
Tikvah Talk

Vol. 34 Iss. 7

Congregation B'nai Tikvah
Walnut Creek, CA

Summer 2015

Shalom, B'nai Tikvah!

By Rabbi Rebecca Gutterman



Coming in and out of Temple for services and programs lately, no doubt you've all noticed something new. Specifically, a different look in the foyer. That "something new" has come to us in the form of many cardboard boxes. It's actually a long awaited delivery, in every sense. It's the new High Holiday machzor (or prayerbook) -- a true labor of love over the past six years. This prayerbook reflects the heart, soul and dedication of many gifted writers, theologians and clergy. We are tremendously proud and excited that its time has come, and that B'nai Tikvah is in the first wave of congregations to adopt it as our own!

Mishkan HaNefesh, or "Gates of the Soul" has been piloted at a range of Reform synagogues since 2011. These newly published volumes arrive the way all of our best changes have come about: through a process of dialogue, agreement and disagreement, balance and counterbalance, innovation and tradition. And when we gather together for Rosh Hashanah this fall, these prayerbooks will rest in the hands of our congregants, to guide us through another new beginning.

At first it may feel strange to sit in our accustomed environment opening a book whose texture and content is so different than the one we know. The layout of the pages is new, and some of the building blocks of the service we are accustomed to have been updated. It goes without saying that many of us have strong emotional attachments to certain readings in Gates of Repentance. Some members may even have memories of the Union Prayerbook that preceded it, with a red ribbon to mark the pages. And it's true that some of those readings are not in our new prayerbook. However, some of them are. And still others thread their way thematically through the services, so that long recited words might be heard in a new light.

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Reflections...

By Cantor Jennie Chabon



A couple of weeks ago, Steve and I took our boys on a family trip to Portland for a few days. We rarely have free weekends to travel together because of Shabbat, so we were really excited for this little adventure. Plus, we were visiting Steve's family, so we had the added bonus of time with uncles and grandparents to look forward to.

It didn't take long for us to remember that traveling with three boys under ten is most definitely a trip, not a vacation. While we had some nice moments that made the trip enjoyable, there were many more moments of exhaustion and frustration and just plain herding of children from one place to the next. We were quite happy to get back on the plane to return home when the time came.

As we were waiting at the gate, I saw a mom with three girls standing in line to board the plane in front of us. She was very cheerful, talking to other people in line, introducing her girls to them. Her youngest daughter looked to be about eight years old. The mom was explaining that they were on their way to southern California to go to Universal Studios. She wanted to do anything to bring joy to her littlest girl's life. It was only then that I really looked at the girl and realized that under her cozy green hat was a bald head with a large scar peeking out above her eyebrow. Pain and compassion flooded my heart.

We happened to sit across from this family on the plane and the little girl ended up next to a woman she didn't know. No matter. She took off her hat and started chatting away with this stranger, entertaining her and engaging her in lively conversation. When we landed, the woman turned to the little girl and said that it had been her great fortune to sit next to her and meet her that day. More pain and compassion, but also joy.

As we muscled our way through the airport towards the exit, the mom and I exchanged some mom-glances meant to say, "Ack, this

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Congregation B'nai Tikvah is a Reform congregation which, through personal attention, provides to its members an extended family. The congregation fulfills its members' spiritual needs, fosters their Jewish identity, promotes the perpetuation of Judaism and its members' Jewish education, and encourages a commitment to full participation in Temple life.

Rebecca Gutterman, *Rabbi*
Jennie Chabon, *Cantor*
Raphael W. Asher, *Rabbi Emeritus*
Stephen Richards, *Cantor Emeritus*
Judy Blum, *Temple Administrator*
Jason Pollack & Leeaht Segev, *Interim*
Co - Directors of Education

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 - 5:00

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Website: <http://www.tikvah.org>

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

President	Dan Lapporte
Vice President	Glenn Gould
Vice President	Jared Goldin
Vice President	Bob Stern
Secretary	Julia Babka-Kurzrock
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Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah

Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Stokol
 Daughter of Julie and Alan Stokol
 Saturday, August 1

Bar Mitzvah Joshua Morgan
 Son of Michelle and John Morgan
 Saturday, August 29

Shabbat Services begin at 10 am.
 The Congregation is invited to attend.
*Mazel tov to all our B'nai Mitzvah
 and their families!*

COMING SOON!

A new monthly
Pre-K Program at B'nai Tikvah
FREE and open to the community at large!

Drop off your 4 or 5 year olds
 one Sunday a month for **GAN GANI**,
 a class filled with fun, friends and lots of
 Age - appropriate Jewish knowledge.

Ideal for students the year before 'K.'

Please email schooldirector@tikvah.org
 to be notified when registration opens
 and the dates involved.
 Registration will be required.

Tikvah Talk

Tikvah Talk is published 6 times a year and is distributed free of charge to anyone expressing an interest in Congregation B'nai Tikvah. All news items are due the 10th of each month. Please submit articles electronically, if possible, to Congregation B'nai Tikvah, at office@tikvah.org (subject *Tikvah Talk*) or by mail to 25 Hillcroft Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94597, (925) 933-5397.

President's Message

By Dan Lapporte



This is my first Tikvah Talk article as the President of you Board of Trustees, and I want to reiterate how thankful I am that you've put your trust in me for the next two years. I'm honored and humbled to have this privilege and I look forward to growing our community, enhancing the visibility of our Temple and working closely with our

clergy and staff to build on the great work of our immediate past president and my friend Harry Wittenberg. In fact, there is a long line of past presidents that are still active members of our temple which I think is a testament to the enduring value and benefits our members get from this special place.

