



Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Ithaca Reform Temple
Spirit • Community • Justice

Issue 196 / November-December 2016 / Tishrei -Cheshvan -Kislev 5777 תשרי חשוון - כסלו

From Rabbi Brian Walt

October 18, 2016/Second Day of Sukkot 5777

Dear Friends,

As I sit here in my sukkah, just six days after Yom Kippur, I am filled with profound gratitude for our meaningful and joyful holiday services. Over and over again during the services, I was moved by the beauty, honesty, vulnerability and the courage of the members of our community.

We shared with one another what was truly on our hearts and minds. I was so moved when members shared their own personal prayers in poetry, in spontaneous sharing during the traditional prayers, and in magnificent music created by Marnie and the singers. I had a deep sense that everyone was putting themselves into the service, into the words of the prayerbook and into the deep meaning of the holiday. It felt real, truthful and alive. I can't tell you what a privilege it is to serve a congregation that is so willing to explore the personal, spiritual and ethical meaning of the holidays. Thank you to everyone who made this possible. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a long list of all those who gave of themselves to make our communal services possible. I hope we will thank all of them and beyond that I want to add my thanks to each and everyone who came to our services for being so fully present to the experience. Thank you all!

At the Kol Nidre service, I spoke about connecting the spiritual and the religious and suggested the metaphor of "freeze dried coffee." Every moment of our services was dedicated to connecting what was on our hearts and minds – "the boiling water" – with the beautiful prayers, poetry and music of our Jewish legacy, "the freeze dried coffee crystals."

Now, our task is to continue this process in our ordinary lives. There are countless ways to do this. We can express our gratitude on waking up in the morning and saying *Modeh ani lefanecha ruach chay v'kayam*/ I am grateful to you, Source of all life. We can say *motzi* before we eat and take a moment to be fully present to the experience of eating. We can join with others in social justice work and connect with the call of our tradition "Justice, justice, shall you pursue!" We can incorporate some part of Shabbat into our lives. I encourage us all to make a commitment to continue to connect our tradition and our lives in small and bigger ways.

Lastly, I want to share a little about my visits on November 16-20 and December 9-13. During these visits I will teach a two-session class on leading the Friday night service. In this

continued on next page

class we will learn the prayers and structure of the service and explore how to lead a service that allows participants to connect what is on their hearts and minds through the rituals and prayers of the tradition. The class is for those who lead Friday services, for others who are thinking about or ready to take on leading a Friday night service and for those who just want to learn about the Friday night service.

One of the treasures of our congregation is that we offer member-led services almost every Friday night. We need to grow the pool of people who are ready to take on leadership. Ann Brous and Ann Hoffman, the chairs of the Avodah Committee, have done a wonderful job finding leaders and also creating opportunities for those who are newer leaders to co-lead a service with more experienced leaders.

But the class is not only for people who want to lead. It is for anyone who wishes to gain a deeper understanding of the Friday night experience and would like to explore how they may bring Kabbalat Shabbat into their lives. You can come to one or both sessions and there are more details about the class and registration on page 8 of this newsletter.

At the Shabbat morning service during my November visit, Duffy Berkowitz will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah and in December we will celebrate International Human Rights Day. I will offer a chanting and meditation service before the service on both these Shabbatot. On Friday night, November 18, we will have a late Shabbat evening service; on December 9 we will have an earlier Friday night service for people of all ages followed by a dish to pass Shabbat dinner with singing and dancing. I will also lead a *farbrengen* (gathering) for children and parents before religious school on Sunday morning. I hope to see you at some of these special events. If you would like to schedule an appointment with me, please contact Naomi.

As I write this letter in the sukkah, I am aware that we end the High Holy days with *Sukkos, zman simchataynu*, the most joyous of all our holidays. I wish you much joy in the coming year. May our heritage help us to be present to our deepest spiritual and ethical yearnings and may our lives reflect our deepest values.

May the sukkah of peace shelter us all/*Ufros alaynu sukkat shlomecha*,

Looking forward to seeing you,
Rabbi Brian



Shabbat and Holidays

שבת וחגים

KABBALAT SHABBAT / WELCOMING SHABBAT *Fridays 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted*

November 4 Led by Anne Bussard

November 11 6:15 p.m. dinner, 7:00 p.m. service

Enjoy an early Shabbat dinner (veggie/dairy potluck) and service with our Bet/Gimel (grades 2 /3) class and Cantor Abbe Lyons with songs (including Lechi Lach), prayer & Torah study.

