

Notes From The Cantor



Music, as you know, is an important part of our Congregation's past, present and future. At Jewish worship's core are a series of melodies and tunes that can, among other things, haunt us, mystify us, excite us, compel us and inspire us. From singing Shabbat songs with our Shirlee Green Preschool students to reciting El Male Rachamim, the memorial prayer, at a great grandparent's gravesite, music impacts all of us in one way or another.

For over the last four years, Orin Johnson has expertly accompanied Shabbat and many High Holy Day services on keyboard. Not being Jewish hasn't stopped Orin from letting the unique feel and taste of Jewish music enter his soul and come out through his fingertips. His skill and talent is an ongoing gift to the Shaare Emeth community, and I am grateful every service that he and I share together.

Orin is Catholic and works the majority of the time at The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, Illinois, as Coordinator of Music and Liturgy. Orin and his friend, Shannon Cherneka, started a group called Oddwalk Ministries in 2004. Oddwalk is a two-man group that performs regularly for Catholic events and is getting rave reviews. Orin and Shannon travel the country often and have performed in front of tens of thousands of listeners. We, at Shaare Emeth, have the opportunity to welcome Orin and Shannon's Oddwalk Ministries on Friday, November 6. They will play some of their beautiful, often amusing, and definitely entertaining, non-denominational settings of songs before the service in our lobby and they will accompany the service and be highlighted in it. We are fortunate to have such talent among us. I know you will want your entire family to take part in this creative and light-hearted musical experience while celebrating Shabbat at Shaare Emeth.

Seth Warner, Cantor, swarner@shaare-emeth.org

Oddwalk Ministries

with Orin Johnson

Friday, November 6

*Come listen before and during
our Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

