



# Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Ithaca Reform Temple  
Spirit • Community • Justice

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Issue 227 \* November - December 2021 \* Chesvan - Kislev - Tevet 5782 חשוון - כסלו-טבת

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## ***Rabbi Shifrah Tobacman***

דברי הרבא

It's late October as I write this. The days are shortening and the nights are getting longer. The air is crisp against my skin the past few days. I understand the fall colors aren't as brilliant as they often are in Ithaca, still the leaves turn and fall and crunch beneath my feet.

I walked with a friend the other day at the Botanical Gardens, and with another at six-mile creek the following day. The weather was unpredictable and I was unsure both days whether or not we'd walk, but in both cases we missed the rain and hail and were able to enjoy each other's company outside. I'm grateful for this. I'm grateful that my foot injury has healed enough to walk this way. I'm grateful for these new people in my life. I'm grateful to have the time to do this.

It's the month of Cheshvan. It's the month just after the rush of High Holidays, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. It's a month with no holidays on the Jewish calendar, none at all. In fact, it's the only month with no holidays. It's a special time for many congregational clergy, leaders, and Jewish professionals — a time when the crunch of the holidays gives way to the relative release and spaciousness of watching to see what lies ahead, without having as many pressing ritual needs to attend to in the moment. It's a time when gratitude can more easily make itself known.

While not everyone in our community observes all the holidays, we might all consider this: Cheshvan is to the Jewish year as Shabbat is to the rest of the week, a time to exhale. Or you might also say that Cheshvan is to the calendar as the shmita year is to the seven-year agricultural cycle of Torah.

Shmita, according to Torah, is a year for letting agricultural activities rest so the land and people and animals can regenerate. Cheshvan is a month to let things lie in the spiritual soil of our daily lives, and see what emerges. We might start planning for winter vacations, and the light may be getting shorter, and our lightweight jackets and sweaters may be back in use, but we're weeks away from Hanukkah, and from lighting those first holiday lights against the backdrop of a wintery night. We can settle into the routine of daily life, or a new school year, or whatever this time might be about for us. And we can notice the blessings that emerge.

Before the next newsletter comes out, we'll have celebrated Thanksgiving and Indigenous People's Day. Why not start now, here in the month of Cheshvan? For what are you grateful? And how are the earth's seasons playing out in the seasons of your own everyday life?



## *The Shmita Year: Information and Resources*

שמיטה

At High Holidays, Rabbi Shifrah talked about the the shmita year, the year of rest and release for the land and people that the Torah discusses should occur every seven years. This year in the Hebrew calendar (5782) is a shmita year, and Jews around the world are engaging in interesting projects of tikkun olam in recognition of this.

Throughout the year, we'll be sharing resources related to the shmita year. Here are a few to get you started. Take a look, and see what you might want to join in on!

<https://hazon.org/shmita-project/shmita-stories/>

<https://www.jewishfarmernetwork.org/shmitaplots>

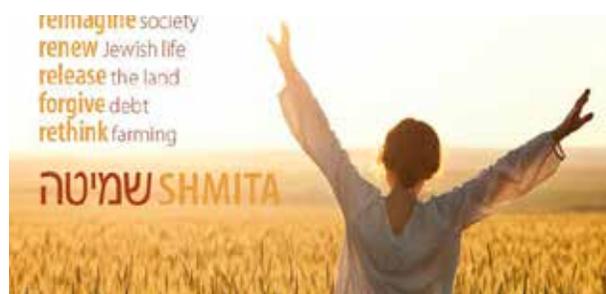
<https://ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/shmita-debt-release-campaign/?>

[https://hazon.org/shmitaproject/stories/](https://hazon.org/shmitaproject/stories/shmita-and-speaking-up/)

[shmita-and-speaking-up/](https://hazon.org/shmitaproject/stories/shmita-and-speaking-up/)

<https://www.jewishearthalliance.org/>

<https://dayenu.org/>



## *Adult Education with Rabbi Shifrah* חינוך מבוגרים

### **“RE” JUDAISM: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE REFORM, RECONSTRUCTIONIST, AND RENEWAL MOVEMENTS**

**Sunday, November 21, 3-5 p.m.**

The liberal and progressive movements in Judaism are each unique, and yet overlap in many important ways. Each also overlaps in some way with TvO in philosophy, culture, and/or religious practices. Our community is associated with the Reform Movement, but what does that mean exactly? We've had clergy, lay leaders, and members with backgrounds in the Reform, Reconstructionist, Renewal and Conservative realms. How has that influenced who we are as a community? Rabbi Shifrah will offer a brief introduction to each of the movements, and host a discussion session. She may even have some friends from different movements join us to help out!

