MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE: NEW ADULT ED OFFERING

Over the coming year, one of Kol HaLev's central Adult Education offerings will explore the contributions and influence of Jewish musical artists on all types of music, internal and external to the Jewish world proper. Music has always been an important element of Jewish religious expression — think of Miriam’s song or David’s psalms. But Jews have also contributed to music in every culture in which they have found themselves over the past two and half thousand years.

In recognition of this, we will be exploring both music that is Jewishly unique and “homegrown” as well as musical genres that have originated in a broader cultural context. This journey will carry us from the synagogue bima to the concert stage; from klezmer to jazz and rock and roll.

Our first discussion will focus on the music of our Sephardic cousins whose sound and language grows out of a combination of Spanish and Hebrew sensibilities. Join us for a presentation of the unique sounds of Sephardic music with Eric Kisch at 7:30 Jan. 17 at Sue and Eric’s home in Shaker Heights.

The presentation and discussion on January 17 will serve as a wonderful introduction Sephardic Journey: Wanderings of the Spanish Jews, the Feb. 6 concert by Apollo’s Fire, Cleveland’s Baroque orchestra, at the new Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center at The Temple – Tifereth Israel in University Circle.

Our plan is to organize a group of Kol HaLev members who will see the concert together. This will provide us with a wonderful opportunity to connect with one another as well as allow us to get discount tickets. If you’d like to join us for the performance on Saturday, Feb. 6, 8:00 p.m. (or for more information), please contact Sue Kisch at sek423@yahoo.com.

Please watch for more information about upcoming sessions exploring Jews and jazz; Jews and rock and roll; Jewish Sacred Music; and Jews, concert music and the tradition of Klezmer (Jewish street music).


**Services & Programs are held at:**
The Lillian and Betty Ratner School  
27575 Shaker Boulevard  
Pepper Pike, OH 44124  
http://www.kolhalev.net

**Mailing Address & Offices:**
Kol HaLev  
2245 Warrensville Center Rd. Suite 215  
University Heights, OH 44118  
(216) 320-1498

**Rabbi:**
Steve Segar
rabbisteve@kolhalev.net

**Education Director:**
Robyn Novick
robyn@kolhalev.net

**Office Manager:**
Kelli Birch
kelli@kolhalev.net

**Officers:**
President Halle Barnett  
Vice President Karly Whitaker  
Secretary Karal Stern  
Treasurer Bruce Fallick & Catherine Fallick  
Past President Barb Truitt

**At-Large Members:**
Louise Elkind  
Barry Epstein  
Celia Jennings

**Board of Trustees**

**Ex Officio Members:**
Rabbi Steve Segar  
Founding Rabbi Jeffrey Schein  
Education Dir. Robyn Novick

**Values Team Leaders**
WELCOMING & CARING  Lila Hanft  
SPIRITUAL Bill Scher-Marcus  
LEARNING Leah Kamionkowski & Glenda Kupersmith  
INVOLVED Karly Whitaker  
FINANCIALLY Sustainable David Conn  
PARTICIPATORY Miriam Geronimus

**Committees and Chairs, by Values Team**

**Welcoming & Caring Values Team**
- Hesed – Robin Holzman & Martha Schubert  
- Calendar – Itsik Kittila & Kelli Birch  
- Newsletter – Lila Hanft  
- Proofreaders – David Roberts, Itsik Kittila  
- Weekly Update – Robin Holzman  
- Website – Brian Miller, Lila Hanft, Benjamin Barnett  
- Marketing/PR – Deena Epstein & Halle Barnett  
- Tech Support – Brian Miller

**Spiritual Values Team**
- Religious Practices – Karal Stern & Open  
- Holidays – Amy Hogg  
- Meditation – Nancy Rubel & Allen Binstock  
- Music – Open  
- Security Corps – Bill Scher-Marcus

**Learning Values Team**
- Youth & Family Education – Sue Pelleg  
- Adult Education – Open  
- Young Families/Tot Shabbat – Rachel Williams & Josh Chefitz  
- Child Care Coordinator – Traci Elgart  
- Torah Study – Ralph and Selma Gwatkin  
- Book Group – Kevin Weidenbaum  
- Lunch and Learn – Open

**Involved Values Team**
- GCC – Allen Binstock, Dick & Donna Weinberger  
- Interfaith Hospitality Network – Nancy Dudwick  
- Environmental Sustainability – Miriam Geronimus

