

# The Shofar



March 2023

Temple Beth Tikvah



Dear Friends,

We've all heard the phrase "I'm going to hang up my hat..."

Well, this month I hung up my *tallit*! But that doesn't mean what you might think — in fact, quite the opposite. Please allow me to explain.

In the summer of 2021, Rabbi Offner left me some very useful tools, including the *tallit* racks inside my study. I hadn't really used them much, though, since we've been gathering for services all over the Shoreline. Ever since we've been meeting regularly at TBT, however, I have finally started using those *Tallit* racks for the first time! It feels incredible to hang up my prayer shawl each week, knowing that Temple Beth Tikvah is once again 'home base'.

In the days of the ancient Jerusalem Temple, our ancestors referred to it as *Beit HaMikdash* ('The Sacred House'), or more colloquially, *HaBayit*, (simply, 'The House'). After the Temple was destroyed, the family table became the new altar. The synagogue came to house the new sanctuaries of our people. Private residence and synagogue alike came to convey an abiding Jewish sense of 'home.'

Now, every *Erev Shabbat* (Sabbath eve) I can come *home* to TBT, prepare to enter Shabbat with a moment of silence, and wrap myself in my *tallit* following the custom of my ancestors. These small moments help me realize that we are truly entering a new stage of readiness to re-enter our congregational home.

Has it been a while since your last building tour? We'd love to invite you back to see all of the progress! Simply refer to the details enclosed or be in touch with the office. It's going to be a very exciting spring at Temple Beth Tikvah. I look forward to sharing many meaningful milestones with you.

Shalom,

Rabbi Danny Moss



Hello Friends,

I recently had a conversation with a friend that reminded me how differently people think. This woman was feeling very dissatisfied with work and was under a lot of stress trying to decide if she should quit. She had gone to her son's sporting event and while waiting for the game to end had spoken about this to another parent. The next day that parent showed up at her house with a dinner she had made for my friend "since she was going through a hard time." What a nice thing to do, right?

Well, my friend was livid and embarrassed, and this act of kindness sent her into a spiral. She felt pathetic, pitied, and as she said, "felt like punching this woman in the face." Luckily, she did not act on this impulse. This story reminds me that what I need and appreciate is not necessarily what others need and appreciate.

I bring this up because Temple Beth Tikvah is embarking on a new initiative, called *Chesed* - the Hebrew word for kindness or love between people. During the first year of the pandemic Rabbi Offner reached out to congregants asking for "helping hands." There was an outpouring of support to help people with groceries, meals, camaraderie, etc.

I believe you shouldn't need a pandemic for our congregation to spread kindness and love. Amy Lee and Leslie Hyman are leading the efforts - one we hope will become a foundational value of TBT. We had our initial meeting with 10 members and have come up with a first step. You all will receive a survey to inform our group about our community's most important needs. Some ideas we have brainstormed are providing meals when a family member is sick or has passed away, driving people who need a ride, providing companionship to people who may need a friend, babysitting for overworked parents that need a break, and on and on. Those were OUR thoughts but more importantly we want to know YOURS. We will also be asking if you are willing to join our efforts.

We are going to need more people to help us with this project. My concern, however, is not a lack of people wanting to help but people feeling shy or embarrassed to ask for assistance. Therefore, I remind you that it is a mitzvah to do acts of loving kindness, but I believe that it is even more of a MITZVAH to receive assistance when needed. It makes you vulnerable, but it is just this genuine vulnerability that opens us to true connections with our TBT family. Learning to receive is a gift to ourselves but also a gift to the giver. There is no greater feeling for me than that sense that I have made someone else's day easier and brighter. Therefore, it is a win/win situation.

So please, fill out the questionnaire when you receive it and if you feel inspired to participate feel free to email Amy Lee [amyjolee22@gmail.com](mailto:amyjolee22@gmail.com) or Leslie Hyman [lch711@aol.com](mailto:lch711@aol.com).

May we all be givers and receivers and may Chesed always be the culture of Temple Beth Tikvah.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Goldberg".

