#### NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023 CHESHVAN-KISLEV-TEVET 5784

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#### **RABBI'S CORNER**

# Finding Gratitude, Hope in Times of Despair

BY RABBI MARC D. ISRAEL



Before *Shabbat*, I have a routine. I finish my *d'var Torah*, print out Hebrew names of people receiving an *aliya* and make calls to people who are ill. I go home for a few minutes, shave and prepare for Shabbat, power off my phone and set my watch to Do Not Disturb and airplane mode before returning to *shul* for *Kabbalat Shabbat*.

I especially enjoy powering off the phone. During the week, I am on my device at least eight hours per day – reading the news, responding to emails or phone calls, listening to podcasts and

doing word puzzles. I deeply value the quiet that 25 hours of device-free living brings. On rare occasions, if there is a safety concern (we don't have a home phone), I will leave it on.

Such was the case on *Shemini Atzeret*, Oct. 7. With two children in New York City, I decided to keep it on in case of an emergency. But I never could have predicted the emergency alerts that popped up on my phone, telling me that Hamas had launched an attack on Israel and that 50 people were killed. We learned more details throughout the day, and it kept getting worse. By mid-afternoon, I realized the situation was so severe that I needed to break with all protocol and send an email to the congregation to let you know what was happening and provide initial information on what we can do.

I have no regret about that decision or our choice to have a more muted *Simchat Torah* celebration. But Sunday night, after the holiday had ended, I realized that nothing about that weekend had felt like *Shabbat* or the holiday. Hamas had shattered the lives of thousands of families, a nation's sense of security and our people's sense of well-being. Relative to the other suffering, ruining my *Shabbat* may seem insignificant. But as the war between Israel and Hamas is likely to continue over the next several months, I am determined to not allow them to take away our religious sense of self. We will need to learn how to celebrate in a time of despair.

Continued on page 2

#### **Our Newest Arrivals**

With five families joining Tikvat Israel this fall, we want everyone to be able to match names with faces of our newcomers. Please turn to **pages 4-5**, where you'll discover more about them, including what motivated them to become part of our congregation.







# WEEKLY RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Monday 7:15 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 7:15 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

Kabbalat

Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat 9:45 a.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

All services are both online and in person.

# CANDLE LIGHTING & HAVDALAH TIMES

#### **November Candle Lighting**

November 3	5:47 p.m
November 10	4:40 p.m
November 17	4:34 p.m
November 24	4:30 p.m

#### Havdalah

November 4	6:46 p.m
November 11	5:40 p.m
November 18	5:34 p.m
November 25	5:30 p.m

#### December Candle Lighting

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December 1	4:28	p.m
December 8	4:27	p.m
December 15	4:28	p.m
December 22	4:31	p.m
December 29	4:35	p.m

#### Havdalah

December 2	5:28 p.m
December 9	5:28 p.m
December 16	5:29 p.m
December 23	5:32 p.m
December 30	5.37 n m

Chanukkah candle lighting times can be found on the December calendar and in Shul Shorts on page 20.

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#### RABBI, continued from page 1

By all estimations, this war is likely to continue on through Thanksgiving and *Chanukkah*. These are some of the most joyous days in our American and Jewish calendar. In addition to the time with family, favorite foods and other celebrations, each of them also reminds us of the values we need to emphasize to help us through these difficult days.

Both Thanksgiving and *Chanukkah* focus on gratitude. In a time of crisis, it is natural to wonder how to be grateful. For the parents of children who were killed or being held hostage, such questions are even more intense. But, as Tevye taught us, "God would like us to be joyful, even when our hearts lie panting on the floor." The holidays and – in its own way – the war remind us that each day of life is itself a gift.

When so many lives have been taken, I believe we have a responsibility to appreciate and make the most of the time we do have. Most of us know we have a roof over our heads, food on our tables and clothes on our bodies. Each morning, our *siddur* includes blessings expressing our gratitude for the things we might otherwise take for granted. In the *Modim* prayer of the *Amidah*, right before we add in the prayer *al hanisim* for *Chanukkah*, we thank God for the miracles we experience each day—evening, morning and afternoon. Celebrating Thanksgiving and *Chanukkah* doesn't dishonor those who were killed; rather it expresses gratitude for those who are alive.

And it is not an accident that *Chanukkah* comes when the days are at their shortest, during the time of the month when the moon is least bright. Many of our sages teach that the miracle of *Chanukkah* was not that the oil lasted for eight days but that amidst the destruction and disarray when the Maccabees arrived at the Temple, they found the one jar of oil and were able to light it. One solitary light, with darkness all around, was enough to proclaim a miracle. That single light is a symbol of hope and can be spread without being diminished. Fire, like love, increases when it is shared with others. Our job is to be always looking for that one spark, that one candle leading us to a better future.

We can't foresee what world events will occur in the coming weeks, but we can think about how we want to use these coming holidays to express our gratefulness for all that we have and our hope that we will see a better life ahead. The shock and the immediacy of the events on *Simchat Torah* diminished that celebration. I hope we will all find ways to express our gratitude and our hope as we celebrate Thanksgiving and *Chanukkah*.

**Tribute to a Fallen Fighter** 



Rabbi Marc Israel played a central role in a moving community service in support of Israel at Har Shalom in Potomac, Md., on Oct. 12. He read his own tribute to a cousin who lost his life as a member of the Israeli military on the first day of the war against Hamas. The rabbi titled his work "Remembering Roey Wise," in which he related spending time with his cousin at professional sports events in Washington. The two-hour program in front of a full sanctuary included remarks from Congressman Jamie Raskin and an Israeli embassy official.

#### PRESIDENTS' CORNER

# To Keep Us Strong, Here's Our Appeal for the New Year

BY BETH SMITH AND SALLY KRAM, TIKVAT ISRAEL CO-PRESIDENTS





The High Holidays have passed, but it is never too late to thank those who contributed, and to ask congregants to consider new ways to support the *shul*.

**Beth Smith** 

Sally Kram

#### **Holiday Thank Yous**

Thank you to all who served on the High Holidays Committee, participated in services and worked behind the scenes to make it all run smoothly. Our rabbi spoke powerfully, our cantor chanted beautifully and the *shofar* was blown joyously. *Yasher Kohakhem!* 

**The State of the** *Shul* **is Strong** as the new board continues to move us forward.

- ➤ Recording Secretary and Membership Chair **Melissa Apter** has helped grow Tikvat Israel's membership by 28 families since fiscal year 2020. We look forward to a bright future with what we hope will be many new members.
- ➤ Vice President for Administration **Keith Brooks**, with the assistance of **Aaron Chusid**, TI executive director, instituted a well-received new security protocol for High Holiday services in addition to addressing the more mundane operational concerns, along with Building Committee Chair **Alan Apter**, such as parking lot paving, roof patching, HVAC repairs and the myriad of issues relating to maintaining our synagogue.
- ➤ Vice President for Programming Rachel Lipsy Laveer and Membership Chair Melissa Apter produced a brand new "Welcome to the New Year 5784" booklet, which was available in the lobby during High Holiday services and featured detailed information about the services, the religious traditions underlying TI's festivities and a list of selected activities planned for the upcoming program year.
- Vice President for Education Judy Stern continues to improve the educational offerings at TI, from our dynamic ECC led by its capable director Debbie Ungar to a brand-new religious school, Netivot, debuting in October, and new teen programming led by Judy and Shira Lantner.
- ➤ Treasurer **Barry Lipsy** and Financial Secretary **Ira Benzion** are designing an updated financial reporting system that will make TI's budget and financial position more transparent. In addition, they are planning a new financial program scheduled for presentation to the board in October with a subsequent announcement to the congregation.

