

KEREN OR

(BEAM OF LIGHT)



Esther Tennenhouse

Or Shalom Synagogue is a Jewish spiritual community affiliated with
ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal.

We are creative, egalitarian, traditional and participatory.

For more information about Or Shalom, see our web page www.orshalom.ca
or call the Or Shalom Office 604-872-1614.

From the Rabbi

Rabbi Hannah Dresner

Dear Holy Community,

There is much I will miss about our gatherings at the JCC over the Yamim Noraim. Perhaps most of all is the scene depicted: our greetings as we find our seats on Erev Yom Kippur, and as we come forward to light candles while our musicians play so evocatively. I love that informal half-hour of hand-shakes and hugs, of sharing something brief but seminal of the year past and blessings for the season. These interactions have enriched me, helped me to find my place amongst you and set the stage for my capacity to speak with you during my Erev Yom Kippur homily – experiencing real connection with hundreds of individuals I care about. I know that you, too, will miss these meaningful exchanges. Such is life at the beginning of 5781.

We will decorate the Bayit for the holidays and you may find it sweet to see the davening emanating from our sanctuary. But most of us will be at home, watching, and it is this phenomenon that I would like to speak to. Let's not be spectators.



We have a term -- Mikdash M'at -- "small sanctuary," traditionally used to refer to synagogues, houses of study, our homes, or ourselves, body and soul. Even more than our emotional investment in returning to the Bayit at 10th and Fraser for High Holiday virtual prayer in our charming, resonant synagogue, I urge our community to invest in creating the space we will actually inhabit, the place we'll be sitting in our own living rooms or kitchens or gardens, our Mikdash M'at of this year.

We could show up at 10AM in pajamas, coffee cup in hand. We've become so causal during COVID. But let's dress for the Birthday of the World and for the Day of At-One-ment – festive and colourful on Rosh Hashanah; in white, as we always do, on Yom Kippur.

Let's decide where to set our computers and prepare that area, rendering it pristine, putting flowers in a vase, laying out our tallis in readiness, creating a display of symbolic or resonant objects. For Yizkor, let's have photographs of our loved ones at hand. Let's take advantage of being in personal spaces where we are free to surround ourselves with talismans that are meaningful to us but that we'd probably not pack up and bring to the JCC.

Let's sing out the chants, niggunim, and familiar liturgical melodies with more abandon than we might in polite company. Let's bring the music and our kavanah into our bodies more expressively than we might when confined to pristinely laid out rows of chairs. In other words, let's create conducive space for participating in services this year. Let's take advantage of this strange opportunity to create quirky, individualized sanctuaries that support and enhance our experience of virtual Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

In balance, Or Shalom will offer three opportunities to gather in person at the water's edge in Olympic Village on the first day of Rosh Hashanah (3PM, 4PM or 5PM, by registration). There, we will engage in the poignant ritual of casting our sins, our excess, even our blessings upon the water, and we'll have an opportunity to hear the Shofar blown from the centre of the canoe bridge set above and away, out over the water. Even if you have never participated in Tashlich before, this year it is a central aspect of our communal worship. I won't be able to shake your hand or give a hug, but I look forward to smiling at you in person, setting my hand over my heart and offering you a little bow in greeting, to honour your presence in my life and in community.

Shana tova u-metuka,
Rabbi Hannah

Message from the Co-Chairs

Martin Gotfrit & David Kauffman

The cycle of rituals and celebrations. The comfort in acknowledging moments of each day, of each week, month and of yet another journey around the sun. We bring the year to a close through fasting, confession and prayer. The days are written and sealed. We begin the cycle anew.

Perhaps for the first time in our lives, these holy days, usually filled with familiar faces and people we only see once a year, with family feasts and hours of singing, will now be spent in front of a screen. The sacred space we co-created in the big hall is now one we must imagine.

For the past months we have wrestled with how to keep our precious Or Shalom from faltering under the weight of this pandemic. We are heartened by the efforts of our members who are reaching out in acts of kindness and giving and who are making the most out of virtual services. We are grateful to our staff who have adapted to this strange new world and somehow manage to keep the workings of Or Shalom going. We are humbled by our community's generosity.

