Kol HaLev
CLEVELAND’S JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST COMMUNITY

HAGIGA 2010-2011/5771
AN INNOVATIVE SHABBAT MORNING EDUCATION PROGRAM

ANNUAL THEME:
CELEBRATING OUR 18TH YEAR: CHAI

Rabbi Steve Segar
Education Director: Robyn Novick
Youth & Family Education Committee Chairperson: Lynn Liebling
DERECH ERETZ:
GUIDELINES TO LIVE BY

At Kol HaLev, kavod, respect and kehillah, community, are two of our most important values. According to Jewish tradition, we are all created b’zelem elohim, in God’s image; therefore, the way in which we treat each other is central. Our goal is for all of the learning community to behave with derech eretz, common decency as well as acceptance and inclusivity. Please note, while these overarching guidelines apply to everyone at Hagiga, individual groups will affirm their own guidelines which will direct their experience. Let us be mindful of the following guidelines as we learn and pray together:

1. We are respectful to each other.
2. We respect our environment and the property in it.
3. We cooperate with our fellow students and madrichim.
4. Words can hurt and words can heal; we are careful to use appropriate language.
5. We speak kindly to each other and don’t bother our neighbors.
6. We participate in and contribute positively to the learning and community atmosphere.
7. We strive to have a good time and help others have a good time also.
8. We each strive to be a mensch (a good person).
FAMILY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

We are blessed to have experts in the field of Jewish Family Education as members of Kol HaLev who wish to share their time and talents. Lynn Liebling and Rabbi Jeffrey Schein will be leading special family education programs for each of the Hagiga age groups -- Zorim, Bonim, Magshimim, and Chalutzim.

Zorim (K-2) – October 16, 2010 ☺
Bonim (3-5) – February 5, 2011 ☺
Magshimim (6-8) – March 5, 2011 ☺
Chalutzim (9-11) – April 16, 2011 ☺

OTHER DATES OF IMPORTANCE

Gabe Hersch Bar Mitzvah Celebration – August 21, 2010 ☺
Hagigat Limmud – January 15, 2011 ✡
Gabe Segar Bar Mitzvah Celebration – March 26, 2011 ☺
Senior Siyyum & Madrichim Appreciation – May 21, 2011 ✡
Ilana Solomon Bat Mitzvah Celebration – August 20, 2011 ☺

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication between parents, the director, and the madrichim (volunteer teacher-leaders) is an important part of the success of Hagiga. The following represent the many opportunities for communication within our education community.

♦ Parents receive emails before and after each session highlighting the material, as well as with suggestions to continue the conversation about the lesson.

♦ Highlights of each session can be found on the Kol HaLev website, www.kolhalev.net. Under Member Resources tab click on Weekly Hagiga Updates.

♦ Hagiga Happenings is a monthly column about Youth and Family Education, which can be found in the Kol HaLev newsletter.

♦ There is an update during announcements at Shabbat services each week Hagiga is in session.

♦ Feel free to contact Lynn Liebling, chair of the Youth and Family Education committee, liebling@sbcglobal.net or 440-248-7266.

♦ Do not hesitate to send an email to or call Robyn Novick, robyn@kolhalev.net or (216) 320-1498.

WELCOME

Dear Kol HaLev Family,

Shalom Alechem! Welcome to Hagiga, Kol HaLev’s education program, built upon an informal and intergenerational learning model. “Hagiga” means celebration, and that is what this program is. Hagiga celebrates learning, as it states in the program’s mission and vision: “In recognition of the importance of life-long questioning and Jewish learning, our Hagiga program aims to create a range of joyous, exciting educational and social opportunities for our youth and their families.”

We will kick off the year with a family program on Sunday, September 12 from 1-3 pm at The Ratner School. At this program we will have an introduction to our annual theme, “Choosing Life” as well as a creative project. The first Hagiga Shabbat program will take place on Saturday, October 2nd. Hagiga will continue to meet on the first and third Shabbat mornings of each month from 10:15 am to 12:30 pm, through the month of May.

