

Temple Beth Tikvah

Your Shul on the Shoreline



JUNE 2023 SHOFAR



Hello Friends,

What a month it has been for Temple Beth Tikvah! What an honor it has been to be the president of TBT during these special *Shebecheyanu* moments.

Let's start with our May 12th *Shabbat* service in our new sanctuary when we revealed the ark doors. We had set up for 100 people. Who could possibly have predicted that would not be enough? We scrambled to get more chairs and Gary Damiano rushed off to Stop and Shop to buy more food for the Oneg. As Taylor Swift says, "champagne problems." The service filled me with memories that I will never forget. Seeing my son and so many of our incredible high school seniors honored in our new sanctuary brought tears to my eyes. Hearing Rabbi Offner on the bimah talking about the Interior Design Committee's vision for the ark door three years ago filled me with gratitude. Having our Bat Mitzvah, Olivia

Mervine-Schiff, help uncover our ark doors was beautiful, symbolic, and perfect. Then seeing those ark doors . . . the colors, the reflections, the Torah illuminated through the glass, the artistry . . . *Shebecheyanu*.

We had the opportunity to celebrate three *B'nei Mitzvot* in our new sanctuary this month. *Mazel Tov* to Simona Cottrill, Olivia Mervine-Schiff, and Joshua Glazer. *Shebecheyanu*.

We held our first annual meeting in our building in three years. We started that sacred meeting with a prayer, together singing *Shebecheyanu*.

We honored our Religious School teachers and had a special moment for Judy Pozzi who is retiring after 18 years of service at our Religious School. We are so grateful. *Shebecheyanu*.

Confirmation *Shabbat* celebrating our amazing teens. *Shebecheyanu*.

And finally, the greatest miracle of all . . . the birth of Rabbi Danny Moss and Rabbi Susan Landau Moss's baby boy. On Friday July 28th, our congregation will have the opportunity to share in a blessing for our Rabbinic family. *Shebecheyanu*.

The literal translation of *Shebecheyanu* means "that we are alive." As Jews we have a tradition of gratitude. We are thankful for all our blessings and that we are alive at this moment. As a community we have had a challenging three years. We had social isolation from COVID, we had clergy transitions, and we had what felt like a never-ending building renovation. I feel as if I am now at the top of the mountain seeing the holy land . . . and it is beautiful.

Praised are you G-d, ruler of the universe, for granting us life, for sustaining us, and for helping us to reach this day. *Shebecheyanu*.

Blessings,

Karen Goldberg

DR. C's COLUMN



Dear TBT Family,

One of my chief joys in the last week has been putting my winter blanket up and taking out my summer “cooling cover.” While there is a sense of coziness that comes with the winter blanket, I find a sense of freedom with the summer cover. Meanwhile, it feels like the porch is calling my name in the evenings as the sun takes its sweet time setting over the hills. And the beach beckons each *Shabbat*.

Our lives are marked by recurrences in time and season that nonetheless are not truly a circle, but rather a spiral, in which the return of the familiar sounds more like a harmonious echo than a repetition.

The rabbis recognized this sense of not-quite-recurrence. After the flood receded, God promised to never again upturn the laws of nature, but God also gave us a way to step out of the regimented time we, as humans, seem to need. *Shabbat*, a weekly vacation from the clock, is that space.

Rav Yehuda HaLevi, a medieval Spanish rabbi, poet, physician, and philosopher put this into words in his poem *Andei Zman* (Slaves to Time), writing “Slaves to time are slaves to slavery / only those who work for God are free.” On *Shabbat*, we let go of our metered labor and instead welcome in an extra “ensoulment” of rest and repose in the presence of the holy.

What this looks like is different for each person who practices it. For some, lighting candles with the family on Friday night as *Shabbat* comes in is the moment of separation from the week. For others, it can be as simple as choosing not to listen to the news on Saturdays. Rabbi Zalman Shalomi Schachter famously explained that if walking around the mall was one’s way to let go of the weight of the week and reconnect to the inherent *Shalom* of God, one should get in the car and drive to the mall on *Shabbat*.

I encourage you to find your special *Shabbat* space this summer. We will continue to enjoy our *Shabbat* evening services each week—both in our new sanctuary and on our airy veranda. We will celebrate Clara Calvert later this month as she is called to the *Torah* as a *Bat Mitzvah*. And our choir has already begun to prepare for our Board Installation *Shabbat* Service that same weekend (June 23-24).

