January 2019 • Tevet/Shevat • 5779 • Vol. 21 • Issue 7

Tikvah Topics

Join us for our Annual Tu Bi'Shevat Seder!

Following Shabbat Vayinafash - January 18 at 6:15 p.m.

With Pre-Oneg at 5:45 p.m.

For more details and to RSVP for our Tu Bi'Shevat Seder dinner sponsored by the Social Action Committee, see inside (pgs. 8-9)!

Congregation Beth Tikvah • 6121 Olentangy River Road • Worthington, OH 43085
Phone: 614.885.6286 • Fax: 614.885.4052 • www.bethtikvahcolumbus.org

Shabbat Services

January 4
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

January 5
9 a.m. Torah Study

January 11
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service: "Remembering Debbie Friedman," with the Shironim

January 12
9 a.m. Torah Study

January 18
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Vayinafash Evening Service followed by Tu Bi'Shevat Seder

January 19
9 a.m. Torah Study

January 25
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

January 26
10 a.m. Women's Shabbaton

Holiday Notice:

Building will be closed January 1 in observance of New Years' Day.

Fund of the Month:

Security Fund

Celebrate Your Simcha! Sponsor an Oneg or Bima Flowers

Mark your special occasions and commemorate milestones in your life by sponsoring an Oneg or Bima flowers. This mitzvah is enjoyed by our entire congregation!

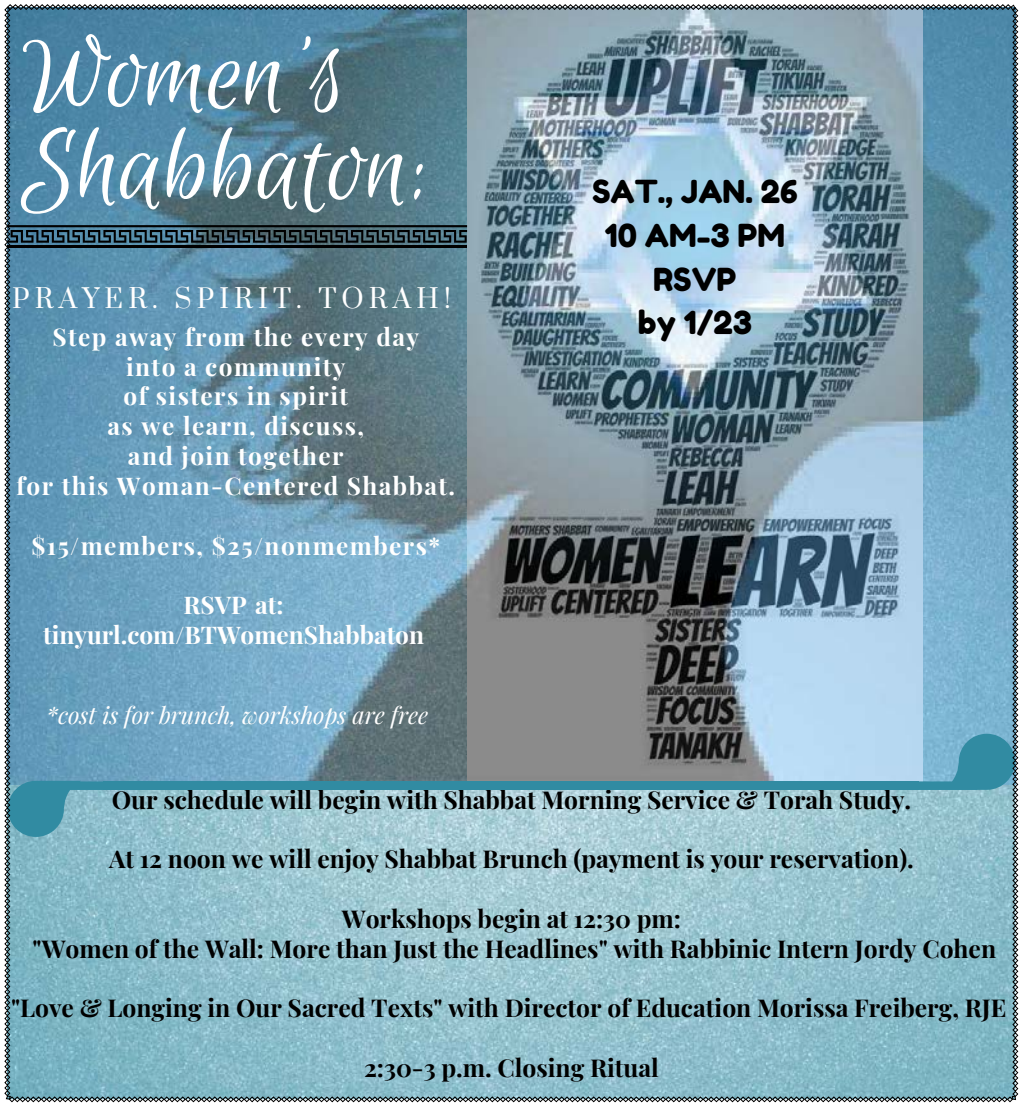
Thank you to our members for your generosity in providing Onegs and Bima flowers! *Please call the Temple office at 614-885-6286 to select a date to sponsor or learn more.*

January 5
Bima flowers: Alex and Michael Joseph, in honor the B'nai Mitvah of their sons, Liev and Roman

January 11
Bima flowers: Amanda Chamberlain, in honor of her conversion

January 18
Bima flowers: Jackie and Mitch Kon, in honor of Tu Bi'Shevat

Sponsor an Oneg or Bima flowers in the month of January for your life cycle event!



Congregation Beth Tikvah Mission Statement

Congregation Beth Tikvah, serving the Greater Columbus area, is a warm, welcoming and inclusive synagogue dedicated to educational, religious and social activities that build community and further the cause of Judaism. Beth Tikvah seeks to promote the enduring and fundamental principles of Reform Judaism and to ensure the continuity of the Jewish people; to enable its adherents to develop a relationship to God through communal worship, study and assembly; and to apply the principles of Reform Judaism to the values and conduct of the individual, family and the society in which we live.

With Blessings

A message from Rabbi Rick Kellner

I write these words from O'Hare Airport where I spent 36 hours with amazing Reform Rabbis who are leaders and advocates for *tikkun olam* – the affirmative act of repairing the world.

I am grateful to the Religious Action Center for bringing me to Chicago. We spent two days reflecting on stories about times we witnessed injustice and failed to act. We were encouraged to think deeply about the role our sacred texts play in framing the conversations we have about the brokenness we see in the world.

