



# THE ILLUMINATOR

Or Emet – The Minnesota Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Spring Issue  
Published in April 2017



## Madrikh Message by Harold Londer

### *Where Do They All Belong?*

The current issue of *Humanistic Judaism* (Volume XLVI, 2017, 1) has four articles. Rabbi Adam Chalom asks “Why be Jewish?” Paul Golin (Executive Director of the Society for Humanistic Judaism - SHJ) discusses “challenges to Jewish life.” Keren McGinity, a research associate at Brandeis University, discusses “The Gendered Reality of Jewish Inter-marriage” and Rabbi Miriam Jerris describes herself “standing by the gates of the Jewish community with a smile on my face and warmth in my heart.” The titles tell the tale. Concerns about the future of Judaism in this country are real and cross the spectrum of Jewish identities, sparing only the ultra-orthodox with their high birth rates.

So what? Does it matter? To you? To your family? To the Jewish community? To your neighbor? To where you will spend eternity?

I recently discovered a book: *The Lonely American: Drifting Apart in the Twenty-First Century*,” written (in 2009) by Jacqueline Olds and Richard Schwartz, psychiatrists and professors at Harvard. The book discusses the impact of loneliness in our country and its strong connection with depression. In 1835 Alexis de Tocqueville wrote “Individualism is... a feeling which disposes each citizen to isolate himself from the mass of his fellows and withdraw into the circle of family and friends.” Sociologist Phillip Slater continues “We seek a private house, a private means of transportation, a private garden, a private laundry, self-service stores...

When a crisis occurs we have no one to turn to.”

I write these lines in the context of one of the most frightening times in American history. Tax policy, immigration, health insurance, LGBT rights, ISIS, Korea, Syria, Israel, women’s rights and many more issues are so overwhelming. We need support and connection to others. Without this community support, loneliness and depression ensue. The Society for Humanistic Judaism was established in 1969, pledging to “mobilize people to celebrate Jewish identity and culture.” Or Emet has a tradition of political and social action. Our members work at local, state and national levels. Or Emet is a family. We need each other during this difficult time.

*All the lonely people  
Where do they all come from?  
All the lonely people  
Where do they all belong?  
The Beatles (Eleanor Rigby)*

*The loneliest moment in someone’s life is when they are watching their whole world fall apart and all they can do is stare blankly.*

F. Scott Fitzgerald

We at Or Emet believe that in difficult times we can do so much more than “stare blankly.”

Please continue to support our congregation, working TOGETHER as advocates for human rights for all, as expressed in the ancient Hebrew phrase *Tikkun Olam*.





### The Illuminator

Or Emet's member newsletter is published in August • December • April  
newsletter-1@oremet.org

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Society for Humanistic  
Judaism (SHJ)

International Institute  
for Secular Humanistic  
Judaism (IISHJ)

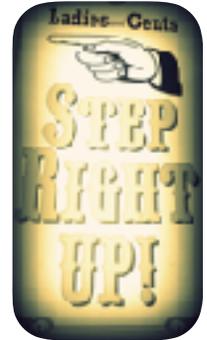
## Co-Presidents' Message Janet Mayer and Lisa Gardner-Springer



## *Step Right Up!*

Or Emet is about to experience significant leadership and staff changes:

Eva Cohen, Jewish Cultural School teacher and director par excellence, is moving forward with exciting plans to study and train for Rabbinic certification with the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism. She also works several jobs that draw on her many talents. While she will continue to teach the pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah class, Eva is stepping down from her school director position. A smooth transition is planned since she is staying on through the summer for the new hire to be mentored and ready for the 2017-18 season.



Additionally, Jack Spencer, who has been managing our press releases and online publicity for two years, will be ending this position in August. Like his spouse, Eva, he also holds several jobs and wants to devote more time to his music writing career. Jack will stay on board to pave the way for the coming season and help train his replacement.

That's not all. Lisa Gardner-Springer, Co-President of Or Emet for two years, will not be running for a third term. She will continue some of the key initiatives she has started within a task force or as an ad hoc commitment.

Janet Mayer has been Co-President with Lisa and would love to see a new member throw his/her hat in the ring for president or to be co-president with her. If someone runs for president (rather than co-president), Janet would step down and shift focus to other aspects of Or Emet.

