

Dear Parents,

July 29, 2008

Shir Chadash offers classes from Tots through 12th grade students. Our dynamic religious school program brings Judaism to life by engaging students in stimulating classroom activities, art, music and field trips. Family activities are also held throughout the year for parents and children to learn together through fun activities. Our volunteer teaching staff creates opportunities beyond book learning to foster a love of Judaism and sense of community.

Religious classes are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every Month (however changes may occur due to legal or religious holidays). A schedule of classes has been attached to for your knowledge.

The **Gan class** is for Tots through Pre-K and is led by Wendy Bill. The Tots class is offered on the 1st Sharing Shabbat of each month. With crafts, fun with food, and music our younger children learn the love of Judaism through their senses. Please note that the Tots program is for child accompanied by a parent. **There is no fee for the Tots program.**

The **Aleph class** is for children from Kindergarten through Second grade and is led by Jerry Scheck. The children will learn Holiday, Traditions and Bible Stories through fun filled activities throughout the year.

The **Bet class** consists of Third and Fourth Grade Students and is led by Jodi Wolff. The students of the Bet class continue on their education by building upon what was they learned in the Aleph class and by adding new subjects such as ethics and the study of Israel.

The **Aleph and Bet class** work closely together to ensure that the students have fun learning their Jewish heritage by interactive classes and not just book study.

The **Gimel class** led by Cantor Gail Hirschenfang is for students from Fifth Grade through Bnai Mitzvah. Students will have the opportunity to learn various subjects such as Jewish lifecycles, American Jewish History, and Jewish Bible Studies.

The **Daled Class** led by Mara Goldstone is a monthly literature class for Students who have completed their Gimel studies through Ninth Grade. Students will explore Jewish life through literature. The class meets monthly.

Our **Machon (High School) Program** is led by Rabbi Daniel Polish and is a seminar series specially designed for high school aged teens. A wide variety of material and discussion will be presented that will interest and challenge this very discerning group.

Classes begin at 9:00 am sharp. Please be sure to arrive a few minutes early to allow students to obtain a light breakfast so that they can gain the most from their classroom experience.

Enclosed please find:

1. a Students Registration Form that needs to be completed and returned along with a fee for materials of \$75.00 per student. Please return a check made out to "Shir Chadash" in the enclosed envelope.
2. a Student Information Form. Please complete and return. And,
3. a Shir Chadash Educational Covenant. Please read, sign and have the student sign as well. It should also be returned.

Sincerely, The Shir Chadash Education Committee

Congregation Shir Chadash Religious School Registration Form 2008-2009

Parent 1: Last Name _____ First Name _____

Work Phone _____ Cell _____ Home _____

Parent's email address:

Home address:

Parent 2: Last Name _____ First Name _____

Work Phone _____ Cell _____ Home _____

Parent's email address:

Home address: _____

Child(ren) reside(s) with: _____ Both Parents _____ Parent 1 _____ Parent 2

Send mail to:

Student Medical Info:

Physician _____ Phone #: _____

Dentist _____ Phone #: _____

In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by Shir Chadash or its agent to hospitalize, transport secure treatment for and to order injection, anesthesia or surgery for my child(ren) as named in this registration form.

Parent Signature:

Congregation Shir Chadash Educational Covenant

Our tradition teaches us the sacred importance of *brit* / covenants. At Sinai, our people entered a covenant which has shaped our lives ever since. As a community we embrace an educational covenant which affirms the worth of our teachers' efforts and creates an environment in which our children can grow as Jews. Please take the time to review this code of conduct with your family as we work together to strengthen the Shir Chadash Community.

Parents, teachers and children work together to create the best possible environment for Jewish Growth. Parents, teachers and children are asked to focus on the rights and responsibilities they have in creating the congregational community. We recognize the following rights and responsibilities: **The right to feel safe and the responsibility to make sure others feel safe. The right to be respected as an individual and the responsibility to respect others.**

To participate in our school community, parents, students and teachers affirm the following:

1) I am responsible for making this a safe environment. Some of the ways I can help to create a safe environment are:

I will keep my hands, my feet and objects to myself.

I will walk and play safely both inside and outside the building.

I will be in class on time.

All of my actions will be safe for others and myself.

2) I am responsible for making sure people respect each other. Some of the ways I can help to create a respectful environment are:

I will speak kindly to others and will not say hurtful things.

I will listen when others are speaking and will expect others to listen to me.

I will wait my turn to speak and will not interrupt others.

I will do my best to make sure that nobody feels left out.

I will respect requests of my teachers and other adults in the congregation.

I will support Religious school activities and will not disrupt them.

I will treat the belongings of others with respect.

All of my actions will be respectful.

3) I am responsible for taking care of the classroom at our temporary home. Some ways that I can take care of the synagogue are:

I will clean up my work area and put away materials.

I will keep books, walls and furniture free from writing and other forms of damage.

I will leave chewing gum, toys, iPods, cell phones, baseball caps and sunglasses at home.

All of my behaviors will reflect appropriate respect for our surroundings.

One of the most important parts of your education is to learn about the synagogue and our worship services; **for students in the Bet class and above, we will expect that you attend at least 10 services throughout the year.** They may be either Shabbat or festival services.

In all these ways we will help create a loving and learning community.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Teacher Signature

Date