For example, the President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Rabbi David Stern, shared with us that the conversation about immigration must be informed from our tradition by texts that tell us about welcoming the stranger and the places in our tradition that discuss border security and the rule of law.

Jewish tradition is complex and the teaching is diverse; we must, in our dialogue, hold in our hands these two values at the same time. We might lift up one over the other but they both should be in our hands, on our hearts and on our minds.

We also reflected on the importance of partnership and the importance of being in relationship. Our gathering opened with a text study led by Rabbi Dr. Andrea Weiss, Provost of the Hebrew Union College (Rabbi Weiss will be teaching at Beth Tikvah March 29-30), in which she invited us to look at the rhetorical questions posed by the Prophet Amos.

In Amos Chapter 3, we read, "Can two walk together without having met? ...When a ram's horn is sounded in the town, Do people not take alarm?" In looking at these two verses, I am moved by the fact that we cannot truly walk together if we have not met, if we do not know one another, if we cannot understand each other's stories. I also recognize the power of the shofar and its call to us to be alarmed at what is happening in the world around us.

The stories we tell when we share the brokenness we experience are the shofar that calls to us in alarm that the world is in need of repair.

Over the course of the past two years many members of Beth Tikvah have been actively engaged in the work of RAC-OH as we have tried to focus on ways in which we could make Ohio a better place for all its residents. We have shared stories about the direct impact of the opioid epidemic on our lives and our communities. We have shared stories about the challenges of living with a criminal record, and we have worked to make meaningful change through sentencing reform, record sealing, and expansion of treatment in lieu of conviction.

Our storytelling needs to continue as we have more work to do to make Ohio a better place to live. Beginning at the end of January or early February through the end of April, we will engage in conversations throughout our congregation.

I would like to engage 100 people in dialogue about stories of brokenness and the holes that we could fill to make Ohio better. These Tikkun Olam Heart to Hearts will help guide our work at Beth Tikvah. Reform congregations from all around the state will be having these heart to hearts, and together we will lift up our stories and work to heal the brokenness.

As we listen to one another and cry next to one another, we hope and pray that the stories we share will lift up the brokenness and help to promote a sense of *Shalom* for those struggling to repair their lives. I hope you will join with me or one of our congregants who will facilitate these heart to hearts.

Rabbi Rick Kellner

"As we listen to one another and cry next to one another, we hope and pray that the stories we share will lift up the brokenness and help to promote a sense of Shalom for those struggling to repair their lives."

A Letter from the President

Judy Weisberg
President, Congregation Beth Tikvah

"January will see one of my favorite holidays: Tu Bi'Shevat. ...Our Tu Bi'Shevat Seder will be January 18. I look forward to seeing you there. Although it is a little early for spring in Columbus, this holiday is a reminder that the light is returning and spring is coming."

Shalom! It's hard to believe it's January and we're already halfway through our fiscal year. While security was a prime topic of consideration again this month-- as we're individually moving beyond the "freeze" response and grappling with a new normal-- other topics are also demanding our attention.

Please read Debbie's column for some security updates. One of the things she won't tell you is that the work she did putting together a security program resulted in a request to use the document as a prototype for other congregations and community organizations. Many thanks to Debbie for her work. As we said before, some of the enhanced security measures you will see, and some you won't.

Congregants were generous as usual with Mishpacha. Check the lobby for the latest update. Because of changes in the tax law, we probably won't know the final tally until February as some congregants are choosing to "bunch" charity donations in a single year so as to take advantage of tax write-offs. If you are age 70 and 1/2+ and make donations directly with your RMD, if you don't hear from us that your check has been received, you should call to check that we received the donation. Some of the financial houses aren't good about saying whom the check is from. We need another box on the Mishpacha donation form.

We welcomed more than 20 new families to the congregation in December. Some of them were able to attend the new member blessing on one of the most joyous shabbats we have – Brotherhood's Latkefest. This family friendly celebration brings together our entire congregational family for a delightful evening of food and celebration. We're so happy to welcome these new friends to our community. Thanks to Brotherhood for bringing the congregation together for this celebration.

Congratulations to Marty Seltzer as his many years of congregational and Brotherhood volunteering were acknowledged by receipt of the Ed Schecter Award given by Brotherhood. We were reminded of the similar goals of both Ed, of blessed memory, and Marty in emphasizing community, inclusiveness and education which are all hallmarks of our congregation.

One of the tasks most important to the future of the congregation is the work of the Nominating Committee which gets into full swing this month. Populating next year's Board of Trustees with committed congregants willing to listen to you and act on your behalf is crucial to our future success. If you have names you'd like to suggest – your own or someone else's, please send them to Ernie Mandell, who as Past President, is in charge of the nominating committee. BT does have a biennial leadership development class which not very many people seem to know about. Called Darcheinu, the class presents the mechanics of congregational governance and emphasizes the BT way – civility, dedication, and engagement. This class lets people know what it is like to serve on the Board of Trustees. The current class is the second such cohort that has been assembled. The classes were put together and are run by Evie Freeman and Liz Shafran at the suggestion of Rabbi Kellner.

The congregational study we undertook last spring to fall, emphasized the need for each congregation to put together such a leadership training program. Because of our program, the Strengthening Congregations arm of the URJ asked Rabbi Kellner to serve on the task force developing such a module for the national organization to share with other congregations.

But being a leader in the congregation doesn't necessarily require being on the Board. Not everyone has the desire or time for such a commitment. Being on a Board committee is one way to be a leader, as is serving on a task force. The latter is similar to a committee, but it generally has a fixed beginning and end date. Committees and task forces help the congregation achieve its mission and vision and enable members to have input on the functioning of the congregation. An example of such committee work might be the group of people who plan and support Shishim. That senior programming group couldn't exist without the many congregants who contribute monthly of their time and talents to this part of our community.

January will see one of my favorite holidays: Tu Bi'Shevat. Of the many ways to celebrate this holiday, my favorite is to taste 15 different kinds of fruit. Our Tu Bi'Shevat Seder will be January 18. I look forward to seeing you there. Although it is a little early for spring in Columbus, this holiday is a reminder that the light is returning and spring is coming.

Happy New Year,

Judy Weisberg

Judy Weisberg

Presidential Office Hours - Sunday, January 6 - 9:30-11 a.m.
Upcoming 2019 Office Hours: Sundays Feb. 10, March 10, April 7, May 5
Judy Weisberg will dedicate the Sunday before each month's Board meeting, to YOU: the congregation! Bring your questions, compliments, complaints, ideas, and suggestions.

Behind the Scenes...

