



## BBQ, Family Fun at First CST Congregational Fair

Join us Sunday, May 18, from 4:00 – 6:30 PM for our first springtime Congregational Fair, Open House and Barbecue. This free event will include music, family-friendly activities and a jumpy house, an outdoor barbeque provided by the Men's Bagel Club, and a drawing for prizes. Here's your chance to learn about programs offered by the synagogue, committees you can join, and to see old friends and make new ones. There

will also be an open forum to discuss ideas for financing our remaining mortgage, and a short meeting to elect the Board of Directors and vote on the budget for next fiscal year.

Bring the family, have a nosh, and spend a springtime afternoon with your synagogue community. This is not a fundraiser -- the event is free to Shomrei Torah members and no RSVP is required. See you there!



## Rockin' Rabbi George

Chai Weekend highlights inside starting on page 10

## Ethical Choices At May Rabbis' Tisch

Friday May 9 – 6:15 PM

How we make ethical choices is the topic of the Rabbis' Tisch on May 9. Through a series of hypothetical scenarios and short discussions, the congregation will ask and answer questions about moral decisions and how Jewish traditions inform the ethical choices we make.

The Rabbis' Tisch is an alternative Erev Shabbat service offered on the second Friday of every month and features a delicious catered meal and exploration of topics central to Jewish life and tradition.

A donation of \$10 or more is requested to cover a portion of the cost of the meal. Please RSVP to Denise in the synagogue office.

*"...the congregation will ask and answer questions about moral decisions and how Jewish traditions inform the ethical choices we make."*

## Yom Ha'atzmaut Israel Independence Day Monday May 5

Join us in celebrating Israel's 66th birthday!

**4:00-6:00PM** – Viewing and discussion of the classic Israeli film about the chaotic early years after independence, "Salach Shabbati" starring Chayim Topol.

**6:00-7:30PM** – a free catered Israeli feast brought to us by Leira Satlof & Nature's Serving. Includes Israeli Dancing. Please RSVP to the synagogue office at 707-578-5519 or email [denise@shomreitorah.org](mailto:denise@shomreitorah.org).

Partially sponsored by the Jewish Community Federation and the Jewish Community Relations Council.



## HIGHLIGHTS

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## Board of Directors Election

At our first CST Congregational Fair on Sunday, May 18, you will have an opportunity to elect members of our new Board of Directors for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2014. There are four current Board members whose terms expire this year that are seeking to return, along with one new member. Retiring from the Board are past president Bruce Falstein, Charles Catlett, Deborah Cutler, Keith Boxerman, and Judith Richlin-Klonsky. These hard working volunteers have served our community tirelessly and deserve our thanks.

### Officers

**President** – Rachael Cutcher  
**VP-Finance** – Garry Goodman  
**Secretary** – Paula Duran

### Board of Directors

	Term Ends
Shelley Brott	2015
Paula Duran	2015
Garry Goodman	2015
Roy Sparrow	2015
Eli Weinzev	2015
Jessica Wichman	2015

### Returning Directors

	Term Ends
Susan Bailyn	2016
Rachael Cutcher	2016
Reed Ferrick	2016
Shirley Liberman	2016

### New Board Nominees

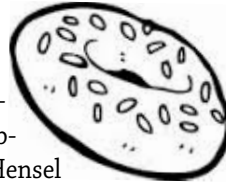
	Term Ends
Ricki Nickel	2016

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## Bagel Club on a Roll

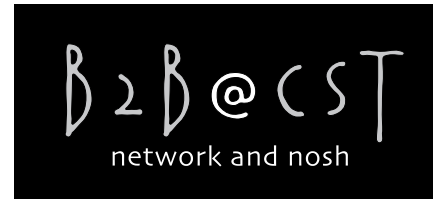
*Sunday May 4 - 9:00 AM*

On April 6, a small but highly impressed contingent of Bagel Clubbers heard Thea Hensel talk about the Southeast Greenway Campaign. This is a community-based group that may be about to succeed in transforming the two mile segment of proposed Highway 12 extension in Bennett Valley into a multi-faceted recreational asset that includes hiking and biking trails, community gardens, and habitat restoration.



### A Train is Coming!

On May 4 we will learn more about the progress on the SMART Train, from Matt Stevens of that organization. Learning what it requires to build a project like this, and what changes to our area may occur, will no doubt prove interesting. Please join us and contact CSTBagelmen@gmail.com, or call the CST office to reserve your gourmet breakfast. A donation of \$7 is requested. Ladies are welcome also.



