



אוֹהֵב שְׁלוֹם וְרוֹדֵף שְׁלוֹם

☆ *Ohev Shalom v'Rodeph Shalom* ☆
Love peace and pursue it (*Pirkei Avot* 1:12)

Friday *Shabbat* Evening Service

January 16, 2026 | 27 Tevet, 5786

Welcome!

Who belongs here at Congregation Rodeph Shalom?

Whether you are...

Black, brown, white, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, or multi-racial
Queer, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, or straight

Three days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old

Single, married, with/without kids, divorced, widowed, or partnered

Living in Philadelphia, the suburbs, or elsewhere

Struggling with addictions or know someone in that position

A student, looking for a job, or gainfully employed

Disabled, able-bodied, or a person of differing abilities

Neurodiverse or neurotypical

New to Judaism or a lifelong member

Seeking your path, Jewish or not

You belong here at Rodeph Shalom!

Where equity, inclusion, and diversity are our congregational values!

Rodeph Shalom Vision Statement

Immersed in Jewish time ♦ Guided by enduring values ♦ Compelled to moral action

We create profound connections

Immersed in Jewish time

Sustained by the sacred rhythms of the Jewish year, pivotal moments of the Jewish life cycle, and generations of Jewish history, we are part of something greater than ourselves. Living in Jewish time teaches us how to express meaning in the everyday, to gather as a community, and to walk with each other through the joys and sorrows of our lives.

Guided by enduring values

The timeless wisdom of our tradition inspires our intentional quest for truth, righteousness, and purpose amid the uncertainties we face in our world. We dedicate ourselves to Judaism's ethical messages to treat each other with loving-kindness. The faithful, the skeptic—and those who perceive God in different ways—wrestle to renew the teachings of *Torah* for our present and for the future of the Jewish people.

Compelled to moral action

In a broken world, we commit to be a voice of conscience and to engage in the work of social justice. From our doorstep to our neighborhood and beyond, we welcome the stranger and embrace our responsibility to connect with and learn from others.

We create profound connections

We seek meaning in shared experiences and cherish our diverse perspectives. We who are new to synagogue life or have extensive Jewish backgrounds; we who are Jewish or who share our lives with Jews; we who live within different family constellations, who are of all abilities, gender identities, sexual orientations, races, and generations: we enter the synagogue to celebrate, to learn, to laugh, to heal, to pray, to challenge ourselves, and to connect with others about the deepest questions of our lives.

Friday *Shabbat* Evening Service

Parashat Va'eira

January 16, 2026 | 27 Tevet, 5786

- Led by:** Rabbi Jill Maderer, Rabbi Eli Freedman,
and Cantor Brad Hyman
- Shabbat* Blessings:** Alexander Chase Abend,
son of Gayle Chesley & Nick Abend,
on the occasion of becoming a *bar mitzvah*
- Greeters:** Debbie Davies, Benjamin Hover,
Muriel Kudera, Marc Lowenstein
- Bimah* Guest:** Jon Broder
- Musicians:** Nick Fuchs; clarinet
Conner Saltzer; percussion
AJ Luca; piano

Makheilah, the RS congregational choir, will sing with us tonight.

Heal Us Now by Cantor Leon Sher

R'faeinu Adonai v'neirafeh

hoshi-einu v'nivasheah

El karov l'chol korav

ach karov li-reav, yishoh.

רְפְּאֵנוּ יְיָ וְנִרְפָּא
הוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ וְנִיבִשְׁעָה
אֵל קָרוֹב לְכָל קָרָאיו
אֶךְ קָרוֹב לִירְאָיו יִשְׁעוּ

Heal us *Adonai*, and we shall be healed.

Save us and we shall be saved.

God is close to all who call out to God.

Surely, help is near to all who call out to God.

We pray for healing of the body,

We pray for healing of the soul.

For strength of flesh and mind and spirit,

We pray to once again be whole.

El na, r'fa na

Oh please heal us now

R'fuat hanefesh, u'r'fuat ha-guf,

r'fua sh'leimah.