**The State of the** *Shul* **is Strong** as TI's clergy and staff continue to innovate for a better *shul* experience.

- ➤ **Rabbi Marc Israel** leads our *shul* with a unique combination of approachability and religious literacy, in partnership with the always beautiful chanting by **Cantor Rochelle Helzner**. As demonstrated by TI's innovative High Holidays services, TI has incorporated new elements with traditional prayers to bring a fresh take to the traditions of our fathers and mothers. *L'dor va dor*.
- ➤ Under the leadership of **Aaron Chusid**, we are modernizing TI's systems and converting paper mail to electronic communications for those who want it. Aaron is also hard at work with his talented staff of **Susan Davis** and **Nadia Palacios** to keep our building intact, our bills paid and our community rolling. **Roz Kram** is busy in the kitchen making delicious food and creating community. Thank you, Rabbi Israel, Cantor Helzner, Aaron, Susan, Nadia and Roz!

The State of the *Shul* is Strong as TI is looking toward the future!

- ➤ Just ahead of *Rosh Hashanah*, Tikvat Israel debuted its new website, thanks to the hard work of **Bob Silverstein** and his team. The website is designed to make the public face of our congregation as attractive and user friendly as possible and will join our beloved *Bulletin*, edited by **Jay Goldman**, and our always informative *B'Kesher*, created by Aaron and his team, as TI's main communications vehicles.
- ➤ TI's membership and dues structures are pivoting to a new model, scheduled to take effect July 1, 2024. Under the new model, members will be invited to pay what they can (rather than a set fee). Join co-presidents Beth and Sally for "Coffee with the CO's" in the TI lobby each month where they plan to describe the model and answer questions about synagogue leadership in general. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

#### Continued on page 5



Co-president Sally Kram and her husband Neil hosted an open house in their sukkah. (Photo by Neil Kram)

## **Newbies Number Five When It Comes to Shul Membership**

BY JAY P. GOLDMAN, TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN EDITOR

Tikvat Israel is pleased to add five new family units this fall to the congregation's membership ranks.

Several of the new joiners had previous exposure to our *shul* through their children's enrollment in the Early Childhood Center. Some have attended recent TI events, such as the Welcome Back BBQ and Young Families Shabbat Dinners, both before and since becoming synagogue members.

Also, another newcomer actually is returning to TI as an adult, having first come aboard as a young girl when her family joined more than 25 years ago.

To introduce them to our congregation, the Tikvat Israel Bulletin invited the new members to share some details about themselves as well as a recent photo.

#### **Nora and Diego Benitez**

Other family members: Davin (3, a student in the ECC), Catherine (10 months)

Residence: Rockville

Occupational life: Nora, management consultant; Diego, program officer



Nora and Diego Benitez with son Davin and daughter **Catherine** 

Why join Tikvat Israel: Our son Davin enrolled in the ECC over a year ago, and as we came to attend events and services, we found everyone to be so friendly and welcoming. We love being a part of the TI community.

**First impressions of TI:** A very welcoming community.

#### Svetlana Rabinovich and Stanley (Shlomo) Girshik

Other family members: Anna (14), Michael (11), Rebecca (5, a student in the ECC)

Residence: Rockville

Occupational life: Both work in the information technology field.



Svetlana Rabinovich and Shlomo Girshik with daughters Anna and

Why join Tikvat Israel: We were Rebecca and son Michael looking for a preschool for Rebecca and toured several Jewish preschools. Anna and Michael attended the JCC preschool, and we knew that for Rebecca, we wanted a preschool with a more robust Jewish education. After hearing of Tikvat Israel ECC, we toured the campus and liked the program and the environment.

First impressions of TI: We attended High Holiday services and liked them a lot. This was our first time experiencing a Conservative service and the balance between the traditional and reform Judaism made a lot of sense. We're both looking forward to learning more about the congregation and the community.

Anything else to share: We (Svetlana and Stanley) were born in Minsk, Belarus, and immigrated to the U.S. in the late '90s. Russian is our native language, though we mostly speak English at home. Stanley spent two years in Israel as a teenager and still remembers some Hebrew and a few prayers.

#### **Rachel Solomon**

Residence: Silver Spring/White Oak

Occupational life: Workplace diversity and outreach partner for Montgomery Parks.

Why join Tikvat Israel: I grew up at Tikvat Israel (daughter of Nancy and Jonathan Solomon) and am glad to be coming home.



**Rachel Solomon** 

**First impressions of TI:** That occurred when I was about 7 years old and, while my memory isn't great, I know I was very into Torah Club. (Thanks, Elliot Cowan!) My impression coming back as an adult is that it is a strong community, and I'm privileged to be a part of it.

#### Fania Yangarber and Ido Rabinovitch

Other family members:

Ethan (12), Avigail (10)

Residence: Rockville

Occupational life: Fania is an attorney working as director of operations at The Haberman Institute for Jewish Studies. Ido is an intellectual property attorney.



Fania Yangarber and Ido Rabinovitch with son Ethan and daughter Avigail

Why join Tikvat Israel: We live very close to the synagogue, and Fania works at the Haberman Institute, located on the second floor of the synagogue's premises. Add to that the fact that Rabbi Israel is our friendly neighbor from down the street. Becoming part of the Tikvat Israel community seemed like a natural fit.

First impressions of TI: We had already known from our previous association with the synagogue (through Fania's work and occasional guest visits to services) that Tikvat Israel has a warm and welcoming community, with terrific clergy. Our experience at the High Holiday services reinforced what we already knew.

#### Adina Vogel and Yonatan (Yoni) Ayalon

Other family members: Naomi (6)

Residence: Rockville

**Occupational life:** Adina is chief of staff with J Street. Yoni is senior software engineer with Vimeo.

Why join Tikvat Israel: Rabbi Marc Israel. His values-based leadership, connecting Jewish values, text, holidays, etc., to current events and real-life challenges/ issues. A leader who is not afraid to lead his community on complex issues, specifically Israel—shows ability to understand and convey nuance in a thoughtful manner. Also, the synagorus is not overwhele



Adina Vogel and Yoni Ayalon with their daughter Naomi

ner. Also, the synagogue is not overwhelmingly large and has a core of active members looking to create a warm, diverse and inclusive community.

**First impressions of TI:** People are kind and welcoming, exhibiting a strong desire to build community and open their arms and homes to new members. People are willing to meet you and your family where you are at. Not judgmental, open and inclusive.



Co-president Sally Kram and her spouse Neil opened their dining room in September to welcome several of the newest members of our synagogue. (*Photo by Rabbi Marc Israel*)

## **Congregational Condolences**

Condolences to those Tikvat Israel members who lost loved ones recently (mid-August through mid-October):

Joel Shulman, on the death of his son, Stephen Shulman.

**Matthew Mintz**, on the death of his step-grandfather, Michael Berman.

**Richard Lederman**, on the death of his mother, Adair Bloom Lederman.

**Stuart Bassin**, on the death of his father, former member Dr. Robert Bassin.

The Family of Gerald Kaiz, long-time member and former President of Beth Tikva: his daughters Niomi, Miriam and Leah, and their children and grandchildren.

The Family of Marcelle Copaken: husband Robert and their children, Nina, Joel and Aviva and granchildren; her sister Rianne Melmed; and her brother Leon Green.