## Business To Business

Connecting with others in business at CST

*Tuesday May 13 - 7:30 AM*

Join us for the next Business to Business meeting on Tuesday, May 13, at 7:30 AM. First-timers are welcome.

Ellen van der Berg presented at the March meeting about her business, nexus Consulting. Her clients include individuals and small businesses and her focus is to help them redefine what their own business goals are based on professional and personal values. She feels that your business should serve your life. Ellen helps people create their vision and then achieve it. She can address high-level marketing strategies, financial statement assistance and management issues. The first "discovery" session is free. Her background as a certified financial planner and her education in Organizational Development plays strongly in her consulting. Ellen's father's notebook, written while he was hiding from the Nazis, made her realize people needed vision and purpose in their lives and careers.

## Rosh Chodesh

Shomrei Torah women: Please join us for our monthly gatherings for sisterhood, learning, contemplation, and fun. The meetings are held at Shomrei Torah, classroom Bet, between 7 and 9 PM. All are welcome, whether you've come before or not.

**Sat, May 3**—Looking ahead to Mother's Day, we will study feminine wisdom from the Talmud and spiritual texts. Judith will facilitate.

**Sat, June 7**—Having just celebrated Shavuot, we will study teachings related to the Book of Ruth: paragon of loyalty, who took on Judaism by choice, and foremother of King David. Alissa will facilitate.

For more info, please contact the CST office.



## Rabbi George and Rev. Edward Viljoen

Tuesdays, May 13, 20 and 27

6:30 to 8:30 PM

Center for Spiritual Living Santa Rosa  
2075 Occidental Road

Connection, communication and relationship have everything to do with being vulnerable. This course explores what vulnerability is and what it isn't, what it means to tell the truth with kindness and why vulnerability is important in spiritual life.

Life is all about connection and relationship. For a community to be meaningful and successful, people in it need to feel connected to each other in an authentic and open way. Connection is the key, not only to the integrity of a spiritual community, but to individual relationships as well. Connecting is part of being human.

How, then, do we connect? How can meaningful communication be facilitated? Asking how we do that is a vital question that leads to understanding an important secret in life: the role that being vulnerable plays.

The registration fee for this class is \$60. Online registration will end Sunday, May 11, at 5 pm at <http://steppingstones-books-and-gifts.myshopify.com/collections/classes/products/the-power-of-vulnerability>. Registration will be available at the door if there is space available.

*"For a community to  
be meaningful and  
successful, people  
in it need to feel  
connected to each  
other in an authentic  
and open way."*

## Join us at the Congregational Fair!

*Sunday, May 18*  
**Outdoor Barbeque,  
Kid's Activities  
and more!**

## Women's Retreat

October 24-26

Save the date for our biennial Shomrei Torah Women's Retreat. Please join us for a weekend of community, music, spiritual exploration and relaxation! This year our weekend retreat will be held at the beautiful Mountain Home Ranch in nearby Calistoga on October 24-26, 2014. The ranch sits on 340 acres and has 5 miles of hiking trails on the property. If you don't feel like driving once you arrive, you will have everything on site that you could want. If a spa day is what you have in mind, then the mud baths of Calistoga are only about 15 minutes away. Mark your calendars so you won't miss this wonderful weekend retreat. More details are forthcoming, but the change in venue means a lower price point and a closer location.



## Shabbat Services Highlighting the Jewish Free Clinic

Friday, June 20— 6:15 pm

Join us at Shomrei Torah Shabbat services on Friday night the 20th of June. Celebrate the Spirit of Tzedakah and the Joy of Tikkun Olam with the Jewish Community Free Clinic.

This is part of various events in the Jewish community on the weekend of June 20-22 highlighting the Jewish Community Free Clinic (JCFC). You'll be able to learn all about the great work of the JCFC, which provides free healthcare to the uninsured right here in Sonoma County.

To learn more about the JCFC, visit [www.jewishfreeclinic.org](http://www.jewishfreeclinic.org).

## Drought Cancels Camping Trip

Friday, June 20— 6:15 pm

Sadly, this year's CST camping trip planned for June 13-15, 2014 has had to be cancelled after Samuel P. Taylor State Park, our camping location, was forced to suspend water to all camping sites due to California's State Drought Emergency. Thank you to all who helped organize this year's event and those families who were planning to attend. We are hopeful we can coordinate a 2015 Camping Trip next year!