**Fiscal Sustainability Values Team**
- Fundraising – Margaret Cohen & Barry Epstein  
- Mock Trial – Jennifer Finkel  
- Cemetery – Mike Armin

**Participatory Values Team**
- Membership – Itsik Kittila  
- Greeters – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)  
- Kiddush – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)  
- High Holy Days – Marcia Goldberg  
- Women’s Group – Happy Wallach  
- Interfaith Families – Leah Kamionkowski  
- Leadership Development – Greg Selker & Leah Kamionkowski

**Directly Accountable to the Board**
- Finance Committee – Greg Selker & David Conn  
- Ratner Liaison – Mike Caputo  
- Rabbi Liaison – Selma Gwatkin & Barry Epstein  
- Strategic Planning Committee – Greg Selker  
- Nominating Committee – Sue Pelleg

**February Newsletter Deadline:** MONDAY, JANUARY 18
The month of January is typically empty of Jewish holidays. This year, however, because the Jewish calendar is operating at the earlier end of its range, we will celebrate the holiday of Tu b’Shvat beginning the evening of Sunday, Jan. 24 and concluding the evening of Monday, Jan. 25. This holiday, in the Israeli context, has come to represent and celebrate the first stirrings of spring, an association those of us in northeast Ohio typically find dream-like at best, even when Tu b’Shvat falls a month later at the end of February.

As I sit here in late December, however, in the midst of record-setting temperatures for several days in a row, it seems less ridiculous (and just a bit frightening) to imagine that in a month’s time, we might be feeling like spring is in fact just around the corner. While there is vigorous debate within the scientific community regarding how much of the current unseasonable warmth is attributable to the general global warming trend, there is virtually no debate about the increasing rise in global temperatures which has intensified over the past two decades.

Traditionally, the theme of Tu b’Shvat is our connection to the land and flora of Israel. Over the past generation, Tu b’Shvat has also come to be identified as a kind of Jewish Earth Day, a time when the Jewish community shines a light on traditional source texts that exhibit ecological sensitivities and when we encourage one another to strengthen our respective commitments to practices that support a sustainable vision of the future.

This year, as Tu b’Shvat approaches, we have the poignant backdrop of the recent climate change summit in Paris. In an historic international agreement, every country in the world articulated its intention to move towards a reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases with the goal of reaching a level of zero net emissions between the years of 2050 and 2100. While it is widely acknowledged that this agreement represents an extremely ambitious aim, it is equally clear that a failure to reach this goal could result in a level of planetary destruction and human suffering that has not been seen since our species came into existence on earth.

In this context, the holiday of Tu b’Shvat could and should evolve into a new level of importance within the sacred cycle of the Jewish year. When we gather together on the evening of January 24, may we bring with us a cautious sense of hope and a robust commitment to doing everything within our power to support the pledges made by our society’s representatives that the United States will do its part in helping the world to step back from the brink of ecological devastation on which we find ourselves at this critical moment in history.

Rabbi Steve

Rabbi Steve is available to meet with Kol HaLev members on a range of issues by appointment on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact him at 216-320-1498 or at rabbisteve@kolhaley.net.
We send wishes for a *refuah shleimah*, a complete and speedy healing, to Abe Chasin, Ron Kohn, Ben Lewis, Marilyn Litvene, Pauline Raymond, Jennie Rosenstiel, Linda Sylte, Happy Wallach, Irwin Weinberger and Karly Whitaker and Mira Whitaker-Kanner.

*We would love to hear from you if you or another Kol HaLev member you know of would like to be included on this list.*

Thanks to Robin Shell, who was the December Monthly Coordinator. During the month, members cooked and delivered meals and provided rides.

**NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

We are currently looking for people who are willing to take on a Monthly Coordinator role in the coming year. The commitment is for one calendar month of the year. It involves following up with people needing support and reaching out to the community when needs arise. Most months it requires only a couple hours of one’s time. **Martha and Robin will provide training and are available to provide back up when needed.**

**It is a great opportunity to deepen your connection with Hesed and to get to know individuals within our community in a more personal way.** Please be in touch with Martha or Robin if you have questions about or are interested in taking on this role. See below for contact information.