#### CO-PRESIDENTS, continued from page 3

#### The Appeal

All these changes cost money and we can continue our synagogue life only if you join us in the following ways:

- For those who can, we ask you to come to *shul*, attend our events and donate your time. Every day we want to live our mission statement of Engage \* Embrace \* Inspire \* Empower.
- ➤ We also need financial assistance. Our building, staff, and programs require ongoing dollars no matter how careful we are with your previous donations and dues. Consider what you and your family receive from Tikvat Israel and then provide a gift which reflects that value.
  - Contribute to the Chai Campaign, led by Jayme Sokolow, one of TI's main fundraising vehicles that contributes to the synagogue's operational expenses. Donate at tikvatisrael.org/ chai 5784.
  - Complete your donation or make a new one to the Capital Campaign, launched last fiscal year and chaired by Carol Chelemer and Howard Wilchins, to raise funds to pay for long-range, building-focused repairs such as a new roof. Visit <u>tikvatisraelrockville.shulcloud.com/form/capitalcampaign</u>.
  - Purchase tickets for various TI fundraising initiatives throughout the year.
  - Or do all three! We won't say no to any gift and hope to use it to make an even more positive experience for all at Tikvat Israel!

As we enter 5784, help TI go from strength to strength!

#### **Mazel Tov**

... to **Cantor Rochelle Helzner** on the birth of a grandson born to her daughter Jessica Agus and Ben Bregman on Oct. 9.

... to **Molly and Stuart Turkewitz** on the wedding of son Noah Turkewitz to Lindsey Donahue on Nov. 3.

... to **Steve Raucher** on his engagement to Jane Connor. A March wedding is planned, and the planned "honeymoon" will be the TI Mission to Israel trip.

... to **Nancy Goldberg and Bryan Benesch** on celebrating their 28th wedding anniversary in November.

... to **Debby Berlyne** for her prize-winning photography in the Maryland Department of Natural Resources calendar competition. Her image, Fall at Croydon Creek, will be published in the agency's 2024 calendar. (See the formal announcement at <a href="https://bit.ly/TI\_photo-winner.">https://bit.ly/TI\_photo-winner.</a>)

## Our Top Priority: Your Safety When at Tikvat Israel

Editor's note: This article is adapted from a message posted to the Tikvat Israel listserv by Executive Director Aaron Chusid on Oct. 9.

The safety of our students and members is one of our board's top priorities. We have worked extensively with consultants, contractors, law enforcement and volunteers in our congregation to identify and implement improved security measures.

A new security plan was put into place for this year's High Holidays. The Security Committee is reviewing that plan and updating it as new information becomes available.

Here are the key elements you should be aware of today:

- Coordination with Law Enforcement: We already work with the Montgomery County Police Department to ensure they are familiar with our facility and operations, including having uniformed officers provide security at major events. We are also in regular communication with the Secure Communities Network (SCN), a national organization that provides threat assessments, training and coordination with national law enforcement.
- **Increased Police Monitoring:** We recently requested that our local precinct increase the number of patrols of our building.
- Facility Improvements: Our building has security cameras
  monitoring the entire building, inside and out; this is one of
  the best deterrents as it helps us see situations developing before
  they reach the building. We have also reinforced areas identified by SCN when they inspected our facility earlier this year.
- New Projects: Last month we received a grant to install new security doors and improve our access control system; both projects are now being fast-tracked.
- **Intrusion Detection:** We test our intrusion detection and monitoring systems on a regular basis. We are conducting an additional inspection this week to ensure it is functioning properly and identify any areas that need additional coverage.
- Training: We have reviewed our security plan with all staff

and volunteer leadership to ensure they are ready to respond to a wide variety of situations.

The Security Committee also is exploring additional options for staffing and facility upgrades; I will share major updates with you as they occur.

#### **How You Can Help**

Here are some specific ways you can help our security efforts:

- See Something, Say Something: This really is the most important piece. If you see a person, object, or situation that concerns you, please inform the staff or call 911. Do not attempt to deal with it yourself; our staff will ensure the proper steps are taken.
- Use the Main Door: For now, access to the building will only
  be available through the main lobby doors. We will be temporarily disabling access to the side doors; if you need to enter
  through one of these doors, please press the ring button to
  contact the main office.
- Do Not Hold the Door: Please do not open or hold the door for anyone you do not recognize. If someone is at the door when you arrive, please ask them to press the ring button and wait for admission.
- Say Hello: Small though it may seem, one of the best ways
  to keep our community safe is by simply being a community.
  If you see someone you do not recognize in the building, introduce yourself. If they are new, please help them find their
  way around.

If you have further questions about any of these issues, I am glad to discuss them with you directly. Please feel free to reach out to me at aaron@tikvatisrael.org or 301-762-7338, ext. 111.



#### **Grateful Congregants**

Thank you so much for the comfort and support you provided during *shiva* for my brother, Tom. Special thanks to Rabbi Israel and Rich Nisenson for leading services at our house, to Jerry Schuchman for delivering a delicious *Shabbat* meal, to Roz Kram for choosing and carefully coordinating the meal and to those who came to the funeral in Prince George's County.

Tikvat Israel is a wonderful community, and Dan and I are grateful to be a part of it.

Felicia Black

I want to thank those members who sent me sympathy cards and messages when I lost my sister-in-law in Israel. It was a terrible tragedy.

I also want to thank members of TI and Rabbi Israel and Cantor Helzner who sent me get well wishes, those who called me and those who came to visit with me after I had my hip surgery. We have a wonderful and caring community.

Mimi Meltzer

#### **Holidays Prep Pays Off**

I would like to thank all of those who participated in the planning and execution of our High Holiday services this year. Although there were some minor bumps in the road, things primarily proceeded smoothly.

Thanks to everyone in the congregation who graciously adjusted and tolerated changes in procedures being implemented to make a safer and better service. Finally, thanks to Executive Director Aaron Chusid, Rabbi Israel and Cantor Helzner for giving us such meaningful and beautiful High Holiday services.

Mark Diamond Chair, High Holidays Committee

#### **EXECUTIVE PERSPECTIVE**

# Website to Deliver Stream of News and Member Images

BY AARON CHUSID, TIKVAT ISRAEL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Debuting just in time for the new year, I am pleased to introduce to our community the updated version of the Tikvat Israel website.

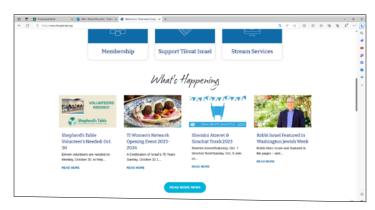
Yasher koach to Bob Silverstein and his team for making this upgrade possible. It launched just in time to help new families find us for the High

Holidays. The site provides a welcoming appearance that matches our community.

The website is designed to showcase more images of our events and members. Photos are among the best ways to reach new families. That means we will need a steady supply of new images to share. If you have photos from a recent event, please share them with us, with approval from anyone pictured, so that we can feature them on one of our pages.

We also worked to streamline navigation of the site. This work started by reducing the number of choices for new visitors on the main page to make it easier for them to learn about our congregation. The "members only" information will stay on ShulCloud where it is not accessible to the public.





The most important area to monitor regularly is the updated Newsroom section. This is where we will post all the latest information, news and coming events that are important to our community. From the website, they will be shared in *B'kesher* and on social media. This will enable a single story to reach a wider audience by being published on multiple channels. Check it out at *tikvatisrael.org/whats-happening*. Check back often to see the latest stories.

Now that the new site is live, we are looking ahead to our next web design projects. Next up is a refresh for the ECC site so it also uses our new template. This will help parents of current students find important information, while attracting new families to our school. After that, we will update the ShulCloud members' area to make it easier to navigate.

