



Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Ithaca Reform Temple
Spirit • Community • Justice

Newsletter Issue 187

May-June 2015 אייר - סיון - תמוז Iyar - Sivan - Tammuz 5775

From Rabbi Brian Walt

Dear Friends,

I have just returned home from my April visit and am looking forward to my next visit. This year, I will be coming for a longer visit over two weekends in June (June 19-June 28). On these two Shabbatot in June, Goldali Danberg-Biggs and Zoey Zentner will be called to the Torah in celebration of their b'not mitzvah.

Over the past few months, I have really enjoyed working with bat/r mitzvah students and their families and am looking forward to these first two Tikkun v'Or b'not mitzvah that I will be officiating. In this letter, I want to share a goal I have as I take on rabbinic leadership of bat mitzvah celebrations and to ask for your involvement in this significant part of our community life.

A bat/r mitzvah celebration is when a child is welcomed into the Jewish community. It could be thought of as a tribal initiation rite, a welcoming into the tribe. It is my hope that our bat/r mitzvah students will truly be welcomed into community. Too often in liberal American synagogues, the bat/r mitzvah is a private personal family celebration. While the personal family celebration is really important and moving, it is also important that we teach our children the value of community and communal life. A connection and concern for community is central to Jewish life and one of the most important Jewish values that we can pass down to the next generation.

Over the past few years, we have developed a monthly adult Shabbat morning service and a Shabbat morning community. It is my hope that the bat/r mitzvah students will feel welcomed into this community and that all TvO members will regard it as a mitzvah to come to bat/r mitzvah celebrations. Over the past year, I have tried to nurture a relationship between the adult members of our community and the children who are preparing for bat mitzvah. I would like us to do all we can to encourage these relationships and want to ask you all to invest in developing a relationship with the young people in our community.

I am also hoping to enlist your help in guiding our bat/r mitzvah students in terms of their *tikkun olam/tzedakah* projects. Would members of TvO who are involved in social justice projects be willing to share their work with the bat/r mitzvah students? Could we develop a list of social justice issues in which adult members are involved and make connections between the students and the appropriate person or committee in our synagogue? Could we help our young people to understand that our commitment to *tikkun olam* is not only about giving some money to alleviate suffering, as important as this is, but it is primarily about working for justice (*tzedek*), for peace and for a sustainable world?

continued on next page

These are just some initial ideas. What ideas do you have about creating meaningful and joyful bat and bar mitzvah ceremonies? What would you like to suggest? Do you have a skill (music, creative arts, an intellectual interest, a Jewish skill) you would like to share with our younger members?

I hope to see you at the b'not mitzvah ceremonies of Goldali and Zoey in June. Come welcome them into our community. Come learn who they are and what they care about. Come share in this important community event.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful spring/early summer,
Shalom,
Rabbi Brian



Shabbat and Holidays

שבת וחגים

KABBALAT SHABBAT / WELCOMING SHABBAT Fridays 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted
If you are interested in leading services, contact Nomi Fridman <ema.nomi@gmail.com>.

Friday, May 1 Led by Moriah Tebor Shaw and Brian Cutler

Friday, May 8 Led by Annie Wexler and Tony Gaenslen

Friday, May 15 Led by Peter Silberman

Friday, May 22 Shavuot - Leader TBA

Friday, May 29 Leader TBA

Friday, June 5 Led by Joel Tabb & Jill Hellerman

Friday, June 12 Leader TBA

Friday, June 19 Rabbi Brian

Friday, June 26 Rabbi Brian

WEEKENDS WITH RABBI BRIAN

Friday June 19, 7:30 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Join us for a joyful and reflective Kabbalat Shabbat service held outdoors (weather permitting), as we celebrate the summer solstice, watching the sun set on the second longest day of the year. After the service there will be a short discussion on "Spirit, Justice and Community: Jewish Texts on the Spirit" led by Rabbi Brian. How do we envision our own spiritual lives and the spiritual life of our community? What are important values that we hold in regard to Spirit/God/Higher Power? This discussion will be part of a longer exploration over the year of Spirit-Community - Justice, the three foci of the mission of our community. Goldali Danberg-Biggs will lead Kiddush and parts of the service.

Saturday June 20

Shabbat Morning Service

Bat Mitzvah of Goldali Danberg-Biggs

9:00-9:40 a.m. Chanting and Silent Meditation with Rabbi Walt (Please note early start time)

10:00 – 10:40 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service

10:40-11:15 a.m. Torah Reading

11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Torah Study

12:15 p.m. Kiddush/Lunch

Goldali Danberg-Biggs, daughter of Robert Danberg and Mary Biggs, will be called to the

Torah in honor of her becoming a bat mitzvah. The Torah portion, Korach, tells the story of the rebellion of Korach, a Levite who challenges Moses. “You take too much upon yourselves, for the entire congregation are all holy, and God is in their midst. So why do you raise yourselves above the Lord’s assembly?” The rebellion doesn’t go so well for Korach and his supporters who are swallowed up alive by the earth.

