



THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

THE JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK

February 2016

22 Sh'vat - 20 Adar-/ 5776

volume 37 issue 6

Our Mission: To foster a vibrant egalitarian Jewish community founded in the religious customs and traditions of Conservative Judaism; offering excellent Jewish education and community activities for all ages with commitment to Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world.





WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27 LUNCH WITH RABBI
WORLD WIDE WRAP
ISRAEL INSIDE
LUNCH WITH RABBI
FAMILY SHABBAT
CHALLAH BAKE MITZVAH PROJECT
CBT AT THE MOVIES
ISRAEL INSIDE
LUNCH WITH RABBI
GALA IN THE GALILEE

CHECK OUR WEBSITE: BNAITIKVAH.ORG FOR EVENTS & SCHEDULE UPDATES THROUGHOUT THE MONTH MAIN OFFICE PHONE: 732-297-0696 - EARLY CHILDCARE CENTER & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PHONE: 732-297-0295

From the Desk of Cantor Bruce Rockman



Sweet Music 2016

I'm always thinking about music. Singing and listening brings me great comfort, peace, motivation, and satisfaction. I am energized when I hear new music such as the soundtrack from "Hamilton" or the Jewish fusion jazz ensemble Zion80. the music of Buffalo Springfield, Crosby Stills Nash and Young is still awesome, as are Adele and Bruno Mars. All music has value and our interpretations are unique. I listen to everything and often, I feel transformed, transfixed and transported. Music fills my soul.

In preparation for Shabbat Shira on January 23 and The L'dor Vador concert in May, I've been reviewing some of my previous Hakol articles and listening to a great deal of music. Without a doubt, the most important influence in Jewish music during our time has been Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. His music is both relevant on the bima and the concert halls. He has informed the modern Jewish music scene. Shlomo's daughter, Neshama Calebach, has kept his legacy alive through her soulful singing. The youth of America sing his music, and USY services are framed by Carlebach melodies. Most if not every Jewish artists' repertoire is incomplete without a Carlrebach song. Many groups like our L'dor Vador artists C Lanzbom and Noah Salomon of Soulfarm. have recorded entire albums of Carlebach music. I've posted a biographical article that I wrote for Hakol in 2002, along with this essay on www.bnaitikvah.org. I hope you'll find it informative and interesting

In the meantime, what has happened since the passing of Reb Shlomo of blessed memory in 1994 at the age of 69. Music expresses the rhythm of our souls Shlomo Carlebach is a huge influence on my

davining, praying. His melodies lift us throughout our services and the Sons of Tikvah repertoire is lavishly covered by Carlebach songs. Of coarse you know his nigunim, (1,2,3,4 Ka de sheinu) on Friday night, Tov L'hodot and Barcheinu Avinu are a part of all Sons shows as well. We sing them with spirit in shul when we parade the Torah or as a meditation after the amidah.

There is a Carlebach melody for every occasion, solemn or joyful, especially for weddings. Reb Shlomo made prayer and praying more accessible by delivering his message throughout the world and beyond the walls of the synagogue. He took the classical tradition of lush melodies from his Austrian birthplace, the heart of his music from his chasidic tradition and reached out to a generation of young people in the 60's who were remaking popular culture, with his folk guitar. Carlebach is the Bob Dylan and the Beatles of Jewish music. He was so prolific, many of his compositions were never recorded and are now being discovered and introduced by Eitan and Shlomo Katz. They have each released collections of this great music, I love their music!

Infusing Jewish music from Neshama Carlebach, Soulfarm, Greg Wall, Debbie Friedman, Sam Glaser, Pharaoh's Daughter, Six 13, Josh Nelson, Craig Taubman, or Yossi Malovany into our lives will make us a happier people. It might even make us better people.

I hope to inspire you with this music throughout our upcoming musical events and services.

Worship the Lord in gladness; come before God with joyous song.

