

Explore Our Many Programs

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

Torah Study—Monthly on *Shabbat*, with leadership shared by the community. Discussion and interpretation of the texts.

Bagels, Lox & Learning—Brunch series with invited speakers discussing contemporary and historic issues, as well as ethics, arts & literature.

Adult Classes—Focus on Jewish topics with a Reconstructionist viewpoint.

Special Study Sessions—Thought-provoking topics throughout the year.

High Holy Day Preparation—Classes designed to prepare for the Days of Awe.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Shabbat—Monthly Saturday morning and Friday evening services. Bi-monthly Tot *Shabbat* for preschoolers. Quarterly Junior Congregation *Shabbat* Service for 8-13 year-olds. All services community-led with extensive congregational participation.

Festival and High Holy Day Worship—Free, community-led services open to all.

SOCIAL AND HOLIDAY EVENTS

Sukkah building and Dinner Under the Stars

Chanukah Party

Tu B'shvat Celebration

Purim: Megillah reading and party

Passover Seder

Summer community picnic

MITZVAH OPPORTUNITIES

Shalom Committee: Building community

Tikkun Olam: Repairing the world

Bereavement Support: Shiva Minyan & more

Learn About Our Activities

Our monthly newsletter, *The Outlook*, publishes articles of interest to our community and announces coming events. Available by mail and online. See our website—www.keddem.org

BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is open to all persons age 13 years or older who support our goals.

For an application, visit www.keddem.org, send an email to keddem@keddem.org, or call our office at (650) 947-9913.

Keddem Congregation

PO Box 50758
Palo Alto CA 94303

Shabbat services—monthly:
Palo Alto Friends Meeting House
957 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto
Saturday morning and
Friday evening services

Administrative Office:
4600 El Camino Real, Suite 211
Los Altos, CA 94022
Phone: (650) 947-9913
Email: keddem@keddem.org
Web: www.keddem.org

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KEDDEM CONGREGATION

קהילת קדם



Infusing Tradition with New Meaning

Inclusive • Egalitarian
Participatory • Questioning
Reconstructionist

About Keddem Congregation

Keddem Congregation is a community-led, Reconstructionist Jewish congregation, passionately committed to infusing tradition with new meaning.

Our name is a Hebrew word whose root contains within itself the concepts of the past and the future—that which came before us, that which is ever before us.

Keddem provides a unique journey along the paths of both educational and spiritual growth.

It is our goal to provide a welcoming, comfortable, Jewish Reconstructionist environment where members take an active role in defining and pursuing an educational and spiritual journey.

Keddem is a congregational “family” that likes to study, learn, celebrate, and grow together.

Our affiliation with the national Jewish Reconstructionist Federation (www.jrf.org) reflects our dedication to encouraging the growth of the greater Jewish community.

We are based in Palo Alto, California, on the San Francisco Peninsula.

KEDDEM'S PRINCIPLES

Worship, study, community, and governance at Keddem are based on the following principles.

KEDDEM IS:

Inclusive: Everyone who supports our goals is welcome at Keddem, regardless of background, family, lifestyle, or Jewish education. The congregation is committed to democratic process in making major decisions.

Egalitarian: Reflecting the fact that God transcends gender, our liturgy and leadership roles are gender neutral.

Participatory: Involvement builds a sense of community. All Keddem members are encouraged to participate in activities ranging from services and *tikkun olam* (social action) to governance and social programs.

Questioning: Keddem promotes *Torah*-based continuous learning through study of the historical evolution of Jewish community, writings, and practice. Members benefit from each other's knowledge and experiences, value diverse opinions, and respect differing perspectives.

Reconstructionist: Keddem seeks to reconstruct a contemporary form of Judaism by honoring Jewish traditions while adapting them to modern life. Keddem Congregation is affiliated with the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation.

About Reconstructionism

Perhaps you are a Reconstructionist and don't know it.

The communal life of Jews has evolved over thousands of years. Reconstructionism seeks to develop the unique aspects of American Judaism, while preserving our Jewish heritage. Such original contributions as Jewish Community Centers and the Bat Mitzvah developed out of Reconstructionist thought as originally proposed by Rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan (1881-1983), a faculty member and dean at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

Reconstructionists encourage all Jews to enhance their own lives by reclaiming our shared heritage and becoming active participants in the building of our Jewish future.

Reconstructionist Judaism is the smallest but fastest growing segment of the four major Jewish movements in the United States. Keddem Congregation is the only congregation between Sonoma County and Southern California that is affiliated with the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation.