Hagiga is overseen by the Youth and Family Education Committee, which is also responsible for youth group, Family Tot Shabbat, family education and intergenerational programming. Hagiga does not have its own committee as Kol HaLev’s vision is to provide a holistic approach to education within our community. In doing so, it is clear that all educational experiences are important. The education program for youth and families has been created in a manner that allows for a symbiotic relationship between all the components, offering multiple avenues for education along each person’s Jewish journey.

We invite all parents of children in grades K-12 to fill out the enclosed Enrollment Form enclosed in this handbook. Your registering your children in a timely manner helps the process greatly, as one element of cohort division is the group size. Nitzanim, the preschoolers, need not be registered as Family Tot Shabbat is a drop-in program.

We hope you find this handbook useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Lynn Liebling, the Youth and Family Education Committee Chair, with any questions or concerns. We look forward to engaging all of our children in Reconstructionist learning experiences and dialogue.

Kol Tuv,
Robyn
MISSION, VISION AND GOALS OF THE HAGIGA PROGRAM

Mission Statement
The mission of the Congregation Kol HaLev’s Educational Program is to provide a range of joyous, exciting educational and social opportunities for all members of Kol HaLev, especially the congregation’s Youth and their families. The opportunities will foster a desire to become committed Reconstructionist Jews who identify with Kol HaLev, the Cleveland Jewish Community, the American Jewish Community and k’lal yisrael (The Jewish People). The program will provide participants with a strong Jewish knowledge base and recognition of the importance of life-long questioning and Jewish learning.

Vision Statement
This educational program will be an informal, intergenerational education model where there is an inherent learning partnership between the teacher, the learner and the subject matter. The students will be brought into the learning process as active, valued participants. The subject matter will be linked to the real life situations of the learners. The learning spaces will be flexible and there will be cooperative learning groups engaging in experiential activities which include drama, art, music, dance, games, creative writing, role-playing and activities outside the walls of the classroom. Learning will involve families and at times other members of the Kol HaLev community. Madrichim shall be volunteers, if possible, trained and supervised by our director of education. Where possible, this program will be coordinated with the educational products/efforts of JRF, Noar Hadash, and Camp JRF. We envision that Kol HaLev will attempt to engage our youth from preschool through the college years.

Overarching Goals
Developing a positive Jewish and Reconstructionist identity
Developing a sense of community
Viewing Jewish learning as a life-long process
Developing an understanding of the Jewish Reconstructionist approach to Jewish living

INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMS
This year we will have six intergenerational holiday programs. In addition, the fourth Shabbat of each month is Shabbat Kehillah, which has intergenerational workshops and an intergenerational service. Children need not be enrolled in Hagiga in order to participate in these activities.

Friday, September 24 – Sukkot
Sunday, December 5 – Chanukah
Wednesday, January 19 – Tu B’Shevat
Saturday, March 19 - Purim
April 8–10 – Community Shabbaton
Saturday, May 21 – Lag B’Omer

TEEN ACTIVITIES AND RETREATS
Nachal is the Youth Group for 8th - 12th graders. The youth group takes place outside of Hagiga. This past year, activites include volunteering at local agencies, attending cultural events and recreational activities. No’ar Hadash, the national youth group for JRF, holds two retreats each year (see below). Children need not be enrolled in Hagiga in order to participate in youth group activities locally, regionally or nationally.

No’ar Hadash Midwest Youth Kallah:
(Grades 6-12) Date TBD (last year February)
No’ar Hadash North American Youth Kallah:
(Grades 8-12) Date TBD (last year April)

We are also blessed to be a part of an active Jewish teen community in Cleveland. There will be two community-wide teen events. These events are organized by a teen council, which include Kol HaLev members. If you are interested in an organizational role, please contact Robyn.