Cantor Bruce Rockman

For a schedule of COMING MUSICAL EVENTS see page 14



As I write these words, Tu b'shvat, the New Year of the Trees, is fast approaching. It behooves us to consider the role the planting of trees plays in our Jewish landscape.

Once, only once, Theodor Herzl visited the Land of Israel. While he was there, he did what every good Jew should do. He planted a tree. This was, of course, a political act. It was a way of saying "We are here," or, better, "We are back." It was also a way of making explicit the agenda of the Zionist movement: "We will rebuild this land." Above all, it was a spiritual act, a recognition that it is G-d's will that the Land of Israel be nurtured, and G-d's will that the People of Israel be the ones to nurture her. Ironically, the tree was cut down only a few years later, probably by a member of the ultra-Orthodox anti-Zionist community that suffered (and suffers still) from profound spiritual confusion on this point. The Zionist response was practical, spiritual and prophetic—where Herzl's tree had been, two hundred were planted in its place.

Almost a century later, the hundreds of millions of trees planted by our Israeli brethren still make a powerful political and spiritual statement. They are still the targets of abuse and vandalism by those (in our day, Palestinian terrorists) who would deny the link of Jews to the Land. And the Zionist response is still the same: for every tree burned down by arsonists, ten will be planted in its place.

When we plant trees in Israel, we recite a prayer. That we plant trees at all says a great deal about us. After all, in most places in the world the forests are shrinking, not growing. Israel is the only country in the world that entered the 21st century with a net gain of trees!.

That we say a prayer when we do so says even more. When we study the content of the prayer, we see it speaks volumes about the meaning of Jewish life, about the sanctity of Eretz Yisrael, about our relationship to nature, and our relationship to G-d.

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Here is the prayer:

"You who build Zion and Jerusalem, and have reestablished the sovereignty of Israel, look down from Your holy habitation, from heaven, and bless the people Israel, and the land You have given us, as You promised our ancestors.

"Take pleasure, O Lord, in Your Land, and bestow upon it Your goodness and Your grace. Give dew as a blessing, and cause beneficent rains to fall in their season to satiate the mountains of Israel and her valleys, and to water every plant and tree.

"These saplings that we plant before You this day, make deep their roots and wide their crown, that they may blossom forth in grace among all the trees in Israel for blessing and beauty.

"Strengthen the hands of all our brethren who toil to revive the sacred soil and make fruitful its wastes. Bless, O Lord, their efforts, and may the work of their hands find favor before You."

A Message From Our Co-Presidents





As we write this column, it is almost New Years Eve. Allison is spending time in Florida with family and Ruth Anne is with her family in Seattle. What could be a better way to ring in a new year than taking time to be with family!

Looking at the 2016 secular calendar, it is going to be a leap year, so congratulations to anyone whose birthday occurs on February 29. In July, NASA's Juno spacecraft is expected to arrive in Jupiter, and in August, the summer Olympics will take place in Brazil.

Our B'nai Tikvah calendar will follow the Jewish leap year, meaning that we will have the fun of celebrating two months of Adar, including both Purim and Purim Katan. Our tradition tells us that with this double festivity, we should increase our joy. Indeed we will be increasing our joy on Saturday, February 27, 2016, at our Gala in the Galilee.

This year at our gala we are honoring: Israeli Ambassador Danny Ayalon and our own Jeff and Marcia Schwartz, and also recognizing special volunteers – our Honorable Menschen – Steve Juro and Lauren Cohen. The gala chairs and the entire gala committee, together with our VPs of Ways and Means, have been working tirelessly for months to make each detail of this event memorable. We hope that you will make every effort to attend, take out an ad and/or donate something toward our auction. We hope that this event is even more successful than last year's, which broke new records on its own.

We look forward to seeing you at the gala and throughout the year!