Registration to attend in person will be available, and online participation may also be available. Watch the weekly updates and stay tuned for details.

Also:

Sunday, December 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m. For parents of this year's bmitzvah class (kitah zayin). Meeting at Robin's Nest Preschool, 56 Burdick Hill Road.

## ***Shabbat and Holidays***

שבת וחגים

Check your weekly TvO email for more details on all services. If there is a Zoom link in the email, the service is on Zoom. If there is a Zoom link *and* a sign up for in-person attendance, it is a hybrid program. Contact [info@tikkunvor.org](mailto:info@tikkunvor.org) to be added to the email list.

Friday, November 5, 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat (Welcoming Shabbat) with Beth Cohen

Friday, November 12, 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Shifrah Tobacman

Friday, November 19, 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Ann Wexler

Saturday, November 20, 10 Shabbat morning with Rabbi Shifrah

Friday, November 26, No services scheduled

Sunday, November 28 1st Night of Chanukah: Celebration \*Details TBA!

Friday, December 3, 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Shifrah Tobacman

Friday, December 10, 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

With Michael Margolin and kitah vav/zayin (6th/7th grade)

Friday, December 17, 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Leader TBA

Saturday, December 18, 10 am Shabbat morning with Rabbi Shifrah

*No services scheduled for December 24 or December 31*

## ***Chanukah with TvO***

חנוכה

We're looking forward to celebrating Chanukah as a community! Many plans are being discussed, but are not yet finalized. Here are a few events to note:

***1st Night: Sunday, November 28*** TvO Celebration,  
*time and program TBA*

***2nd Night: Monday, November 29*** Teens v'Or at Longview

***3rd Night: Tuesday, November 30*** TBA

***4th Night: Wednesday, December 1, 5:30 pm*** Midweek JLE will light candles together; all are invited to join on zoom.

***5th Night: Thursday, December 2*** TBA

***6th Night: Friday, December 3, 7:30 pm*** Shabbat & Chanukah with Rabbi Shifrah

***7th Night: Saturday, December 4, 10-11:30 am*** Family JLE with Rabbi Tziona, for registered students & their families.

***8th Night: Sunday, December 5***

***10-11:15 am*** Rabbi Shifrah will join students at JLE to celebrate & learn about Chanukah.

***5-5:30 pm*** Family JAM, for young children and their caregivers

### **Contemplative Morning Services: Tuesdays from 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

This weekly morning service, alive with music, poetry, prayer, quiet contemplation and a sense of community, has become a weekly anchor for many of us in these uncertain times.

Led by Lauren Korfine, Diana Levy, Judy Saul, & Dalya Tamir. All are welcome!

Check your TvO weekly email or contact [info@tikkunvor.org](mailto:info@tikkunvor.org) for the Zoom link.

## ***Presidents' Words***

**דברי הנשיא**

Our dear Tikkun v'Or community,

First, we would like to take time to thank Denice for her many contributions while serving as co-president of our congregation and for the integrity, thoughtfulness and leadership she modeled during her years on the TvO board. Our thoughts and love (including giant pre-Covid hugs) are with you always Denice!

From Shawn - when Nomi asked me if I'd be interested in finishing out the year as co-president with her, the answer (after checking in with my family) was an almost immediate yes. The caring nature of this congregation is something I admire and greatly cherish, and I'm honored to be able to help Nomi and you all in this way. Seeing the contributions so many of you made to our High Holiday services was inspiring and made me feel thankful to be part of such a warm and participatory community.

Looking back at the High Holidays this year, though not ideal, we feel that this year was better than the last. While we would have liked for the whole community to fully celebrate together in-person, we are glad we were able to work at least some physical togetherness into our hybrid services. We are thankful to have had Rabbi Shifrah lead us into the new year with the High Holidays, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. We hope you all continue to join Rabbi Shifrah and our lay leaders for upcoming services, educational events and programs and that, as we move into winter, we'll be able to physically be together more and more in our building (fingers crossed).

