evening at Kehilla

2:00 – 4:30 Drop off break-fast pot-luck offerings at the Kehilla kitchen (or bring them at 7:45)

3:00 – 4:00 Workshops (Listed above)

4:30pm Yizkor- Service of Remembrance

Led by Sharon Grodin, Hazzan Shulamit, Debbie Fier, Julie Nesnansky, and Beth Dickinson.

5:15pm A Teaching from Rabbi David J. Cooper

5:30pm Healing Service

With Rabbi Elliot Kukla, Hazzan Shulamit, Debbie Fier, and Julie Nesnansky.

6:30pm Ne'ilah – Closing the Gates

With Howard Hamburger, Rabbi Dev Noily, Hazzan Shulamit, and Kehilla's Musical Prayer Leaders: Debbie, Avi, Julie, and Beth.

8:00pm Havdalah followed by Pot-luck Break-Fast

Please bring a vegetarian dish to share with at least 8-10 people!

Sukkot Gatherings at Kehilla

13th Annual Faith Trio Harvest Dinner in the Sukkah with Rabbi David

Friday, September 28, 6:30-8:45 pm

Join Kehilla, the Islamic Cultural Center, and Montclair Presbyterian for a special evening of shared food and connection, as well as conversation and teachings on supporting the Sanctuary movement and immigrants from all three traditions. KEHILLA FOLKS: Bring a main vegetarian dish to serve at least 6 people in addition to your party (more info on page 7).

Shabbat Morning of Sukkot with Rabbi Dev and Hazzan Shulamit

+ Baby Welcome and Blessing

Saturday, September 29, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Join us for a special Shabbat service while our joy is amplified by the celebration of Sukkot and the welcoming of Rabbi Elliot Kukla and Abby Weintraub's new baby. We'll sing Hallel, extra songs of praise, joy, and longing, and make hakafot, circular processions with lulavim-- if you have one, bring it along to shake! Please bring a veggie dish to share for a festive kiddush in the Sukkah after services.

Outdoor Morning Meditation Sit in the Sukkah with Rabbi Dev

Wednesday, October 3, 7:50 am

Gather at 7:50 a.m., short teaching at 7:55 a.m., silent sit from 8:00 - 8:30, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Jewish Renewal Community Simchat Torah Celebration & Dance Party

Monday, October 1st, 6:30 pm at Kehilla

Kehilla, Chochmat HaLev, Aquarian Minyan and Beyt Tikkun come together at Kehilla to end and begin the Torah and to dance, dance, dance with our community-enhanced Klezmer band led by **Mike Perlmutter!**

6:30 Holiday Tot Service with Jen Miriam and Alon Altman in the Fireside Room

6:30 Ma'ariv / Evening service in the Sanctuary

7:00 Special Torah Service

7:30 Dancing with the Torah in the Sanctuary with Live Music

Please help Talya Husbands-Hankin support our homeless population by donating blankets, tarps, tents and men's socks to be distributed to homeless folks in the area.

Please, no clothing and no babies' / children's gear. We have a box located right by the Sanctuary door. It continues to be a pressing need.



Thank You for Your Generosity

General Fund

Michelle Roland and Richard Miles

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General Fund for Sanctuary Shower Project

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Janet Newman in honor of Rabbi Gray Myrseth for officiating at the wedding of Sally Walstrom and Susie Hufstader

Thank You for Your Contributions

*Thank you to the many volunteers who made the **Annual Retreat** and the **Tisha B'Av Interfaith Ceremony** successful events and deeply meaningful experiences for all who attended.*

August & September 2018 Event Listing

Please remember that all events are fragrance-free

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

Fri., August 3, 7:30 pm. **Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Shulamit, Debbie Fier, and Julie Nesnansky.** Join us for a song-filled and soulful evening of both spirited and contemplative prayer. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something veggie to share.