Author Joshua Safran

## A Bright Soul Ablaze after a Dark Childhood

*Sunday June 29 – 3:30 PM*

Sponsored by the CST Social Action Committee, hear Joshua Safran, author of “Free Spirit: Growing Up on the Road and Off the Grid,” discuss the horrors and humor of a rootless childhood of wild adventures with a utopian mother victimized by violent abuse. Against all odds, Safran is now an attorney, Orthodox Jew, husband and father. Among the rave reviews, Gulf Stream Lit Mag wrote, “Poetic, and compelling...Safran offers up the wounds of a flower child, and every frayed petal is astonishingly beautiful.” Book signing to follow.

Safran is featured in the award-winning 2011 film “Crime After Crime” (that was shown in the Social Action’s documentary series last year) that portrays the years-long effort to free spousal abuse victim Debbie Peagler from prison. His work for victims of domestic violence and other forms of abuse is recognized nationwide.

Safran’s story will launch discussion by an expert panel of county leaders: Wes Winter, Executive Director, Family Justice Center Sonoma County; Gloria Eurotas, D.A.’s Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Unit; Detective Sergeant Ruben Martinez, Sheriff’s Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Unit; and Dawn Silvera, Shelter Manager, YWCA Sonoma County.

## Social Activist Rabbi Michael Lerner to Keynote Rabbi Robinson Service

*Friday August 8 – 6:15 PM*

The Oakland-based Rabbi Michael Lerner was an activist in the Free Speech Movement, Chair of the Berkeley chapter of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), roommates with Jerry Rubin, and marched with him and Tom Hayden at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968. He was later indicted as one of the Seattle 7 for his anti-Vietnam war work. He received the Martin Luther King Jr./Mahatma Gandhi Award from Morehouse College in Atlanta for his life of social activism and peace work. In 1995, Rabbi Lerner founded his own Congregation, Beyt Tikkun, in Berkeley. His books include “The Left Hand of God: Healing America’s Political and Spiritual Crisis.”




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## RABBI’S MESSAGE

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### Character

The Bible is filled with colorful personalities. We have the cynical Sarah, the hospitable Abraham, the mischievous Rebecca and the wishy-washy King Ahashuarus.

All of us have our favorite characters that are often the ones we most closely identify with or the ones we wish we could be like. We also have characters that we simply don’t agree with and therefore have little respect for.

I think that the vivid nature of character development found within the Bible is the single most relevant lesson for today.



We can still learn so much from each of the players and the way they interact with the people around them. We can cheer on our favorite victors or cringe at the brutality of some of our most adorned leaders like King David. But, still, we struggle with the same struggles as they did.

How can we treat our children fairly and justly? This question

is often answered with birthrights and blessings, but, today, it translates into the way we interact with our children and loved ones on a daily basis. How do we deal with sorrow and true despair? Many stories in the Bible focus on relevant timeless issues, like mourning a loved one or the gut-wrenching struggle for fertility.

But the characters that I find most appalling are the ones with little backbone, the ones that play mischievous roles to get what they want, and the ones with indirect personalities. I always like to know where I stand with someone. If there is a disagreement, I prefer to have both parties to discuss their differences in the open and

have a chance to clear the air. I constantly want Rebecca to have an outright argument with Isaac over the birthright rather than concocting a plan to have Jacob steal what is rightfully Esau’s.

We can learn so much about how to behave from our ancestors, through both positive and negative examples, while exploring the stories of our faith. Take a whirl at learning a little bit of text each day by signing up for ten minutes of Torah. Every week, you can receive a brief piece of Torah delivered straight to your inbox. Check it out at <http://www.reformjudaism.org/sign-receive-ten-minutes-torah>.

**B’shalom,  
Rabbi Kramer**



## CST Membership Fair and Open House

We're trying something new this year. The bylaws of Shomrei Torah require us to hold an annual meeting of the membership. The meeting is open to all our member households. We review the annual budget and approve the board of directors. Important business, yes, but I'll be honest, these meetings can be a little dry and the number of members who participate is dwindling. So, this year we're mixing things up. Instead of an annual "meeting," we're hosting an open house and membership fair complete with a FREE barbecue dinner hosted by our very own Men's Bagel Club. The event is intended to bring all of our members together – a true intergenerational gathering – for an afternoon of schmoozing, learning, and fun. And of course, it wouldn't be a Jewish event without sharing a meal together. This gathering is family friendly with children's activities including a jump house, face painting, and craft projects. Each of our committees will have interactive displays for you to learn more about what they do and how you can get involved



*"This gathering is family friendly with children's activities including a jump house, face painting, and craft projects."*

should you be moved to do so. The event begins at 4:00 PM and we'll all gather in the sanctuary for a brief welcome and take care of a little business required by the bylaws. There will be plenty of time to view the displays and visit with the other members before dinner is served. With your attendance and participation this new event will be a huge success!

