

**Jewish
Living**
CELEBRATED

R



**LEARNING
FOR ALL AGES**

2017-2018

~ 5778 ~

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Pssst

Want to know the secret to our thriving community?

Some say it's our award-winning Gan Shalom Nursery School, our innovative Synagogue School or our enthusiasm for life-long Jewish learning.

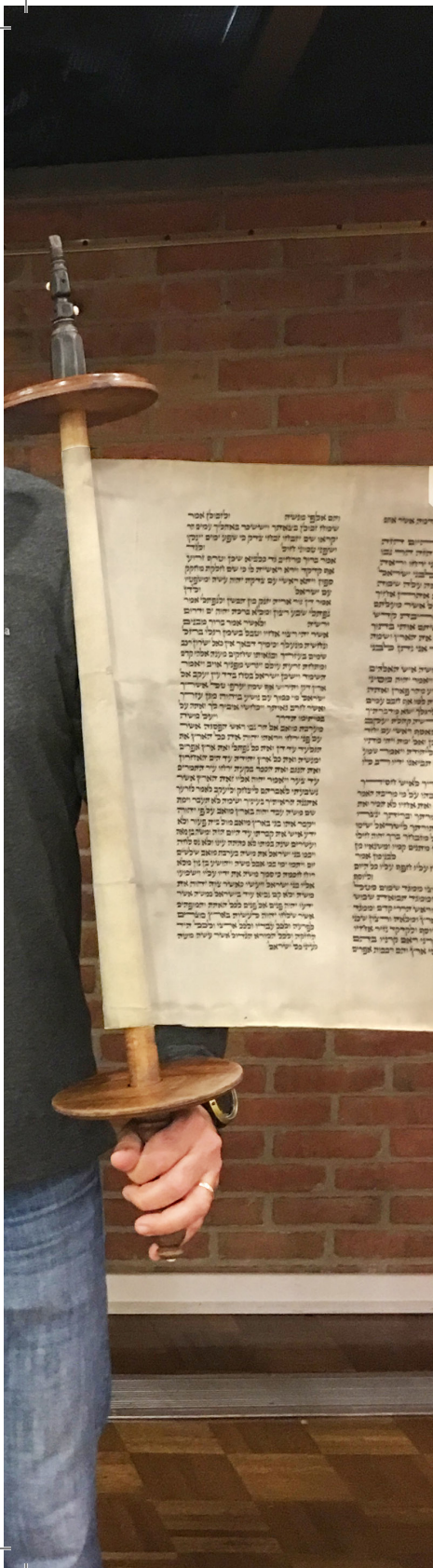
Some say it's our relationship with the clergy.

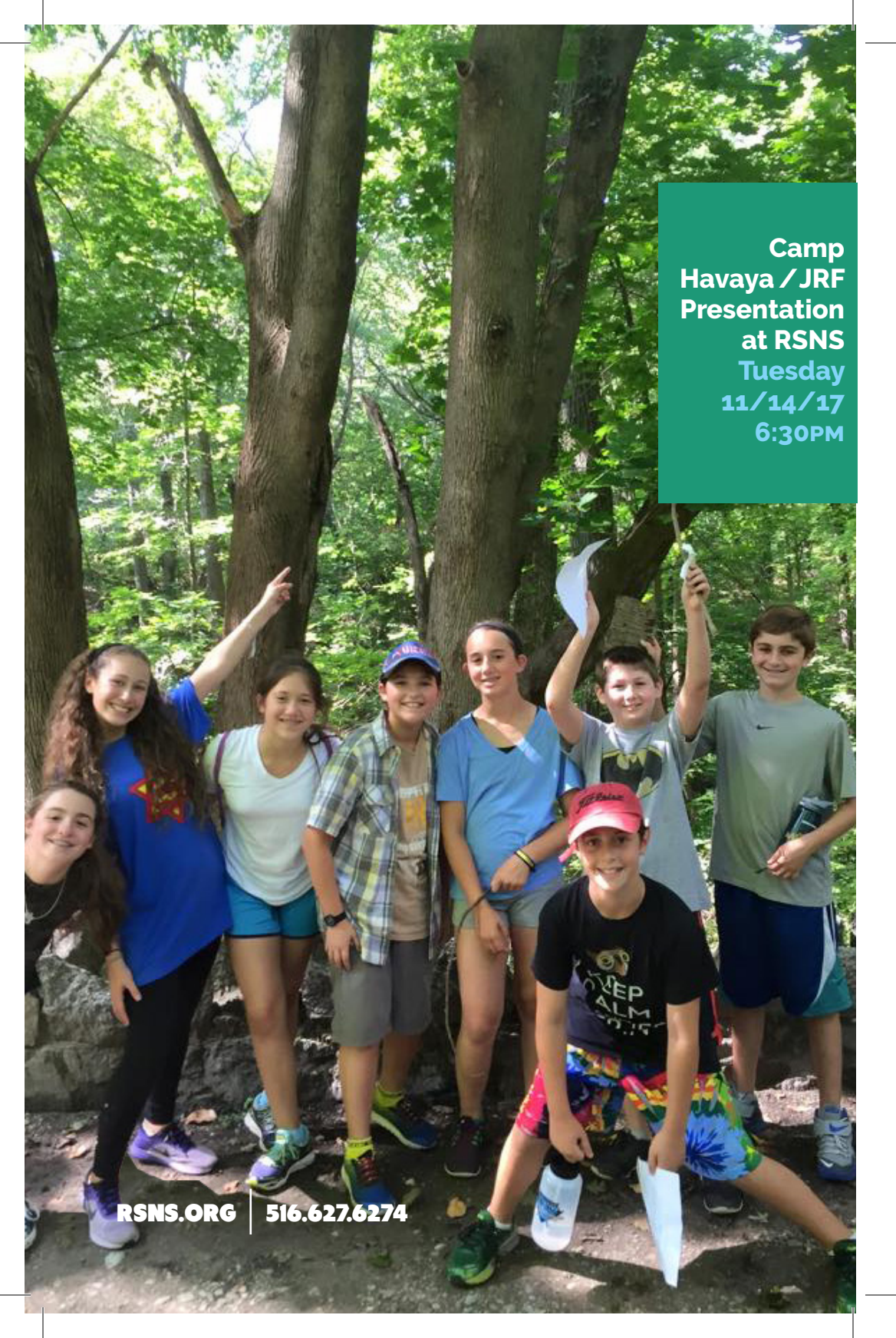
Many insist it's our warm spirit of inclusiveness or our belief in the principle that all people deserve equal rights and opportunities.

