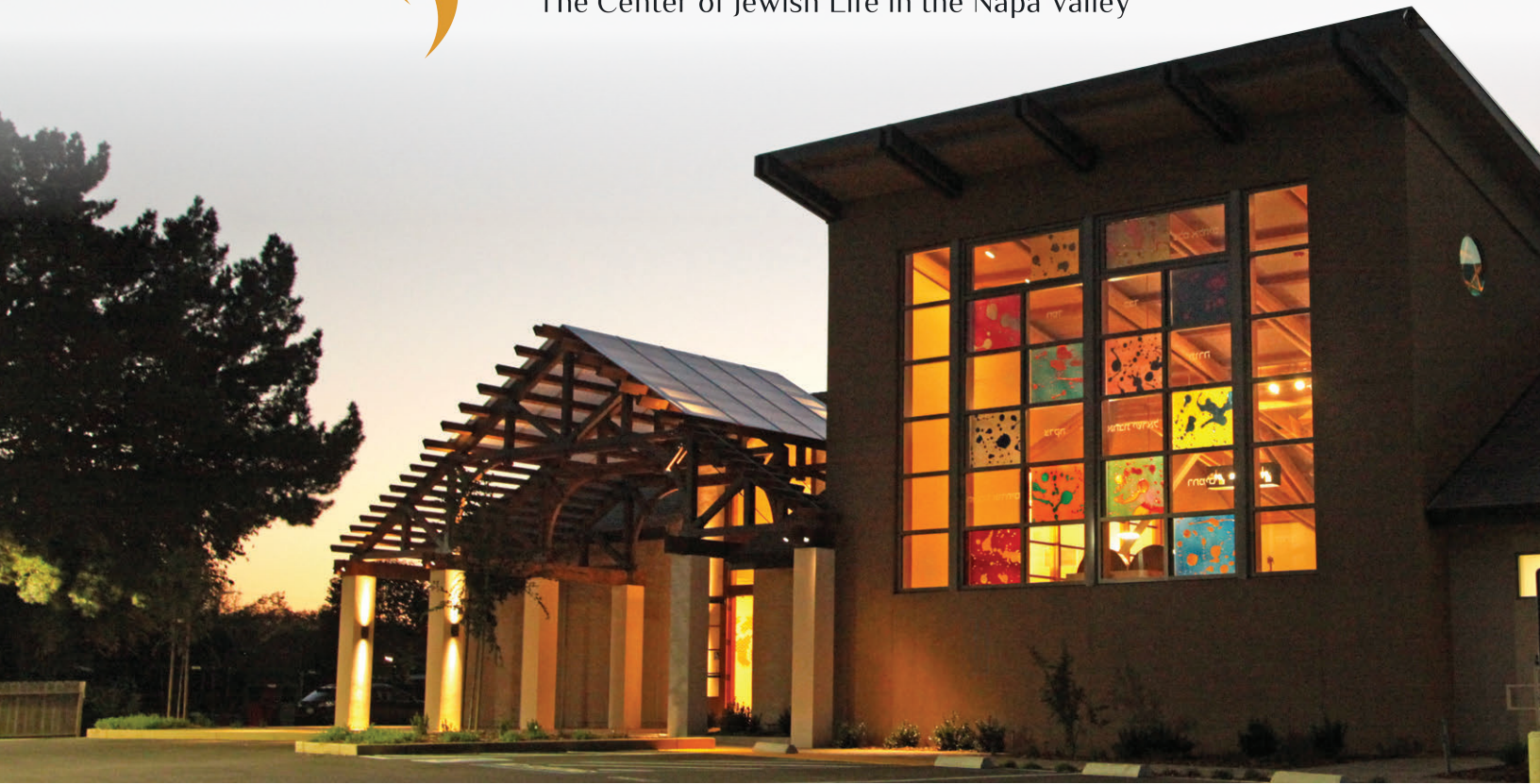


October Newsletter



CONGREGATION Beth Shalom

The Center of Jewish Life in the Napa Valley



In this issue...

