

NARBERTH Havurah

August 1, 2018

As the president of the Narberth Havurah, I'm writing to welcome you to our community and to invite you to join us as a member for the new membership year (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019).

Over the past year, the Havurah grew even stronger and more vibrant as a community, welcoming several new member families. We enjoyed a year of wonderful holiday celebrations and song-filled Shabbat services. We fed the hungry and demonstrated for social justice. Our Hebrew School reached new heights of academic purpose, organization, and camaraderie among its students, with Rabbi Simcha and Pauline Rosenberg as teachers.

We look forward to expanding both our experience and our community in the coming year with programs for families with B'nai Mitzvah and young children. We are happy to be moving our Hebrew School location to the new Jewish Family and Children's Services building, just down the street from St. John's. As well as being a more welcoming and comfortable facility, it allows us to hold both classes at the same time. More information to come.

The Narberth Havurah is first and foremost about the relationships among our members and always will be. We take pleasure in one another's company, and we want you with us during the coming year of joyous engagement. Please join us as a member, and share in the continued vitality of the Narberth Havurah. You can find information about our membership dues and Hebrew school tuition below, as well as on our website. We try to keep these costs as affordable as possible, and we can be flexible when necessary. We will not be raising membership dues for 2018-19.

Register online at www.tinyurl.com/NHmembership. Or, fill out the form on pages 7-8 of this packet. And invite your friends to join us too! We are an inviting, inclusive community; everyone is absolutely welcome.

If you have any questions or concerns, we'd love to speak with you. Email me (see address below) or call me at 610-348-7071, or contact one of our Vice Presidents, Membership and Outreach, Matt and Samantha Green, at matthew.green@obermayer.com or slevygreen@gmail.com or on their home phone: (610) 667-1644.

We look forward to celebrating with everyone, starting with pizza in the park on August 29th at Narberth Park from 6:00 to 8:30 pm -- a chance for members new and old to reconnect, and for others interested in the Havurah to meet us. We hope to see you there!

Warmest regards,

Helene Speer
President, The Narberth Havurah
(610) 348-7071
helene.speer@narberthhavurah.org

NARBERTH Havurah

The Narberth Havurah provides open-hearted Jewish engagement for individuals on their own spiritual path and for families looking for a meaningful Jewish connection.

We are best described by our members:

I am a member of the Narberth Havurah because I wanted to experience Judaism on a more personal and spiritual level.

I am a member of the Narberth Havurah because we finally have found a place where OUR entire family can comfortably learn about our faith and experience it first-hand.

We are an interfaith family, and ALL we truly feel like we have found a home at the Narberth Havurah.

We are a community of seekers, learners, joyous celebrants and participants in contemporary Judaism. We offer two Shabbat gatherings each month (one community-wide Friday night potluck Shabbat dinner, and one worship service) in addition to holiday celebrations and opportunities for children and adults to engage in meaningful Jewish learning. We want to touch and feel grass-roots expressions of Judaism and the Jewish calendar. We are an open and welcoming congregation composed of a diverse group of families and individuals. We are small in numbers and mighty in purpose.

We are led by Rabbi Simcha Zevit, who joined us in 2015. Rabbi Simcha brings many years of experience as a Jewish educator, working with adults, teens, and children in a variety of settings. She is a ritual-maker and facilitator for traditional and creative life-cycle celebrations and transitions, an inspiring prayer leader, and, in addition to her teaching, community building, and life cycle work, she has spent the last several years serving as a chaplain to people of all faiths in hospital and hospice settings. She is currently a staff chaplain at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, in addition to being our rabbi. She embraces people of all backgrounds, belief, and disbelief, encouraging them to learn, and to experiment in how to create meaningful, personally relevant, and joyful Jewish lives, while balancing their unique needs and understandings with those of the community, and with our age old tradition.

Our goal is to be a smart community, responsive to our members' needs and responsible for doing good work in the world. If *tikkun olam* (healing the world), engaging dialog, exploring tradition, and lasting relationships within a caring community deepen your connection to Judaism, then the Narberth Havurah will have succeeded.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

There are two parts of your Havurah membership:

Involvement: This Havurah is YOURS, and it needs you. As a living, growing organization there are plenty of opportunities to contribute your skills, or even learn new ones, on behalf of the greater community. We are small enough that we cannot rely on someone *else* to do the work. Because of that, each person's contributions matter. This is one way we strengthen our community.