To others, it's our commitment to social action, to the environment and to Israel.

Most, though, have their own personal reasons and they'd be almost as pleased to share those with you as they would to hear about what you're looking for in a Jewish community.

Please join us at one of the many educational experiences listed in this booklet. Or contact Executive Director, Sylvia Jacobs, to schedule a visit.



A group of eight children, four girls and four boys, are posing for a photo in a sun-dappled forest. They are standing on a dirt path with large trees in the background. The children are dressed in casual summer clothing like t-shirts, shorts, and hats. Some are holding white papers or small objects. The overall mood is cheerful and outdoorsy.

**Camp
Havaya / JRF
Presentation
at RSNS
Tuesday
11/14/17
6:30PM**

RSNS.ORG | 516.627.6274

Contents



5 young



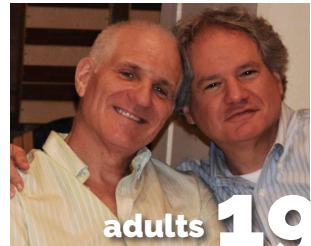
13 teens



26 community



synagogue
school **9**



adults **19**



clergy &
staff **31**



**Friday Night
Family
Service**
Once/Month
7:30PM
rsns.org
for dates

“ I remember
scouting nursery
schools when
we decided to
leave the West
Village for the
'burbs. On a
lark, I stopped
in to RSNS, met
Rabbi Lee, and
knew I'd found a
home.

CONGREGANT

”

Young

We provide a safe, cozy, stimulating and nurturing child-responsive environment. The teachers and clergy are sensitive to developmental stages of young children and to each child as an individual. With many and varied developmentally appropriate materials available, the children learn through play with one another.

COME PLAY WITH ME

1 - 2 Year Olds

Tuesdays, 9:30 - 10:45AM

Children along with their parents/caregivers play, paint, paste, sing and share snacks. Starts January, 2018.

GAN SHALOM NURSERY SCHOOL

21 Months – 5 Year Olds

516. 627.0257 / ganshalom@optonline.net

This program offers a quality Jewish preschool experience in a safe, relaxed and nurturing environment. We believe in fostering each child's natural curiosity, imagination, problem solving skills and creativity. Children are encouraged to experiment with a variety of materials while participating in individual and group activities. The curriculum includes story time, music, art, cooking, the celebration of Shabbat and Jewish holidays, movement and more. **Contact Laura Reich, Gan Shalom Director, for days, times, an application and additional information.**

GAN SHALOM SUMMER

21 Months – 5 Year Olds

The perfect program to help your child transition into the pre-school environment. It offers children a variety of activities appropriate for their age and development. Children play indoors in air-conditioned classrooms, and outdoors where sprinklers and a water slide are available. Special activities are planned for each week: Red, White and Blue, Under the Sea, Pajama Day and Crazy Hat Day. **Contact Laura Reich, Gan Shalom Director, for days, times, an application and additional information.**

BEFORE & AFTER CARE

3 – 5 Year Olds

Monday - Friday, 7:45AM - 6:15PM

Our all-day program wraps around our traditional nursery school classes and includes indoor and outdoor playtime, gym playtime, afternoon snack, story time and art. **Contact Laura Reich, Gan Shalom Director, for an application and additional information.**

SHALOM SHABBAT with Cantor Eric & Yoga Jen

Birth - 5 Year Olds

Saturdays, 9:00 - 9:45AM

One Saturday a month, our youngest children along with their parent/grandparent/caregiver, celebrate Shabbat with challah and juice, songs, stories, and movement. Both Gan Shalom families and non-members are invited. **Dates: 9/16, 10/14, 11/4, 12/9, 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/14, 5/19, 6/9.**

PJ LIBRARY with Morah Miriam and Our Clergy

Birth - 8 Year Olds

Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30PM




Join our PJ Family! The RSNS clergy and Gan Shalom Nursery School partner with PJ Library (a national program) to fill your lives with Jewish songs and books. Enrolled families receive Jewish-themed books monthly through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The synagogue also offers monthly PJ Library programs which celebrate Jewish holidays with crafts, storytelling, music and a pizza/salad dinner. **All at no cost to you :) Dates: 10/4, 11/8, 1/31, 3/28, 4/18, 5/23 at RSNS.** At Dolphin Bookshop on 12/13 6:00PM.

FAMILY HAVUROT supervised by Rabbi Jodie

Join a Family Havurah! Each Havurah is a small group of four to six families with children/grandchildren birth to 18. We strive to connect participants to each other and Judaism through a home-based program that meets five times a year. We pair you with other family units OR you can make your own group. Non-members and both traditional Jewish and interfaith families are welcome. Each Family Havurah is assigned a master teacher, (Miriam or Solomon) who mentors the Havurah as it engages in Jewish ritual, holidays, stories and learning. **Contact Rabbi Jodie for more information.**



A photograph of a man with dark hair and a blue t-shirt holding a baby with curly brown hair. The baby is wearing a green sleeveless top over a white shirt and orange pants. The man is holding a small, round, black and white drum. The background shows a wooden chair and a blue patterned wall.