Click an entry to jump to its page

- A note from Rabbi Niles
- President's message
- Dialogue with the Director
- Birthdays & anniversaries
- Yahrtzeits
- Services & Torah portions
- Calendar of events
- Youth corner
- Members
- Recent donations
- Preview of upcoming events
- Ways to support Beth Shalom
- Kehilah corner
- About & contact

A note from Rabbi Niles

Dear friends,

By the time you read this, we will have already celebrated Rosh Hashanah together, and Yom Kippur is about to begin, followed by the beautiful and joyful holidays of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. May this reflective time and happy season be elevating and enriching for every one of us, particularly during this very challenging time for Jews here, in Israel, and around the world.

As some of you may know, I will be taking my rescheduled sabbatical after the Jewish holidays. I am grateful to the congregation and our leadership for this wonderful opportunity to renew, refresh, and grow as a rabbi. I will start my sabbatical in late October and resume my full-time duties at Beth Shalom in late January. I will be back in Napa during my sabbatical in order to celebrate the first night of Chanukah with our community on Sunday, December 14.

While I'm away, Rabbi Grand will be leading a number of Shabbat services



and giving his thoughtful drashot. Howard Eisenstark, chair of our ritual committee, and member Efi Lubliner, have also arranged for a number of our own members to help lead the other Shabbat services, and to give drashot, in my absence. I am very appreciative of their efforts.

Rabbi Grand will be available in the event of an emergency, such as a death. Marah will keep me informed as to those situations.

Most of my plans are finalized. I will be serving as the resident chaplain at the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA for about 10 days, followed by travel to Portugal

and Spain where I will be doing some teaching and community work at two different congregations affiliated with the World Union for Progressive Judaism, one in Porto (to which Beth Shalom members Tucker and Anita Caitlin belong) and one in Barcelona. After I return to Napa to celebrate Chanukah with you, Carolyn and I will spend time in Chicago visiting our families.

I'll endeavor to send some "reports from the field," and I know that I will miss all of you during this time away. But rest assured, you are in good hands, and the time will pass quickly.

Thank you for all you have given me these past eight years, so far. I will continue to give you my best in the years ahead, whatever our challenges or celebrations may be.

B'shalom,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "NE Goldstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

President's message

Into the new year

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude. Through your support and dedication, Beth Shalom has experienced a year of growth, reaching new milestones, and embracing new opportunities to serve one another and our broader Jewish community.

Our newly formed Strategic Planning Committee is focused on envisioning and planning Beth Shalom's future for the next 3-5 years. I would like to personally thank all who have responded to their questionnaire, providing your interests, valuable suggestions, and ideas.

In response to your educational goals, we have recently reactivated our Education Committee, whose charter is to improve and expand programs for adults and children of all ages. Shira Lubliner, a relatively new Beth Shalom member and experienced educator, will be the chair.



Consistent with our 3 - 5 year horizon, Rabbi Niles has agreed to extend his existing contract to May 2030 with Board of Trustee's approval.

Thank you all for being a vital part of this incredible year. Looking ahead, I am excited to see what 5786 will bring.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eve". The signature is stylized, with a large, sweeping "E" and a cursive "ve".

Dialogue with the Director

Choosing to be Jewish in everyday moments

I recently had a conversation with someone where we were discussing the war in Israel and Gaza (I promise you this is not about that), but when I played devils advocate to their Gazan genocide argument, I was met with “we put our guns down first because we are Jewish.” This is the part that got me thinking.

There are so many things I do in my day-to-day life that I can attribute to being Jewish. Sure, going to temple and lighting Shabbat candles would be on that list, but there were other things that came to mind.

Growing up, there was one girl in my class who I did not particularly care for, who happened to live across the street from a girl who I was friendly with. Every year, when it came time for my birthday, I would beg my mom to not make me invite her to my party.



I was always met with an explanation of “how can you not invite her, she will see the other girl leaving her house for your party with a present and know you left her out.” Even to my Bat Mitzvah, she received an invitation.

