

May it be Your will,  
Adonai our God and God  
of our ancestors,  
to reawaken in us joy and blessing  
in the year ahead.  
Grant us a long life,  
a peaceful life with goodness and blessing,  
sustenance and physical vitality;  
a life free from shame and reproach,  
a life of abundance and honor,  
a reverent life guided by the love of Torah;  
a life in which our worthy aspirations will be  
fulfilled.

*Amen*

## SAVE THE DATE - 3.6.21

*A special virtual celebration honoring Rabbi Shuval-Weiner*

Community  
קהילה

Prayer  
תפילה

Study  
לימוד

Repair  
תיקון

JOIN US LIVE via [www.bethtikvah.com](http://www.bethtikvah.com) or Facebook

Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Services—6:30 PM

Saturday Morning—10:00 AM

## A MESSAGE FROM THE

# Rabbi



### A Blessing for 2021

As I sit here writing this note, the moon is full and bright, shining through my window pane. We are a full two weeks away from welcoming the next Hebrew month of *Shevat*. Yet in our secular mindset we are also sitting on the cusp of a new calendar year, 2021. As I contemplate the past year and think of our future I can not help but think of the words of the blessing we traditionally pray upon the turning of time. On the Shabbat that immediately precedes the arrival of the new moon, the entire worldwide Jewish community recites a prayer composed in the third century by R. Abba Arikha or “Rav” called *Birkat HaChodesh*. In it we ask that no matter what may have befallen us or the community in the previous month, that we may we know only blessings of goodness and renewal in the days to come. 2020 has been an unprecedented year, filled with angst, pain, uncertainty and fear, testing our resilience, our fortitude and our very humanity. From political strife, to social unrest, families and friends at odds with one another and a pandemic, unlike anything in our lifetime. People are struggling financially, physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. And while thankfully our community has been blessed with the wonderful miracles of birth, marriage, recovery from illness, all bringing joyful celebration, still, if ever there was a time that we needed a collective blessing, it is now, and to me, this is the blessing!

“May it be Your will, Adonai our God, to grant us long life, a life of peace, a life of good, a life of blessing, a life of sustenance, a life of vigor of the bones, a life in which there is fear of sin, a life free from shame and embarrassment, a life of riches and honor, a life in which we may be filled with love of Torah and awe of Heaven, a life in which You will fulfill all of our hearts’ desires for good.” (*Berakhot* 16b)

What exactly are we praying for, and why these particular sentiments at this time? According to the teachings of Rabbi A.I. Kook z”l, the first chief rabbi of pre-State Israel, we are praying for a spiritual uplift at a time when many may be feeling a loss of meaning and purpose. Channah Morrison translated Rav Kook’s shiur on *Birkat HaChodesh*, which I have selected some of this wisdom for us to contemplate now.

“May it be Your will... to grant us long life” — while living many long years is desirable, a long life refers to depth in purpose and meaning. As Abe Lincoln wrote “it’s not the years in your life that count; it’s the life in your years.”

“A life of peace” — refers, to our own inner peace and harmony.

“A life of good” — we pray that all external factors which affect us, both the positive and the negative, should influence us in good directions and favorable ways.

“A life of blessing” — it not about the blessings that we receive, rather the blessings that we give. May we each bring blessings to the world through our actions; helping the needy, consoling the broken-hearted, and providing moral leadership and direction.

“A life of sustenance” — a prayer that all our needs be met — physical, psychological, and spiritual, and the ability to appreciate the enough.

“A life of vigor of the bones”- On one level we are asking for a life full of vitality, strength, and energy. But there is another level to this vitality. Rav Kook explained that it refers to our mindset and outlook. To have the ability to live with inspiration, passion and purpose.

“A life free from shame and embarrassment”—no one is perfect; we all have shortcomings and weaknesses. But our lives—the choices we make and the actions we take — they should be a reflection of our better, higher qualities. We should be able to look at ourselves in the mirror with pride and satisfaction.