November 18 Led by Rabbi Brian

November 25 No services scheduled; *Happy Thanksgiving!*

December 2 Shabbat in the Community (*see p. 4*)

December 9 Led by Rabbi Brian, 6 p.m. service, followed by dinner

December 16 Led by Peter Silberman

December 23 and 30 No services scheduled

SHABBAT MORNINGS

Saturday, November 19 with Rabbi Brian (*see below*)

Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. Shabbat morning service for the TvO community led by Cantor Abbe Lyons with the Vav-Zayin class (grades 6 & 7). Everyone can kvell (take pride in) our b'nai mitzvah students as they develop as young leaders in our community. The Torah portion lays bare a compelling story of sibling rivalry and parental favoritism!

Saturday, December 10 with Rabbi Brian (*see below*)

Weekends with Rabbi Brian

NOVEMBER 18-19 SHABBAT VAYERA

Friday, November 18, 7:30 p.m. “An Open Tent: The Religion of Abraham and Sarah”

The service will include joyful music, heartfelt prayer and silent meditation. Duffy Berkowitz will lead Kiddush and prayers. Lauren Korfine will lead the music.

Rabbi Brian will highlight a few core Jewish values exemplified in the stories of Abraham and Sarah: The Open Tent, Hesed/Abounding love, “Doing what is good and right,” the passion for justice, and “Will not the Judge of all the earth, act justly?”

Saturday, November 19, 10 a.m.

9:00 - 9:35 a.m. Silent Meditation and Chanting with Rabbi Brian

Please note early starting time. This is a special opportunity for some quiet reflection and contemplation to begin Shabbat morning. Rabbi Brian shares a kavvanah (spiritual intention and teaching) followed by a niggun (wordless melody) and short period of silent meditation. We generally do this three times.

No prior experience with meditation or chanting, is necessary, just a willingness to be quiet and listen to what is in and around you. We invite you to try it. Please plan on arriving a few minutes before 9. a.m.

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Shabbat Morning Service

Duffy Berkowitz, son of Kenny Berkowitz and Bridget Meeds and brother of Menzie, will be called to the Torah in honor of his Bar Mitzvah. The Torah portion, Vayera, includes the story of the binding of Isaac. Duffy will explore the meaning of this important and challenging story and invite us all to reflect on its meaning for us.

12:15 p.m. Kiddush/Lunch

DECEMBER 9-10 SHABBAT VA-YETSEI/HUMAN RIGHTS SHABBAT

Friday, December 9, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Rabbi Brian Walt and Azameyra, the TVO singers, directed by Marnie Kamp, will lead the short, family-friendly Shabbat service. This is followed by a dish-to-pass (veggie/dairy) Shabbat dinner, including Shabbat table rituals, personal reflection and a teaching by the rabbi appropriate for children and adults. After the meal there will be communal folk dancing and singing.

The Torah portion, Vayetze, includes the story of Jacob's dream that Rabbi Brian focussed on in the Kol Nidrei sermon, "*God is in this place, and I did not even know it.*"

It is also International Human Rights Day on Saturday, and we will dedicate some part of the service to our commitment to human rights for all.

We haven't had one of these family services for a while and this is a great opportunity for young and old to come together to share a joyous and inspiring Shabbat. Meet new people and strengthen connections with others in the community. If you know very little about Shabbat or if you do it every week, you will leave with a *neshama yetera* (the extra soul) - the gift of Shabbat. You also may learn a new song, dance or Jewish teaching.



Saturday, December 10

9:00-9:35 a.m. Silent Meditation and Chanting with Rabbi Brian

An opportunity for some quiet reflection and contemplation to begin Shabbat morning. Rabbi Brian shares a kavvanah (spiritual intention and teaching) followed by a niggun (wordless melody) and short period of silent meditation. No prior experience with meditation or chanting is necessary, just a willingness to be quiet and listen to what is in and around you. Please plan on arriving a few minutes before 9.

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Shabbat Morning Service

Our service will include a focus on International Human Rights Day including the reading of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

12:15 p.m. Kiddush/Lunch

SHABBAT IN THE COMMUNITY

Friday December 2

This very popular program is an opportunity for members to meet in each other's homes to share a Shabbat meal (potluck) and get to know each other. Dinners may include a short candle-lighting service and a discussion question, or just festive eating and conversation. Shabbat in the Community is a great way for TvO members to get to know each other in an informal setting.

We currently are looking for volunteers to serve as hosts. We are particularly interested in host families with children, although everyone is invited to volunteer. Hosts should be able to accommodate 6 – 12 guests. Host responsibilities include contacting people who've signed up to be at your house and coordinating food.

Attendance sign-ups will happen after we have enough hosts.