Many of us see Korach as a democrat, an advocate for a broad sharing of power among all the people, yet his rebellion is squashed and he and his supporters are all killed.

Goldali will reflect on the meaning of Korach’s rebellion and invite us all to discuss how we see Korach and his actions. What is the role of rebellion and resistance to authority in our lives?

When is rebellion helpful and when is it destructive? Why does the Torah portray Korach in such a negative light?

Friday, June 26, 6:00 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Dinner

Communal dish to share dinner outside and communal sing-a-long.

Join us for a relaxed Shabbat of song, dance, prayer and schmoozing. Weather permitting, the service and dinner will be held outside. After the service we will sing as we watch the sun set.

Zoey Zentner will lead Kiddush and parts of the service.

Saturday June 27

Shabbat Morning Service

Bat Mitzvah of Zoey Zentner

9:00-9:40 a.m. Chanting and Silent Meditation with Rabbi Walt (Please note early start time)

10:00 – 10:40 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service

10:40-11:15 a.m. Torah Reading

11:15 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Torah Study

12:15 p.m. Kiddush/Lunch

Join us for a Shabbat morning service at which Zoey Zentner, daughter of Laurie Willick and Alexi Zentner, will be called to the Torah in honor of her becoming a bat mitzvah. The Torah portion, Chukat, very briefly mentions the death of Miriam. Why is the record of Miriam’s death limited to one verse? Who is Miriam and what is her role in the Torah? Zoey will share her insights about the role of Miriam and women in Jewish life and invite us all to reflect on Miriam and the leadership of women in our history and community.

Shavuot begins on Saturday, May 23 , 2015

From ReformJudaism.org:

Shavuot is the Hebrew word for “weeks” and refers to the Jewish festival marking the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, which occurs seven weeks after Passover. Shavuot, like many other Jewish holidays, began as an ancient agricultural festival that marked the end of the spring barley harvest and the beginning of the summer wheat harvest. In ancient times, Shavuot was a pilgrimage festival during which Israelites brought crop offerings to the Temple in Jerusalem.

Today, it is a celebration of Torah, education, and actively choosing to participate in Jewish life. Customs include reading the book of Ruth, all-night study sessions, decorating with greens and flowers, and eating dairy foods, because Jewish tradition compares the words of Torah to the sweetness of milk and honey.

Avodah Committee

ועד העבודה

CALLING ALL POTENTIAL SERVICE LEADERS:

We are looking for service leaders for the following Friday nights:

May 22 - May 29 - June 12 - July 24 - August 7

As members of Tikkun v'Or, we all need to think about the possibility of leading a Shabbat service. The Avodah committee is very willing to try and find a partner for you to lead with if you are concerned about doing it alone. It is a very rewarding way to participate in our community. It is spiritually stimulating for both the leader and the other congregants. It is like a mini-Yom Kippur; The Torah portion helps us think about how we are using our spiritual practices in our everyday lives. You are not bound to use any more Hebrew than you are comfortable with; the prayerbook gives us plenty of leeway for that.

Help the Avodah Committee help us all and volunteer for this privilege.

Nomi Fridman <ema.nomi@gmail.com>, Anne Brous <anneithacabakery@gmail.com>, or Ann Hoffman <annlhoffman@yahoo.com>

Building Committee

ועד הבנייה

NOTES FROM THE BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Our kitchen ceiling problem ... hopefully solved at last!

As we all know, the kitchen-ceiling-leak problem has been an (unfortunately) recurring issue over the past couple of years. We're happy to say we believe the problem has been solved and will soon be fully ameliorated. But first some background:

The problem begins with the placement of our furnace. Most homes and other buildings have their furnace in the basement. That's where ours would be as well—if we had a basement. But since our Temple building was built on a slab, the furnace had to go into the attic. In this case, that's the space above the kitchen.

All furnaces, a bit counter-intuitively, drip water as the gas fire burns. This water, called "condensate," is supposed to be led outside or into a floor or footer drain to drain harmlessly away. And in most cases, there's very little water involved.

In our case, the condensate water was draining in pipes that ran in the attic space above the kitchen ceiling and down the outside wall. But, with the ridiculously cold winters we've experienced for two successive years, those pipes froze, the condensate water backed up, and leaked into the kitchen ceiling.

We knew this was the problem two years ago when this happened the first time, and we thought we had solved it. What we didn't know was that, contrary to what all on-site plumbing personnel could observe, there were no fewer than SIX condensate pipes waiting to back up. We fixed two; we didn't know there were four more.

Now we do, and the solution, as proposed by volunteer consultant Ian Shapiro, is to re-route all six condensate pipes into the interior space of the kitchen ceiling. This will require some plumbing and carpentry but will keep these pipes safely inside the warmth of the building where they won't freeze and the condensate water can go its happy way down the drain. Once this work is done, we'll repair the ceiling for good.