Dues + Contributions: We rely solely on member contributions to sustain operations and to provide our community with the practice of Judaism that members have all come to know, love and cherish. But, please do not assume that because we are a small, intimate community that we do not need funds. Simply put: it takes money to sustainably run the Havurah for this year and for years to come.

2018-2019 Narberth Havurah Membership Dues

	Recommended Level	Sustaining Level	Basic Level
Family Membership <i>For members with a spouse, partner, and/or children</i>	\$1,395	\$1,150	\$895
Individual Membership	\$850	\$650	\$475

The Narberth Havurah is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Please consider contributing at the "Recommended" or "Sustaining" Membership Level. Pledges beyond these guidelines are welcome and will help us as we continue to grow.

Dues can be paid in full or semi-annually with equal installments due on August 31 and December 31, 2018. We are happy to discuss alternative arrangements on a case-by-case basis.

To register, please complete and return the Membership Registration form, or register online at www.tinyurl.com/NHmembership

HEBREW SCHOOL

The Narberth Havurah proudly operates its own Hebrew School. Please refer to the Hebrew School information on the following two pages for details, available classes, and fee structure.

Hebrew School tuition can be paid along with your membership dues either in one complete payment or in two equal payments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

These folks would love to speak with you about the Havurah. Please feel free to contact them at any time:

Rabbi Simcha Zevit	Clergy	(216) 402-2949	rabbisimchazevit@gmail.com
Helene Speer	President	(610) 348-7071	helene.speer@narberthhavurah.org
Matt and Samantha Green	VP, Membership & Outreach	(610) 667-1644	matthew.green@obermayer.com slevygreen@gmail.com

Email info@narberthhavurah.org

Website www.narberthhavurah.org

Facebook (Group page for open discussion) www.facebook.com/groups/222949605164/

Yahoo! Groups (List serve style discussion) groups.yahoo.com/group/narberthhavurah/



The Narberth Havurah Hebrew School

Mission and Vision

Our Hebrew School is taught by our own Rabbi Simcha Zevit, along with Pauline Rosenberg, a member of the Havurah who has been teaching at various synagogues across the main line for more than fifteen years. The goal of the Narberth Havurah Hebrew School is to engage students as active learners as they encounter Jewish texts, rituals, values, prayers, songs, culture and history. With small class sizes and differentiated instruction, each student will be treated as an individual with specific goals and needs. Time is divided between learning to read Hebrew and begin to engage with Jewish prayers, Torah, Jewish story/history, and contemporary Jewish rituals and holidays. Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) and our Jewish values will be woven in throughout the curriculum. We believe that a fun and meaningful learning environment for children is the best way to engage them as they begin their life-long journey of Jewish learning.

In addition to traditional classroom instruction and discussion, learning modalities will include music, art, drama, and games, and students will often be working on projects and skills that can be incorporated into Jewish practice in their homes and the larger Havurah community. We will have several Hebrew School Friday night services in which our students will lead us in blessings, prayer, and song, and will have the chance to share some of what they have learned. Our vision is to empower our students to become participating members in the Jewish life of their families, the Narberth Havurah, and the larger community.

About our Director of Education

Rabbi Simcha Zevit was ordained in 2011 through [Aleph: Alliance for Jewish Renewal](#). She embraces people of all backgrounds, belief, and disbelief, encouraging them to learn, and to experiment in how to create meaningful, personally relevant, and joyful Jewish lives, while balancing their unique needs and understandings with those of the community, and with our age old tradition. Rabbi Simcha brings many years of experience as a Jewish educator, working with adults, teens, and children in a variety of settings.

Rabbi Simcha warmly welcomes direct inquiries about the Hebrew School; you can email her at rabbisimchazevit@gmail.com or call her at **(216) 402-2949**.

Class Offerings

The Narberth Havurah Hebrew School is currently forming classes for children in grades 2-7. If you have children in kindergarten or first grade, and are interested in programming for your children, please let us know by emailing Rabbi Simcha at rabbisimchazevit@gmail.com. The precise number and composition of our classes will be based upon enrollment. Classes will meet on Tuesday afternoons at Jewish Family and Children's Services Brodsky Center, located at 345 Montgomery Ave. in Bala Cynwyd. We gather at 4:15 (if kids want to arrive early for snacks!), with class time beginning promptly at 4:30 and ending at 6:00 pm.

