

# The Shofar

April 2023



Temple Beth Tikvah



Dear Friends,

What do you do when someone you love is in trouble? That was the question that Yossi Klein Halevi, the esteemed Israeli American author, asked recently. When someone you love is in trouble, he said, you don't pull away, you draw closer.

Many of us have been watching with great consternation as Israel's recently elected government goes down a very dangerous road. At the same time, outbreaks of violence in Israel and the West Bank have claimed many lives. Crowds of protesters numbering the hundreds of thousands gathered in a patriotic rally in central Tel Aviv.

Bibi Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving prime minister, is now trying to pass judicial changes that would allow him to nullify the ongoing investigations he is facing for corruption.

Meanwhile, a governing coalition— including ministers who have been convicted of crimes— is poised to make drastic and extreme changes to the ability of progressive Jews, LGBT people, and women to exercise Judaism freely. The peace process, which felt like a distant dream already, is even further under threat by the coalition, which is pushing for greater expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank. One minister openly refers to himself as a fascist and a homophobe. Don't even ask me to tell you what he called Reform Judaism.

We're talking about erasure of Judicial independence; the ascension of nativism; and Ultra-Orthodox Judaism controlling the behavior of women, converts, and reform Jews. This is not what democracy or pluralism look like. To the contrary: Israel appears to be embarking on the road to being more like Jewish version of Iran.



When confronting these developments, it would be easy to despair. But when someone you love is in trouble, you don't disconnect, you draw closer. I believe that as American Jews, that is what this hour demands of us, as well.

We cannot solve Israel's political problems. We cannot vote for different leaders there. But there are things that we can do. Never in my lifetime has there been a more important time to stand with Israel. We all must uphold the ideals enshrined in Israel's Declaration of Independence: That a Jewish state must guarantee freedom of religion, freedom of conscience, and equality under the law irrespective of religious background. The promise, as Israel's National Anthem says, is *hatikvah bat sh'not alpayim* — the hope of 2000 years gone by: to be a free people in our land.

This is not a partisan problem. It's not about the policies of Israel's right or left on the settlements, the path to peace, or any other matter. It's about a particular governing coalition, using their mandate of majority rule to undo the instruments of Israel's democracy. That includes controlling the appointment of judges, limiting judicial review, and the ability of a simple majority to overturn decisions of Israel's Supreme Court.

At the same time, it's about a narrowing window of defining Jewish identity and practice — one that looks to be controlled by a fundamentalist, ultra-Orthodox version of Judaism.

Let me say very clearly that the best thing for this fundamentalist block would be for diaspora Jews to turn their backs on Israel. No, what is needed now is renewed commitment.

You might be wondering what else you can do. To start, consider a donation to the Israeli Reform Movement's Emergency Campaign [at this link](#). They stand to lose more than \$1.5 million due to anti-Reform views of Israel's current government. You can also travel to Israel with TBT: we are starting to plan a trip, date TBD. Please let me know if you might be interested!

This year mark's Israel's 75th birthday. It's a complicated year to celebrate, so what I will choose to celebrate is the Israel envisioned by its modern founders, and planted by our biblical prophets. A land in which:

Nation shall not take up swords,

Neither shall they study war anymore;

Where justice rings out for all,

And each person may sit under their vine and fig tree in safety, unafraid.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danny Moss', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rabbi Danny Moss



Hello Friends,

As Albert Einstein said, "There are two ways to live. You can live as if nothing is a miracle, or you can live as if everything is a miracle."

With the start of Spring, I find it easy to find miracles all around us. My daffodils are blooming, the Osprey are back, and the mating ritual of tiny frogs (spring peepers) creates a thunderous chorus. Seeing the rebirth of our Earth is something I look forward to every year.

In Judaism, this renewal of nature is also a time for spiritual renewal. This week, we will gather with our loved ones for our Passover seder, to commemorate our miraculous escape from bondage. We will remember the bitterness of slavery and celebrate freedom. We will also eat eggs and parsley to celebrate rebirth and the freshness of Springtime.