We hope you will consider yourself in the center of these changes because it will likely be a member you nominate, someone you recommend, or you filling one of these positions.

The deadline for nominations for our Executive Committee positions is quickly approaching. Please let us hear from you ASAP with ideas you have about all of our upcoming open leadership positions. We'll pass your ideas on to the Nominations Committee: Margo Fox, Arty Dorman, Gwyn Leder, and Dave Zukor. Or, if you prefer, contact them directly.

Or Emet is a lively and vital community that will continue to be so because of all that we — and you — do to make it what it is.

## NOMINATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

**2017  
CALL FOR  
NOMINATIONS**

It is the job of the Nominations Committee to present a recommended slate for election to Or Emet's 2017-2018 Executive Committee. The election will take place at our Annual Meeting on June 4th.

The offices of president, vice-president and treasurer are elected annually. The two at-large members of the Executive Committee serve two-year terms and are elected in alternate years. The

Executive Committee meets monthly at a time agreed on by its members.

This year, as noted in the Co-President article, we need leaders to step up. Our membership is filled with talented people who care about Or Emet and Humanistic Judaism. Our task is to find nominees who are willing to give of themselves in leadership positions.

We are eager to know if you would like to be on the 2017-2018 Or Emet Executive Committee. Or, if not you, who?

We look forward to hearing from you!

### **Nominations Committee Members**

Margo Fox ..... [margofox10@comcast.net](mailto:margofox10@comcast.net) (651.699.6302)

Arty Dorman .... [broadwayturtle@yahoo.com](mailto:broadwayturtle@yahoo.com)

Gwyn Leder ..... [gwynleder@comcast.net](mailto:gwynleder@comcast.net)

Dave Zukor ..... [dzsw95@gmail.com](mailto:dzsw95@gmail.com)



### **OFFICIAL NOTICE OF OR EMET ANNUAL MEETING**

Sunday, June 4, 2017 10 am – 12 noon

Lake Nokomis Community Center 2401 East Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis 55417

Agenda will include:

Co-Presidents' remarks

Financial Report with 2017-2018 budget

Executive Committee, Leadership Team and committee reports

Election of 2017-2018 Officers and At-Large Executive Committee Member

Following the annual meeting, head outside for

*Or Emet's annual meeting potluck picnic*

### ***Rabbi Sherwin Wine Quote - Two Visions of America***

“There are *two visions* of America.

One precedes our founding fathers and finds its roots in the harshness of our puritan past. It is very suspicious of freedom, uncomfortable with diversity, hostile to science, unfriendly to reason, contemptuous of personal autonomy. It sees America as a religious nation. It views patriotism as allegiance to God. It secretly adores coercion and conformity. Despite our constitution, despite the legacy of the Enlightenment, it appeals to millions of Americans and threatens our freedom.

The *other vision* finds its roots in the spirit of our founding revolution and in the leaders of this nation who embraced the age of reason. It loves freedom, encourages diversity, embraces science and affirms the dignity and rights of every individual. It sees America as a moral nation, neither completely religious nor completely secular. It defines patriotism as love of country and of the people who make it strong. It is the vision of a free society. We must be bold enough to proclaim it and strong enough to defend it against all its enemies.”

- Rabbi Sherwin Wine



## Jewish Cultural School Update by Eva Cohen

Director of Or Emet Jewish Cultural School  
Juniors and Bar/Bat Mitzvah Prep Teacher

This is my fifth year as Or Emet's Jewish Cultural School (JCS) director, and it's wonderful to see the school grow and flourish! While I will not be continuing as the director next year — as I move forward with Humanistic Rabbinical training — it has been a privilege to lead the school and to work with so many bright, caring, and curious young people and their families. I am happy to continue as Bat/Bar Mitzvah Prep teacher next year. It will be exciting to see a new director bringing energy, vision, and leadership to the position.