So, who is Dan Lapporte anyway? There are some of you I don't know out there, so here's a brief introduction: My family and I have been members at B'nai Tikvah for 11 years. My wife Juleen and I are the very proud parents of Lydia (17) and Abby (14), both of whom were Bat Mitzvahed here. Lydia will start at Whitman College in Washington State next month and Abby will be a freshman at Acalanes High School. I work in Human Resources for Kaiser Permanente in Oakland and – as a fun fact – am a backyard chicken farmer! We've been members of a great Chavurah since shortly after we joined the Temple, and have immensely enjoyed the connections we've made with our Chavurah family. I've been a member of the general board for six years and the executive board for three. I'm looking forward to getting to know many of you over the next couple of years.

I'll be working closely with your Board of Trustees to maintain the best of what B'nai Tikvah offers while we increase our reach to potential members and introduce new programs. I'll work closely with our wonderful clergy and staff to ensure B'nai Tikvah meets the evolving needs of our community and the Reform movement. Most importantly, I'll work with all of you to better understand what you're looking for in a Temple and how we can enhance what's so special about our Shul.

In the coming months, you'll be hearing more about the great things in store for CBT which I'm calling Tikvah 2.0. Tikvah 2.0 is a new B'nai Tikvah that builds on the strong foundations of our long time members with some new ideas, events and activities aimed at strengthening our community and welcoming new members. For example, in August, we'll be revisiting Rabbi Gutterman's first year through a town hall style event with a summer BBQ – kosher of course. Tikvah 2.0 will include a redesign of our website and a new mission statement aimed at better reflecting the welcoming nature of our community to prospective members and highlighting what we offer. Importantly, Tikvah 2.0 will be rooted in transparency. If you're interested in getting involved with Tikvah 2.0 or any of the upcoming work to make B'nai Tikvah a sustainable and

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Religious School News

By Jason Pollack, Interim Co-Director of Education



It's another beautiful summer day in Walnut Creek as I write this. The sun is out, the skies are blue, and vacations are in the air. Our Religious School is out for the summer, on vacation, as well, but much is happening. As you know, Leeaht Segev and I will be your Interim Co-Directors of Education for the upcoming school year (5776).

I'm happy to share that the school we know and love is still very much intact. All the great teachers that have been here for so many years are still here, and they are looking forward to continuing the strong curriculum, lessons and programs that are the core of the Religious School experience for our students. The Rabbi, the Cantor, Leeaht and I are fully committed to maintaining the level of student enthusiasm and interest that have been the hallmark of our Religious School for the past five years.

Two changes have occurred in the teaching staff. Hagit Miller is now the 2nd grade teacher, having taken over for Gabrielle Jones who retired this last year from teaching. Hagit will also continue to run our fabulous art program. The other change is that I have joined the 7th grade teaching staff and will be leading the class on Sundays with Rabbi Gutterman coming in to teach regularly, while Devra Aarons continues to teach the 7th graders on Tuesday.

Here's a little background information on the interim directors:

I've had extensive experience as an educator. After receiving my master's degree and teaching English composition at San Francisco State University, I found greater satisfaction teaching young people and went on to attain a multiple-subject California teaching credential and work with all the grades from kindergarten to eighth at local public and private schools. I've taught subjects ranging from Judaism, Torah, Jewish Holidays to 2nd and 3rd graders; music to all grades; and science and math in middle school.

Leeaht Segev started her Jewish career as the Family Programs Director at the Contra Costa JCC. She then spent three years as both the Religious School Administrator at Beth Chaim Congregation in Danville and the Administrator for OHALAH, the National Association for Jewish Renewal. During her tenure she helped with the transformation and restructuring of the Hebrew School. She also assisted with the organization of two national conferences for OHALAH. At B'nai Tikvah she has spent the last year as the Education Committee Chairperson and implemented the K'Tantan playgroup.



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Tuesday, July 21 – Book Sisters 6:30 pm CBT Social Hall “The Goldfinch” by Donna Tartt will be discussed. Potluck dinner, bring a dairy or vegetarian dish to share. RSVP: Raynaravitz@gmail.com.

Sunday, August 23 – Book Sisters 10:30 am Ravitz Home “The Boys in the Boat” by Daniel James Brown Potluck brunch, no dietary restrictions.

Mah Jongg is continuing through the Summer so please be sure and check the Temple Calendar for our play dates.

Did you open your Membership packet yet? Be sure to ‘join’ Sisterhood! We’re co-sponsoring speakers who will be at CBT for Under One Tent this fall and winter. We don’t ‘fund raise’ for Sisterhood - we rely on your contributions - so thank you in advance.

You can even ‘join’ Sisterhood at our Annual Sisterhood Membership Brunch - mark it on your calendar for 9:45 am on Sunday, October 4.

Our new High Holyday books are in!

מחזור לימים הנוראים

משכן הנפש

MISHKAN HANEFESH

Machzor for the Days of Awe



If you would like your own copy (it’s a 2 set edition), please send your check for \$50 for each set to the Temple Office or Members can pay on line through the Member’s Only section of our website.

Books must be picked up from the Temple Office between now and September 4. (They can be held in the office if you’re coming for services.) We regret we cannot bring ‘sold copies’ to High Holyday services.

For Qs, please call Judy Blum in the Temple Office.