Debbie Vinocur, **Executive Director**

"I was privileged to meet and learn from a top official from Secure Community Network."

On October 27, 2018, all our lives were changed by the shooting at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. Immediately, every Jewish organization kicked into action: hiring security, locking doors, and taking extra precautions to ensure the safety of members and guests. Beth Tikvah has taken proactive steps and formed a security committee which will meet and make security recommendations to the Board. The committee consists of nine Temple members, each of whom have a great deal of knowledge in the area of security. They will begin by evaluating what is currently in place and use their professional knowledge to evaluate additional needs.

Beth Tikvah has increased its security considerably in the past few years, especially upon receiving funds from a security grant. These measures include 24/7 camera monitoring and video recording. The building is now locked down all of the time; so please understand if Joanne asks you to identify yourself before being let into the building! We have over 1,200 individual congregants, JCCN Preschool staff and families, and vendors that Joanne greets regularly. It's sometimes hard to recognize each person but she does it with hospitality and the discretion needed to keep us all safe.

We also have yearly staff training on how to handle emergency situations. Morissa Freiberg and I have undergone additional training and receive notices from Justin Shaw, Director of Community Relations at JewishColumbus & Secure Community Networks (SCN), when there is a threat anywhere in the country. I was privileged to meet and learn from a top official from SCN who spoke at the NATA conference I recently attended. This official was one of the first responders to the scene in Pittsburgh.

While we continue to improve and evaluate security as new things come to our attention, we maintain close ties with the Worthington Police Department. Since October 28, which was the first day of Religious School after the Tree of Life tragedy, Beth Tikvah has had security every Sunday and every Shabbat.

Please sign up for our Remind Emergency alert system on your smartphone at the following link: rmd.at/bteme, by down-loading the mobile app. To get text notifications, text the message @bteme to the number 81010. Or go to rmd.at/bteme on a computer, laptop, or tablet to sign up for email notifications.

Rest assured, security is of our utmost concern. We've created a new dedicated Security Fund to which you can contribute; it's the Fund of the Month this January. From the entire staff we wish you a Happy New Year!

Debbie Vinocur

L'Dor Vador Financial Update ~ By Stu Zweben

We've reached the halfway point in our five-year pledge period for the L'Dor Vador building expansion project. During construction we took out a 5-year loan for slightly over $500K to help finance the project. We began making payments to principal on the loan in December 2016, so November 2018 marks the end of Year 2 of the loan repayment period.

The 5-year loan period and 5-year pledge period are not in synch because for most congregants the pledge period began 45 days after we broke ground on the project (for several, it began upon completion of their pledges for the prior sanctuary project), while principal payments on the 5-year loan period did not begin until the end of construction when we received the certificate of occupancy. During construction, we only were required to make interest payments on the amount borrowed. We've paid off over half of the loan principal in 2 years!

We knew that we'd be able to make larger payments on the loan principal early in the 5-year period. But we are ahead of the original expected payment schedule, due in large part to the increased up-front pledge payments from you, our congregants. We've received just over 80% of the pledged contributions from our members as of November 2018, and 60% of those who made pledges have paid their entire pledge in full. We also received a recent significant donation to the project from JewishColumbus.

If our congregation's contributions continue to come in according to everyone's payment schedules, we will be able to pay off the loan a few months earlier than the 5-year deadline. The sooner we pay off the loan, the sooner we can begin replenishing our reserves, from which we borrowed to help keep the loan amount as low as possible, and which have been reduced further by the extensive renovation of our parking lot this summer.

Thank you, congregants! You continue to illustrate your generosity and responsibility. Keep up this admirable record. I'll have a further update for you at our Annual Meeting this spring.

A Note about Education

Morissa R. Freiberg
Director of Education

"I look forward to seeing what the New Year brings for our students' Jewish growth and progress in learning!"

Our Religious School, Hebrew Learning, and Teen Program classes have been having some much fun learning, growing, and building in their Jewish community over the past few months.

Here are a few highlights of what we've been up to as a school this past December:

• Our PreK-2nd Grade classes participated in a multi-age Hanukkah learning program with Morissa, including three knowledge-based games (*one is pictured at right*), a game of giant dreidel, a video from BimBam, a story in the PJ Library room, and art projects -- including a dreidel snow globe that was a huge hit!

• Our 3rd-6th Graders participated in an exciting Hanukkah Escape Room with Marc Hochhauser. The 5th Graders had the best time, and escaped the room in 14:56 minutes!

• Sharyn Koch's Parent-Tot class (2.5-4-year-olds) has had lots of fun learning about holidays! There's still time to join this monthly class for the second half of the year. Parent-Tot is open to non-members, too: tell a friend who might be interested in checking out what we have to offer at Beth Tikvah!

• Ilene Burkart's Kindergarten class has been having lots of fun learning Hebrew, the Shema, and all about Hanukkah and the concept of community and giving to others through music, stories and crafts!

• Gisela Weinstein's 3rd Graders have been talking about Hanukkah, and more than simply about the miracle of the oil. They learned how important it is to stand up for what you believe is right, and to talk for others who cannot talk as loud as you. Gisela's 3rd and 4th Grade cooking elective has been exploring all kinds of good Jewish food, or traditional American food with a Jewish twist, like making sufganiot filled with sweet cream of pumpkin, to prepare for both Thanksgiving and Chanukah.

• Barb Mindel's 6th Grade Hebrew students are already beginning to learn Torah trope. She couldn't be prouder!

• Marc's 7th Grade class has been exploring how to make Torah part of one's daily life through the lens of the Six Torah Remembrances one is to have every day. They also enjoyed a genealogy program alongside their families with the Columbus Jewish Historical Society as part of "Super Sunday".

• Rabbi Rick's Confirmation class (10th grade) has been reflecting on their personal connections with God and how we make ethical decisions. They are looking at how Jewish values guide our decision making.

• Keila Naparstek Hund's 3rd Grade Small Group Hebrew has learned their Aleph-Bet and has begun practicing the Four Questions to get a head start on Passover!

• Dora Sterling's Teen Program elective this semester is a study of Jewish American women based on the curriculum developed by the Jewish Women's Archive in Boston. The curriculum is designed to engage middle and high school students in exploring the many ways American Jewish women have influenced this country's Jewish and national experience.

• Finally, our Post-Confirmation students (11th-12th Grade) have been examining the platforms of Reform Judaism. They have enjoyed seeing and studying the development of our movement, and wrestling with some big questions about its evolution.

I look forward to seeing what the New Year brings for our students' Jewish growth and progress in learning!