Having her at my parties didn’t make a big difference to me but not inviting her could have had a big impact, in a negative way, on her.

I think of the twelve values on our sanctuary windows, and see how compassion, respect, kindness and others all came into play in me learning this lesson at a young age. Looking back after all these years, I invited the girl because I am Jewish, and because

Dialogue with the Director

it was the right thing to do; and to some degree I see these as being synonymous.

I'd like to think that that is what my conversation companion meant when they said, "we put our guns down first because we are Jewish." Despite everything we have been through, we rise above and do the right thing. This is no easy feat, especially when we as a people have been met with so much struggle.

I think of other times in my life when I was met with struggle personally, or with something I didn't want to do, but knew was the right thing to do despite my own immature feelings, and in those moments, I chose to "be Jewish".

The irony that it is coming upon Yom Kippur is not lost on me. Once again, we go to temple and apologize for not being as good as we could have been, and promise to do better, and be "more Jewish" in the coming year. Some might consider it elitist, to hold ourselves to a higher standard (like Hebrew National), but I think this higher standard is what gives us strength in the times of our struggles. We aren't meant

to be perfect, which is a great thing to remember right now, but we are expected to do what is right, even when it is hard.

I wish you all a "gemar chatimah tovah", "a good final sealing".



Mazah
& Rebel

Birthdays & anniversaries

Celebrating in October

Birthdays

- 1** Joe Blum , Amy Elliot
- 2** Lior Kaduri, Anna Shahabi
- 3** Leonard Danon, Bunnie Finkelstein
- 4** Pam Bergman
- 6** Dona Bonick
- 7** Ronen Ewig
- 8** Dave Dobrow
- 12** Naomi Warfield,
Susan Kopperman,
Stuart Eisendrath
- 14** Joshua Thornton
- 15** Renee Cazares
- 16** Matthew Meckel, Genji Schmeder
- 18** Sandi Hyman
- 19** Charles Slutzkin
- 20** Ilenia Willmert, D'vorah Grenn
- 21** Lara Shumer
- 22** Gary Liberman
- 24** Norbert Frost, Teresa Barnes
- 25** Jan Sabo, Barbara Lustig,
Alyssa Samrick
- 29** Carl Rice
- 31** Farrah Garber, Roxanne Cohen



Anniversaries

- 2** Scott & Robin Stearn
- 8** Roxanne & David Cohen
- 12** Matt Eisenberg & Hillary Homzie,
Naomi & Jesse Petrick
- 15** Sally & Steve Gordon,
Miriam Siegel & David Markstein
- 17** Steven Chaffin & Penny Duan
- 18** Suzanne & James Bronk
- 24** Bradley & Deborah Wasserman

**Donate or sponsor Oneg in honor
of a special occasion**

We remember

We remember and honor loved ones on the anniversary of their passing on these days in October:

- 1** Ida L. Eisenstark,
Marlin Bert Lieberstein,
Alvin Schweizer, Shirley Greenstein,
Richard Luros,
Alexander Buddy Cohn
- 2** Perla Amar, Barbara Thornton,
Clare McCaslin
- 3** Mitzi Shelley, Fina Widmann Eytan,
Aaron Silver
- 4** Israel Trakhtenberg,
Paul Simon Abramovitz,
Dora Goldmann
- 5** Steve Eisendrath, Albert Baum
- 6** Israel Brainen,
Milton James Goldman
- 7** Erika Cornelisen
- 8** Clare Stern
- 9** Joyce Bisberg, Nettie Goren ,
Jessie Blatteis, Louis Ell,
Gertrude Kahn
- 11** Herbert Matties
- 14** Shirley Allen, Jake Goldstein,
Aurelia Morlett