אֵל נָא רְפָא נָא
רְפוּאַת הַנֶּפֶשׁ וְרְפוּאַת הַגּוּף,
רְפוּאָה שְׁלֵמָה

Oh God, please heal us now

Healing of the soul and healing of the
body, a complete healing.

Hoshia et amecha

U'vareich et nachalatecha

Ur'eim v'nas'eim ad haolam

Mi shebeirach avoteinu

Mi shebeirach imoteinu

Ana Adonai hoshia na

הוֹשִׁיעָה אֶת-עַמְּךָ
וּבִרְךָ אֶת-נַחְלָתְךָ
וּרְעֵם וְנִשְׁאֵם עַד-הָעוֹלָם
מִיִּשְׁבְּרֵךְ אֲבוֹתֵנוּ
מִיִּשְׁבְּרֵךְ אִמּוֹתֵינוּ
אָנָּה יְיָ הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא

We pray for healing of all people,

We pray for healing of the land.

And peace for every race and nation,

Everyone, who needs a helping hand.

Save Your people bless your inheritance,
care for them, and exalt them forever.

You, who blessed our fathers and our mothers,
O please, help us, God.

In Memoriam: January 11, 2026 to January 17, 2026

Yahrzeit (anniversary of death)

Jane S. Abrahams	Alice Shmookler Gouley	William L. Rosenbluth
Leah W. Abramson	Wilhelm Graetz	Sadie Jamison Rothman
Marum Anathan	Joseph E. Gross	Norman S. Rothschild, Jr.
Bette Appel	Samuel Herson	Matilda Rudow
Nathan Auritt	Keke Blumberg Kahn	Lewis Sablosky
Melba Basicckes Axelrod	Elaine Kaplan	Maurice G. Sanders
Ann Barmash	Bernard Katz	Harriet Rosewater Sax
Barry Michael Barron	Zenia Krause	Milton S. Selig
William W. Batoff	Joseph Krieger	Louise Seltzer
Sarah Beck	Joseph Kuh	Harry Serfer
Albert Benderson	Rose Lassin	Francis S. Sheerr
Yetta Bloomar	Estelle R. Leberman	Seymour Shelton
Bertram Blumenthal	Julius C. Levi	Mark Shevlin
Carrie Blumenthal	Belle Levinson	Benjamin Shien
Isadore O. Brick	Jack Lieberman	Jack G. Silverman
Miriam Brin	Bertha Hess Liebman	Flora Silvernail
Ray Cohen	Susan G. Lipper	Helen Snellenburg
Carrie Eisman Cohn	Robert B. Litman	Leslie Squires
Diana Currie	Scott Lustig	Riva Stanley
Eleanor Braun Danaher	Cecilia Magaziner	Philip Sterling
John C. Danaher	Hattie J. Mandel	May Stiffman
Bertha Topkis DeLuca	Jane M. McFarlin	Joseph Straus, Jr.
David Harris Dickstein	Zippa Mesirov	Ruth Sussel
Boris Drucker	Jacob Miller	Samuel Tassman
Dennis Duckett	Muriel Mittelman	Esther E. Vendig
Matthew S. Ersner	Madge Marcus Nemir	William Walther
Samuel Fernberger	Florence Packman	Fannie Rosenthal Weinberg
M. Austin Fine	Julius Panzer	David Joshua Weisenfeld
Harriet Finn	Earl Perloff	Ida Jaffe Weisman
Benedict Freud	Frank A. Pfaelzer	Edward Weiss
Bertha Gerschel	Ethel C. Polakoff	Ruth Shaw Wheatcroft
Harry H. Goldberg	Harry M. Putzel	Floyd Whellan
Doris Golden	Yetta Reber	Isaac Wolf
Perry J. Goldman	Robert Resek	Pauline Binswanger Wolf
Max Goldstein	Raymond Ellis Rosen	Esther Schnure Zubow
Harry Goodman		

Shloshim (30 days of mourning)

Horace Barsh John R. Bilodeau Beverly A. Hopkins
Jeffrey Margolis Carl Schneider Daniel Segal Joan Sundheim

May the source of peace send peace to all who mourn and comfort to all who are bereaved

Rodeph Shalom Community Events

Democracy: United We Stand
Apply now for our juried open call show.

