PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Fall 2022/5783

See how much we offer!
LEADERSHIP (Programming)

Janice Halpern   President
president@bnaitikvahma.org

Melanie Greitzer  VP of Strategy & Communications

Julie Goodman/Amy Peterson  VP of Education

Sam and Christine Evans  Membership

Robin Harris  Youth

Janet Silberberg/Cathy Stern  Adult Education

Noah Beit-Aharon  School

Phyl Hewson  Social Action

Jane Silver  Sisterhood

brotherhood@bnaitikvahma.org  Brotherhood

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Welcome to 5783 – a year of return, renewal, revitalization! B’nai Tikvah is a welcoming community, respecting and embracing the many paths by which individuals seek to express their Jewish identity. B’nai Tikvah programming, highlighted in this booklet, is designed to open doors and support our families of all ages and types on their varied paths.

We invite you to take advantage of these opportunities. Join Rabbi Gordon, Reb Lisa, Reb Josh, and our Adult Education Committee for educational programs centered on study, history, worldwide Jewish communities, and song. Build friendships and connections through Sisterhood and Brotherhood. Youth programs expand the knowledge, skills, and understanding of our children and teens.

Shabbat and holidays provide traditional and newer approaches – from services in our beautifully refurbished sanctuary, to a Soul Stroll in the woods, to Starbucks Shabbat conversations about Jewish topics. Social Action programming provides tools and tasks that can repair our world – addressing hunger, illness, and a sense of powerlessness.

Make this the year you try something new, or delve deeply into something that lights your spark. Sing, dance, study, share. B’nai Tikvah is your community – JOIN IN and make a positive difference in your own life and for those around you.

Don’t see a program or topic you’re hoping for? Join in, and share your ideas – let’s make it happen!

Welcome back, B’nai Tikvah family, and welcome to a bright, healthy, and inspiring new year.

Janice Halpern
president@bnaitikvahma.org

TEMPLE STAFF

Leonard Gordon, Rabbi
Reb Lisa Feld, Rabbinic Intern
Reb Josh Schreiber, Rabbinic/Cantorial Intern
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FROM THE RABBI

People connect to B’nai Tikvah in many different ways – through programs, services, youth and education, Sisterhood and Brotherhood, USY, social events and as volunteer leaders. This program brochure is designed to serve as your guide to finding your place and deepening our relationships. Here you will find descriptions of our diverse offerings and places where you can actively help shape our community in the coming year. For example, in addition to our formal Adult Education classes, we welcome suggestions for Living Room learning sessions that you might want to host in your home. While COVID limited our options in the past years, we are hopeful that more opportunities will be available in 5783 (2022-2023).

We welcome newcomers. Please share this brochure with friends and family who might be interested. We will continue to offer services and classes online as we increasingly re-open for in-person gatherings.

I look forward to seeing you in person and online during the year ahead. I can always be reached at: rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org.

With best wishes for a year of health and renewed relationships. May the New Year be a year of growing peace and safety for us all.

B’Shalom,
Rabbi Leonard Gordon
rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org

B’NAI TIKVAH GOES TO SPAIN: May 3-14, 2023

Join Rabbi Gordon and Kayla Ship of Keshet Educational Journeys and learn about the “Golden Age” – when Jewish philosophers, doctors, politicians and poets held leadership positions only to have it all end dramatically with the expulsion from Spain in 1492. Travelling through Andalusia, Madrid and Barcelona we will learn about the glory of the past, the beauty of the country and the loss and rebirth of a vibrant Jewish center.

We will explore the best that Spain has to offer: art, architecture, history, and cuisine along with the stories of Maimonides, Yehudah Halevi, Solomon Ibn Gabirol and other of the greatest minds Judaism ever produced. The trip will include tourism, relaxation in a beautiful setting, meeting with the Jewish community and learning.

The itinerary, fact sheet for costs, and further information is on our website: bnaitikvahma.org/spaintrip

Expressions of interest and deposits are due by October 24.

For more information, contact Rabbi Gordon at rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org.
MEMBERSHIP

Last year was definitely a strange one for temple membership life, as we never knew if Covid was resurgent, mutating, on its way out, or whipping around through all possible stages (definitely the latter, in hindsight). Unfortunately, that made it difficult to be active in-person members, and if you’re not computer-savvy our virtual offerings weren’t for you either. This year, however, we and our refurbished building are excited to have you back for an array of familiar and new activities.