We welcome your comments and ideas any time.

Tikkun v'Or Tribute Cards

Tribute cards are an easy way to acknowledge lifecycle events [simchas, yahrzeits, memorials, expressions of appreciation and thanks], while reinforcing our community connections, and supporting our financial needs. Each card sent is a donation to our synagogue.

We are offering two different ways of sending a tribute card to anyone you'd like to (TvO members, family, friends, nonmembers, etc):

(1) For a donation of \$18 or more, you can request that an individual card be sent. All you have to do is provide the information [see directions below], and the rest is taken care of for you!

(2) For a donation of \$100 or more, you can purchase an "EZ Tribute" package of 10 cards. You keep the blank cards, and fill them out and mail them as you wish.

How to send an individual card:

Contact Sherry Burford <sherry@tikkunvor.org> with all the requisite information [who is sending the card, to whom, for what reason, and the amount of your donation – minimum of \$18]. Your card will be sent, and the office will bill you for the amount of your contribution. An announcement of your Tribute will be posted in the weekly e-news and in our bimonthly newsletter.

How to purchase "EZ Tributes" bulk package of ten:

To offer both convenience and value, Tribute cards are available in "EZ Tribute" bulk packages of 10 for the discounted price of \$100. You keep the cards at your fingertips in a safe place at home or office, and send them whenever you want. All you have to do when you send a card is email Naomi Wilensky so she can put an announcement in the e news and the bimonthly newsletter.

To purchase either an individual Tribute or the "EZ Tribute" pack of 10 cards, contact Sherry Burford at <sherry@tikkunvor.org> or (607)319-4982.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Sherry Burford at sherry@tikkunvor.org or at (607) 319-4982

Sally Ezra – sally.ezra@tikkunvor.org

Naomi Wilensky - naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org

Tikkun v'Or Office: (607) 256-1471

Tribute Contributions:

TO: Joan Friedman
FROM: Sherry and Peter Burford

IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF:
Outstanding leadership managing the
Community Seder

SAVE THE DATE:

TIKKUN V'OR ANNUAL MEETING 2015

Sunday June 7, 1-3 p.m.

Plan to join the entire congregation as we come together for our annual meeting to vote in new board members and discuss important temple business. More details coming soon.

Religious School

בית ספר תיקון ואור

We had a great (long) winter at Religious School. Students moved right from Purim celebrations to Passover preparations, including crafts (masks and graggers, and then seder pillows and plates) and songs and stories.

Rabbi Brian led two *farbrengen* sessions (gatherings) with stories, songs, and even a little dancing.

Gan and Kitah Alef א כיתה (K/grade 1) chopped apples and tasted charoset. They even saw Moses (Joe Yavitt) bring the 10 Commandments down from Mt. Sinai (the heater space above the kitchen).

Kitah Bet/Gimel ב ג כיתה (grades 2/3) students researched and presented projects on Jewish role models, including Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Albert Einstein, Harry Houdini, Anya Davidovich, and many more celebrities, historical figures, and family members.

Kitah Daled/Hey ד ה כיתה (grades 4/5) led a wonderful Shabbat service, and have all made excellent progress in their Hebrew studies.

Kitah Vav ו כיתה (grade 6) and **Kitah Zayin** ז כיתה (grade 7) is exploring some ideas in history, including anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, and American Jewish history.

Vav/Zayin brought in the most cans of soup in March, and the most tuna in April too, to donate to the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard. Our

students love to help others, and they love a little competition too!

Our last months of Religious School for this year include new **chugim** (electives), including Jewish dreams (there are many dream stories in the Torah; what do your dreams mean?), photography and collage, and outdoor games (which may include some yard cleanup!). Our last day (May 10) will include a special siyyum (concluding ceremony), and a musical workshop/concert with The Libyans (see page 8)

Progress reports will be sent home in May.

Kol hakavod to our graduating students: Goldali Danberg-Biggs and Zoey Zentner. And **mazel tov** to our graduating teachers: Michael Goldman and Zach Levy. **Todah rabbah** (thanks) to Michael and Zach and to all our teachers for their amazing work this year: Neil Snyder, Noah Machlin, Paul Machlin, and Joe Yavitt and Dori Chandler.

And **rav todah** (great thanks) to our fabulous madrichim (assistants): Joshua Machlin, Tova Wilensky, Tali Benzer-Shuman, Ari Kirshner, Isaac Lyons, Julia Machlin, Annika Berggren, Linus Berggren, Noa Shapiro-Tamir, Elijah Gold, and William Yeater.

Registration forms for 2015-2016 are now available, on Sundays and on our website <www.tikkunvor.org> or by contacting <info@tikkunvor.org>



Teens v'Or

Are you (or do you know) a Jewish teen (13 and up) in the Ithaca area? Join Teens v'Or for fun activities, leadership opportunities, tikkun olam projects, and more!

