

2019-2020 Engagement Opportunities

We look forward to having you join us! Below is a list of activities that will help you build community. Please complete this form by checking off your interests. If you have any questions, contact heidya@shaarzahav.org. Thank you for contributing your time, energy and creativity to our *kehila k'dusha* (holy community)!

Name(s): _____ Email(s): _____
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Committees	Interested
1. Adult Education Committee	
2. B'nei Mitzvah Committee	
3. Building Committee	
4. Connections Committee (Kesher)	
5. Executive Committee & Board of Directors (Va'ad)	
6. Fundraising Committee	
7. Membership Committee	
8. Newsletter Committee, <i>Jewish Gaily Forward</i> (JGF)	
9. Ritual Committee (RitCom)	
10. Scents & Sensibility Committee	
11. Social Action Committee	

Giving Opportunities	Interested
1. Cemetery Services	
2. Greeting or Announcing (<i>Members are encouraged to do this annually</i>)	
3. High Holiday Logistics	
4. Makom Sha'ar Zahav: Housing Initiative	
5. Religious School for Children, <i>Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer</i> (BSPM)	
6. Shabbat Refreshments Set-up (Oneg) (<i>Members are encouraged to do this annually</i>)	
7. Visiting the Sick (Bikkur Cholim)	

Ongoing Events & Groups (Chavurah)	Interested
1. Adult Orphans	
2. Book Club	
3. Choir	
4. East Bay	
5. Environmental Justice	
6. Family & Friends Shabbat	
7. Fine Arts Group	
8. Hiking	
9. Meditation	
10. Millennials/Young Professionals (suggested ages 21-37)	
11. Racial Diversity Group	
12. Musical Shabbat, Shabbes Beat with Cantor Bernstein	
13. Talmud Study	
14. Yoga	

2019-2020 Engagement Opportunities

One of the cornerstones of Sha'ar Zahav's foundation is a strong partnership among our clergy, staff and members. One way this partnership manifests itself is through participation in our various committees, groups and events. For more information, contact Director of Engagement, Heidi Ramirez at heidy@shaarzahav.org.

Committees

1. Adult Education Committee

Contact: Mark Pressler

Email: markpressler@gmail.com

Phone: 415.215.4849

"Who is wise? He who learns from every person" (Pirkei Avot 4:1). The Adult Education Committee is charged with helping everyone learn from one another. Classes are taught by the clergy and members and embrace topics from Intro to Judaism to The Afterlife to Mussar and Kaballah. Committee members help decide on the courses, formats and scheduling; it's an engaging discussion at every meeting (in-person and video options for all AEC meetings).

2. B'nei Mitzvah Committee

Contact: Ora Prochovnick

Email: oprochov@gmail.com

Phone: 415.334.4566

Contact 2: Andy Fyne

Email 2: andyfyne@gmail.com

Phone: 415.577.6046

The B'nei Mitzvah Committee works in partnership with our educator, rabbi, and the education and ritual committees to oversee the b'nei mitzvah program. We meet quarterly to review the successes and challenges of prior bar/bat mitzvah ceremonies, make sure things are on target for the upcoming cohort, arrange mentor matches, support our mentors, update policies, and coordinate each bar/bat mitzvah service. We would love new members. We don't meet too often, we're a fun group, and there's not much homework between meetings – come join us!

3. Building Committee

Contact: Irene Ogus

Email: irene.ogus@gmail.com

Phone: 415.305.4286

Are you passionate about interior design? Are you interested event space rentals? Have you ever wondered how the lights in the sanctuary get cleaned or how often the elevator gets serviced? All these secrets will be revealed to those serving on the Building Committee! We want you to think of the Sha'ar Zahav building as a second home. As such, we welcome those interested in lending a hand to organize records, siddurs, decorate the lobby or other ideas. We also offer space rentals if you're interested in hosting a meeting or an event. You can stop by and visit our staff or check out the many books in our library. We meet as needed in Glen Park.

4. Connections Committee (Keshet)

Contact: Lisa Katz

Email: lisalkatz@gmail.com

Contact 2: Laurie Trupin

Email 2: Laura.Trupin@ucsf.edu

Phone: 415.203.3790

Help build connections among members! Keshet is Hebrew for "link" and that's what we do – link members together by organizing activities like Shabbat dinners/house gatherings. If you'd like to enrich and deepen

connections among members, please join us. Along with your Director of Engagement, we meet about 8 times per year always over dinner!