In addition to participating in TvO events, we would like to ask each one of you to take the time to fill out the High Holiday survey, as well as future surveys and communication throughout this year. We value and need your feedback regarding future programming and leadership! Through your attendance at services and events, along with active participation in these monthly feedback opportunities, your input will inform the board and Rabbi Shifrah as part of a "feedback loop." So please, take a few minutes to respond to the surveys you receive and help us create the best possible congregational life at Tikkun v'Or!

Lastly, members should have all received this year's dues letter and we appreciate your taking the time to send in your renewals. To our newest members, a very warm welcome! We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our vibrant community. If you are thinking of joining, you can find information by clicking on the "Join Us" section of our website [tikkunvor.org](http://tikkunvor.org), call (607) 256-1471, or email [info@tikkunvor.org](mailto:info@tikkunvor.org). If you have any questions about membership dues or you want to communicate with us, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [presidents\\_20@tikkunvor.org](mailto:presidents_20@tikkunvor.org).



We wish you all a wonderful fall full of pumpkin spice, time outdoors appreciating nature in all its crinkly leaf crispness and good health! We leave you with words from Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, "When the spirit shines, even foggy skies make pleasant light".

Until next time, get out there and shine.

Shawn Murphy & Nomi Talmi  
Co-Presidents

JLE means that children are having Jewish Learning Experiences! Here are a few of those:

In **kitah bet/gimel** כיתה ב/ג (second and third grade) with Miranda, students learned about the days of Creation, thought about what things happen in certain order, and why we tell stories to help us make sense of things in our world. What patterns and order can you make?

**Kitah daled-hey** כיתה ד/ה (fourth and fifth grade), students are gaining knowledge of Hebrew letters and words. They are reading in pairs and groups, and considering why there are two stories of Creation in the Torah. Why do we tell stories, and what might we learn from them?

In **kitah vav/zayin** כיתה ו/ז (sixth and seventh grade) with Kenny and Jacob, students are connecting the weekly Torah portion with a prayer or song, a cultural reference, and a wacky and funny unheard-of--before sport. So far these have included:

\*Moshe dies before entering the Promised Land -- and the immigrant roots of Comden and Green, writers of the classic “Moses Supposes His Toes-es are Roses” / a “weird beard” contest of strange paper Moses beard;

\*The story of Babel -- and the life of Jewish midcentury real estate developer Joseph Eichler;

\* Abraham and a promise of descendants as many as the stars, and travelling far from home / Christopher Columbus and the expulsion of Jews from Spain / “One and Done,” a physically distanced game of tag, with pool noodles creating star constellations.

\*Notorius Victorious -- it is rather complicated, but this lesson involved Sodom and Gomorrah, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, paper collars, and again, pool noodles, this time repreenting minority and majority opinions on the Supreme Court.

During the midweek class with Michael and Jacob, students are planning for their December 10 service. They are paying attention to both *keva* (the set prayers) and *kavanah* (intention), and writing about prayers in journals.

At **Family JLE** with Rabbi Tziona, gan/alef (kindergarten and 1st grade) and their parents went on a whirlwind tour of fall holidays. They made decorations for sukkot and created (and ate) candy sukkot, read from the Torah for Simchat Torah, and marched up a mountain (the hill in front of TVO) singing songs about the Torah to celebrate the Ethiopian Jewish holiday of Sigd. The next two sessions are on Saturday, November 6 (at Cornell Botanical Garden) and Saturday December 4 (Chanukah JLE / jelly!)

Our first **Family JAM** was all about Sukkot. Children and parents decorated gourds, shook the lulav and etrog all around, and learned about looking all around us, in and out of the sukkah. Family JAM programs are free and open to all young children and their caregivers. Ideas for activities always welcome!