We forge ahead. We continually look for better ways to be connected within the confines of provincial health regulations and the advice of our own COVID Advisory Group. Our Housing Task Force moves forward on renovation plans and our inspiring teachers plan for exciting courses this fall and next spring. Our wonderful spiritual leader continues to provide us with wisdom and solace as we add a world-wide contagion to all of life's tolls.

It's not easy for any of us. And sometimes we get tired and resigned. But the collective vision and promise of Or Shalom renews our spirit and we look forward to 5781.

Annual Campaign Successful in Many Ways

Ros Kunin, Chair, Strategic Financial Planning Committee

Or Shalomniks, you are all wonderful!

At a time of great challenge and uncertainty (health wise, socially, and certainly financially), you came through with flags flying and bells ringing.

You know that Or Shalom needs our campaign funds to survive financially; and this year we have the added costs of operating virtually. You also obviously recognize the value of Or Shalom in our lives, especially when the world around us becomes a little shakier.

You stepped forward, dug deep, and made this campaign a record in the ten years we have been campaigning. We have collected \$160,000, well above the ambitious target we set even before the pandemic hit. Also much appreciated is the input you provided on how Or Shalom is operating and how we might make it even better in the future.

Thank you so much to our 29 dedicated canvassers without whom the campaign could not happen. A special todah rabah to Jaydeen Williams Rabinovitch, who provided staff support, and to Linda Peritz who stepped in to fill an urgent role. My fellow Strategic Financial Planning Committee members know how vital they are.

To all our donors of valuable input and generous donations, we can't thank you enough. Have a wonderful, safe, healthy and happy 5781

Somewhere I Do Belong

There is a place I do belong
 I have been belonging there a long time
 It has been 25 years since I stood in joy beside my beloved Zelik and married him there
 It has been 6 years since I stood in sorrow remembering my mother on her first Yahrzeit there
 There is a place we do belong
 where our prayers and tears and laughter and wisdom still fill its sacred space

What must we do 'til we return
 I ask her
 What will become of us and you
 You are the place where we belonged

There is a place you do belong
 It is right here
 she answers
 And because I love you and you love each other
 you must not enter together here yet
 Not in the old way not yet
 In a new way you must hold me and each other up
 Be with your heart and each others' hearts
 as you wait return
 And return will be

There is a plague fallen upon us
 But listen
 Outside The Place you come to pray together
 there is a tree
 This Spring was an unexpected abundant blooming
 The tree tells us that fresh insistent flowering will come
 The place we do belong is singing a new song
 and its notes are the yearnings that our hearts are singing

I still hold all your prayers
 she whispers in the dreams of my night
 I shine my Everlasting Light out my windows so let it reach you
 Remember what was sweet between us and hold it close now
 Our holy connections may not ever be taken away
 They kindle each time you remember them
 Let yourself reach into your heart then reach into my light and let me hold you
 that you live strong in Believe
 There is a place you do belong
 I am because of you

There is a place we do belong
 May we hold her close and keep her safe
 May we hold her Light and her Ark and her Torah secure 'til our return
 May the love we hold for each other and our coming together make us all bright

Open your hearts
 She Or Shalom Peace Light calls
 So that I am in you and you in me

This is the place we do belong
 Together

With Blessings and Love,
 Dael Adams Segal 6 Av 5780

Miracles, and How to Create Them

By Alexis Kellum-Creer

Amid the upheavals surrounding us of late, I've found it helpful to meditate on the transformative potential of love to create Miracles.

Love is instantly recognizable when it appears in the familiar, welcome shapes of joy, comfort, and fulfillment experienced by ourselves and those closest to us during the best of times. But in times of hardship, when we and those closest to us are exposed to disease, injustice, and fear, although the love is still there, it feels choked off, stoppered. As a result, our manifestations of love can then take on the twisted forms of pain, suffering, and anxiety as we struggle - or watch our loved ones struggle - through difficulties.

How do we transform these fears and anxieties into positive action? How can we restore a misshapen love to its free-flowing and all-powerful form? And how can we unearth Miracles in an unfamiliar landscape?

For inspiration, I turned to an idea I first encountered in Or Shalom's Exploring Judaism class - something that was to form the bedrock of my evolving faith.