Allison Nagelberg, Co-President Ruth Anne Koenick, Co-President

HAKOL, The Newsletter of

Congregation B'nai Tikvah, JCC of North & South Brunswick

1001 Finnegan's Lane North Brunswick, NJ 08902 Published monthly, except for July and August. Submissions are welcomed about Congregation events, group activities, and other material relevant to the Jewish community. All Submissions for HAKOL are due by the 12th of the preceding month

Please send submissions and correspondence via e-mail to: hakol.cbt@gmail.com

All e-mail submissions are acknowledged via e-mail All articles are subject to available space and editorial constraints.



The synagogue can earn up to 15% on anything you buy from Amazon. First, go to smile.amazon.com (not amazon.com) and click under the search bar where is says: "Supporting:" Select Congregation B'nai Tikvah and make sure the location indicates: N Brunswick, NJ.

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Please make checks out to CBT and send them right to the synagogue office.

Please RSVP your start date to Aimee Weber at aimjweb@gmail.com OR call/text 732-406-9969.

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World Wide Wrap XVI Sunday, February 7th at 9:00 a.m.

Please join Rabbi Wolkoff, Cantor Rockman, and fellow congregants in this international, enjoyable, family event.



After the Wrap, join us for a bagel and drash on the Mitzvah of Tefillin.

Be with our Men's Club as we join with tens of thousands of Jews around the world to celebrate the Mitzvah of Tefillin. Afterwards, please join us for a bagel (and more) and learn more about this wonderful mitzvah from the Rabbi and others.



Don't have a set of Tefillin? Purchase a set for as little as \$140 plus 58H at www.WorldWideWrap.org

THANK YOU.....

2015 NEEDY FAMILY PROGRAM A SUCCESS!

This year was the 11th year of this program. Over the years we have made a significant difference in the lives of approximately 70 families! This year we sponsored 8 families totaling 27 people Because of our efforts these people will enter 2016 with the basic things we all take for granted: winter coats, boots, clothing, blankets, pillows, dishes, silverware... and the list goes on and on.

Our program is a success due to the generosity of those who participate. To those who sponsored a child, adult or family and bought, wrapped and dropped off the gifts, thank you for your time, efforts and expense. Many of you have been with the Needy Family Program since its inception and I can't thank you enough.

Thanks to all who donated money. Please know that every penny was used toward needed purchases for the families

A big thanks goes to Jennifer Shapiro for her ongoing support, help and commitment to this program.

We are a wonderful community who always answers to the call to help.

I wish you all a year full of health, peace and contentment

Janice Baer

Linda J. Fellen, Esq.

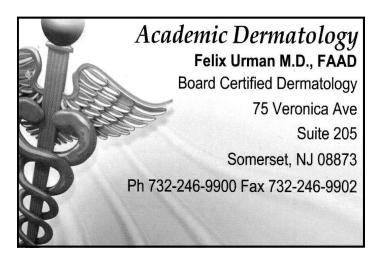
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This Month February 21st

Have you ever wondered the how and why of the mikvah? When and why do people go? Does the mikvah meet our needs in modern times? Come learn the history

and modern applications of this ancient tradition. This one session class will culminate with a tour of one of our local mikvaot. Check the CBT web site (bnaitikvah.org/community-2/sisterhood/) for more details.

Save the Date

Coming up in April - Sisterhood will be visiting the Lower East Side, NYC. More details to follow.

Torah

Your Torah Fund contribution strengthens and perpetuates Conservative Judaism throughout the world. For information on ways you can support Torah Fund, contact Ann Rosenzweig, 732-249-9141.

Pins and WL cards are available. For ordering information, please check the Bulletin Board or contact Ann Rosenzweig, 732-249-9141. Cards are \$5.