B'shalom,  
Rachael

**Thank you** for all the outpourings of love and support after the loss of Dennis Collins - father/father-in-law/grandfather.

*The Gittleman Family*

## LEGACY NEWS

### Meet Legacy Circle Member Lee Spitzer



Lee Spitzer joined Congregation Shomrei Torah in 2004. He lives 400+ miles away from his family and, through the synagogue, he has developed an extended and supportive synagogue family. For example, Lee says that there are a number of people he can call who will be willing to give him a ride to services each Friday night.

Another valuable quality of synagogue membership for Lee is the necessary counsel he receives from the rabbis and other clergy affiliated with CST.

Furthermore, Lee reports that the single most important aspect of CST is the group of people he can be sure will be in attendance regularly on Saturday mornings for Torah Study and services. He is very appreciative of all these values he gains from his membership.

The factors that helped Lee make the decision to make a "planned" gift to CST had been considered by him long before the Legacy Circle was created. In fact he already had written in his living will that he wished some of his monies go to the synagogue. What actually got him to join the Legacy Circle was hearing that the congregation needed more people to join the Legacy Circle in order to receive the grant for 2012.

Lee would like his donation to go to the Bar and Bat Mitzvah preparation costs. With pride, he said that he had his Bar Mitzvah in 2008 at the age of 34. He enjoys B'not Mitzvah services the best of all synagogue services. He would like to help children as much as possible with this portion of their Jewish education.

His special hope is that CST will continue to serve the community as wonderfully as it has all these years. Lee is happy at CST and his wish is to see this valuable institution continue for many years to come.



## Environmental Action Committee

### Tip of the Month

One person's candle is a light for many.  
~ The Talmud

**Candles! Could some be bad for your health, releasing toxins and causing pollution in your home?**



Yes, certain cheap imports made from paraffin wax, a by-product of the petroleum industry, release a range of harmful chemicals. Also, many scented varieties used in aromatherapy contain lead-core wicks which can also be dangerous.

Are there safe alternatives that are free of toxins? Of course!

- 100 percent beeswax candles with cotton wicks
- Soy candles that burn clean with no harmful fumes
- Others made from 100 percent vegetable-based waxes

[www.anapsid.org/cnd/mcs/candles.html](http://www.anapsid.org/cnd/mcs/candles.html)

[www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/08/21/candles.air.pollution/index.html?eref=rss\\_health](http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/08/21/candles.air.pollution/index.html?eref=rss_health)

[www.nyrnaturalnews.com/article/are-your-candles-hiding-a-toxic-secret/](http://www.nyrnaturalnews.com/article/are-your-candles-hiding-a-toxic-secret/)

## JCC Chaverim News

It's been a great year for Chaverim and soon it will come to an end, for this year. Thanks to Congregation Shomrei Torah for its participation and support in this community program and for the use of its facilities. Our collaboration is a model for all Jewish communities. Please check out the teen links on our website at [jccsoco.org](http://jccsoco.org) for Fall 2014 registration information.

Chaverim welcomes Jewish teens affiliated and unaffiliated with synagogues in Sonoma County. Please pass on the link to Jewish families you think may be interested or not currently involved. We will be piloting a "Virtual Online" Chaverim program for students who would love to participate but live too far away to attend our program. We are looking for 8 or 10 students who fit this description to invite to this program. Please send these folks our way.

*"We will be piloting a  
"Virtual Online" Chaverim  
program for students who  
would love to participate  
but live too far away to  
attend our program."*

Please spread the word that Camp Chai ([www.jccsoco.org/camp/about-camp-chai/](http://www.jccsoco.org/camp/about-camp-chai/)) meets at Finley Park during the last 2 weeks of June. We welcome all children from all communities.