*Continued on page 6*



You may have seen our **fabulous new bookcases** at TvO; they are now stocked and ready to be used! *Madrichol* (the gender-neutral terms for our teen helpers) can assist students with finding books, and there is a sign-out sheet if you would like to take any home. There's no due date for the books, just bring them back when you are done. We have board books, picture books, chapter books, young adult books, and books on Jewish parenting. A quick look at our topics and some of my favorite books:

The collection includes more than **1,600 books**!! Plenty of picture books / childrens, as well as chapter books / upper elementary through YA, fiction, folktales, collections of stories, and so much more.



A quick look at our topics and some favorite books:

*Biography*: Irving Berlin, Leonard Bernstein, Moe Berg, Marc Chagall, Albert Einstein, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Irwin Gershwin, Harry Houdini, Emma Lazarus, Judith Lieber, Stan Lee, Alicia Markova, Marcel Mareau, Harvey Milk, Patricia Polocco, Itzak Perlman, Ally Reisman, Steven Spielberg, and many more;

*Graphic Novels*: All the Hereville books, all the Rabbi Harvey books, Bat-Zilla: The Pajama Diaries

Torah stories, stories of Creation, Noah, and Joseph;

*Fantasy*: Morality for Muggles, Anya and the Dragons

*Sports*: Zisha the Strongman, Hammerin' Hank

Greenberg, The Koufax Dilemma

*Science Fiction*: The Secret of the Space Scrolls and Cholent, Wandering Stars

*Historical Fiction*: The Woodcarver's Daughter, A Faraway Island, Tucson Jo

*God*: When God was a Little Girl, Where Does God Live? Because Nothing Looks Like God

*Mitzvot*: Bagels from Benny, Be Kind, How to Heal a Broken Wing, Mitzvah Pizza

*Parenting*: Nurturing Spirituality in Children, Parenting Jewish Teens, Can I Have a Cell Phone for Hanukkah?

We also have entire sections for every holiday, as well as special sections on Jewish Summer Camp, Golem Stories, Life Cycles, Holocaust, Israel, Civil Rights, Prayer, and Cookbooks.

Many books are noted for their inclusion of multicultural, multiracial, and interfaith families and Jewish communities from around the world.

***Now is the perfect time to be thinking about ... summer!*** Many Jewish overnight summer camps are doing both in-person and virtual camp tours, and all are now accepting registration for summer 2022. The Foundation for Jewish Camping and IUAJC can help make camp affordable. First time campers can also be eligible for a \$1000 grant through One Happy Camper and PJ Library. Contact [naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org](mailto:naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org) if you would like to learn more about Jewish summer camp. Here are just a few camps that TVO students have attended:

URJ Crane Lake / URJ Camp Eisner

Eden Village Camp

Camp Seneca Lake

URJ 6 Points Creative Arts / URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech

Camp Zeke

## ***Teens v'Or***

תינו ואור

Teens v'Or is off to a good year! In September we gathered around a fire at TvO to reconnect in person after a long stretch of online connection. We had meaningful conversations about being a Jewish American at this time and place. We made applesauce, explored Sukkot ritual and marked the ending of Shabbat with havdalah. In October we visited the Gayogohóno' Share Farm Share Farm, where we helped press apples into apple cider and had a chance to share in meaningful cross cultural dialogue with indigenous and other euro american decent peoples of this area and beyond.

Finally, in mid-October we went to the Hoffman challenge course and explored the low team building elements in the forest that involved helping each other build bridges, traverse wires and lift each other through giant spider webs. I hope there will be more conversations around the fire and on local hikes as well as meaningful learning and connection in a Jewish way through all sorts of adventures. TvO teens please join us!!!

– Michael Margolin

## ***Welcoming Committee***

ועד החברות

Welcome to our newest members:

Sean and Rachel Ryan and their children Heathcliff and Tabitha

Marc and Gretchen Barr

Ariana Taylor-Stanley and Adrian Sampson

Holly Hutchinson

For more information about membership at TvO, contact Lois Levitan [loislevitan@gmail.com](mailto:loislevitan@gmail.com)



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

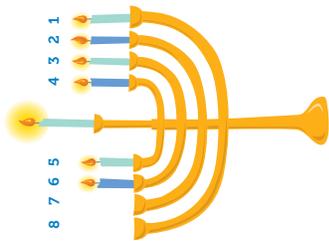
מאכיל רעבים

Tikkun v'Or helps St. John's Community Services provide meals to those who need, by making 60 lunches for the 4th Thursday of each month.