The Exploring Judaism class, which I began attending in late 2017, offered an inquisitive and interrogatory journey through various aspects of Judaism. Rabbi Hannah encouraged the free and open exchange of experiences, and the class was a perfect opportunity to begin to immerse in Jewish festivals, celebrations, and life cycles while cross-pollinating with folks of varying backgrounds and experiences.

It was in a class dedicated to Chanukah that I first heard an explanation for why Miracles occur and how we may encourage their flourishing. For the first time I encountered the idea that a Miracle is not simply an act of divine intervention but rather is, as Reb Hannah put it, an event that is "born of collaboration between G-d and man, an act of G-d *aroused* by human conduct."

This was my first introduction to the idea that Miracles are "aroused by human action: it is our human *agency* to stimulate and ensure [the flow of G-d's creative energy]."

With this, I began to understand more deeply that our relationship with G-d demands more of us than simple gratitude for unceasing blessings. Our response to the divine Gift must be to create, in immediate and continual response through our uniquely human agency, the conditions necessary for Miracles to flourish.

The supplementary material for that class further noted that

"[i]n moments when what we call "miracles" occur, the miraculous order becomes obviously visible to us, but in truth, the *nehora* of miraculous creative flow steadily suffuses the natural order of all existence, whether or not we notice." [emphasis mine]

Abraham Joshua Heschel writes that G-d is "not at home in our world". Thus, it is our job to make our world a more hospitable place for G-d.

Let us make a home for Shechina, for divine potential, in every bit of space we inhabit - let us be alive to the miraculous order around us, so that we may channel that energy to where it is most needed.

Miracles will follow.

Or Shalom 2020-2021 Learning Programs

Please see orshalom.ca for specifics, including dates and times

Children and Youth Classes

Shabbat Sheli (ages 3-5, Sammy Fogel)

We are returning this year with a new teacher -- Samantha Fogel. Sammy is coming to us after a year of working with kids in the same age range at Har-El in North Vancouver. She has years of experience working with children as well as in positions of service to the community at large and we are lucky to have her.

Bright Lights (ages 6-9 -- formerly Little Lights, Matthew Gindin)

What's "little" about the light of the kids at Or Shalom? Nothing! That's why we're amending the name of our program to "Bright Lights" to reflect the great potential and shining minds of these children. Matthew Gindin will again be teaching this program which will include text study, discussion, art, crafts, and play.

B'yachad (Matthew Gindin and Harriet Frost)

To support the connection and continuous learning of our youth, B'yachad is now a two-year course with an option to stay on after Simchat Mitzvah for another year at no additional cost. Our curriculum is being redesigned to offer a greater breadth of portals to Jewish identity and to give students a deeper knowledge of Hebrew and more time to learn Torah trope.

Adult Classes

Zusia (Matthew Gindin, Rabbi Hannah Dresner, and guest teachers)

Zusia will again offer two online classes per semester of in-depth Torah study on all its levels and manifestations, including exploration of the outer reaches and inner heart of Jewish thought and practice. This year we will bring in non-local teachers to complement our roster.

Exploring Judaism (Rabbi Hannah Dresner)

Also planned to be virtual, Exploring Judaism will welcome a cohort of at least 20 students, some returning, some new. We will follow the cycle of the Jewish calendar, engaging with liturgy, ritual, history, and texts through different lenses, including antiracist, feminist, and queer. We will also look at the different faith traditions in our personal histories.

More Talmud (Rabbi Susan Shamash)

Continuing to meet monthly, More Talmud grapples with Talmudic issues and discusses what Talmud teaches us about living today. In the coming year we will complete our study of R' Judith Abram's Women in the Talmud and explore topics such as honouring our parents, shame and cancel culture, and truth and/or justice.

Women's Heart Centered Torah Study (Dael Adams Segal)

Meeting virtually, Women's Heart Centered Torah Study focuses on finding personal significance in the week's Torah portion. Opening and listening together in this way has provided each of us with insight and support, especially in this time. We welcome all who identify as women, whether Hebrew readers or not, regular attendees or not.

Men's Torah Study (Frank Segal)

A bi-monthly gathering of male-identifying folk who like to study and discuss the Torah portion of the week.

Membership Committee Report

Hana Wosk, chair

We wish you all a very healthy, sweet and kind 5781!