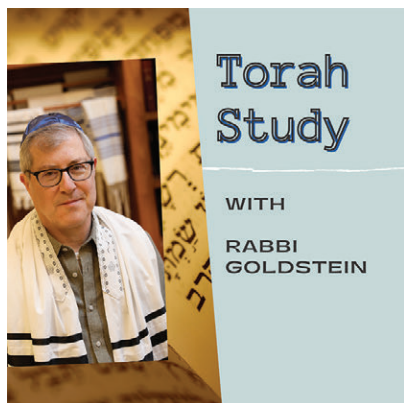
- 15** Jacob Monis, Fannie J Monis,
Ida Epstein, Beatrice Cohen,
Betty Light Katz, Dan Levin
- 16** Robert David
- 17** Melody Sobelman
- 20** Ray Krieger, Harvey Abramowicz,
Ruth Morlett
- 21** Mary Elizabeth Merrill
- 22** Margery Klein, Evie Abrams,
Mildred Bremner, Marcus Widmann,
Hilda Altman
- 23** Irving Schnabolk, Evelyn Frank,
Boyd Bert Margolis,
Dr. Alvin Lawrence Philipson,
Samantha Jane Kessler
- 24** Morton Sherman, Bella Rosenthal,
Michael Blend, Esther Ell
- 25** Cathy Wieder
- 26** Joe Freed
- 27** George Rosenberg, Jay Barush,
Dora Green, Marion "Mimi" Hirschhorn
- 28** Reinhold Werner Frost
- 29** David Mendelsohn, Nancy Gennet
- 30** Janice Rummelsberg, Bill Warfield,
Jerome Good
- 31** Paul Benko, Morris Nussbaum,
Goldye G Cohen,
Carl Friedman

**Make a donation in honor
of a loved one**



Services & Torah portions

Torah Portion	Service led by	Oneg sponsored by	Start time
October 3 Haazinu • הֶאֱזִינוּ Listen Deuteronomy 32:1–52	Rabbi Niles & Gordon Lustig	Kathleen Conrey	6:00 pm
October 10 Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot • חול המועד סוכות Exodus 33:12–34:26	Rabbi Niles & Gordon Lustig	Pot luck Service & Oneg at Hagafen Winery	5:30 pm
October 17 B'reishit • בְּרֵאשִׁית In the Beginning Genesis 1:1–6:8	Rabbi Niles & Gordon Lustig	Pot luck	6:00 pm
October 24 Noach • נֹחַ Noah Genesis 6:9–11:32	Led by Shira Lubliner with drash by Carla Dal Porto	Kathleen Conrey	6:00 pm
October 31 Lech L'cha • לֵךְ-לְךָ Go Forth Genesis 12:1–17:27	Rabbi Grand	Kelly & Terra Pepper in memory of Alexander “Buddy” Cohen	6:00 pm



Torah Study

10:30 - 11:30 am

Saturday, October 4

An engaging 1-hour journey with Rabbi Niles into the heart of our sacred texts. Bring your curiosity, your questions, and a friend. Whether you're a first-timer or a seasoned student, you're always welcome.

This month at Beth Shalom

This newsletter is published at the beginning of the month, but new events are added all the time and details can sometimes change. Be sure to check the Upcoming Events section on our website for all the latest.

Our office will be closed Tuesday, October 7.



Wednesday, October 1 (Tishrei 9)

7:00 pm

We invite you to join us for our Kol Nidre service, the profoundly moving start to Yom Kippur. Registration is required, [click to register](#).



Thursday, October 2 (Tishrei 10)

Join us for Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, as we come together for a day of reflection, prayer, and atonement:

- 9:30 am Family service
- 10:15 am Children's program
- 10:30 am General worship service
- 3:30 pm Healing service
- 4:30 pm Mincha/Afternoon service
- 5:30 pm Yizkor/Neilah service
- 6:45 pm Break the fast

Registration is required, [click to register](#).

Calendar of events



Sunday, October 5 (Tishrei 13)

9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Build & decorate our Sukkah alongside our Religious School students. Click to register.