For now, we will focus on troubleshooting the new site. Let us know if you find errors, missing links or areas for improvement. If you would like to be part of these projects or future web updates, please let me know.

Enjoy browsing the new site and be sure to share your favorite stories with your friends on social media so more people can learn about the great things happening in our synagogue community.

# Distinctive Themes and Egg Shakers at Next Rosh Chodesh Minyanim

BY RACHEL LAVEER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMMING

Do you enjoy Jewish song, spirituality and *ruach*, but traditional religious services aren't quite your jam? Consider joining the alternative *Rosh Chodesh minyan*.

Located in the Tikvat Israel Library once a month, usually on the *Shabbat* preceding *Rosh Chodesh*, this alternative *minyan* includes new songs as well as traditional ones, and discussion based around themes of the upcoming month. During singing, there will be egg shakers, tambourines and other percussion instruments available for all *minyan*-goers to use in music making.

Rosh Chodesh minyan begins at 10:30 a.m. and runs until noon. Dropping in/dropping out is welcome and encouraged. Upcoming dates are Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 6 and Feb. 10.

The next two *Rosh Chodesh minyanim* will include the following:

- November: Favorite Shabbat songs and a discus sion "Who Were the Matriarchs: Israelites as De scendants of Sarah."
- December: Chanukkah songs and a discussion "Lighting Candles During the Darkest Nights: Does Chanukkah Relate to the Winter Solstice?"

#### **WOMEN'S NETWORK**

### Our 5784 Programming Opens with a Flourish

BY BRENDA BROOKS, CO-PRESIDENT, WOMEN'S NETWORK



Women's Network started its programming for the new year 5784 with a bang!

We began on Sept. 20 with a lively virtual discussion led by Karen Cohen on the book *Kantika* by Elizabeth Graver. After the High Holidays, we had our official opening event on Oct. 22. It was a special program to commemorate Israel's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a guest speaker, an

Israeli music sing-a-long, Israeli trivia and delicious Israeli food.

The event's speaker, Daria Ginzburg, gave an enlightening talk with lots of audience participation and engaging discussion. Maxine Perlmutter and Fortuna Scheige led us as we sang some uplifting Israeli songs, ending with *Hatikva*. We enjoyed answering questions in an Israeli trivia game. Last but not least, we savored a delicious falafel lunch with a huge variety of fixings, and some fabulous Israeli desserts.

Scheduled for the end of October was a program to recognize people who donated to Torah Fund this year. The Torah Fund event was sponsored by the Seaboard Region within the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. The program plan included an inspiring and educational event featuring presentations from Cantor Arianne Brown on Jewish music and a discussion about pioneering women in Conservative Judaism by professor Lauren Strauss.

During November, Women's Network is offering two programs – a *Rosh Chodesh* learning program on Nov. 12, and a book group meeting on Nov. 29.

This year's Rosh Chodesh learning events will relate to Women's League's Torah fund theme of "Kol Yisroel Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh," meaning "All the people of Israel are responsible for one another." Coordinators Maxine Perlmutter and Fortuna Scheige will cover topics that focus on the responsibility we each have to care for one another. Since improved self-care is important for our wellness as a community, the event speakers will include activities and potential lifestyle changes to achieve better health, whether its physical, emotional or spiritual, thereby nurturing our bodies and elevating our souls.

The Nov. 12 event will feature Seth Cowan (son-in-law of congregant Elliot Cowan), who is a licensed dietician/nutrition-ist with a master of science degree from Tufts University. He has extensive experience in nutritional counseling and plans to share ideas for dietary self-care, including making healthy food choices and behavioral improvements about eating. He also will present a food demonstration to share alternative meal preparation options that will be tasty and delicious.

The second November event, on the 29th, will be a virtual book group discussion led by Wendy Bauman. The book is titled *If All the Seas Were Ink* by Ilana Kurshan. This book is a memoir about a young, pregnant, recently divorced American-Israeli living in Jerusalem. The character's personal struggles inspire her to make life changes and to practice *daf yomi*, reading a page from the Talmud every day for seven years.

Before we say goodbye to 2023, Women's Network will sponsor a *Chanukkah kiddush* lunch following *Shabbat* services on Dec. 9. This is a special occasion to celebrate one of our most joyous holidays as a congregation.

If you have not already joined Women's Network or renewed your membership, now is the time to act. Registration forms and payment instructions are included in the weekly Women's Network newsletter e-mails. For those who don't receive these and would like this information, do not hesitate to contact me at bbrooksx@gmail.com.



Karen Cohen served as moderator of the Women's Network's book discussion in September. (*Photo by Amy Matathias*)

#### **Meal Train for Susan Davis**

A Meal Train has been created by Maxine Perlmutter for Susan Davis, TI's office manager, as we support her during her current health challenge. She has continued to come to work four days a week and will try to do this during the course of her treatment.

This information has been posted to the ECC and the Women's Network over the past several months. We are now hoping to reach our wider community and obtain some additional support.

To help, access https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/328500 or contact Perlmutter at jimmax2@msn.com.

# Teen News, Family Dinners and Reading to Kids

BY JUDY STERN, VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATION



#### **TI Teens**

Members of the teen group are working together to create a comfortable gathering place in the Youth Lounge at Tikvat Israel. We are collecting gently used games to be added to the current collection.

Students in grades 7-11 are invited to join the TI Teen group for a variety of activities this year.

Our first *Havdalah*/Pizza/Movie Night will be held on Saturday evening, Nov. 18. For further information and to be placed on the mailing list, contact me at judymstern7@gmail.com.

#### **Shabbat Dinners**

The ECC Family Network (EFN), affiliated with TI's Early Childhood Center, is planning to offer monthly *Shabbat* dinners for young families.

The EFN will hold early evening *Shabbat* dinners once a month for families with young children. ECC families, Tikvat Israel families and their guests are welcome to attend. Our first *Shabbat* dinner was held on Sept. 29 with 40 people enjoying a joyous *Shabbat* meal in the Tikvat Israel *sukkah*.

The family dinners begin at 5 p.m. and include a short *Shabbat* service and activity prior to the meal.

Dinners include a child-friendly menu, as well as a tasty meal for older siblings and adults. Please consider joining these monthly events, which provide an opportunity for families to welcome *Shabbat* together in a warm, friendly environment.

Check *B'Kesher* and ECC newsletters for the monthly schedule and registration information.

#### **Reading to Youngsters**

Would you enjoy reading a book to pre-school children?

We are looking for guest readers from the congregation to read a book to the children in our Early Childhood Center on weekdays or at the *Netivot* Sunday School program for kindergarten and 1st graders.

If you would like to visit for one time or several times, send me your contact information at judymstern7@gmail.com.

# Bikur Cholim at TI: Matching Personal Needs with Supporters

BY HOPE LEVY KOTT, BIKUR CHOLIM COORDINATOR

As we were reminded by Rabbi Israel in his excellent sermon on the first morning of *Rosh Hashanah*, *bikur cholim* (חולים) means visiting the sick, welcoming the stranger, extending hospitality and providing for widows and orphans – which are all aspects of *gemilut chasadim* (benevolence, selflessness, acts of loving-kindness).

Fulfilling these *mitzvot* has a long tradition at Tikvat Israel.

But how does it happen? Magic? Yes, through the magic of your generosity in both asking for help and extending assistance, wonderful connections have been made. The person who expresses a need provides the person meeting that need with an opportunity to perform a *mitzvah* and to emulate *Hashem*. The individual who makes a request can get the help they need.