Contact <teensvor@gmail.com>.

Bereavement Support Group

Several years ago Rabbi Brian offered a class—The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning—which gave impetus to forming the Tikkun v'Or Bereavement Support Group.

The kavana or intention of the group is to put 'theory' from the class into practice, providing support at times of bereavement and assisting Congregation members and others in thinking about how we would like to honor and remember loved ones, and be remembered ourselves at the end of life.

A trio of bereavement guides compiled by the group will soon be available on the Tikkun v'Or website.

Each of the three related guides honors the spirit and traditions of Judaism, but also suggests ways of adapting traditional practices for modern times and for our multicultural community:

- **Jewish Practices and Rituals for Death and Mourning** describes traditional and alternative Jewish practices during the period leading up to the end-of-life and for the year following a death.
- **When a Loved One Dies: Local Resources** focuses on resources in the Ithaca area, and lays out the chain of communications and decisions needed when faced with the death of a loved one.
- **Ma'ariv for a House of Shiva: Evening Service for the First Week of Remembrance** is a compilation of traditional and contemporary prayers, poetry and other readings for gatherings during the initial mourning period following burial.

While the guides are organized for easy reference at times of crisis, we recommend becoming familiar with the material before the death of a loved one. Doing so would provide invaluable opportunity to consider how to approach this sacred time, discuss it with others, and lay plans.

In addition to these written materials, congregants are welcome to contact Rabbi Brian for pastoral support and counseling, and members of the Bereavement Support Group for additional guidance and assistance.

The group recently held an initial conversation with congregants about what we have learned and the life cycle support we hope to weave into the fabric of the Tikkun v'Or community. We can be contacted at bereavementsupport@tikkunvor.org.

To contact Tikkun v'Or when a loved one has died:

Call or email Naomi Wilensky, congregation administrator, and/or Rabbi Brian Walt:

Naomi – phone 607-280-6781, email Naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org.

Rabbi Brian – phone 508-560-0589, email RabbiBrianWalt@gmail.com.

Caring Committee

ועד מצווה

The TvO Caring Committee offers support during life-changing events, such as a birth/adoption, death, illness, or other life challenges. The committee reaches out to the TvO community for volunteers to provide meals, transportation to medical appointments or to TvO events, or help in meeting other short-term needs (running errands, visiting the sick). If you or someone you know could use a hand, please let us know! The best way to contact us is by making a request at info@tikkunvor.org.

The work of the Caring Committee is held in confidence to the extent possible to enable volunteers to respond to stated needs.

The Libyans: Musicians Performing Sacred Jewish Music May 9-10

Founded in 2010, The Libyans project took its inspiration from Yaniv Raba's cantor father and his cultural roots. From this inception, they tracked down and collected rare poems "piyutim" that were almost lost to the world, along with unique melodies to the Libyan hymns. The Poems were selected and arranged and produced under the guidance of Yaniv Raba and Yankale Segal. Their album "Wandering" was released in 2012. Together they introduce the rich musical tradition of the Jews of Libya, unique in the fascinating combination of various musical styles - Arabic music, African, Turkish, Arabic, Western and more.

Three opportunities to hear or learn with The Libyans:

1) **CONCERT: Saturday, May 9 at 8 p.m. at Sacred Root Kava Lounge and Tea Bar**, 139 W. MLK Blvd.(W. State St.), entrance on Geneva St., Ithaca.

Tickets: sliding scale \$8-18 in advance from <www.ithacapiyyut.bpt.com> or \$10-20 at the door.

2) **WORKSHOP Sunday, May 10, 11 a.m.** A lively introduction to and celebration of the history, culture and music of Libyan Jews as part of TVO's Religious School. All are welcome.

3) **WORKSHOP Sunday, May 10, 2:00 p.m.** at Tikkun V'Or, \$10 requested donation
Will include performance of a few songs from the Libyans' repertoire and a workshop of a song or two for those who want to go deeper. All are welcome. Musicians and singers are especially encouraged to attend.

Contact: Aron Gutman 607-227-0073 gutmanik@gmail.com

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AUCTION \* AUCTION \* AUCTION

### **TIKKUN V'OR SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION**

**Sunday, May 17, 4-8 pm**

*We already have a really interesting bunch of donations for both the live and silent auction. We can use more! So search your houses, businesses, and minds for what you can contribute, including if you want to make some easy- to-eat standing up food for the event.*

Items to be auctioned so far include:

Art, antiques, weekend vacation homes, b&b nights, meals, baking, skills (massage, carpentry, cleaning, child care, gardening, sewing, acupuncture, computer assistance), and more!

We'll also have delicious refreshments and entertaining music.

Peggy Haine and Amy Brill will be the auction team (both active and silent).

Come, bring your friends, and have fun!