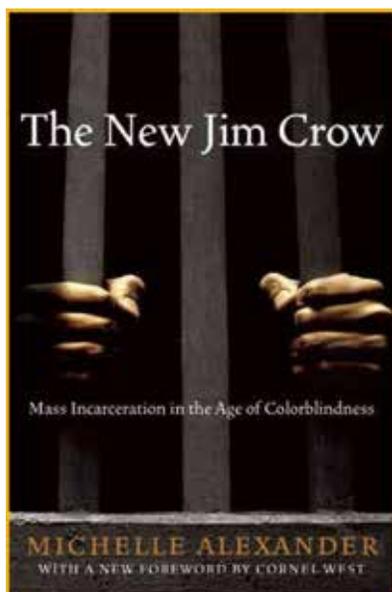
If you are interested in hosting a Shabbat in the Community event, please contact Peter Silberman by November 1 at <silbermanp@gmail.com>. Please tell us where you live and how many people you can host (how many adults, how many children).

Thanks for making Shabbat in the Community a success!

The New Jim Crow Community Read Group

** All are welcome **

Free copies of the book are available
from the Multicultural Resource Center



Time

7:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M., Wednesdays

Meeting Dates

October 19, 2016
November 30, 2016
December 21, 2016
February 8, 2017
March 8, 2017
April 12, 2017
May 10, 2017

Location

Congregation Tikkun v'Or
2550 North Triphammer Rd
Ithaca, NY 14850

To join or get more information, contact

Beth Cohen

bbethcohen@yahoo.com

607-339-7758

OR

Hallie Mitnick

hem424@gmail.com,

908-581-1668

Shana Tova! Miranda and I hope that the recent High Holy Day services held great meaning for you all. We were moved by the participation of so many members, new and longtime, who helped and contributed in a variety of ways over Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Thank you all so much for making this time of year so very special for our community.

Many of us reflected on the ways we “missed the mark” and on our accomplishments/mitzvot while at the same time setting goals for the coming year. For each of us, the answers are unique and diverse. What do we want to accomplish in the way of personal growth, strengthening our community, social action or protecting our environment?

I spoke at Rosh Hashanah about my excitement around the recent and ongoing energy projects at our building. Tikkun v’Or, with the hard work and dedication of our Energy Working Group and anonymous donor have, over the last two years, sealed our building, improved nearly all of the interior and exterior lighting, and switched to an electric provider that utilizes only renewable sources.

We will be implementing an HVAC system upgrade soon that includes the installation of air source heating and cooling pumps, air handlers and new furnaces. The cumulative impact of all of these improvements will not only continue to bring energy costs down, but will also reduce our carbon footprint by an estimated 95%! Stay tuned for further details on how you may be able to contribute to these efforts.

I’d like to share with you part of a story about Honi, the circle maker: One day, Honi (a talmudic miracle worker) was walking down the road when he saw a man planting a carob tree. Honi said to the man, “How many years will this tree need to produce fruit?” The man answered, “Seventy years”. Honi said, “Is it so clear to you that you will live seventy years? The man answered, “I found carob trees in the world. Just like my ancestors planted for me, I plant for my children.” Honi sat to eat some bread, and fell asleep. A pile of rocks and dirt rose around him, and he was hidden from sight. He slept for seventy years. When he woke up, he saw the same man picking (carobs) from the tree. Honi said to him, “Are you the man who planted this tree?” The man answered, “I am his grandson.” (Talmud Bavli, Masekhet Ta’anit 23a)

We have a responsibility to protect our earth for future generations. How can each of us become more involved; become better stewards of our land? Be it planting a tree, fighting climate change or recycling; we all can do our part, big or small. Did you know that Tikkun v’Or sponsors a 1.2 mile stretch of North Triphammer Road as part of Tompkins County’s “Adopt a Highway” program? Perhaps you’ve seen the signs on your drive in for services or religious school. I’d like to invite you to join in cleaning up our stretch of highway on Sunday, November 13th at 9:30 am. Our actions help to keep our roadsides less littered, providing both a safer and cleaner environment for motorists, bikers and pedestrians alike. If you’d like to participate this year (*see page 9*) and please give me a call at 607-351-7898 or email at <presidents@tikkunvor.org>.

“As heirs to a tradition of stewardship that goes back to Genesis and teaches us to be partners in the ongoing work of creation, we cannot accept the escalating destruction of our environment and its effect on human health and livelihood. It is our sacred duty to alleviate environmental degradation and the human suffering it causes instead of despoiling our air, land, and water.” – reformjudaism.org

Many blessings for a joyful season full of dancing leaves and breathing in the crisp autumn air,

Shawn Murphy
Co-President



Religious School

בית ספר תיקון ואור

We had a great start to our Religious School year. Students have started their mornings with chugim (electives) including Jewish Legos (photos on our website and Facebook page!), creating art for the sukkah, writing Jewish magnetic poetry, and making mitzvah pins (students will be on the lookout for others doing mitzvot, and will pass on the pins when they spot someone).