The really magical part is that it makes everyone feel good. It's not terribly hard. Pick up a phone, send an email to the office or contact me directly (301-404-2098, hkott@aol.com). Read listserv messages and respond to an appeal for a specific person or request, or let us know when you are available. We are flexible.

If you would like to volunteer, tell me what you are most comfortable doing and when. Do you have a lot of time or just an hour? Can you make a phone call or drive? Would you fix a meal, do some grocery shopping, have a guest for dinner or set up a meal train? Maybe visiting and giving a congregant an open ear or a break to attend to other needs would be the most welcome. Follow your bliss and do what appeals to you. Whether you volunteer once or once in a while, you will be performing acts of loving kindness.

The other side of the coin is letting someone help you. If you, a friend or a family member is in the hospital or not feeling well, let us know. Is a community member in need of help? Tell us. If you or they are up to phone calls or would like a visit, let us know what we can provide. Do you need kosher food in an area hospital or some meals when you get home? We can make that happen. Maybe help is needed to get to a doctor's appointment, to *shul* or to the grocery store.

We have lists of resources; we know how to rent, borrow or purchase mobility equipment, shower chairs or even a cover for your body cast. We can show you how to get an accessible hotel room, where to rent a wheelchair-accessible van, and lots more.

Bikur cholim has no boundaries or limits. There are no age requirements or limitations. All that is necessary is an open heart and a willingness to make things better. This is a gift that refreshes the *neshama* (soul or spirit) of those who give and those who receive. It makes our immediate and larger community a better place. And best of all, you can be a part of it!

## How TI's Flax Library Compares to Your Local Public Library

BY JANICE ROSENBERG, LIBRARY COMMITTEE CHAIR



# Some of the Jewish-themed books housed for borrowing at TI's Flax Library. (*Photo by Janice Rosenberg*)

I was speaking with a fellow congregant recently who said he didn't understand why he would need to use TI's Herman J. Flax Library. After all, he said, "I can borrow whatever books I want at my local public library."

As a librarian at the Olney branch of Montgomery County Public Libraries, I totally understood his perspective. So, it made me think about how TI's library compares with your local public library. There are many differences.

First, unlike the public library with its diverse collection, TI's Herman J. Flax Library focuses on collecting Jewish-themed fiction, non-fiction, biographies, children's books and reference materials.

Second, the public library abides by weekly hours. TI's library does not have specific hours. Its doors are always open.

Third, the local public library serves its entire surrounding community, while the mission of TI's library—to support the members of our congregation and the Early Childhood Center—maintains a narrower focus.

Fourth, you don't need a library card to borrow a book from TI's Flax Library. Just send an e-mail to TikvatIsraelLibrary@gmail.com with the book title, your name and contact information. Items can be borrowed for three weeks with one renewal.

Last, but not least: TI's Herman J. Flax Library has many books that are not available at the local public library. Here are a few:

#### **Fiction**

*Blues in the Night*, by Rochelle Krich. This mystery introduces Molly Blume, an investigator with deep faith and a nose for the truth.

Family Mashber, by Der Nister. A novel about brothers Moshe, Luzi and Alter Mashber, members of a prosperous family in mid-19th-century Russia.

The River Midnight, by Lilian Nattel. Polish shtetl culture comes to life through the stories of four women's lives.

Wherever You Go, by Joan Leegant. This novel weaves together three lives caught in the grip of a volatile and demanding faith.

#### **Non-Fiction**

The Big Book of Jewish Humor, by William Novak. Humorous commentary by the Marx Brothers, Lenny Bruce, Neil Simon and many others.

*Great Jewish Men*, by Elinor Slater. Profiles of over 150 Jewish men of distinction from a broad range of professions.

With Strength and Splendor: Jewish Women as Agents of Change, by Lisa V. Kogen. Contains beautiful photographs and biographical essays of both well known and unknown Jewish women.

Working with Bernstein, by Jack Gottlieb. Written by a colleague and friend who worked with Leonard Bernstein for more than three decades.

A visit to your local library should not supersede a visit to TI's Herman J. Flax Library. There's no reason you can't visit both!

Happy reading!

# Volunteers Build Sukkah Under New Direction

Several volunteers assisted Sandra Schwartz, the new manager of this Tikvat Israel construction project, in building the *sukkah* on the back patio two weeks in advance of *Sukkot*. Schwartz issued her thanks to Keith Brooks, Spencer Lane, Cliff Fishman, Jason Levine, Harley Liebenson, Neil Kram, Jason Schwartz, Barry Buchbinder, Warren Berger, Dan Matathias, Tony Maiolatesi and Phyllis, Ken and Linda Schwartz.

The photo on the right shows Dan Matathias working on the *sukkah's* roof structure. Above is a group of *sukkah* volunteers at the start of the process.



From left, Gale Pressman, Rachel Laveer and AJ Laveer contributed to the *sukkah* decorations.



Young families enjoyed the hot dogs and burgers.

## **Spirited Turnout at Welcome Back BBQ**

Some 140 members of the Tikvat Israel community came together for the Welcome Back BBQ on Sept. 10. Members caught up after their summer travels over plates of hot dogs, hamburgers or veggie burgers, and made long colorful paper chains to decorate our synagogue *sukkah*. Expected thunderstorms (that never materialized) caused the celebration to move indoors, but that didn't stop TI's youngest members from partaking in lawn games like cornhole and giant Jenga. It was a wonderful way to recharge and reconnect ahead of the High Holidays. (Accompanying photos provided by Melissa Apter, Rachel Laveer and Aaron Chusid.)



From left, Rabbi Israel, Rachel Laveer and Barry Lipsy enjoyed their time at the BBQ.



Co-presidents Sally Kram (left) and Beth Smith welcomed attendees to the RRO



Larry and Bobbi Gorban joined in the spirit of the Welcome Back BBQ



Spencer Lane and his daughter took on a table game at the BBQ.



# **Chai Dynamics Delivers a** Range of a cappella Tunes

BY SUSAN URBAN

Formed in 2009, Chai Dynamics brings the energy and popular style of collegiate Jewish a cappella to our community.

Nearly all of the group's songs are performed without any instrumental accompaniment. They use multi-part harmonies and intricate arrangements to create a rich and dynamic sound using only the human voice. With a repertoire ranging from traditional Jewish melodies and holiday tunes to American and Israeli pop, Chai Dynamics delivers performances that can delight any audience.

The group, which has been composed mainly of Tikvat Israel congregants over the years, performs at TI and other local synagogues, community centers, schools and private affairs.

For more information, visit the group's Facebook page or contact the group's management at chaidynamics18@gmail.com.



Members and guests of Chai Dynamics took a dinner break from a practice session inside the synagogue's sukkah in October. (Photo by Nancy Solomon)

#### PRAYER BOOK RETURNS

If you borrowed a prayer book from TI for the High Holiday services, please return it as soon as possible to the shul's main office.

# **Plenty of Volunteer Options**

Tikvat Israel offers an array of volunteer activities serving important needs. You can learn more about these opportunities from Amy Sanders at amy.sanders2010@gmail.com.

These projects address needs in economic insecurity and vulnerable populations, education, advocacy and community.

- Manna Food Center: Sort, pack and distribute food 4-6 times per year.
- Potomac Valley Nursing Home: Run monthly Shabbat services.
- Shepherd's Table: Serve a hot dinner.
- Stepping Stones Shelter: Plan menus and prepare hot dinners.
- Harmony Hills Elementary School: School supply drive and coat drive.
- SEAChange (Study, Engage, Act, Change): Address issues of racial, economic and social justice.
- Jews United For Justice: Advance economic, racial and social justice locally.
- Adopt-a-Road: Clean shoulders of Baltimore Road.
- Red Cross Blood Drives: Donate blood or help with staffing.