L'Shalom,

Morissa R. Freiberg

Youth Engagement at Beth Tikvah

Marc Hochhauser
Youth Engagement Director

Greetings! I hope that you had a wonderful Hanukkah and are off to a fabulous start to the New Year. In what has been at times a very trying year, it is comforting to know that our traditions will always bring us together-- centering us and providing us all with some peace of mind.

This time of year has always been a time of reflection for me. In reflecting on the past year, I have arrived at a new level of appreciation for our remarkable students. As the Youth Engagement Director at Congregation Beth Tikvah, it should come as no surprise that I often try to look at life through the perspective of our 18-and-under members.

A little more than a month ago, I began to wonder: What does 'being Jewish' mean to a teenager? What does anti-Semitism mean and how does it affect them? How do they view the changing socio-political landscape? Do they feel safe, hopeful, scared? And the biggest question, the one to which all other questions inevitably return: How do they feel about being Jewish?

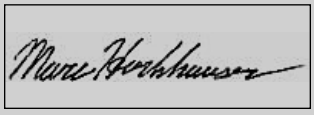
There are obviously many answers, but I've found that the majority of our students are proud of their Judaism. They do not bemoan their differences, but celebrate them.

Many have experienced anti-Semitism, or come from areas where they may be the only Jewish person in their whole class, grade, or school, but they still aren't afraid to identify as Jewish. They may be the farthest removed from the Holocaust, but they understand its importance—and as the last generation that will meet a living survivor, it is imperative that they do.

The most important thing I've learned, however, is that these students are hopeful. They want to get out there and change the world for the better, not only through volunteer projects and social action, but by changing attitudes and educating people at a grassroots level. Many of our students are happy to share their ideas and traditions with their friends, and are receptive to learning themselves. I am very proud of our dedicated, intelligent, and confident students for upholding the tenets of Judaism, especially in the difficult environment in which they're growing up.

I am eternally grateful that I get to spend so much time with these excellent students. I am confident that the future is in good hands, but don't just take it from me: next month, you will read two first-hand articles from our BethTY co-Presidents, Micah Burkart and Hannah Karr, regarding their feelings on Judaism, anti-Semitism, youth groups, and more. I hope that you'll take the time to read these articles and possibly gain a new perspective.

L'Shalom,



Marc Hochhauser

"I am eternally grateful that I get to spend so much time with these excellent students. I am confident that the future is in good hands!"

Broom Ball with BethTY *(9th-12th Grades)*

January 19 at 6 p.m. - $20/teen *covers dinner & ice rental*

Join BethTY for our favorite event of the year: the Broom Ball Lock-In! Teens gather at Beth Tikvah for dinner then head to the Chiller in Dublin for some exciting Broom Ball fun! All skill levels are welcome and encouraged to join. Then after we return to Beth Tikvah, join us for a Lock-In!

RSVP at https://tinyurl.com/BTBroomBall2019

JYG Kallah

March 1-3, 2019

Open to All *6th-8th Graders*
at URJ GUCI in Zionsville, IN

Early Bird: $180 (Register by Dec. 19)
Regular: $210 by Feb. 13 / $225 after

Join us for a fun-filled weekend of games at camp GUCI with your Jr. BethTY and NFTY-Ohio Valley friends!

Scholarships are available. Please **visit ohiovalley nfty.org to register, or email Marc Hochhauser a mhochhauser@bethtikvahcolumbus.org** with any questions.

Repairing the World: Tikkun Olam & More

Beth Tikvah's Annual

Tu Bi'Shevat Seder

Friday, January 18

Following 6:15 p.m.
Shabbat Vayinafash Services
(Pre-Oneg at 5:45 p.m.)

"The Blessing of the Buckeye,
The Miracle of the Maple:
Lessons from our Native Trees"

Featuring Special Guest *(pictured at left)*:
Michael Goldman, Conservation & Outreach Manager,
Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Our Seder will explore the secret lessons our trees can teach us about the environment, birds and more. All guests should bring a nut-free, vegetarian dish to share.

RSVP AT https://tinyurl.com/TuBiShevatSederJan19

Thank You to our Bake Sale Volunteers ~ By Barbara Taxier

We are fortunate to live among neighbors who generously supported our "Name Your Own Price" Bake Sale. Instead of pricing individual items, we put out a jar for donation, all of which benefited the Worthington Resource Pantry. We're pleased to report that we raised nearly $950. The Pantry educates, feeds, and comforts people who need a helping hand during rough economic times. Many thanks to those who provided baked goods, including Marilyn Cooper, Shelley Engler, Wendy Grindstaff, Marsha Harris, Judy Hollander, Jackie Kon, Susan Litsky, Nada Mazurek, Jane Mitchell, Ann Nibert, Susan Pomerantz, Dora Sterling, Alaina Towne, and Barbara Taxier. Additional thanks go to those who staffed the table. Michael Taxier started the sale, showing up at 6:30 am. Others who sat at the table throughout the day include Wendy Grindstaff, Judy Hollander, Jackie Kon, Susan Litsky, Susan Pomerantz and Barbara Taxier.

Hearts & Hands: How You Can Get Involved with Tikkun Olam at Beth Tikvah

Through social action, social justice, volunteering, and philanthropy, there are many ways members can *and currently are* performing acts of *Tikkun Olam*. Join us and:

Volunteer:

- At the Worthington Resource Pantry helping our neighbors "shop" for food to feed their families
- At schools helping children learn to read
- Delivering "Meals on Wheels" to homebound adults with Brotherhood
- With USTogether helping refugees adjust to life outside their home country; tutoring them in English; helping them work towards U.S. citizenship
- To beautify Beth Tikvah by helping the "Garden Buds" with landscaping.

Donate:

- Food and money in support of the Worthington Resource Pantry
- Books to students in two schools in Columbus City Schools
- Clothing, accessories, cosmetics to Dress for Success

Pursue Social Justice:

Join RAC-OH, Religious Action Center, an organizing community bringing Reform Jews from across Ohio together in the pursuit of justice in our state. It was created in the belief that we can create a more just and compassionate Ohio together.

Look: In February's Tikvah Topics for a specific map of opportunities, ways you can get involved with *Tikkun Olam*, and more details about our upcoming Mitzvah Day of volunteerism and service. Email Jackie Kon at jackiek29@gmail.com to learn more.