B’nai Tikvah is a welcoming congregation, led by knowledgeable, caring, friendly clergy and leadership, assisted by warm and helpful staff and teachers, and made real by all our members. B’nai Tikvah’s mission is to “connect, engage, and inspire” the entire congregation, not just put those words out in ads and webpages to attract new members. We want everyone to know that B’nai Tikvah’s services and classes and social action activities and lectures and barbeques are for anyone who wants to see and take part in what happens under the big tent of Jewish life. Whether you’re a single or a couple beyond your golden anniversary, interfaith parents or a same sex couple, we’d like you to join us online or in the building as often as you can. Your age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and financial means are never an obstacle to being part of all B’nai Tikvah has to offer.

If you’d like to help us make B’nai Tikvah a Place of Hope for our current congregants as well as new members this year, please get in touch with Sam and Christine Evans (membership@bnaitikvahma.org). And remember: Getting back to where you’re comfortable means seeing the “or” (light) in “normal.”

Sam and Christine Evans
 membership@bnaitikvahma.org

For updated program information, go to: www.bnaitikvahma.org/calendar
**ON SHABBAT**

B’nai Tikvah welcomes Shabbat with joy, community and shared inspirational wisdom. Understanding that Shabbat means something different for everyone, we offer a variety of styles of service as well as alternative programming, including:

**SHABBAT**

**Friday Evening Services**

Friday evening services generally begin at 6:00 pm. During the year, we hold special celebrations for our religious school or greater community, speakers programs and themed services that may have a different start time. We aim to create a feeling of extended family. Before and after services there is time for socializing and during the service we light candles, make kiddush and motzei and share personal blessings.

**Friday Night Live!**

New this year: Reb Josh and Reb Lisa lead a family-friendly, in-person Kabbalat Shabbat in the synagogue featuring together time in the sanctuary and welcoming Shabbat with songs and prayers, followed by a special story track for children before reuniting with the adults for an oneg. Services will also be streamed. Check calendar/website for schedule.

**Saturday Morning Services**

Services begin at 10 am and provide a time of more in-depth spiritual exploration, discussion and celebration. Our redesigned sanctuary enables interactive study during services with seating in the round. At in-person services during the school year, our religious school students join the congregation for part of the service. Periodic speakers enhance services. We usually finish before noon and the community joins together to enjoy a light Kiddush lunch.

**Shabbat Morning Study**

Throughout the year we offer study opportunities before services or at kiddush afterwards. Recent programs have included learning about “Pioneers of Zionist Thought” and “Medieval Jewish Poetry” both taught by our member Marvin Wolfert.
Simcha Shabbat
Celebrate your simcha with the B’nai Tikvah family on the first Shabbat morning of each month. Celebrate life moments from wedding anniversaries to professional accomplishments, from naming grandchildren to honoring the achievements of our b’nai mitzvah students.

Social Action Shabbatot
Social Action Shabbatot inform and engage our community in one of the pillars of our religion, Tikkun Olam. Speakers and special programs will provide insight to issues that affect us all.

Alternative Shabbat Offerings

Starbucks Shabbat
Enjoy a cup of coffee while discussing various topics ranging from the weekly parsha to current events. This informal group meets on Zoom or in the temple library. No RSVPs are needed; come regularly or just pop in on the occasional Shabbat.

Soul Stroll: Shabbat Walk in the Woods
Soul Stroll offers a different path into celebrating Shabbat. This group hike takes place on the third Saturday of each month. Participants explore the natural world and talk about the week’s Torah portion. Walking together gives us the chance to connect with each other and get to know congregants more personally. We also connect to our inner spirituality as our feet connect with the handiwork of Creation. Contact Janice Halpern at rjhalpern@comcast.net

For dates of Shabbat programs, check the calendar or go to bnaitikvahma.org/shabbat_services
B’nai Tikvah’s Religious School strives to make Jewish education a creative and joyous experience for children and families. We hope to inspire each of our students and provide them with the tools through our philosophy of “Learning through Living” to become students of Torah who have the tools to live Jewishly in their family and community and thereby build a personal relationship with God and Israel.

Our unique two-day a week program on Tuesdays and Saturdays is bolstered by special family programming, community programming and more throughout the year. Students in grades 2-7 meet on Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings. The Shorashim (Roots) program for students in grades K-1 meets on Saturday mornings.

B’nai Tikvah’s Religious School has three main principles:

**Personalized:** We tailor the learning plans to meet the needs of each individual child. We provide flexibility in what, when, where, and how the student learns. We support parent involvement in the student’s learning and encourage relationships between student, teacher, and parents.