Gift Shop

Store Hours Sunday 9AM-12PM Wednesday 4:15-6:15

By Appointment; please call Serena Blackin at 732-390-9515

February Special

All Jewelry 20%off

All Clearance, take an additional 50% off

Just went shopping ...come on in and see what's new USY Mid-Winter Convention is Feb 5th-7th...don't forget a hostess gift Please remember the gift shop does not take credit cards, we accept cash or checks only

Mah Jongg cards

Order your Mah Jongg League cards now for you and your friends and be ready to play! For details and order form, please visit the CBT website at bnaitikvah.org

Mitzvah Baskets

Having a B'nai Mitzvah or other simcha? Let Sisterhood decorate the bima with two non-perishable food baskets. We also deliver the baskets for use at other synagogues, so tell your local friends about this service! For more information or to order your mitzvah baskets, contact Kim Riemann at Kimmer99@aol.com

Mazel Tosses

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood make soft, candy-filled bags to sweeten the day. Also great for an ufruf.

Contact: Bonnie Kudwitt Beedirect@aol.com

Visit the B'nai Tikvah website to order your Mitzvah Baskets and Mazel tosses. Please have your forms in one month before your mitzvah.

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Full page	8" x 10.5"	\$675	\$100
½ page	3.75" x 10.5" or 8" x 5"	\$525	\$80
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COMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Men's Club Sponsors The World Wide Wrap **Sunday-February 7**

HAKOL www.bnaitikvah.org

USY/Kadima-Shabbat February 19-20

> Purim March 23-24

The Third Passover Seder Friday Night April 29th

Celebrate Israel Independence Day The Falafel Ball Wednesday-May 11

> Men's Club Shabbat Friday Evening, May 13

Friday Night Plugged In May 20 & June 17

Sunday Afternoon L'dor Vador, Soulfarm May 22

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Amanda Dillman, Advisor

USY EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2016!

Fri 2/5-Sun 2/7 **USY Regional Mid-Winter Convention – West Orange**

Fri 2/19 & Sat 2/20

USY & Kadima Takes Over Shabbat! - CBT

This will be an event to remember! USY & Kadima are joining forces for an awesome NSB USY & Kadima Shabbat Weekend! We'll start off with a delicious dinner for USYers, Kadimanicks & Parents on Friday, February 19th at 6:30pm. Then, USYers & Kadimanicks will lead Friday night services. The next morning, they'll continue the weekend and lead Shacharit, then invite the congregation for a luncheon. After that the kids will hang out in the Youth Lounge & play games before celebrating Mincha/Ma'ariy/Haydallah to end the weekend

Mon 2/29 USY Lazer Tag – Bonkerz (6:30-8:30pm) Bonkerz is located at 4436 Route 27, Kingston

SAVE THE DATE!

Sat 3/5

USY Regional Jr/Sr Prom - East Windsor

Thurs 3/17

USY Pre-Purim Planning/Pizza Party – CBT (7-9pm)

Sun 3/27

Congregation B'nai Tikvah Purim Carnival

Fri 4/8-Sun 4/10

USY Regional Spring Convention – Somerset

Tues, 4/19

USY Pre-Pesach Pasta Dinner – TBD – 7-8:30pm

Sun 4/17

Rutgers Fit 5k

Sat 5/14

USY Regional Closing Dance – Millburn

KADIMA

Sun, 2/14 – Kadima Ice Skating – Edison (1-3pm)

Outdoor Skating Rink is located at 151 Parsonage Rd,

This event will be a lot of fun! Make sure to layer up, because we'll be ice skating OUTSIDE! Cost TBD and full details will come via email

Fri 2/19 & Sat 2/20 – USY & Kadima Takes Over Shabbat! - CBT

This will be an event to remember! USY & Kadima are joining forces for an awesome NSB USY & Kadima Shabbat Weekend! We'll start off with a delicious dinner for USYers, Kadimanicks & Parents on Friday, February 19th at 6:30pm. Then, USYers & Kadimanicks will lead Friday night services. The next morning, they'll continue the weekend and lead Shacharit, then invite the congregation for a luncheon. After that the kids will hang out in the Youth Lounge & play games before celebrating Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdallah to end the weekend!

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!

Sun 3/6 – Regional Kadima Day

Fri 3/18-Sun 3/20 – Kadima 8th Grade Shabbaton – **CBT**

We are looking for parent volunteers to host kids for the 8th Grade Shabbaton.