We celebrated Simchat Torah on October 23 with a special ceremony to welcome new students and sing and dance with the Torah, with help from Marne O'Shae Kamp and Jeff Bercuvitz.

Gan and Kitah Alef כיתה א (K/grade 1) is taught by Julia Machlin, IHS junior and Tali Benzer-Shuman, IHS senior. The students are having fun learning about the fall holidays. Tali is also assisting Cantor Abbe with the Wednesday class.

Kitah Bet/Gimel כיתה ב/ג (grades 2/3) is exploring the concept of holiness, with Shayna Fishkin (IC sophomore) and Paul Machlin. They are also reading a lot of great Jewish books from our collection. They will be leading services with Cantor Abbe on November 11.

Kitah Daled/Hey כיתה ד/ה (grades 4/5) students are benefitting from the Hebrew expertise of Mirit Hadar, Ithaca College Hebrew instructor. They are studying the words of the Prophets.

Kitah Vav/ Zayin כיתה ו/ז (grade 6/7) is discussing the weekly Torah portions and Jewish thought and practice with Kenny Berkowitz and Noah Machlin.

We're looking forward to *farbrenge* (gatherings) with Rabbi Brian on November 20 and December 11. Parents should plan to join us from 9:15-10 a.m.

On Sunday, December 18, we're holding a special program for Religious School. It will be "A Day at Camp" unlike any other we've experienced -- we'll be joining with students from Temple Beth-El at the Foundation of Light for exciting activities led by representatives of regional Jewish camps. More information about this program will be available soon, but all families with school-age children should plan to attend!

Teens ages 13 and up:

Contact <teensvor@gmail.com>

to find out what kind of fun you can have!

Tikkun v'Or Chanukah Celebration

Thursday, December 29

Save the date! Details TBA



Social Justice Chanukah Gift Ideas

The Gift of Tikkun Olam: Honor a social justice hero with the gift of social justice by making a gift in his or her name.

The Gift of Life: Give the most meaningful gift of all by donating blood or joining the National Bone Marrow Registry. Thousands of adults and children need blood transfusions or life-saving bone marrow transplants each year, and depend on matches from unrelated donors like you.

Fair Trade Judaica: Make it a Fair Trade Hanukkah with everything from greeting cards to chocolate to mezuzot! Guarantee fair wages and respectful treatment of workers for artisans, craftsmen and farmers. Be sure to check out Fair Trade Judaica, Bead for Life or Equal Exchange.

– Ideas from the Reform Action Center <<http://www.rac.org>>

TVO Fall Adult Education Class

How to Lead a Friday Night (Kabbalat Shabbat) Service



**Wednesday, November 16
& Monday, December 12 7-9 p.m.**

Rabbi Brian is offering a two-session workshop on leading a Friday night service. This is a special opportunity for those who wish to learn how to lead a member-led TVO Friday night service and for those service leaders who want to expand their understanding of the service and of Jewish prayer. It is also a class for those who would just like to learn and deepen their understanding of Jewish prayer and the Friday night Shabbat service.

The workshops will include:

- Simple instructions on how to lead a service, including what prayers constitute the core of the service and what is optional;
 - The kavanah/spiritual intention of the Friday night service;
- Answers to the questions: What is prayer? What are useful skills in leading a group in prayer and creating a meaningful prayer experience?
 - The role of music and singing in the service.
- Significant time for questions and discussion and some practice praying together and leading prayer.

**\$10 for both workshops, paid to Tikkun v'Or
contact 607-256-1471
info@tikkunvor.org**

Hebrew for Adults

עברית מבוגרים

Have you always wanted to learn Hebrew but never found the time? Did you once know how to read Hebrew, but the rings on the trees have accumulated since your bar/bat mitzvah and your skills are a bit shaky? Can you sort of follow along, but resort to the transliteration every time? Are your kids learning Hebrew and you wish you could help them? You are not alone!

Join us on a self-paced, independent study journey to learn to read Hebrew. Each participant will work through the curriculum independently at her or his own speed. The focus is on prayer-book Hebrew. We meet once a month to support and encourage each other, share tricks, ask questions, and read aloud with each other.

Next meetings: Sunday November 20, from 10:30-11:15 a.m. at the Ithaca Bakery's Triphammer Mall location.

Contact Lauren Korfine <lkorfine@gmail.com>.

Dinner & a Movie

It's true! The "Semi-Obscure Films of Jewish Interest" movie queue has been dusted off, Arthur has rescued the big cook pots from their lonely storage shelf in the garage, and we're ready to begin again, in this season of beginnings (L'Shana Tovah/Happy New Year!). If you close your eyes perhaps it will come back to you, the delightful aroma of home cooking with Arthur's special touch, warming the soul on a dark and cold winter's evening. Keep your eyes closed, we're still reminiscing. So many great films! Stories of rascals and cowards and heroes, mothers and daughters, a talking cat, frozen soup, expensive fruit, a forbidden bicycle, mysteries, loss, secrets and more often than not, redemption.

