



CONGREGATION  
SHOMREI TORAH שומרי תורה

the VOICE

Dec. 2016/Jan. 2017—Kislev/Tevet/Shevat 5777 Volume XXIX Number 10

## Coming Soon to a Phone Near You

*Sunday, December 11*

This year the eighth annual Gelt-a-Thon takes on an even greater importance since it is the only major fundraiser for the year. As we approach *Hanukkah*, you can expect a call from a committed Shomrei Torah volunteer who will be asking for contributions to our Gelt-a-Thon. It not only raises much needed money for our operations and programs, it also brings us together as a community as we celebrate the spirit of generosity, promote our culture of *tzedakkah* and affirm our commitment to Shomrei Torah. While we suggest a donation of \$118, our goal is to have everyone participate. We welcome gifts at every level.

Coming Soon to a Phone Near You

**EIGHTH ANNUAL**



**GELT<sup>a</sup> THON**

**Sunday, December 11**

*Please give generously  
in the spirit of this joyous holiday*

**Skip the call—GIVE NOW**

- ✓ Donate at [www.cstsr.org](http://www.cstsr.org)
- ✓ Send in a check
- ✓ Call the office and charge your credit card on file
- ✓ Come by the office and pay by cash, check or credit card

*Last year, more than 50% of our members contributed and we raised more than \$30,000.*

**Your donation can make this fund-raiser our most successful yet!**

## Congregational Update & Community Conversation

*Tuesday, December 13, 6:00-8:00 PM*

The essence of Shomrei Torah is community; we are as strong as the connections we have with each other. Join us for a free Chinese dinner as we share the latest news with you about the congregation, and together discuss what we hope for as we move into the promise of the future.

**We'd also like to hear from you:**

**What is most important to you about Shomrei Torah?**

**What would you like to see in the future?**

**What concerns you?**

Free childcare available through a grant from the JCF SF Jewish Women's Fund.

**FREE:** Chinese dinner followed by small conversations

In order for us to order the right amount of food, RSVP is required. Contact [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org) or call 578-5519 NO LATER than Friday, December 9. Led by Rabbi George and Rabbi Stephanie.

## Hanukkah Warm-Up

*Wednesday, December 21, 6:15 PM*

Let's rejoice together! We will supply the *latkes*, donuts and applesauce, so all you need to bring is a dairy/veggie dish to share. Songs will be sung, and of course, *dreidels* will be spun!



## Rabbi's Tisch with Rev. Edward Viljoen, Center for Spiritual Living

"History and Vision of Center for Spiritual Living"

*Friday, December 9, 6:15 PM*

According to Reverend Edward Viljoen, hosting Shomrei Torah for the Holy Days every year is a fulfillment of the Center's vision to be a place where people of diverse spiritual traditions may feel welcome. Join us in welcoming Rev. Edward to Shomrei Torah, as he informs



Rev. Edward Viljoen

*Continued on page 2*

dinner and a movie • going shopping • sports event  
sitting in a car • going to a party • going to a concert  
going to a game • going to a show • going to a play  
free and fun • going to a party • going to a concert

# PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

➔ You go out! Your kids come for Fun!  
(Great for holiday shopping!)

**While you're out, your kids will enjoy**

☾ Dinner

☾ Games

☾ Movies

☾ Havdallah

☾ Jewish Entertainment



**\*\*grade; K-7th only\*\***

**Saturday, DEC 3**

**6-11 PM @ CST**

Please RSVP to [ra@cstsr.org](mailto:ra@cstsr.org)

## Men's Bagel Club

*Sunday, December 4, 9:00 AM*

Guest speaker, Richard Lazovick, engineer and tech teacher, is owner of iTechTutor.com and teaches at SRJC. He is also a CST member. He loves technology and sharing his knowledge with people. He will talk about home electronics of all types and how to use them wisely without frustration. Come get answers to your tech questions from an expert.

We're actively planning for 2017 speakers and any suggestions of topics or speakers that CST members have in mind will be pursued—let us know. We hope to hear from a Santa Rosa city council member, about new and exciting Santa Rosa directions. Call (707) 578-5519 or email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org) to reserve your \$7-10 gourmet breakfast. Ladies are always welcome, too.