Some projects can be completed in one hour a month. Some can be done on your own time. Others involve long-term commitments.



#### **Judean Memorial Gardens**

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# EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Exposing Our Youngsters to Fall Traditions

BY DEBBIE UNGAR, DIRECTOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



The fall is a busy time at the ECC. We are celebrating many holidays together while adjusting to the new classrooms and routines.

In honor of *Rosh Hashanah*, Rabbi Israel came to visit each class and blow the *shofar*. The children enjoyed touching a real *shofar* as well as hearing the different sounds the *shofar* makes. The pre-kindergarten class talked about *tashlich*. The *Arayot* class

walked to the nearby Rock Creek bridge, where the children thought about the mistakes they have made and discussed how they can do better for the new year.

Each class also prepared for *Sukkot* by making decorations for the Tikvat Israel *sukkah*. It was wonderful to eat snacks and lunch in the *sukkah* and see all of the beautiful decorations made by all of the classes. The ECC had music class with Ms. Ellie in the *sukkah*, where they also had the chance to touch, shake and smell a *lulav* and *etrog*.

The pre-kindergarten class had a special JSTEM activity using graham crackers, pretzels, cereal, and cream cheese or frosting to construct their own mini-*sukkot*. This was a challenging, fun and delicious endeavor.

The classes have been exploring and adjusting to new class-rooms and routines. We have music with Ms. Ellie, Israeli dance with Ms. Sharon, and *Shabbat* Sing with Auntie A. Many classes have baked *challah* for *Shabbat* and honey cake for *Rosh Hashanah*. The children also hiked to Rock Creek Park.

We are off to a great start and can't wait for more exciting activities and events.

We still have a few spaces available for full- and part-time care in some of the classes. Please feel free to refer families and friends. We are always happy to give tours or answer questions about the school.



ECC teacher Ms. Ellie leads the *Arayot* class in making music in the *sukkah*.



The *Dubim* class ate lunch in the synagogue sukkah.



The pre-kindergarten class took a short trip to do tashlich near TI.

# **Logistics Committee Needs You to Manage Awesome Programs**

BY RACHEL LAVEER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMMING

I am looking for motivated and enthusiastic volunteers to help plan events throughout the year. (I'm also willing to accept motivated but mildly grudging volunteers if necessary, though I hope this will not be needed). Volunteers will serve as members of the new Programming Logistics Committee, whose role is to plan and organize programs for Tikvat Israel.

Members of the Programming Logistics Committee will take on the lead coordination roles for regular program events – such as holiday-related events and activities – with oversight and support from me and support from the rest of the committee. Each committee member will be expected to serve as the lead coordinator for at least one event or major activity per year.

While the committee *may* generate ideas for new events, this year's committee members will be choosing from already-scheduled events in order to take on the leadership of that event, find volunteers, organize supplies and food, etc. – and to make it awesome!

Contact me at rachel.tikvatisrael@gmail.com to volunteer or suggest a friend whom you think would be a good fit for this committee.

# Tikvat Israel Remembers With Respect Those Whose Yahrzeits Occur From from 17 *Chesvan* through 17 *Kislev* — November 2023

#### NOVEMBER 1 17 CHESHVAN

Lena Glick Ada Punitzer Muriel Rosenberg

#### NOVEMBER 2 18 CHESHVAN

Alvin Fineman Donald Futrovsky Judy Katz-Berger David Jacob Lerner Mark Sandler Benno Stein Estelle Stolovy

#### NOVEMBER 3 19 CHESHVAN

Louis Bogage Harold Davis Estelle Freedman Selma Horwitz Maida Nussbaum Shirley Rodes

#### NOVEMBER 4 20 CHESHVAN

Jennie Jaffe Flax Russell Keith Rosner Saul Stutz Max Wottitzky

#### NOVEMBER 5 21 CHESHVAN

David Joseph First Bertha Greenfield Martha Lohwasser Esther Sax Paula Weiser Mollie Wexler

#### NOVEMBER 6 22 CHESHVAN

Rachel Armoza Kurt Hering Joey Pearl Ann Rubin Stefan Zweig

#### NOVEMBER 7 23 CHESHVAN

Bessie Bachman Robert Coblitz Sadje Grand Ronald Hamburg Sarah Labovich Rabbi Oscar Lifshutz Clara Osofsky Amy Strong Kurt Tuchler

#### NOVEMBER 8 24 CHESHVAN

Joshua Bass Abraham Bernstein Joseph Bernstein Joshua Borushok Ruth Felcher Hyman Gardsbane Ellen Halpern Herbert Kammerman Rose Schmetterling Samuel Steinberg

#### NOVEMBER 9 25 CHESHVAN

David Barrish Elaine Brown

# NOVEMBER 10 26 CHESHVAN

Howard Blafkin Helen Jaffe Sam Krick Eleanor Miller Samuel J. Mollen Jack Rosen

#### NOVEMBER 11 27 CHESHVAN

Sol Baron
Samuel Braunstein
Nathan Cohen
Louise Deutchman
Meyer David Green
Philip Grossmann
Anna Lichterman
Rachel Maran
Ron Meyers
Howard Schwartz
Resel Zeidman

#### NOVEMBER 12 28 CHESHVAN

Selma Kubitz

#### NOVEMBER 13 29 CHESHVAN

Herb Curchack Harold Davis Pearl Fink Jeanne Hale Lucille Kram Rosalie Taylor

#### NOVEMBER 14 1 *KISLEV*

Robert Agus Marvin Apter Zenita Berman Edward Hallen Rose Kopp Philip Warren

#### NOVEMBER 15 2 KISLEV

Alick Abramson Manuel Cohen Myra Pasternak Sam Schuchman Jean Zalevsky

#### NOVEMBER 16 3 KISLEV

Rosalind Bloom Jesse Curchack Leonard Hardis Miriam Stein

#### NOVEMBER 17 4 KISLEV

Ida Hamburg Arnold Springer Tom Zusman

# NOVEMBER 18 5 KISLEV

Jacob Bernstein Jerome Feingold Morris Pachenker Louis Pelish Henrietta Roth Ellen Ungerleider

#### NOVEMBER 19 6 KISLEV

Rosemary Birrell Rose Fischer Paul Flacks Dr. Barbara Herman Gordon Miller Herbert H. Miller Jack Sheskin

#### NOVEMBER 20 7 KISLEV

Bernard Cohen Melford Cohen Nathan Halpern Robert Kandalis Ernest Nash Harry Ohr

#### NOVEMBER 21 8 KISLEV

Ellen Berman Shirley Blau Joseph Cohen Sophye Cohen Samuel Rosenberg Dr. Theodore L. Tetenbaum Lewis Weinbrom

#### NOVEMBER 22 9 KISLEV

Doris Amster Sidney Brittner Fred Curchack Shirley Fishman Reuben Lapin Rose Oppenheim Levin Ezra Menachem Marcus Moe A. Robinson David Solomon

#### NOVEMBER 23 10 KISLEV

Arthur Amster Minnie Jorban Muriel Sandler Ada Taylor



#### NOVEMBER 24 11 *KISLEV*

Max Blum Zelda Bowen Herbert Brotman Richard Copaken Isaac Eiserike Max Goldberg Harry Selinger Aaron Weinstein