Whether you're an old-timer or a new-comer, we hope you're ready to begin again too. There's nothing better than the sounds of "welcomes" and "how are you's" simmering around the table and there's nothing better than the sounds of murmurs and sighs and laughter when the lights go down and the story unreels on the screen.

So mark your calendars! Food is served at 6:30 and films begin promptly at 7:00. Be sure to arrive early to maximize your schmooze time! This is not a publicly advertised event but all human beings are most welcome so feel free to bring friends. There is no charge but a small voluntary donation is requested. All events take place at Tikkun v'Or/Ithaca Reform Temple, 2550 N Triphammer Rd.

Zero Motivation

Saturday, November 12, 6:30 p.m.

Everyone wants something in their lives to be different, maybe even a lot of things. And then there are those who feel a little entitled too, because they belong to a certain generation of young people about whom it's tempting to generalize, but then you look a little more closely and maybe something surprising resolves. Picture an administrative unit of young women at a base in the Negev, serving out their military service in the Israeli army by attending day after day to shamelessly patriarchal soldier boys, far from anywhere remotely fun. Some are happier than others but everyone finds a way to make themselves heard. One part "The Office" and one part "Clueless," this film is funny and poignant and does a great job of being real without taking itself too seriously, from an Israeli cinema that (perhaps for good reason) often does. (2014, 97 minutes, Hebrew with subtitles)

The Farewell Party

Saturday, December 17, 6:30 p.m.

You may weep a little, just so you know. But there are smiles for every tear and more than a few good laughs. To the film's credit, these are not all charming, fake-cranky "Cocoon" old people. They aren't bobbing around with alien, fountain of youth eggs in the swimming pool; they're building a death machine in the garage. They invite pain and loss to the party because that's how you really care about people and in so doing they become the candles that illuminate moments so often left in the shadows. None of it's perfect but there's humor and grace in the trying. Plus they get to say the kind of stuff that make you wish that someone was getting paid to write lines for you in your life. We'll end the evening with a group hug. (2015, 95 minutes, Hebrew with subtitles)

Help with Tikkun v'Or's 1.2 miles of North Triphammer Road (just north of the synagogue):

“Adopt a Highway”

Sunday, November 13 at 9:30 am.

Keep our roadsides less littered
and provide a safer and cleaner environment for motorists, bikers and pedestrians alike.

If you'd like to participate, call Shawn at 607-351-7898 or email at presidents@tikkunvor.org

*Please join us in the simcha
as our son*

Duffy

*Becomes a bar mitzvah
Saturday, November 19, 2016
10 a.m.*

-- Kenny Berkowitz and Bridget Meeds

New to Tikkun v'Or?
Come to our Open House,



**Join our board members and other
congregants for good coffee and
conversation!**

Sunday, November 6,
from 2 to 4 PM.
at Congregation Tikkun v'Or
2550 N Triphammer Rd, Ithaca, NY



RSVP to annwex1@gmail.com

Membership & Welcoming Committee

ועד החברות

Welcome to our newest Tikkun v'Or members:

Jennifer Kagan

Allen Minsky

Marion Rain Deats

Melanie Lefkowitz and Anthony Elia, and their children Alexandra, Abraham and Nathaniel

The best way to support Tikkun v'Or is by becoming a member. For more information contact Ann Wexler <annwex1@gmail.com>

Tikkun v'Or Tribute Cards

Tribute cards have been sent:

To Isabella and her family in honor of Isabella becoming a bat mitzvah

From the Debbie family

From Annie Wexler and Tony Gaenslen

To Silas and Jemma and their family in honor of Silas becoming a bar mitzvah, and Jemma becoming a bat mitzvah:

From the Debbie family.

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. For more information, contact Sherry Burford at <sherry@tikkunvor.org> or at (607) 319-4982.

Condolences

תנחומים

Tikkun v'Or sends our condolences to the family of Louise Yavelow Furnas, who was a member of Tikkun v'Or from 2006-2014. Louise was the mother of two sons, Ben and Andrew. She was a beloved music teacher at Fall Creek Elementary school and later at Cayuga Heights. She really treasured TVO as her Jewish community.

May her memory be a blessing.

Donors

צדקה

Thank you to our recent donors:

Building Fund:

Anonymous donation for heat pumps and 1/3rd of the cost of new furnaces for the temple building

Bryna & Harvey Fireside Rabbi Fund

Bridget Meeds

General Fund:

Anonymous

Barbara Hollington Rosenberg

Nediv Lev Campaign:

Lois Levitan & Martha Armstrong

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

High Holy Day donations are not yet included in this list.