Thanks to Nina Cummings & Doug Stayman and Ann Hoffman and Brian Heltsley for making lunches in August. Thanks to the Debbie family for making lunches in September. If you would like to help please contact Dorothy Debbie at [dorothywork@gmail.com](mailto:dorothywork@gmail.com) or 272-3893. For those of you who would like to help out but can't make the lunches, you can still contribute financially by donating to the **TvO Feeding the Hungry Fund** to used to reimburse the person who buys the supplies.

# Happy Hanukkah

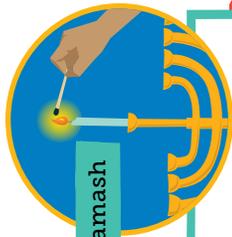
## Lighting the Hanukkah menorah



The candles are placed in the menorah from **right to left**, with one more candle added each night.

Use the Shamash to light the other candles, starting with the newest candle, on the left.

Light the *Shamash*, the helper candle, first. Then say two blessings – one for lighting the candles, and one for miracles.



Shamash

Baruch ata Adonai,  
Eloheinu melech ha'olam,  
asher kideshanu bemitzvotav  
vetzivanu lehadlik ner shel  
Hanukkah

Dear God, Creator of our world,  
thank You for giving us rules that  
make our lives special and for  
teaching us to light these  
Hanukkah candles.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר  
קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה

Amen

Baruch ata Adonai,  
Eloheinu melech ha'olam,  
sheh'asa nisim lavoteinu  
bayamim haheim bazman  
hazeh

Dear God, Creator of our  
world, thank you for performing  
miracles for our ancestors,  
long ago and now.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם שעשה  
נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה

Amen

If it's the first night of Hanukkah, add a third blessing for celebrating.

Baruch ata Adonai,  
Eloheinu melech ha'olam,  
shehecheyanu  
vekiyemanu  
vehigi'anu  
lazman hazeh.

Dear God, Creator of our world,  
thank you for keeping us  
alive so we can celebrate this  
important moment.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
שחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

Amen



To learn more go to [pjlibrary.org/hanukkah](http://pjlibrary.org/hanukkah)

## ***Bereavement Support Group***

The Bereavement Support Group of Congregation Tikkun v'Or assists members and others when they are anticipating the death of a loved one or following a death. Our *kavana* (intention) is to honor the spirit and traditions of Judaism, but also suggest ways to adapt traditional practices for modern times and for our multicultural community.

More information can be found on the Tikkun v'Or website under the "end of life" tab.

Email [BereavementSupport@tikkunvor.org](mailto:BereavementSupport@tikkunvor.org).

### **Area Congregations Together (ACT) Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**

**Sunday, November 21, 2 pm**  
**BUILDING COMMUNITY IN 2021**

Come hear of the transforming achievements possible when people support each other.  
 Contact Jim Grant, ACT Chairperson at <[jag8452@gmail.com](mailto:jag8452@gmail.com)> for the zoom link.

## ***Fair Trade Chanukah***

On Chanukah, we remember the Maccabees, a small band of fighters who challenged the larger culture, and won religious freedom for the Jewish people.

The farmers who grow Fair Trade cocoa, and the artisans who make the beautiful menorahs and dreidels for us to use at Chanukah, are like modern day Maccabees, courageously struggling to build decent lives for their families. Through Fair Trade, they are able to earn a liveable wage, invest profits back into the community, and create products so that we can celebrate and enjoy our history.

Most cocoa in the world is grown with the labor of trafficked children, who have had their childhoods stolen from them. Choosing Fair Trade Chanukah gelt to celebrate our holiday of liberation helps free other children from that fate.

Rabbi Menachem Creditor from Congregation Netivot Shalom in Berkeley, California, offers this inspiring kavanah:

*I hold more than chocolate in my hand. This product I have purchased is a mixture of bitter and sweet flavors, but it contains no taste of slavery. As Channukah is an eight-day reminder that light can penetrate darkness, may this experience of tasting sweet freedom, the bounty of free people's work, inspire me to add more light to the world.*

**Divine Chocolate** offers fair trade, organic and kosher, dark and milk chocolate coins. Produced through a women's farmer cooperative, Kuapa Kokoo, in Ghana.