**Shalom
Shabbat
Monthly
9:00 - 9:45AM**

RSNS.ORG | 516.627.6274 | 7



**Synagogue
School
Open House
9/12/17
4:15 - 6:15PM**



Synagogue School

Coordinated by Rabbi Jodie

Children build community within their age groups and come together in the study of Torah, Jewish Values and Acts of Ethical Kindness. Through song, prayer and stories they deepen their knowledge of Hebrew. We teach Torah as a living document that serves not only as a record of our people's experiences, but as a blueprint for our lives today. Our synagogue school is integrated into our larger synagogue community and draws upon its resources. We seek to create a caring educational community which reflects our congregation.

KINDERGARTEN, FIRST GRADE/ALEF

Thursdays, 4:15 - 6:15PM

We join in song and prayer with our youngest students, welcoming them into the Synagogue School learning community. Through a holiday-based curriculum, Hebrew as a living language, and family involvement, we integrate our youngest learners into the larger RSNS community. Each family may participate in the class by providing dinner for the students and by bringing a special ritual object from home for show and tell. **Start date 9/14.**

SECOND - SIXTH GRADE/BET - VAV

Choose one of the 2 following two-day-a-week, educational options:

Option 1. SHABBAT SCHOOL

Tuesdays, 4:15 - 6:15PM, Friday Evenings or Saturday Mornings

This **two-day-a-week** option includes direct parental involvement in your children's Jewish education and fosters Shabbat learning. On Tuesdays, students receive Hebrew instruction and attend school community programs including Tefilla Breira* (electives) in groups with the Tuesday/Thursday students. The second day of attendance is either a Friday evening or a Saturday morning. One Friday evening each month (when family services are held), students engage in "classroom" activities from 6:00-7:25PM. At 7:30PM parents join their children for Family Services. The remaining sessions meet on Saturday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00AM and include Torah study and services. **Members Only.** **Continued on next page**

Option 1. SHABBAT SCHOOL cont. One Saturday a month is designated as a B'Yahad (Together) service with Cantor Eric and Rabbi Jodie. A parent is required to attend the B'Yahad service with her/his child. For the first hour, two simultaneous Torah study groups are held - one for adults and one for children. Parents and children then join together for a one-hour family Shabbat service. The entire RSNS community is invited to attend both the adult Torah study and family service. **Start date Friday, 9/8, 6:00PM. Saturdays B'Yahad, 9:00-11:00AM: 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/10, 3/17, 4/21, 5/12.**

Option 2. Tuesdays/Thursdays, 4:15 - 6:15PM

Tuesdays are for Hebrew instruction and school community programs including Tefilla Breira* (electives). On Thursdays, the focus is on Torah, Tefilla (prayer service), Jewish Values and Acts of Ethical Kindness. **Start date: 9/12.**

***Tefilla Breira (prayer electives) or "Breirot"**

Students have a chance to try something new by focusing on a particular type of prayer activity. They explore different ways to access prayer, for example, through storytelling, social action, yoga, Israeli dancing and creative writing sessions led by our staff.

KIDS' CHOIR with Cantor Eric

Tuesdays, 6:15 - 6:30PM

The Kids' Choir is open to all synagogue school students in grades gimmel-vav. Kids learn contemporary Shabbat music including Camp Havaya (aka Camp JRF/NFTY) tunes, folk songs, and other popular melodies. Kids' Choir sings at every Friday evening family service, and joins the adult choir for a special musical service in the winter. The choir also performs at nursing homes and at community holiday events.

Start date: 9/19. Members only.





OR HADASH with Cantor Eric and our Shinshinim (page 18)
Grades 4 - 6, Saturdays, 7:00 - 9:30PM