There has been much going on behind the scenes regarding the membership of Or Shalom. Given that we have not been able to gather in person for the last several months, it has been difficult for our newer members to meet their fellow Or Shalomniks. Therefore, we are writing to bring you up to date, and give you a glimpse of our growing membership.

As you may know, we like to have a special Shabbat morning service or a Shabbat dinner and a Kabbalat Shabbat service to honour and introduce our new members to the community. We will do this again, in a big way, when it is safe to gather.

Meanwhile, please welcome these members who have joined Or Shalom over the last two years, 5779 and 5780:

Corinne Logan	Kathy Brandon
Veronica Singer	Alexandra Fehr
Rhoda Thow	Jordan Patrich
Shel Nathanson	Casey Collins
Wendy Rigby	Stan Robertshaw
Riki Dayan	Andrina Perry
Jacob Haas	Alan Chesick
Chavisa Horemans	Tomer & Dar Goldenberg
Shulamit Krakauer	Jorge Gonzalez Arce
Naomi Perks	Benjamin Ger
Beth Wolchock	Syntyche Smith



We are also sharing with you a few introductions so that you may start to know some of these wonderful people. For your further interest, please visit the Or Shalom website or follow the weekly link in the Doar Shalom in order to read about some of these new members, as well as many long-standing members, in the *Getting to Know You* section. Someone new is highlighted each week!

The membership committee is here for you. If you would like to join our group or would like to offer some hospitality to new members, please contact any of us.

With best wishes for a shana tova u'metukah,

Martha Barker, Carol Ann Fried, Henry Grayman, Shira Macklin, Deborah Ross-Grayman, Pedro Santos, Beth Wolchock, and Hana Wosk

New Member Bios

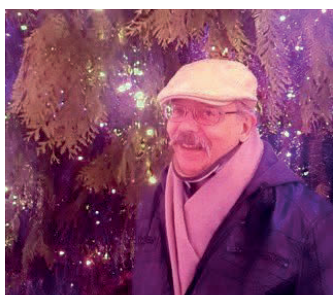
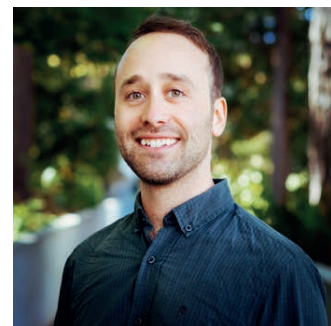


Kathy Brandon

Kathy was born in the U.S. and moved to Canada at age 19. She drove to Vancouver in her little VW Beetle to attend university and knew immediately she had found her home. Forty-six years later, Kathy walked into Judaism and Or Shalom and knew she had also found her spiritual home. She enjoyed a long career working as a Clinical Social Worker before embarking on her silversmithing business. Kathy is grateful to have her daughters, her grandchildren, and her Bichon dog in her life, as well as her many dear friends.

Casey Ray Collins

Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, Casey first moved to Vancouver in 2005. At his grandparents' encouragement, Casey found he could pursue his interests in history, languages, religious studies, and other fields all through UBC's Department of Asian Studies. After graduating, Casey lived in Tokyo for about three years to work in a Buddhist temple. In 2013 he moved back to Vancouver to start graduate school, again at UBC. Currently he is working on his doctoral dissertation about religion and modernity, which focuses on Japanese Buddhist organizations that formed in the 1920s and '30s.



Stan Robertshaw

Stan has lived in Richmond since 1985 and first went to services at Or Shalom in 1986. As the son of a British war bride and a Canadian soldier, Stan holds dual British Canadian citizenship. He has a daughter who resides in Britain. Stan's entire education has been technical and trades, and his former occupation was welding and metal fabrication. Currently semi-retired, he works part time in a Richmond hardware store.

Veronica Singer

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Veronica moved with her parents and sister to Vancouver as a child. After a number of years moving back and forth between Ottawa and Vancouver, completing university and law school, and starting a legal career along the way, she moved back to Vancouver permanently to continue her career and start a family. She currently practices business law and feels privileged to be doing economic development work with many First Nations. All of her three children are in university. She feels she has found her spiritual home at Or Shalom, which she says, "is a place of joy and true connection."