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My hope is that the beauty and richness of our new High Holiday machzor will serve to guide us along the path of teshuvah, soul searching, making peace with the year that has been, and starting a new one with glad hearts. In time, I have faith that these pages and all they reveal will become dear and familiar to us over time. May the hope and promise of the year to come serve to draw us all closer together: our founding members, our next generation (see insert) and everyone in between.



And isn’t that what beginning again is all about?

5776 High Holyday Schedule

Saturday, September 5
 8:30 p.m. Dessert and Havdalah
 9:30 p.m. Selichot Service

Sunday, September 13
 8:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

Monday, September 14
 9:00 a.m. Children’s Rosh Hashanah Service**
 10:30 a.m. Adult Rosh Hashanah Service
 5:00 p.m. Tashlich (casting of sins) – Civic Park

Tuesday, September 22
 8:00 p.m. Kol Nidre Service

Wednesday, September 23
 9:00 a.m. Children’s Yom Kippur Service**
 (please note time change this year)
 10:30 a.m. Morning Yom Kippur Service
 4:00 p.m. Afternoon Yom Kippur Service
 6:00 p.m. Yiskor Service
 6:30 p.m. Neilah Service
 7:15 p.m. Break-the-Fast

Do you have unaffiliated friends who would like to join us for Children’s Services? Have them contact the Temple Office for complimentary tickets!!

Tickets are required for all services.

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Leeaht and I are both excited and honored to be the directors of the school for the coming year. We are confident we will keep the school (students, teachers, parents) happy and healthy, and that we will attract and hire a great new permanent director who will inherit what we think is one of the best Religious Schools in the area. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments.

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traveling with kids thing is for the birds!” She commented on how cute my boys are and I did the same about her girls, just as you would with any parent in passing who could use an encouraging word along the way. Except that this mom was not just any parent. She was a remarkable stranger who crossed my path and taught me something valuable that day.

One of our most famous mystical Jewish teachings is that at all times there exist 36 righteous people in the world whose role in life is to justify the purpose of humankind in the eyes of God. Jewish tradition holds that their identities are unknown to each other and that, if even one of them was missing, the world would come to an end. The two [Hebrew letters](#) for 36 are [la-med](#), which is 30, and [vav](#), which is 6. These 36 are referred to as the *Lamed-Vav Tzadikim*, the 36 righteous people.

It happens occasionally that I meet someone who reminds me that I believe in those lamed vavniks, that there are special souls who walk this earth to remind us of the spark of God within each person. The thing about the lamed vavniks is that you never know who they are, so they could be anyone you meet. Any passing stranger could have something to teach you. That beautiful family in the airport reminded me not only to be appreciative of my exhausting boys, but even more so, to remember that we have the opportunity every day to choose how to react to life. I’m sure that mom has plenty of days where she cannot approach her challenges with a smile, but on that day, she was a reminder of the power of grace, even when life throws you something incredibly difficult.

The longer I am a cantor, the more I see God not only within the walls of the sanctuary, but sometimes even more so out in the world as I move through my days. As we all travel this summer and find ourselves perhaps away from CBT more than usual, I wish us all clear eyes to see God within the people we meet, and maybe, if we’re lucky, a glimpse of one of the righteous 36.

ON-GOING PROGRAMS AT CBT

Open Bridge Wednesday mornings at 10 am.

YOGA -The Gentle Way
Thursdays 6 - 7 pm

Contact Dr. Laura Presnick drspresnick@earthlink.net.

JEWISH MEDITATION - A TASTE OF TORAH
Tuesday mornings from 10 - 11 am
Each session begins focusing on the week’s Torah portion.

2 AL-ANON GROUPS MEET AT CBT
Tuesdays from 12 - 1 pm, Fridays 10:30 - 11:30 am
Contact Al-Anon for more information.



Can you read this?
That means you can help a child who can't.



In just one hour a week you can help a student learn to love reading. Take part in this rewarding *tikkun olam* program and help repair the world. Join the **Jewish Coalition for Literacy** as a volunteer reading tutor and make a difference in a child's life.

Register for a free tutor training workshop at jclread.org or by calling the number below:

Please note: fingerprinting is required by some school districts, which involves a fee—more information will be provided at the training session.

East Bay: 510-809-4904

Wednesday, September 2, 2015, 1:00pm-4:00pm
Jewish Federation Office, 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley

Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 1:00pm-4:00pm
Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 25 Hillcroft Way, Walnut Creek



Shavuot early morning (cold) hike

Contributions

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Bertha Sheldon
Christine and Murray Sheldon

In memory of Joseph William Rupley
Leslie and Bill Rupley

In memory of Rose Falk
Joyce and Harry Moebius

In memory of Judi Kay Brown
Chelsea and Glenn Wechsler

In memory of Sidney Deutch
Marcia and Harvey Maslin

In memory of Ilse Schoenholz
Debbie and Michael Schoenholz

In memory of Lev Malkov

In memory of Udlya Yatskayir
Rakhil Sadetskiy

In memory of Hanita Klein
Susan and John Klein

In memory of Freddie Waterman
Terri and Brent Waterman

In memory of Heinz Fenichel
Barbara Fenichel

In memory of Julia Blumberg
Alvin Trepper

Thanks to everyone who helped our Membership Committee
with Havana Curveball
Julia Babka-Kurzrock