## Family Shabbat Movie Night

*Friday, December 16, 6:15 PM*

Please join us for a fun, family-friendly, camp-style Shabbat service.

Shabbat services will be immediately followed by a pasta dinner and The Secret Life of Pets movie! Adults, BYOB, and hang out in our adults only area.

\$10 per family, please RSVP to Julie, [ra@cstsr.org](mailto:ra@cstsr.org), or call (707)578-5519.



## First Night of Hanukkah

*Saturday, December 24, 6:30 – 9:00 PM*

*at Congregation Beth Ami*

Join Rabbi George and Congregation Beth Ami to celebrate Hanukkah.

Latkes and a movie. More information to follow. Please RSVP to [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org), or call (707) 578-5519.



## Rabbi's Tisch with Rev. Edward Viljoen

*Continued from page 1*

us about the Center, how it was formed, what the central teachings are, and the vision it has for a world that works for everyone.

Rev. Dr. Edward Viljoen is a leader in the Science of Mind movement. A dynamic speaker and exceptional teacher, he is the author of a number of books including Science of Mind and Spirit for Beginners, The Power of Meditation and Ordinary Goodness. He was ordained in May 1996 and has been the senior minister of the Center for Spiritual Living, Santa Rosa since 1995.

RSVP to the temple office. Email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org), or call (707)578-5519.

## CALLING ALL ACTORS AND SINGERS

Join our team of players as we get ready for...

# A LION KING PURIM!

- All it takes is three rehearsals
- No memorization needed
- All ages invited and welcome

### REHEARSALS:

Wednesday, March 1st & 8th  
from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Dress Rehearsal before the show  
on Friday, March 11 at 4:00 pm



Sign up with Malcolm at [youth@cstsr.org](mailto:youth@cstsr.org)

## Babies & Bagels

Sunday, December 4 and January 29

We love to get together with you and your little ones. The Babies and Bagels group meets once a month, usually on Sunday mornings. Join us for a light nosh and some refreshing adult conversation, while you watch your children interact and play with others in their age group. Babies & Bagels is a FREE program! Babies & Bagels meets at a private home. For more information, to RSVP for the address, or just to say hello, call (707) 578-5519 or email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org).



## Tot Shabbat

Saturday, December 10, 9:00 AM  
and Friday, January 13, 5:00 PM

Tot Shabbat is an informal, child-centered Shabbat Service designed especially for children newborn to elementary school age. Everyone is welcome; members and non-members, Jewish and non-Jewish, partners and spouses alike.

During all Tot Shabbat experiences there will be a kid-friendly service, lively music and movement, exciting stories, art activities, and open play. Tot Shabbat is a FREE program! Our January meeting will be a potluck. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share.



## Lifelong Learning Evolving Identities of 20th Century American Jews Seen through Film

2 sessions: Dec. 7, 14, 7:00-8:30 PM

Sherry Knazan will lead the class through experiencing several films centering on Jewish life in America. Movies from the early 1940's to the 1990's can tell us a great deal about American Jewish identity and the social, cultural and political issues affecting Jews during these years. Through the



Sherry Knazan

lens of the following films, we'll explore the changing nature of Jewish identity: **Frisco Kid, Avalon, Gentleman's Agreement, Driving Miss Daisy, Crossing Delancey, Goodbye Columbus, A Stranger Among Us and Annie Hall.**

Sherry Knazan, a long-time Jewish educator, currently serves as the coordinator of the Exploring the World of Judaism program, an adult learning program through Jewish LearningWorks. She is also the director of family programming at the yearly Grief and Growing Camp and teaches a 6th grade Hebrew/Judaica class at Congregation Rodef Sholom. Sherry holds a BS in education from the University of Michigan, an M.Ed. from Temple University and a Master of Science in Jewish Studies from Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning, where she is currently working on her doctorate in Jewish Studies. She was awarded the national Harold Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Education, as well as the Bay Area Helen Diller Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.