Many Thanks

רב תודה

Thanks to:

- All those who led services recently: Peter Silberman, Annie Wexler, Tony Gaenslen, Dorothy Debbie, Samuel Debbie, Anne Bussard, Patti Jacobson, Lise Rosenfield, Lauren Korfine, Miranda Philips, Nomi Talmi, Denise Cassaro;
- All those who hosted onegs recently: Lauren Monroe, Joan Friedman, Ann Hoffman, Anne Bussard, Allen Minsky, Karey Solomon, Carol and Sam Shama;
- Anne Brous for leading the Selichot service.
- Thanks to Rabbi Brian Walt for leading bnai mitzvah services, to Lauren Korfine, Tamar Kushnir, and Marne OShae Kamp for leading music, to Ira Kamp for sound, and to services coordinators and volunteers Lauren Korfine, Miranda Phillips, Laurie Willick, Sabine Zentner, Lois Levitan, Martha Armstrong, Tony Gaenslen, Sherry Altman, Corinne Stern, Naomi Wilensky, Monica Tousevard, Badyn Milstein-Touesnard, and Christine Evans, Sam Sach, and Kenny Berkowitz.
- Thanks to sukkah builders Shawn Murphy, Nancy Young, Nomi Talmi, Tali Fuson, Peter Silberman, Jen Kagan, David Rhodes, Nadav and Anya Rhodes, and Ilana Wilensky. Thanks also to Steve Hoffman for the corn stalks, and to all the Religious School children who made the decorations!

High Holidays at Tikkun v'Or require the help of many people. We are grateful for everyone's help. We hope we have not left anyone off this list. If so, we apologize in advance – please know that your work did not go unnoticed!

- First, we thank Rabbi Brian Walt for leading our beautiful services;
- And thanks to Miranda Phillips for her wonderful leadership;
- Special thanks to Josh and Joan Friedman, Adam Zonder, and the Hangar Theatre, for providing us with such a perfect space and making sure that everything ran smoothly; Extra thanks to Joan Friedman who continually stepped up and filled in whenever and wherever needed;
- Special thanks to Marne OShae Kamp for her amazing leadership of Azameyra, the TVO songleaders, and many many thanks to each of our exceptionally talented and devoted singers: Jeff Bercuvitz, Richard Rosenfeld, Lauren Korfine, Karey Solomon, Lise Rosenfeld, Tamar Kushnir, and Will Fudeman.
- Thanks to Ira Kamp and Dan Sternglass for their sound expertise.

Many thanks also to:

- Elly Frankel for overall coordination;
- Shawn Murphy and Miranda Philips for their leadership;
- Lise Rosenfield for organizing readers;
- Judy Saul for coordinating ritual logistics;
- Naomi Wilensky for behind-the-scenes logistics;
- Diana Levy and Bruce Fabens for so many ways they support the community and the holiday services – including hosting Rabbi Brian at their home, providing the beautiful flowers for the bimah, setting up the bimah with an eye to aesthetics, and to Bruce for creating a new Torah table cover and Diana for preparing the machzor supplements.

Thanks also to the following people for:

- Coordinating services: Diana Levy, Ann Hoffman, Judy Saul; Harriet London;
- Coordinating Yizkor names: Nomi Talmi;
- Preparing al-chet cards: Diana Levy and Patti Jacobson;
- Greeters: Martha Armstrong, Anne Brous, Peter Burford, Anne Bussard, Nina Cummings, Dorothy