We would love to see you there.

Kol Tuv,

Dr. C

SHABBAT

Shabbat Services are back in the sanctuary!

All services are Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Services are streamed live on Zoom. Links can be found in your inbox.

Services are also available on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/@templebethtikvah5835](https://www.youtube.com/@templebethtikvah5835)

Friday, June 2: *Shabbat* Service, 6:30 p.m. at TBT

Friday, June 9: *Shabbat* Service, 6:30 p.m. at TBT

Friday, June 16: *Shabbat* Service, 6:30 p.m. at TBT

Friday, June 23: *Shabbat* Service, 6:30 p.m. at TBT, Board Installation, *Oneg* to follow

Saturday, June 24: *Shabbat* morning service at 10:00 a.m. Celebrate *Shabbat* as Clara Calvert is called to the *bimah* as a *Bat Mitzvah*.

Friday, June 30: *Shabbat* Service, 6:30 p.m. at TBT

TORAH STUDY

Live on Zoom every Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

(check your inbox for Zoom link)

June 3: *Naso II* - [Numbers 6:1-7:89](#)

June 10: *B'haalot'cha* - [Numbers 8:1-12:16](#)

June 17: *Sh'lach L'cha* - [Numbers 13:1-15:41](#)

June 24: *Korach* - [Numbers 16:1-18:32](#)

You can find the text and *d'verei Torah* at

<https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study>



MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. on Zoom.

Upcoming sessions are Saturdays, **June 3 and June 17**. Links will be in your email.

All are welcome.



CELEBRATE OUR BAT MITZVAH



Clara Calvert - June 24, 2023

With much joy and love, we celebrate Clara Calvert becoming a *Bat Mitzvah* on June 24th, 2023 at *Shabbat* morning services in the sanctuary. Clara has been working very hard to learn her *Torah* portion and has found her assignment to challenge her in meaningful ways. She extends her deepest thanks of appreciation to her 7th grade teacher, Shelley Capozzi, Dr. C, and Rabbi Moss for joining her on this journey and engaging her in deeper conversations of Judaism. A very special thank you to her grandmother, Anne Calvert, for her endless devotion and commitment to ensure Clara's preparedness in reaching this milestone – what a special connection! The flexibility of all who helped Clara along this path was so very much recognized and appreciated. In between her learning and various sports practices and games, Clara volunteered her time helping to teach pre-school aged children how to play soccer. It was pure joy for her to share her love of the sport with such an excited group! We hope you can join us in celebrating Clara.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Best wishes to our June birthdays!

Matthew Rubin, Levi Aronson, Clara Calvert, Hannah Mervine-Schiff, Brett Maynard, and Hannah Sharp.



HAVERIM

JUNE
11

TBT's Men's Club will hold its monthly luncheon on Sunday, June 11, at Parthenon Diner in Branford at noon. Please RSVP to [Ken Rosenberg](#) or [Steven Stoll](#).

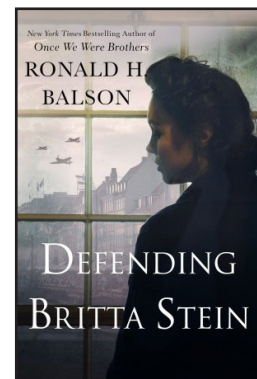
TBT BOOK CLUB

This month, we will meet on Thursday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

June's book is *Defending Britta Stein* by Ronald H. Balson. Balson, the winner of the National Jewish Book Award, makes vivid an important part of Holocaust history, one that is less familiar to the general public and deserves all the more to be better known.

All TBT members who enjoy reading are encouraged to join us on Zoom. For additional information, or to get the Zoom link, please contact [Lydia](#) in the TBT Office.

We Welcome New Participants!



ROSH CHODESH

Welcoming the month of Tammuz.

Rosh Chodesh is on June 19 this month, but Kol Ami will be celebrating the last Rosh Chodesh of this programming calendar year in person. Date to be announced.

We invite all TBT Women to join us!

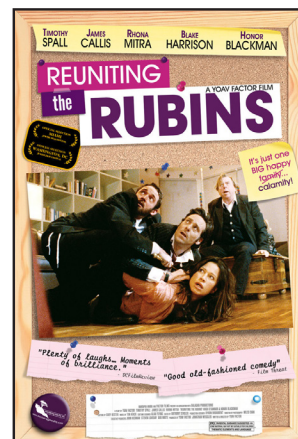
KOL AMI MOVIE NIGHT

Kol Ami's next movie night is on Wednesday, June 14th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Watch *Reuniting the Rubins* on your own on [Kanopy](#), then join us on June 14 for a discussion.