*Sherry Knazan, a long-time Jewish educator, currently serves as the coordinator of the Exploring the World of Judaism program, an adult learning program through Jewish LearningWorks.*

RSVP at the temple office ([denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org), (707)578-5519)

## Rabbi's *Tisch* with Brian K. Kennedy, Ph.D., CEO, Buck Institute for Research on Aging

"The Age of Aging"

*Friday, January 13, 6:15 PM*

Dr. Brian Kennedy, CEO of the Buck Institute since 2010, is internationally recognized for his research in the basic biology of aging and is a visionary committed to translating research discoveries into new ways of delaying, detecting, preventing and treating age-related conditions. He leads a team of twenty principal investigators at the Buck Institute – all of whom are involved in interdisciplinary research aimed at extending healthspan, the healthy years of life. His lab focuses on cardiovascular disease and metabolic syndromes, such as Type 2 diabetes, with the overall objective of identifying interventional strategies to promote healthy aging. Suggested donation for dinner is \$18/person. Please RSVP to the temple office.



## Lifelong Learning "What if God was One of Us?" God in Contemporary Music

*2 sessions: Jan. 11, 18, 2017 7:00-8:30 PM*

God is hard to talk about and even harder to "understand". This two-session class, lead by Rabbi George, will use contemporary, mostly rock, music (Joan Osborn, Tom Waits, George Harrison, Matisyahu, etc.) as a medium for discussion and reflection.

## Sacred Living: An Introduction to Judaism

*6 sessions: Jan. 12, 26; Feb. 9, 23; Mar. 2, 16*

*12:00-1:30 PM*

This six-session course is for people considering conversion or seeking a deeper understanding of their Jewish roots. Rabbi George Gittleman and Rabbi Stephanie Kramer will lead the class in an exploration of the basic beliefs and spiritual practices of Judaism through the prism of the sacred:

- Sacred Thought - Theology
- Sacred Time - The Jewish Calendar & Prayer
- Sacred Rhythms - The Life Cycle
- Sacred Action - Judaism and Social Justice

Our basic text will be **Living Judaism** by Rabbi Wayne Dosik.

Please RSVP to the office.

## 2017 SAC Soup Brigade Needs Your Help

Dear Friends:

We know that the homeless in Santa Rosa endure harsh times during the winter months.



Catholic Charities has

expanded its services at the Samuel Jones Shelter, creating extra indoor sleeping space for the homeless and has put out a call to the faith-based community asking for assistance. For the fourth year in a row, **The CST Social Action Committee** has stepped up to provide soup for about 40 people each night, eight Thursday nights through January and February. (January 5-February 23)

**How many people needed each night?** We need three to five volunteers each Thursday in January and February.

**Where do we make soup?:** Please make soup in your own home

**How much soup?:** Make about 5 quarts, enough to serve 10-12 people

**What kind of soup is good?:** Chicken noodle and other wholesome soups are welcome (no matzoh balls because the soup is served in tall paper cups).

**What do we do with the soup?:** You can deliver it to the **Samuel Jones Hall at 4020 Finley Avenue** (south of Sebastopol Road, west of Stony Point). The soup can be brought during the day and put in the refrigerator for the Emergency Winter Shelter program.

**When is the soup served?:** Soup is heated and served from 7:30-9:00 PM. We could also use 1-3 people to stay and help serve.

### To sign up:

- Go to the following Web site: <https://doodle.com/poll/eqeuvk2ysy9ic3yp>
- Click on the date (s) that you would like to bring/serve soup.
- Please put an asterisk (\*) before your name if you will be a server.
- Answer the questions that come up (i.e. email & telephone # in case I need to contact you).

Thanks so much for your kindness and compassion.

*Shalom,*  
Nan and Peter Copen



## Award Winning "Social Action Goes to the Movies" Returns for 2017

The Social Action Committee has been busy working on our next film series. This is our fifth season and as always these events are designed to both inform and empower the audience to learn of local services and opportunities to take action on important issues.

All films will include a panel of experts on the topic as well as community organizations with additional information and resources in Shalom Hall. Starting time is 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. Free to all, but donations accepted.

January 28 "Innocente" – The Academy Award winning "Innocente" is an inspiring coming of age story of a 15 year old girl in California. Though homeless and undocumented, she refuses to give up on her dream of being an artist, proving that the hand she has been dealt does not define her – her dreams do.

