



July, 2011

To our Eighth through Twelfth Grade Students and Parents:

We have been hard at work this summer planning for the 2011-2012 /5772 religious school year. We have been re-evaluating, dreaming, creating, and planning.

Our *Madrichim* program continues to grow and evolve. We have a limited number of *madrichim* positions for teens who want to participate in an enhanced training program that provides consistent feedback about their work. They can look forward to having greater opportunity to build a community among themselves as young educators and volunteers. Additionally, each of them will work closely with his or her teachers and with Edye Swidler, our *madrichim* coordinator. This year, the sole focus of Edye's weekly duties will be our *madrichim* program.

As in years past, participants will receive "hours" for their volunteer work in our religious school. They have a choice:

- 1) To use their hours of volunteer work either as community service hours (to satisfy their secular school requirement), to list on college applications and/or because volunteering is enjoyable and fun **or**
- 2) To earn scholarship funds to be used toward Jewish camps, the Confirmation trip to Israel or other class trips, NFTY weekends, or Jewish educational programs. The scholarship is dispersed at the end of the education year, but can also be "banked" to accrue over a few years. The value of the hours is as follows:

50 hours = \$ 150 scholarship  
75 hours = \$ 225 scholarship  
100 hours = \$ 300 scholarship  
150 hours = \$ 450 scholarship

While the bulk of available hours for serving as a *madrich* or *madricha* come from leadership within our religious school, please also let Rabbi King-Tornberg know if you would like to participate more fully by contributing hours outside of religious school...such as in our Mazal Tots programs (early childhood) and High Holy Day Children's Programs.

Students who serve as *madrichim* may work on Sundays or Tuesdays (or both days) as class, Hebrew program (see application form), library, music or art *madrichim*. Library, art and music slots are only available on Sundays.

***Madrichim* are expected to participate in training and development this year at the following times:**

**Aug. 26 – 4:30-7:00 PM**  
**Aug. 31 – 6:30-7:30 PM**  
**Oct. 17 – 10:30-12:30 PM (during religious school hours)**  
**Jan. 30 - 10:30-12:30 PM (during religious school hours)**  
**Mar. 27 - 10:30-12:30 PM (during religious school hours)**  
**May 15 – 12:45-1:45 PM**

**MONA ALFI**  
Senior Rabbi

**LESTER A. FRAZIN**  
Rabbi Emeritus

**SHOSHANAH KING-TORNBERG**  
Rabbi, Director of Lifelong  
Jewish Learning

**JULIE STEINBERG**  
Cantorial Soloist

**MANDELL H. GREENE, FTA**  
Administrator

**Steve Goldberg**  
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Jeanette Salkin  
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*Madrichim* are also expected to meet with their teachers regularly to elicit feedback and communicate about the class' or program's progress. They can expect evaluation of their work—as a tool for their own growth—twice a year.

As congregants and community members of B'nai Mitzvah age, *madrichim* live out our community's and our people's commitment to:

*Torah* = Study

*Avodah* = Worship and Celebration

*Gemilut Chasadim* = Acts of Loving kindness

Adult Jews express their commitment to these pillars of Jewish life through participation in the life of the community. We are moved and grateful to our young members who choose to express their new adulthood in this way.

If you—teen or parent--have questions about the program, please contact Rabbi King-Tornberg to discuss your participation. We look forward to receiving your forms, so that we can place our teens in enriching roles in our school and community. I am at 916-446-4861 x16 and at RabbiKT@bnais.com.

Shalom,

Rabbi Shoshanah King-Tornberg, RJE  
Director of Lifelong Jewish Learning