Sat., August 4, 10am-12:30pm. **Shabbat Service and Sevan Minassian-Godner becoming Bar Mitzvah.** With Rabbi David, Elizheva Hurvich, Hazzan Shulamit, and Debbie Fier. Join us for a celebratory, musical Shabbat morning exploring Parashat Eikev. Everyone is welcome! Kiddush provided by Sevan's grandparents, Marvin Godner and Jeanette Shalov.

Sat., August 4, 10:30 am. **Tot Shabbat with Jen Miram and Alon Altman, Back Classroom/Main floor.** Join in the musical fun with Jen Miriam, Alon and their puppet friends. Our morning tot shabbat service is geared especially for children up to 3 years old, and siblings and friends are welcome. Kiddush afterwards - Bring a vegetarian snack to share if you'd like.

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

Wed., August 8, 4:30-10:30pm. **Oakland A's Jewish Heritage Night.** Join Kehilla for a special night of baseball on Wednesday, August 8th at the Oakland A's 8th annual Jewish Heritage night! Contact Dee@kehillasynagogue.org for more info.

Fri., August 10, 7:00 pm. **NEW-ish!!! Traditional-style Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbinic student SAM Luckey, Talya Husbands-Hankin & Matt Leber, Fireside Room.** A more traditional davening 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.

Sat., August 11, 10:00 am-12:30 pm. **Shabbat Service and Nadia Gaskin becoming Bat Mitzvah + Rosh Hodesh Elul.** With Rabbi David, Julie Nesnansky, Elizheva Hurvich, and Debbie Fier. Join us for a celebratory, musical Shabbat morning exploring Parashat Re'eh and celebrating Rosh Hodesh Elul with extra songs of Hallel/Praise. Everyone is welcome! Kiddush provided by Nadia's parents, Suzanne Popkin & Igor Gasowski.

Sun., August 12, 11am-noon. **Protest at the Richmond Immigration Detention Center.** Join Kehilla Immigration Committee and Our Family Coalition, FOR JUST ONE HOUR (11am-Noon). Please note that there is a potential location change – learn more on page 6.

Mon., August 13, 7-9pm. **Book Discussion Group.** All Kehilla members are welcome. August's book: The English Teacher by Yiftach Reicher Atir (learn more on page 6).

Wed., August 15, 7:50 am. **Morning Meditation Sit, Fireside Room.** Doors open at 7:50 a.m., short teaching at 7:55 a.m., silent sit from 8:00 - 8:30, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Fri., August 17, 7:30 pm. **Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Shulamit and Julie Nesnansky.** Join us for a song-filled and soulful evening of both spirited and contemplative prayer. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something veggie to share.

Sat., August 18, 10:00 am-12:30 pm. **Elul CHAI Shabbat Morning Service + Aufruf + Honoring New Members & New Jews.** Join us for a celebratory and musical Chai Shabbat morning service, kicked off by Ketzef Kehilla, and led by members of our Bima Team. (learn more on page 5).

Wed., August 22, 7:50 am. **Morning Meditation Sit with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room.** Doors open at 7:50 a.m., short teaching at 7:55 a.m., silent sit from 8:00 -

8:30, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Fri., August 24, **6:00 pm-7:30 pm, *NEW Earlier Start Time and Flow* Tot Shabbat with Jen Miriam & Alon Altman, Social Hall.** 6:00-6:30 pm Shabbat music and puppets! 6:30-7:30 pm Shabbat blessings and Veggie Pot-Luck Dinner. For children up to 5 years old (or older if they enjoy it) and the grown ups who love them. Join Jen, Alon and Jen's puppet friends. Please bring a vegetarian potluck dish to share.

Sat., August 25, 10:30 am-12:00 pm. **Elul Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dev and Julie Nesnansky.** Join us for Shabbat morning prayers and torah service as we continue the journey through Elul, our month of spiritual and inter-relational preparation for the Days of Awe. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something vegetarian to share.

Labor Day Weekend- Special Schedule

Fri., August 31, **No Kabbalat Shabbat service.**

Sat., September 1, **No Shabbat morning or Tot Shabbat services.**

Sat., September 1, 8:00-9:30 pm. **Selichot Service.** In the Sanctuary (learn more on page 11).