Shel Nathanson and Wendy Rigby

Originally from Detroit, Shel came to Vancouver in 1973, while in fourth year medical school at Wayne, to do clerkships at UBC. Graduating from Wayne, he was accepted into the UBC family practice residency program. After a long career that included family practice, public health, and geriatric medicine, he retired from practice. He continues teaching at UBC medical school where he has been a Clinical Associate Professor since 1976. He is an active pickle ball player and sings in Marcus Mosley's community chorale.

...continued on page 9

new members continued from page 8...

Wendy was born and raised in Richmond, B.C., and moved to Vancouver in 1968. She worked for many years in massage therapy education and also co-authored the Occupational Competency Profile for B.C. Massage Therapy Schools, which served as a template for the Canadian regulatory standard. Wendy is also a fabric artist with a whimsical workshop on the river in South Vancouver. A retired interior designer and home stager, she now spends her time gardening and learning about all things related to the chemistry and alchemy of transferring leaves to fabric. Seldom seen without some type of needle in her hands, her current passions are slow stitching and knitting rabbits, but that could change.

Wendy and Shel live at UBC. They have a daughter, Julie, son-in-law Jason, three adult granddaughters, one great grandson, and one great granddaughter, all of whom live in Campbell River.

Rhoda Thow

Rhoda was born and raised in Winnipeg and, like many young Winnipeggers, came to Vancouver in 1994. She formerly worked at the Asia Pacific Foundation, a non-profit organization acting as a catalyst for Canada's engagement with Asia. Especially interesting was the requirement that she work in some of the Foundation's Asian offices. Having also worked many years at UBC, Rhoda is now part time with the Vancouver School Board and does some residential property management. She and husband Charles Greenberg, who, coincidentally, is also from Winnipeg and has also worked in Asia, have two sons, aged 19 and 13.

Beth Wolchock

Originally from Winnipeg, Beth has lived in Vancouver for the past 25 years, working at the Vancouver Art Gallery, where she assists with the care of the permanent collection. She and her family returned to Winnipeg for an extended period of time, and her daughter Lucy had the opportunity to experience the 40 below winters and the hot mosquito filled summers. Back in B.C., they now make their home in Roberts Creek on the Sunshine Coast where Lucy is now beginning her last year of high school. Lucy works as a lifeguard and coaches children on her swim team as well as working on her art.

The family came to Or Shalom to find a community for Lucy to have her bat mitzvah. They were thrilled with Shabbat Sheli at the first service they attended and knew they had found the right place. Lucy's bat mitzvah was in December 2018, and she has participated as an assistant with the Shabbat Sheli program for the last few years. They look forward to once again attending services and events in person as soon as that is possible.

Tyche Smith

Finding myself at Or Shalom in a synagogue for the first time on my first Shabbat, just a few months after a milestone birthday in fall 2016 was a miraculous experience. There was a palpable warmth in the earthy space of the sanctuary and I found myself surrounded by the togetherness of voices chanting in words my mind did not understand; yet my heart and all other parts of my being understood. I was bathed in tingles, and chills from the resonance in this place. I was surrounded by that warmth and found myself being lifted, my own voice rising up and joining in; taking me up with it. And I never looked back.

In November 2019, I converted to Judaism and am so happy to have been welcomed with open arms into the vibrant Spiritual Community that is Or Shalom. In Judaism I have found a way of life that honours many values that I cherish. I've grown so much spiritually since that first Shabbat and I look forward to a lifetime of learning, growth, and the turning of Torah over and over and over again.

Introducing Our Program Coordinator

By Alex Leslie

On the phone, Tanya Hebron's voice is gentle and lilting as she relates the story of her journey to her role as the program and events coordinator for Or Shalom.

When she was 18, Tanya volunteered on a kibbutz. Falling in love with the land, people, and culture, she stayed in Israel and converted to Judaism. She resonated with Jewish guidance about living a meaningful life and was drawn to "the wisdom of having a day of rest in ancient times when that wasn't the norm."

Tanya lived in Israel for 13 years, mostly on Kibbutz Lotan, a progressive Reform kibbutz and one of the first green kibbutzim. She immigrated to Canada in 2000 after losing confidence in the peace process.