Karen Goldberg



Dear Friends,

*Mi Sh'nichnas Adar, Marbim B'Simchah.*

From the moment Adar begins, we should increase our joy.

This rabbinic mandate comes from the *Gemara*. But it raises an obvious question; can we really be mandated to be happy?

While I doubt one's emotional state can be mandated or commanded, it can be encouraged. Science shows that there are several ways to increase one's own happiness, and each can be derived in our Jewish community.

We can become happier by bringing joy to others. For this reason, in Adar, we practice *Mishloach Manot*, the sending of food gifts. You'd be amazed what a basket of fruits and *Hamantaschen* can do for a person—and even more amazed at the joy you find in making and delivering them. This is also the reason that paying for someone else's coffee at the Drive-Thru is such a pleasing experience.

We can become happier by practicing gratitude. For this reason, the fourth grade learned the *Modeh/Modah Ani*\* this month, teaching them that the first words they say in the morning can set an intention for the day. They also learned other blessings to help them feel gratitude throughout the day.

We can become happier by (re)connecting with our community, as we do weekly through Shabbat services on Friday nights, and mindfulness meditation and Torah study on Shabbat mornings.

Our own *Tikkun* students have noted in their podcast that something as simple as saying a kind word, holding a door for another, or offering to help—when we truly mean it—can not only increase the level of *Tikkun Olam* (reparation of the world) we practice, but even brighten our own days by reminding us that we are not alone.

For belly laughs, in Adar, we have *Purim*. At TBT, that means a SALTY Carnival with a spiel and a costume contest. It also means an evening with our adult friends which will include a spiel, *Megillah* chanting, a wine tasting, and food. Please join us on March 5, at Religious School, and on March 6, at 6 pm, at TBT for some very Jewish Joy!

May your Adar be filled with joy, Jewish and non. And may that joy spill into your every day.

\**Modeh/Modah Ani* is the morning prayer thanking God for our lives and God's faith in us.

*Kol Tuv,*  
Dr. Cassorla



**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 - is “mask mandatory.” This month, it is March 17.

**Friday, March 3:** Shabbat Service

After services, join TBT friends for dinner at Cafe Allegre in Madison. RSVP to Karen Goldberg, and she will make a reservation. We will each pay for our own dinner.

**Friday, March 10:** 5:30 PM Tour of the renovation and oneg  
6:30 PM Shabbat Service

**Friday, March 17:** Shabbat Service - Masks required service. There will be masks at TBT in case you forget yours.

**Friday, March 24:** 5 PM Young Families' Shabbat followed by young families Shabbat dinner  
6:30 PM Shabbat Service

**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



**Torah Study Live on Zoom  
Every Saturday at 9AM  
Check your inbox for Zoom link**

**March 2023** parshiot (Torah portions) complete the Book of Exodus and begin the Book of Leviticus

March 4: *T'tzaveh* [Exodus 27:20–30:10](#)

March 11: *Ki Tisa* [Exodus 30:11–34:35](#)

March 18: *Vayak'heil-P'kudei*  
[Exodus 35:1-40:38](#)

March 25: *Vayikra* [Leviticus 1:1-5:26](#)

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, March 4 and March 11. Links will be in your email inbox.

**All are welcome.**





# Celebrate PURIM!

Sun., March 5

at 12 noon

*It's a family*

**PURIM  
CARNIVAL**

*Don't forget  
your COSTUME!*

presented by SALTY (*our temple youth group*)

**Adults Only:  
Monday, March 6 from 6 – 8 PM**

**An evening to read the Megillah,  
enjoy a spiel, a nosh some food & Purim libations!**

## **Psalms Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Moss**

BOOK 1  
PSALM 1  
The Righteous and the Wicked Contrasted.  
**How** blessed is the man who does not  
walk in the counsel of the wicked,  
Nor stand in the path of sinners,  
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!  
delight is in the law of the

**Thursdays, March 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 1 PM  
on Zoom**

The biblical psalms and their poetry  
can speak powerfully to different phases of our lives.  
Learn more about the Psalms in these 4 sessions!