February 25 "Catching The Sun" - An unemployed American worker, a Tea Party activist, and a Chinese solar entrepreneur race to lead the clean energy future. But who wins and who loses the battle for power in the 21st century? An eye-opening look at workers and entrepreneurs on the forefront of the clean energy movement that will transform, and enliven the way you see the future.

March 25 "Exploring the Sanctuary Camp Concept - Housing Alternatives for the Homeless" Filmmaker Brent Adams travelled the Pacific Northwest making this documentary that explores various options for housing the homeless including authorized tent villages, sanctuary camps and "tiny house" communities. Local challenges and opportunities will be discussed.

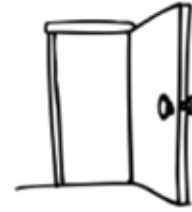
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## Rabbi's *Tisch* with Hon. Stefan Schlueter, Consul General of Germany, San Francisco "Germany, the Jewish Community and Israel Today" Friday, February 10, 6:15 PM

Stefan Schlueter has been the German Consul General in San Francisco since August 2014. He joined the German Foreign Service in 1979. His first foreign assignments brought him to Buenos Aires and Algiers. Since then he has served in a number of important positions around the world including a stint in Tel Aviv from 1986 to 1990 and time as the Deputy Consul General in both New York and Los Angeles. In 2007 he returned to the Foreign Office in Berlin to assume the position of Director for Conflict Prevention, Peace-Building, Democracy Promotion and State-Building, promoting German projects in this field world-wide.

Suggested donation for dinner is \$18/person. Please RSVP to the temple office.

## Slip out the back, Jack?



Whether you need a **chiropractor**  
or a **divorce attorney**  
B2B is here for you.



Meet a variety of CST business members  
for growth and opportunity.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 8:00 AM**

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## Tu B'Shvat Shabbat at Armstrong Woods Saturday, February 11, 10:30 AM

Tu B'Shvat, the Jewish Arbor Day, offers us a unique opportunity to appreciate the wonders of nature all around us. Join in song and prayer as we gather at majestic Armstrong Woods, rain or shine, to celebrate Shabbat and renew our dedication to protecting our environment.

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## Mini Book Workshop led by Sue Lewis and Suzanne Abrams

Sunday, February 19, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Mini Books are a fun and beautiful way to show off photographs, collect favorite sayings or poems, or display small art pieces. They are easy to make, and require no art experience. Themes can be Jewish or any of your choice. All materials are provided.



**Cost:** \$15 (to cover materials which are provided, and light snacks)

**Limit:** 12 people

**For More information:** Email [susanlewis@sonic.net](mailto:susanlewis@sonic.net)

**Register at the CST Office:** [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org), or call (707)578-5519

## Election Got You Stressed? Just Breathe

As I write this, we are five days from the election. Oy! This political season has been the worst in memory. Everywhere I go people tell me how anxious and upset they are about the campaign, and the truth is, I feel the same way. We all want it to be over. But let's face it: The divisions this election cycle has laid bare won't go away after November 8th. What do we do?



Many years ago I was talking with Rabbi Robinson, may his memory be for a blessing, about how he handles conflict or difficult situations, and he told me a story. He was protesting the Vietnam War with the famous Buddhist teacher and activist, Thich Nhat Hanh. It was an intense scene – people in their face yelling and screaming, yet Thich Nhat Hanh stayed calm throughout the ordeal, never responding in kind, never even showing signs



Rabbi George

of stress. Afterward, Rabbi Michael asked him, "How do you stay so centered and calm under such stress?" Thich Nhat Hanh paused for a moment, smiled, and said, "I breathe."

Breathing in itself is not likely to solve the myriad problems we will face after Nov. 8th, but it just might be a way we can move more healthily through the post-election tension we are going to encounter. So let me share some Jewish teachings about the breath...