The last few months at JCS felt like a holiday whirlwind! In January we belatedly celebrated Hanukkah with a great party at the Wellstone Center. Members and visitors enjoyed a potluck along with entertainment by JCS students. The Littles class belted out "I Have a Little Dreidel," the Middles class formed a Humanorah onstage, and the Juniors class performed scenes from "Paper Candles," a play based on a Montana community's real response to a spate of antisemitic incidents unfolding during Hanukkah in 1993.

During February's JCS session we celebrated the Jewish New Year for the Trees with a Tu B'Shevat Seder in the Talmud Torah gym. Our Seder booklets guided us through a service that tied four cups of white, red, and mixed grape juice to the four seasons, to four worlds of physical and to emotional/

psychological growth and experience, to four kinds of deepening human relationships, and to different kinds of fruits and nuts that grow in Israel. Thank you to my Bat/Bar Mitzvah Prep students for helping me lead the service, and to parent volunteers for your generous contributions and assistance.

March's JCS session included the annual Purim carnival, which featured student-designed and -led carnival games, mask-making with teacher Colline, a *mishloach manot*-making station with teacher Renee, a "bake and bagel walk" with teacher Anna, face-painting with teacher Josh, and hamantaschen baking with volunteers Jessica Cheney and Sam Tape, along with teacher Sarah and Or Emet's baker extraordinaire, Dan Gladen. A big thank you to teachers, volunteers, and other parent volunteers who helped make the carnival a fun and festive success!

Humanistic Jewish learning has been happening in JCS classrooms! From studying bees, pollination, and Tu B'Shevat connections in the K+1 class to illustrating a true Holocaust-era Hanukkah story in the Middles class. Meanwhile the Bat/Bar Mitzvah Prep class built Hebrew speaking and writing skills and did an uproarious read and sing-through Calvin Trillin-sourced Purim spiel.

Plans are in the works for a summer outdoor campfire Shabbat/Havdalah event. Watch for updates!

*As always, you are welcome to contact me at [evarosecohen@gmail.com](mailto:evarosecohen@gmail.com) or 651.285.0406 with JCS-related questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you all at upcoming JCS sessions and other Or Emet events.*



**Purim Party Fun!!**

## Member News

Two items under Community Events include work by Or Emet artists.

[Re]Telling includes work by **Eva Cohen** and **Susan Weinberg** who provide a contemporary response to Holocaust artist Fritz Hirschberger.

**Susan Weinberg** also has work on crossing personal boundaries into growth in the annual Jewish Artists' Lab show.

**Rhoda Redleaf**, Jewish Family Service Board Member, will be honored by Jewish Family Service at their 106th Annual Celebration on June 4.

**Don Larsson** will perform the role of the "9th Juror" in Reginald Rose's play *Twelve Angry Men*, produced by the Locally Grown Theatre company. The play will be presented on May 12 - 14 and May 19 - 21 at the Newport United Methodist Church, 1596 11th Avenue, Newport, MN. For further details and ticket orders, click on [Brown Paper Tickets](#)

**Rachel Springer**, one of Or Emet's teen members, will be competing in the First Tech Challenge (FTC) World Championships later this month in St. Louis with her robotics team, The Rubies. Rachel's robotic team has created a competitive robot that drives on its own and, with the help of a game controller, shoots balls, and pushes buttons. The team has been helping start new teams in North Minneapolis and meeting with local legislators about the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) opportunities for students. Her parents, Lisa and Colin Gardner-Springer, and her sister Emily are really excited for her.

## Community Events

### *Yom HaShoah Commemorations*

Friday, April 21, 7:00 pm

Friends Meeting House, St. Paul

For Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day musician Judith Eisner will lead a presentation that includes Yiddish music as we contemplate the darkness and light in the human soul. Proceeds donated to Doctors Without Borders.

Sunday, April 23, 7:00 pm

Beth El Synagogue, St. Louis Park

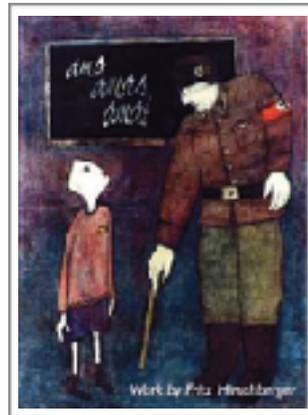
Featuring the Theater of Witnesses, Holocaust Survivors and Yachad Students in partnership with the JCRC

### *[RE]TELLING*

April 7 - June 1

Sabes Jewish Community Center Tychman Shapiro Gallery

Survivor Fritz Hirschberger's work from the University of Minnesota Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies (CHGS) expressing life under Nazi rule. Paintings and narratives are paired with contemporary works by local artists, including Or Emet members Eva Cohen and Susan Weinberg.



