



July 1, 2023

Dear friends:

Being part of a community is important all year-round.

At Congregation Shir Ami, it's especially important every July when -- at the beginning of our new fiscal year and in anticipation of the High Holy Days -- we have our annual membership drive.

The benefits of belonging to a Jewish congregation are well-known -- the reassuring routine of Shabbat services and regular classes, the excitement and drama of the 10 days of High Holy Days, the fun of celebrations like Chanukah and Purim, the sobering retelling of the sacred story of Pesach, the meaningfulness of Tikkun Olam, group trips and groups of friends.

Congregation Shir Ami offers all of these things that are so meaningful and essential.

This year, Congregation Shir Ami also offers a lot that is new and innovative:

- A creative, lively and learned spiritual leader, Rabbi David Evan Markus, who will get us all thinking, learning, laughing and reflecting. <https://www.congregationshirami.org/>
- A calendar of services, classes and activities -- including new weekly Torah study and a "7-session runway to the High Holy Days" -- where everyone can find something of interest. https://www.congregationshirami.org/uploads/2/6/8/4/26843519/shir_ami-calendar_july_2023-june_2024_as_of_5-21-23.pdf
- Bimonthly classes whose topics and participation will be membership-selected and -driven.

We make it easy to join. We respect that everyone's ability to give through dues, donations and time varies and our values are to welcome members at a level that is comfortable for them. Just complete the online membership form by July 31, 2023. If you have any questions, contact us.

These new and the current activities are all part of the same life-affirming goal -- belonging to a community. The Congregation Shir Ami community is friendly, intimate, activist and strong. We are there for each other. And we hope "each other" includes you.

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