- Debbie, Elly Frankel, Aron Gutman, Patti Jacobson, Lois Levitan, Frank Markover, Allen Minsky, Shawn Murphy, Peter Silberman, Laurie Willick;
- Oneg Coordinator: Deb Miller;
 - Oneg Set-Up: Mara Sapon-Shevin, Alita Howard, Obie Smolenski, Dan Apfel;
 - Oneg clean up: Joan Friedman, Tobi Feldman, Grace Horowitz, Dorothy Debbie;
 - Apples cutting: Emily Reiss, Noah Friedman, Maya Blanchard;
 - Providing challahs and honey cakes: Anne Brous, Sue Merkel, Julie Gozan, Karey Solomon, Carole Resnick, Sandra Thananart, Karin Suskin, Joan Friedman, Beth Levy, Michael Dorf and Sherry Colb, Alita Howard;
 - Book re-piling: Joan Friedman, Beth Cohen, Abby Thomas, Esty Schachter, Hallie Mitnick, Barbara Harrison;
 - Torah readers: Richard Rosenfield, Lise Rosenfield, Peter Silberman, Noa Shapiro-Tamir;
 - Haftarah reader: Faith Rogow;
 - Gabbai: Patti Jacobson;
 - Childcare: Charlsie Donnelly, Ilana Wilensky, Tova Wilensky;
 - Childrens' services: Mihal Ronen, Kenny Berkowitz, Abby Thomas, Alita Howard;
 - Shofar Blowers: Jeff Bercuvitz, Peter Silberman, Anne Bussard, Adina Wilensky;
 - Kol Nidre musicians: Linus Berggren and Chris White, and Jeff Bercuvitz;
 - Sharing original poetry: Fran Markover, Susan Eschbach;
 - Isaiah Challenge speaker: Adam Ellick;
 - Meditation: Ira Kamp;
 - Yoga: Jyoti (Jodi Kessler);
 - Break the fast coordinator: Aron Gutman;
 - Break the fast set up: Dave and Nicole Tedayan, Lois Levitan;
 - Break the Fast Clean up: Mary Biggs, Joan Friedman, Nico and Dave Tedayan, Sharon Ziegler
 - Organizing GIAC snacks: Will Fudeman and Tony Gaenslen;
 - Movers to Hangar Theatre: Steve Hoffman, Claudia Brenner, Bev Fitzpatrick, Dan Kraak, David Rhodes, Josh Friedman, Anne and Ira Brous and Ithaca Bakery;
 - And moving back to TVO: Faith Rogow, Joan Friedman, Joe Yavitt, Deb Miller, Aaron Miller, Dan Kraak, Ted Schiele, Anne and Ira Brous.
 - All the many readers, candle lighters, those who came up for Torah honors, break-the fast cooks, and all those who helped and participated in so many ways.

Bereavement Support Committee

When a loved one dies, we want to assist you as quickly as possible. Please use the following procedure:

- Email the Bereavement Support Group at: <BereavementSupport@tikkunvor.org>
- Call Naomi Wilensky on her cell phone: (607) 280-6781 or email <naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org>
- If Naomi is unavailable or not able to return your call/email, call Rabbi Brian Walt on his cell phone: (508) 560-0589

Caring Committee

ועד מצוה

Carol Shama has agreed to be the chair of the Caring Committee. She is seeking individuals within the congregation who may be willing to volunteer, on an as needed basis, for a variety of tasks. Tasks may include but are not limited to: providing a meal for a family with a new baby, a ride to services for a congregant who is no longer able to drive, a ride to a doctor's appointment, emotional support during a time of difficulty. As you consider whether or not you can offer to volunteer to provide assistance to members of our religious community, keep in mind that your caring strengthens our circle of community acknowledging that all of us need help at different times in our lives. With regard to the Caring Committee, many hands will make light work!

To add your name to a list of willing volunteers or to request assistance of any kind contact Carol Shama at <csshama462@gmail.com> or 315-945-4610.

Feeding the Hungry: Machil Re'avim

מאכיל רעבים

Thanks to Deb Miller, Daniel Sverdlik, Harriet London, and Paul, Dorothy, & Samuel Debbie for making lunches for the Rescue Mission Friendship Center in September.

If you are interested in making lunches on November 23 (any number is appreciated), or want to contribute financially and have someone else make the lunches, contact Dorothy Debbie at dorothenetwork@gmail.com or 272-3893.

Often one person buys all the supplies and then people come help make the lunches and



contribute financially to the cost of supplies. If you can help make lunches that would be great. For those of you who would like to help out but can't come make the lunches, you can still contribute financially to the lunchmaking. The temple has a Feeding the Hungry Fund that you can contribute to and these contributions will be used to reimburse the person who buys the supplies.

If you would like to contribute financially you can send a check to the temple, made out to Congregation Tikkun v'Or or the Ithaca Reform Temple and just note that you want your

contribution to go to the Feeding the Hungry Fund.

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

Mazel tov to Isabella Gold, Jemma Anderson, and Silas Anderson on becoming bnai mitzvah at Tikkun v'Or in September.

Belated mazel tov to Jeramie Robinson, on becoming bat mitzvah on June 17 in New Haven, Connecticut, at Congregation Mishkan Israel.

Mazel tov to Rabbi Brian on the birth of his 3rd grandson! Adam Raphael Walt, son of Maayan Walt and Benjamin Walt, was born on Wednesday, September 21.



Ithaca Area United Jewish Community

Honoring Our Past, Shaping Our Future

October/November 2016

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On Election night, when many of you will be glued to your television sets watching the results come in, a group of dedicated IAUJC donors will gather to welcome the mayor of Dimona, Israel, to Ithaca. Mayor Beny Bitton is visiting Ithaca to thank the IAUJC for supporting a program that provides extra academic support and a hot meal after school each day to over 400 at-risk elementary school students in 13 schools across Dimona.