### *Exploring Boundaries & Otherness*

Jewish Artists' Lab Exhibition

including work by Susan Weinberg

June 15 – August 24

Reception/Performance: June 29 6 pm – 8 pm

Performance begins at 7 pm in the JCC Theater

Click [for more events and details](#)

## Social Justice/Social Action News

### *From the Ground Up*

Submitted by Arty Dorman, Social Justice/Social Action Chair

The change in White House leadership has caused many to consider the ways social justice is in jeopardy and social action required. There are challenges on every front: the environment, immigration, health care, women's rights, race relations, income disparities, education, arts and humanities, debasement of science, election integrity, prospects for peace in Israel, and the list goes on. Where to begin?



Grocery bagging crew at Second Harvest

Or Emet members are individually engaged in social justice and action; yet it is also appropriate to act as a community. To determine how our congregation could best respond, our Executive Committee held two Listening Sessions, planned and facilitated by Barry Cohen, Scott Chazdon and Allan Malkis. Members listed concerns and identified issues we can act on as a community. We evaluated strategies to address each issue.

As Or Emet is a small congregation of socially active people, we felt it wise to begin with just one issue. We selected challenges to separation of church and state and identified as strategies: 1) partnering with organizations such as the Minnesota Humanists and Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and 2) soliciting individuals from our membership to submit letters to the editor, aiming for a monthly presence that addresses the issue and identifies Or Emet as a champion for separation of church and state. This is a work in process, so stay tuned for more information. But you need not wait — please contact me about authoring a piece.

We also want to facilitate rapid response when threats to separation of church and state arise. These often are at the state, county, or school district level. To this end, each member's school district and legislative district is being added to our directory, thanks to Bruce Pomeranz's dedicated effort.

We continue our ongoing social action by providing dinners at St. Stephen's (January 28 and April 2) and collecting personal care items for guests at Listening House. On February 18, twenty-one adult members bagged groceries at Second Harvest Heartland for distribution to food shelves and shelters.

Our small committee acts on behalf of our entire community. Let me or my co-chair, Claire Press, know how you feel about Or Emet's Social Justice /Social Action efforts. Your ideas are welcome and our meetings are open to all Or Emet members.

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### *Library Update: Come Check it Out*

Submitted by Claire Press



Until now, Or Emet could only dream about having access to library space. Thanks to St. Paul Talmud Torah's offer of limited shelving in their library, the Or Emet Library at Talmud Torah is now ready. Come check out a book! Cook books for adults with Passover in mind, and even a children's activity/cook book are available. There are numerous storybooks for a variety of ages. **Only *Nine Chairs*** was a favorite with my family for many Seders.

There are many other books — fiction, non-fiction and a novel or two. Our two shelves are worth checking out, as the selection is quite eclectic. We are using the simple honor system for borrowing books. Write down the name of the book you want to check out, your name, phone number, and email address on the library's check-out pad.

There are many books to be added to our library and we welcome additional donations. We need volunteers to help get them shelf-ready. If you have any questions, or an hour or two to help fill the shelves, please contact me at [clairehpress@aol.com](mailto:clairehpress@aol.com).

## Member Articles

### ***A Fish Out of Water***

Submitted by David Zarkin

“Children, today we are going to make clay figures and paint them to represent the manger scene with the Christ child in Bethlehem,” announced Mrs. Moran, my second-grade teacher in December 1948 at Roosevelt Public School in Spokane, WA. I got a better Christian education in public school than did the kids attending St. Bernard’s Catholic School up the street.



Dad was an Orthodox/Conservative Jew who did not want my sister and me singing Christmas carols or accepting copies of the New Testament Bible that our teacher handed out to students on the school’s playground. Chanukah then was celebrated among the members of the two synagogues, but was not publicized by the local news media or the conservative Christian community. My parents instructed me to move my lips but not actually sing Christmas carols during the school’s annual holiday program. This put me at odds with the sour puss music teacher who berated me for not singing.