**Some Thoughts on Hesed by Maxine Collin**

- **Hesed:** A Committee which is an integral part of and a reflection of all that is noble about Kol Halev

- **Hesed:** Committee Members who perform acts of steadfast devotion and loyal loving kindness for other people *who have no claim on them*

- **Hesed:** Providing a system for reaching out to those of us when we are in need

- **Hesed:** Providing meals, rides, calls, cards and more to those of us in our Community when we are hurting and need help to heal

- **Hesed:** Receiving the unexpected gift that comes from serving others; there is no comparable

- **Hesed:** The paramount of action: Do unto others as you would hope they will do unto you

- **Hesed:** This is not about *Feeling* loyal devotion or steadfast love; this is about Doing acts of loving kindness--extending the proverbial "helping hand."

If you wish to participate in the work of the Hesed Committee, or if you know of anyone who may need the support of our committee, please contact Rabbi Steve or Robin Holzman ([robinholzman@gmail.com](mailto:robinholzman@gmail.com)) and Martha Schubert ([marthaschubert@mac.com](mailto:marthaschubert@mac.com)), Hesed Co-chairs.
Tu B’Shevat
Intergenerational Seder & Potluck

Celebrate the New Year of the Trees with the Kol HaLev community!

Sunday,
January 24, 2016/
15 Shevat 5776
5-7 pm
at
The Ratner School

Please bring a parve (not milk or meat) or dairy dish to serve 10-12 people and a Tu B’Shevat treat.
A-H ~ Appetizer or Salad & a fruit that is completely edible (grapes, figs, apples, lemons, etc.)
I-P ~ Dessert or Drink & a fruit that has pits (olives, dates, cherries, peaches, etc.)
Q-Z ~ Main Dish & a fruit that has an inedible shell (pomegranates, coconuts, etc.)

NO NUTS PLEASE!

In keeping with our goal of becoming a more sustainable community, we encourage members to bring their own reusable plates, cups, utensils and napkins.

Questions? Please contact Robyn at robyn@kolhalev.net or 216-320-1498
RAISING THE BAR

What are New Year resolutions all about anyway? Do we really need this artificial prompt (and deadline) to compel us to improve ourselves, or to do something meaningful, significant, or just something different, in the days and months to come?

Jews, of course, have a built-in opportunity during the High Holy Days, to commit to personal and interpersonal betterment. Apparently, “official” annual self-reflection is quite an old tradition (at least 3700 years old!) for others as well. One can surely imagine, too, that even before time was marked calendrically, humans made some kind of ritual accounting of their past behaviors and future goals. I don’t know how important the drive to exercise more, to stop biting one’s fingernails, or to manage one’s time more efficiently, might have been way back when, but I can easily imagine that an active re-commitment to working on improving skills and relationships has been a part of the dialogue throughout human history.

Personally, while I’ve never been much for this tradition, particularly on the secular New Year, it’s always been easy for me to mark my progress by the Gregorian calendar, because my birthday falls right on the heels of the new year. Leaning just over the top of the proverbial hill as I am at this moment, I’m compelled to reflect a little more formally this year.

This has been a challenging, complicated year for me. Truly, for many of us. What stands out in sharp relief against all the challenge? The incredible support that comes from the Kol HaLev community. Emotional. Spiritual. Practical. We do this, are this, for each other, because it makes a difference. Because it feels good to be counted upon. Because it matters. While we rarely need to “resolve to behave” this way, it is certainly, evidently, intentional behavior.

This kind of feels like Talmud to me. The rabbinim took responsibility for engaging with challenging issues and being accountable for living life the way those ideas spoke to them – in community, and with commitment. How might we follow suit? How can we increase our accountability for fulfilling our truest obligations to ourselves, to each other, and to our community? How can we each raise the bar?

Are there ways you could deepen your relationships within Kol HaLev that would make a difference in your life? In others’? Are there Kol HaLev opportunities you could explore that would expand your “self-care data base,” broaden your perspective, increase your connection with others, or expand someone else’s capacity? Can the way you engage with your membership be a natural conduit to your ability to act on your self-reflection or resolve?

To my mind, it’s not in the interpretation, or in the differences of opinion alone that Talmud raised the bar for us. It’s the commitment part that inspires me. Anyone can wrestle. Anyone can resolve. It’s that you choose to act that matters.
Dear fellow Kol HaLev members,

Thank you for taking a close look at the fundraising letter sent to your home in early November and for considering a contribution that reflects how Kol HaLev enriches your life and the lives of all our members.