5. **Executive Committee & Board of Directors (Va'ad)**

Contact: Nancy Levin (President)

Email: president@shaarzahav.org

Are you skilled in finance, record keeping, presenting or possess other talents? If so, you'd make a great addition. The **Executive Committee** is appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. It is comprised of the President, one or more Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, and two or three additional members, at the discretion of the President, at least two of whom are former officers. The duties of the Executive Committee are: developing personnel policies, procedures and job descriptions; review personnel roles, functions, responsibilities, salaries and benefits and to make appropriate recommendations to the Board; review and evaluate the performance of professional staff and advise the Board on personnel matters in closed session. **The Board of Directors** is responsible for expressing the voice of the community. They are active participants and are responsible for creating committees and managing decisions of the property. They oversee investments of congregational funds and securities. They are in charge of setting an annual budget that gets approved, as well as an annual fundraising goal. The Board also votes in and approves applicants' memberships and has the authority to engage or dismiss professional staff. If you're curious about the specific roles, come to a Board meeting. They happen every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

6. **Fundraising Committee**

Contact: Mike Shriver

Email: dadanation@gmail.com

Phone: 415.235.0464

Open to all members! To keep our doors open and continue being a welcoming space for all, Sha'ar Zahav engages in fundraising projects every year. Our goal is to raise much-needed funds, through specific campaigns. Fundraising efforts offer congregants, family and friends of Sha'ar Zahav the opportunity to underwrite and be recognized for significant investments in projects that help us fulfill our dreams. Fundraising makes up over 50% of our annual income (40% is from membership payments). Needless to say, by joining our fundraising team you are helping Sha'ar Zahav grow strong as a financially viable non-profit organization.

7. **Membership Committee**

Contact: Heidi Ramirez

Email: heidy@shaarzahav.org

Phone: 415.861.6932

Would you like to see your community continue to grow? By joining the membership group, you will reach out and welcome new members or chat with prospective members. Along with the Director of Engagement, you will also take part in planning and improving the application and membership process.

8. **Newsletter Committee, Jewish Gaily Forward (JGF)**

Contact: Paul Cohen

Email: cohenpaulj@gmail.com

Phone: 415.298.0494

The Newsletter Committee is responsible for producing the Jewish Gaily Forward (JGF). We solicit articles and pictures, edit the material that's submitted, work with our designer on the layout, and proofread the final

product. We meet by phone once a quarter to evaluate the last newsletter and plan the upcoming one, and once in person for the first edit. Everything else is done by email. We love having new members!

9. Ritual Committee (RitCom)

Contact: Ami Zusman

Email: ami.zusman@berkeley.edu

Phone: 510.339.6143

Contact 2: Ron Edelman

Email 2: ronwizrd@mindspring.com

Interested in leading services, giving a *drash* (talk), helping develop new liturgy, or sharing your ideas? Then join RitCom! Even if you have never done this, our Ritual Committee will set you up with a mentor to coach you through it all. As a lay-led community, partaking in services is one of the biggest perks Sha'ar Zahav offers. Take advantage of it! Meetings are open to all members; you can be a ritual expert or a newbie – we all learn together. We usually meet the last Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm.

10. Scents and Sensibility Task-force

Contact: Bob Gordon, bob@lgbtpartnership.org

A new group is helping to build a scent-free Sha'ar Zahav, join us!

11. Social Action Committee

Contact: Leah Hammond

Email: leaheve@indra.com

Contact 2: Michael Rice

Email 2: mrice100@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 415.337.9894

Do you want to help further the Jewish goal of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world)? The Social Action Committee works to make a better world a reality. Committee members have focused on immigration issues, housing, gun violence, and Muslim-Jewish relationships.

Giving Opportunities

1. Cemetery Services

Contact: James Carlson

Email: sfojames2@gmail.com

Phone: 415.902.5465

Interested in learning from Hills of Eternity Memorial Park Executive Director? Do you need information about a Jewish cemetery? Sha'ar Zahav has a reserved space at Hills of Eternity Memorial Park. You can help him maintain the congregation's cemetery site. Upon request, watch over graves of members of the congregation who are buried in local cemeteries other than the congregation's site. Our long time member, James Carlson, is here to help and answer any questions you may have.