#### NOVEMBER 25 12 KISLEV

Fredalynne Pleet Alfons Reich Sam Spiegel

#### NOVEMBER 26 13 KISLEV

Henry Aronson Toby Baum Louis Kensky Beryl Newman Melvyn Spector George Waltzer

#### NOVEMBER 27 14 KISLEV

Samuel Altschuler Jeremy Copaken Kieve C. Marquis David Podolsky

#### NOVEMBER 28 15 KISLEV

Isidor Schechter

#### NOVEMBER 29 16 KISLEV

Ronald Eisler Dorothy Goldstein Joseph Goldstein Elizabeth Jennes Irvin Lerner Florence Nachamkin Nicky Papageorge Doris Schlessinger Meyer Taubman

#### NOVEMBER 30 17 KISLEV

Irving Baron
Harry Brodofsky
Sonya Dunie
Max Feinsilber
Rebecca Gershowitz
Max Glick
Samuel Kier
Abe Lavine
Charlotte Lowenfeld
Lilian Lowenfeld
Saul Reiter
Celia Schuchman
Sharon Silberberg
Solomon Zimmerman

# Tikvat Israel Remembers With Respect Those Whose Yahrzeits Occur From from 18 *Kislev* through 19 *Tevet* — December 2023

#### DECEMBER 1 18 KISLEV

Khana Klig Bobbie Leman Anna Levin Suzanne Lifschitz

#### DECEMBER 2 19 KISLEV

Paula Beck Leon Cohen Heinz Eric Gerstle Bernard Prosnit Samuel Rosenthal Jeanette Sohn Joseph Spiegelberg

#### DECEMBER 3 20 KISLEV

Celia Blum Riva Fishman Regina Grossmann Sam Hendler Herschel Herscovitz Sarah Kensky

#### DECEMBER 4 21 KISLEV

Jacob George Bloom Elliott Kleinman Ellyn Polonsky Carl Solomon

#### DECEMBER 5 22 KISLEV

Philip Abramowitz Maurice Binder Robert Eisner Gisela Glaser Joseph Levy Bertha Phillips Alice Sachs

#### DECEMBER 6 23 KISLEV

Esther Adelson
Louis Blum
Ann Brotman
Marilyn Burdett
Alana E. Fishman
Judge Jair Kaplan
Abraham Kensky
Nettie Koeppel
Joseph Milenky
Abraham Schuchman
Herman Sheskin
Lazar Volin

#### DECEMBER 7 24 KISLEV

Lena Burdett Donna Faye Frank Margaret Gerstle Jean Katz Morton Lerner

# DECEMBER 7 (cont.) 24 KISLEV

Alice Regensteiner Fannie Stein

#### DECEMBER 8 25 KISLEV

Fay Avery
Bonnie Brafman
Edna Cohen Goldstein
Gilda Greene
Julia Gruenfeld
Herman Linsenberg
Charles Prince
Ellen Ungerleider

#### DECEMBER 9 26 KISLEV

Fannie Burdoo Leon Louis Cohen Maurice R. Dunie Glenda Goodman Ruth Katzen Cheryl Lang Alexander Lewis Kate Selinger

# DECEMBER 10 27 KISLEV

Irene Barris Irwin Chornock Otto Lohwasser Freda Willander

#### DECEMBER 11 28 KISLEV

Irma Pazo Steven Prince Arnold Schwartz Selma Shapiro Jacob Sperling

#### DECEMBER 12 29 KISLEV

Jerome Boden Rose Feinman Morris Kagan Milton Rodes Fannie Selwyn Arlene Simon Henrietta Zoltrow

#### DECEMBER 13 1 TEVET

Bernard Fattman Frank Feinsilber Jacob Golding David Greenberg Doris Kalman Max Keusch Joshua Krepchin Sidney Sandler Dr. Mark Stern Dorothy Wolfe

#### DECEMBER 14 2 TEVET

Louis Burdoo Peter Schwartzman Judith Sue Sussman

#### DECEMBER 15 3 TEVET

Louis Broadman Jacob Dall Sol Danoff Max Douma Jay Stefan Gorban Pauline Greene Miriam Hoffman Miriam Matathias Julius Novack Theresa Romm

#### DECEMBER 16 4 TEVET

David Cohen Samuel Grossman Ida Levitan Ethel Pear Ruth Seide Gary Shuken Max Teitel Freda Weiss

#### DECEMBER 17 5 TEVET

Hilda Cohen Ida Fattman Louis "Luck" Goldberg Max Klein Lewis Levy Sarah Margolies Nina Matathias Carol Meiselman Alvin Reiner

#### DECEMBER 18 6 TEVET

Virginia Jeanne Andrews John Larry Baer Mauricio Battino Salomon Battino Anita Cowan Irving Fischer Philip L. Helman Jackie Hoffman Karen Goldstein Lipsy Ben Perlmutter Frances Saperstein Fred Stryker

#### DECEMBER 19 7 TEVET

Jack Bendett Helen Berger Eve Benesch Hoffman Anne Segal

#### DECEMBER 20 8 TEVET

June Balin Esther Berk Morris Gaspin David Glass Joan Levin Belle Schechter

#### DECEMBER 21 9 TEVET

Max Bassin Stephen Feigin Jason Leif Irving Reiner Doris Klion Taylor Philip Weinstein Dora Zlotnick

#### DECEMBER 22 10 TEVET

Lydia Black Steven Bowen Cantor Mark Levi Henry Roth Carl Seide

#### DECEMBER 23 11 *TEVET*

Julia Auerbach Irene Berger Fred Buff Morris Gorinson Margaret Peisner

#### DECEMBER 24 12 TEVET

Geraldine Linden Ellen Rosenthal Jennie Strassman

#### DECEMBER 25 13 TEVET

Samuel Berly Rose Blackstone Eli Dannemann Anna Krooler Nathan Nachamkin Lois Renee Nisenson Miriam Sarah Roey

#### DECEMBER 26 14 TEVET

Elaine Feinberg Irving Joseph Kaplan Moshe Kritz Jacob B. Levin Julius Rom Anne Rosenberg Rebecca Rosenberg

#### DECEMBER 27 15 TEVET

Harry Brafman Ilsa Cutler Melvin Dick Benjamin Feinman Henrietta Shantz Levine Jennie Schnitzer Lillian Walder

#### DECEMBER 28 16 TEVET

Benjamin Kay Judith Lipofsky Roslyn Mollen Milton Thaler

#### DECEMBER 29 17 TEVET

Mildred Brook Rachel Cohen Hyman Goodman Adele Mainen Harriet Miller Samuel Nadel Mildred Schreiber

#### DECEMBER 30 18 TEVET

Tamara Chidakel Blanche Cohen Irwin Fishman Max Hershbaum Paul Jaffe Pauline Katz Lillian Liss Marjorie Nash Abe Silkoff Joseph Sully

#### DECEMBER 31 19 TEVET

Sam Fermon Abraham Pelish Gertrude Rosenwald Joseph Scolnik Lesley Teitelbaum Caren Thaler Henrietta Zebooker

#### **Donations**

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the various funds of Tikvat Israel. The donor lists that follow reflect gifts received at the synagogue in August and September. If your donation during this time does not appear in the list, or if there is an error in the listing, please contact the synagogue office at 301-762-7338.

