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in 1906. Shomeret Shalom specializes in pilgrimage, the arts, practice of nonviolence in daily life and is also a movement building strategy.

Why Now?

At a time when state militarism is accepted as a mainstream strategy for “peace” or “justice” we need to shift the culture back to a clear understanding of nonviolence as a pathway towards justice. Nonviolence is a way to embody hope and resistance as facism rises across the globe. Rabbi Lynn is an elder holding this life long learning and practice and is ready to offer mentorship to the next generations.

Who is Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb?

To replant nonviolence as the core value of Jewish tradition we need intergenerational communities of practice. We have lost that commitment due to zionism. Rabbi Lynn is a jokester, an artist, a Jewish and interfaith cultural worker devoting her life to movements for peace and justice. An elder trained in the Fellowship of Reconciliation tradition, the oldest interfaith organization in the world devoted to nonviolence, Rabbi Lynn was mentored by formative leaders in nonviolent lineage: Rev. James Lawson, architect of the Civil Rights Movement, Rabbi Everett Gendler who forged relationships between Dr. King and Joshua Heshel, and JunSan of the Hiroshima Flame Pilgrimage.

What is ordination in Jewish tradition?

The Hebrew word ordination (סמיכה) was first used to describe the preparation of Levites for taking care of the Mishkan / Sacred Tent (Nu. 8:10) and later applied to rabbinic ordination during the Talmudic period. It refers to transmission of skills and knowledge through a chain of tradition. Ordination in Shomeret Shalom will prepare people to carry forward the legacy of nonviolence.

What is the Shomeret Shalom ordination Program?

Shomeret Shalom ordination is a two year program dedicated to skill building as a practitioner of Jewish nonviolence. It includes four areas of competency:

- *Soul Tending*: water ceremonies - morning purification with water, rain prayers, mikveh and tending the health of water.
- *Culture Tending*: Tending land, tending cultural arts, shomeret shalom rituals for ceremonial time. Building altars, core dances, stories and music.
- *Wisdom Tending*: 7 middot/values in action, nonviolence in the text, nonviolence as anti-zionism practice
- *Tending Transformational Solidarity*: sumud, sulha, hospitality, pilgrimage

Shomeret Shalom Program Arc:

The first year is engaged in group learning of the practices, beginning with three months of study dedicated to Tending Transformational Solidarity. Year two is focused on field work in your area of interest. The program will culminate with a collective pilgrimage planned by the cohort members.

- In person retreat at the beginning of each year (2 retreats over 2 year period)
- Each session is composed of land acknowledgment, soul tending practice, Jewish text study, engagement with Jewish culture
- Sessions will be participatory and include breakout sessions
- Guest speakers to class include Yuval Ron, Sami Awad, Rev. Deborah Lee & Elliot Ratzman

Time commitment:

Five hours of study per month

- One-on-one sessions with R. Lynn for each participant and smaller cohort
- 2 online sessions per month - 2 hours per session. Include transmission, small group break out, participation of cohorts in teaching/leading opportunities over time.
- One hour session monthly with a smaller cohort on the basis of interest or geography

Requirements before February:

- Intake: Conversation with R. Lynn to support your journey
- Read: [Shomeret Shalom - Replanting Seeds of Jewish Nonviolence After October 7](#)
- Watch: [A Force More Powerful](#)

What does the ordination program cost?

No one will be turned away due to lack of funds. Help with fundraising for your participation will be supported with fundraising ideas and a few opportunities for bartering skills.

Cost of the program is \$1500 per year which includes:

- The Shomeret Shalom Ordination Pathways
- A copy of the book [Peace Primer Two](#)
- An extensive resource packet and access to teachers in your field of interest
- Cost of travel/food/lodging for the retreat is **not** included. Additional contributions may be requested.

Still have questions? [Watch the info session recording](#). Password: Lp3bU%19

The Seven Midot Of Shomeret Shalom

1. ***Hit-yakh-dut (Harmonious interconnectivity)***: awareness of the interconnection of all life in a single web of existence.
2. ***Ahava (Love)***: Treat ourselves and others in ways that cause people to feel fully welcome and valued. The Baal Shem Tov's instruction to love your neighbor goes hand in hand with the many protocols for preventing harm. He said, "Love your neighbor. Why? Because every human being has a root in the Unity of Creation. When you harm one aspect, you harm the whole." (Tanya Chapter 32)
3. ***Gadol kavod habriot (Great is human dignity)***: The mitzvah to uphold human dignity abrogates *Torah* prohibitions. The absolute sanctity of human dignity is introduced in the *Torah* with the creation of humanity as a non-binary divine image molded from the soils of the earth.
4. ***Tzedek tzedek tirdof (Justice justice pursue!)***: Justice is mentioned twice. Once for the instruction to immediately intervene to stop harm and a second time to remind us to remain steadfast for the long haul in pursuit of justice.
5. ***Teshuvah (Repair harm)***: a five step system for 'creating a culture of repair'. The steps include acknowledgement, accountability, truth telling, reparations and guarantees of non-repeat.
6. ***Al tikneh (Noncooperation with systemic violence)***: How do we prevent and actively obstruct violence? How do we build a culture of peace? Our response requires creative collective and introspective work and tactical experimentation, along with observance of *Shomeret Shalom kashrut*.
7. ***Lo b'hayil (Active resistance to militarism and war)***: A *Shomeret Shalom* practices conscientious objection to militarism and war while building a culture of peace.