



Or Shalom Jewish Community

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Dear Or Shalom Members,

This past year, Or Shalom has really flourished! Here are some highlights...

Beit Midrash - House of Learning

Our school has been going strong under the new leadership of Education Director Deborah Schneider and Teen Advisor Jonathan Moss. New and ongoing adult learning groups continued to offer deep connection to tradition and to Or Shalomers, from Torah Study to the Newsminyan, and the Parents' Circle to Rabbi Katie's Kabbalah Class.

Beit Tefilah - House of Prayer

Our services and holidays continue to be joyous and meaningful, strengthened by our choir and instrumental team guided by David Cohen-Tzedek. This year we added our first Lag B'Omer bonfire, enjoyed a Purim Schpiel from our kids, and Shavuot in Rabbi Katie's home.

Beit Knesset - Gathering Place

We have come together over the past year to mark milestones of joy and sorrow, celebrating new babies, b'nai mitzvah and weddings, and supporting one another in times of loss. We gathered to build community at our annual picnic, new and prospective member events, our gratitude gathering and Havdalah Jams, and, of course, our second Annual Member Retreat. We also began a buddy system to help new members to connect.

Tikkun Olam - Healing the World

We have worked together on projects from the Senior Tenderloin Luncheon Program to Alemany Farm and the San Francisco Food Bank, and we continued our learning and action as a part of our work on the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.

Planning for the Future

We came together to learn about the exciting possibility of Or Shalom joining the Abrahamic House of Community, and decided as a community to continue our exploration and do our best to work out the practicalities.

Membership at Or Shalom

As you may know, our procedure at Or Shalom for renewing your annual membership changed in 2008 to an "opting out" policy commensurate with the practices of most other congregations. We are a community that endures in spirit, on a perpetual basis, not merely from fiscal year to fiscal year. So we presume that our members will continue to be a part of our community without having to tell us so on a recurring annual basis.

Financial Commitment levels have changed this year. Please review the Updated Financial Commitment Schedule and confirm your preferred payment plan for the coming year on the financial commitment forms. **This year we are re-gathering our membership information for our data base.** Please complete each of the forms thoroughly so that we can best stay in touch with you.

Please keep in mind that in order to receive your High Holy Day tickets in the mail your payment plan and forms need to be received along with your first payment by August 13, 2010. All previous year's dues must be paid in full.

We look forward to your presence and involvement in our community activities in the coming year!