We read in *Bereshit* (Genesis) that God creates Adam by blowing the "breath of life" (*nishmat hayim*) into

his nostrils. The Psalmist writes, *Kol han'shamah, tehilyah*, "With every breath (we take) (we) praise God." So what about "the breath"? On the most basic level, breath is life. Take a breath and hold it... As your face reddens and your heart quickens, you quickly realize that without your breath you

*God is the source of our breath. . . God is the spring from which the nishmat hayyim flows.*

cannot exist; an awareness of our breath makes the moment-by-moment nature of our existence strikingly real. Simultaneous to our awareness of the miracle of breathing is awareness of the life force – (*nishmat hayyim*), and the source of that force, God. God is the source of our breath...God is the spring from which the *nishmat hayyim* flows. At this second level of awareness, the distinction of "breath," "soul," and "God" blurs. We recognize through our breath our place as *betzelem elohim*, creatures fashioned in the image of the Divine. So beyond physical necessity, there is a greater purpose to our breathing.

The breath is also physiologically calming,

especially when we breathe into our belly. When we are angry or upset we often go into a "fight or flight" response which is useful if you are going into battle but not very helpful as a response to the daily news! Focusing on our breath can help bring us back from this stressful edge and to a healthier and more balanced state of being.

Irritated by the negative messages of the campaign? Breathe. Upset and frightened by the ugly underbelly of American life exposed by the election? Breathe. Breathe, and with each breath remember that this low mark in our nation's history is not

*When we are angry or upset we often go into a "fight or flight" response which is useful if you are going into battle but not very helpful as a response to the daily news!*

a true reflection of who we are or who we can be. All that lives breathes, and in each breath there is hope that instead of bigotry and vitriol, the image of divinity will someday pervade Creation.

*Shalom,*  
Rabbi George

## Happy Holidays? Hold on Tight! (And Give From Your Heart!)

*[Author's Note: This piece was submitted to the editor on the due date, which happened to be the Monday before Election Day now past. Regardless of how that day's results tallied up, may this time from now until Inaugural Day be a period where we join together as a nation and consolidate our energies toward healing and positive future goals and achievements.]*

I want to continue from last month a discussion of Holy Days / Holidays.

I had noted that the Holy Days experienced in October tied many of us to our Jewish values, heritage and traditions in a powerful way. November then brought an American holiday, Thanksgiving, where Jewish and secular values came together, in peace and love, as we gathered in fellowship and gave thanks to God.

Now, December and January are just ahead, and for all of us, and particularly for some of us who are part of interfaith couples and families at CST, these months can be challenging, with non-stop Christmas and New Year's Day messages and jingles, ceremonies and events ahead. I was raised to take cover and shelter in place during this time period.

But wait - what about our partners who were not raised in



Ira Glasser, CST President

Jewish homes, and for whom the bells of Christmas do toll, recalling fond memories of their own beloved childhood traditions? Surely there is a way we can honor all of us during this holiday season?

Yes, surely, indeed! I believe that an open mind and an open heart can allow our own celebration of the miracles of *Hanukkah*, the Festival of Lights, to also leave plenty of room for our participation in the joy and meaning that our non-Jewish family and friends find in their traditional observances.

Christmas need not be a day of *religious* observance for those of us who identify ourselves as Jewish; it can be a day of bearing witness to those in our lives for whom the day does have a solemn and joyous meaning.

I think of how good it feels to me, for instance, around *Rosh Hashanah*, when non-Jewish friends take notice of my solemn, yet joyous observance. So, perhaps it feels good, then, to our Christian acquaintances,

friends, family, and even to strangers we encounter, when we take sincere notice of their "holy days." It is not a sacrilege for a Jew to sincerely wish someone a "Merry Christmas!"

And whatever our religious upbringing or background, January 1, 2017 is clearly going to be the start of a new year, living here in Sonoma County, California (the IRS helps to keep us focused on that, too). Don't many of us find ourselves happily celebrating the only *erev* event (how Jewish is that?) on the American calendar, where the celebration of the holiday really begins on the evening before the day?

Before I go on to close with a slightly different topic, let's look at our Jewish holiday that occurs this December for just a moment now. *Hanukkah* honors the rededication of the old temple when cleanup workers, fearing they had only enough lighting oil to burn for one day, actually lit lamps that lasted for eight days. A miracle!

Oil-cooked foods are therefore traditional for some of us, particularly potato pancakes, *latkes*, that for me, in my childhood, were the ultimate (miraculous-tasting) winter treat. I liked mine plain, with only applesauce on the side. I could keep up with two frying aunts working two pans for at least 10 or 15 minutes before I would have to retreat, stomachache materialized.