“A life of riches and honor” — the word for riches in Hebrew can also mean fulfillment, sometimes wealth can change a person, blinding them to their true purpose. Therefore, we pray that our wealth be bound up with our spiritual values and goals, bringing fulfillment and honor.

“A life in which You will fulfill all of our hearts’ desires for good.” We pray that our hearts’ passion will be directed toward holiness and that which is desirable for humankind.

This prayer gives us a moment to reflect on the time that has passed and on the time that is to come. To check in with ourselves and to reset our intentions for the path ahead. Are we living our values, our truth? If not, what is the plan for shifting course to get back on track? We use the prayer as a springboard to ask God for the strength and the courage to be truer to ourselves.

As difficult and painful as 2020 has been, for so many of us, deep truths have revealed themselves, and incredible blessings have emerged. How can we hold on to those discoveries and use them, act upon them? How do we make the choices now that will move us to live more fully in 2021?

As you make your resolutions, I invite you to reflect on Rav’s prayer and consider the paths to reawaken joy and blessing in your life in the year ahead.

Hazak V’Amatz and a very Happy 2021!



Happy 2021, shana tova! Along with the hope and optimism that this new year inevitably brings, I'm excited to share with you TBT religious school's plans for the spring semester.

Classes will be structured similarly to how they were in the fall semester; primarily conducted on Zoom, with one in-person, outside, family engagement opportunity for each class. This was successful and allowed for safe, responsible instruction while also giving people the chance to be physically together to connect and learn with one another. Our incredible teachers are looking forward to continuing the year with your children. Our wonderful madrichim will also be back, but many are moving to new grades to make maximum use of their learning experience and talents.

In addition – and this is the part that I am extremely excited about – we will have one in-person “experience” each month

that is open to all grades in our religious school. They will take place in the TBT parking lot and, according to your family's comfort level, you will choose to either walk around to participate or drive up to pick up materials to enjoy at home. Tu B'shevat, Purim, Passover and Yom Ha'atzmaut are all coming up. Each holiday offers valuable lessons and opportunities to meaningfully connect as a family. Our final day of religious school will end with a mitzvah day with various hands-on projects to make our world a better and brighter place. The word “Sababa” means awesome, cool and that is the name given to this new endeavor I hope all of our religious school families will be a part of as a kehillah, a community, of learners.

*Suzanne Hurwitz*

**Sababa!**  
with TBT Religious School  
Spring semester 2021

Come to TBT on these Sundays to take part in - or pick up materials for - a family learning experience. This is in addition to regular religious school.

**Last names:**  
A-G: 2:00-2:30PM  
H-O: 2:30-3:00PM  
P-Z: 3:00-3:30PM

Questions and RSVP to  
Suzanne  
education@bethtikvah.com

<b>January 24</b> Tu B'shevat	<b>February 28</b> Purim	<b>March 21</b> Passover	<b>April 18</b> Israel	<b>May 2</b> Mitzvah Day
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Join us for a virtual Havdalah Event  
**Saturday, January 9 at 7:00 PM**  
We are going to be using a new technology tool called Topia.  
You may log in at [topia.io/bethtikvah](https://topia.io/bethtikvah)  
[For more information, click HERE](#)



# ECEC UPDATE



Looking back at our fall preschool program, what a crazy, challenging, and successful year this has been for our parents and teachers. As parents and educators, we had to make decisions that we knew would be for the best of our children but were unsure of the outcome. Our TBT ECEC preschool closed its doors in March and we had no idea when or if we would reopen. If we did reopen, would parents send their children? Would teachers be willing to work and risk their own health? In July, with the blessing of Rabbi Shual-Weiner and Joe Dunn, as well as the advice of many medical professionals, and a leap of faith, we re-opened our school and ran a very successful camp. We put all safety protocols in place and followed CDC guidelines.

In August, we reopened our preschool. We started a KRP program (kindergarten readiness program) along with a Pre-k, 3's and 2's class. Our school quickly filled up with smiling faces. We kept the classes small each with 8 children and 2 teachers. Masks are worn by all (except 2's), temperatures are checked daily (teachers and students) and vital wellness questions are asked at carpool for the safety of all. The smiles on everyone's faces are immeasurable. Being together and

back at school is such a nice feeling. The children and teachers are happy, and parents are grateful to have their children in a safe, loving environment.