Tuesday, October 7 (Tishrei 15)

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Enjoy holiday Havdalah in our Sukkah, followed by a program in our sanctuary with guest speaker, Israeli and Beth Shalom member Efi Lubliner, who will share a presentation on the history of Israel.



Wednesday, October 8 (Tishrei 16)

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Join us for a slice of community at our Pizza in the Hut Sukkot dinner. Click to register.



Thursday, October 9 (Tishrei 17)

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Guided wellness practice based on the science of expressive writing. New participants always welcome. Click to inquire.

Calendar of events



Saturday, October 11 (Tishrei 19)

7:00 - 9:00 pm

An unforgettable evening of Scotch and Steak in the Sukkah. What could be better than savoring steaks and sipping on fine scotch under the stars in our cozy Sukkah? Click to register.



Saturday, October 18 (Tishrei 26)

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Delight in the full Shabbat morning experience as we welcome the beginning of the Torah cycle anew, reading the first verses of Genesis from our Torah scroll. Following the service, enjoy a Kiddush luncheon. All are welcome.



Tuesday, October 21 (Tishrei 29)

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Join us at our monthly book club. We'll be discussing *Goyhood* by Reuven Fenton. New participants always welcome. Click to inquire.



Tuesday, October 21 (Tishrei 29)

7:00 pm

All members are invited to attend our monthly Board of Trustees meetings. Your participation is not only welcomed – it's your right as a valued member of our congregation. Contact Eve if you would like to attend by clicking here.



Friday, October 24 (Heshvan 2)

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Members-only pool days are a benefit of membership at Beth Shalom. Come enjoy fun in the sun at the shul with the pool. [Click to register.](#)



Monday, October 27 (Heshvan 5)

It's movie night at Beth Shalom! Tonight's film: When Harry Met Sally. Pizza and popcorn will be provided! [Click to register](#)

Religious school



October Religious School schedule:

- **Sunday, October 5:** 9:30 am
...Together we'll build our Sukkah!
- **Sunday, October 19:** 9:30 am
- **Sunday, October 26:** 9:30 am

[Download the complete Religious School calendar](#)

G'Dilah גדילה Youth Group for 6th grade & up



Wednesday, October 8 (Tishrei 16)

7:00 pm

Our Youth Group combines social connections with deeper Jewish learning. Teens build lasting friendships while exploring their Jewish identity in ways that feel relevant and engaging to their lives.

This month we'll be enjoying "Pizza in the Hut" by dining together in our Sukkah. Click to register.

Members



Mazel tov!

(B'ruchim HaBa'im) ברוכים הבאים
Welcome new members

**Justin Linkner, Wendy Messman,
and Ella**

&

Emily Boulter

&

Molly Knopf

to the Congregation Beth Shalom family

Being a member brings so many benefits and perks. If you're curious about membership, click to learn more:

[Learn about membership](#)

Beth Shalom member directory

Members can access our directory to get in touch with other members:

On our website (www.cbsnapa.org): Click Login button in the upper right, login, then click View My Directory.

Email: Email office@cbsnapa.org and Marah will email you a copy of the member directory.

Hard copy: Email office@cbsnapa.org and Marah will print a hard copy of the member directory for you to pick up.



Need a ride to service or a synagogue event? Contact Marah and she will connect you with our transportation committee. Call (707) 253-7305, email office@cbsnapa.org, or click [here](#).

Recent donations

תודה רבה Todah rabah (thank you!)

We thank these generous donors:

General Fund

- Mazel Tov to Shira and Efi Lubliner on the birth of their granddaughter, Zelda – Ada & Stan Press
- In honor of Barbara Nemko's retirement – Sandi Hyman
- Shani Revivo
- In memory of Ken Levine – Hal & Sonya Milton
- In memory of Bert Berson – Hal & Sonya Milton

Lifelong Learning Fund

- In memory of Louis M. Kamer of blessed memory 1928-1979 – Deveraux Smith & Laurence Kamer
- In honor of the birth of Shira and Efi's granddaughter, Zelda Beyla Lubliner Aug. 23.2025 Mazel tov – Martha and Richard Pastcan.