<https://shop.divinechocolateusa.com/>

**Lake Champlain Chocolates** packages its fair trade and kosher milk chocolate coins.

<https://www.lakechamplainchocolates.com/>

Also see: Greening Your Chanukah: <https://hazon.org/commit-to-change/holidays/chanukah/>



## ***Many Thanks***

רב תודה

Thanks to:

Recent Shabbat leaders: Michael Margolin, Faith Rogow, Barbara Regenspan, Peter Silberman;

Recent zoom angels: Beth Cohen, Sue Merkel;

Rabbi Shifrah for leading us for Shabbat, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah;

*Even though it now seems to be old news, we want to take the time to thank all who contributed in so many ways to our incredible Zoom HHD. (Please forgive us if we omitted anyone's name. You are not forgotten.) Special thanks to:*

Rabbi Shifrah for leading inspiring High Holidays services;

Miranda Phillips for coordination of coordinators, hosts, and services, and leadership;

Marne Kamp Oshae for leading Azameira;

Faith Rogow for being our Zoom Guide;

Dorothy Debbie for writing the High Holidays guide;

Diana Levy for creating the TVO Machzor;

Peter Silberman and Anne Brous for coordinating the Yizkor and Al Chets lists;

The High Holidays Committee: Miranda Phillips, Faith Rogow, Dorothy Debbie, Peter Silberman, Anne Brous, Lauren Korfine;

Nomi Talmi and Denice Cassaro for their leadership and guidance.

*And thanks to:*

The musicians, Azameira: Marne Oshae, Lauren Korfine, Richard Rosenfield, Lise Rosenfield, Corinne Stern, Will Fudeman, Jeff Bercuvitz, Tsadia Bercuvitz;

Ira Kamp for all of his work on the technical and musical end;

Cantorial leaders: Miranda Phillips, Jeff Bercuvitz, Richard Rosenfield;

Shofar blowers: Jeff Bercuvitz, Peter Silberman, Obie Smolenski;

Torah Readers: Richard Rosenfield, Lise Rosenfield, Peter Silberman, Maren Friedman, Dave Te-dayan;

Fran Markover, for sharing her poetry;

Faith Rogow for her haftarah reading;

Jody (Jyoti) Kessler for leading meditative yoga;

Ira Kamp for leading contemplative meditation;

Michael Margolin for leading the Avodah service;

Elan Shapiro for moderating the Isaiah Challenge.

Members who shared their connections to TVO: Lara Estroff and Chris Xenakis;

Sharing congregational gratitudes: Shawn Murphy, Jonathan Plotkin, Anne Brous;

Chris White for haunting cello playing of Kol Nidre;

Jeff Bercuvitz for his moving rendition of Kol Nidre;

Christa Nunez for the inspiring Isaiah Challenge lecture;

Will Fudeman for his time-honored singing of The Ninevites;

Anne Brous for providing beautiful flowers;

All who lit candles or were called upon for readings and honors: Mark Milstein and Monica Touse-nard, Suzanne Aigen, Susan Eschbach, Judy Saul, Sherry Altman, Martin Berggren, Dorothy Debbie, Sally Ezra, Michael Margolin, Tziona Szajman, Sherry Burford, Marne Oshae and Ira Kamp, Jen Savran Kelly and Chris Kelly, Deb Gretz, Carol Chernikoff, Doug Stayman and Nina Cummings, Elan and Rachael Shapiro, Andy Maggor, Mitch Grossman, Jen Kagan, Laurie Willick, Sue Merkel, Joel Tabb, Will Fuderman, Nomi Talmi, Roberta Wallit, Brian Cutler, Julie Gozan, Jeff Bercuvitz, Stacy

Langwick, Lois Levitan and Martha Armstrong, Vilasini Mills, Beth Milles, Jeramie Milles-Robinson;  
 Family and Young Adult Participants: Margaret Soulstein with Sylvia, Melanie Lefkowitz and Anthony Elia with Alex, Bram, and Nate, Noa Shapiro-Tamir, Alex Scher and Simnia Singer-Sayada with Muna;

Youth services leaders: Miranda Phillips, along with Michael Margolin, and Rabbi Tziona Szajman for reading Torah;