Wed., September 5, 7:50 am. **Morning Meditation Sit with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room.** Doors open at 7:50 a.m., short teaching at 7:55 a.m., silent sit from 8:00 - 8:30, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Fri., September 7, 7:30-9:00 pm. **Elul Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Shulamit, Debbie Fier, and Julie Nesnansky.** Join us for the final shabbat of 5778! A song-filled and soulful evening of spirited and contemplative prayer, weaving in themes and melodies for the High Holy Days. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something veggie to share.

Sat., September 8, Time TBA. **Elul Shabbat Service at the Climate March in SF with Rabbi David** (Learn more in Rabbi David's article on page 3).

Sun., September 8, 6:30pm. **Erev Rosh Hashanah Services** (learn more on page 11).

Mon., September 9, 9:30am. **Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Services** (learn more on page 11).

Tues., September 10, 9:30am. **Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Services** (learn more on pages 11-12).

Wed., September 12, 7:50 am. **Morning Meditation Sit with Rabbi Dev, Fireside Room.** Doors open at 7:50 a.m., short teaching at 7:55 a.m., silent sit from 8:00 - 8:30, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30. Please enter through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Fri., September 14, **No Kabbalat Shabbat Service.**

Sat., September 15, 10:30 am-12:00 pm. **Shabbat Shuva with Howard Hamburger and Julie Nesnansky** (learn more on page 12).

Tuesday September 18, 6:30pm. **Kol Nidre (Erev Yom Kippur)** (learn more on page 12).

Wednesday September 19, 9:30am. **Yom Kippur Services** (learn more on page 12).

Friday September 21, 7:30 pm. **Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Shulamit, Julie Nesnansky, & Jen Miriam Altman.** Join us to light Shabbat candles and for a song-filled and soulful evening of spirited and contemplative prayer. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something veggie to share.

Sat., September 22, 10:30 am. **Shabbat Service with Rabbi David and Beth Dickinson.** As we approach the annual reading of the Torah, we will read from the parashat Haazinu. It is a poem from the time of the prophets but written as if recited by Moses in his last weeks of life. It is a song decrying the worship of false gods and a call to respond to truth. What are the false idols of our time? What are the consequences of worshipping them? The Torah reading will be in three parts—let Rabbi David know if you want to leyn. 1) Deut. 32:1-4. 2) Deut. 12-14. 3) Deut. 32:15-17. Kiddush follows the service. Please bring something veggie to share.

Sun., September 23, evening. **Sukkot Begins!**

Wed., September 26, 7:50 am. **Morning Meditation Sit with Rabbi Dev in the Sukkah! (Outside the Fireside Rm).** Doors open at 7:50 a.m., short teaching at 7:55 a.m., silent sit from 8:00 - 8:30, mourner's kaddish and announcements at 8:30. Please enter

through the patio off Fairview Avenue.

Fri., September 28, **No Tot Shabbat Service-- Join us at the event listed below and on Oct 1 for a Tot Simchat Torah Celebration at 6:30pm** with Jen Miriam and Alon and their puppet friends.

Fri., September 28, 6:30-8:45 pm . **13th Annual Faith Trio Harvest Dinner in the Sukkah with Rabbi David.** Join Kehilla, the Islamic Cultural Center, and Montclair Presbyterian for a special evening of shared food and connection KEHILLA FOLKS: Bring a main vegetarian dish to serve at least 6 people in addition to your party (learn more on pages 7, 13).

Sat., September 29, 10:30 am-12:30 pm . **Shabbat Morning of Sukkot with Rabbi Dev and Hazzan Shulamit + Baby Welcome and Blessing** (learn more on page 13).

Mon., Oct 1st, 6:30 pm. **Jewish Renewal Community Simchat Torah Celebration & All Ages Dance Party at Kehilla.** Kehilla, Chochmat HaLev, Aquarian Minyan and Beyt Tikkun come together at Kehilla to end and begin the Torah and to dance, dance, dance with our community-enhanced Klezmer band led by **Mike Perlmutter!** (learn more on page 14).

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