We are also hosting Coffee and Cuddles for children two years and under every other Thursday from 10-11am. It is a great way for moms, dads, grandparents, and care givers to get together and have their young ones interact, while adults socially distance.

Keeping our school open has been a group effort and I cannot thank everyone enough. As excited as we have been about the success of this year, we are even more excited to begin registration for next year 2021-2022. If you know anyone who is interested in starting their child in a wonderful, intimate, loving preschool, please share our information.

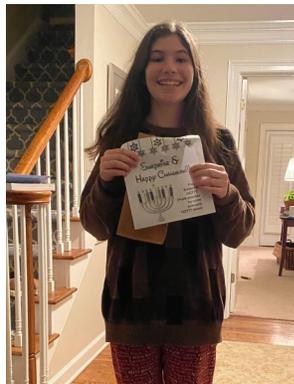
*Linda Siegel*



# TBT YOUTH GROUP



**Chanukah 2020**



January 6 - HOTTY Lounge Night

January 16 - HOTTY Zoom Event

January 23 - TBT 678 Zoom Cooking Competition

January 22-24 2021 - NFTY-SAR Winter Kallah

February 3 - HOTTY Lounge Night

February 5-7—NFTY Convention

February 12 - ShabHOTTY

February 20 - NFTY-SAR Mind Day Event

February 20 - 8th grade "Rush"

# Fulfill the 4 mitzvot of **PURIM** with TBT

## 1. Hear the megillah

Thursday February 25th at 7PM on Zoom: TBT's Purim spiel, "Pandemic-Mania: The Purim Choice Awards." Who are the nominees and who will win the categories of Best Villain, Best Hero, Best Monarch, and more?

Friday February 26th at 11AM on Zoom: Megillah reading and adult learning session.

## 2. Celebrate

Sunday February 28th at 2PM in the TBT parking lot: TBT's Purim Carnival! Remain in your car and celebrate this topsy-turvy holiday with us in a whole new way.



## 3. Send mishloach manot

Be on the lookout for an email with information on how to order unique Purim gift baskets for fellow TBT congregants and others.



## 4. Give tzedakah

Your purchase of TBT's mishloach manot help support our religious school.

In addition, a portion will be donated to Jewish Family and Career Services of Atlanta.





Frannie Rose Asher will be called to the Torah on January 16, 2021. She is the daughter of Beth & Barry Asher and sister to older brother Ethan.

Frannie is an honors student in the 7th grade at Haynes Bridge Middle School. She spends her spare time hanging out with her friends, playing lacrosse and flag football and reading any and every book she comes across. Frannie has spent the last 10 summers at Camp Barney Medintz. For her mitzvah project, Frannie is putting together a little Free Library. She loves a good joke, a good hamburger and anything sweet!



Adam Sausmer will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 30, 2021. He is the son of Jay Sausmer and Ginger King and brother to Daphne and Jacob.

Adam is a 7th grader at Crabapple Middle School in Roswell. He currently plays violin in the Crabapple MS Orchestra, following several seasons playing soccer and flag football. While online gaming has become a favorite activity, Adam is just as ready to grab friends and play various games & sports throughout the neighborhood.

Adam is excited to follow his sister Daphne and brother Jacob in becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Adam would like to thank the community for their support in contributing to his effort raising money for Huskies Helping Huskies, an organization which provides gift cards, food and school supplies to students and their families who need it at Crabapple Middle School. Over \$2,400 was raised to help those families prior to this holiday season.



Benjamin Jacob Hartog will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on February 6, 2021. He is the son of Peter and Traci Hartog, and brother to Noah. He is also the grandson of Marlene and Arlen Zinn, Len Hartog, and the late Linda Strachman, of blessed memory.