#### **YAHRZEIT DONATIONS**

#### In memory of ...

Jacob Armoza by Elaine and Micah Krichevsky Marian Bauman by Wendy Bauman Frances Berger by Arlene and Warren Berger Evelyn Berlin by Sandra and Larry Levine Harry Berlin by Sandra and Larry Levine

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Ida Newman by Mimi and Allan Meltzer Florence M. Novack by Linda Lapkoff Bertha Polster by Alan Polster Ira L. Schiffman by Barbara Reiner Rabbi H. Jonah Waldman by Judith and Marvin Waldman Doris Warren by Ronald Levin

#### BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

In memory of Abraham Krugman by Marilyn and Michael Greenwood In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Amy and Daniel Matathias

In memory of Abraham Sterman by Julia and Martin Meyers

#### **CANTOR'S PROGRAM FUND**

In honor of the birth of Fortuna and Steven Scheige's new grandchild by Jeannette Eisler In honor of Fortuna and Steven Scheige on their 50th anniversary by Jeannette Eisler In memory of Mildred Sterman by Julia and Martin Meyers

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Nancy and Jonathan Solomon

#### COWAN TORAH CLUB FUND

In memory of Bonnie Cowan by Ellen and Sherman Eisner

#### **GENERAL FUND**

In honor of Hilda Springer by Betty and Clifford Fishman

In memory of Ethel Schneider by Marc Schneider and Martie Adelman *Mazel tov* to Sam and Tami Gilston on their

by Tamah Graber

by Marvin and Paula Kasper

55th wedding anniversary

by Janet Schiff

by Marcia and Richard Zorn

In memory of Etta D. Kessler by Carol Chelemer by Ellen and Sherman Eisner by Tamah Graber by Ellen and Richard Lederman

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt

by Wendy Bauman

by Matthew and Sheri Brown

by Betty and Clifford Fishman

by Rebecca Salon and Jay Goldman

by Sara Harris

by Ted and Roz Kram

by Marsha and Murray Lyons

by Peggy Mitchel

by Susan and Jay Plafker

by Hilda Springer

#### KIDDUSH FUND

In honor of Howard Wilchins and Carol Chelemer, *Chatan Torah* and *Kallah Bereshit* by Susan and Alan Apter

by Betty and Clifford Fishman

by James and Maxine Perlmutter

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Marc Israel for my mikveh ceremony by Leilani Lansing In appreciation of Rabbi Israel's kindness by

Elaine Weinstein

Wishing *refuah shlemah* to Abbey Frank by Jeannette Eisler

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Anita and Melvin Brenner

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Carol Chelemer

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Ellen and Mark Diamond

#### SHELLY GOLDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Bruce Goldin

#### TZEDAKAH FUND

In honor of Sam and Tami Gilston's 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Robert and Marcelle Copaken

In memory of Etta D. Kessler by Lois and Neil Sbar

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Alice and David Gantz

In memory of Thomas Rosenblatt by Lois and Neil Sbar

#### WOMEN'S NETWORK

Mazel tov to Jay Goldman and Rebecca Salon, on the naming of their granddaughters Efrat and Ruth, by Nancy and Jonathan Solomon

#### **NEW BRIDGE GROUP**

A new *havurah* is being organized for individuals interested in joining a monthly bridge group. The *havurah* will play duplicate contract bridge (if the number of players allows) or Chicago style. The bridge players will meet at members' homes starting this fall with days and times to be determined. All levels of skill are welcome. Contact Tami Gilston at tgilston@comcast.net or Carol Chelemer at carolchelemer@comcast.net to express your interest.



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# Reaching Chai Campaign's \$80K Goal Requires YOU

BY JAYME SOKOLOW, CHAI CAMPAIGN CHAIR

The Chai Campaign is doing well thanks to your generosity. However, to reach our goal of \$80,000, we will need support from those who have not yet contributed. The Chai Campaign will be happy to accept your contributions through Dec. 31.

Our membership dues cover only part of what is needed to maintain our staff, facility and programs. It is up to us to put into action what we committed ourselves to in prayer during the High Holidays in September. Please be as generous as your circumstances allow.

Thanks to your generosity, the Chai Campaign is helping the congregation provide outstanding programs and services to all congregants. These funds also help support those congregants who may need financial assistance during the year.

As you think about a contribution, consider how much Tikvat Israel has meant over the years to you and your family. Consider also how the synagogue has supported you and your family and others in joy as well as in sorrow.

If you have not already donated, please give now so TI can remain a vibrant synagogue. In 5784, be among our congregants who, in the words of our *Siddur*, "unite to establish synagogues for prayer" and who "give funds for heat and light, and wine for *kiddush* and *Havdalah*."

#### **Cantor's Concert Set**

Hold the date for the year's biggest cultural event at Tikvat Israel. The annual Cantor's Concert featuring Trio Sephardi will take place in the social hall on Sunday, June 9.

Trio Sephardi is a Northern Virginia-based ensemble that performs traditional songs of the *Sephardim*, the descendants of Jews exiled from Spain in 1492. Their repertoire carries a special emphasis on traditional and original songs learned from their mentor, Bosnian-born singer/composer Flory Jagoda.

Jagoda, who died in 2021 at age 97, helped to lead a revival of Ladino, or Judeo-Espanyol, influence in music. She received a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts for her efforts in passing on the tradition of Sephardic songs sung in Ladino. Her music is known and sung by many musicians around the world, especially by her apprentice, Susan Gaeta, as a soloist and with Trio Sephardi. The group's other members are Tina Chancey and Howard Bass.

Formed in 2010, the trio performs extensively at East Coast concert venues, festivals, synagogues and Jewish community centers.

	SAT	4 20 Cheshvan 9:30 AM Preliminary Service 9:45 AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Vayera) 6:46 PM Havdalah	27 Cheshvan 9:30 AM Preliminary service 9:45 AM Shabbat services (Parashat Chayel Sarah) 10:30 AM Alternative Minyan 11:15 AM Torah Club, Auntle A Shabbat Family Jam 5:40 PM Havdalah	8 5 Kislev	9:30 AM Preliminary Service 9:45 AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Toldot) 5:34 PM Havdalah	25 12 Kislev	9:30 AM Preliminary Service 9:45 AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Vayetzei) 10:30 AM Torah Club 11:15 AM Auntie A Shabbat Family Jam 5:30 PM Havdalah		All events subject to change. Please read <i>B'kesher</i> for the latest status.
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# DECEMBER 2023

OVEMBER-DECEMBER 2023									
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#### DATED MATERIALS .... PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

#### **SHUL SHORTS**

#### Kabbalat Shabbat with Instruments

The first KS with I of 5784 is scheduled for Nov. 17 at 6 p.m., live in the social hall and broadcasted via livestream. This spirited service, led by Cantor Rochelle Helzner, includes uplifting melodies, both traditional and new. A pre-service reception will be enjoyed at 5:30 p.m., sponsored by Avy Ashery and Susan Cohen on the occasion of their 29th anniversary.

Sponsors are welcome for future services. Future dates are Dec. 15, March 15 and May 10.

#### **Blood Donors Sought**

The next Tikvat Israel blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Sign up for a time slot at https://rcblood.org/41Kgf7S.

#### **Board Retreat**

The Tikvat Israel Board of Directors will hold a retreat this winter to examine our synagogue's strategic plan. The board members will celebrate many accomplishments and develop a 2023-24 set of goals.

Using the strategic plan and cross-referencing ideas from the book *Relational Judaism*, the board hopes to find ways to continue to grow our congregation and deepen relationships between our congregants.

#### **Chanukkah** Candle Lightings

If you're keen to light your *chanukkiyah* at home on the proper schedule, the *Bulletin* staff is providing you with the right times to light up. The candlelighting times begin on Night 1 (Thursday, Dec 7) at 5:15 p.m.; Night 2, 4:27 p.m.; Night 3, 5:28 p.m.; Night 4, 5:16 p.m.; Night 5, 5:16 p.m.; Night 6, 5:16 p.m.; Night 7, 5:16 p.m.; and Night 8, 5:16 p.m.