In memory of Morris Falk
Joyce and Harry Moebius

In memory of Bernard Shuer
Mery and Jerome Chaney

In memory of Israel Levikov
Geniya Levikova and Carlos Trujillo

In memory of Rabbi Joel Dobin
Frances Dobin

In memory of Jane Baulch-Enloe's mother
Susan and Joel Friedman

With thanks to Ivy Noceto
Rayna, Brittany, Samantha and Gloria

In memory of Mary Billy
Wendy and Dale Billy

In memory of Joel Lichtenstein

In memory of Morrey Grossman
Amy Lichtenstein and Bob Grossman

In memory of Harry Schienberg
Alvin Trepper

In honor of Robin and Larry Gordon's anniversary
Miriam and Stan Newman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Sylvia Weide

In memory of Soll W. Weide
Alaine and Keith Joseph

In memory of Rose Gross

In honor of Miriam and Stan Newman's 70th Anniversary
Anna and Walter Gewing

In memory of Elaine Unger
Judith and Scott Barrall

In memory of Vivienne Noble Sanderson
Lisa Noble and Jeff Arnold

In memory of Vera Ross
Flo and Loren Burns

In honor of Rabbi Gutterman's 1st year
Tina Guterman and Doug Polcin
Mary Ann and Harry Wittenberg

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Peter Barrera
Patricia Viera

In memory of Shevelin Fischer
Michael Fischer

In memory of Elaine Unger
Judith and Scott Barrall

In memory of Nessim Benhamou
Chanel and Tracy Benhamou

In honor of Cantor Chabon
Carla Garrett

RABBI ASHER'S EMERITUS FUND

In memory of Vivienne Noble Sanderson
Norman Hamilton
Patricia and Charles Eisner

In honor of Barbara Almy
The Ritual Committee

In memory of Vivienne Noble Sanderson
Nancy and Arthur Solomon
Marilyn Lutzer

In appreciation of Rabbi Asher's participation in the Federation
trip to Israel
Frederick Isaac

In memory of Susan Friedman's sister

In memory of Jane Baulch-Enloe's mother
Barbara and Bill Almy

GENERAL FUND FOR CANTOR'S MUSICAL PRO-GRAMS

In honor of Lisa Wenger
Chanel and Tracy Benhamou

In honor of Jared Goldin
Kenneth Norris

In memory of Harry Bloom
Susan and John Rubinfeld

In memory of Sally Ruth Wilk

In memory of Irving Lerner

In memory of Joseph Lerner

In memory of Alice Lerner

In memory of Rick Martel

In memory of Mal Vineberg, Jr.
Nessa and Robert Wilk

In memory of Hans Guterman & Ann Westney
Tina Guterman and Doug Polcin

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FOR THE YOUNG ONES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND THEIR PARENT(S)

Fun with TIKVAH TOTS is weekly on Friday mornings!

Families with little ones are invited to join our weekly Friday morning playgroups from 10:00-11:00am.

The first 45 minutes are devoted to free play for the kids and chat time for adults.

To close out the hour, Rabbi Gutterman leads the group in Shabbat songs, with a story, the blessings and an informal Kiddush of juice and challah.

Fridays with Tikvah Tots is ideal for children 3 years old and younger, and the grown-ups who love them!

TOT SHABBATS and FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES

Mark your monthly calendar for the 1st Fridays of the month!

AUGUST 7th and SEPTEMBER 4th

Tot Shabbat at 5:30 pm, Pizza dinner at 6 pm, Family Shabbat service at 6:30 pm.

Dinner reservations due the Wednesday before, August 5th and September 2nd.

\$10 adults, \$5 children 5 - 12.

Reservations can be made on line or by sending a check to the Temple Office.

K'TAN TAN - SUNDAY FUN!!

Our monthly program resume at the end of September at 10 am

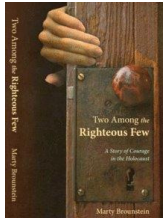
for music time, special art projects and lots of fun and playing!

Appropriate for children under 5!

Dinner and Evening Program with Speaker and Author Marty Brounstein

Sunday, August 30 6 pm

Please join us for dinner with guest speaker and author Marty Brounstein as he discusses *Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust*. He brings a true interfaith story of courage, compassion and rescue about a Christian couple in the Netherlands, who, despite much risk and danger, saved the lives of over two dozen Jews during the Holocaust and World War II.



Marty has a meaningful personal connection to this story as well, which he reveals in his engaging storytelling presentation. Efforts are under way to turn this story into a feature film.

Since 1991 Marty Brounstein has run a management and organizational consulting firm in the San Francisco Bay Area called The Practical Solutions Group. Through this work, he has written eight books related to business management, from contributing author to sole author. These have included *Coaching and Mentoring For Dummies*, *Communicating Effectively For Dummies*, and *Managing Teams For Dummies*.

Book signing follows presentation (\$13 for the book.) This event is open to the community and is sponsored by Congregation B'nai Tikvah and The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County.

Sign ups must be done through www.BrownPaperTickets.com. Watch your email for the easy link.

Shalom Connection

Condolences to:

Melissa Assael and family on the loss of her mother,

Loretta Schwartz

Jane Baulch-Enloe and family on the loss of her mother,

Joanne Baulch

Lew Davis and family on the loss of his father,

Jack Raymond Davis

Susan Friedman and family on the loss of her sister,

Linda Hammer

Lisa Noble and family on the loss of her mother,

Vivienne Noble Sanderson

Jeff Rackmil and family on the loss of his father,

Ernest Rackmil

Joni Vineberg and family on the loss of her husband, Mal

Mazel Tov to:

Anne Bloomberg and daughter Ruth on their conversion

Amy Lichtenstein and Bob Grossman on the birth of their son,
Noah Alan

Kathy and Steve Weiner on birth of granddaughters

Isobel and Sadie Shelowitz (to Rachel)

Carol Reif and Jeffrey Gilman on the marriage of

Lee and Claire Schreiber

Trish and Jared Goldin on the marriage of

Emma and Adam Lutz

On Wednesday, August 5th at 6:30 pm Men's Night Out will be at Stanfords Restaurant at Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek. Bring a friend and join the guys for a night of Schmoozing.