RSVP required at [office@tbtshoreline.com](mailto:office@tbtshoreline.com) or 203-245-7028

Zoom link will be provided.

### The TBT Book Club

Meets the third Thursday  
of each month at 7:30 PM,  
currently on Zoom.

The next discussion is on Thursday, March 16.



March's book is  
***The Wartime Sisters***  
by Lynda Cohen Loigman

All TBT members who enjoy reading are encouraged to join us on Zoom.  
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!**



### Rosh Chodesh

Thursday, March 23 at 7:30 PM on Zoom  
Welcoming the Month of Nissan

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, March 8 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.

Watch Liberty Heights on your own (on Kanopy  
<https://www.kanopy.com/product/liberty-heights>  
or your favorite streaming service), then join us on  
March 8 for a discussion.

Janice Ross will facilitate the conversation.

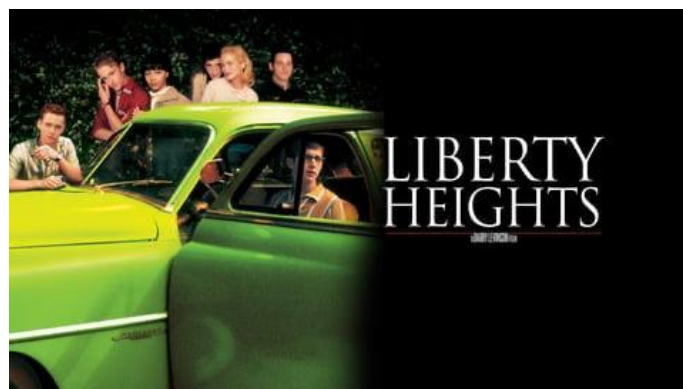
Do you have a suggestion for a great movie to watch?

Would you like to facilitate a movie discussion?

Let us know!

Loren Sterman [lorensterman@gmail.com](mailto:lorensterman@gmail.com)

Cher Richmond [cherrilyn.richmond@yale.edu](mailto:cherrilyn.richmond@yale.edu)





Temple Beth Tikvah  
Preschool

**March 2023**

Love was in the air last month!

Our students sent cards to a local nursing home to spread the LOVE around!  
We also enjoyed coming to school in our Pj's and enjoying pancakes for snack!

This month we are looking forward to Purim and our annual Purim parade!  
We will celebrate Dr. Suess's birthday and our Children's seder at the end of the month.

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.

TBT Preschool has programs for children ages 2 – 5 years old,  
and flexible scheduling from 8 AM – 5 PM Monday through Friday.

**Enrollment for the 2023 - 2024 School year is now open!**

Follow us on [Facebook @tbtpreschool](https://www.facebook.com/tbtpreschool) to see what we are up to.  
And, check our website at <https://tbtpreschool.org/>

New Haven  
**READS**

# TBT Book Drive

**To benefit New Haven Reads**  
The Social Justice Committee invites you  
to donate gently used books

**\*Look for book donation bins inside the TBT entrance and in  
the lower lobby from February 12th–March 12th.**



# WHEN BALLET BECAME DANGEROUS

## ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION

MARCH 19, 2023  
10:45AM - 12:00PM

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH  
COMMUNITY ROOM  
196 DURHAM RD  
MADISON, CT

FREE!

RSVP REQUIRED BY MARCH 15:  
(203) 245-7028  
OFFICE@TBTSHORELINE.ORG

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Using art to challenge authoritarian rule in Russia, Ballet is a sport that dates back to the earliest days of the Russian revolution. This introductory lecture explores how classical ballet became a medium of both compliance and resistance during the Soviet era, particularly for Jewish dancers, and how the image of the ballet dancer has grown into a forceful political symbol globally.