We have wonderful news to share! Anonymous member families have offered to match Fall Fundraising Campaign pledges and completed donations dollar for dollar up to a total of $16,000!

If you have already made a pledge or payment, thank you very much!

If you have not yet made your pledge or payment, please do so today! Thanks to the generosity of these anonymous member families, every dollar up to $16,000 donated results in two dollars for Kol HaLev!

This fundraising campaign runs through January, however we urge you to make your tax-deductible donation by December 31st so it will count for the 2015 tax year.

As you know, providing for Kol HaLev’s well-being is a group effort. Each of us is asked to contribute according to our abilities. Any size contribution from the heart is meaningful, and every contribution is helpful.

Todah rabah / thanks very much for your time, generosity and commitment to our community!

May Kol HaLev continue to be one of the inspiring lights in your life this Hanukkah.

______________________________  ______________________________
Halle Barnett      David Conn
President, Board of Trustees   Values Team Leader
HANUKKAH PHOTO GALLERY
(photos courtesy of Rachel Williams, Liz Conn & Robyn Novick)

KOL HALEV KVELLERY  (part Kvell, part photo gallery)

Kol HaLev member **Josh Gippin** and his wife are documentary filmmakers whose current project, *Not The Chosen: Reconstructing Jewish Identity*, casts a critical eye on the claim that Jews are the "Chosen People." His interest in this topic naturally led Josh to Mordecai Kaplan (and to Kol HaLev) and to Reconstructionism's rejection of the tenet of choseness.

Josh shared these photos from his recent interviews with Reconstructionist luminaries Rabbi Arthur Green (right) and scholar Mel Sculpty (below).

For a more complete (and nuanced) description of their film project, visit [http://fiscal.ifp.org/project.cfm/719](http://fiscal.ifp.org/project.cfm/719/

Photos by Ken Marcou of Shave Media.
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON OUR COMMUNITY HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS
by Amy Hogg and Adina Davidson

Kol HaLev has always celebrated the Jewish holidays in community. We eat, pray, study, make crafts and sing together (oh and chat with friends). Anyone who attended last month's Hanukkah party experienced this in action. These celebrations have the ability to connect us to the cycle of the seasons, to the divine, to our history and culture, to each other.

We are hoping during the month of January to gather thoughts from Kol Halev about what is working and what would enrich our holidays. We will be holding two focus group discussions — the first on **Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 7:30** and the second on **Sunday, Jan. 31 at 7:00**. Both conversations will take place at the Davidsons' home in Shaker Heights. We are hoping people will think broadly about what they would like to see our community doing to celebrate the holidays.

Then following the focus groups, we will send out a survey to gather a broader range of perspectives about our approach to holidays. Once we have analyzed the responses from the focus groups and the survey, we will see what resources are available and plan for the future. We hope many of you can come to one of these groups and bring your ideas, and that those of you who cannot will respond to the survey.

LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES ON SHABBAT WITH RABBI STEVE

- What is your family's most meaningful Shabbat tradition?
- How have Shabbat practices evolved over time?
- What does it mean to you to be at rest?

The Adult Education and Membership Committees want to help you make your Shabbat traditions more meaningful this year! In a series of three Lunch and Learn classes starting in February, Rabbi Steve will lead a discussion into the origins of and modern variations on weekly Shabbat traditions across a spectrum of Jewish beliefs.

To complement the classes, we'll be coordinating several "Shabbat dinner swaps" between volunteer hosts and interested participants. These dinners are meant to help our members better get to know one another, to exchange thoughts on Shabbat, and to share traditions together. The Lunch and Learns will meet at 1:30 p.m. (after services and kiddush) at Ratner on **Saturdays: Feb. 6, Mar. 5 and May 7**.

The first dinners will be held soon after the first class. If you are interested in being a host or a guest at one of the dinners, or have any questions, please contact Adina Schoem at aschoem@gmail.com. We hope to see you!

VIOLINS OF HOPE TOUR

Thanks to Kol HaLev Members and Maltz Museum docents **Rene Siegel** and **Fred Chenin** for sharing their expertise during Kol HaLev's group tour of the Violins of Hope exhibit last month. Over two dozen members participated in the tour.

*continued on page 12*
The Kol HaLev Board met at the home of Leah Kamionkowski on December 14, 2015.