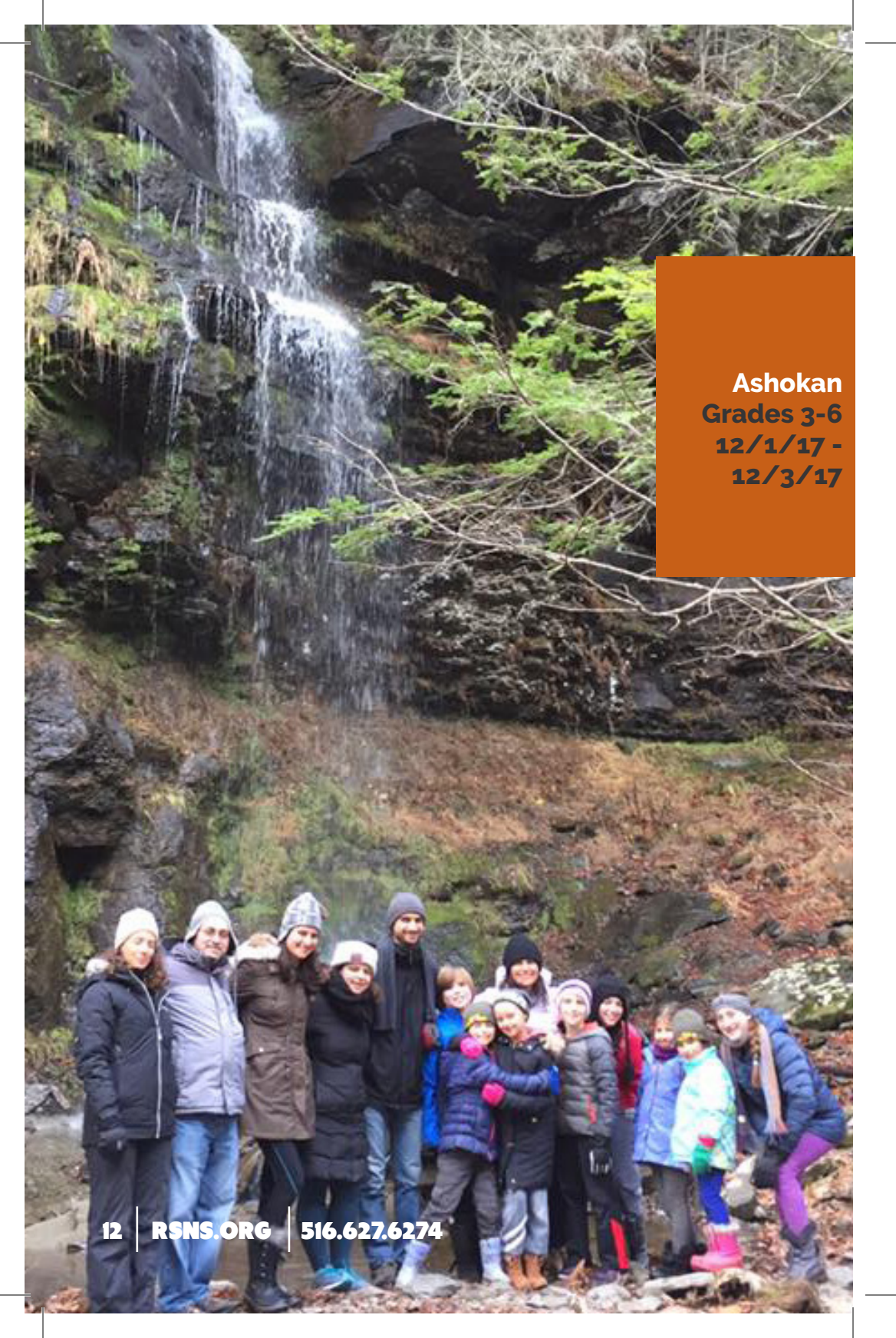
Our junior youth group / Or Hadash (New Light) gets together for monthly ice cream Havdalah movie nights, and takes a trip to volunteer at a Jewish soup kitchen in NYC. **Dates: 10/14, 11/18, 1/6, 2/10, 3/17, 4/16 (trip), 5/12.**

KADIMA OPENING RETREAT with Rabbi Jodie
Saturday, September 9, 9:00AM - 5:30PM
Sands Point Preserve

This is an essential and fun-filled introduction to the Kadima year. Parents attend 9:00 - 11:30AM (includes brunch). Students attend 9:00AM – 5:30PM (includes brunch and pizza dinner). Activities for students will include: Team Building, Bible Raps, Hiking, and Field Games. There is no seating – bring your own folding chair or blanket. Students must bring a water bottle and wear sneakers (no flip-flops). We look forward to full participation from all families. **Members Only.**

KADIMA with Rabbi Jodie, Cantor Eric and Solomon
Tuesdays, 6:00 - 8:00PM, includes pizza dinner

Students in the Kadima-year attend class every Tuesday. Parents join their student once a month. Beginning with a **day-long family retreat (9/9)**, we form both a spiritual and a learning community where b'nai mitzvah students and their parents encounter Judaism through the eyes of the women, men and children who have helped shape our heritage. We give participants a Jewish vocabulary as they continue to develop their own relationship with Judaism. **Start date 9/12. Members Only.**

A group of approximately 15 people, including students and adults, are posing for a group photo in front of a waterfall. They are dressed in winter clothing like coats, hats, and scarves. The waterfall is cascading over dark rocks, and there are some icicles hanging from the top. The background is filled with green evergreen trees and some bare deciduous branches.

Ashokan
Grades 3-6
12/1/17 -
12/3/17

FAMILY D'VAR TORAH with Rabbi Jodie

The whole family has the opportunity to prepare, and then present on the bima during their child's bat/bar mitzvah, a discussion of the Torah portion of the week. Following an introductory workshop on how to study Torah texts and prepare a d'varTorah (a discussion of the Torah portion), families are given a copy of that Torah portion. After the family has read the text, Rabbi Jodie meets with the family to help guide them through the text, answer questions, address problems, and help focus a course of study. **Members Only.**

Teens

The RSNS teen program provides many points of entry into synagogue and Jewish life. Our post-Kadima young adults connect with their Jewish identity and community by working with younger students and adult seniors, and participating in social action activities, experiential learning and fun adventures. Bar or bat mitzvah is only the beginning!



ADOPT A SURVIVOR with Rabbi Jodie

Post-Kadima Year

This program was established by Irving Roth, director of the Holocaust Resource Center at Temple Judea of Manhasset. Mr. Roth has organized a network of Holocaust survivors to serve as "adoptees" for our eighth grade students. These connections provide a vital link to the events of the Holocaust in a time when there are fewer survivors living to tell their own stories. The process begins with conversations between survivor and adopter. Through a series of meetings held at RSNS under Rabbi Jodie's supervision, the students become "surrogate survivors,"

ADOPT A SURVIVOR cont. committed to learning and re-telling their survivors' stories to the next generation. Students in this program agree to speak about their survivors in the year 2045, the 100TH anniversary of the camps' liberation. The initial session consists of a formal educational piece to provide students with general background information. In subsequent sessions, students meet the survivors and talk with them in detail. Finally, students present their survivors' stories to the Synagogue School and during RSNS' Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial) service. **Parents are welcome, but not required to attend, and take turns providing food for each session. Members only.**

Introductory Session 9/13, 6:00 - 7:00PM

One Wednesday/Month, 5:30 - 7:00PM, 10/18, 11/15, 12/20, 1/17, 2/7, 3/7

Rehearsal 3/28 arrive by 6:30PM

Yom HaShoah program during Synagogue School on 4/10

Yom HaShoah RSNS service 4/11 at 7:00PM.