**DONATE TO SUPPORT  
ADULT EDUCATION:**



WITH

**JANICE ROSS**

~Professor Emerita, Dept. of Theater and Performance Studies, Stanford University  
~Author of several books and articles on Jewish dance artists  
~Recipient of numerous awards including being named a 2022 Honorary Fellow of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, Israel





## March 2023 TBT Renovation



Touring the renovation with Bruce Topolosky



The social hall doors and veranda



Staircase from main lobby to lower level



Cabinetry being installed in kitchen

### New in February!

- Kitchen cabinetry is being installed.
- The remaining veranda doors are installed - enclosing and securing the entire building.
- Main entrance glass doors and south entrance doors are installed.
- The structural steel for the electric folding wall which separates the sanctuary and social hall has been installed.
- The lobby area flooring is complete.
- Stairway to lower level is installed.
- The bathroom fixtures are installed.
- The elevator, although nonoperational at this time, is in!

Join Bruce Topolosky and John Lesage for a **Tour of the Renovation**  
on Friday, March 10 at 5:30 PM!

We will gather in the library at 5:25 PM, and after the tour,  
we will enjoy an oneg prior to Shabbat services.

## Contributions to TBT Funds

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Janet Stein**

**Ken & Janice Rosenberg** *in memory of Ronnie Rosenberg*

### The Endowment Fund

**Joan & Franklin Green**

*in honor of Bernie Steinberg*

### The Building Fund

*In memory of Phyllis Kaufman*

**Barbara & Douglas Agranov**

**Jeffrey Babbitt & Marlene Schwartz**

**Barb & Geoff Chupp**

**The Friedman Family**

**Suzanne Frisch & Jonathan Levine**

**Mona & Robert Goodman**

**Myra Josephson**

**Jonathan Katz & Sally Karasov**

**Linda Ladd**

**Kate & Bill Lee**

**Barbara & Alan Lipman**

**Bonnie Mahon**

**Amy Lipper McCauley & John McCauley**

**Judy Merriam**

**Sarah Mervine & Mark Schiff**

**Lissa Moskowitz**

**Andrea SanMarco**

**Tina Silidker**

**Sandy & Richard Walsh**

*In memory of Ruth Ottenheimer*

**Jamie Brundage Kassay & Stephen Kassay**

**Amy Lipper McCauley & John McCauley**

**Shelia England** *in memory of Harriet Cohan*

*Haggerty*

**Sherie & Alan Groves** *in memory of Elaine Jacks*

**Cherilyn & William Richmond** *in memory of*

*Kathleen Prescott*

### The Helen Katz Goodkind Beautification Fund

**Mona & Robert Goodman** *in memory of Paul Goodman*

**Sandy & Dick Whelan** *in memory of William M. Goldberg*

**Helen Winokur and Family** *in memory of Arthur Winokur*

### The Silidker Music Fund

**Tina Silidker** *in memory of my brother, Gary Wasserman*

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

**Alaine Lane** *in memory of my mother, Sylvia Lasenick*

**Judy Mirkin Strom & Family** *in memory of*

*Lt. Col Joseph Mirkin*

### The Men's Club Sukkah Fund

**Peggy Britt & Louis King** *in memory of Henry Gettenberg*

### The Nursery School Fund

**The Redlich Family** *in memory of Norman Itzkowitz*

**Thank You for Your Generosity  
in supporting TBT and all of our activities!**

**Thank you to everyone who has contributed  
to the 5783 Annual Fund**

**The Annual Fund helps to support our  
operations throughout the year**

Donations to the 5783 Annual Fund can be  
made through June 20, 2023

on-line at this [LINK](#)

or by contacting the TBT office at  
203-245-7028



### In Memorium

**Phyllis Kaufman**, beloved member of TBT  
February 10, 2023,  
corresponding to 19 Sh'vat, 5783

**Karen Flatley**, beloved member of TBT  
mother of Sabrina Houlton, grandmother of  
Elijah, Zachary, and Natalie Rose  
February 25, 2023  
corresponding to 4 Adar, 5783

# TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

## SHOFAR

196 Durham Rd., Madison CT 06443  
(203) 245-7028  
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>

**March 2023**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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