**Treasurer’s Report:**
Treasurer Bruce Fallick reviewed the November 2015 Treasurer’s summary and other materials sent in advance to Board members. Our net income is slightly lower than this time last year. This appears to be due the timing of the current fall fundraising campaign. Last year funds were still being collected for the Kemach campaign.

As appointed, our commitment support volunteer, Maxine Collin, will begin contacting members who have not yet made their dues commitments. Approximately 105 member households have made dues commitments with approximately 35 families who have not yet responded. Outstanding tuition commitments also need to be addressed. Robyn announced that youth education enrollment reached 100% of eligible families.

**Fundraising campaign update:**
David Conn reported that initial response to the Fall Fundraising Campaign has been light, though the campaign will run through the end of January. A generous matching donation fund has been established by anonymous Kol HaLev families which will match up to $16,000 of donations. The fundraising committee, with the help of board members, will contact members who have yet to make a pledge or donation.

A brief discussion followed about optimum ways of encouraging members to participate in this fundraising campaign and future endeavors. It remains challenging to balance a sense of belonging and inclusiveness with the need for sustaining operations of a congregation.

**Office Lease update:**
Halle provided an update of the lease renewal process. There was a positive response from the landlord to all of our requests. The new five-year lease includes an outclause after three years, along with other important clarifications of mutual responsibilities and obligations. Halle was also able to contact landlords of other similar spaces and found out our rent is fair and competitive with the market.

**Welcoming Values Team Report:**
Lila Hanft shared an overview of the various committees and activities that she oversees as Welcoming Values Team Leader. There have been many positive developments and progress made in the past few years. Some of these include unifying communications between the calendar, weekly update, and newsletter. There is continual outreach to members to enhance a sense of inclusion in the newsletter and other communications. The Hesed committee is also working on expanding outreach and the volunteer base. This year was a challenge with the loss of three beloved members within the past six months.

**Bylaws Committee Authorization:**
Halle reviewed the need for a limited review and timely revision of some of the bylaws especially pertaining to the nominating process and Board composition.

The following motion was passed unanimously:

To authorize a limited review of the bylaws with a focus on those provisions which affect board composition, election and service which are currently impeding the board’s ability to effect a strategic continuity.

*continued on page 11*
Members of Kol HaLev will mark the following yahrzeits during the next month:

- Mollie Flax May — paternal grandmother of Chip May
- Aida Bound — grandmother of Miriam Geronimus
- Herman Gordon (Haim Ben) — father of Margy Weinberg
- Jacob Hochman — maternal grandfather of Chip May
- Karen Clark — grandmother of Miriam Geronimus
- Sophie Weidenbaum — mother of Kevin Weidenbaum
- Ruth Armin — wife of Mike Armin
- Shirley Korman — mother of Neil Korman
- Sol Fink — father of Judy Harris
- Sue Smith — mother of Barbara Truitt
- Sylvia Herzig — aunt of Barry Epstein
- Joseph Armin — father of Mike Armin
- Gussie Friedman — aunt of Abraham Chasin
- Israel Herman Gorovitz — paternal grandfather of Heidi Gorovitz Robertson
- Harry Goldstein — father of Anita Cohn
- Helen Yosowitz (Chaya) — mother of Elinor Friedman
- Beryl Hanft — mother of Lila Hanft
- Gussie Hanft — paternal grandparents of Lila Hanft

Kol HaLev members may include the yahrzeit of loved ones in KHL Happenings by submitting the name of the deceased, the relationship to the member, and the date of death, including the year, in either the secular or Jewish calendar to kelli@kolhalev.net. (Please specify whether you're observing the secular or the Hebrew yahrzeit date. You can find a calendar converter at http://www.hebcal.com/)

BOARD REPORT, continued from page 10

Security Report:
Bill Scher-Marcus, head of the Security committee, reported on a recent meeting convened by the Jewish Federation that included representatives from the Dept. of Homeland Security, FBI, local police departments and local Jewish institutions and agencies. Hypothetical scenarios were presented to discuss how to pre-empt or respond to incidents at our home institutions.

This collaboration began three years ago following terrorist threats and incidents targeting Jewish institutions and businesses nationally and internationally.

Kol HaLev is continuing to meet with Ratner and the Japanese school to work on securing the front door during services and other programming. The Board will continue to be updated and the general membership will be informed of these plans and activities as they develop.