BROS HODESH with Cantor Eric

Grades 8 - 12, Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00PM

Being a guy is not always so simple. We will explore what being a man – more specifically, a Jewish man – means, and what we can learn about ourselves, our gender identity and each other. Through activities, games, popular culture, food, discussions, and group experiences, we'll take this opportunity to just be guys. **Dates: 9/26, 10/24, 11/28, 12/19, 1/30, 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22, 6/10 ("BroBQ").**

GIRLS ROSH HODESH with Rabbi Jodie

Grades 8 – 12, Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00PM

This program is based on the Jewish tradition of women's New Moon celebrations to build self-esteem, Jewish identity, leadership skills, and friendship networks of adolescent girls. The monthly meetings provide a supportive environment where girls explore the social and cultural issues they encounter, including gender identity as they become adults and derive their own authentic Jewish values. The small groups are designed to provide a celebratory, empowering setting. Girls support each other in growing and learning, while having lots of fun. The program's success is due, in part, to the participatory mixture of discussing issues, traditions, and role models, as well as making crafts, writing stories, rejoicing with song and dance, socializing, and munching. **Dates: 9/26, 10/24, 11/28, 12/19, 1/30, 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22, 6/12 (Girls Dinner).**



Bros Hodesh



**Girls Rosh
Hodesh**



MADRICHIM coordinated by Rabbi Jodie **Post-Kadima Year – 12th Grade**

Madrichim (Aides) are given assignments which include assisting in a classroom, or in the office, Hebrew tutoring, or working one-on-one with students. During training sessions Madrichim enhance their Synagogue School experience through continued learning about Judaism, leadership, Jewish education, professional conduct and teaching techniques. **Madrichim have the option of working Tuesday and/or Thursday 4:00 - 6:30PM, once a month on Friday 6:00 - 8:30PM, and/or Saturdays 9:00 - 11:00AM. Madrichim can be paid or earn community service hours. Learning sessions are 9/7 at 7:00PM, and 11/14, 1/16, 3/22, 5/8 from 6:30 - 7:30PM. Members Only.**

KULANU

Grades 8 - 9 with Cantor Eric and Solomon Hoffman
Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00PM

Parents with Rabbi Lee - Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Kulanu means All of Us. Teens and parents meet separately, at the same time, one Tuesday a month to learn and connect with each other. Pizza included.

Grades 8 - 9 With Cantor Eric and Solomon - Participants explore a wide range of engaging topics in fun, interactive ways.

KULANU cont.

Parents with Rabbi Lee - In the tradition of B'Yahad and Kadima, parents continue their own journeys as learners in this monthly course: ALL ABOUT GOD. In our emphasis on 'belonging' over 'believing' we, Reconstructionist Jews, are reticent to talk about God. But Rabbi Lee will fearlessly devote his monthly Tuesday seminar to the evolution of God in Jewish history. One need not attend every session to benefit. **The entire RSNS community is invited to attend this monthly course taught by Rabbi Lee. Dates: 9/19 (teens only) 10/17, 11/21, 12/12, 1/23, 2/13, 3/20, 4/17, 5/29 Contact Cantor Eric for more info.**

KESHER HADASH with Cantor Eric

Grades 8 - 12

Our co-ed youth group is called Keshet Hadash (New Connections). Teens have the opportunity to connect once a month by engaging in fun, informal events such as social action, holiday experiences, trips, and more. **Dates: 9/17 (Escape the Room), 10/7-8 (Sukkah Sleepover), 11/5 (Mitzvah Day), 12/16 (Hanukkah Fry-Fest), 1/15 (MLK Day of Service), 3/3 (Post-Purim Party), 4/19 (Israel Celebration), 5/6 (IsraelFest). Exact times TBA. Contact Cantor Eric for more info.**



BETTER TOGETHER with Cantor Eric and Solomon **Grades 10 – 11 & Adult Seniors, Sundays 5:00-7:00PM**

Our 10TH and 11TH graders will meet monthly with RSNS adult seniors. Teens and seniors will engage in a sharing of perspectives, experiences, opinions and wisdom on a different social justice topic each month. They will utilize a curriculum created by renowned educator and former executive of Avoda Arts, Deb Krivoy. Seniors and teens will also collaborate on a culminating final project to be presented at

BETTER TOGETHER cont. our annual congregational meeting in June. **Meet at North Shore Towers. Dinner included. Student orientation at RSNS, 9/13, 6:00-7:00PM. Adult Senior orientation at North Shore Towers, Queens, NY, 9/17 (exact location and time TBA). Students & Adult Seniors: Sundays, 5:00 – 7:00PM at North Shore Towers, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 2/11, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20, . Final presentation at RSNS' Congregational meeting 6/3 at 5:00PM.**



SHINSHINIM coordinated by Rabbi Jodie

In partnership with the Sid Jacobson Jewish Community Center (SJCC), the Long Island Chapter of the Israeli Scouts and several area synagogues, we receive two “Shinshin-

im” – Israeli High School graduates who spend their gap year with us and other local partnering institutions before they commence their mandatory military service in Israel. The Shinshinim program’s mission is to bring Israel closer to Jewish communities on Long Island, to foster cross-cultural understanding, and to nurture love of and pride in Israel, particularly for our youth. These two wonderfully dynamic Israelis will each teach a class in our synagogue school and have other opportunities to interact and contribute to our community.