Her personal ethics, as well as a desire to re-connect more deeply with Jewish life, brought her to her present position. For several years she worked as an environmental consultant at a firm that assesses the impact of large-scale projects, such as mines and port infrastructure, on the environment, people, and communities.

"What I couldn't reconcile anymore was that building these projects in First Nations territory without their consent was a continuation of colonization," she says. For her, this injustice connects to tikkun olam and the need to be aware that "as settlers, we are all complicit in First Nations displacement."

Deeply troubled by complex social problems such as homelessness and inequality, Tanya enrolled at SFU. In April she graduated from an interdisciplinary graduate education program focusing on social, political and economic aspects of urbanization.

Her priority at Or Shalom, she says, is to support the congregation in its goals, with a focus on developing initiatives that advance equity and foster connections with the neighbourhood and the Jewish community.

Having had her daughter's bat mitzvah at Or Shalom several years ago, she's glad to be back. "Reconnecting to Jewish community feels like coming home after being away for a while."

Housing Renewal - We Have Architects!

By John Fuerst

While the *bayit* awaits the return of the congregation, the Housing Taskforce has some good news to share. Since we last wrote in November, the Taskforce has been busy with Or Shalom's expansion/renovation project. We assessed the community's financial ability to carry out the project and spoke to many of you about Or Shalom's current and future housing needs.

From these discussions, we developed a wish list that includes 1) repair to the water damaged north facade, 2) self-contained classroom space, 4) an elevator for accessibility, 3) an expanded and renovated kitchen, 5) improvements to the social hall, and 6) office space for programming and education staff.

We carried out an extensive search and due diligence process to identify an architectural firm to work with Or Shalom in achieving its vision. In July we engaged Boni Maddison Architects with lead architect Erika Gerson. Erika has started the feasibility phase of the project to determine the scope of allowable new construction and renovation on site, given zoning and budget limitations.

After this phase, the Taskforce will host an Or Shalom community meeting (most likely on Zoom) so all interested can hear of the possibilities and provide feedback to Erika and the Taskforce.

This is an exciting time for Or Shalom as we expand and renovate our shul to house a strong inter-generational Jewish community.

In the short-term, if you have any questions about the project, just drop an email to John Fuerst at jfuerst@telus.net and we can arrange a chat.



Our New Parochet

By Sandra Cohen

In 2017 Rabbi Hannah asked me to consider working with the 2017-18 B'yachad class to create a new parochet (curtain) for the Aron Kodesh. It was a request that I found both intriguing and an honour, so of course I said "yes."

It was my background as a freelance illustrator that made me enthusiastic about doing the parochet. After all, an illustrator is someone who draws to tell a story, and that was how the students were going to create the parochet.

The process started with Rabbi Hannah choosing the Creation story as the theme. After studying the story, the students made drawings of elements they liked best. It soon became clear that more drawing time was needed, and we extended the program to include the 2018-19 class as well.

When the drawings were finished, they were cut into smaller images which were moved around until we had one coherent design. Eventually all the pieces fit together, and there it was -- Creation.

Paper needed to be transformed into fabric, and that is where I came in. I decided to use cotton, which is lightweight and comes in a large variety of colours and patterns. I sewed most of the parochet by hand, because many of the individual shapes were too small or intricate to machine sew.



When you look at the parochet, you might notice that Adam and Eve are missing. Since the Second Commandment forbids making carved images to worship, human images have traditionally been forbidden in synagogues. Rabbi Hannah wanted to maintain that prohibition.

The big reveal would have taken place in March 2020, but COVID-19 put that on hold. Nevertheless, you have gotten to preview it via Zoom. We will have a more formal installation on Simchat Torah.

Or Shalom COVID-19 Advisory Group

Sally Thorne, Chair

COVID Advisory Group Member Credentials

In early May, as the option of expanding beyond Zoom gatherings started to seem possible, the Or Shalom Board decided to appoint an advisory body to support it in making decisions as to next steps. It identified eight Or Shalom members with specialized expertise in various aspects of public health and Jewish practice; and, despite holding highly demanding positions in their everyday worlds, each of them immediately agreed to serve.

British Columbians are well aware of the evolving evidence-based guidelines coming from the province as we try to safely relax the early restrictions. The Advisory Group has taken full advantage of two sources of useful guidance -- the Provincial Health Officer (Dr. Bonnie Henry) and the Rabbinic Assembly of Vancouver (RAV).

