

Jewish Solidarity Circle

Description

Join our Jewish Solidaire members for a six week exploration at the intersections of Jewish identity, Jewish positionality in the history and current moment of racial justice work, antisemitism, and Israel/Palestine. Our time together will be grounded in our personal stories, and (hopefully) include a variety of modalities.

Goals:

- Build relationships within the Solidaire Network through the lens of Jewish community.
- Gain deeper clarity on how we have, and do, show up as Jewish individuals and a Jewish community in the work for racial justice, wealth redistribution, and other activism.
- Deepen individuals' understanding and analysis of anti-semitism.
- Open conversation about the role of Israel/Palestine in our communal lives, the American political world, and our giving.

Timeline:

The circle will meet for six 2-hour sessions. We will meet on Thursdays 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15 (tentative pending guest facilitator), 1/5, 1/19 at 1pm ET / 10am PT

Participants are expected to sign up for the full slate of sessions (though it's okay if you have to miss 1 session), as we're using a cohort model and want to build consistency with each other. There is no cost for joining this circle for Solidaire members.

Session Overview

*Note: While the sessions are outlined below, we intend to be responsive to group interest and dynamics. Topics may shift or change, as needed.

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| Session 1 | Who are we? Welcome + Creating our space |
| Session 2 | So this is the Jewish solidarity circle... |
| Session 3 | Showing up as Jews in the work of racial justice, wealth distribution, and other activism. |
| | -> Greg Jobin-Leeds will share some of his and his family's story. |
| Session 4 | Engaging Antisemitism (Guest Facilitator) |
| Session 5 | How does Israel/Palestine fit into all of this? |
| Session 6 | Putting it all together |

Want more detail? [Here are the essential questions guiding each session.](#)

Facilitator Bio's:

Becky Silverstein -

Rabbi Becky Silverstein (he/him/his) believes in the power of community, Torah, and silliness in transforming the world. He strives to build a Jewish community and world that encourages and allows everyone to live a life that reflects their inherent divinity / dignity. Becky is a member of the faculty at SVARA: A Traditionally Radical Yeshiva, co-initiator of the Trans Halakha Project, and has spent many hours facilitating Keshet workshops and staffing shabbatonim (weekend retreats). He has been a member of Solidaire since 2016, when he married his spouse, Naomi Sobel. Becky, Naomi, and their kiddo, Edie Gefen, reside in Jamaica Plain, MA, but are New Yorkers at heart.



Alan Preston -

Alan Preston (he/him) is passionate about leveraging his race, class and gender privilege to advance transformative social change. Descended from Askenazi Jews from France and Germany, including Holocaust survivors on his Dad's side, Alan was raised Quaker with virtually no connection to his Jewish identity. As such, he identifies under the umbrella of "Jews not raised Jewish." Alan has a deep commitment to social justice philanthropy and is a member of multiple donor networks including Solidaire, Social Justice Fund NW and the Washington Progress Alliance. Alan is also a co-founder and trustee of the Arch Community Fund (www.archcommunityfund.org), a private foundation he and his siblings launched in 2017 with a mission of strengthening grassroots movements to resist oppression and build towards a more equitable future. He is in the process of using a reparative lens to redistribute a multi-million dollar inheritance he received last year. Professionally, Alan currently has his own practice providing coaching, consulting and training to nonprofit leaders, progressive donors and funders (www.alanprestonllc.com). Alan is a proud Dad of a blended family with five children between the ages of 10 and 31. He currently lives in Seattle, WA.