**Thanks and Shalom.**  
**Rick Concoff, JCCSOCO Chaverim Teen Director**  
707-8233916  
[concoff@yahoo.com](mailto:concoff@yahoo.com)



## Passover College Care Packages

Delicious Shomrei Torah Cares packages went out last month to help our college students celebrate Passover. Students received homemade matzah toffee, along with a wind-up matzah ball, a flying frog, and assorted other treats, plus a personal note from our rabbis. Special thanks go out to Shomrei Torah member Ricki Nickel for volunteering to bake enough toffee for all!

All currently participating families will need to update their students' addresses in the fall. Parents of students entering college Fall 2014 should be on the lookout for announcements, starting in August, requesting your students' campus addresses.

Melissa Kort and Nancy Ferrick

## SCTribe

Mark your calendars for this month's Sonoma County Tribe's events! Our May Shabbat dinner is on May 9th at 6:30 PM. RSVP for the address, and don't forget to bring a vegetarian dish to share.

On May 18th we celebrate Lag B'Omer with a BBQ and bonfire! Stay tuned for more details.

For any questions, comments, or RSVPs contact the Tribe at [sonomacountytribe@gmail.com](mailto:sonomacountytribe@gmail.com)

## Environmental Action Committee

### Santa Rosa Creek Cleanup

On March 23rd, forty CST adults and children ventured into the Prince Memorial Greenway of Santa Rosa Creek for a clean-up in the spirit of tikkun olam. The weather cooperated and as Alisatair Bleifuss, coordinator of the Creek Stewardship Program, remarked, "That was a really strong effort and people were having such fun! I had all I could do to get some of your crew to turn around [down by the creek] so that we could get to hauling away all this stuff up here. We don't see this much [retrieved trash] very often." Adding to the fun this year was a competition for the most unusual items retrieved from the creek. The winners were Tina Geffner, Bruce Berkowitz, Samantha Patton and Sophie Flores.



Searching the creek



Cleaning the creek



A sampling of the trash retrieved

## Come to Camp Chai with Director Rick Concoff!

Session I: June 16-20 ★ Session II: June 23-27

Where kids create positive identities, friendships & memories with a focus on mindfulness, inclusion, and a progressive approach to living an ethical life.

*recreational swim • camp sing-alongs • arts and crafts • storytelling  
folk dance • traditional outdoor play*



For campers entering K - 9<sup>th</sup> grade  
Monday - Friday, 9 am - 3 pm  
Meets at the large gazebo area at  
Finley Community Park  
2060 West College Avenue, SR



Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County  
To register and for more information:  
707/528-2549 | [www.jccsoco.org](http://www.jccsoco.org)



## Tot Shabbat

*Saturday May 17 – 9:30 AM*

### Dear Families,

Hope everyone had a joyous Passover. We continue to give thanks to G-d for the rain. Which increases our joy of Adar and deepens our thankfulness to G-d for providing us with what we need, so we may continue to live.



Special, special love and thanks to Lacey Fichera and her mother, Galya, who prepared and provided most of the food at our February Friday Night Tot Shabbat potluck. Thank you to Lacey, for preparing our art activity. Thank you to Rabbi Kramer for arranging Julie Silver, an amazing singer and guitar player, who led us in prayer and song as part of our February program.

**Blessings & Love,  
Tot Shabbat Lauren**

### Dear STaRS Parents,

I can't believe we are at the end of the school year.

This year has been full of such wonderful programs and exciting class projects. I am really looking forward to the Mitzvah Mall, tallit workshop and wrapping up for summer.



Please take advantage of the early bird discount of \$50 per student for registering for STaRS before June 1, 2014.

You should have received a registration packet via email. There is no online registration this year. Remember your registration process is not complete without the \$200 deposit turned into the office.

**B'shalom,  
Rabbi Kramer**

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met on February 13, 2014 and took the following actions:

- **Approved an amendment to the suggested donation for the Rabbis' Tisches to cover actual costs**
- **Authorized expenditure of up to \$6,000 to have an external review of the temple's internal financial control procedures conducted. This is not a full audit but will help clarify areas that work well and those that may need adjustment.**
- **Approved a slate of nominees for the congregation's Board of Directors**
- **Approved 3 new families for membership**



## Bat Mitzvah

**Mary Ritchie**

*May 3, 2014 – Iyar 3, 5774*

Join us in celebration as our daughter, Mary, becomes a Bat Mitzvah on May 3, 2014.

**Ray and Devorah Ritchie**

## Bar Mitzvah

**Cooper Plattus**

*May 17, 2014 – Iyar 17, 5774*

Please join us in celebration as Cooper is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Kiddush luncheon to follow.