On June 1, the RAV published its Protocols for In-Person Indoor Worship Services. Local Jewish communities that were unable to transition to virtual services felt a particular urgency to move forward in this manner. Although RAV members generally agreed to coordinate their approaches to the extent possible, the needs and the resources of every community are quite different.

We have found that considerable interpretation is required to adapt general principles to the specific context of Or Shalom's spaces and sensibilities, such as inclusion and egalitarian participation. The Advisory Group has deliberated on issues of open and closed spaces, management of numbers, maintaining records should contact tracing be required, and how singing could be safely managed.

Its working style capitalizes on surfacing differences of perspective to ensure we have thought through all angles on each new challenge. Working closely with Board liaison Martin Gotfrit and Rabbi Hannah, it has recommended specific guidelines for each new event and evaluated the challenges and lessons learned.

Criteria for holding in-person events, as well as for returning to in-shul services, will be determined with the ongoing advice of the Advisory Group.

Sally Thorne, RN, PhD, FAAN, FCAHS, Professor, UBC School of Nursing, actively involved in developing COVID response resources for front line nurses through BC's provincial nursing association

Malcolm Steinberg, MBBCh, DOH, MSc Epid, Assistant Clinical Professor, SFU Faculty of Health Sciences and Director of Public Health Programs, actively involved in advising REACH Community Health Centre on community based prevention and mutual aid strategies

Karen-Marie Elah Perry, MA, PhD, Applied Medical Anthropologist, has developed disaster mitigation, planning and response frameworks and training exercises for Emergency Operation Centre Commanders and First Responders

Mel Krajden, MD, FRCPC, OBC, Medical Director of the BC Centre for Disease Control and a medical virologist, member of the Federal COVID-19 serology task force Leadership Team

Ross Andelman, MD, Adult and pediatric psychiatrist, whose training includes a 3-year fellowship in Health Services Research, focusing on Pediatric Quality of Life, and career has included 16 years as Medical Director of Behavioural Health for a county public health system

Julie Martz, MD CCFP, Family physician in active practice in Vancouver

Hal Siden, MD, MHSc, FRCPC, Pediatric palliative care specialist, Medical Director of Canuck Place Children's Hospice and Medical Director of Palliative Medicine at BC Children's Hospital

Yoni Gordis, Rabbi, organizational consultant, strategist, social researcher and facilitator of strategic processes for communities around the world, addressing peace and security as well as social change agendas

High Holiday Membership 5781

We hope you experience Or Shalom as the creative, participatory, and inclusive community we strive to be. Dedicated to enlivening our traditions and renewing Judaism for the 21st century, we endeavour to enrich the lives of so many by providing deep learning, spiritual practice, and pastoral guidance.

In addition to our 220 member households, we also welcome *you*, families who choose to join Or Shalom in celebrating the High Holidays with us each year. Our doors will be equally open to you this year, during COVID-19, in the rich virtual sanctuaries we are fashioning for our prayer and rabbinic messages, and at the safe and socially distanced in-person Tashlich and Shofar services we will convene on the waterfront on the first day of Rosh Hashanah.

In keeping with our general innovative approach to Jewish spirituality, our High Holiday offerings promise to translate the depth and warmth of our historic gatherings to the new formats appropriate for this unusual time. As you might imagine, the technology and technical staff necessary to produce this year's High Holiday services is a new financial investment for Or Shalom, considerable in its magnitude.

High Holiday memberships provide an essential portion of Or Shalom's operating revenue and are critical to our ability to maintain programs for the entire community. One way you can help ensure we sustain this effort is by purchasing a High Holiday membership. Suggested fees per individual are:

Adult \$380 Young Adult (18 – 24) \$54

If your financial situation prevents you from purchasing a membership, please do make a donation in the amount that is right for you. High Holiday memberships and donations can be made on-line at www.orshalom.ca/hiho, by cheque, or by calling the office at 604-872-1614.

Participation in High Holidays is also included in Full Membership. To find information about our flexible fees, and an application to become an Or Shalom member, please go to www.orshalom.ca/membership.