Since 2010, IAUJC has raised \$37,000 to help fund the Lunch and Learn program in Dimona, an industrial city of about 33,000 residents in the Negev desert in southern Israel. Many children in Dimona live below the poverty line, and nearly one in five require special care and intervention due to psychological issues, academic difficulties or family challenges. Through the Lunch and Learn program, students can stay in school every day until 5 p.m., get individual help with their homework, participate in sports and work on computers, art and their English skills.

Elementary school principals in Dimona report that students in the program have made significant improvement in their academic progress and sustain this advancement in middle school. We know our investment in Lunch and Learn will help prepare the youth of Dimona to become Israel's future leaders.

Through its Humanitarian Aid to Israel Fund, the IAUJC has also donated \$15,000 in 2015 to support a social services program in the Dimona community called Youth Futures, which provides mentoring to empower at-risk youth and their families to overcome obstacles and become productive members of Israeli society.

One exciting development related to our work in Dimona is the interest these projects have generated among community leaders in Ithaca. We have created an executive committee made up of local philanthropists, business owners and public officials who are discussing the best way to create a relationship between the Ithaca community and the city of Dimona. We hope to have a public event during the day on November 8th, which will bring together various local constituents in order to meet Mayor Bitton and hear about the successful programs in Dimona.

We would like to thank all of our donors who have already helped support these critical programs in Dimona. We also would like to invite you to join us with your support by contributing to our general campaign. The many activities that we support are listed on our webpage. Donations are gratefully accepted by mail or online by credit card. Portions of your donation can be specifically designated to the many programs that we support. They are described at www.iaujc.org/causes-we-support.

Looking forward to a strong and vibrant 5777!



The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA

The Network
of Independent
Communities

November 2016 - Tikkun v'Or

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Religious School 9:15 am -12 pm Adult Hebrew	31 [Redacted]	1 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45	2 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45	3	4 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 pm Anne Bussard	5 Parashat Noach building rental
6 Daylight Saving Time ends Religious School 9:15 am -12 pm Open House 2-4 pm	7	8 Election Day	9 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45	10 Exec meeting 7-9 pm	11 Veterans Day Kabbalat Shabbat with Kirah bet'gimel & Cantor Abbe 6:15 dinner, 7:00 pm service	12 Parashat Lech Lecha Dinner & a Movie Zero Motivation 6:30 pm
13 Religious School 9:15 am -12 pm	14	15 Rabbi Brian in residence 11/15-11/20	16 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45 Adult Ed 7-8:30 "Leading a Service"	17 Board meeting 7-9 pm	18 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 pm Rabbi Brian	19 Parashat Vayeira Shabbat morning Rabbi Brian 9-9:35 am Meditation 10 am service Bar mitzvah: Duffy Berkowitz
20 Religious School 9:15 tarbrengen with Rabbi Brian Adult Hebrew	21	22	23 No classes Friendship Center lunches	24 Thanksgiving Day	25 No services	26 Parashat Chayei Sarah
27 No Religious School	28	29	30 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45 New Jim Crow book group 7 pm	1	2 Shabbat in the Community	3 Parashat Toldot Shabbat morning with Cantor Abbe & Kirah VavZayin 10 a.m.

December 2016 - Tikkun v'Or

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 No Religious School	28	29	30 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45 New Jim Crow book group 7 pm	1	2 Shabbat in the Community	3 Parashat Toldot Shabbat morning with Cantor Abbe & Kliah Vav/Zayin 10 a.m.
4 Religious School 9:15 am - 12 pm	5	6	7 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45	8 Rabbi Brian in residence 12/8-12/13	9 Service & Dinner 6 pm with Rabbi Brian	10 Parashat Vayetzei Rabbi Brian Human Rights Shabbat 9-9:35 am Meditation 10 am service
11 Religious School 9:15 am/brengen with Rabbi Brian	12 Adult Ed 7-8:30 "Leading a Service"	13 Board meeting 7-9 pm	14 Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45	15 newsletter deadline	16 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 pm Peter Silberman	17 Parashat Vayshlach Dinner & a Movie 6:30 pm The Farewell Party
18 Religious School Special Program: A Day At Camp at Foundation of Light	19	20	21 Winter Solstice Vav/Zayin 4:15-5:45 New Jim Crow book group 7 pm	22	23 No services	24 Hanukkah (5777) (Chanukah) begins at sundown Parashat Vayeshev 1st night
25 First day of Chanukah Hanukkah (5777) (Chanukah) 2nd night	26 3rd night	27 4th night	28 5th night	29 TVO Chanukah Celebration 6th night	30 No services 7th night	31 New Year's Eve Parashat Miketz 8th night

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**Tikkun v'Or Welcomes
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