**Perry and Jeanne Plattus**



## Bar Mitzvah

**Nadav Wichmann**

*May 24, 2014 – Iyar 24, 5774*

Please join us in celebration as our son, Nadav Benjamin, becomes a Bar Mitzvah on May 24, 2014. Oneg and music to follow.

**Jessica and Efraim Wichmann**

## Babies & Bagels

*Sunday May 18 – 10:30 AM*

Do you have a baby? Do you like bagels? If you answered yes to these questions then this group is for you! Join us for a light nosh and some refreshing adult conversation, while you watch your child/children interact and play with others in their age group. Come for the bagels, stay for the community! Join us for the next Babies and Bagels Sunday May 18, 2014 at 10:30am (location TBD). Please contact the CST office for more information. We would love to see you there !



## Scenes From CST Events



EAC Electricity Forum: Rick Reisman, Joe Como (PG&E), Bill Skoonberg, Rabbi George



Purim Shpiel:  
Cantor David, Rabbi Kramer and players



Social Action Committee: Sonoma County Sheriff Steve Freitas

### **RABBI**

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1:00–5:00 PM

[www.shomreitorah.org](http://www.shomreitorah.org)

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2600 Bennett Valley Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
707-578-5519



Affiliated with the

**UNION FOR  
REFORM JUDAISM**

## Rabbi George's Friday Evening Remarks

Just inside the front door of our synagogue, you all passed a plaque, with a verse from Exodus: "V'asu li mikdash v'shchanti b'tocham/Make me a sanctuary that I may dwell amongst you." This was God's commandment to the Israelites to make the mishkan, the first synagogue.

I'm reminded of this verse now because for most of the past 18 years we've been builders together, not just of this building but more importantly of a community, a k'hilah k'dosha.

Note that the verse doesn't say, build me a sanctuary and I will dwell in it - v'shchanti bo - but rather, build me a sanctuary and I will dwell amongst you!

(Thank you to Margo Miller for this insight!)

God does not dwell in this building or in any other of the structures we have created to support our community; they are just means to an end. And, God doesn't dwell in me any more than God dwells in you. The purpose of the whole enterprise, everything we have worked so hard for, these past 18 years, has been that God would dwell amongst us, that WE would bring God down to earth as it were, and become the hands and feet of The Holy One ourselves.

This is what it means to be a k'hilah k'dosha, a holy community, and this is the force behind the commandment l'taken haolam, to repair the world. To build a k'hilah k'dosha --this was my dream when I set out on the path to become a rabbi 25 years ago, and together we've made that dream a reality.

Those that came before me - great lay leaders and exceptional rabbinic leadership, especially in Rabbi Michael - left a very strong foundation, and year by year we added to it, nurturing our community, the place where we can make God manifest in myriad ways: in our prayers, study, commitment to social justice, in our celebrations, in our care for each other...

*"V'asu li mikdash v'shchanti b'tocham/Make me a sanctuary that I may dwell amongst you."*

It's holy work and I am so grateful to have shared it with you these past 18 years. In addition to Laura, Levi and Sophie, you are my beloved and I am the luckiest rabbi in the world. Hazak, hazak v'nithazek/May we go from strength to strength!

B'shalom,  
Rabbi George



Chai Weekend Organizer Marlene Stein, President Rachael Cutcher, and Rabbi George



Leira Satlof and Rabbi George performing



Internationally acclaimed composer/pianist Nolan Gasser performs at the Chai Ball



Marcia Gladstone and Jeanne Plattus in front of the Religious School mural

## Dear Shomrei Torah family,

Thanks so much for the lovely outpouring of appreciation during the Chai Celebration. My heart is full of gratitude for who we are and what we have accomplished together.

*May we go from strength to strength...*

RG



Tribute Book preparers: Marcia Pluznick-Marrin, Nancy Ferrick, Sue Lewis, and Marcia Gladstone



Susie Miller and Rabbi George at the Religious School Chai Celebration

## It takes a Village (or a shtetl?) !!!

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make our CHAI WEEKEND honoring RABBI GEORGE'S 18 years at Shomrei Torah a huge success!