Thank you and we look forward to the various ways we will connect with one another as we approach the High Holy Days!

Thank You

For supporting Or Shalom's Annual Campaign 2020/2021

Ineke Aardema
 Mary Adlersberg & Sally Thorne
 Susan Albersheim & Steven Barer
 Shirley & Peter Ballin
 Martha & John Barker
 Sarah & Jeffrey Bernstein
 Cathie Best & Richard Menkis
 Susan & Maurice Bloch
 Nina Bloomfield
 Marla & Benjamin Bondar
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*This donor list was compiled on August 3, 2020, as of the newsletter printing deadline. If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please accept our sincere apologies for the oversight. Thanks.

High Holidays Programs & Services 5781

August

SUN 30 **SHOFAR CORPS TRAINING | 11:30AM**
An online shofar-blowing training with guest teacher Michael Chusid, for up to 18 folks who have shofarot. *Pre-registration required.*

September

TBA **PICK-UP ROSH HASHANAH ACTIVITY BOXES | Just after Labour Day**
For families with children registered in our child programs.

SAT 12 **ZOOM KOREH SELICHOT | 8PM**
This is Real and We are Totally Unprepared is a slam of prayers and poems generated by this year's strange crossing into the new year. What are our stories about how this time has sharpened our sense of what's vital? Evening punctuated by jazz riffs on High Holiday melodies.
Online application required for a slam time slot; notification August 21.

FRI 18 **EREV ROSH HASHANAH | 8:15 – 9PM**
Kabbalat Chag zoomed from the Bayit with Rabbi Hannah – candle lighting and the stirring nusach of the Erev Rosh Hashanah service.

SAT 19 **YOM TOV SERVICE | 10AM – 12:30PM**
Zoomed from the Bayit with Rabbi Hannah, Harriet Frost and others.

TASHLICH AND SHOFAR | 3PM; 4PM; 5PM
In person at Olympic Village waterfront – self-directed Tashlich followed by Shofar from afar.
Pre-registration required for up to 49 persons in each of 3 time slots.

SUN 20 **BIRTHDAY OF THE WORLD | 10 – 11:15AM**
PART 1: in-person Family Service for up to 49 parents and children led by Rabbi Hannah with Matthew Gindin. *Pre-registration required.*

PART 2: **SHOFAR | 11AM**
From the back deck of Or Shalom, to be viewed and heard from the yard below by families in attendance and via Zoom by the larger community.

PART 2 CONTINUING: **TORAH SERVICE AND MUSAF | 11:30AM – 1PM**
Zoomed from the Bayit with Rabbi Hannah, Rabbi Susan, Harley Rothstein and others.

ISAAC IN A BIND | 3 – 4PM
On zoom - a pre-taped theatrical presentation of Midrash on the Akeida (binding of Isaac) produced by Avi Dolgin and followed by discussion.

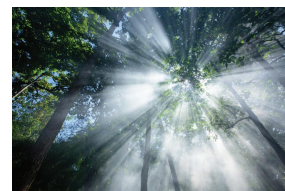
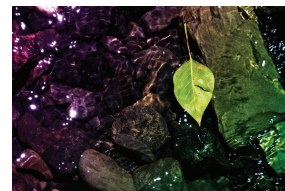
SAT 26 **SHABBAT SHUVA | 10 – 11:45AM**
Home-zoomed Shabbat service with Rabbi Hannah, Myrna Rabinowitz and others.

SUN 27 **EREV YOM KIPPUR SERVICE | 6:30PM**
Zoomed from the Bayit with Rabbi Hannah, Efron Esseiva, Harriet Frost and others.

MON 28 **YOM KIPPUR SERVICE | 10AM**
Zoomed from the Bayit with Rabbi Hannah, Reb Laura, Charles Kaplan, Wendy Rubin and other leaders.

MEDITATION | 3 – 4PM
Small Zoom sessions with Matthew Gindin (more TBA)

YIZKOR AND NEILAH | 5:30 – 7:30PM
Zoomed from the Bayit with Rabbi Hannah and Harley Rothstein and a pre-taped message from Reb Hillel. Yizkor music by Dave Kauffman, Myrna Rabinowitz and Wendy Rubin.



Visit www.orshalom.ca for details and Zoom links