Meet Your Mishpacha! Q&A Interview

Introducing Jackie Kon, Social Action Chair

Jackie has been a member since 1996, after moving here from NC. She first found connection at Beth Tikvah as a Religious School parent, but deepened her involvement after becoming an Adult B'nai Mitzvah five years ago. Since then, her passion project has been working with the Worthington Resource Pantry. She embodies Beth Tikvah's vision to empower people to live and learn Jewishly and make the world a better place. To her, *tikkun olam* means "performing acts of kindness and helping others." As Social Action Chair, she facilitates opportunities throughout the year for Temple members to grow in their volunteerism and engagement with social action and "doing" justice. This month, we focus on environmental justice and celebration of the "Birthday of the Trees," with the Tu Bi'Shevat Seder, which Jackie, emphasizes, anyone can help with, from shopping for fruits to adorn the Seder plate, to setting up the Seder.

Q: Why is giving back to your Beth Tikvah Mishpacha so important to you?
A: It's the people, and the environment, and Rabbi Rick. It's a very welcoming congregation. I've met so many interesting people.

Q: Can you share a fun fact that our members might not know about you?
A: My family and I moved to Greece from 1988-1989, when my daughter, Sarah, was four months old. It was a very different country then- total culture shock. The people were wonderful and very willing to speak English. I was very willing to speak the little Greek I knew, so I learned how to order food, things like that. Traveling, to the islands and around Europe, was the best part. We were there during a very tumultuous time. There was violence and unrest; it was a developing country back then. They were just starting to put in a sewer system just south of where we lived. It was eye-opening and certainly part of what inspired me and made me realize how important it is to give back to those less fortunate than myself.

Q: There are so many ways to give back; from B.R.E.A.D., the Blood Drive, Dress for Success & Meals on Wheels, to RAC-OH, refugee work, & volunteering with the Worthington Resource Pantry. What do you tell members who aren't sure where to start?
A: Every aspect of congregational life touches on *tikkun olam* & giving back. Talk with people. Discover how they're involved. Read Tikvah Topics & check the calendar: you might find something that interests you. You don't have to have a ton of time, there are ways large and small, and we'd love to have your involvement, even if you only have one day, or one hour.

Q: Why should people attend the Tu Bi'Shevat Seder?
A: It's a very fun, joyous celebration where we're honoring the environment and focusing on environmental justice. We'd love to have people come help and join us as part of this "Birthday" of the trees. It's always a very special evening as families share in tasting the different foods that are on the Seder plate. It inventively connects back to the themes of the Passover Seder. Every year touches on a different topic. This year we're focusing on protecting Ohio habitats for birds and our local wildlife. If you're interested in environmental justice, this is a fun, family-friendly evening for learning and eating delicious food and fruits throughout the Seder.

Q: Why should members get involved with Social Action?
A: Brightening someone's day and bringing out a smile: that's what I love most about volunteering. The smallest things mean so much; you can truly see their gratitude beaming. I can't tell you how many times someone has told me, 'Bless you for what you are doing, the way you've been helping.' Moments like that move me to service. When we go to Como and Hamilton Elementary, there's nothing better than seeing a child pick a book of their very own, realizing it's theirs. They are just so thankful and genuine. It's so sweet. I hope you will consider joining me in making someone's day, whether by helping families find food at the Worthington Resource Pantry or making mats for the homeless at Kibbitz and Kraft, there are so many ways to get involved. **To learn more or to join the Social Action Committee, email me at jackiek29@gmail.com.**

Mazel Tov to Our January B'nai Mitzvah!

Roman & Liev Joseph (left to right)

Liev Joseph

"Hi Everyone! My name is Liev Joseph, and I'm 12 years old. I was born December 20, 2005, in West Hills, CA. I moved to OH when I was 18 months old. I go to an amazing school: Willard Grizzell MS. I love running cross country and playing lacrosse. Sometimes getting hit by the ball hurts, but knowing that and avoiding getting hit is what makes it fun. My Mitzvah Project helps our environment and is close to my heart. I have always wanted to be a veterinarian. For my Mitzvah Project, I'm helping to cut down invasive species with the Audubon Society and participating in the oldest bird census and scientific experiment in the U.S. since 1900. I am doing this by counting how many different kinds of species of birds I can find in the wetlands and Metro Parks in and around Columbus."

Roman Joseph

"Hi! My name is Roman Joseph. I'm an 8th grader at Willard Grizzell MS in Dublin. I am the third of three brothers, the middle of which is my twin, Liev. I enjoy coding, playing video games, and speaking German. For my Mitzvah Project, I am working with an organization called MyProjectUSA to help Somalis and other refugees here in Columbus. I have been volunteering my Saturdays at MyFamily Food Pantry. I have also collected coats, hats, and mittens. I would like to thank our Congregation Beth Tikvah members and my Dublin community for their generous and kind donations. Winter and school vacations leave these needy communities vulnerable to hunger and cold. I'm interested in helping this population because it is a demographic that needs our help most and is often the least served."

Introducing Shir Chadash:
Beth Tikvah's New Teen Vocal Ensemble

Julie Sapper
Director of Musical Programming

If you were at Rosh Hashanah morning services this past September, you likely heard a very moving presentation of a piece of music written by Dan Nichols entitled, "Asher Yatzar."

This musical prayer for healing followed Rabbi Kellner's sermon focusing on the challenges faced by those struggling with mental illness. Nichols' piece was performed by a group of six teenage girls: five vocalists and one flutist.

After the service and for weeks following, many congregants shared how they were moved to tears by the powerful presence of these young women.

That was the birth of what is now Beth Tikvah's newest vocal ensemble: *Shir Chadash* or "New Song."

The current members of Shir Chadash are: Sidney MacGilvray, Ari Kennedy, Sophie Noble, Hannah Reinicke, Evie Pappalardo, and Livi Holz. (Julia Blank was also a member of the original group that performed at Rosh Hashanah along with flutist Cydney Platt.)

These high school-aged girls have a particular love of singing and a commitment to serving Beth Tikvah. "This group seemed like a perfect opportunity to do something I love while staying involved in the Beth Tikvah community," explained Sydney.

Evie said that she feels "connected to the Jewish community" through the group. Sophie and Livi describe the experience as "spiritual" and "giving a sense of faith."

The girls see Shir Chadash as a way to represent the voices of the youth in the congregation and hope to distinguish themselves by presenting new music in a new way. "We want to be different than the Shironim," said Ari.

Hannah likes the feeling of singing in front of the congregation because, "It's just fun!" Hannah, Sydney, and Ari were also founding members of the Shiranotes (our youth singing ensemble for Grades 3-6 that previously performed for family services), which Hannah actually named!

Shir Chadash made a second appearance at the Veteran's Day/Kristallnacht Commemoration Shabbat this past November where they presented two Holocaust-themed pieces.

