Brit HaMishkan: Community Covenant

“And Adonai spoke to Moses, saying: ‘Speak to the Israelites that they may take for me a contribution; from everyone whose heart so moves him, take my contribution... and let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them” (Exodus 25:1–2,8).

Becoming a member of Mishkan Shalom is entering a sacred covenant to build and sustain a community of shared values so that we may find godliness in our midst. This year we are making formal what is already the tradition at Mishkan Shalom: that all members participate in building of our communal ties.

We are asking all members to undertake two of our most basic tasks – greeting and feeding one another when we gather. Member households will be expected to:

- Serve as a greeter at one service annually
- Host either a Potluck Dinner or Kiddush after services on Friday evening or Saturday.

When you re/join Mishkan this year, your welcome letter will include instructions on how this commitment process will work.

Members who join before the High Holidays will select their own date for convenience as well as to give you an opportunity to use your hosting to commemorate a special event/date in the life of your family. Members who join after the High Holidays will be assigned dates, with the option of switching dates as needed/available.

Detailed instructions are located on a scheduling website, and someone from the Membership/Community Team will reach out to you prior to dates of service. For member households for whom hosting would present a financial burden, Mishkan Shalom will have basic foods and drinks available but still require each household to commit to a date for set-up and clean-up..

In addition to your support in welcoming and nourishing our community in these concrete ways, if we are to thrive as a community, we will also need your help to fill the roles which bring dynamic programming and services to our community. Through our newsletter and website, we offer updated information about the many committees/teams/groups/events that offer opportunities for involvement. There is no better way to get to know each other than coming together in service. We will help you bring your own special gifts to our Mishkan.