Even among the Jewish community there was a measure of intolerance when the Conservative synagogue, where we were members, lost its rabbi to Florida and I took Bar Mitzvah training from the Reform Rabbi Plotnick. Dad had planned that the Bar Mitzvah would transpire at the Conservative synagogue with the Reform rabbi co-officiating, but the new Conservative rabbi would have none of it.

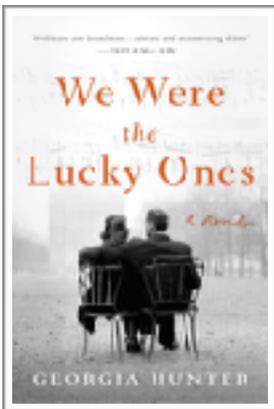
“But why, when you allow Catholic priests on the pulpit, won’t you recognize a Reform rabbi?” Dad asked the Conservative rabbi. “We know what the Catholics stand for but we don’t know about the Reform,” the rabbi replied. My Bar Mitzvah was held at the Reform Temple Emanuel where we were new members as of my thirteenth birthday.

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### ***A Story Writ Large***

Submitted by Susan Weinberg

*My grandfather and his siblings grew up in Radom....I'm wondering if you might have a moment to help me better understand the city....*



So began an email I received three years ago requesting information about Radom, Poland, one of my ancestral towns. I maintain the [Radom website](#) for Jewishgen.org. It is a virtual community for those researching Jewish family roots. I often hear from people around the world who are traveling there or in some cases writing a book. This email was from Georgia Hunter who was writing a book about her family’s story.

As luck would have it, I received the email as I was having lunch with a friend, a survivor from Radom, who easily answered the questions posed. I put Georgia in contact with my friend Dora, as well as with a friend in Radom who knows its history well.

After reading her book, *We Were the Lucky Ones*, I am doubly delighted to have played any part in her extraordinary effort. The book traces her family members from Radom during the war as they each seek their path to survival. So many stories are told within one family — from the Radom ghetto, to the killing fields, to Lvov under both German and Soviet control, to Warsaw during its destruction — hiding as

Christians with false papers — to the notorious Nazi prison in Krakow, to being shipped to the forests of Siberia, to enlisting in the Polish Army and to serving in a famous battle in Italy. A child is hidden by nuns and parents are hidden behind a false wall in a farmhouse. This is a story writ large, filled with risk and answered with bravery, always surrounded with a deep love of family. The family is flung apart by war, the survival of some unknown. The Red Cross ultimately reunites them and when that happens you share their tears of joy even though as a reader you have a peek behind the scenes. This is a debut book for Georgia. Her skills as a writer and a compelling story make this a book that will touch you deeply.

### ***Coming In As a Humanistic Jew***

Submitted by Richard Logan

When I was a kid there were three close adults in my life: My parents, who never abided anti-Semitism, and Dr. David Laband, who roomed with us. This wonderful Jewish physician was a hero of the Japanese occupation of Singapore. When the Japanese imprisoned most of the the British civilian population, Dr. Laband single-handedly saved the lives of hundreds who suffered during their long and brutal imprisonment.

Later my father arranged for Rabbi Max Wall to come to summer church camp to teach Judaism. Rabbi Wall too was influential in my life as he talked about the Torah and its lessons.

Senior year in high school, Mr. Silverman, on sabbatical from Horace Mann school in New York, magically appeared to teach English Lit. That amazing year was *The Dead Poets' Society* — learning about great literature and reading *Catcher in the Rye* over town objections.

In college, red diaper Jewish guys from Peter Stuyvesant High in NYC became my roommates. Their politics were a huge part of college. Together we met I. F. Stone, Todd Gitlin, and Noam Chomsky — and I learned how central education was in Jewish culture.

In grad school at the University of Chicago my professors included Lawrence Kohlberg and Bruno Bettelheim — whose psychoanalysis seminar often featured psychoanalyzing whichever hapless student made a slip of the tongue. I also met my wife Carol there. Jewish, yes.