Ben is in the 7th grade at Crabapple Middle School where he was accepted into and participates in the AVID program. He has been on the honor roll since he started there in 2019. He loves baseball and playing tennis as well as anything having to do with penguins, mythology, reading and creative writing and, of course, video games. He is very much looking forward to returning to Camp Coleman this coming summer. He wants to become a college professor with a specialization in mythology, and dreams of publishing his own novel.

For one of his Mitzvah projects, Ben adopted a penguin from Penguins International and raised money to help with penguin conservation. He also collected much needed items to donate to the Alpharetta Humane Society in honor of his cat, Leo, who was adopted from there in 2013.

Ben would like to thank Rabbi Shuval-Weiner, Cantor Kassel and Ms. Rachel for helping him prepare for his Bar Mitzvah as well as all of his teachers at TBT (from the ECEC until now) for helping him reach this milestone. He especially wants to thank Ms. Linda and Ms. Sheri for teaching him that using his voice in front of people isn't as scary as he thought!



Jacob Hirsch will be called to the Torah on February 20, 2021. He is the son of Mark and Alicia Hirsch and the brother of Matthew and the late Brandon Hirsch, of blessed memory. He is the grandson of Fred and Pat Landsberg and Susan and the late Richard Hirsch, of blessed memory.

Jacob is a 7th grader at Hopewell Middle School. He loves to play basketball, lacrosse, tennis, and of course his Xbox. He loves to spend time with his family and dog, Maggie. After a year off of camp due to COVID, he is looking forward to this summer at 6 Points Sports Academy for his 4th summer.

For his Mitzvah Project, Jacob has chosen an organization that has been close to his heart and he directly benefited from. He chose to collect supplies and raise money for the Northside Hospital NICU, where he spent over 2 months when he was born.

While his Bar Mitzvah will look different than expected, Jacob is looking forward to celebrating with his family and friends. Thank you to Rabbi Shuval-Weiner, Cantor Kassel, and Rachel Wilson for all their help in preparation for his day.



**Welcome to the Pupko Family!**

New TBT members, Marty and Kristin Pupko live in Marietta with their two children. Nate is a 6th grader at Hightower Trail Middle School and their son Avi is two years old.



**Mazel Tov to Mark Williams!**

Mark has published his first book, “Lead, Don’t Manage: 12 Lessons in Creating a Leadership Culture based on Core Values”.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO AN  
EXCLUSIVE IN-HOME, VIRTUAL  
WINE TASTING**  
SPONSORED BY THE TBT WINE AFFINITY GROUP

Enjoy an evening sampling three of Hall Napa Valley’s fine vintages, some rated over 90+ pts. by leading wine critics. The tastings will be lead by our own personal wine guide from Hall Napa Valley.

**Thursday, January 28th 2021  
In the Evening**

**\$200 per household**  
A portion of which will be donated to TBT  
Space available for the first 15 households  
Each household may have multiple people

**For more info or to RSVP by Jan 8th 2021**  
please contact Dyann Diamond at:  
[dyanndiamond@gmail.com](mailto:dyanndiamond@gmail.com)



Join guest Rabbi Jessica Kessler Marshall for **Sacred Sizzle**, a 4-month virtual women's program! 2020 called each of us to recreate reality and live our values with renewed integrity. **Sacred Sizzle** offers participants a loving and inspiring community to magnetize dreams, elevate Spirit, and captivate JOY! Guiding women into deeper soul connection, Rabbi Marshall provides creative rituals, intentional reflection,

mindfulness, and thoughtful sharing to explore themes of *Sacred Identity, Sacred Divine Connection, Sacred Forgiveness, and Sacred JOY!*

Rabbi Marshall guides with humor, Divine presence, authenticity and overflowing compassion. She looks forward to sharing the magic of sisterhood as we honor soul-aligned living!

**January 20, 2021: Sacred Identity**

2020 has been a year of recreating reality. We have each been called into our deepest values in new ways. Together we will explore how our values have evolved over our life stages. With sacred intentionality, we will create a values manifesto for the coming year!

**February 17, 2021: Sacred Divine Connection**

Deepening our own understanding of the Mystery/Oneness/Spirit, we explore the Divine as sustaining nourishment. How can our Divine connection both ground and inspire us? Together, we will connect to the Divine in authentic and inspiring new ways.