Now that I have firmly reached

the subject of food, let me thank those of you in our Shomrei Torah community who work so hard all year long, and then redouble your efforts starting at Thanksgiving and in the winter months, to help the needy among us to have food on the table.

In Deuteronomy 15:4, God says that "there shall be no needy among you," for God shall bless us with bounty sufficient for all. Yet, in 15:11, God also says that "there will never cease to be needy ones in your land, which is why I command you: open your hand to the poor and needy in your land."

So, the problem *Torah* presents seems to be a matter of uneven distribution, which is where we can all be of service. There are so many worthy local programs that are involved in this effort, along with various Jewish and secular agencies operating here and abroad, that if you open your hearts and hands, they will benefit in their good works for the hungry through your personal involvement and contributions. Thank you for giving this your consideration.

Now let's see, just thinking out loud here: what if I cooked up a batch of my own secret-recipe *latkes* and took a platter of them with me to that New Year's Eve party I was invited to attend? Hmmmm, I think that could work...

**B'Sholam,**  
**Ira**

## Legacy Circle Welcome Lacey and Dave Fichera

The Fichera Family affiliated with Congregation Shomrei Torah in 2009 because they value the opportunity to raise their children in an accepting Jewish Community with a robust religious school program, inspiring clergy and a diverse depth of programming. "From Shabbat services, to Lifelong Learning sessions, the congregational retreats, volunteer opportunities and social activities – Congregation Shomrei Torah feeds our souls and benefits our family intellectually, socially, spiritually and emotionally."

In making a planned gift to CST, the Ficheras realized that as leaders in the community, they are aware of the operational and fiscal requirements necessary to sustain CST into the future. They clearly want to do whatever they can to ensure that this occurs. Currently, Dave serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Lacey helps where she can.

Their gift is intended to be unrestricted and designed to be used where it is most needed at the time it is awarded. The Fichera's special hope for the future of Shomrei Torah is that the joy, spiritual connection and community they enjoy will be available for generations to come.

You, too, can join the Legacy Circle. Please contact the synagogue office for more information that costs nothing today and makes you eligible for special activities that will come your way each year as a Legacy Circle member at no charge to you.



## Board Update

**At its regular meeting on October 13th, the CST Board:**

- Debriefed about the exceptional High Holy Days services and experiences.
- Approved four new member families.
- Learned about the cleanup by the Fire Dept. of the hill behind CST.
- Discussed the impending refinance of our building mortgage through Exchange Bank.
- HR is working on our employee HR Handbook.
- Discussed signing up members for Amazon Smile (e-scrip).
- December 11th is the date for our annual Gelt-a-thon.

## The Caring Committee Is There for You

The Caring Committee expands the outreach of our clergy in performing the *mitzvah* of *Bikur Cholim*, visiting the sick. We make phone calls, hospital and home visits, and provide food after surgery or during serious illness. We also sponsor an annual brunch with Rabbi George for those who are bereaved, and deliver High Holy Day baskets with apples and honey and a *yizkor* candle to those who lost a loved one in the previous year.

All members of CST form a Caring Community. We invite everyone to help out occasionally. We welcome new members, but you don't need to officially join the committee to do acts of loving kindness.

Please let us know if you can, on occasion, provide a meal or offer a ride to services to someone who no longer drives. And don't forget to call the office to let us know if YOU are ever in need.

## Environmental Action Committee

### *Tip of the Month*

*Ecclesiastes - a time to be born, a time to die. . . a time to winterize.*

**Low cost ways to winterize your home now:**

- Clean your gutters
- Flush the water heater
- Change ceiling fans to clockwise direction
- Replace air filters in heating system
- Install draft guards under doors
- Install programmable thermostat
- Consider window insulation film

[www.bobvila.com/slideshow/11-ways-to-winterize-your-home-on-a-budget-10169#.WBzI93eZOEJ](http://www.bobvila.com/slideshow/11-ways-to-winterize-your-home-on-a-budget-10169#.WBzI93eZOEJ)