To donate items or for more information, contact

Anne Brous <[anne@ithacabakery.com](mailto:anne@ithacabakery.com)> or Shawn Murphy <[smurphesf@yahoo.com](mailto:smurphesf@yahoo.com)>

## **Roots: Israelis and Palestinians Share Peacework**

**June 3**

Ali Abu Awwad, a Palestinian educator, and Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, an Israeli, lead organizers of *Roots*, are coming to Ithaca this June!

*Roots* is a grassroots reconciliation and peace effort in Israel, featuring Palestinian and Orthodox Jewish settler voices, rarely heard together. *Roots* offers a hopeful, constructive frame for thinking about peace in Israel. The project includes a center for non-violence study and action in the West Bank, where 150 Palestinians and over 150 Israeli settlers are already members.

The goal of the program is to raise awareness about *Roots'* peace work in the West Bank; to encourage respect and dialogue across differences -- in Israel, and in our community; and to give Ithaca area residents an opportunity to contribute financially to this organization.

### **Wednesday, June 3, 5-9 p.m. Location TBD**

**5:30-6:30 p.m. Dinner and Learning Session** with Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger: text study and discussion about respect for the other, based on biblical, talmudic and Hasidic sources.

(Dinner will be bring-your-own brown-bag style, so we can *eat and learn together*).

**7-9 p.m. Presentation by Ali Abu Awwad and Rabbi Hanan** about the work of *Roots*, and the personal journeys that brought them to it.

*Co-sponsors: Congregation Tikkun v'Or, Temple Beth-El, IAUJC, ICUC-ME (Ithaca Coalition for Unity and Cooperation in the Middle East), J-Street Ithaca, JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council, a national organization) and many individuals donors.*

Questions? Please contact Miranda Phillips <phillipsville@gmail.com>



## **Feeding the Hungry: Machil Re'avim**

**מאכיל רעבים**

### **LUNCHES FOR THE RESCUE MISSION FRIENDSHIP CENTER**

Thanks to the Frank/Frankel family, the Korfine/Lenzenweger family, the Debbie family, and the Touesnard/Milstein family for making lunches for the Friendship Center in March.

Thanks to the Debbie family and Steve Hoffman for making lunches April and thanks to Harriet London for a financial contribution to the lunchmaking.

Help make 60 lunches on: **Wednesdays May 27 and June 24 at 5:30 p.m.**

If you are unable to join us and would still like to contribute to the temple's mission of feeding the hungry, you could buy supplies or contribute financially. For more information contact Dorothy Debbie at 272-3893 or dorothenotwork@gmail.com.

**Donors**

צדקה

**Thank you to our recent donors:*****Bryna & Harvey Fireside Rabbi Fund***

Carol Chernikoff

*In memory of Ernest Sternglass; and in memory of  
Elsa Shapiro*Doris Siederer, *in memory of Rhoda Brenner****General Fund***Geri Stayman, in memory of Sidney Stayman,  
Doug Stayman's father.Joshua & Stacie Bornstein, in honor of Rabbi Brian  
officiating at their wedding***Building Fund***

Patricia &amp; Robert Libby

***Tribute Card Donations:***

Beth Harris

Anne Brous

***Donations to help others attend the seder:***

Anonymous

Joshua &amp; Joan Friedman

Joseph Yavitt &amp; Sue Merkel

Sally &amp; Gregory Ezra

Jennifer Herzog

Kenny Berkowitz &amp; Bridget Meeds

Patricia &amp; Robert Libby

Gwen &amp; Garred Greenberg

Samuel Shapiro

Joel &amp; Joan Abrams

Richard &amp; Lise Rosenfield

Beth Cohen

Sherry Altman

Jonathan Plotkin &amp; Barbara Brenner

Samuel &amp; Carol Shama

Catherine Wagner &amp; Peter Kahn

Janie Carasik

Beth Harris

***Donations to the Kitchen Cupboard:***

Joseph Yavitt &amp; Sue Merkel

Sally &amp; Gregory Ezra

Ira &amp; Anne Brous

Gwen &amp; Garred Greenberg

Joel &amp; Joan Abrams

Charles Rubin &amp; Lenore Silver

Richard &amp; Lise Rosenfield

Vilasini Mills

Beth Cohen

Jonathan Plotkin &amp; Barbara Brenner

Samuel &amp; Carol Shama

Mark Lenzenweger &amp; Lauren Korfine

Sheila Rodman

Marc &amp; Sharon Chester

*Special thanks to the Ithaca Area United Jewish  
Community (IAUJC) for a grant to support our  
Religious School and congregation through tuition  
assistance.***Membership & Welcoming Committee**

ועד החברות

Tikkun v'Or is pleased to welcome our newest members:

Daniel Apfel and Emily Reiss

Josh and Stacie Bornstein and their daughter, Maya

New members were invited to an afternoon reception on April 19 at the home of Sherry and Peter Burford. Twenty people attended the gathering on a beautiful spring day. Rabbi Brian also attended and spent time getting to know the new member families and welcoming them. Many thanks to the Welcoming and Membership committee for putting together this wonderful event and special thanks to hosts Sherry and Peter Burford.