Cosmic Bowling (Roseland Lanes, Bedford):
Saturday, November 6, 2010
JServe (National Day of Jewish Service):
Sunday, April 3, 2010

Volunteering at Ronald McDonald House on January 31, 2010
2010-2011/5771 CALENDAR

All sessions, outside of the kickoff, will take place on Saturday mornings from 10:15 am - 12:30 pm

Session 1: Sunday, September 12, 1-3 pm - Special Kickoff Program
Session 2: October 2
Session 3: October 16 - Family Education - Zorim 😊
Session 4: November 6 - Special Ratner Shabbat 🕊
Session 5: November 20 - Ben Robertson Bar Mitzvah Celebration 🕊
Session 6: December 4 - Harry Weinstock Bar Mitzvah Celebration 🕊
Session 7: December 18
Session 8: January 8 (note second Shabbat, not first) - Elaine Millas Bat Mitzvah Celebration 🕊
Session 9: January 15 - Hagigat Limmud Welcoming Ceremony 🕊
Session 10: February 5 - Family Education - Bonim 😊
Session 11: February 19
Session 12: March 5 - Family Education - Magshimim 😊
Session 13: March 19
Session 14: April 2
Session 15: April 16 -- Family Education - Chalutzim 😊
Session 16: May 7
Session 17: May 21 - Senior Siyyum & Madrichim Appreciation

Reconstructionist Educational Values

The Values of Spiritual Peoplehood will be integrated with the overarching goals of the program. These values will be part of the subject matter and the experiences, and of all units of learning. They are:

- Wisdom Hohmah
- Creativity Hiddur Mitzvah
- Spirituality Kedusha
- Peoplehood Ziyonut
- Repairing the World Tikkun Olam
- Character Dereh Eretz
- Hebrew and Prayer Exploration

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

A Hagiga Enrollment Form is enclosed within this handbook. Our year will begin with a special Family Kickoff Program on Sunday, September 12th from 1 to 3 pm at The Ratner School. The Youth and Family Education Committee has determined in order for any learner to participate in the Saturday morning Hagiga program or the Family Kickoff Program, the Enrollment Form must be completed, signed and returned to the office. Learners need not be registered to participate in all-community, intergenerational or youth program.
SHABBAT PRINCIPLES

The Kol HaLev community made a conscious choice to hold Hagiga on Shabbat. While we have lessons on Shabbat, the community has taken steps to ensure that Shabbat is a holy day and is distinguished from the other days of the week, which is stated in the following principles:

1. Many of our members are committed to having an experience of Shabbat that is special, holy, sacred, joyous and is differentiated from the rest of the week. Others wish to have an experience of Shabbat which while differentiating it from the rest of the week, is focused on establishing a connection of community with other members of Kol HaLev and more broadly with the Jewish people. As an overall congregation, we’re committed to these experiences, and to creating a space and structure which makes it easy for other people to share these experiences of Shabbat.

2. Offering a rich, expressive and expansive educational experience is critically important for us. It’s also essential, given that we’ve chosen Shabbat as the day in which we’re going to offer this educational experience, that the educational program is planned with the kavannah of promoting and creating access to these experiences of Shabbat to which we’re personally and communally committed. This holds regardless of the form and structure the educational program and activities take.

3. We know and understand each one of our members is on an ever evolving pathway in his or her personal Jewish journey, and that a good part of this pathway is the personalization of what being a Jew is for each individual. In this sense, each one of us is simultaneously a creator, interpreter and transmitter of Judaism. We also understand there is a natural tension and balance point constantly being discovered for each individual on this evolving pathway between our collective past, present and future as individuals, a community and a people. It is our heartfelt belief the struggle with this tension, and the natural actions which occur as a result of this struggle, represent an opportunity for the ordinary to reveal the extraordinary, the extraordinary to reveal the ordinary and thus for the individual and community to experience growth, learning and development. Our commitment is that whatever structure and format the educational programming takes, it incorporates this struggle and as a result, encompasses this inherent opportunity for growth, development and learning.

Chalutzim students in grades 11-12 who want to help out on Shabbat mornings are invited to assist madrichim with the younger children and Z’mah Ruach. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Robyn. For those interested, there will be an educational component to support this opportunity.