On Thursday, August 13th we'll have a Poker Night in our social hall at 7 pm. \$25 buy-in's as many as you want. This is a fundraiser for the Men of CBT. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Please RSVP to me at men.of.cbt@gmail.com.

On Sunday, August 23rd come Schmeer and Schmooze at Noah's on Mt. Diablo in Walnut Creek at 10 am. Please come and let's discuss the up and coming High Holiday needs. Bagels and Coffee provided by the Men of CBT. Hope to see you there, no need to RSVP for this one but if you would like to help to be an Usher for either Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kipper please let me know as I begin a schedule of needs for moving the needed materials for services. Rosh Hashanah begins Sunday evening, September 13th.



June's Havdalah Happening

ON-GOING PROGRAMS AT CBT

Open Bridge Wednesday mornings at 10 am.

YOGA -The Gentle Way

Thursdays 6 - 7 pm

Contact Dr. Laura Presnick drspresnick@earthlink.net.

JEWISH MEDITATION - A TASTE OF TORAH

Tuesday mornings from 10 - 11 am

Each session begins focusing on the week's Torah portion.

2 AL-ANON GROUPS MEET AT CBT

Tuesdays from 12 - 1 pm, Fridays 10:30 - 11:30 am

Contact Al-Anon for more information.

It will be Back-to-School time before we know it, so we are collecting school supplies over the summer for Project Ready to Learn through Vestia. Thousands of children in our area enter school in the fall without having the resources to purchase needed backpacks and supplies. Below is a list of school supplies needed by grade range. You can fill a backpack (indicate which grade range on masking tape on outside of pack), or put individual supplies in the bins in the CBT lobby.

School Supplies for K-3rd Grade Students: Back pack (please, no Blue or Red due to gang affiliation); Pencils, Eraser & Pencil Sharpener; 1 box of Colored markers; 1 box of Colored pencils; 1 box of Crayons; Scissors; Glue Sticks; Ruler; Pencil Box; Dictionary (optional); Three Ring Binder; Binder paper (wide ruled); 2 folders.

School Supplies for 4th-8th Grade Students: Back pack (please, no Blue or Red due to gang affiliation); Pencils and sharpener and eraser; Pens (black, blue and 2 red); Highlighters (one yellow, one other color); 1 box of colored pencils; Zipper pouch; Spiral notebooks (3); Paperback dictionary and thesaurus (optional); Three Ring Binder; Binder paper (college ruled); Simple business calculator; 2 or 3 Pee Chee type folders; 2 glue sticks; 1 Ruler.

School Supplies for High School Students: Back pack (please, no Blue or Red due to gang affiliation); Pencils and sharpener (at least 10 pencils); Pens (-black, blue, and red- 5 each); 2 Highlighters (1 Yellow, 1 another color); 4 Spiral notebooks-college ruled; Three Ring Binder; 3 folders; Binder paper (college ruled); Scientific calculator; Eraser; Math kit (compass, protractor etc.); Index cards; Post-it Notes.

Throughout the year, CBT participates in various social action efforts. There is no shortage of actions needed, small and large, by us all, toward Tikkun Olam. What interests you? Where would you like to become more involved? Below are descriptions of a few of the social action efforts along with the contact person:

Clothing & Supply Drives – At different points throughout the year, we have collections for children's and adult clothing, school supplies, toiletries, winter coats, and business attire that get sorted and brought to Vestia for distribution to children,

Contributions

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CANTOR STEPHEN RICHARDS MUSICAL ENRICHMENT/CHOIR FUND

In memory of Harvey Sidney Morse

Marjorie and Cantor Stephen Richards

In honor of my wonderful grandchildren, Jonathan and Mae

Bert Gunter

STEPHAN JASPAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In support of Havana Curveball

Beth and Jonathan Mintz

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In memory of John Friedler

Anna and Mark Friedler

In support of Havana Nights

Beth and Jonathan Mintz

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In memory of E. Melvin Pinsel

Monica Pinsel

ABRAHAM NIVER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Arthur Scharlach

Lynette and Alan Scharlach

MORDOCH/NADJARI HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Rosa Kryz

In memory of Meyer Kryz

Shirley and Jeffrey Weiner

In memory of Israel Nadjari

Zaffy and Denis Welch

In memory of Roza Gershkovich

Galina and Sasha Khalameyzer

In memory of Israel and Luna Nadjari

Judith and Oscar Nadjari

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of Samuel Goldenberg

Ruth and Larry Goldenberg

MEN OF CBT

In honor of the birth of Noah Alan Lichtenstein

Mary Ann and Harry Wittenberg

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In memory of Mal Vineberg

In memory of Bertha Stern

In memory of Susan Friedman's sister

Rayna and Richard Ravitz

In memory of Carol Rubinfeld

Susan and John Rubinfeld

In honor of the birth of Noah Alan Lichtenstein

Jenifer and Benjamin Paul

“Tikvah L'Atid – Hope for the Future”

What does Congregation B'nai Tikvah's Legacy Society look like? In part, it looks like **Idelle Lipman**.