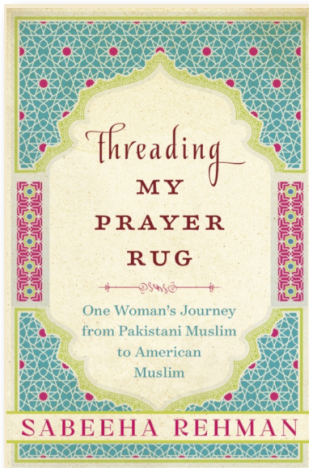


SPiritual MENTORSHIP with Solomon
Grades 8 - 12

A new spiritual mentorship program for teens at RSNS! Educator Solomon Hoffman will mentor and Rabbi Jodie will supervise the program. This is an opportunity to explore personal experiences and challenges through the lens of Jewish texts and teachings. During individual meetings, we will explore how to find holiness and faith in both difficult and joyous moments. This is not therapy or counseling. Instead of focusing on solving problems, we’ll look to Jewish sources as a perspective on the challenges and transitions of the teenage years. Solomon will meet with you once or twice a month over coffee/frozen yogurt. **We were able to start this program thanks to a micro grant from the Jewish Education Project. Contact Solomon to setup your first appointment. Members only.**

Adults

Although Jewish sacred texts, sancta and tenets are millennia old, the Jewish People has evolved. And each of us change in the course of our own lives. Adult studies give a passageway into the stream of Jewish tradition and culture within the context of the classroom and through shared experiences outside the classroom walls. Continue to explore and journey forth with the offerings that follow.



New!

THREADING MY PRAYER RUG: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim Sunday, 9/10 at 4:00PM

Warm, charming and interesting, author Sabeeha Rehman will share her life experiences growing up in Pakistan and leaving her family to come to the United States as a young newly married woman. She will tell us how she met her husband, what it is like to raise Muslim children in the U.S., and what it is like to be a Muslim in the U.S. now. A Q & A will follow. Dessert, coffee and tea will be served. **Sponsored by our Social Action Committee.**

New!

EMPTY NESTERS Pot Luck Planning Meeting Sunday, 9/17, 6:00PM



Are you a relatively new or soon-to-be Empty Nester, and have some newly found free time to have some fun? If you would like to connect with other RSNS Empty Nesters and participate in activities and events together join our group. We have developed a listserv to share ideas for future activities, dates for upcoming events, and to serve as a resource to connect with others experiencing a similar life transition. Bring a favorite dish to share and think of some activities you've been wanting to do so we can plan for the upcoming year. **RSVP to rsnsempdynesters@gmail.com. Members only.**

New!

SATURDAY NIGHT CINEMA

A three-part exploration of Israeli cinema and culture led by Israeli congregant Orly Dotan. Films and film clips will be watched as catalysts to conversations about elements of contemporary Israeli society. **Saturday evenings: 10/21, 1/20, 3/10. Look for emails or consult our website for exact times. Sponsored by our Israel Engagement Committee.**

New!

ALL ABOUT GOD with Rabbi Lee

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00PM

In our emphasis on 'belonging' over 'believing' we, Reconstructionist Jews, are reticent to talk about God. But Rabbi Lee will fearlessly devote his monthly Tuesday seminar to the evolution of God in Jewish history. Beginning with our classical traditions - the God of the Hebrew Bible and the God of the Talmudic and medieval sages - he will move on to modern Jewish existentialist philosophers Abraham Joshua Heschel, Martin Buber, and Mordecai Kaplan. He will conclude with a view of God through the lens of the contemporary Reconstructionist theologian, Harold Schulweis. One need not attend every session to benefit from the course. **The entire RSNS community is invited to attend this monthly course taught by Rabbi Lee. Dates: 10/17, 11/21, 12/12, 1/23, 2/13, 3/20, 4/17, 5/29.**

WOMEN'S ROSH HODESH with Rabbi Jodie

Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:00PM

All women of our congregation are welcome to join us as we study and learn from each other. We examine traditional religious rituals and life cycle events and reflect on how they continue to meet the needs of women today. Current issues of importance to us are also discussed. Women of all ages are welcome. **Dates: 9/13, 10/4, 11/8, 12/13, 1/10, 2/14, 4/4, 5/19, 6/13.**





TUNEFUL TUESDAYS with Cantor Eric and Solomon **Tuesdays, 8:00 - 9:30PM**

Do you love to sing? Would you like to meet new people and also enrich musical participation in services and other events? Join choir members, old and new, as we put the TOGETHER in singing together. NO Hebrew or music reading skills necessary. **Start Date: 10/10. Second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Exceptions: We will not meet in December. In January we will meet 1/9, 1/16, 1/23.**



MEN'S GROUP

Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:00PM

The Men's Group is a monthly vehicle for the men of our congregation to socialize and discuss topics of mutual, personal and general interest. Rabbi Lee, a member of the group, participates in the discussions with items of interest. The discussions and socializing help members learn more about one another and develop friendships. **Men of all ages are welcome. Contact congregant Seymour Weinstein through the office. Dates: 9/13, 10/13, 11/4, 12/13, 1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4/4, 5/9, 6/13. Members only.**

EAT, READ, TALK with Rabbi Lee

Thursdays 11:30AM - 1:00PM

We read articles of Jewish interest from a variety of sources. Subjects include politics, the arts, travel and the state of the State of Israel. Bring a dairy lunch. We'll supply the beverages and the articles to be discussed. **Dates: 10/26, 11/9, 12/14, 1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 4/12, 5/10, 6/14.**