Student participants in the youth services: Liam Ash, Eli Ash, Tsadia Bercuvitz, Sally Brenner, Zach Brenner, Dalia Bosworth, Joseph Bosworth, Maren Golden, Nora Golden, Julia Kleinberg, Will Kleinberg, Eliyana Olivieri, Channi Sacks, Aviya Schwartz, Eli Warshof, Sage and Isaac Kizelshteyn, Ben Lindenberg, Lionel Margolin, Ryan Freed, Ava Blankstein, and trumpet-playing Ozzie Sachs and saxophone-playing Zach Lindenberg;

Teens: Rennie Smolenksi, Maren Friedman, Yordana Wilensky, Elijah Kelly, Leeyam Hadar, Liliana Kress, Raia Gutman, Sam Sachs, Caleb Milles-Robinson, Raia Gutman and Sam Sachs on behalf of TvO high school seniors;

All those who shared their thoughts for al chet readings; and those who read them during the service: Carol Shama, Mara Sapon-Shevin

Readers for the Yizkor service: Carol Chernikoff, Tobi Feldman, Mihal Ronen, Elly Frankel, Mark Milstein, Joan Friedman, Dalya Tami and Ian Shapiro

Greeters, Ushers, and Zoom Hosts: Julie Gozan, Tom Keck, Ann Hoffman, Stacey Langwick, Abby Thomas, Shawn Murphy, Judy Saul, Laurie Willick, Bobby Kleinberg, Faith Rogow, Elly Frankel, Peter Silberman, Beth Cohen, Naomi Wilensky;

\*Machzor deliverers: Carol Chernikoff, Suzanne Aigen, Lois and Martha, Rachael Shapiro, Peter Silberman, and Naomi Wilensky;

Naomi Wilensky for coordination of various elements of the holidays

Shira Reisman for organizing the family picnic;

Jeff Bercuvitz for his inspiring tashlich and shofar blowing by the inlet;

All who donated food and snacks for Southside and GIAC;

Anne Brous and Ithaca Bakery, Elly Frankel, Carol Chernikoff, and Faith Rogow for hosting the food collections.

Rabbi Tziona Szajman for leading the Family JLE apple-picking;

Tuesday Morning Service Leaders: Dalya Tamir, Diana Levy, Judy Saul, Lauren Korfine;

Shawn Murphy and the sukkah builders: Avram and Logan Murphy, Michael Margolin,

Carol and Sam Shama, Nancy Young and Bill George, Nomi Talmi and Benjy, Mirit Bessire and Leeyam Hadar;

*That's more than 100 TvO and community members (40 children and teens) mentioned by name who contributed to making these High Holidays happen in such a special way. We know and honor that many more of you participated with your food donations, your readings, your prayers, your patience, your spirit, and your presence. We thank you all for sharing this time together.*

**Donors**

צדקה

**Many thanks to our recent donors:***General Fund*

Anonymous  
 Bridget Meeds  
 Carol Chernikoff,  
*in honor of Tony Gaenslen's birthday*  
 Naomi & Joe Wilensky

*Nediv Lev*

Shawn Murphy  
 Richard & Lise Rosenfeld  
 Susan Fast

*Bryna & Harvey Fireside Rabbi Fund*

Jonathan Plotkin & Barbara Brenner

*High Holidays*

Alita Howard & Karl Smolenski,  
*in memory of Claire Saulnier*  
 Galit Pearlman  
 Bruce Fabens & Diana Levy  
 Mihal Ronen  
 Sarah Plotkin  
 Catherine Shane

Corinne Stern, *Yikzor donation*

Margo Hittleman  
 Bob Laurentz  
 Mitch Grossman  
 Stacia Zabusky  
 Marc & Gretchen Barr  
 Eric Goodman  
 Carole Resnick & Debra Gertz, *In honor of Rabbi Shifrah joining our community and for Yikzor*  
 Ann Wexler & Tony Gaenslen,  
*In honor of Rabbi Shifrah and Azameira*  
 Julie Gozan & Tom Keck  
 Seth & Margaret Soulstein  
 Samuel & Carol Shama  
 Noemi Kraut, *In honor of the New Year*  
 Mark & Judith Bercuvitz

Ann and Ira Brous, for the High Holiday flowers:

Thanks to the IAUGC (Ithaca Area United Jewish Community) for grants benefitting education, especially the scholarship fund.