**Mastery-based learning:** We have 13 areas of study with 5 areas to master within each. We work with students to set goals to reach their own individual level of mastery.

**Experiential:** At B’nai Tikvah we believe that learning happens through doing. We celebrate real-life Jewish experiences – t’fillah, Shabbat, holidays, tikkun olam, and mitzvot.

Info: teachers@bnaitikvahma.org

### Upcoming Religious School Family Programming

- **Friday, Nov. 18**: Religious school students lead Shabbat services followed by dinner
- **Sunday, Dec. 20**: All-school Hanukkah party culminating a month of community service
- **Saturday, Jan. 21**: Family Havdalah followed by waffle dinner
- **Monday, March 6**: Pizza Party and Purim Spiel
- **Friday, March 31**: Family Shabbat and pasta dinner
- **Friday, May 5**: Kitah Zayin Aliyah and family Shabbat
Some programs are in person and others are on Zoom. For Zoom links and program updates, please refer to weekly emails and website calendar:

www.bnaitikvahma.org/calendar
October 2022

October 1  Simcha Shabbat
    Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm

October 2  Brotherhood Sukkah Building 9 am

October 3  Adult B’nai Mitzvah class continues, 12 noon
    led by Reb Lisa Feld

October 5  Yom Kippur
    Poetry from the Golden Age of Spanish Jewry
    session with Rabbi Lerner and Marvin Wolfert 3 pm

October 6  Grief Support Group 8 pm

October 8  Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm

October 9  Family Table Distribution 8 am
    Family Sukkah Decorating 1 pm

October 10-11  Sukkot

October 12  Adult B’nai Mitzvah class continues 12 pm

October 14  Friday Night Live! 6 pm

October 15  Soul Stroll 10 am
    Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm

October 17-18  Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah

October 20  Breast & Ovarian Cancer Awareness program
    (Social Action/Sisterhood) 7 pm
    Grief Support Group 8 pm

October 22  Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm

October 23  Ballot Question Program 1 pm
    Teen Group: How We Grieve

October 26  Rabbi Gordon’s Me’ah class begins 7 pm

October 30  Canton Fall Classic Road Race
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<td>November 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 18</td>
<td>Family Shabbat with student-led service &amp; Dinner 6 pm</td>
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<td>November 19</td>
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<td>Soul Stroll 9:30 am</td>
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<td>Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm</td>
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<td>November 20</td>
<td>Teen Group Field Trip</td>
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<td>November 21</td>
<td>A Novel Group 8 pm (virtual)</td>
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December 2022

December 3  Simcha Shabbat
          Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm
December 4  Sisterhood Celebrates! 12 noon
          Jewish Life in India 8 pm
December 6  B’nai Tikvah Sings! 6 pm
December 8  Grief Support Group 8 pm
December 10 Jewish Life in Rural Australia
          Shabbat Kiddush Honoring Vivienne Aarons
December 11 Family Table Distribution 8 am
          Teen Program: Challenge of Dual Identity
December 13 B’nai Tikvah Sings! 6 pm
December 16 Friday Night Live! 6 pm
December 17 Soul Stroll 9:30 am
          Starbucks Shabbat 12 pm
December 18 First Hanukkah Candle
December 19 A Novel Group 8 pm (virtual)
December 20 All-school Hanukkah Celebration 3:45 pm
December 29 Grief Support Group 8 pm

B’NAI TIKVAH GOES TO SPAIN
May 3-14, 2023  
see page 3
POST-MITZVAH TEEN GROUP

Our Post Mitzvah Teen Group is open to all members in grades 8-12. One Sunday a month, the group will meet to have a pizza supper and explore Jewish topics of interest with Reb Josh and Mrs. Langmead. This is a free program; however, students must register to attend. Program is open to non-temple members for a nominal fee.

Fall dates and topics are:

September 18: How do you Measure Up? What are ways we evaluate ourselves? We'll explore what it means to take stock in who we are and who we want to be.

October 23: How we grieve: When a Jewish person dies, what do we do? Why do we sit shiva? Are there different rules for a family member and for a friend?

November 20: Field Trip

December 11: The Challenge of Dual Identity: During the Maccabean times, some Jews tried to be loyal Jews and Greeks, Can we be loyal Jews and Americans? How do we mesh Torah laws with the laws of our land?