ENGAGING WITH AGING

Thursdays, 11:30AM – 1:00PM

Join congregants from the “sandwich generation” and those who are grappling with their own aging to discuss how to live well in the present, and how to prepare for the future. Facilitated by a JCC social worker, we share concerns raised by participants, and benefit from professional input and individual experiences. Discussions may include decision-making with parents and older children, legal documents we should consider, criteria in selecting physicians and attorneys, and rehabilitation and long-term facilities. Attend as often as you like. **Contact congregant Carol Blumenthal through the office. Dates: 9/14, 10/19, 11/2, 12/7, 1/4, 2/1, 3/1, 4/5, 5/3, 6/7. Members only.**

2ND GENERATION SURROGATE SURVIVORS

Thursdays, 7:30PM

Children and grandchildren of survivors are invited to share the stories and the history of their family members. These connections provide a vital link to the events of the Holocaust in a time when there are fewer survivors living to tell their own stories. **Contact congregant Dinah Kramer through the office. Dates: 10/19, 12/7, 2/8, 5/10.**

BIBLE SEMINAR with Rabbi Lee

Thursdays, 8:00 - 9:30PM

Come and dip a cup into the sea that is the Hebrew Bible, an anchor of the Jewish People for the last two millennia. Our particular study is without end, and requires no previous experience. This year begins with Song of Songs and moves on to Ruth and Lamentations. Don't be intimidated. This class is for those without any biblical background and for those who know a great deal. **Dates: 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 12/14, 1/4, 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 5/3, 5/17.**

SHABBAT YOGA with Rabbi Jodie (RYS-200 Certified)

Fridays, 10:00 - 11:15AM

Experience Shabbat through movement; connecting body, mind and soul. Good for all levels. Adults and post b'nai mitzvah teens, as well as non-members are welcome. Bring your own mat and yoga props (we have a few if you forget yours). Wear comfortable workout attire. **Every Friday, excluding Holidays. Visit rsns.org to confirm dates.**

YIDDISH READING GROUP

Fridays, 10:00 - 11:30AM

If you have an affection for Yiddish and its significance in our culture and daily life, this is the group for you. Whether you know a little Yiddish or are an expert, the group is glad to help you with the literature, poetry, readings from the Daily Forward, short stories and songs, which are read in Yiddish and discussed in English. **Contact congregant Jerry Bloom through the office for meeting dates.**

CANTOR'S DINNER AND STUDY SESSION

Fridays, 7:00 - 8:00PM (Dinner at 6:30PM)

Join Cantor Eric for Shabbat dinner and engage in lively conversation and the study of diverse topics. Each year there is a specific theme. This year's theme is The Ten Commandments, Many Approaches. Each session will examine a different commandment (or two) from a broad range of perspectives, both ancient and contemporary. Price varies depending on the menu. You are welcome to skip dinner and come for FREE for the 7:00 – 8:00pm study session. Shabbat evening services follow. **Dates: 10/20, 11/17, 12/15, 1/19, 3/23, 4/20, 5/18.**

TORAH STUDY with Rabbi Jodie and Cantor Eric

Saturdays, 9:00 – 10:15AM

Study the Parshat HaShavua (Torah portion of the week).

Dates: 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/10, 3/17, 4/21, 5/12.

ZIONISM SEMINAR with Rabbi Lee

Saturdays, 12:00 - 1:30PM

Join us to learn about the history of the modern State of Israel. We read original documents from a variety of sources to help understand how Israel became what it is today. Sources include memoirs, ideological treatises, positions of significant historical figures, and government and international documents. Rabbi Lee provides background information and clarification, which frequently lead to lively discussions. This year we will begin with the first 'Intifada', and move to the Oslo Accords and the aftermath. Each class is complete within itself, so drop by as often as you wish. **Dates: 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/16, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/10, 3/24, 4/14, 4/28, 5/19.**



BETTER TOGETHER with Cantor Eric and Solomon **Grades 10 – 11 & Adult Seniors, Sundays, 5:00-7:00PM**

Our 10th and 11th graders will meet monthly with RSNS adult seniors. Teens and seniors will engage in a sharing of perspectives, experiences, opinions and wisdom on a different social justice topic each month. They will utilize a curriculum created by renowned educator and former executive of Avoda Arts, Deb Krivoy. Seniors and teens will also collaborate on a culminating final project to

BETTER TOGETHER cont.

be presented at our annual congregational meeting in June. **Meet at North Shore Towers. Dinner included. Student orientation at RSNS, 9/13, 6:00-7:00PM. Adult Senior orientation at North Shore Towers, Queens, NY, 9/17 (exact location and time TBA). Students & Adult Seniors: Sundays, 5:00 – 7:00PM, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 2/11, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20, Final presentation at RSNS' Congregational meeting 6/3, 5:00PM.**



**Shabbat
Yoga
Fridays
10AM
See page 23**

Community

We love when our congregation comes together.

New!

ANTI-BIAS ACTION COMMITTEE

Initial Meeting Tuesday, September 12, 7:30PM

This group was formed to identify anti-Semitic incidents in our local community and respond effectively. We are building networks with nearby synagogues, houses of worship, and local school districts to build coalitions to monitor and respond to local anti-Semitic incidents. Meetings will be held bi-monthly starting in September. **Contact congregants Matt Harris or Lorri Staal through the office. Additional dates: TBA.**

New!

CAFE ISRAEL

Thursday, April 19

Join us for a night of Israeli food, dancing, and music in celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day). **Look for emails or consult our website for the exact time.** Sponsored by the RSNS Israel Engagement Committee.