I was next teaching at the University of Nairobi, where I met Erica Mann, socialist giant who had founded many women's cooperatives. She and her husband had escaped Nazi Europe and built lives of substance in Kenya.

Next, teaching at Vassar, my mentor was child development authority Joseph Stone.

Most Jews who touched my life were secular. Long a humanist, experiencing the smart and caring people of Or Emet made it natural for me to affirm that I am a Humanistic Jew. Today, Humanistic Judaism embodies what I find worthy, and I hope that I am carrying on the legacy of many good people.



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### ***Or Emet 2017 Humanistic Passover Seder Celebration***

Submitted by Carol Logan



On April 15th at the First Unitarian Society an impressive turnout of 120 Or Emet members and guests gathered for another wonderful congregational Passover Seder. Harold Londer — Or Emet's Madrikh, and Eva Cohen — Director, Juniors teacher and Bat/Bar Mitzvah Prep teacher in Or Emet's Jewish Cultural School — led the Seder service with readings from our Humanistic Haggadah. The musical contributions of Sarah Berman-Young, Johanna Lester, Amy Stubenhaus, and the adorably energetic singing by the youngest JCS children, were highlights of the event. The ritual meal and sumptuous potluck buffet were further



enhanced by the children's reading of the traditional Four Questions (in Hebrew and English!). Or Emet's Humanistic Seder celebrates freedom and dignity, the ability of individuals to change their destiny, and the power of hope, while honoring our ancestral triumph over adversity.

## ***Just Don't Say HIS Name***

Submitted by Alan Miller

Sitting in temple recently, wearing a now unfamiliar tallis and yarmulke (required in this Conservative congregation) and listening with pride as my granddaughter flawlessly recited her Torah portion in Hebrew, I flashed back to when I stammered through my own Bar Mitzvah eons ago. She was great, but as recollection serves, I was not.



It also conjured up thoughts of my pre-Bar Mitzvah days in Florida, where as the only Jew in the class (and probably the school), we all sang the required Christmas carols. I knew that this did not reflect our beliefs, and asked my mother what to do. “Sing,” she said, “the music is beautiful, but just don’t say HIS name.” Would I be struck dead? By the time my Bar Mitzvah rolled around, and we were now living on Long Island, I had already become a skeptic.



Alan and Sharon Miller  
with granddaughter, Jessica

Yet I had that same reaction on my granddaughter’s day as I did back in Florida, except now the hesitation on my part was when we all had to stand, and recite — instead of “HIS” name — the appellation “Adonai.” At least I’m a consistent skeptic, although decades have passed. It is really weird how that flashed through my atheistic mind.

Why don’t I believe? Well, as I followed along in my granddaughter’s portion — Exodus in the Old Testament — I saw passages such as “if thou buys a Hebrew servant,” “if a man sell his daughter to be a maid-servant,” or “he that smiteth a man, so that he dieth, shall surely be put to death,” and on and on. Hit your father or mother: death. Steal a man and sell him: death. Kill with the sword: death by stoning. And all this from the God of Mercy. No wonder I questioned at such an early age.

My mother was raised in an Orthodox family, the 11<sup>th</sup> of 12 children. My father’s parents had escaped pogroms in Russia, and had no particular beliefs. Okay, so there was no pork, no shell fish, and they recognized the major holidays, even if they were otherwise not observant. It was a tough adjustment for my mother, and our synagogue was Conservative (light), since it was the only one in our Long Island community. We ate no pork, except for bacon, because my father loved bacon, and that’s where he drew the line. And shell fish? Hey, this was Long Island, where lobsters abound, but never at home, only in restaurants. That makes sense, right?

Secular humanism? Fits me like a glove.