For information contact, Teachers@bnaitikvahma.org
Adult Education provides a variety of high-quality programming for our community, seeking to enhance the congregation’s understanding of the culture, religion, and practices of the Jewish people, both past and present, in our country and around the world. Our programs include classes led by our clergy, guest speakers, talks and films about Israel and the Diaspora, adult B’nai Mitzvah classes, music and other special events, in person and on Zoom. Many of our programs are offered free of charge. We appreciate donations to the Arnold and Leona Rubin Adult Education Fund to help us defray costs and assist us in continuing to bring high-quality programming to our community.

**ADULT B’NAI MITZVAH CLASS**

*Mondays at 12 noon, beginning before Rosh Hashanah and continuing after the holidays* (virtual; see website calendar for dates)

*Taught by Reb Lisa Feld, Hebrew College Rabbinic Intern*

Learn to lead services and read Torah and Haftorah in a supportive environment, culminating in an adult B’nai Mitzvah ceremony in the spring. All skill levels welcome. If you missed the first sessions you can still join in; contact Reb Lisa at reblisa@bnaitikvahma.org.

**ME’AH CLASSIC BIBLE WITH RABBI GORDON**

*Wednesdays, 7-9 pm; beginning October 26* (virtual)

*Taught by Rabbi Leonard Gordon*

With a focus on the Bible and the biblical era, this is the first semester of Me’ah, a four-semester exploration of Judaism (organized by Hebrew College) from biblical origins til today.

**B’NAI TIKVAH SINGS!**

*Tuesdays, 6 pm; beginning November 1*

*Led by Reb Josh Schreiber*

Join us to sing Jewish melodies old and new. Many of the tunes show up in our services, but some we sing just for the joy of it! All Hebrew will be provided with transliteration. No registration; just drop in!

*Additional Adult Education programs are offered throughout the year. For information, contact adulted@bnaitikvahma.org.*
BALLOT QUESTIONS FORUM: Sunday, October 23 at 1 pm
Details to come

NAMASTE AND SHALOM – JEWISH INDIA
Sunday, December 4, at 8 pm (virtual)

Take a trip through India’s rich Jewish heritage with Rahel Musleah, a seventh generation descendant of a Calcutta Jewish family who traces her roots to 17th century Baghdad. India has an extensive cultural and historical narrative that stretches from biblical times until today. Experience the magic of travel (from the comfort of home) with your B’nai Tikvah friends.

Rahel is a New York-based award winning journalist, author, singer, speaker and educator. Her articles have appeared in The New York Times, Hadassah magazine, and numerous other publications.

SHABBAT SERVICE AND KIDDUSH
in honor of Vivienne Aarons
Saturday, December 10

Vivienne joined our recent Israel trip and her stories of Jewish life and her experience living on a farm outside of Adelaide captivated us all. Vivienne and her stories are very special considering Australia has less than a 0.5% Jewish population. Those with her in Israel were impressed with Vivienne’s knowledge of Judaism and Israel and her love of life in the outback.

Vivienne will share some of her personal story with us and join us for the Kiddush in her honor. sponsored by Elaine Matisoff in collaboration with the Adult Education Committee. All are welcome.

A Novel Group

This book group meets monthly on Zoom.
Upcoming dates and books are:

- November 21, An Observant Wife by Naomi Ragen
- December 19, Woman on Fire by Lisa Barr

Info: Sherry Alpert, sherry@alpert-publicrelations.com
SISTERHOOD

B’nai Tikvah Sisterhood is affiliated with Women’s League of Conservative Judaism, a group of women who share a love for Judaism and Israel. We promote causes that embrace a tradition that includes Torah and deeds of loving kindness, working together in friendship to advance these ideals. Mutual support strengthens our goals for Temple and Sisterhood.

We welcome all women to attend our many engaging programs, which include Shabbats and holiday events, speakers, games and crafts, Donor Dinner, ice cream social minyan and more!

Check the calendar, the bulletin, the monitor, or your emails for program details.

Jane Silver, President, sisterhood@bnaitikvahma.org

Coming Up:

October 20  Breast and Ovarian Cancer Program
             (with Social Action)
November 6   Stroll & S’mores
December 4   Sisterhood Celebrates

Coming up in 2023:  Tu B’Shvat and Purim events, Purim Shalach Manot fundraiser, Sisterhood Shabbat, Donor Dinner, Ice Cream Social Minyan and more!