The next Board meeting is Monday, Jan. 11 at 7:30 at the home of Leah Kamionkowski. All members are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Karal Stern, Secretary
MINDFUL JEWISH PRACTICE UPDATE

by Nancy Rubel

Beginning in January, Mindful Jewish Practice will meet twice each month. On the third Shabbat of each month we will meet after Kiddush, around 1:15 p.m. or so, for an hour session, and on the fourth Shabbat of each month we will meet again, this time at 9:30 a.m., for 45 minutes. The sessions begin with a few minutes of a talk to offer a kavannah or intention for the sitting practice of 30 minutes, and they end with an opportunity for informal sharing about meditation and spiritual practice.

On January 16, the third Shabbat of this month, after Kiddush, I will offer a beginner's session to lead instruction for anyone interested in learning more about how to meditate. Experienced meditators are welcome to join in as well!

Kol HaLev gratefully acknowledges contributions from:

- Ronald Kohn in commemoration of the yahrzeit of his father, Adolf Kohn
- Friends of Jewish Lifelong Learning in honor of Rabbi Steve speaking at their opening meeting
- Abe Chasin in commemoration of the Yahrzeit of his aunt, Gussie Friedman
- Miriam Geronimus and Itsik Kitzila in honor of their wedding
- Ester and Jay Leutenberg in memory of Sam Kelman
- Beverly Kupfert in memory of Sam Kelman
- Pearl and David Elman in memory of Sam Kelman
- Jeffrey and Deb Schein in memory of Sam Kelman
- Karen and Lewis Gold in memory of Sam Kelman
- Robin Holzman in memory of Sam Kelman
- Steven Erenberg in memory of Sam Kelman
- Alan Silverman in memory of Sam Kelman

Make a donation to Kol HaLev in honor of a simcha, in memory of a loved one, in commemoration of a yahrzeit, or just because. You can donate check or online, whichever is more comfortable and convenient for you! You can also pay for dues, Hagiga tuition, Mishloach Manot and many other things online as well as by check.

♦ Pay by check. Just drop a check in the mail to: Kol HaLev | 2245 Warrensville Center Road, Suite 215 | University Heights, OH 44118 You'll receive a confirmation that your payment was received.