For the preschool children and younger, there is Family Tot Shabbat from 10:45-11:15 am. This is a family program and children are to be accompanied by their parents. There is also Chaverim B’Yachad, Friends Together, (babysitting) during Shabbat morning services (10:15 am– 12:30 pm), outside of Family Tot Shabbat times.

One goal of Hagiga is to create a community. In effort to accomplish this goal, Hagiga is for enrolled children only. However, if a member family would like their child to visit Hagiga, they are welcome to come for one visit. Please let Robyn know of your plans to visit, as it is important that we are aware of visitors to properly plan for the lesson, as well as for safety reasons.

Age groups:  
- **Chalutzim** ★ Pioneers (Hagiga Program for Grades 9-12)  
- **Magshimim** ★ Achievers (Grades 6-8)  
- **Bonim** ★ Builders (Grades 3-5)  
- **Zorim** ★ Planters (Kindergarten-Grade 2)

Shabbat Morning Schedule:
- 10:15-10:30  Community Shabbat Service
- 10:30-11:30  Program
- 11:30-11:45  Snack
- 11:45-12:15  Z’mah Ruach, Spirit Time/Service
- 12:15-12:30  Community Shabbat Service

**Nitzanim/Buds** (Preschool & under accompanied by parents)  
10:45-11:15 Family Tot Shabbat

**Chaverim B’Yachad/ Friends Together** (Babysitting)

Babysitting is available from 10:15-12:30 for all children not in Hagiga or the main service. Any visitors to Kol HaLev are welcome to utilize the babysitting services.
Chabad Jewish Center of Solon (Hasidic)
Miriam Greenberg, Director
440-498-9533 or miriam@solonchabad.com
5570 Harper Rd., Solon
Cost: $750 plus book fee
Meets Sunday (9:15 – 12) & Wednesday (4-5:30)

Congregation Bethaynu (Conservative)
Erin Katz, Religious School Director
216-292-2931 or erin@bethaynu.org
27900 Gates Mills Blvd., Pepper Pike
Cost: $395 tuition plus membership ($72 first year/$550 after)
Meets Monday (4-6) & Non-Hagiga Saturday (9:15 – 12)

Kol Chadash (Reform)
Rabbi Estelle Mills, Director
440-263-5571 or rabbimills@kolchadash.org
6545 SOM Center Rd., Solon
Cost: $400
Meets Sunday (9:15-12) & Monday (4-6)

HAGIGA PROGRAM & SCHEDULE

Hagiga is a non-traditional, informal learning program for all children at Kol HaLev. The program meets on the first and third Shabbat mornings of each month from 10:15 am - 12:30 pm and is open to children in kindergarten through grade 12. This year, the curriculum is formed around our theme, “Choose Life” where children will be exploring key questions about the choices we make such as “What does our tradition say about ethical choices?” and “How do we as Reconstructionists reconcile ancient wisdom with modern thought?” The Reconstructionist Value of Spiritual Peoplehood this year will be Character/Dereh Eretz.

Shabbat morning begins together as a community at 10:15 am in the main service for Birchat Hashachar, Morning Blessings, participating in the service with our families. At the conclusion of this part of the service, around 10:30, children will join their respective age groups for Hagiga programming. Some weeks there will be T’fillah, Prayer, where we will look at parts that make up the service, as well as the individual prayers. Toward the end of the morning, all groups will gather together for Z’man Ruach, Spirit Time, a time for songs and dances in a camp-like atmosphere.

4. Because our members are on different and evolving pathways on their own Jewish journeys, it is critical that each of us brings to our relationship with the other a profound respect for the unique Jewish journey of each individual. This then can lead to an understanding of the range of ways in which each person chooses to create and have a meaningful experience of Shabbat. Our intention is that the educational programming incorporates our community commitments to experience the power, sacredness and holiness of Shabbat, the experience of Shabbat as being distinct from the rest of the week, and the experience of Shabbat as a vehicle to create community within Kol HaLev and more broadly the Jewish people. And just as each member of Kol HaLev is on a different and evolving pathway on their own Jewish journey, the form and structure of our educational programming should acknowledge the reality of these different pathways and the different “routes in” which create these experiences.