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

Contact [Loren Sberman](#) or [Cher Richmond](#).



KOL AMI HIKES

The Kol Ami women's group is out hiking in the woods weekly. All levels invited. If you want to be on our email list to find out when and where our hikes will be, please RSVP to [Lisa Harding](#). It's beautiful out there. Come join us!



RAISE THE ROOF

It was a great show of support from our TBT members who came out on April 30th to help build 33 Elliot Street in New Haven. This is the 20th Raise the Roof sponsored Habitat for Humanity home that Temple Beth Tikvah has participated in.

Twenty homes means 20 families experiencing the pride and joy of home ownership. Elliot Street will be the future home of Jessica Smalls and her four children. Thank you to our TBT volunteers for working with heart and soul. Work is already in progress on house #21 on Russell Street in New Haven. Contact [Linda Brody](#) if you are interested in getting involved.



Go to www.raisetherooft.org to to learn more about Raise the Roof, the Shoreline Connection to Habitat.



Temple Beth Tikvah Preschool

The 2022-2023 school year comes to an end this month! We gathered on May 25th with the entire Preschool community for our Art Show and Ice Cream Social!



We look forward to celebrating the end of our school year with a visit from the ice cream truck and fun thematic days for our students as we count down to summer.

We have limited availability for our program! If you are interested in enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year please contact our director, Jennifer Casillo, at (203) 245-8039 or NSDDirector@tbtshoreline.org.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) (@tbtpreschool) to see what we are up to.

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

May 17th marked the first in-person Annual Meeting at TBT in three years. The new social hall was filled with attendees and there were additional congregants on Zoom.

The evening began with a welcome from President Karen Goldberg, followed by Shehecheyanu. Rabbi Moss reflected on the year and his hopes for the temple and its members going forward.

During the business portion of the meeting, chairs from the Membership Committee, Building Committee, and Capital Campaign spoke about their year. The budget and bylaws were addressed and updates on the education in the Preschool and Religious School were given.

New initiatives, Chesed and Keshet, were introduced, and the goal for “Creating a Jewish Legacy” was discussed.

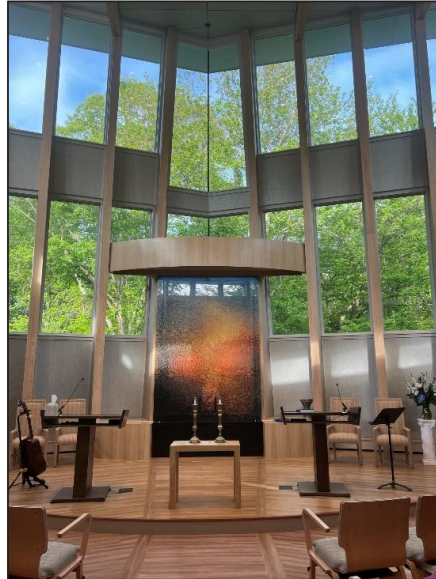
Bruce Topolosky was announced as the winner of the Kavod Award for his hard work and dedication to the renovation. Melanie Siegel was awarded the Beatrice and David Friesner Memorial Scholarship following Noah Chorney’s epic retelling of his freshman year and the wisdom he gained following his scholarship award last year.

For a fully-detailed account of the meeting, please click [HERE](#) (may require copy and paste).

June 2023 TBT Renovation



On May 12, we “revealed the ark doors at Friday night services. The sanctuary is not yet fully complete – but it is ready to use.



The new ark doors and the new bimah, set up for Shabbat services.



Bruce Topolosky, Chair of the Renovation / Building Committee, was honored with this year’s Kavod Award, in recognition of his extraordinary work shepherding the renovation over the past 3 years.

New in May!

- The installation of our new ark is almost complete!
- The sanctuary is in use for services, even as the finish work is being completed.
- The upstairs renovation is about 95% complete – the finishing touches will be completed this summer.
- Once Preschool is dismissed for summer vacation, the lower level will be completed, including the transition to all of the new preschool area.
- Paving, landscaping, and garden installation are underway.