## **Many Thanks**

רב תודה

Thanks to:

- All those who led services recently: Anne Brous, Lise and Richard Rosenfeld, Judy Saul, Shawn Murphy;
- All those who hosted onegs recently: Fran Markover, Patti Jacobson, Ann Hoffman, Ariel Gold;
- Rabbi Brian;
- Dori Chandler and the students of kitah daled/hey (4th/5th grade) for leading services and to their families for hosting the dinner and oneg;
- Marne Oshae Kamp and Azameyra for great music, weekend service coordinators Dorothy Debbie and Sue Merkel, Joel Tabb and Carol Chernikoff, and helpers Deb Miller, David Rhodes, Robyn Bem, Laurie Willick and Karen Schachare, Alita Howard, Obie Smolinski and Rachel Ash, Vilasini Mills and Peter Silberman;
- Lisa Ellin, Diana Levy, Joan Friedman, and all those who have organized and participated in discussions on The New Jim Crow;
- Members of the Bereavement Support Group for their work explaining traditions and options and resources;
- Shira Reisman for leading Tot Craft Programs;
- Lauren Korfine and Dori Chandler for planning a perfectly silly Purim comedy night. Thanks also to helpers Allison Andersen, Christine Evans, and Beth Tapliz; Shimon Darwick for serving as the bartender, and to those who shared their stories, jokes, and songs, all those who brought food, and the fabulous IC klezmer band, Klezmorim.
- Jonathan Plotkin and Barbara Brenner for organizing Dinner & A Movie, and to Arthur Birnbaum for the tasty dinners;
- Lauren Monroe for sharing her knowledge about Exodus, and Patti Jacobson for helping organize this program;
- Sherry and Peter Burford for hosting the New Member Nosh;
- All those who helped with our Passover seder; the seemingly indefatigable Joan Friedman; Joel Tabb and Sue Merkel for preparing and leading the Seder service; Richard Rosenfeld for leading the Havdalah prayers and Seder songs; Neil Snyder for setting up the tables and chairs; Naomi Wilensky and Sally Ezra for their administrative support; Joel Abrams for leading the afikoman fun and sharing prizes with all the children; Martin Berggren for overseeing the parking; Shawn Murphy and Lisa Ellin for greeting guests; Everyone who shared their Seder plates, contributed ritual foods, and helped with serving, setup, and cleanup. A special todah to Arthur Birnbaum, Peter Burford, Sherry Burford, Josh Friedman, Jill Hellerman, Nancy Schuler, and Joe Yavitt; All of the readers who added their voices to the service and everyone who brought delicious dishes to share;
- The Israel/Palestine Workgroup for hosting the program with Amit Gilutz.

## **Condolences**

תנחומים

Tikkun V'Or extends our condolences to Ian (Mickey) Shapiro, Dalya Tamir, Tamar and Noa, Rabbi Brian, and the rest of the family on the death of Elsa Shapiro.

May their memory be a blessing.



BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

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Tehia Sinefeld

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PO BOX 4214  
ITHACA, NY  
14852-4214  
email: info@iaujc.org  
www.iaujc.org  
Look for us on Facebook

## ITHACA AREA UNITED JEWISH COMMUNITY

Dear

Spring 2015

Welcome to spring and to new beginnings! We embark on our 2015-2016 campaign with some questions for you and we hope you will take the time to send us answers:

- **Would you like to help provide direction to the activities of the IAUGC board?**
- **Are there areas of Jewish life in Ithaca that you feel need support and encouragement?**
- **Are there programs of importance that we should be bringing to Ithaca?**
- **Are there global issues needing attention which could be provided by IAUGC?**

Our board wants to know how to serve you best, and of course we need the financial resources which you provide to serve our community's needs. You *are* the Ithaca Area United Jewish Community. We especially welcome people who are new to the Ithaca area. Please join our activities.

The board has received a most generous bequest from the Estate of Robert and Marcia Ascher to be used for the benefit of the local Jewish community. This has been invested conservatively and we look forward to the possibilities it will afford in the future. We are hoping to establish an ongoing program to assist families with the cost of sending their children to **Jewish summer camps and teen experiences**. We are also hoping to establish resources for **Holocaust education and commemoration**. Both of these goals will need additional support from annual donors. *Are these projects of interest to you?* We need to know.

Take a look at the programs we have supported this year which are described in the enclosed annual report. Review the names of all of our donors in the Roll of Honor. Consider a generous gift of your own. Then sit down and tell us what you would like to see happen next. Use the tear off sheet below and mail it back in the enclosed envelope. Whether or not you are able to put a financial gift into the envelope along with your feedback, we will value your participation. Give as generously as you can. We are all members of the community that we create together.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Hoffman, Campaign Chair

-----  
We/I would like to help provide direction to the board of IAUGC.