Celebrate a simcha,
commemorate a loss or mark a
special occasion by contributing
to Congregation Beth Shalom.

[Donate to Beth Shalom](#)

Preview of coming events

Save
the date



CONGREGATION
Beth Shalom *presents*
The Center of Jewish Life in the Napa Valley

Notes & Nibbles

An Evening of Music & Community

Saturday, February 28, 2026 | 6:30 - 9:30 pm

Congregation Beth Shalom | 1455 Elm Street, Napa

Join us for a lively evening of music, light bites, festive desserts, and community connection — all in support of Congregation Beth Shalom, the center of Jewish life in Napa Valley.

featuring

Gordon Lustig

**Radio Bobcat with Shane Soldinger
& Additional Special Friends**

All are welcome: Invite your friends and neighbors!

Registration details coming soon

Sponsorship opportunities are available

For more information: NapaCBS@gmail.com

Host Committee:

Cynthia Cohen
Roxanne Cohen
Debby Courtney
Ellyn Elson
Amy Hall
Lori Krolik
Gordon Lustig
Maxine Miluso
Robin Stearn
Patti Neumann
Lara Shumer



Ways to support

Congregation Beth Shalom is our home for worship, learning, and community. Consider these ways to support your community:

Support Beth Shalom through planned giving

Did you know that you can leave a lasting impact on Congregation Beth Shalom by making a planned gift?

By including Beth Shalom in your estate planning, you ensure that our spiritual home in Napa Valley continues to thrive for future generations.



Planned giving can include:

- Making a bequest in your will
- Naming Congregation Beth Shalom the beneficiary of your life insurance, IRA, or retirement fund
- Giving gifts of appreciated stock
- Designating a charitable gift annuity
- Giving gifts of real estate and other appreciated property

Our website now features an informative section on making Beth Shalom part of your estate planning:

[Learn about planned giving](#)

Other ways to give

Shop modern Jewish gifts, and Congregation Beth Shalom receives a donation. Click to browse:

[moderntribe](#)

Shop at your favorite online stores, and iGive works with the retailer to make a donation on your behalf to Beth Shalom. Click to get started:



Ways to support



Congregation Beth Shalom is planting trees in Israel!

Plant a tree for \$36: [click to purchase](#).



Interested in sponsoring an Oneg?

Or making a culinary or monetary contribution to our Onegs?

Call (707) 253-7305, email office@cbsnapa.org, or [click here](#).

Donate a car or boat



Donate a vehicle (or boat), Beth Shalom benefits, and you receive a tax donation. The vehicle can be anywhere in the country, and vehicle pickup is free. [Click to donate](#), or call (888) 755-5435.



Our Onegs are in need of baked good donations: cookies, brownies, bars, pound cakes, loaf cakes, etc: if it freezes well, we're interested! Call (707) 253-7305, email office@cbsnapa.org, or [click here](#).

קהילה Kehilah means community

An \$18 donation to Congregation Beth Shalom will get you space in this monthly newsletter, from the time you submit until your event's conclusion. Click [here](#) to learn more or submit your content. All submissions must be received by the 15th of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Congregation Beth Shalom reserves the right to deny any submissions.

Efi's movie pick

Our October selection is *Frieda's Case* from Switzerland. Bay Area Premiere. This film is the winner of several international awards.

In 1904, twenty-five-year-old Frieda Keller commits the unthinkable by killing her five-year-old son, leading to a riveting court case that questions how much of a victim lies within the perpetrator herself. This complex case played a pivotal role in shaping discussions around women's rights, the quest for a fairer society, and the need for criminal justice reform.

Based on a true story that delves into themes of shame, ethics, morality, and the struggle for emancipation.

Saturday, October 18 • \$15

Two showings: 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Jarvis Conservatory 1711 Main St, Napa

[Click for trailer & tickets](#)





Napa Valley

Chamber Orchestra

Presents a
Free Community Concert

Sunday, October 5

2:00 p.m.