**March 17, 2021: Sacred Forgiveness**

In Judaism, the act of forgiveness is called *teshuvah*, looking inward and returning to our truest self. Forgiveness invites us to release the anger, spite, & hurt feelings that keep us from enjoying all the sweetness life wants to offer us. As we accept this power within us, it propels us forward! Exploring limiting stories and personal introspection, we connect with forgiveness in new ways.

**April 21, 2021: Sacred JOY!**

The French philosopher and scientist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin said, "Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God." Joy does not deny or avoid life's pain and sorrow. Instead, it wraps its arms around the full spectrum of our human experience and exclaims, "I am going to elevate joy SO much while I have it!" Together, we will explore JOY and playfulness as a path of Divine connection.

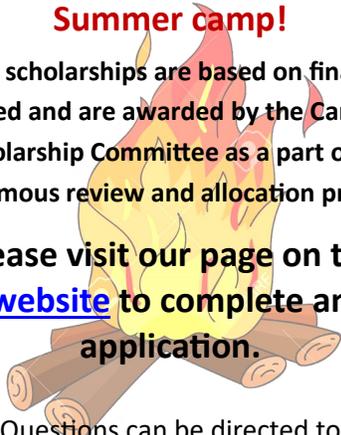
To Register for this event, visit our website or click [HERE](#).  
For more details on this program, click [HERE](#).

**It's time to think about Summer camp!**

Camp scholarships are based on financial need and are awarded by the Camp Scholarship Committee as a part of an anonymous review and allocation process.

Please visit our page on the [website](#) to complete an application.

Questions can be directed to [Marcia Haber](#).



**2021 TBT Leadership Roles Available**

Share your Talents.      Shape TBT's future.      Step into Leadership.

**The TBT Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations for board of trustees and officers**

Volunteers are necessary to the future of our synagogue community, and we welcome both congregant suggestions and self-nominations.

**Who can be Nominated?**

Any TBT adult member in good standing can be a candidate, no matter whether they are new or longstanding members.

**What's Involved?**

The committee can help you identify a role that fits your talents, experience and availability. Email [Jenni Trebon](#) for information!



# ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



We are grateful to our membership for their commitments of regular dues, building fund, religious school, and other fees. Thank you! COVID year or not, one constant is the Annual Campaign is critical to our financial sustainability. **Thank you to our early donors for your generous contributions to our Campaign 34 Renewal.** Eight weeks in, we are delighted to report we've raised over \$88,000 from 94 donors. This is from almost 25% of our congregants and we're only half-way through the campaign. \$88,000 represents a 40% increase in pledges over last year this far into the campaign. Our average gift is

up over 15% versus last year – reflecting greater generosity and resilience of our members during a period where TBT and its clergy showed its own resilience in its offerings to keep us all engaged in our Judaism.

We are grateful for those who have donated to the campaign and for all our members. Our goal is to exceed last year's 35% participation rate and approach 50%. Thank you very much and happy and healthy 2021!!

Mark Rudel  
Campaign Chair

Annual Campaign  
*Renewal* 34

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Apple, Allan & Pam  
Bruckman, Adam & Adrienne  
Loventhal, Gary & Michal  
Weiner, Jay & Shuval-Weiner, Alexandria

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Marshall, Gerald & Francie  
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Stieglitz, Aaron & Sheila  
Williams, Marsha & Herbert  
Wieskopf, Mitchell & Lynn  
Vogel, Richard



# DONATIONS

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2020/2021  
in honor of

Bar Mitzvah of Brody Shields from **Mark & Gail Rudel**

The marriage of Brian Swichkow, son of Leslie and Ron Swichkow from **Mark & Gail Rudel**

The marriage of Sarah Chanin, daughter of Pam and Eric Chanin from **Mark & Gail Rudel**