OR

♦ Make an online donation. You can pay safely and securely by credit card or electronic check at Kol HaLev's PaySimple page at http://kolhalev.net/pay_simple. (Note: Kol HaLev pays a small fee for transactions processed through PaySimple).
### CaleNdaR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 2</td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>No Hagiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Member Led Shabbat Service at the home of David and Liz Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parsha: Shemot; Service Leader: David Conn; Kiddush Hosts: Michal and Scher-Marcus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jan. 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Nesiya - Winter Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jan. 4</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Jan. 6</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Reconstructionism 101 at the home of Happy Wallach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Examine the core ideas and history of the Reconstructionist approach to Judaism, and learn about some of the unique aspects of our movement. This is the third of three sessions on understanding the Reconstructionist movement. All members are welcome. You can come to any of these sessions without attending the others. Contact <a href="mailto:welcome@kolhalev.net">welcome@kolhalev.net</a> for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 9</td>
<td>9:15-10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Philosophical Inquiry with the Parsha in the Ratner Art Room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For 5-7 grade Hagiga students; Light breakfast will be provided, please be prompt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Torah Study in the Ratner Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parsha: Vaera; Leader: Rabbi Steve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hagiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Welcoming Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parsha: Vaera; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kiddush Host: The Membership Committee and the new members from 2014, in honor of 2015's new members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45-11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Tot-Parent Shabbat in Ratner Rooms 113/114. For families with children in preschool and under.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jan. 10</td>
<td>10:00-12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Nesiya at Ratner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jan. 11</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Board Meeting at the home of Leah Kamionkowski. All members welcome to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See weekly update for agenda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 16</td>
<td>9:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Torah Study in the Ratner Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parsha: Bo; Leader: Itsik Kittila.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parsha: Bo; Service Leaders: Margy Weinberg and Rabbi Steve;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kiddush Hosts: Audrey Warner, Lila Hanft and Dave Roberts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:15-2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Mindful Jewish Practice in the Ratner Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy Rubel will offer a beginner's session to lead instruction for anyone interested in learning more about how to meditate. Experienced meditators are welcome to join in as well!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jan. 17</td>
<td>10:00-12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Nesiya at Ratner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Hagigat Limud Prep Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jan. 18</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline for the February Kol HaLev Happening’s Newsletter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Jan. 19</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Holiday Celebration Focus Group at the home of Mark and Adina Davidson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(There are a few stairs to get in but after the first 3 stairs there is a chair lift to get to the upstairs unit.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Contact Amy Hogg or Adina Davidson for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Jan. 22</td>
<td>6:00-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat and Potluck Dinner at Ratner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Service leaders: Rabbi Steve and member musicians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kiddush Host: Arthur Lieberman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The dishes should be vegetarian/dairy or pareve and SHOULD NOT CONTAIN NUTS. Please bring enough for 8-10. In keeping with our goal of becoming a more sustainable community, we encourage members to bring their own reusuable plates, cups, utensils and napkins to our potluck. A-H - Main Dish; I-P - Appetizer or Salad; Q-Z – Dessert or Drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 23</td>
<td>9:15-10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Philosophical Inquiry with the Parsha in the Ratner Art Room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For 5-7 grade Hagiga students; Light breakfast will be provided, please be prompt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Mindful Jewish Practice in the Ratner Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The sessions begin with a few minutes of a talk to offer a kavannah or intention for the sitting practice of 30 minutes, and end with an opportunity for informal sharing about meditation and spiritual practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hagigat Limud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Musical Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parsha: Beshalach; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kiddush Host needed. Click here to sign up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4badada828a1f85-kolhalev2">http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4badada828a1f85-kolhalev2</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:45-11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Tot-Parent Shabbat in Ratner rooms 113/114. For families with children in preschool and under.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jan. 24</td>
<td>10:00-12:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Nesiya</strong> at Ratner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00-7:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Erev Tu Bishvat</strong> at Ratner.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Wed., Jan. 27 | 7:30-9:00 p.m.  | **GCC Core Team Meeting**  
Contact Itsik Kittila for more information. |
| Fri., Jan. 29 | 6:45-9:00 p.m.  | **Women's Shabbat Dinner** at the home of Happy Wallach.  
Food contributions can be parve or milk and "allergy aware" (no tree nuts or peanuts). Happy Wallach will be coordinating food contributions and RSVPs. We hope that you can join this delightful opportunity to socialize and to get to know other women in the Kol Halev community! Please email RSVPs to Happy at happyhkw@aol.com, or call her to RSVP by phone. |
| Sat., Jan. 30 | 10:30-12:30 p.m. | **Experiential Shabbat Service** in the Ratner Chapel.  
Parsha: **Yisro**; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve;  
Kiddush Host needed. Click here to sign up  
http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev2 |
|            | 1:30-2:30 p.m.  | **Musical Prayer Leadership Training Session** in the Ratner Sanctuary, after Kiddush.  
The session will focus on the choreography of the service.  
These training sessions are intended to help develop lay service leaders who feel comfortable leading the musical component of the service, to ensure that we can have fully lay-led second shabbes services. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your connection to and ownership of the shabbes morning liturgy, and the Religious Practices Committee (RPC) invites you to join us whether or not you've attended previous training sessions. |
| Sun., Jan. 31 | 10:00-12:00 p.m. | **Nesiya** at Ratner.                                                                |
|            | 10:00-12:00 p.m. | **Nesiya - Chaverim B'Telefon Kick Off**, location TBA.                                |
|            | 3:00-5:00 p.m.  | **GCC Cleveland Heights Listening Campaign** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2727 Fairmount Blvd.,  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
Listening meeting around the issue of gun violence in Cleveland Heights. Contact Donna Weinberger for more information. |
|            | 7:00-8:30 p.m.  | **Holiday Celebration Focus Group** at the home of Mark and Adina Davidson. (There are a few stairs to get in but after the first 3 stairs there is a chair lift to get to the upstairs unit.)  
Contact Amy Hogg or Adina Davidson for more information. |

To sign up to host a kiddush, click [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev2](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev2)

We try to make this calendar as accurate as possible, but last-minute additions, cancellations and venue changes DO sometimes occur. To ensure you have the most up-to-date information, check your email for the most recent Weekly Update or visit the [calendar on the Kol HaLev website](http://www.kolhalev.org).
Kol HaLev, Cleveland’s Reconstructionist Jewish Congregation, is an egalitarian, participatory spiritual community. Visit our website at http://www.kolahalev.net