## Helping to Build our Community Welcome To:

**Tamar Landau and  
Roy Camarillo**  
2713 Canterbury Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405  
707-228-0303 Tamar  
615-417-9506 Roy  
Landrillo2@yahoo.com (Tamar)  
Hemmingway953@yahoo.com (Roy)

*Tamar is a stay-at-home mom and Roy works for Morpho Trust. They have two daughters: Noa is 16 and Miriam is 11. The family is returning to CST.*

**Jan Lees**  
2051 Schaeffer road  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
707-849-2512  
Petalumarower@gmail.com

*Jan is a social worker. She has a grown daughter, Natalie.*

## Staying in Touch with our Temple Family

### Directory Changes:

**Stephanie Brucker**  
yahsteff@yahoo.com

Like Congregation  
Shomrei Torah on   
 **facebook®**

## Congregation Shomrei Torah

2600 Bennett Valley Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**www.cstsr.org**

**707-578-5519**

(unless otherwise noted)

FAX 578-3967

### Office email

shomrei@cstsr.org

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
9:00 AM-12 Noon  
1:00-5:00 PM

### RABBI

George D. Gittleman  
rabbig@cstsr.org

### ASSOCIATE RABBI

Stephanie E. Kramer  
rabbikramer@cstsr.org

### OFFICE STAFF

**Rabbinic Assistant**  
Julie Caldwell  
ra@cstsr.org

### Temple Administrator/ Operations Manager

Chris Chang Weeks  
ccweeks@cstsr.org

### Senior Administrative Asst.

Denise Harrison  
denise@cstsr.org

### Youth and Music Coordinator

Malcolm McElheney  
youth@cstsr.org

### Website

Jay Peretz, Webmaster

### Maintenance Supervisor

Rich Sleeper

### Choir Director

Sonia Morse Tubridy  
soniaMT@cstsr.org

### Cantorial Soloist

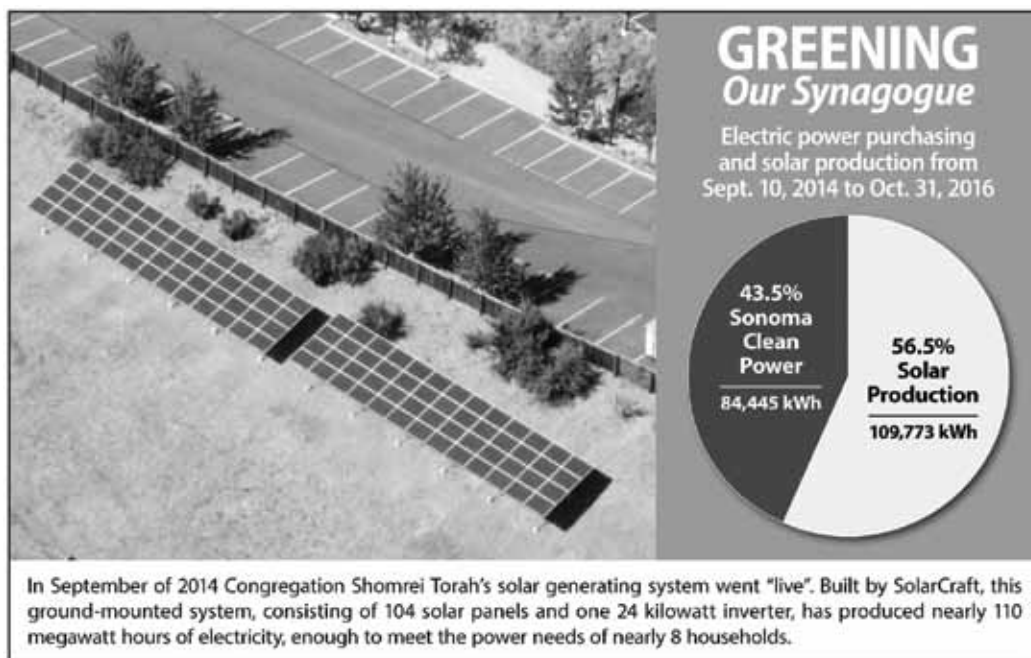
Erica Wisner  
ericaw@cstsr.org

### The VOICE

ccweeks@cstsr.org



Affiliated with the  
**UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM**





## You can advertise in *The Voice*...

Advertisements shall be limited to one-half page maximum size; advertisement positioning in *The Voice* will be on a rotating basis; the appearance and content of the advertisements shall be in good taste. Because this is a subjective assessment, final approval of any advertisement shall be at the discretion of the executive director, the Rabbi(s) and/or the editor of *The Voice*.