At TBT, we also have much to celebrate. Our renovation project is nearing completion, and our TBT home is magnificent. But please don't take my word for it, come see it yourself. Our April B'nei Mitzvahs are happening in our (nearly complete) new sanctuary, and that is just AMAZING!!! What better way to initiate our sacred space than with a ceremony celebrating our youth who are committing to Judaism.

And speaking of rebirth. . . we are all going to be celebrating an actual birth.

Rabbi Danny Moss and his wife Rabbi Susan Landau Moss are expecting their first child at the end of May. I know you all share in their excitement, and we all send a huge MAZEL TOV to them both. We will all have a chance to celebrate this blessing together when we are introduced to Baby Moss over the summer (more to come on this).

So please, stop and smell the flowers, watch the later sunsets, enjoy your family gatherings, and come and visit our holy temple. It is truly awe inspiring; one may even say it's a miracle.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Karen Goldberg". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Karen Goldberg



## Shabbat Services are at TBT!

All Services are Friday evenings at 6:30 PM.

Services will be streamed live on Zoom unless otherwise noted. Shabbat Services will be available to watch, usually by Saturday morning, on our YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/@templebethtikvah5835>

**NEW:** Mask-only Shabbatot – For those congregants who would feel more comfortable if everyone is wearing a mask, we have designated one Shabbat service per month as “mask mandatory.”

**Friday, March 31:** Shabbat Service with participation from our Religious School classes 3 & 4 (preceded by grades 3 & 4 class Shabbat dinner at 5:30 PM)

**Saturday, April 1 at 10 AM:** We celebrate Shabbat as Maya Daniels is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah

**Friday, April 7** at 5 PM join us for a “Sippin’ Seder” followed by Shabbat Services at 6:30 PM

**Friday, April 14** Shabbat Service - Masks Required service

**Friday, April 21** Shabbat Service

**Saturday, April 22 at 10 AM:** We celebrate Shabbat as Lucy Rapkin is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah

**Friday, April 28** 5 PM Young Families’ Shabbat followed by young families Shabbat dinner  
6:30 PM Shabbat Service

Join Rabbi Moss and Dr. C. at TBT for Young Families Shabbat Friday, April 28 at 5 PM

We will share Shabbat Blessings, a visit from the dinosaur and more.  
Followed by Shabbat dinner.



## Torah Study Live on Zoom Every Saturday at 9AM

**Check your inbox for Zoom link**

**April 2023** parshiot (Torah portions) are in the Book of Leviticus

April 1: Tzav [Leviticus 6:1–8:36](#)

April 8: Chol HaMo-eid Pesach  
Holiday reading [Exodus 33:12-34:26](#)

April 15: Sh'mini [Leviticus 9:1-11:47](#)

April 22: Tazria - M'tzora  
[Leviticus 12:1-15:33](#)

April 29: Acharei Mot - K'doshim  
[Leviticus 16:1-20:27](#)

You can find the text and d'vrei Torah at  
<https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study>



## Jewish Mindfulness & Meditation

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 8 AM on Zoom.

Upcoming sessions are Saturday, April 1 and April 15.  
Links will be in your email inbox.

**All are welcome.**





**Maya Daniels** will become a Bat Mitzvah on April 1, 2023, at Shabbat morning services at TBT.

Maya is grateful for her Hebrew School friends and teachers for all their help and support.

Maya is thrilled to lead the very first service in the new, beautiful temple sanctuary, saying, "This makes today even more special."

Thank you all for celebrating her achievement.



**Lucy Rapkin** will become a Bat Mitzvah on April 22, 2023 at Shabbat morning services at TBT.

Lucy lives in Guilford and is a 7th grader at The Foote School in New Haven. In addition to working hard on her Torah portion preparations, she has organized a donation drive for a local animal shelter.