Have you joined us in Building Community? Now is the Time!

If you haven’t donated or pledged to the TBT Capital Campaign yet, [TBT Needs You!!](#)

**Help us finish the campaign, and don’t miss your chance to say,
“I helped to build the future of TBT and the Jewish community!”**

Questions?

Please reach out to Suzy Frisch at sgfrisch@aol.com, or to Bruce Topolosky, John Lesage, 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!

\$500,000 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Our beautiful temple home is reopened! Now let's complete the Capital Campaign!
Every New Gift will be DOUBLED!

- **Between June 1 and *Yom Kippur* (September 25), your gift will be doubled by a generous donor who is offering a \$500,000 (total) match challenge.**
- Make an outright gift (or a pledge for up to three years) - Your new gift (or first pledge payment) must be made between now and *Yom Kippur* for it to be matched dollar for dollar.
- Help reach our capital campaign goals as we reenter the building and enter the new year of 5784.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to double your gift!

Whether you have already made a contribution, or this is your first,
we **THANK YOU** for your generosity.

Contact [Suzy Frisch](#) to make a gift.

1
YOU
DONATE

2
THEY
MATCH

3
DOUBLE
THE
IMPACT



UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer 2023

Save the Dates

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

Family Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Truck

- o 5:30-6:30 p.m. scavenger hunt
- o 6:30 p.m. ice cream truck

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Special Welcome for Baby Moss & Shabbat with Potluck Dinner

- o TBD

WEDNESDAY, AUG 16

Pizza and Bingo

- o 6:00 p.m. pizza
- o 6:30 p.m. bingo

More details to be announced at a later time

"If you know alef,
teach alef" -Hasidic Saying

We are on the lookout for

FIRST & SECOND GRADE TEACHERS

Temple Beth Tikvah Religious School

Send your info to [Dr. C](#)

Fluent Hebrew not required



LOOKING FOR A WAY TO...

Celebrate a milestone?

Honor a loved one?

CONSIDER SPONSORING *A Shabbat Oneg*

It's fun to do with friends and the Religious Activities Committee will help with details. If you're interested in sponsoring, please contact [Lydia](#) in the TBT office or [Stu Weinzimer](#).



JOIN THE TBT CHOIR

No previous experience required. Bring your enthusiasm and excitement and we will provide the rest!

Choir will meet on Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

For more information, contact [Dr. C](#).



THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

Thursday, June 22 at 7:00 p.m. at TBT

Give back to the community and help coordinate food drives, book drives, backpack drives and much more.

MAKE EVERY DAY MITZVAH DAY

Contact [Lizzie Sharp](#) or [Irma Grebel](#)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO TBT FUNDS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Steve & Jamie Kassay in loving memory of Terry Brundage
Richard & Emily Scholnick in loving memory of Louise Zagoria
Emily Phillips and Sonny & Annabella Capaccio in loving memory of Salvatore Capaccio
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Lisa & Roselyn Fenton in loving memory of Joseph Fenton
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THE ANNUAL FUND

Myron & Sandra Brand

THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Walter Spigelman & Sue Richman in loving memory of Jane Richman and Ed Sack
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Geoff & Barbara Chupp in loving memory of Florence Harff
Ronald & Bette Zollshan in loving memory of Julius Zollshan

THE BUILDING FUND

Loren Serman in loving memory of Ed Sack
Loren Serman in honor of Olivia Mervine-Schiff
Arpi Emirzian in loving memory of Ed Sack

Susan Lustig & Mel Siegel in loving memory of Ed Sack

Jerome & Phyllis Levinson in loving memory of Ed Sack

Craig & Faith Irwin in loving memory of Ed Sack

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Jim & Michael Imbrogno in loving memory of Ed Sack

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LAURENCE B. AND ELAINE J. SOMMER MEMORIAL FUND FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Barbara Levy in loving memory of Harvey Levy

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH PRESCHOOL FUND

Art & Ellen Seigel in loving memory of Mary Blank

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Andrea San Marco in memory of Irene Gluck

Judy Merriam in memory of Phyllis Kauffman

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES

Andrea San Marco in honor of Maddy and Brandon's B'Nei Mitzvah

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH SHOFAR

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www.tbtsshoreline.org

Rabbi

President

Cantorial Soloist/

Educator

Proofreader

Danny Moss

Karen Goldberg

Dr. Leah Cassorla

Hattie Sussman

June 2023

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