PHILADELPHIA
MUSEUM OF
JEWISH ART



Democracy: United We Stand **An Art Exhibition to Celebrate Freedom**

Open Call to Philadelphia Area Artists

Our intention with this open call is to build on this momentum and to invite artists to reflect upon and give expression to the theme of Democracy: United We Stand as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country. Maintaining democracy requires work by all citizens. We invite artists to submit works that visually reflect this concept.

Jurors

A PMJA exhibition committee will be jurying the submissions and will select artworks that respond best to the theme and also work in dialogue as an exhibition. We are pleased to announce that RS congregant Ruth Fine will again serve as lead curator.

The deadline for submission is February 3.

More information here: bit.ly/449ck84

THE CLUBHOUSE

Your Jewish home, after school!

Open For Enrollment!

An after-school home for Jewish friendship, learning, and identity!

Students in kindergarten through 6th grade experience playful, purposeful, and joyfully Jewish care and enrichment after school.

- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Jewish Learning
- ✓ Community Building
- ✓ Active & Imaginative Play

- ✓ Homework Help & Healthy Snacks
- ✓ Camp Days
- ✓ Open to all! No synagogue membership required

Contact Us

Phone Number
267-930-7288

Website
theclubhousephilly.org



Rodeph Shalom Community Events

Introduction to Judaism
Beginning Tuesday, January 20 at 6:00 p.m.



If you are an interfaith couple, considering converting to Judaism, or Jewish and looking for beginner's education, Introduction to Judaism is perfect for you.

Taught by Rodeph Shalom clergy, this course provides students with a foundation of the Jewish faith, culture, people and history from a Reform perspective.

Free for RS members; \$250/non-member individuals and couples. The course runs from Tuesday, January 20 through April 14 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Register here: bit.ly/rsintrotojudaism2026

PRE-ONEG FEST

FRIDAYS, JANUARY 16, 23 & FEBRUARY 6 AT 5:00 P.M.

Join together for Pre-*Oneg* Fest, a joyful new way to experience *Shabbat* at RS!

Beginning at 5:00 p.m., we'll offer a spread of snack-sized dinner bites for the whole family to enjoy! Share a *nosh* and take time to be in community.

Food will be served from 5:00 – 5:50 p.m., when we will kindle the *Shabbat* candles and say *kiddush* in the lobby before making our way into the sanctuary at 5:55 p.m. for services.

RSVP requested but not required so that we can do our best to order an appropriate amount of delicious food to share.

The dates above are sponsored by the Rabbi Kuhn Gratitude Fund.



Register for all events at:

rodephshalom.org/eventregistrations

Or scan QR code:



Our Clergy, Staff, and Lay Leadership Welcome You!

Senior Rabbi

JILL L. MADERER (she/her)

Rabbi

ELI C. FREEDMAN (he/him)

Cantor

BRADLEY D. HYMAN (he/him)

Executive Director

JOSH LASTER (he/him)

Director of Youth Learning and Engagement

JENNIFER D. JAMES (she/her)

Director of Operations

RENEE CARL (she/her)

Buerger ELC Jewish Engagement

ANDREA S. MILLER (she/her)

Rabbis Emeriti

ALAN D. FUCHS (he/him)

WILLIAM I. KUHN (he/him)

Communications Manager

ALYSSA S. GELLER (she/her)

Clergy Assistant

SOPHIA SCHWAB (she/her)

Director of Membership and Community Engagement

STEVEN B. SHARE (he/him)

Philanthropy Director

NEIL D. WISE (he/him)

Membership & Philanthropy Assistant

MICHAEL SAKS (he/him)

After School Program Director

HADASAH YAQOB-JOHNSON
(she/we)

Youth Engagement Coordinator

JEM OSHINS (they/them)

Education Assistant

AKIVA WOODS (he/him)

Controller

ERIKA CRUZ (she/her)

Staff Accountant

LETTY NORTH (she/her)

Administrative Assistant

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We would like to hear from you! Please contact:

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