Our school will begin on Tuesday, September 25th with a Welcome Pizza Party for parents and students on September 25th from 6 - 7:30 pm. It's important for all students to attend with at least one parent. Regular classes begin on Tuesday, October 9th, and run through May 28th, 2019. A detailed calendar and schedule will be provided in September.

In addition to spending about half of each session learning to decode Hebrew and begin to read Hebrew prayers, the second half of each class focuses on a different educational learning theme each year. Examples from past years include: "The Rhythms of the Jewish Year" (focused mainly on Shabbat and holidays), "Jewish People/Jewish Lives/Jewish Values" (Biblical characters come to life through the Jewish values they represent), "It's A Mitzvah" (learning by doing; with an emphasis on mitzvot that lead to social justice, compassion for all people and for our environment, and an awareness of common Jewish rituals).

Our learning theme this year focuses on building Jewish identity through "**Belonging, Believing, Behaving**": the three B's that Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan, founder of [Reconstructing Judaism](#), teaches are the foundation of what it means to be a Jew. For some, including Rabbi Kaplan, belonging is the most important of the three B's -- a sense of identity that comes from being aware of one's own Jewish connections within the family and as part of a community, as well as Jewish peoplehood and our history, the evolution of Judaism as a culture, and a religion over time, and what it means today to claim one's Jewish identity -- along with the other identities that make up our sense of self. Students will explore their own family histories to connect with the idea of *l'dor va dor*, belonging to a tradition passed down from generation to generation.

Students will also be empowered to explore their own sense of belonging through looking at Jewish history in fun and creative ways, using "The Do-It-Yourself Jewish Adventure Series" as a core component of the curriculum. These wonderful books allow students to experience themselves inside the story at critical moments in Jewish history, and to see how the choices they might have made would impact the unfolding story of the Jewish people.

Our students are taught that there is no "right way" to live as a Jew, and will be offered multiple perspectives to think about the ideas discussed. Most importantly, they'll learn that they are part of a community in which asking good questions is valued, the diversity among us is honored, and there are many beautiful ways to bring Judaism into their lives.

Tuition for members of the Narberth Havurah Hebrew School is as follows (per student):

One student:	\$850
Two students:	\$800
Three or more:	\$750

Space permitting, non-members of the Narberth Havurah may enroll for a one-year trial, albeit at a higher fee. After the trial period, a Havurah membership will be required in order to continue enrollment in the Narberth Havurah Hebrew School.

Enrollment

To enroll your child/children, please indicate your interest in the Household Children section of the Membership Registration Form and include appropriate tuition fees.

For More Information

If you have any comments or questions regarding our Hebrew School, please contact Rabbi Simcha at 216-402-2949, or rabbisimchazevit@gmail.com. We are truly excited about our Hebrew School and are looking forward to the next session!



Membership Registration Form

Please complete and return this form or register online at www.tinyurl.com/NHmembership

Household Adults

Adult Member (A)

Name _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Interests/Skills _____

Adult Member (B)

Name _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Interests/Skills _____

Home Address

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Household Children

	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4
First Name				
Last Name (if different)				
Birthday				
Grade (as of Fall 2018)				
Havurah Hebrew School Enrollment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If you have more than four children, please attach an additional page with requested information.

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Please consider contributing at the “Recommended” or “Sustaining” Membership Level. Pledges beyond these guidelines are welcome and will help us as we continue to grow.

I/We pledge \$_____ for the 2018 - 2019 membership year (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)
Pledges can be paid in one or two equal payments. The first payment is due by August 31st, 2018 and the balance is due by December 31st, 2018.

Check enclosed for the entire amount of \$_____ [or paid via PayPal / Credit Card]

Check enclosed for a 50% installment payment of \$_____ [or paid via PayPal / Credit Card]

+ Hebrew School

To enroll students in the Narberth Havurah Hebrew School, please also include applicable tuition. Indicate enrollment by selecting YES where indicated under Household Children on the previous page.

Hebrew School Tuition: Includes \$_____ tuition for _____ children as indicated on previous page

**** A separate Hebrew School enrollment form (and link to those forms on our website) will be sent**

Payment Information

Checks

Please make check payable to “The Narberth Havurah” and mail it, along with this form, to:
 The Narberth Havurah | PO Box 65 | Narberth, PA 19072

Credit Cards / PayPal

You can also submit your pledge via **PayPal** (or by credit card) by visiting www.paypal.me/narberthhavurah or by clicking the DONATE button on our website at www.narberthhavurah.org.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE NARBERTH HAVURAH!