



## 7th Grade GESHER 2018-2019

### October 7: Welcome to the B'nei Mitzvah Program (11:00am-1:00pm)

During this session, you will learn everything you need to know about the B'nei Mitzvah process at CST. Some of our past B'nei Mitzvah parents will talk about how parents traditionally organize and support one another through the B'nei process. The rabbis will answer any questions you may have about *mitzvah* projects, special requests, prayers, and the process in general. 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be in a parallel program discussing how to make the B'nei Mitzvah process meaningful. **Parents Required.**

### October 14: Mitzvah Project Program (11:00am-1:00pm)

Come learn about planning for your Mitzvah Project and learn about past student's Mitzvah Projects. **Parents Requested.**

### November 4: Program on Prayer (11:00am-1:00pm)

Families are encouraged to come and learn together on the nature of prayer and what it means to you. What is prayer? Is it useful? What do we pray for? What do our prayers during the service mean? You will also be encouraged to craft your own prayer. **No Parents.**

### November 11: Field Trip to Glide (7:00am - 10:30am in San Francisco)

We will be meeting at Glide (330 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94102) at 7am, carpooling is encouraged! Directions to Glide can be found here: <http://www.glide.org/contactus#parking>. Glide is a short walk from the Powell BART station. We will serve breakfast to the community from 7-9am then we will attend Glide's celebration service from 9-10:30am. This is extremely transformative, and sometimes more emotional than expected. For more information about Glide, visit <http://www.glide.org/serveameal>. **Parents Requested, Carpools Encouraged.**

### December 2: Jewish Culture Day (11:00am-1:00pm)

What is Jewish Culture? How does Jewish Culture align with Judaism as a religion and the Jewish People who are tied to Israel? **No Parents**

### December 8-9: Overnight Program (6:00pm-9:00am)

This overnight will be super fun and packed with camp-style learning. The program begins at 6pm Saturday and ends at 8am Sunday. It will include dinner and breakfast. The program will include art, cooking, dancing, music, movies and outdoor activities all set in a safe setting with a Jewish flair. We really hope that you can come. **Some Parent Volunteers.**

### December 16: Social Justice

We are commanded to pursue justice. In this session, we will define what justice is and what it can look like for a teen to be involved in its pursuit. **No Parents.**

### **January 4-6: Jewish LA Trip (optional)**

We hope you can join us in this first-time-ever opportunity to travel with Shomrei Torah 7th, 8th, and 9th graders to see Jewish Los Angeles. The trip will be from Friday, January 5-Sunday, January 7. We will spend our nights at Congregation Emanuel in Beverley Hills where we will have dinner and celebrating Shabbat.

On Saturday, we will go hiking to the Hollywood sign to have *Shabbat* morning services. We will visit *Beit T'shuvah*, a Jewish rehabilitation center and participate in a program led by their prevention program. We will eat an amazing deli lunch and tour Pico Robertson. We will also have *havdallah* and enjoy some free time.

On Sunday, we will visit the Museum of Tolerance and debrief about their experience and thoughts concerning the Holocaust. This will be a full weekend of learning and bonding.

**We estimate that the cost of the trip would be \$500 per participant. This includes airfare, transportation, meals (except Saturday night), programs, tours and admission fees. *No Parents.***

### **January 13: Rick Concoff & Brunch (11:00am-1:00pm)**

Come join Rick Concoff of Chaverim for an engaging morning! This will feature a lively discussion as well as fun activities which will give you an idea why nearly 100% of B'nei Mitzvah students in Sonoma County continue on with Chaverim in 8th grade. The fun never stops at Chaverim, the JCC Sonoma County's Jewish teen education program. Come experience it first-hand! *No Parents.*

### **February 3: Jewish Life Post B'nei Mitzvah (11:00am-1:00pm)**

What are the opportunities after B'nei Mitzvah? What other programs or fun things are there around the US and abroad? *No Parents*

### **April 7: Never Again (11:00am-1:00pm)**

This morning of learning will focus on the Holocaust at an age-appropriate level. We will discuss our thoughts and feelings on anti-Semitism today. In the past we have had speakers come on this day, if you are interested in sharing your family's story please be in touch. *No Parents.*

### **May 5: Mitzvah Mall (9:00am-11:00am)**

Your seventh grader is expected to be at Shomrei Torah from 10:00am-1:00pm. During this time they will be standing by their Mitzvah Board presenting their project and answering questions to the Religious School kids.

Every Seventh Grader is required to complete a Mitzvah Project. This Mitzvah Project can be almost any type of community service work. We urge your family to not just collect money from friends and family for a cause, but to really have a hands-on experience volunteering or learning about an organization.

There is no minimum time requirement, but just like with most things, the more you put in the more you get out! Also if you make this into a family Mitzvah Project, your seventh grader's experience will be richer. *No Parents* (Although you should walk through and see the great projects).