5. We also understand the educational process itself is one that leverages different modalities of teaching and of learning, and that by choosing to have our educational programming on Shabbat, we potentially could place ourselves inside a structure which would limit certain modalities of learning and teaching to be explored. While we are not committed to throwing caution to the wind and opening up the total exploration of these different modalities of teaching and learning, we equally are not committed to the total restriction of these modalities. Therefore, we’re committed that our educational programming embark on a mindful exploration of these varied modalities, and that there are processes put in place which both evaluate and adjust the effectiveness of the tools and methodologies deployed in this intentional, mindful and careful exploration.

6. We understand that in order for these principles to tangibly exist in the structure and format of our educational programming, it will require creativity, out-of-the-box thinking, and for both the planning of the programming and the programming itself to be undertaken and implemented with both tremendous kavannah and ruach. It is our intention these principles are used as both a source and influence for our educational programming, sparking individual and collective ruach and sharpening individual and collective kavanah.

Approved by the Board in June 2005. Posted July 29, 2003

Shabbat Shalom!
Every candidate for Bar or Bat Mitzvah in the Kol HaLev community must satisfy the following three requirements:

- Participating in the Kol HaLev community
- Receiving a comprehensive Judaic and Hebrew education
- Participating in activities that develop one's Reconstructionist identity

In order to satisfy these requirements, children in grades 4-6 and their families have multiple options. For families with children in grades 4-6, a copy of the B'nai Mitzvah Guidelines will be sent separately to your home. If you have a child outside of grades 4-6 or would like another copy, the Guidelines can be found on the Kol HaLev website, www.kolhalev.net or you can request a copy from the office. The Annual Checklist for Bar/Bat Mitzvah in Kol HaLev has been enclosed in this handbook. This checklist notes the various options to assist families in planning their child’s Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation. Please review these materials and complete the Checklist for all students in grades 4-6 and return them to the Kol HaLev office.

Our requirements for Bar/Bat Mitzvah state that one must participate in Judaic, Reconstructionist, AND Hebrew education programs. Hagiga is meant to satisfy the Judaic and Reconstructionist requirements. For day school students, the Hebrew requirement is clearly satisfied by day school education. For those not in day school, Kol HaLev endorses private tutoring or enrollment in a congregational school. For a list of the schools and programs that Kol HaLev endorses, please see the options on the following pages. If your child is a student in third grade or above who does not attend day school, please enroll your child in one of these options for the coming year. If you would like help determining the best option for your family, please contact Robyn. There are a great many wonderful choices for Hebrew education available to the youth of Kol HaLev—an option for every learning style and personality.

HEBREW OPTIONS

NON-CONGREGATIONAL OPTIONS

Jane Arnoff Logsdon
216-375-0093 or janealogsdon@gmail.com
Cost: $600 for group plus book fee
Levels: Aleph - Gimel
Location: TBD

Beth Friedman-Romell
216-921-2619 or bhfr0108@gmail.com
Cost: $30/half hr; $50/hr plus materials fee.
Levels: Aleph - Hey
Location: Shaker

Jodi & Larry Solomon
216-702-4207 or jodilynsolomon@yahoo.com
Cost: $600 for group/contact for individual pricing plus book fee
Levels: Aleph - Vuv
Location: Chesterland

Eileen Sadowsky
216-991-5872 or eileensadowsky@yahoo.com
Cost: $600 for group/contact for individual pricing
Levels: Aleph – Daled
Location: Shaker

Yehudit & Na’amah Sharaby
216-691-9202 or jsharaby@grossschecter.org
Cost: $55/hour
Levels: Aleph – Vuv
Location: South Euclid

CONGREGATIONAL OPTIONS

B’nai Jeshurun (Conservative)
Lita Koret, Education Director
216-831-6555 or litakoret@b’naijeshurun.org
27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike
Cost: contact for pricing
Meets Tuesday & Thursday (4:15-5:45)