Lucy is feeling both excited and a little nervous for her Bat Mitzvah service. Her mom and dad are super proud of her. The entire congregation is welcome to attend. Hope to see you there.

**Chag Pesach Sameach!  
Happy Passover!**

**Passover begins at Sundown on  
Wednesday, April 5.**

Learn about Passover and its history and traditions, the blessings, how to Seder, how to make the celebration engaging, and more [HERE](#).

**Hosting a Seder?** Check out [these ideas](#) for how to observe Passover, prepare for and /or lead a Seder, great recipe ideas from traditional foods to vegan and more, and for fun ideas for how to engage children in the Passover celebrations!

**Celebrate Passover at TBT  
Friday, April 7 at 5 PM**

Join us for a Passover "Sippin' Seder"  
An adult cocktail hour while our kids  
are engaged in fun Passover activities.

Followed by an explanation of the  
Passover plate, reading of the Passover  
story, and traditional blessings.

Shabbat services will follow at 6:30 PM.

(Passover begins at sundown on Wednesday, April 5)



*Yizkor ... we remember*

# Yom HaShoah

## Holocaust Remembrance Day



CBSRZ and Temple Beth Tikvah  
Invite you to join us

We gather together to recall the lives of those who suffered,  
those who fought heroically, those who died tragically.

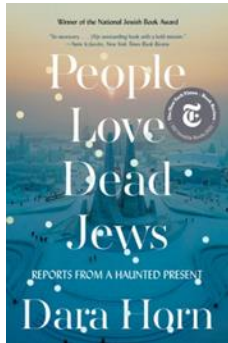
We honor their memories with prayer, music,  
candle-lighting, and silence.

Observance led by Rabbi Marci Bellows & Rabbi Danny Moss  
Cantorial Soloists Belinda Brennan & Leah Cassorla

Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7 PM  
Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek  
55 East Kings Highway, Chester, CT

### The TBT Book Club

This month we will meet Thursday, April 27 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.



April's book is  
***People Love Dead Jews... Reports from a Haunted Present***  
by Dara Horn

All TBT members who enjoy reading are encouraged to join us.

For additional information or to get the Zoom link, please contact the TBT office:

[office@tbtshoreline.org](mailto:office@tbtshoreline.org) or 203-245-7028

### We Welcome New Participants!

Book Club typically meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM, currently on Zoom.



### Rosh Chodesh

Thursday, April 20 at 7:30 PM on Zoom  
Welcoming the Month of Iyyar

Led by Rabbi Susan Landau Moss  
The Zoom link will be sent to all women of TBT



**We welcome all TBT Women to join us!**

### Kol Ami

Kol Ami welcomes all TBT women to participate in our regular ongoing programs, such as Rosh Chodesh, hikes, and a monthly movie discussion group.

Our next movie night is Wednesday, April 12 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.

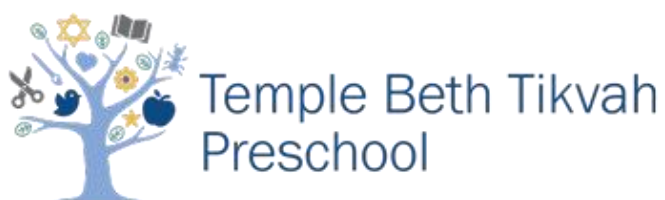
Watch [God of the Piano](https://www.kanopy.com/product/god-piano) on your own (on Kanopy <https://www.kanopy.com/product/god-piano> or your favorite streaming service), then join us on April 12 for a discussion.

Do you have a suggestion for a great movie to watch?  
Would you like to facilitate a movie discussion?  
Let us know!

Loren Stermann [lorensternman@gmail.com](mailto:lorensternman@gmail.com)  
Cher Richmond [cherrilyn.richmond@yale.edu](mailto:cherrilyn.richmond@yale.edu)







Last month we had a wonderful time celebrating Purim with our Annual Purim parade.