Idelle recently joined Tikvah L'Atid, our synagogue's legacy program. Idelle isn't fabulously wealthy and she hasn't been a member for decades, but she is someone who loves CBT and wants it to thrive well into the future. Idelle signed a Declaration of Commitment that declares her present intention to remember the congregation in her estate plans. The manner in which she does that is between her and her estate attorney; all that matters to CBT is that Idelle cares enough about us to include us in some way.



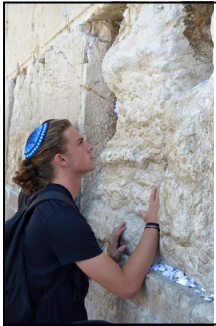
Congregation B'nai Tikvah will receive a \$10,000 grant if 18 congregants join our legacy program before April 30, 2016. By being one of those 18, Idelle is personally responsible for securing a \$555.55 donation to our synagogue, without having to write a check or make a pledge. Seven others have joined in our effort to strengthen our legacy program and earn the grant, including **Tracy and Chanel Benhamou, Jared and Trish Goldin, Sandy Gross and Paula Reinman, Tina Guterman and Doug Polcin, John and Susan Rubinfeld, Michael and Paula Weintraub**, and one member who wishes to remain anonymous.

If you are considering remembering Congregation B'nai Tikvah in your estate plans, or if you have already done so without the synagogue's knowledge, please contact Lisa Wenger (lisa.wenger@thomsonreuters.com) or Sandy Gross (sandyfgross@gmail.com).



7th graders end of year picture.

On June 30 I arrived at SFO at 5am to say goodbye to the 11 Contra Costa Midrasha teens who are spending July in Israel together. I write this article 10 days into their journey. No matter what images I see on their Facebook profiles – riding a camel, hiking in the Negev, playing in the water at Ein Gedi or praying at the Wall – it is clear they are having the experience of a lifetime that will forever connect them to Judaism. Our teens are learning things we simply can't teach them in a classroom. I can see the curiosity as they dig at an archaeological site, the joy on their faces during their first Shabbat together and the deep meditation in their bodies while praying at the Wall. This is the first time in almost a decade that Midrasha had more than a small handful of teens travel together to Israel. It's meaningful that they are doing this together. When they return they will be able to continue bonding, to talk with each other about their experiences and to share it with others in our community. It means that this experience is more likely to happen with younger teens.



A big thanks to a few folks for helping to make this miracle happen this summer: Chanel Benhamou, the Brendan Mann Foundation, the Jewish Federation and Foundation of the East Bay, the Rabbis at B'nai Tikvah, Beth Chaim and B'nai Shalom, CCM's entire Board of Directors and CCM's many generous donors. Thank you!

Our journey continues! Join us in September when Midrasha's 2015-16 year starts! Here's the schedule – don't miss any of it.

- 8th and 9th Grade Orientation! September 9 from 7:15 – 9:15pm at B'nai Tikvah. Incoming 8th and 9th graders are invited to get oriented into the world of Midrasha, all lead by our amazing mentor/educators and older Midrasha teens.
- Midrasha Fall Picnic Party! September 16 – Details to be announced soon! Launch the New Jewish Year and a new year together with a Fall picnic party.
- Midrasha's Opening Night – September 30 from 7:15 – 9:15pm at B'nai Tikvah. It's our annual Opening Night party with a photo booth, round-robin of elective choices and more surprises.

Registration for the 2015-16 year is now open! Visit <http://shop.midrasha.com> to enroll today!

For more information, to get questions answered to just to say "hi" this summer contact Devra Aarons, CCM's Director by phone 925/944-4701, e-mail office@ccmidrasha.com or online at www.ccmidrasha.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ccmidrasha. See you in September!

Team Tikvah – Team of Hope!

For the 15th consecutive year, Congregation B'nai Tikvah will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.



Benefiting cancer research, prevention and patient support programs, Relay for Life is an organized, overnight community fund-raising walk in which members of each team take turns walking around a school track. Because it's a team event, individual participants are not required to be at the track the whole time. But with round-the-clock food, games, activities and entertainment, some folks find it hard to leave!

This year, as we have for the past eight years, Team Tikvah – Team of Hope will be participating in the Martinez Relay for Life, being held this year on July 25-26. We're not the largest of the 25 or so teams out there, but we always have a big impact. Last year, the Martinez Relay raised more than \$75,000, with Team Tikvah accounting for more than \$9,500 of that total.

About 20 B'nai Tikvah members came out to walk in last year's Relay and we hope to see even more at this year's event. For more information about joining or supporting Team Tikvah – Team of Hope, contact Mike Cohn at veefrog@gmail.com or Tina Guterman at tguterman@aol.com.

Cancer has no doubt touched the life of a loved one. Support this important event!!!

JULY 2015 Tamuz - Av 5775

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah 6:30pm Book Sisters	10:00am Open Bridge 7:00pm Mah Jongg	6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 6:30pm Shabbat Service	Parashat Devarim Tisha B'Av 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 9:00am - 9:00am Relay for Life 8:30pm Havdalah @ Relay
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Tisha B'Av Relay for Life	5:30pm - 6:30pm Executive Board 6:30pm General Board Meeting	10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah 6:45pm Trivia for 20's and 30's	10:00am Open Bridge	6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 6:30pm Shabbat Service	Parashat Vaetchanan 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 10:00am Shabbat Service - Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Stokol