2. Greeting or Announcing

Contact: Sara Haber

Email: sara.fay.haber@gmail.com

Phone: 415.378.9143

Say hello to our service attendees! Every Friday night, one or two members greet folks as they come in the door to attend Shabbat services. Our aim is to create a welcoming atmosphere and help inspire that feeling of Shabbat sweetness. This activity is as easy and fun as it sounds. If you're looking for a good way to ease into engagement activities, and meet both old and new friends, participate as a greeter during Shabbat Services. If you'd like a small challenge, take on the announcer role and share weekly updates to the congregations just after services wrap up.

3. High Holidays Logistics

Contact: Sara Haber

Email: sara.fay.haber@gmail.com

Phone: 415.378.9143

Did you enjoy High Holidays at the Herbst? It takes several small actions to bring everything together and make High Holidays happen, successfully. Sara Haber has been majestically coordinating logistics, with the help of many other members. If this sounds like an interesting project, give her a call now so she can get you set up with a fun task!

4. Need Makom Sha'ar Zahav: Housing Initiative

Contact: Michael Chertok

Email: makom@shaarzahav.org

Phone: 415.861.6932

A new, short-term emergency housing program. The Initiative matches congregants experiencing a housing crisis with members who can open their home and serve as a temporary host. If you or someone you know needs urgent housing, please contact makom@shaarzahav.org.

5. Religious School for Children, Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer (BSPM)

Contact: Sue Bojdak

Email: education@shaarzahav.org

Phone: 415.861.6932

Would you like to learn more about our religious school (BSPM)? Are you passionate about supporting our youth by providing classroom help, mentoring? Our school's first teacher, Phyllis Mintzer (z'l), believed that every person and every word contained sparks of holiness. Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer is guided by her spirit. Weekly, we provide children K-7th grade with a Jewish education that includes Torah, ethics, ritual, Hebrew and history with an emphasis on Jewish diversity and social justice in an LGBT/queer-positive community. We say that the children of the synagogue are all our children, and we encourage adults — both parents and those who are not parents — to participate in the classroom. Students attend Sept-May, Saturdays 9am-12pm.

6. Shabbat Refreshments Set-Up (Oneg)

Contact: Paul Cohen

Email: cohenpaulj@gmail.com

Phone: 415.298.0494

Do you like food? Do you love baking or cooking? Every week we enjoy delicious treats after services. How does that happen? It's in large part thanks to you and other volunteers who sign up to purchase the treats (which Sha'ar Zahav reimburses you for) for Onegs and Kiddush. This activity is a great way to collaborate with members of our community! We also invite you to make your favorite dish and share with your community!

7. Visiting the Sick (Bikkur Cholim)

Contact: Phil Charney

Email: philcharney@comcast.net

Phone: 510.527.9777

At Sha'ar Zahav, we show up for each other, in both care and celebration. The mitzvah of bikkur cholim (visiting the sick) can be as simple as making a call, helping with an errand, making a home visit, offering a ride or delivering a meal. In order to learn when an opportunity to help a fellow Sha'ar Zahav member arises, you are invited to sign up with "Lotsa Helping Hands" by visiting www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/721551/ or contacting the group leaders.

Ongoing Events & Groups (Chavurah)

The following events occur regularly and are free and open to all. We encourage you to show up to any of the events listed below, no need to RSVP!

1. Adult Orphans

Date: *Second Wednesday of the month*

Time: 6:30 pm

Contact: Paisha Rochlin, paimar@pacbell.net

Contact 2: Marjorie Hilsenrad, onceupntym@sbcglobal.net

This group is for members with little or no family in the Bay Area who want to create and expand a support circle as we age. We will share resources in anticipation of future needs and also enjoy outings, potlucks and perhaps holiday meals together.

2. Book Club

Date: *Monthly, dates vary*

Time: 6:30 pm

Contact: Jane Rice, janerice400@gmail.com

The Sha'ar Zahav book group meets in the chapel, upstairs next to the sanctuary. Every month they choose a new book to discuss.

3. Choir

Contact: Cantor Bernstein, cantorbernstein@gmail.com

4. East Bay

Contact: Terry Fletcher, gillianf19@gmail.com

This group meets periodically at a congregant's home in the East Bay.

5. Environmental Justice Group

Contact: Terry Fletcher, gillianf19@gmail.com or Miriam Menzel, mirinsf@gmail.com

Are you concerned about environmental degradation? Want to work with other Sha'ar Zahavniks against climate change? Come share your ideas, get support, and have fun while we work together on some of the most pressing issues facing the planet. (This is a new group – help them get started!)