Brody, Margot, Susan and William Shields. Brody, you are wonderful and admirable and beautiful. You made me very happy today. Love, Rick from **Rick Vogel**

in memory of

Bernard Bickwit from Bernice Bickwit from **David & Ellen Herold**

Bernard Bickwit from **David & Ellen Herold**  
Rosalyn Kaye- mother of Elisa Siegel from **Elisa Siegel**

Adele Goldman- mother of Marshall Goldman from **Elisa and David Siegel**  
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Allan Shippel from **Max & Carol Wolf**

BACKPACK BUDDIES

in memory of

Norman Abrams from **Sidney & Robin Karlin**

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in appreciation of

Your help with Brody's Bar Mitzvah from **Will & Susan Shields**

in memory of

Valerie and Milton Kassel from **Andy & Ilana Zalkin**

Milton and Valerie Kassel from **Lauren Adesnik, Deborah Hartman, Scott Colbert, Jill Spasser, Barbara Margulis and Judy & Herb Cole**

Sydney DeRiemer from **Dan DeRiemer**  
Cantor Kassel's Parents from **Elaine Rabb**  
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Valerie and Milton Kassel from **Ronald & Leslie Swichkow**

Valerie and Milton Kassel from **Rory & Jenifer Friedman**

Adele Goldman from **Sharon & Alan Lightstone**

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Irving Clymin from **Lois Clymin**

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in memory of

Estelle Tuvlin from **Bernard & Rita Tuvlin**

Nat Laddin father from **Gail Laddin**

Jerry Cohen from **Jamie & Katie Jaffe**

PRESCHOOL FUND

in memory of

Robert Sharkis from **Rory & Jenifer Friedman**

RABBI SHUVAL-WEINER  
DISCRETIONARY FUND

in appreciation of

Rabbi Shuval-Weiner's beautiful service in marrying Sarah & Avery from **Eric & Pamela Chanin**

Rabbi Shuval-Weiner for no other reason than how amazing and inspiring she is, and how lucky we are to have her in our community, as our spiritual leader, as our friend, as our compass. from **Rebecca Harvey**

RSW from **Steve & Susan Berman**

Help with Brody's Bar Mitzvah! from **Will & Susan Shields**

in honor of

marriage of Ron and Leslie Swichkow's son from **Shirley Plotkin**

in memory of

Sarah Wixman from **Bruce & Bonnie Walkes**  
Isaac Mamberg and Kashmira Kiesel from **Mariann Mamberg**  
Sydney De Riemer from **Dan DeRiemer**

Allan Apple from **David & Maureen Dwinell**  
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Marilyn Dickstein from **Jerome Dickstein**  
Leonard "Lenny" and Barbara Vosk from **Mark & Sally Vosk**  
Henry Trucker from **Shirley Plotkin**

RABBI TAM'S DISCRETIONARY  
FUND

in memory of

Morris Perling. Long life Morris! We miss you from **Carol, Max, Martyne and Jonathan Wolf**

Sam Beckman from **Paul & Anne Beckman**

TIKKUN OLAM FUND

in memory of

Anna Mahan from **Steve Mahan**

Irving Hertzberg and Howard Wallach from **June Wallach**

As of 12/18/20

# Make Beth Tikvah Part of Your Legacy

The L'dor V'dor Legacy Society is a meaningful way to ensure Temple Beth Tikvah is sustained for future generations.



*L'Dor V'Dor Legacy Society*  
 לדור ודור temple beth tikvah

For more information about making TBT part of your legacy, contact Andy Zalkin at [azups@att.net](mailto:azups@att.net) or 404.840.1022

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## IN MEMORIAM

Temple Beth Tikvah acknowledges with sorrow the passing of:



**Adele Goldman**  
**Robert Levine**  
**Rosa Nelly Roberts**  
**Diane Deutsch**

 **Families Anonymous**  
 Recovery Fellowship

**Every Monday**

**7:15—8:30 PM ONLINE**

**Contact Jeff Schultz**

[jeff.schultz27@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.schultz27@gmail.com)

# temple bethtikvah

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Roswell, GA 30075  
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## TBT COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

### **Budget & Finance**

Ron Swichkow  
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# TBT Needs You—Get Involved!