### *The Voice* Display Ad Rates

Annual Billing Amounts Effective 7/1/15

	Members	Non-Members
Business card:	\$265	\$330
Quarter-page:	\$580	\$725
Half-page:	\$1,190	\$1,490

Other advertising arrangements can be made by contacting the Executive Director. Ads and payment must be received in the temple office by the 5th of the month to start in the next month's issue.

For more information, call 707-578-5519.

**Have Faith!**  
Braces are only temporary...  
*The smile you achieve will last a lifetime!*



Proudly Supporting Local Community and Youth Programs  
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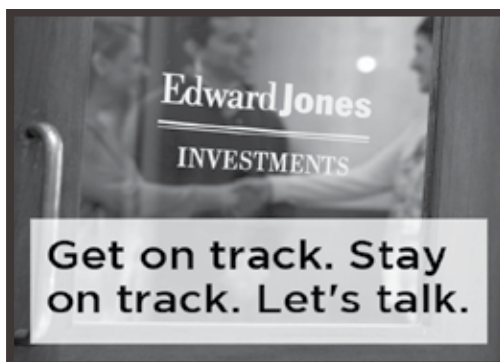
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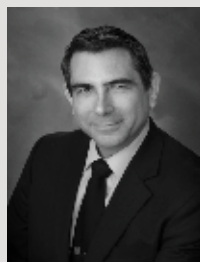


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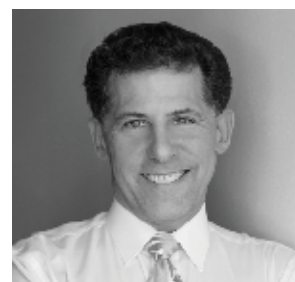
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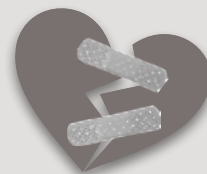
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## DECEMBER SERVICES

**Friday, December 2**

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service*

**Saturday, December 3**

Weekly Torah portion: *Toledot*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Rabbi Kramer*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

*Bat Mitzvah* of Maya Homicz 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**Friday, December 9**

6:15 pm - *Rabbi's Tisch*

with Rev. Edward Viljoen

**Saturday, December 10**

Weekly Torah portion: *Va-yetzay*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Penelope  
and Jay Hodes*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

*Bat Mitzvah* of Adriana Kornfein 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Friday, December 16**

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service*

**Saturday, December 17**

Weekly Torah portion: *Va-yishlach*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

*Adult B'nei Mitzvah* 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Friday, December 23**

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service*

**Saturday, December 24**

Hanukkah begins at sundown.

Weekly Torah portion: *Va-yeshev*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

**Friday, December 30**

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service*

**Saturday, December 31**

Weekly Torah portion: *Mi-ketz*

8:45 am - *Torah Study - lay lead*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

## JANUARY SERVICES

**Friday, January 6**

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service, Israeli dancing led by  
Malcolm McElheney following services*

**Saturday, January 7**

Weekly Torah portion: *Va-yigash*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

**Friday, January 13**

6:15 pm - *Rabbi's Tisch with Brian K. Kennedy*

**Saturday, January 14**

Weekly Torah portion: *Va-yechi*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Rabbi Meredith Cahn*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

*Bar Mitzvah* of Gordon Freedman 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Friday, January 20**

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service honoring 2nd & 3rd Grade*

**Saturday, January 21**

Weekly Torah portion: *Shomot*

8:45 am - *Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

*Bat Mitzvah* of Kyrach Baum, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

**Friday, January 27**

6:15 pm - *B'nai Israel joins CST Shabbat Service  
featuring music of Debbie Friedman*

**Saturday, January 28**

Weekly Torah portion: *Va-Era*

8:45 am - *Torah Study (off site) at B'nai Israel*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service (off site) at B'nai Israel*