Watching the windows go up in the sanctuary!

We ended the month celebrating Passover with our Children's Seder.

In the coming weeks our children will participate in a number of educational opportunities to experience the spring changes happening all around us through Literature, Math, Science, and hands on exploration!

If you are interested in enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year, please contact our director Jennifer Casillo at 203-245-8039 or [nsdirector@tbtshoreline.org](mailto:nsdirector@tbtshoreline.org).

Follow us on Facebook [@tbtpreschool](https://www.facebook.com/tbtpreschool) to see what we are up to.





## Raise the Roof Your Shoreline Habitat for Humanity Connection

Did you know that Temple Beth Tikvah  
has helped to build 19 Raise the Roof  
sponsored Habitat houses for/with families in New Haven?

We are currently ready to build our milestone 20th house and need your hands! This will be the future home of Jessica Smalls and her four children.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD DAY

When: **Sunday, April 30th, 2023**

From: **9 am - 3:30 pm**

Where: **33 Elliot Street  
New Haven, CT**

Come join us for a day of community service and help build a house.

This is a wonderful opportunity to work with TBT friends and give back.  
No experience needed as we work under the guidance of the Habitat Construction Supervisor and there is a job for everyone.

Minimum age for volunteering is 16 years old.

This is a great opportunity for high school students to earn needed community service!  
10 volunteers are needed and is on a first come, first serve basis.

**Registration is Required** Go to [www.raisetherooft.org](http://www.raisetherooft.org) – “How to Volunteer” or  
“I WANT TO BUILD.” This will guide you through the VOLUNTEER UP registration  
process with Habitat for Humanity.

If you need help with registration you can email [contactus@raisetherooft.org](mailto:contactus@raisetherooft.org) or Allison Mangles,  
Volunteer Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven [amangles@habitatgnh.org](mailto:amangles@habitatgnh.org) or  
call (203) 785-0794 ext. 110.

(For questions re: our TBT build day contact [linda.brody@comcast.net](mailto:linda.brody@comcast.net))

## April 2023 TBT Renovation



The sanctuary – the ark will be installed at the beginning of April. Our first service will be held in the sanctuary on Saturday, April 1 at 10 AM.



The social hall doors



At the sanctuary doors, bookcases and tallis holders



Cabinetry being installed in kitchen

### New in March!

- We are preparing for the first Saturday Shabbat service and B'nei Mitzvah to be held in the sanctuary!
- Cabinets are complete and the appliances are going in the new kitchen,
- New sanctuary furniture is arriving,
- The sanctuary windows are installed,
- The main entrance into TBT is finished.

### Have you joined us in Building Community?

If you haven't donated or pledged to the TBT Capital Campaign yet, TBT Needs You!!

**Don't miss your chance to say,**

**"I helped to build the future of TBT and the Jewish community!"**

Questions? Please reach out to Bruce Topolosky, John Lesage, Suzy Frisch, or Karen Goldberg – We would love to discuss the building project and how you might support the renovation and our future.

**Thank you to everyone who has supported our capital campaign!**

## Contributions to TBT Funds

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Rosemary & David Baggish** *in memory of* Stella Baggish