## ***Donations***

### ***For use where most needed***

Muriel Sterne  
Avi and Roxanne Meshar  
Stan Maisel

### ***In memory of Eugene Malkis (Allan Malkis’ father)***

David and Joan Barnett, Arty Dorman

### ***In honor of what would have been Wesley T. Logan’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 25, 2017 (Richard Logan’s father)***

Richard and Carol Logan

*Thank  
You*

**Or Emet Members Make Themselves Heard!**



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***What Democracy Looks Like: Putting Values Into Action***

Susan Weinberg writes in an article for MinnPost Community Voices:

*I am not a protester by nature, at least not the “in the streets” variety. Part of my aversion is I don't trust a crowd mentality, on the left any more than on the right. In today's environment, I am rethinking my resistance to crowds and protest.*

*After the election, when my husband and I were deeply distressed, he did a lot of preaching to the choir. That's me. I kept saying, "We should be out in the streets!" This “choir” was ready to sing, my crowd aversion quickly forgotten. When things are so wrong, my instinct is to take to the streets to declare it.*

*It was a small step from that sentiment to attending the Women's March in D.C. It was a joyous and inclusive crowd. Marching to the chant of "Tell me what democracy looks like. THIS is what democracy looks like" felt absolutely right. I chanted with fervor, believing those words....*

To read more of Susan's article click [here](#)

**SHABBAT PROGRAMS**

Shabbat programs are at the Sabes Jewish Community Center, 4330 South Cedar Lake Rd, St. Louis Park. Programs are from 7:30 - 9:00 pm and include a Humanistic Shabbat service and end with an Oneg.

**Friday, April 28**

***Understanding Immigration: Justice and Compassion in Uncertain Times***

This program will explore the history of U.S. immigration and refugee policy, the impact of administrative actions, and a call for a just and compassionate response.

**Presenter:** Michele Garnett McKenzie, Deputy Director of The Advocates for Human Rights

**Friday, May 19**

***Secretary of State, Steve Simon, on the Drive to Make Minnesota #1 in Voter Turnout***

**Presenter:** Steve Simon, Minnesota Secretary of State. See article below for more information.

**SUNDAY PROGRAMS**

**Sunday** programs are at the Talmud Torah Building, 768 Hamline Ave. South, St. Paul. Adult programs meet from 10:00 am - 12:30 pm (concurrently with Jewish Cultural School classes).

**Sunday, April 9**

***Four and Soon to be Five Generations in the Workforce***

**Discussion Leader:** Alex Schwartz, GNet Group human resources manager delivering tactical programs in a global environment, Or Emet Member

**Sunday, May 7**

***2nd Annual Member Art and Music Show***

**Organized By** Dave Zukor and Don Larsson. Or Emet artists will exhibit their works and share experiences. During the art show, Or Emet musicians will sing and play musical instruments. All visual artists and musicians are invited to participate.

**MAY PROGRAM FEATURES MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE**

Steve Simon will explain the role of the Secretary of State and Minnesota's rich history of voter participation. He will talk about his efforts to further increase voter participation and civic engagement, the 2016 election, and legislative issues he champions.

Prior to becoming Minnesota's 22nd Secretary of State in 2015, Simon represented district 46B (primarily St. Louis Park and Hopkins) in the Minnesota House of Representatives.



Barry Cohen, Howard Schneider and Allan Malkis leading March program on the Middle East

OR EMET

Special Events | April - September 2017

**Annual Meeting and Picnic • Sunday, June 4**

- Annual Meeting and election of officers 10:00 am -12:00 noon
  - Potluck Picnic 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm
- at Lake Nokomis Community Center, 2401 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis 55417

**Saturday, July 15 from 7 - 8:30 pm • St. Stephen's Shelter dinner**

In the spirit of *tikkun olam*, Or Emet volunteers provide and serve dinner to shelter guests.

**Summer Campfire with Shabbat and Havdalah event** — stay tuned for details

**OR EMET 2017 HIGH HOLIDAY EVENTS**

All Or Emet High Holiday Events (except Tashlich) are at the Sabes Jewish Community Center, St. Louis Park

**Rosh Hashanah Service**

Wednesday, September 20, 7:00 pm  
Oneg following the service

**Rosh Hashanah Tashlich Service and Potluck**

Thursday, September 21, 10:30 am, location TBA

**Kol Nidre Service**

Friday, September 29, 7:00 pm

**Yom Kippur Service**

Saturday, September 30, 4:00 pm

**Break-the-fast Potluck**

At conclusion of the Yom Kippur service

250 Turners Crossroad South  
Apt 324  
Golden Valley, MN 55416