Please contact me at nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com if you can host a few children for the weekend.

Sun 3/27 – Congregation B'nai Tikvah Purim Carnival

Sun 4/10 – Regional Kadima Rollerama

Sun 4/17 – Rutgers Fit 5K

Fri 5/20-Sun 5/22 – Regional Kadima Spring Weekend

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Order your Mah Jongg League cards now for you and your friends and be ready to play with your new 2016 cards by April. Orders will be only be accepted by Sisterhood until January 25th. Checks should be made payable to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood and sent to:

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--- February 19, 2016

6pm in the Multi-purpose room WEAR YOUR FAVORITE PAJAMAS!!!!

Bring a friend or two!! Everyone is Welcome

You do not need to attend the dinner to attend either one of our services at 7pm Breakfast for dinner!!

Fresh veggies to nibble on before hand.

Cost \$8 per adult,

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RSVP Deadline: February 17, 2016

A unique Shabbat experience geared towards families with children between the ages of 2 and 7. You need not attend the dinner to attend services.

> JR CONGREGATOIN SERVICE 7PM – BET MIDRASH

Is your child or other family member celebrating a birthday or any other special occasion in the month of February? Please let us know so that we can make this announcement. For \$18 you can SPONSOR the Kiddush in honor of that event or any other special occasion. See order form below.



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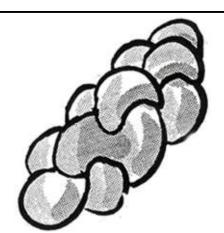
Yes, I/We would like to sponsor the Kiddush and have enclosed \$18. Please announce the following:

Make your check payable to "Congregation B'nai Tikvah" with "Family Shabbat Dinner" on the envelope. Mail it to the synagogue or leave your payment in the Family Shabbat Slot in the synagogue office

PLEASE RSVP BY FEBRUARY 17, 2016

Questions? Call Bobbi @ 732-690-4779 or email eemaof3@comcast.net

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Pay it Forward Challah Bake Mitzvah Project

Saturday February 20, 2016 7-9 pm Congregation B'nai Tikvah Gym

Come and make Challah-One to keep and one to give away Other projects while the challah rises!

RSVP to <u>bashesbatmitzvah@gmail.com</u> by February 15 so we can buy enough ingredients!

Buy a "Got Challah?" T-shirt for only \$10. Half of your money will go to support the Jewish National Fund in Israel!
Please indicate sizes and numbers of shirt

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Bar Mitzvah Andrew Miller Son of Alan and Ilene Miller February 6



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Sunday 9:00 am & 7:30 pm Monday 7:30 pm Tuesday 7:30 pm Wednesday 7:30 pm

Thursday 7:30 am & 7:30 pm

HAKOL ONLINE

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This issue and older issues of

Hakol are available on our website.



CPR Classes Coming in April

Sponsored and subsidized by the Bikur Cholim Committee (your friends at B'nai Tikvah who reach out to those in the hospital or recovering at home).

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February 2016

22 Sh'vat - 20 Adar-I 5776



CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH, NORTH BRUNSWICK, NI

Make Your Reservations Today!! www.bnaitikvah.org/gala For more information contact the synagogue office 732-297-0696

You are cordially invited to

USY/Kadima Takes Over Shabbat!

Fri. February 19th - Shabbat Dinner & Services @ 6:30pm



\$18 per adult \$10 per child under 13 USYers/Kadimanicks eat FREE!



Sat. February 20th – USYers & Kadimanicks lead Shacharit, host a lunch & ruach session (open to congregation) & lead Mincha, Maariv & Havdallah – in between the kids stay at the synagogue for fun games in the Youth Lounge!