**Crosswalk Community Church
2590 First St. Napa**

Featuring Conductor

Ann Krinitsky

and Concertmaster

Mark Hodgson

Program includes works by
Wiancko, Gluck, Bach, Vasks and Tchaikovsky

The concert is free to all.

Donations are gratefully accepted.

Visit www.napavalleychamberorchestra.com
for more information.

DO YOU HAVE **concerns** **about falling?**



A MATTER OF
BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.

This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.

YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
- make changes to reduce fall risks at home
- exercise to increase strength and balance

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- anyone concerned about falls
- anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength
- anyone who has fallen in the past
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns



A MOB licensed location

Tuesdays & Fridays*
Sept 30, Oct 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24

Time
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Where
CrossWalk, 2590 1st Street, Napa

*Participants must be able to attend all classes above. Snacks & beverages provided.

For more information, please contact
Heather, Master Trainer
(707) 492-7656 | heather@sharethecarenv.org

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls Volunteer Lay Leader Model ©2006

This program is based on Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance. Copyright ©1995 Trustees of Boston University. All rights reserved. Used and adapted by permission of Boston University.

A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model

Recognized for Innovation and Quality in Healthcare and Aging, 2006, American Society on Aging. A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model was developed by a grant from the Administration on Aging (#90AM2780).

Napa Day Against Hate

October 12, 2025

Second

Annual



12:30-3:00 PM
Veterans Park

Speakers

Bernie Narvaez, Vice Mayor
Joelle Gallagher, County Supervisor
Rabbi Niles Goldstein, Congregation Beth Shalom
Dr. Jay Lang, Center for Spiritual Living
Dr. Tracy Mayne, "The Truck Guy"
Coach Bailie, LGBTQ Connection
Alonso Corona, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Madelaine Hernandez, Immigration Institute of the Bay Area
Christopher Dunagan, American Voters for Democracy

Musical guests

DJ Rotten Robbie
Vintage High School Choir
Justin Sienna High School Choir
Rivertown Blues Society

Proclamations from

State of California
Napa County
City of Napa

Live Broadcast on The Vine

Sponsors

www.NapaDayAgainstHate.com



Napa Valley
Interfaith Council



SWEETIE PIES

BOUNTY HUNTER



NVUSD
NAPA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



DEUCES
MARKET



About & contact

Congregation Beth Shalom Board of Trustees

President: Eve Kahn - President@cbsnapa.org

Treasurer: Scott Brown - Treasurer@cbsnapa.org

Secretary: Lara Shumer

Past President: Roberta Solomon

Board members at large:

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Michael Chevlen

Cynthia Cohen

Allison Frost

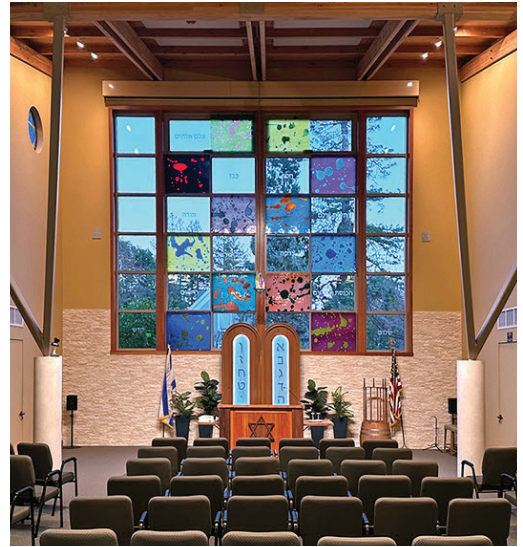
Amy Hall

Guy Levin

Suzie Myers

Naomi Petrick

Robin Stearn



Contact us

Please reach out with any questions, concerns, or just to have a cup of coffee and a chat. Our doors are always open to you.

Congregation Beth Shalom

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Executive Director

Marah Peresechensky

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Music Director

Gordon Lustig

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