Visit
rsns.org
for all
programming
info



“ Sandwich making was special for our Havurah. It was great for kids to be a part of & learn early on the importance of tzedakah and helping those in need.

CONGREGANT





UNIVERSITY DAY/SHABBATON

Saturday, May 12th

Join us at RSNS for our “in house” Retreat/ Shabbaton. The day will begin with a B'Yahad Torah study, move on to a potluck lunch and continue with presentations and discussions. We welcome Rabbi Deborah Waxman PhD, President of RRC, who will participate in this event.

All ages welcome! **Look for emails or consult our website for the exact times.**



SANDWICH MAKING with Rabbi Lee and Jen Schiffer

Sundays, 10:00 – 11:30AM

Rabbi Lee and Jen lead fun-filled intergenerational Sunday mornings making 300 sandwiches that go into 150 decorated lunch bags. The bags are delivered to the INN (The Interfaith Nutrition Network), a series of soup kitchens and emergency shelters that address the issues of hunger and homelessness on Long Island.

Dates: 10/22, 12/10, 2/4, 3/18, 4/15, 5/6.



New!

EXPLORING GENDER IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY

This group will explore issues relating to gender identity in today's society. The group is designed for people who want to learn about, understand and explore gender identity. We will meet two or three times during the year depending upon the needs of the group. **Contact congregant Debbie Kesselman through the office. Look out for emails or consult**

our website for dates and time.

New!

MY CISTER, MY BROTHER

A Screening and Talkback about Gender Identity

Here at RSNS we speak of making space for people of all different gender expressions, but many of us have questions about what that means. We will watch a short documentary (My Cister, My Brother) about a transgender boy and his family's journey through his transition. The video will be followed by a talkback and group discussion with the mother. **Look out for emails or consult our website for the date and time. Contact Carol Blumenfeld or Debbie Kesselman for more information.**

Hosts Needed

RABBINIC INTERN coordinated by Rabbi Jodie

In partnership with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College each year we select a rabbinical student to shadow our clergy and enhance our congregation's connection to the Reconstructionist Movement. During five three-day visits, the intern teaches, leads and learns from our RSNS community. **This year's intern is Claire Brunhild. If you would like to host her for one of the following visits, please contact Rabbi Jodie for more information. Dates: 9/26-28, 12/15-17, 1/23-25, 3/2-4, 5/10-12.**

Clergy Professional Staff and Lay Leadership

CLERGY

RABBI LEE FRIEDLANDER
RABBI JODIE SIFF
CANTOR ERIC SCHULMILLER

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rabJodie@optonline.net
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OFFICERS

President RON GUGGENHEIMER

Vice Presidents JANE BUFORD, JODI FELD, MATT HARRIS,
MERYL KAYNARD, LORRI STAAL

Treasurer RANDY SHAIN

Recording Secretary KAREN UNGER-BELFER

Corresponding Secretary ORLY DOTAN



TRUSTEES

TED BAECHER, JUDY BIEBER, NANCY COHEN, LEIGH FELDMAN, SUSAN HICKS,
SUSAN LIBERSTEIN, ROSEANN MICHELSON, JONATHAN PAISNER, JOLIE PATAKI,
LESLEY SIEGEL, LISA SLOAN, TERRY WOLFF



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Our committees add to the vibrancy of the synagogue, enable congregants to influence the direction of our community and are a great way to meet others. Committees are open to all members. Call the office to get additional information.

Standing Committee Chairs

Choir & Ritual	TERRY WOLFF, ILENE ROSENDAHL
Design	MYRNA NIEGO
Education	ROSEANN MICHELSON
Finance	RANDY SHAIN
Fundraising	ALVIN PITKOW
House	STEVE CHARNO, LEE PARKER
Jewish Reconstructionist Movement	TAMMY SMILEY
Membership	JANE BUFORD
Mutual Support	ILSE SANDER, PEARL WEINSTEIN
Personnel	ROB WHITMAN
Programming	JUNE PITKOW, BARBARA SCHAFER
Publicity	MATT HARRIS, JONATHAN PAISNER
Social Action	DEBBIE KESSELMAN

Special Committee Chairs

Anti-Bias Action	MATT HARRIS, LORRI STAAL
Art	DAVID ECKERT, KAREN ECKERT
College Outreach	RONNI ARONOW
Family Oneg	HOPE PECULLAN
Israel Engagement	NANCY COHEN
Oneg	SUSAN HICKS
Employment and Negotiation	DAN RABINOWITZ
Graphic Design	MICHELLE SHAIN



Israel Trip!
12/21 /17 -
1/1/18
Contact
Rabbi Jodie
for info



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Belonging

Community
RSNS - ~~Synagogue~~
Family + Pet's
Torah
Hebrew School
Madrishim
Tikkun Olam
prayers

matzah
ball soup

Believing

God
Torah
Shabbat
Elijah
Prophets -
teaching you
Stories
Blessings
↓
laws - 10

Behaving

Torah - live it
worship learn
eating
rest - Shabbat
celebrate holidays
praying + blessing
remembering
thankful
sing arguing
talk + learn

ing
miracles

eat

our children

sings

10c

At RSNS

Judaism is more than a religion: it is our history, literature, art and music, Israel and Hebrew, as well as our customs and ritual observances. Our sense of belonging is affirmed through our shared past, our collective values and our communal experience of worship, study and celebration. Our religious tradition – egalitarian, participatory and inclusive – is a reflection of our ancestors' search for meaning, purpose and value. Whether you're already an RSNS member, new to our community, or visiting, we hope you'll join us throughout the year as we strive to deepen our connections with Judaism, each other, and improving the world.





**1001 PLANDOME RD
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