

P.O. Box 568
Andover, Ma 01810-0010
978.494-2042
www.havuratshalom.org

HAVURAT SHALOM

A Reconstructionist Jewish Congregation

Dear Friends of Havurat Shalom:

We would like to extend a warm welcome from Congregation Havurat Shalom for this coming year!

We are a community dedicated to providing a Jewish identity for its members in a manner that is relevant to our contemporary lives. We include people from a variety of life situations, backgrounds, and political and religious perspectives. We are a participatory, inclusive group committed to exploring Jewish life and ideals

We offer a variety of activities and events to support this philosophy. Some of our highlights:

High Holy Days

Our Rosh Hashanah service will be at the Olde Towne Hall (Andover Town House) in Andover Center on Thursday, September 25th at 10:00 AM. Yom Kippur will be at the same location on Saturday, October 4th at 10:00 AM.

Shabbat Services and other events

Shabbat Services are on the first Friday of the month. A calendar of our services is enclosed with tentative dates and locations. We try to be consistent with this, but things could change, so please check your e-mail frequently (our primary vehicle for communication) as well as website at www.havuratshalom.org. Shabbat services begin at 7:00 pm, preceded by Pizza with Rabbi Karen at 6:00 pm (5:30 set-up.) Please note: We do need assistance setting up and cleaning up after these services. Please bear in mind that we are a volunteer organization and we will be unable to continue to provide these wonderful experiences for you and your family unless EVERYONE pitches in.

Additional events are also listed on the enclosed calendar.

Membership List

At the request of some of our members, we will share a hard-copy of our Membership List. However, on our enclosed membership form, you can “opt out” of this list so that your contact information will NOT be included.

The list is NOT for solicitation purposes. It is simply so that members can more easily communicate with one another on a personal level. **PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOU RESPOND TO ITEMS 1 & 2 under COMMUNICATION ON THE MEMBERSHIP FORM, AS THEY PERTAIN TO THIS LIST.**

Sisterhood

We have shared some wonderful experiences, from going to shows, going on field trips, enjoying theme brunches, hosting speakers, enjoying book groups, and having fun at holiday get-togethers. We have also sponsored congregation-wide events, and have donated portions of our collective dues to help support Havurat Shalom initiatives and various community causes. For those unfamiliar with sisterhoods, they are typically a

social networking group primarily for women – a way for the women of the congregation to connect with one another. They support the congregation and community in various ways, but mostly it's for fun! We met 4-6 times per year, and, as a group, determine the events and activities in which we would like to participate. We are open to all ideas. Ours is a hierarchy-free, no-hassle sisterhood. So, please join us!

Hebrew School

Our Religious school has openings for the fall! Our Hebrew School is for children in the third through sixth grade and meets once a week. The curriculum includes Hebrew Language training, cultural education, and holiday celebrations. Our costs are comparatively low, especially if your family has a Havurat membership!

*Returning this upcoming year.... **Jumping into Judaism** (1st and 2nd grade.) This class meets once a month, and offers a wonderful introduction to Judaism through stories, games, and crafts. Please note that an enrollment of 6 children will be required in order to run this class.*

If you are interested in the Hebrew School, please contact Ben Kellman at 978-806-7654. Ben's e-mail: Benwalsh@yahoo.com

NEW.... Optional Hebrew School Donation

We have included, this year, on our membership form, an option to make a voluntary contribution to our Hebrew School. The Hebrew School is a vital part of our community, and it is important that it be sustained and nourished! It serves as a vehicle for teaching our children the rich traditions of our culture and heritage, and it is one of the primary reasons why new families join our congregation and help us grow. The Hebrew School is set up to be "self-funding." However, on occasion, there are times when funds run low and the school could use our help. Again, this contribution is absolutely voluntary and separate from your dues.

Other Activities:

We also offer several other social activities throughout the year, as well as opportunities to participate in tzedakeh and to perform additional mitzvot. Two years ago, members of our congregation participated in a Habitat for Humanity Project in Lawrence and, for several years in a row, we worked at the Cor Unum Meal Center in Lawrence. It was a wonderful, shared experience for our members and a fulfilling way to give back to the community. Watch for notices in our e-mails and newsletters.

A word about communication...

As long as we have your e-mail address, you will be placed on our e-mail notification list for receiving periodic e-updates. E-Mail is our main vehicle for communication, so please be sure to check the e-mail box you provided frequently.

New Members...

We are actively seeking new member families and individuals. Mindy Rakusin, our membership chair, will be glad to speak with those who are considering joining the Havurat. She also has material on the Reconstructionist Movement, which she will be happy to send along.

A final note....

We are a very transparent organization. You/our money goes to renting space, for mailings/phone line/website, giving – Tzedakeh, and for our wonderful Rabbi. There is no paid administrative staff. We are all volunteers. Please think of why you are interested in joining this Jewish community, and try to find some way of giving back, through volunteering. For all but three or four jobs, everything is much less than an occasional hour commitment. If you want to see us do something, such as cultural trips to concerts, shows, or sites, bring in speakers, participate in social action and fund raisers, and hold Jewish cooking classes, whatever you want, ask me or a board member about how we, together, can make that happen. If you have ever been disappointed in an organization's inability to do something that you think is good, here is your chance to make our Havurat exactly the way you want!