**Sondra Bernblum** *in memory of* Fannie Bernblum

**Susan Glantz** *in memory of* her beloved grandmother,  
Helen Raicer

**John Griffin**

**Marcia & Robert Jacoby** *in memory of* Phyllis Kaufman

**Gloria Light** *in memory of* Robert Light

**Janet & David Rimm** *in memory of* Doris Thrush - mother  
of Janet Rimm

**Janet Stein & Joseph Cancelmo** *in memory of* Marvin  
Stein

**Alan & Rhona Weiss** - the sale of chametz

**Richard Weiss & Lynda Rosenfeld** *in memory of* Nathan  
Weiss

### The Annual Fund

**Emily & Richard Scholnick**

### The Endowment Fund

**Amy Agranov** *in memory of* Phyllis Kaufman

**Andrea SanMarco** *in memory of* Eric Romine

**Amy & Ronald Vender** *in memory of* Ann Malo

### The General Fund

**Susan Lustig** *in honor of* Melanie's Chai birthday

### The Building Fund

*In memory of* Phyllis Kaufman

**Adam Kaufman & Rebecca Woodward** *in honor of*  
Rabbi Moss

**Adam Kaufman & Rebecca Woodward** *in honor of*  
Rabbi Sommer

**The Ambrosino - Weinzimer Family**

**Sandy & Myron Brand**

**Roxanne & Kevin Coady**

**G.D. Cockfield**

**Bonnie Garmisa & Tom Pinchbeck**

**Susan Glantz**

**Lois & Robert Kessler**

**Emily Phillips**

**The Ambrosino - Weinzimer Family** *in memory of*  
Bernard and Eva Strauss, Stuart's Grandparents

**Sandy & Myron Brand** *in memory of* Ruth Ottenheimer

**Faith & Craig Irwin** *in memory of* Harriet Levin

**Alaine Lane**

**The Leonard Family** *in memory of* C Max Leonard

**Andrea SanMarco** *in memory of* Karen Flatley

### Building Fund (continued)

**Susan Ottenheimer** *in memory of* Ruth Ottenheimer with a  
special thank you to Rabbi Moss, Rabbi Offner, Rabbi  
Sommer, Kim, Andrea, Sam and Rena Powell, and Stephen  
Davis for joining us in honoring our mother. - The  
Ottenheimer Family.

### The Judith Barr Adult Education Fund

**Marcia & Robert Jacoby** *in memory of* Ruth Ottenheimer

**Ellen & Art Seigel** *in memory of* Ruth Streifeld

### The Helen Katz Goodkind Beautification Fund

**Sandra & Paul Beckman** *in memory of* Isaac Stoller

**Linda Waldman** *in memory of* Eleanor Waldman

### The Kahrmanis Music Fund

**Ellen & Art Seigel** *in memory of* Al Streifeld

**Daniel Koenigsberg** *in memory of* Susan Koenigsberg

### The Library Fund

**The Coady Family** *in memory of* Emerich Ohlbaum

**The Coady Family** *in memory of* Michael Ohlbaum

**The Coady Family** *in memory of* Viola Ohlbaum

### Laurence B. & Elaine J. Sommer Memorial Fund for Social Justice

**Kate & Bill Lee** *in memory of* Sylvia Paley

**Barbara Levy** *in memory of* Israel Levy, father of Harvey

**Rabbi Howard Sommer** *in memory of* Joseph Freeman

**Rabbi Howard Sommer** *in memory of* Haffie Krauss

### The Men's Club Sukkah Fund

**The Ambrosino - Weinzimer Family** *in memory of* Henry  
Gettenberg

### The Preschool Fund

**Spencer & Bethany Frank**

### SALTY - the TBT Youth Group

**The Jacoby Family** *in memory of* Gladys Handelman



### In Memorium

**Karen Flatley** who passed away on February 25, 2023  
(4 Adar 5783), wife of Joseph Flatley z"l, mother of  
Sabrina Houlton, grandmother of Elijah, Zachary, and  
Natalie Rose.

**Gladys Handelman** who passed away on March 5,  
2023 (12 Adar 5783), mother of Bob Handelman,  
mother-in-law of Kim, grandmother of Lexi and  
Cassie.



# TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

## SHOFAR

196 Durham Rd., Madison CT 06443  
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tbtshoreline.org

<i>Rabbi</i>	<i>Danny Moss</i>
<i>President</i>	<i>Karen Goldberg</i>
<i>Cantorial Soloist/</i>	<i>Dr. Leah Cassorla</i>
<i>Educator</i>	
<i>Proofreader</i>	<i>Hattie Sussman</i>

**April 2023**

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