Their next performance will be at the February 1 BethTY Temple Youth Group service where they will serve as the musical leaders for the service and introduce several new musical pieces to the congregation.

We welcome Shir Chadash to our Beth Tikvah musical family and look forward to hearing their inspiring voices over the upcoming months! To learn more or get involved in this new group, email me at juliesapper@gmail.com.
New members welcome!

L'Shalom,

Julie Sapper

"After the service and for weeks following, many congregants shared how they were moved to tears by the powerful presence of these young women. That was the birth of what is now Beth Tikvah's newest vocal ensemble: Shir Chadash or "New Song."

Pictured at Left during High Holy Day Services (left to right): Sidney MacGilvray, Livi Holz, Hannah Reinicke, Evie Pappalardo, Julia Blank, and flutist Cydney Platt.
Current Group Pictured at Right (left to right): Evie Pappalardo, Sidney MacGilvray, Livi Holz, Hannah Reinicke, and Sophie Noble. (Not pictured: Ari Kennedy)

Debbie Friedman Shabbat
Friday, January 11
7:15 p.m.

A special service celebrating the life, music, and teachings of Debbie Friedman. Our Shironim will perform your favorite Debbie Friedman melodies from the 1970s through the years.

Prayer & Learning for the Whole Family

PARSHAPALOOZA!
Torah Study for "Tweens"

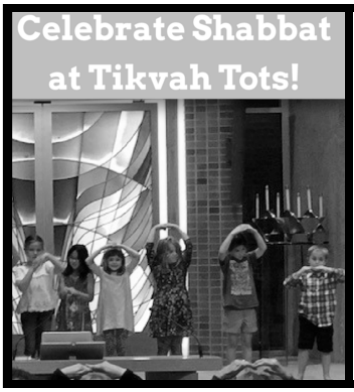
January 5
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Calling All 4th-6th Graders!

This is your opportunity to come together on Shabbat morning for interactive and experiential Torah study. Nosh on bagels and other treats, then attend Shabbat Morning Services together. Increase comfort levels with Torah and familiarity with Shabbat morning service liturgy while deepening knowledge of text in preparation for B'nai Mitzvah!

Parents are invited to join the fun at 10:30 a.m. to attend Shabbat morning service with us.

RSVP at tinyurl.com/ParshapaloozaJanuary



Tikvah Tots Shabbat with First Grade Participation

Friday, January 11
5:45 p.m. - Family-Friendly Shabbat Service
6:15 p.m. - Dinner + Crafts *($10/adults, $8/kids & under 3 eat free!)*

All are welcome at our monthly Shabbat service for children 8 and under and their families. Enjoy singing & story with Rabbi Rick! At 6:15 p.m. we'll enjoy a family-friendly dinner + craft projects with Morissa Freiberg.

RSVP at tinyurl.com/tikvahtotsjanuary

Saturday, January 12 - 6-8 p.m.

All families are invited to play BINGO, BOARD GAMES, and MORE!
Join us for dinner + a special Havdalah service.

$10 adults / $8 kids
RSVP at https://tinyurl.com/btgamenight

Saturday 1/26/19
5:00PM

Come to Beth Tikvah in your favorite pajamas to learn about and celebrate Havdalah as a family!

There will be a short Havdalah service followed by a story for the kids, an activity for parents, and a fun family craft. We'll have pizza for dinner, and cookies and milk for dessert.

Please RSVP by 1/23 by going to:

https://tinyurl.com/famhavdalah19

Thank you to the following contributors:

CARING COMMUNITY FUND
- Marty & Dossy Gelender in honor of Marty Seltzer receiving the Ed Schecter Award

FUND OF THE MONTH (Mishpacha Fund)
- Dora & Ed Sterling in memory of Curtis Chevlen, beloved husband of Martha Rutherford

JEWISH CAMP FUND
- Sharon & Seymour Halpern in memory of their fathers, William Halpern & Louis Haas
- Siddy Rosenberg in honor of Daniel & Ilissa Eiferman's anniversary

MUSIC FUND
- Abby & Don Goldbaum in memory of Margie Franta, beloved mother of Phil Franta

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND (Richard M.C. Kellner)
- Cheryl, Andrew, Sarah, Lydia and Katy Colvin in memory of Andrew's mother, Karen Colvin
- Todd Emoff with appreciation to Rabbi Rick for the Downtowners luncheons
- Marcey & Rick Forman in memory of Rick's mother, Jean Forman
- Sylvia & Jim Kolbe in honor of the birth of their grandson, Moses Adam Mohler
- Barbara Sanderow in memory of her father Louis Tannebaum & brother, Barry Tannebaum
- Daniel Steinberg with appreciation to Rabbi Kellner for his guidance and support
- Brian & Caitlin Stewart in appreciation to Rabbi Kellner & in honor of their conversion

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
- Sandra Taub in honor of Cato Weisberg's Bar Mitzvah, and to offset the carbon footprint of her attendance

SOCIAL ACTION FUND
- Ben Begleiter in honor of Cato Weisberg on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah

SPECIAL EVENTS & BIMA FLOWERS FUND
- The Mandelkorn Family in memory of Max Schlamm

For more information about the different funds, please visit www.bethtikvahcolumbus.org.

Shishim in January

Thursday, January 10
10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

(Includes Noon Lunch with reservation by Noon on January 7, 2019)

Fascinating Topics!
Exciting Speakers!
This month's include:

• (11 a.m.) Becoming a Sage as You Age
• (1 p.m.) Comparative Jewish Music

At 11 a.m. Rabbi Rick Kellner will guide us in a discussion about Jewish wisdom. Using wisdom from Jewish sources and teachings - as well as insight from modern day experts - we will think about how we can become a sage as we age. Judith Brachman (pictured), former director of the Ohio Department of Aging, will discuss facts and figures about the changing population of American Jewish seniors.

At 1 p.m. Morissa Freiberg will examine how different Jewish composers, bands, and ensembles navigate text, prayer and music – all in their own unique ways. No prior music experience is needed to enjoy this talk! We will use our ears, eyes, and minds to open our hearts and souls to different modalities of Jewish musical expression.

At noon, Shishim members and guests can enjoy a delicious meal together. Cost is $12 for members, $15 for guests and lunch reservations are required. To reserve your spot, email Sally Stefano at sjms4772@gmail.com or calling (614) 436-4290 by noon on January 7.

What's New With Brotherhood?