Joining Havurat Shalom and Membership Registration/Payment

Enclosed in this package is a membership form. We hope you will join our community. Included on the form are committees and groups you can join, as well as holiday celebrations in which you can assist. We welcome new board members. The Board of Directors usually meets twice a year to discuss and to decide issues related to the congregation, including finances, calendar, social action and donations, school issues, outreach and organizations, events, support of members, etc. Discussion is often held on-line, as a topical issue may need resolution in a timely manner.

If you sign up for a committee or for an event, thank you! You will be contacted by the individual responsible for that activity.

Our dues is extremely affordable, given the current economic climate. Current dues is \$325, which includes a contribution towards our Tzedakeh fund. (Sisterhood dues is separate, and \$18. Donations to the Hebrew School are separate as well.) Please complete the form and return it, along with your dues, to our Membership Chair, Mindy Rakusin, by *September 1st*. You may also pay on line. Although we request full payment upon joining, you may, should your financial situation dictate, pay in installments, as we do not turn away anyone for lack of funds. (Please contact the President to make this arrangement.)

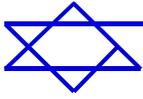
If you do pay on-line, please remember to print out a membership form on the website, or to use the enclosed form, and send it to Mindy. That way, our records will be accurate.

Again, welcome to Havurat Shalom. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist you.

Ben Kellman
President
978-806-7654
Benwalshy@yahoo.com

Mindy Rakusin
Membership Chair
508-641-8227
mrakusin@verizon.net

Karen Landy
Rabbi
508-395-5034
klandy0616@aol.com



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2014 – 2015 Registration Form

MEMBER INFORMATION (please print):

Name:
Street Town, State, Zip:

Phone:
E-mail:

PARTICIPATION:

1. I would like to join/participate in the following (Please Check):

Sisterhood Tzedakeh Social School Sunshine HS Board

2. Celebrations/Holidays for which you would like to help (Please Check):

Shabbat Rosh Hashanah Yom Kippur Succoth
 Chanukah Party Purim Community Passover

HEBREW SCHOOL DONATIONS (TAX DEDUCTIBLE):

Please consider supporting our Hebrew School. 100% of your voluntary contribution will be used for paying our teachers or renting space. Membership contributions supplement our active fund raising efforts allowing the school to remain on a solid financial footing while providing tuition scholarships as needed. Parents diligently keep costs controlled-- one hour of teaching time is \$50. Last year, we held 26 ninety minute classes for each of our Bet and Gimmel students, and 8 introductory Jumping Into Judaism classes for youngsters.

Every contribution is greatly appreciated! (Check box and/or Complete)

Amounts: \$18 \$25 \$36 \$50 Other _____

COMMUNICATION (Please circle options):

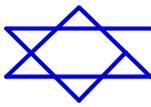
1. I would/would not like to have my contact information appear on the shared membership contact list.
2. I would/would not like to receive a copy of the membership list.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO MINDY RAKUSIN, WITH CHECK FOR ANNUAL DUES OF \$325.00, PAYABLE TO HAVURAT SHALOM. (Note-SISTERHOOD DUES OF \$18 AND HEBREW SCHOOL DONATIONS ARE ADDITIONAL, VOLUNTARY FEES, BUT MAY BE INCORPORATED INTO ONE CHECK)

Mindy Rakusin, 24 Spruce Road, North Reading, MA 01864
978-664-6826

For additional information, contact Mindy at: mrakusin@verizon.net
You may also pay on line at www.havuratshalom.org

PLEASE CHECK HERE IF YOU HAVE PAID ON LINE



HAVURAT SHALOM

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Friday Night Services

Please join us to welcome Shabbat on either the 1st or 2nd Friday of every month, September through June.

Shabbat Services are held at 7:00pm per the schedule below. Our primary location is:

- Christ Church, 25 Central Street, Andover

Come for Pizza with Rabbi Karen at 6:00 pm preceding most services. (Set-up is at 5:30.) For \$5 per person, or \$15 per family, it's the best deal in town!

Event Calendar 5775

2014 - 2015

Friday, Sept. 5:	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Thursday, Sept. 25:	Andover Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., 10am Rosh Hashanah service
Saturday, Oct. 4:	Andover Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., 10am Yom Kippur service; Neilah Service TBD
Saturday, Oct. 18:	Sukkot (last day – at the home of Lisa Smith & Als Schwartz)
Friday, Nov. 7:	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday, Dec. 5:	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Tuesday, Dec. 16	1st night of Hanukah
Friday, Jan. 9, 2015	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday, February 6:	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday, March 6:	Christ Church Parish Hall/kitchen, 6 pm pot luck dinner and Shabbat Service
Friday, April 3:	1st night of Passover (No community service at this time – exploring alternatives.)
April 14 – 23 (tent.)	Israel trip
Friday, May 1:	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday, June 5:	Christ Church North Chapel, 6 pm pizza, 7pm Kabbalat Shabbat and Annual Meeting

Important contact information:

President

Ben Kellman
978.806.7654
benwa1syh@yahoo.com

Membership and Sisterhood

Mindy Rakusin
978. 664.6826
mrakusin@verizon.net

Friday night pizza and Shabbat Services

Lori Osborne
978-409-2920
lori@osborne.net

Richie Fink
978.475.4062
rfink978@hotmail.com

We hope you will join us often! For email reminders, please contact Ben or Mindy to be added to the distribution list.