AUGUST 2015 Av - Elul 5775

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah 7:05pm Jewish Heritage Night - As vs Baltimore	10:00am Open Bridge 6:30pm Men's Night Out		10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 5:30pm Tot Shabbat 6:00pm - 6:30pm Pizza dinner 6:30pm Family Shabbat Service	Parashat Eikev 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	7:30pm Ritual Committee Meeting	10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah 7:00pm Midrasha BOD meeting	10:00am Open Bridge 7:00pm Mah Jongg	10:00am Hadassah meeting 6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga! 7:00pm Men of CBT - Poker Night	10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 6:30pm Shabbat Service	Parashat Re'eh 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 5:30pm - 7:30pm Havdalah Happening!
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	6:30pm - 8:00pm Education Committee Meeting	10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah	10:00am Open Bridge	6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 7:30pm Shir Joy & Board Installation	Parashat Shoftim 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	5:30pm - 6:30pm Executive Board 6:30pm General Board Meeting	10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah	10:00am Open Bridge 5:30pm - 6:15pm End of Summer Schmooze 6:15pm Dinner 7:00pm Mah Jongg	6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 6:30pm Shabbat Service	Parashat Ki Teitzei 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 10:00am Shabbat Service - Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Morgan 12:00pm - 1:00pm Luncheon
30	31					
6:00pm Marty Brounstein "Two Among the Righteous Few"	7:30pm - 8:30pm Ritual Committee Meeting					

SEPTEMBER 2015 Elul 5775 - Tishri 5776

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 6:00pm Marty Brounstein "Two Among the Righteous Few"	31 7:30pm - 8:30pm Ritual Committee Meeting	1 10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah	2 10:00am Open Bridge	3 6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	4 10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 5:30pm Tot Shabbat 6:00pm - 6:30pm Pizza dinner - Prospective Members invited! 6:30pm Family Shabbat Service	5 Parashat Ki Tavo 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 10:00am Shabbat Service - Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Clauson 8:30pm - 9:30pm Selichot dessert 9:30pm - 10:30pm Havdallah and Selichot service
6	7 Labor Day (Office closed)	8 10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah 7:00pm Midrasha BOD meeting	9 10:00am Open Bridge 1:00pm - 4:00pm Jewish Coalition of Literacy 7:15pm Midrasha - 8th & 9th Grade Orientation	10 6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	11 10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 6:30pm Shabbat Service	12 Parashat Nitzavim 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 10:00am Morning Minyan
13 8:00pm Erev Rosh Hashanah	14 Rosh Hashanah 5:00pm Tashlikh	15 10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah	16 10:00am Open Bridge 7:15pm Midrasha - Picnic!	17 6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	18 10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 7:30pm Shir Joy - Donor Plaque Dedication	19 Parashat Vayeilech 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 10:00am Morning Minyan
20 Religious School Begins!	21 5:30pm Executive Board Meeting 6:30pm General Board Meeting	22 10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah 8:00pm Kol Nidre service	23 NO Midrasha Yom Kippur	24 6:00pm - 7:00pm Yoga!	25 10:00am - 11:00am Tikvah Tots 6:30pm Shabbat Service	26 Parashat Ha'Azinu 9:00am Lay Led Torah Study 10:00am Morning Minyan
27 Religious School 9:00am Sukkah building 10:00am K'Tantan	28 (Office closed) Sukkot 8:00am - 10:00am Sukkot Service followed by brunch	29 10:00am - 11:00am Jewish Meditation - A Taste of Torah	30 10:00am Open Bridge 7:15pm Midrasha Begins!			

THANK YOU TO THOSE
who helped with various clean - up
projects around CBT -

Walt Blum, Daniel Cohn, Dan Fisher,
Bob Grossman, Alan Gould, Dee Hirsch,
Martha Jensen, Daniel Jones, Joe Patute,
Bill Rupley, Alan Schwartz and Steve Unger.

We couldn't have done it
without your energy!

Are YOU following CBT?

Here's where we are!!!

Facebook: [facebook.com/CBTikvah](https://www.facebook.com/CBTikvah)

Instagram: [@congregationbnaitikvah](https://www.instagram.com/congregationbnaitikvah)

Pinterest: [pinterest.com/cbtikvah](https://www.pinterest.com/cbtikvah)

YouTube: [youtube.com/channel/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwQb2E7huq3cflB64lflLRA/feed)

[UCwQb2E7huq3cflB64lflLRA/feed](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwQb2E7huq3cflB64lflLRA/feed)

Young Adult Facebook: [facebook.com/cbtyoungadults](https://www.facebook.com/cbtyoungadults)

And for our 20's and 30's -

Join us Tuesday, July 28 at 6:45 pm for trivia and happy
hour at Pyramid Alehouse in Walnut Creek. Trivia starts at
7, but it fills up quickly. Please RSVP to samanthayoungman@gmail.com so we know how many tables to hold!

President's Message.....

(continued from page 3)

more vibrant community, please let me know. You can reach me through a new e-mail we've created for your feedback: BnaiTikvahPresident@gmail.com.

Speaking of sustainable, here are a couple of highlights of what's coming up:

- CBT is going solar!! Thanks to a remarkably generous gift from a member family, solar panels will be installed on the social hall and sanctuary roofs. Once installed, we expect to save about \$10,000 / year on electricity. Plus... It's just the right thing to do.
- We are looking at ways to optimize our space and bring in some new income with sub-tenants who will pay rent for some underutilized areas of our facilities.
- The new social hall and sanctuary remodel were completed 10 years ago. Definitely something to celebrate! We'll be hosting an event to thank those congregants who made our facilities possible and working toward sustaining our facilities with a reinvigorated campaign to decrease our mortgage payments.

We have a bright future ahead and through our combined energy, resources and commitments, CBT will continue to be a vibrant and welcoming synagogue.