Many THANKS to Mike Fliegel, Latke Fryer Extraordinaire, along with Brotherhood volunteers Dave Parr and Steve Dritz *(pictured at right, right to left)*, as well as Jeff Albert, Mike Alexander, Elliot Davidoff, Don Goldbaum, Earl Goldhammer, Howard Levin, Larry Romanoff, Steve Rosenthal, Brian Stewart, Jeff Wasserstrom, and Stu Zweben, for making Latkefest a great and tasty success! Their efforts contributed to making Hanukkah very special.

Fun Facts! The 400+ latkes were fried up over three separate frying get-togethers. Unexpectedly yet coincidentally for this holiday which lasts eight days, the latkes filled up eight large serving trays and the chicken nuggets filled up eight large baking sheets.

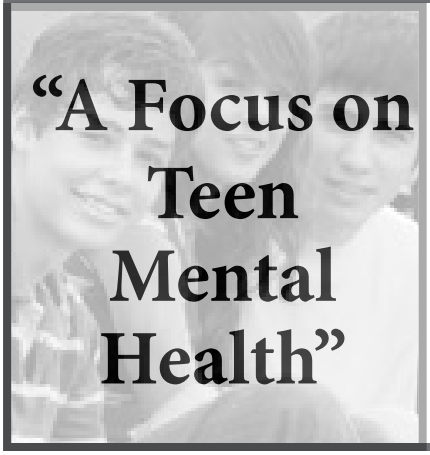
Brotherhood's annual Meals on Wheels event was held on December 23. We had a very high level of congregational participation after a delicious breakfast, delivered hot meals to very grateful meal recipients. **THANKS** to David Binkovitz for organizing this annual event.

Coming Up! Sunday, January 13: Join Brotherhood for another delicious dinner followed by Beth Tikvah's Herb Weisberg sharing his insight on Jewish Voting Demographics. Be sure to attend this very interesting and informative event.

Start off 2019 on the right foot and join Brotherhood! Simply send a check for $36 to the Beth Tikvah office with "Brotherhood Dues" written on the check's memo line. *Or* sign up and bring your check to an upcoming event. Brotherhood also offers a FREE, one-year membership for new congregants. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Dritz at Dritz4OSU@gmail.com.

Adult Learning

the center for Jewish Parenting presents



January 13
10:45 a.m.

Attention Parents of Teens & Pre-Teens!

Family therapist "Charlie" Knerr, MS, IMFT-S, will expertly address your questions and concerns as you help your child navigate:

- **Teen Stress**
- **Anxiety**
- **Eating Disorders**

RSVP at tinyurl.com/CFJPJan13

"Israeli Graffiti & Street Art: A Mirror Into Society" with *Merav Livneh-Dill*

January 16, 2019
7-8:30 p.m.

Street art and graffiti are thriving in Israel today. Join Merav Livneh-Dill, Senior Schlicha for the Columbus Jewish community, as she explores how they are used as artistic expression, a tool for political protest, and a form of civil discourse. She will also examine how they reflect Israeli society.

Thank You

• Thank you volunteer receptionists Jane Mitchell, Margot Morrissey, & Penny Wyman!

• Thank you Brotherhood latke-makers: Mike Fliegel, Dave Parr, Mike Alexander, Elliot Davidoff, Larry Romanoff, Howard Levin, Earl Goldhammer, Stu Zweben, Jeff Wasserstrom, Steve Dritz, Jeff Albert, Brian Stewart, & Steve Rosenthal!

• Thank you Election Day Bake Sale bakers & volunteers: Marilyn Cooper, Shelley Engler, Wendy Grindstaff, Marsha Harris, Judy Hollander, Jackie Kon, Susan Litsky, Nada Mazurek, Jane Mitchell, Ann Nibert, Susan Pomerantz, Dora Sterling, Alaina Towne, & Barbara & Michael Taxier.

• Rose Luttinger & Family (David & Nancy) wish to offer many thanks to everyone who sent cards, food, words of sympathy, & contributions for Manfred's death. Your many kindnesses were very comforting to us.

• Thank you Tikvah Topics helper Susan Pomerantz!

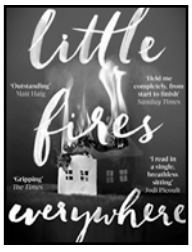
In Loving Memory

• Curtis Chevlen, beloved husband of Martha Rutherford & father of William & Elizabeth Chevlen

• Margie Franta, beloved mother of Phil Franta

• Harry Greenbaum, beloved father of Rob Greenbaum

• Arthur Ksienski, beloved husband of Frida Ksienski



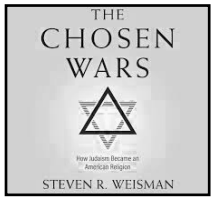
Sisterhood Book Club

Meets 2nd Tuesdays at Noon!

Our next discussion takes place on **January 8 at 12 p.m.**

We will discuss ***Little Fires Everywhere*** by Celeste Ng. Bring a bag lunch and join us in the Rabbi Gary A. Huber Library!

Sunday Night Study Group



January 6, 2019
7-8:30 p.m.

Join us for Sunday Evening Adult Learning. We will begin the New Year with a new book for our study/discussion group! All are welcome- come any time. Our group meets monthly, the first Sunday of the month.

This January, we will begin discussing ***The Chosen Wars – How Judaism Became an American Religion***, by Steven R. Weisman. This is a dramatic history of how Judaism redefined itself in America, enhanced America, and how America inspired Judaism. We will start with the Introduction and first chapter.

Motions from the December Meeting of the Board of Trustees

• ***Luttinger Donation:*** Rachel Lambermont moved to accept a $20,000 donation from the Manfred Luttinger Estate to be used to establish an endowed fund to be named the ***Manfred and Rose Luttinger Endowment for Adult Education***. The motion was seconded by Cindy Barker. The motion was approved unanimously.

• Wendy Klein moved that a second donation of $20,000 from the Manfred Luttinger Estate to Congregation Beth Tikvah for purposes to be determined by the Beth Tikvah Board of Trustees be designated for Tikkun Olam activities at Beth Tikvah. The motion was seconded by Cindy Barker. The motion was approved unanimously.

• ***Security***: Jackie Kon moved to approve drawing funds from the Beth Tikvah Operating Reserve for the unbudgeted security expenses that we have authorized thus far. The motion was seconded by Marlowe Lichtenfeld. The motion was approved unanimously.

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10% TOWARDS JEWISH CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Matt Ryan makes a contribution of 10% of all mitzvah packages booked by Congregation Beth Tikvah members to the Beth Tikvah Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund. Please be sure to mention you're a CBT member when scheduling your event!

MAZEL TOV!