- Please send me a survey to complete  
 Contact me to participate in a focus group discussion  
 I have specific suggestions to discuss, please call me

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



The Jewish Federations  
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*Robert Danberg and Mary Biggs  
invite you to join us  
as our daughter  
Goldali Asra  
is called to the Torah  
as a bat mitzvah  
Saturday, June 20 at 10 a.m.*

**מידל פנד**



*Please join us  
when our daughter  
Zoey Elizabeth  
is called to the Torah  
as a Bat Mitzvah  
on Saturday, June 27, 2015  
at 10:00 in the morning  
- Alexi Zentner & Laurie Willick*

WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE LEFTOVERS FROM THE ONEG? DINNERS OR PARTIES?

*No Need to Eat Them All!*

**Clean food is welcome at the Friendship Center (618 W. State St. across from Kinkos)**

**Monday - Friday 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM phone 273-6684**

Outside of those hours, call the shelter at 273-9177 to arrange to deliver food to the shelter.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or has an opening for a **b'nai mitzvah program coordinator**.

This part-time position (approx. 10-15 hours per week) involves close interaction with young people preparing to become bat or bar mitzvah, their families, and other young people in the temple community.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate a mastery of Hebrew and Jewish liturgy, have teaching experience with children and teens, be well organized, and enjoy interacting with both children and parents. Music skills are a plus.

For the full job description, see <[www.tikkunvor.org](http://www.tikkunvor.org)>

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to: <[president@tikkunvor.org](mailto:president@tikkunvor.org)> or mail to: Search Committee, Congregation Tikkun v'Or, Ithaca Reform Temple, PO Box 3981, Ithaca NY 14852

We are also seeking **Religious School teachers** for Sunday mornings. Contact Naomi at [info@tikkunvor.org](mailto:info@tikkunvor.org) for information about these positions.

# May 2015 - Tikkun v'Or

| Sunday                                                                                                               | Monday                           | Tuesday                                               | Wednesday                                                                    | Thursday                      | Friday                                                                           | Saturday                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>26</b><br>Religious School<br>9:15 am - 12 pm<br><b>Tot Crafts Program</b><br>9:30-10:30<br>9:30-11 Finance Salon | <b>27</b>                        | <b>28</b><br>TVO board mtg 7-9                        | <b>29</b><br>Vav/Zayin<br>4-5:30 pm                                          | <b>30</b>                     | <b>1</b><br>Kabbalat Shabbat<br>7:30 p.m.<br>Moriah Tebor Shaw &<br>Brian Cutler | <b>2</b>                                         |
| <b>3</b><br>Religious School<br>9:15 am - 12 pm                                                                      | <b>4</b>                         | <b>5</b><br><b>Cinco de Mayo</b>                      | <b>6</b><br>Lag B'Omer (5775)<br>begins at sundown<br>Vav/Zayin<br>4-5:30 pm | <b>7</b><br>Lag B'Omer (5775) | <b>8</b><br>Kabbalat Shabbat<br>7:30 p.m.<br>Annie Wexler & Tony<br>Gaensien     | <b>9</b>                                         |
| <b>10</b><br><b>Mother's Day</b><br>Religious School<br>9:15 am - 12 pm<br><b>The Libyans</b> 2 pm                   | <b>11</b>                        | <b>12</b><br>TVO Exec mtg                             | <b>13</b><br>Vav/Zayin<br>4-5:30 pm                                          | <b>14</b>                     | <b>15</b><br>Kabbalat Shabbat<br>7:30 pm<br>Peter Silberman                      | <b>16</b>                                        |
| <b>17</b><br>TVO auction<br>4-8 p.m.                                                                                 | <b>18</b>                        | <b>19</b>                                             | <b>20</b>                                                                    | <b>21</b>                     | <b>22</b><br>Kabbalat Shabbat<br>7:30 p.m.<br>Shavuot                            | <b>23</b><br>Shavout (5775)<br>begins at sundown |
| <b>24</b><br>Shavout (5775)                                                                                          | <b>25</b><br><b>Memorial Day</b> | <b>26</b><br>TVO board mtg 7-9                        | <b>27</b><br>Friendship Center<br>lunches<br>5:30 p.m.                       | <b>28</b>                     | <b>29</b><br>Kabbalat Shabbat<br>7:30 p.m.                                       | <b>30</b>                                        |
| <b>31</b>                                                                                                            | <b>1</b>                         | <b>2</b><br>Roots program<br>5-9 p.m.<br>Location TBA | <b>3</b>                                                                     | <b>4</b>                      | <b>5</b><br>Kabbalat Shabbat<br>7:30 p.m.<br>Joel Tabb & Jill<br>Hellerman       | <b>6</b>                                         |