I look forward to an exciting two years and engaging with many of you. *Welcome to Tikvah 2.0!*

It's Summer but you can still shop!
Make an appointment to meet Irene Korn at a mutually agreeable time. No reason to wait for Religious School to resume on September 20.
Call Irene at 925.673.9300.

B'nai Tikvah Gift Shop

Tallitot, Bags and Kippot
Mezuzot Yads Kiddush Cups
Candles and Candlesticks
Challah Boards Tzedaka Boxes Jewelry
Greeting Cards, Books
Spice Boxes and Havdalah Sets
SHOFARS and lots more!

Proceeds from the shop benefit
Congregation B'nai Tikvah projects.

Social Action.....

(continued from page 8)

adults, and families in need. Would you like to help with this? Contact Diane Leventhal - ladydiofalamo1@netzero.net

Blood Drives – CBT saved 51 lives on May 3rd through our last blood drive, which we hosted in the social hall with Blood Centers of the Pacific. We would like to continue the tradition of hosting blood drives at least twice per year at CBT. Contact Phil Weishmehl to get involved and help with this effort - phinicky@astound.net

Chanukah and Passover and Bags for the Elderly – Cookie Svingos coordinates with Jewish Family and Children Services to collect and deliver Chanukah and Passover Bags for the elderly and people with disabilities in our community. There is always a need for help with the collection of filled bags, and for drivers to deliver the bags. Contact Cookie Svingos to get involved - cookieeaz@aol.com

Social Action Speakers – If you would like to bring someone to CBT to speak on an area of social action, or share any ideas that you have about potential social action topics/speakers, contact Jared Goldin - jalangoldin@gmail.com

Relay for Life is approaching July 25th - 26th - Come walk with us, cheer on our own Ms. Relay at 7:00 Saturday evening to defend her title, join us for Havdalah Saturday at 8:30 pm led by Cantor Chabon, donate to Team Tikvah-Team of Hope, bring your family and friends. If you need more information, contact Tina Guterman – tguterman@aol.com

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is an ongoing immigration justice effort in which CBT has been participating along with other faith communities in our area. We have met with DACA applicants to help with various aspects of the application process and have raised funds for application fees. If you would like to find out more information or get involved, contact Michael Fischer - mjf1155@ca.astound.net or Joan Weinstein - jandmwein@gmail.com.



CBT was hopping for Havanah Curveball!

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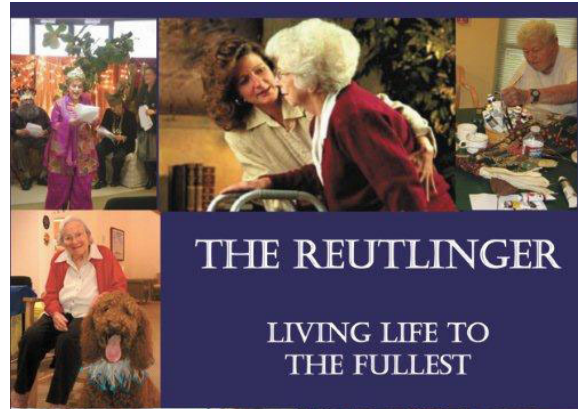


PREMIER PROPERTIES

GAN SHALOM CEMETERY

The Board of Trustees of Congregation B'nai Tikvah has approved the establishment and the location of the B'nai Tikvah Garden at Gan Shalom Cemetery, 1100 Bear Creek Road, Briones.

For those who have purchased plots and those considering a "pre-need" purchase, please contact Jay Lewis, Managing Funeral Director at Sinai Memorial Chapel, 3415 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, at (925) 962-3636.



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Bring in gently used books for all age children.

<http://www.eastbaychildrensbookproject.org/>



Have YOU visited the Tzedaka box in our Lobby?

All donations received through the end of September will be sent to

Shalom Bayit.

Shalom Bayit is the Bay Area's center for domestic violence prevention and response within the Jewish community. Shalom Bayit promotes peaceful homes and families, teaches skills for healthy relationships, and works to build a safe, vibrant Jewish community that is



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

For membership information, please contact the Temple Office.

**Join us on Wednesday, August 26
for a B'nai Tikvah
End-of-Summer Schmooze!**

5:30 pm - "Rabbi's Tisch" in the Sanctuary.
Rabbi Gutterman & Dan Lapporte will have an informal "town-hall style" dialogue where we'll celebrate our first year of Rabbinic transition and hear about plans and hopes for the year to come. Question cards will be available for your use.

6:15 pm - Casual dinner in the Social Hall.
This evening will be a wonderful chance to pay tribute to the successes of the past year, greet old friends and meet new ones. Our Religious School co-directors for the coming year, Jason Pollack and Leeaht Segev, will also be on hand to talk with school families and answer any questions you might have about your children's new school year. In particular, Leeaht can't wait to show our Pre-K families their classroom!

There is no cost to attend. CBT members and those interested in our community are all warmly welcome. (Watch for dinner sign-up details in August.)

**Havdalah Happening:
Kids' Movie & Schmooze Time
Saturday, August 15, 2015**

Please join us for Havdalah Happening - an evening for families with young children. on Saturday, August 15 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. While our teens engage your children downstairs in one of our classrooms, you'll be free upstairs to socialize before and after dinner.

\$18/adults \$8/children

Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, August 12, 2015.

Send your check to the Temple Office.

Members can sign up on line.

Guests of CBT, please contact the Temple Office.

Watch your August email for more details.

Be sure to invite your friends also!