*We had a **BLAST** at your b'nai mitzvah celebration*

Gabi Sanderow
Michael Robinson
Julia Sitter
Madison Tibbals

MattRyanDJ.com

Matt Ryan
Mobile DJ Entertainment

Support Beth Tikvah programs using your Kroger Plus Card!

Enroll by visiting KrogerCommunityRewards.com. Sign in to your online account, or create an account. Search/select "Congregation Beth Tikvah" from the list of organizations, then click "enroll." Re-enroll every April to continuing earning rewards for Beth Tikvah. Thank you for your support!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Support Beth Tikvah when you shop on Amazon. Simply log into your Amazon account at https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1069161 and Beth Tikvah gets a share of the profit. It's a fun easy way to give back to Beth Tikvah!

If you would like to submit articles, events, Mazel Tovs or Thank Yous for consideration in upcoming editions of Tikvah Topics or our weekly e-newsletter, News from Beth Tikvah, contact Communications Manager Felicity Nesham-West at fneshamwest@bethtikvahcolumbus.org.

January - Tevet / Shevat

All dates and times are subject to change. Visit the calendar on www.bethtikvahcolumbus.org for up-to-date information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 **Building Closed for Holiday** **NO SMALL GROUP HEBREW THIS WEEK** **>>>>>>>>>>>>>>**	**2** **6:30 p.m.** Intro to Judaism	3 **8:30 a.m.** Executive Committee Meeting **10 a.m.** Adult Hebrew **12:30 p.m.** Kibbitz and Kraft	4 **7:15 p.m.** Shabbat Evening Service	5 **9 a.m.** Torah Study **9:30 a.m.** Parshapalooza Torah Study for Tweens **10:15 a.m.** Shabbat Morning Service Celebrating the B'nai Mitzvah of Liev and Roman Joseph
6 **9:30 a.m.** Presidential Office Hours Religious School 3rd Grade Family Ed Day **12 p.m.** Madrichim Lunch & Learn **12:15/1:15 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **12:30 p.m.** Teen Program & Post Confirmation **7 p.m.** Sunday Night Study Group	7 **12 p.m.** Women's Torah Study **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **6:30 p.m.** Adult B'nai Mitzvah **7 p.m.** Darcheinu **7 p.m.** Shironim Rehearsal	8 **12 p.m.** Sisterhood Book Club **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	9 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **6:30 p.m.** Intro to Judaism	10 **10 a.m.** Adult Hebrew **10:30 a.m.** Shishim **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **7:30 p.m.** Board Meeting	11 **L'Taken-10th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.** **9 a.m.** Shabbat ShaBOOM! **5:45 p.m.** Tikvah Tots with 1st Grade Participation **6:15 p.m.** Tikvah Tots Dinner **7:15 p.m.** Shabbat Evening Service Remembering Debbie Friedman, with the Shironim	12 **L'Taken-10th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.** **9 a.m.** Torah Study **6 p.m.** Family Game Night & Havdalah
13 **L'Taken-10th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.** **9:30 a.m.** Religious School **10:45 a.m.** Ctr for Jewish Parenting: Teen Mental Health **12:15/1:15 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **12:30 p.m.** Teen Program **7 p.m.** Brotherhood Board Meeting	14 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **6:30 p.m.** Adult B'nai Mitzvah	15 **10 a.m.** Shishim Committee Meeting **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	16 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **7 p.m.** "Israeli Graffiti & Street Art: A Mirror Into Society" with Merav Livneh-Dill, Sr. Schlicha	17 **10 a.m.** Adult Hebrew **12 p.m.** Downtowners **12:30 p.m.** Kibbitz and Kraft **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	18 **5:45 p.m.** Tu Bi'Shevat Pre-Oneg **6:15 p.m.** Shabbat Vayinafash Evening Service followed by Tu Bi'Shevat Seder	19 **9 a.m.** Torah Study **6 p.m.** BethTY Broomball
20 **Erev Tu Bi'Shevat** **NO Religious School, Small Group Hebrew, or Teen Program** **Yom Limmud Teacher Training Day** **7 p.m.** Sunday Night Study Group	21 **Tu Bi'Shevat** **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **6:30 p.m.** Adult B'nai Mitzvah	22 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	23 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	24 **10 a.m.** Adult Hebrew **12:30 p.m.** Kibbitz and Kraft **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	25 **NFTY-OV Winter Kallah-HUC Cincinnati** **7:15 p.m.** Shabbat Evening Service	26 **NFTY-OV Winter Kallah-HUC Cincinnati** **10 a.m.-3 p.m.** Women's Shabbaton **5 p.m.** PreK-Kindergarten Family Havdalah
27 **NFTY-OV Winter Kallah-HUC Cincinnati** **9:30 a.m.** Religious School Parent-Tot 6th Grade Family Ed Day **12:15/1:15 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **12:30 p.m.** Teen Program & Post Confirmation **2:30 p.m.** Gesher Hebrew (7th Gr.)	28 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew **6:30 p.m.** Adult B'nai Mitzvah **7 p.m.** Shironim Rehearsal	29 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	30 **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew	31 **10 a.m.** Adult Hebrew **12:30 p.m.** Kibbitz and Kraft **4-7 p.m.** Small Group Hebrew		

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COLUMBUS SOUPER BOWL COOK-OFF XIII

13th Annual "B'nai Mitzvah" Birthday Extravaganza!

Saturday, February 2, 2019 - 5 p.m.

Brotherhood seeks sponsors*, silent auction donors, & entrants in two categories:

Amateurs & Professionals – Chicken Soup & Non-Chicken Soup.
Find entry forms online at www.bethtikvahcolumbus.org or in our lobby.

All PROCEEDS BENEFIT Beth Tikvah's Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund.

Tickets
Adults $10
Kids* $5
Order online at tinyurl.com/SouperBowlXIII
*Free for 4 & under

Back by popular demand, music entertainment by **Matt Ryan Mobile DJ Entertainment** *+ Photo Booth by* **Photos That Flash***!*

Please bring a can of soup to donate to the Holy Family Soup Kitchen!

Don't forget to bid on our great Silent Auction items! It's not too late to become a Sponsor (Chicken Wish-Bone Level @ $100) or to donate to the Silent Auction!

Featuring these Professional Contestants & more... along with Your Favorite Amateur Entrants:

Cameron's American Bistro
Flavor 91
Fork in the Road
Harvey & Ed's - New Entrant!*

Katzinger's
NAPA - New Entrant!
Simply Special Catering
Zoup - Dublin - New Entrant!

Thank you to our sponsors:

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