6. Family & Friends Shabbat

Monthly Evening Service

Date: *Second Friday of the month*

Time: 6:00 pm

Contact: office@shaarzahav.org

The whole family is invited to a short, joyful monthly Shabbat service led by Isaac Zones and Rabbi Copeland. There will be songs and stories for kids and their adults with dinner following. Bring babies, toddlers, and young school aged kids. Isaac Zones is a Bay Area musician specializing in Jewish, spiritual, folk and family music.

Mornings at Dolores Park

Date: *Saturday*, see website for exact dates

Time: 10:30 am

Contact: office@shaarzahav.org

Join Sha'ar Zahav, Jewish Baby Network SF, PJ Library and Interfaith Family as we bring Shabbat to Dolores Park. Rabbis Mychal Copeland and Reuben Zellman will lead us in Shabbat music and storytelling. Bring a blanket, pack a lunch, and we'll provide kosher snacks. All events are free!

7. Date: Every Monday

Time: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm

Contact: Paisha Rochlin paimar@pacbell.net

Contact 2: Barbara Cymrot bcymrot@sbcglobal.net

Contact 3: AJ Turpin Fried ajsparkles@gmail.com

A quiet, well-lit space to do art. Bring your art supplies, lunch and parallel play with other creative congregants. If you have any questions, please contact your Fine Art group hosts.

8. Hiking

Date: *Third Saturday of the month*

Time: 10:00am

Contact: Karen Schiller and Laurie Trupin, hikingchavurah@gmail.com

The Hiking Chavurah is a fun group of Sha'ar Zahav folks who enjoy getting to know each other while exploring San Francisco and points beyond. Meeting location and hike leader change monthly get in touch to find out where we're going next!

9. Meditation

Date: *First Saturday of the month*

Time: 10:30am

Contact: Richard Weiner, rweiner@nelsonnygaard.com

A typical session includes a short and longer silent sit, often with a guided portion, chanting, movement and a short teaching. All are welcome! We will meet at a congregant's home.

10. Millennials/Young Professionals

Date: *Monthly, dates vary*

Contact: Heidi Ramirez, heidy@shaarzahav.org

Join us for a monthly Shabbat dinner or Happy Hour (6:30pm or 9:00pm Friday)

11. Racial Diversity Group

Contact: rabbi@shaarzahav.org

This is a new group, come help us get started!

12. Musical Shabbat, Shabbes Beat with Cantor Bernstein

Date: *Third Friday of the month*

Time: 7:30pm

Contact: office@shaarzahav.org

It's all about that Shabbes groove! Sing, dance, and pray. Joy up, relax, breathe, sway! Join Cantor Sharon and the Shabbes Beat band at this monthly rock, jazz, Latin, and blues service and get your Shabbes rest on.

13. Talmud Study Group

Date: *Every Saturday except B'nei Mitzvah days*

Time: 9:00 am

Contact Jackie Kaplan, jackieksf@aol.com

Join a lay-led weekly Talmud study group where we will look at a tractate/section of Jewish commentary called Moed Katan. No experience studying Talmud is necessary, text will be read in English translation.

14. Tree of Life Yoga led by Rabbi Copeland

Dates: *Fourth Fridays of the month, dates may change*

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

Contact: rabbi@shaarzahav.org

Bring in Shabbat with movement, chants and intention. Wear comfortable clothing you can move in. Beginners welcome! We supply mats!

Other

Conversions and Journey to Judaism

Contact: Rose Katz

Email: rkatz@jewishlearningworks.org

Phone: 415-567-3327 ext. 706

Contact 2: Paul Cohen

Email 2: cohenpaulj@gmail.com

Phone 2: 415.298.0494

Are you or someone you know interested in exploring the possibility of conversion?

Since our founding in 1977, our members have always included non-Jews with or without Jewish partners. We understand that not everyone is interested in choosing Judaism as their spiritual path. We respect that choice.

If you are, however, interested in becoming part of the Jewish people, we welcome you to explore our Journey to Judaism program.

Gifts from the Heart

Contact: Sharon Heath

Email: SharonH@shaarzahav.org

Phone: 415.861.6932

Confused about dues, want to set up auto pay? Would you like a tax form or a copy of your statement? While this is not an open activity or group to join – we want to let you know that are here to provide answers to any and all financial concerns on your account. Don't hesitate to call us!