Come join us for Friday night dinner and stay to support our USYers/Kadimanicks as they lead services. Join us again Saturday morning as the kids lead Shacharit and stay for lunch & ruach session (open to the congregation). USYers/Kadimanicks are then invited to stay for board games and hanging out until they lead Mincha/Maariv services – ending with Hagalil style Haydallah.

USY/Kadima Takes Over Shabbat Friday Night Dinner Response Form Friday, February 20th @ 6:30pm

Family Name:	-
# of adults attending:	@ \$18 per adult
# of children attending	@ \$10 per child
# of USYers/Kadimanicks a	ttending (FREE!)

We gratefully acknowledge and thank the following contributors for their generous gifts. Your special donations make up a part of our synagogue's total income. We rely on you.

Hakol Donations December 12, 2015 – January 12, 2015

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

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Ben Gottesman & Linda Fellen, in memory of Diane Coopersmith

Society of Israel Philatelists, in appreciation of B'nai Tikvah supporting and allowing us and our Palestine Study group to meet Monthly at the Temple.

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beloved mother of Ira Heisler

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Continued on next page

Hakol Donations December 12, 2015 - January 12, 2015

Continued

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Shirley Engel, with gratitude to Susan Miller for help The Krane Family, in memory of Joan Krane



On Sunday, February 7, Conservative Jews around the world will celebrate the mitzvah of Tefillin at morning minyan. We will be joining thousands of others in this eighth annual "World Wide Wrap"

THANK YOU

A special thank you to Serena Blackin, Marlene Buckwald, Joyce Fishelberg, Bill Greenberg, Beverly Leipzig-Silien, Jeryl Roller, Mae Rubinstein, Rachel Ruchlin & Jay Scheuer for making January & February birthday calls.

A special thank you to Jay Scheuer for his amazing prayer book repairs and to Phyllis Pinsky for doing beautiful calligraphy for B'nai Mitzvah and Baby' Naming certificates.

Co	ntri	buti	ions	:

Amount of your donation: {}\$18 {}\$36 {}\$54 {}\$72 {}\$118 {}Other

Please Allocate Donations to:

[] Bikur Cholim	[] Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
[] Cantor's Special Fund	[] Religious School
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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 22 Sh'vat	2 23 Sh'vat	3 24 Sh'vat	4 25 Sh'vat	5 26 Sh'vat	6 27 Sh'vat
	Board of Directors	Men's Basketball GROUNDHOG DAY	Lunch with Rabbi Religious School	Gala Meeting		Bar Mitzvah Andrew Miller
7 28 Sh'vat	8 29 Sh'vat	9 30 Sh'vat	10 1 Adar-l	11 2 Adar-l	12 3 Adar-I	13 4 Adar-I
World Wide Wrap Religious School Israel Inside	CHINESE NEW YEAR	Book Club Israel Stamp Club Men's Basketball ROSH CH	Lunch with Rabbi Religious School ODESH	Gala Meeting		Lunch & Learn
14 5 Adar-I	15 6 Adar-I	16 7 Adar-l	17 8 Adar-I	18 9 Adar-l	19 10 Adar-I	20 11 Adar-I
No Religious School	Office and School Closed PRESIDENT'S DAY	Men's Basketball	Lunch with Rabbi Religious School Bible's Best Ideas	Gala Meeting Bikur Cholim	Family Shabbat	
21 12 Adar-I	22 13 Adar-I	23 14 Adar-I	24 15 Adar-I	25 16 Adar-I	26 17 Adar-I	27 18 Adar-I
Sisterhood Board CBT at the Movie Israel Inside Religious School School Committee		Men's Basketball	Lunch With Rabbi Nursery School Pajama Day Religious School PURIM KATAN	Gala Meeting		Gala in the Galilee
28 19 Adar-I	29 20 Adar-I			Candle Lighting	Shabbat Ends	
Religious School	SIP Study Group Ritual Committee			5 5:02 pm 12 5:11 pm 19 5:19 pm 26 5:27 pm	6 6:04 pm 13 6:12 pm 20 6:20 pm 27 6:27pm	



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