**Special thanks** to Patty Foss, Denise Harrison, Rich Sleeper and Mark Travis, Cantor David Frommer- your energy is unsurpassed! Todah Rabah to Rabbi Stephanie Kramer for her assistance with services and the Religious School participation

**Event Chairpersons:** Lisa Ehrlich and John DeAguiar, Marlene and Martin Stein, Jill and Stefan Zechowky

Perry Angle  
Sheryl Angle  
Susan Bailyn  
Ben Benson  
Roberta Berg  
Celine Berman  
Dave Berman  
John Bloom  
Rachel Blum  
Dan Bornstein  
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We hope we haven't omitted anyone but if so, please accept our apologies.



# CHAI HOPES

## Donation Pledge Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be used for any CHAI HOPES items.

### PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD:

- ☐ I'm enclosing a check. (Please make payable to CST.)
- ☐ Charge my card on file.
- ☐ Use this credit card:

VISA/MASTERCARD Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you.



CONGREGATION  
SHOMREI TORAH  
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# CHAI HOPES

**CHAI HOPE donations will directly fund the growing needs of our congregation.**

	ITEM	(MULTIPLES OF CHAI*)	# AVAILABLE
1	Sanctuary Sound System Upgrade	\$3,600	Six
2	Shalom Hall Lounge Seating	\$1,800	Four
3	Outdoor Chapel	\$1,800	Two
4	Tisch	\$ 720	Limitless
5	Family Camp Climbing Rock Wall	\$ 720	One
6	Family Camp Sponsorship	\$ 540	Limitless
7	Family Camp Entertainment	\$ 540	One
8	Religious School Reading Corner	\$ 360	One
9	Office Equipment & Supplies Fund	\$ 288	Limitless
10	Family Camp Art Supplies	\$ 288	One
11	Oneg	\$ 180	Limitless
12	Playground Equipment Fund	\$ 144	Limitless
13	Landscape Fund	\$ 144	Limitless
14	Religious School Supplies Fund	\$ 72	Limitless
15	Caring Committee Fund	\$ 72	Limitless
16	High Holiday Prayer Book Fund	\$ 54	Limitless
17	First Aid Training Fund	\$ 54	Limitless
18	College Care Fund	\$ 54	Limitless

## PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR DONATION PLEDGES

*\*CHAI is the Hebrew word for the number 18 and, because it is also the word for "life", carries great symbolic meaning.*

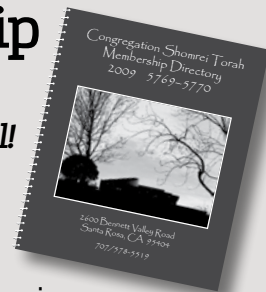


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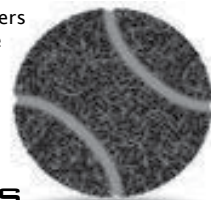
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## MAY SERVICES

### Friday, May 2

6:15 pm

*Shabbat Service*

*K & 1st Grade Family Shabbat*

### Saturday, May 3

Weekly Torah portion: Emor, Lev. 21:1–24:23

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am

*Bat Mitzvah of Mary Ritchie*

### Friday, May 9

6:15 pm - *Rabbi's Tisch*

### Saturday, May 10

Weekly Torah portion: B'har, Lev. 25:1–26:2

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Penelope and Jay Hodes*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

### Friday, May 16

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service*

### Saturday, May 17

Weekly Torah portion: B'chukotai, Lev. 26:3–27:34

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

9:30 am - *Tot Shabbat*

10:30 am

*Bar Mitzvah of Cooper Plattus*

### Friday, May 23

6:15 pm - *Shabbat Service*

*Potluck Oneg Shabbat*

### Saturday, May 24

Weekly Torah portion: B'midbar, Num. 1:1–4:20

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbini Pastor Judith Goleman*

10:30 am

*Bar Mitzvah of Nadav Wichmann*

### Friday, May 30

7:30 pm - *Shabbat Service*

### Saturday, May 31

Weekly Torah portion: Naso, Num. 4:21–7:89

8:45 am

*Torah Study led by Rabbi George*

10:30 am - *Shabbat Service*

See our latest calendar at [www.shomreitorah.org/calendar](http://www.shomreitorah.org/calendar)

## THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONGREGATION

- To worship God in accordance with the beliefs and teachings of Reform Judaism.
- To cultivate and nurture in ourselves and our children a love and understanding of Jewish heritage.
- To develop a sensitive, caring and supportive congregational community where all are welcome and included.
- To act with responsibility and compassion in our community.
- To support the principles of equality, freedom and shalom among all peoples.