# June 2015 - Tikkun v'Or

| Sunday                        | Monday                                    | Tuesday              | Wednesday                 | Thursday | Friday                                          | Saturday                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31                            | 1                                         | 2                    | 3                         | 4        | 5                                               | 6                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Annual Meeting<br>1-3 pm      | 8                                         | TVO Exec mtg         | 10                        | 11       | 12                                              | 13                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 7                             | 15                                        | 16                   | 17                        | 18       | 19                                              | 20                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Flag Day                      | Spirit & Justice: AJ Heschel<br>7-8:30 pm | TVO board mtg 7-9 pm | Friendship Center lunches | 25       | Rabbi Brian Kabbalat Shabbat & Dinner<br>6-8 pm | Shabbat with Rabbi Brian Bat mitzvah: Goldall Danberg-Biggs<br>9 Chanting/Meditation<br>10 Morning Service<br>10:40 Torah Reading<br>11:15 Torah Study<br>12:15 p.m. Kiddush/Lunch |
| 21                            | 22                                        | 23                   | 24                        | 25       | 26                                              | 27                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Father's Day, Summer Solstice | 29                                        | 30                   | 1                         | 2        | 3                                               | 4                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 28                            | 29                                        | 30                   | 1                         | 2        | 3                                               | 4                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                               |                                           |                      |                           |          | Independence Day observed                       | Independence Day                                                                                                                                                                   |

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**Congregational Leadership**

מנהיגות

|                                                          |                           |          |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Rabbi Brian Walt                                         |                           |          | rabbi@tikkunvor.org              |
| Administrative Coordinator and Religious School Director | Naomi Wilensky            | 256-1471 | naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org     |
| Bookkeeper                                               | Sally Ezra                | 257-7017 | sally_ezra@yahoo.com             |
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|                                                          | Dorothy Debbie            | 272-3893 | president@tikkunvor.org          |
| Vice Presidents                                          | Miranda Philips           |          | phillipsville@gmail.com          |
|                                                          | Shawn Murphy              | 351-7898 | smurphesf@yahoo.com              |
| Scribe                                                   | Kenny Berkowitz           | 272-9457 | kennyberkowitz@hotmail.com       |
| Treasurers                                               | Nancy Saltzman            | 257-2036 | nsse@mindspring.com              |
|                                                          | Peter Burford             | 319-4982 | pburford@burfordbooks.com        |
| At-Large Board Members                                   | Shira Reisman & Jeff Wall | 339-6830 | shishi923@gmail.com              |
|                                                          | Abby Thomas               | 836-1029 | Abby.Thomas@cortland.edu         |
|                                                          | Joe Wakshlag              | 257-0586 | dr.joesh@gmail.com               |
| Past-Presidents                                          | Anne Brous                | 272-5535 | Anne@ithacabakery.com            |
|                                                          | Ann Hoffman               | 277 3260 | annlhoffman@yahoo.com            |
| Avodah Committee                                         | Open                      |          |                                  |
| Bereavement Support                                      |                           |          | BereavementSupport@tikkunvor.org |
| Building Committee                                       | Peter Burford             | 319-4982 | pburford@burfordbooks.com        |
| Caring Committee                                         | Robin Dubovi              | 257-3688 | robinad@twcny.rr.com             |
| Finance Committee                                        | Ira Brous                 | 272-5535 | ira@ithacabakery.com             |
|                                                          | Doug Stayman              | 280-8975 | dms43@cornell.edu                |
| Jewish Education Committee                               | Lauren Korfine            | 256-0132 | lk79@cornell.edu                 |
|                                                          | Joan Friedman             | 209-4066 | jfriedman102@gmail.com           |
| Social Justice: Israel/Palestine Workgroup               | Beth Harris               | 266-7587 | beth55harris@gmail.com           |
| Social Justice: Racial Justice Workgroup                 | Diana Levy                | 273-2708 | dlevy@twcny.rr.com               |
| Program Committee                                        | Open                      |          |                                  |
| Action Against Hunger                                    | Harriet London            | 257-1502 | londonharriet@gmail.com          |
| Welcoming & Membership Committee                         | Ann Wexler                | 273-2191 | annwex1@gmail.com                |
|                                                          | Carol Chernikoff          | 272-0402 | cchernik@twcny.rr.com            |
| IAUJC Representative                                     | Denice Cassaro            | 256-0373 | denicecassaro@gmail.com          |
| Area Congregations Together (ACT)                        | Open                      |          |                                  |
| Teens V'Or                                               |                           |          | teensvor@gmail.com               |
| Newsletter Distribution                                  | Meg Morris                | 272-3904 |                                  |

For updated calendar information,  
call 607-256-1471  
or check <[www.tikkunvor.org](http://www.tikkunvor.org)>

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*The TvO newsletter includes items as a service to the community. Inclusion of items in the newsletter does not represent endorsement of any one viewpoint.*

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**Tikkun v'Or Welcomes  
Interfaith Families!**



**Issue # 186 Tikkun v'Or Newsletter** published bi-monthly  
by Congregation Tikkun v'Or, *Ithaca Reform Temple*  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 3981, Ithaca, New York 14852  
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