**Tribute Cards**

Tributes cards have been sent

From Vally Kovary in honor of TvO's leadership:

- To Rabbi Shifrah - Bruchot HaBa'ot! Welcome!
- To Naomi Wilensky - Kol Hakavod! More power to you!
- To Nomi Talmi - Chazak v'Amatz! Strength and courage!

A tribute card has been sent from Annie Wexler and Tony Gaenslen, to Diana Levy and Bruce Fabens in honor of the birth of their granddaughter Ramona.

*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.*

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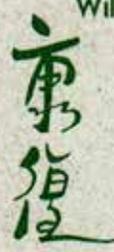
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## Ithaca Area United Jewish Community

*Honoring Our Past, Shaping Our Future*

Fall 2021

Dear Community Members,

Shalom! We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the beautiful fall season in the Finger Lakes. Our board wishes you a very happy and healthy 5782. We are grateful to all our donors for your contributions to our 2021 campaign. Since our campaign ends on December 31, there is still time to support our Jewish community both here in Ithaca and around the world.

Over the past year and a half, IAUGC has been challenged to adapt to the changing world. We were not able to host our annual springtime community dinner, but we still found a way to honor two important people, Gale Halpern and Rita Melen, at our virtual Yom HaShoah program in April. Gale and Rita spoke of their parents' experiences during the Holocaust, and their own participation in the Ithaca Holocaust Speakers' Bureau.

Our PJ Library programming was very active with virtual programs, monthly gift bags celebrating the many holidays, and ultimately an in-person event to honor Rosh Hashanah 5782, at Stewart Park. Our young families, representing over 140 children, are our culture's future.

The creation of our new Hesed Emergency Fund has proven to be useful in helping local people who are experiencing financial difficulties. Keep us in mind if you know of anyone who needs a helping hand keeping up with their expenses. Gifts to this fund may be made online at <https://iaujc.org/causes-we-support>.

At this time, we would like to announce a new effort – **The Global Spotlight Initiative**. The board intends to allocate up to 10% of the year's Global Fund, or about \$2,000, to one or two non-profit organizations outside the United States that enhance one of the global aspects of IAUGC's mission: supporting a vibrant Israel or caring for Jews in need around the world. This will provide a new opportunity for our donors to shape the direction of our philanthropy of Jewish communities around the world, and we look forward to your participation. (Please see the additional flyer for more information.)

On Oct. 31, IAUGC will be hosting a virtual program that will highlight a high school in Israel that brings together youth from Israel and across the globe. **The Givat Haviva International School**, for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders, is a highly successful model for training leaders of tomorrow. As their website states, GHIS is "a vehicle to create in future Israeli and International leaders the skills and the drive to work together towards a better future." We hope you will join us for this event at on Sunday, October 31. To register: email [marjorie@iaujc.org](mailto:marjorie@iaujc.org)

Thanks again to all of you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.  
Sincerely,

Marjorie Hoffman  
IAUGC Campaign Chair

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To nominate your chosen organization or program for the **Global Spotlight Initiative**, fill out the form on our website: <https://iaujc.org/nomination>. Nonprofits that are nominated must be registered as a 501(c)(3) with the IRS.

All nominations are due by February 1, 2022.

For more information, contact Sherrie Negrea at [sherrie@versatilewriting.com](mailto:sherrie@versatilewriting.com).

**Congregational Leadership****מנהיגות**

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For updated calendar information,  
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## Contents תוכן

From Rabbi Shifrah.....	1
Shmita.....	2
Shabbat and Holidays.....	3
From the Co-Presidents.....	4
Jewish Learning Experiences (JLE).....	5-6
Teens v'Or.....	7
Welcoming.....	7
Feeding the Hungry.....	7
Chanukah Candle Lighting.....	8
Bereavement Support Group.....	9
Fair Trade Chankuah.....	9
Many Thanks.....	10-11
Donors / Tribute Cards.....	12
Community Ads.....	13
IAUJC.....	14
Congregational Leadership .....	15