CHESED

B’nai Tikvah is committed to supporting congregants in need of compassionate care, such as those with serious illness or limited mobility, etc. We can help coordinate the receiving of meals, transportation to temple services or events, rides to medical appointments, assistance with daily activities, or provide a friendly ear or visit.

If you or someone you know is in need of these services, please contact the temple office, Rabbi Gordon, or one of our rabbinic interns.
Brotherhood offers a variety of religious, educational, cultural and social programs and activities to stimulate the interest of its members in the B’nai Tikvah community, and to help foster and promote a spirit of fellowship and sociability. It is open to all Jewish and interfaith males 18 years of age or older.

Brotherhood events include: breakfasts with speakers, Brotherhood Shabbat, Passover Wine Tasting and Sale, and Yom Hashoah Candle program. Brotherhood also has a Scholarship Fund for students to help further their Jewish education.

Our first event this year will be the Sukkah building on October 2.

Brotherhood is affiliated with the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs and holds several programs in conjunction with FJMC including the World Wide Wrap in February (teaching students and interested adults how to put on teffilin) and the Keeper of the Flame which honors outstanding Brotherhood members.

brotherhood@bnaitikvahma.org

B’nai Tikvah is committed to remembering the Holocaust. The Lustbader/Babcock Holocaust Library hosts a collection of books on a variety of Jewish topics, Israel and works by Jewish authors.

The Izzy Geller Education Series, in conjunction with the Lustbader-Babcock Holocaust Library, fund programming for both the adult congregation as well as for the religious school on topics including but not limited to the Holocaust and Yom Hashoah.

In the fall of 2019, we dedicated our beautiful courtyard commemorating those who were lost, those who survived and those who liberated the camps. We are the guardians of the torah rescued from a community in Czechoslovakia which proudly rests in our lobby.
B’nai Tikvah’s Social Action Committee is more than a meeting and a program. It is a community focused tool with which to practice TIKKUN OLAM, making a difference in the world in which we live.

Tikkun olam has come to refer to Tzadakah (charitable giving), gemilut hassadim (acts of kindness) and Jewish approaches to social issues. It is incumbent upon all of us to strive for the improvement of society, for ourselves, our families, our country, and the world.

Projects include: social action Shabbatots, Mitzvah Day, voter registration/get out the vote drives, collecting personal care items for local women’s/homeless shelters, food drives for the Canton and Randolph Food Pantries, and serving as the South Area distribution site for Jewish Family Table, the only South area kosher food pantry.

We hold membership in CHAI – Community, Helping, Action, Involvement – the South Area’s Social Action Collaborative.

Additionally, we offer programming and resources to help fight against antisemitism, and provide information on becoming a more diverse community. We proudly display our “pride banner” and will have programming on “REDI (race, equity, diversity, inclusion).

The committee also coordinates the help needed for Chesed (page 11).

To learn more about our Social Action/Social Justice activities, contact:

Phyl Hewson, Chair
socialaction@bnaitikvahma.org

**Coming Up:**

- September-October: High Holiday Food Drive (Annual Food Drive)
- October 2: Jewish Family and Children’s Service Ride for Food (bike ride and walk)
- October 20: Breast and ovarian cancer program (with Sisterhood)
- October 23: Ballot Question Presentation (co-sponsored with Adult Education)
- Interfaith Walk for Hunger in Westwood
- November 19: LGBTQ/Pride Shabbat
- Family Table: October 9, November 13, December 11
The Canton Fall Classic road race has been an annual event of our temple community for over 30 years! Volunteering to assist at the race is a great way to get involved and meet people. We will be seeking temple volunteers to help out on race day and will reach out with more information on how you can be a part of the temple’s largest fund raising effort this year.

This year’s race is on Sunday, October 30 and features 5K and 10K races beginning at 10 am, a senior walk at 9 am and a kids’ run at 9:45 am. More info is at www.cantonfallclassic.com.

Volunteers are needed! Please contact Karen Reiser at 617-966-3334 or karenreiser@verizon.net.
B’NAI TIKVAH VISION STATEMENT

B’nai Tikvah strives to be the center of our Jewish community by celebrating and supporting each other. We welcome all, respecting and embracing the many paths by which individuals seek to express their Jewish identity.

The B’nai Tikvah community supports spiritual growth, lifelong learning, family and adult programs, tikkun olam (healing the world) through social action and connecting with Israel. We create bonds across generations and draw strength from our proud heritage and traditions. Among these traditions is the ability and willingness to adapt in a changing world, to assure a vibrant Jewish community for future generations.