

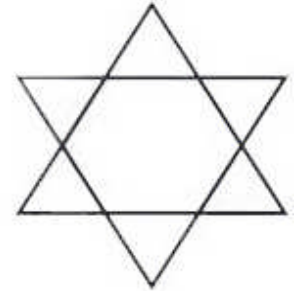
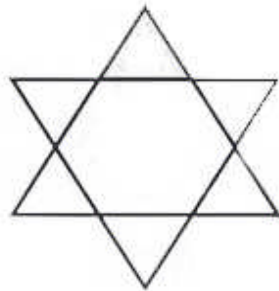
HAKOL • הקול



THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

THE JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK

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.



Happy Hanukkah!

Monday, 2nd	Board of Directors
Tuesday, 3rd	USY Event
Wednesday, 4th	Lunch With Rabbi
Friday, 6th	Shabbat Together
Saturday, 7th	Junior Congregation
	Bat Mitzvah of Savannah Newman
Sunday, 8th	Men's Club Breakfast
Monday, 9th	Sisterhood Board
Wednesday, 11th	Lunch With Rabbi
	USY Board
Friday, 13th	Birthday Shabbat
Saturday, 14th	Junior Congregation
	Lunch & Learn
Sunday, 15th	Congregational Meeting
	Religious School Committee
	Kadima Event
	Men's Club Man & Youth of the Year
Wednesday, 18th	Lunch With Rabbi
	Chanukah Party
Thursday, 19th	Bikur Cholim
Saturday, 21st	Bat Mitzvah of Rose Rykus
Sunday, 22nd	Brunch With Rabbi
	1st Night of Chanukah
Wednesday, 25th	Chesed for Chanukah

From Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

Frenemies

Are Israelis and American Jews
Going Their Separate Ways?



There has been an enormous amount of handwringing recently about the increasing distance between Israel and the American Jewish community. American Jewish youth seem less engaged, or even hostile. Israeli society appears to be drifting further and further to the right. Jews within the Democratic party (think Bernie Sanders) have suggested diverting aid from Israel, at the same time that President Trump is more popular in Israel than anywhere else in the world.

We have come a long way from the glory days of “We Are One” solidarity rallies to “Not In My Name” protests against “the occupation”!

What in the world is going on? How do we explain all this? Is it merely a spat, a bitter family squabble, or is it the first signs of an enduring and disastrous split? Is it something new, or something very, very old.

I will bring this lecture to explore the issue to the Monroe community sometime next month.

“Better Together”



Stacey Rockman

In early September I applied for, and got, a grant for CBT called *Better Together*. It is a grant for teens and senior adults to interact and get to know one another and build bridges. For many recipients, the synagogue or day school takes the teens to a senior center or nursing home. For some-- and we are part of the some-- the institution matches teens and seniors in house.

We are matching teens and *active seniors* together —learning from one another and growing together and sharing and making memories together. Over the course of two years, it will culminate in a book of some sort. So far, I have between 8 and 10 committed teens and about the same number of senior adults working on this program.

We meet about once a month, mostly on Sunday mornings. Last month we worked with the clergy association on the interfaith program for Thanksgiving where we packed toiletries and cleaning supplies for donation to the food pantry.

I am still working out the details out for December. On January 5th we are going to see “Yiddish Fiddler” on Broadway. All of this is of no cost to you. One thing we need is a commitment. It cannot be a total pick and choose thing (obviously everyone misses from time to time.) Please let me know if you want to join us on this exciting venture!!

From Cantor Bruce D. Rockman

Let’s get Together



“Our masters taught; loving-kindness is greater than charity in three ways. Charity is done with one’s money, while loving-kindness may be done with one’s money or with one’s person. Charity is done only to the poor, while loving-kindness may be given to both the poor and to the rich. Charity is given only to the living, while loving-kindness may be shown to the living and to the dead.” (Sukka 49b)

I was so excited by the great reaction to Moshav, who as you know, are the awesome band that performed at our L’dor Vador concert. With the energy that was provided by all those present, I transitioned to preparation for our Thanksgiving Interfaith Service and Better Together service project. Our expectations were very high as the proposal was strongly embraced by our local clergy.

I am always a bit concerned, both before and after all of the important events that I champion. I have mixed emotions, positive and negative. How could we have had greater impact and more buy-in and on the other hand, wow, that was awesome, we made so many people happy! Anyway, you know what I mean.

Following their performance at B’nai Tikvah, Moshav traveled to Sydney, Australia where they headlined the closing concert for the Shabbat Project, an immersive community-wide celebration in conjunction with multiple Jewish organizations, including synagogues, schools and JNF. This reminds me of Aaron Rosloff of blessed memory, who conceived the *Rejoice Festival* and our long running *Claire & Irving Teicher L’dor Vador concerts*, both initiated to be community outreach events. My vision for all of these programs, including our interfaith activities, is the desire to build bridges through thoughtful and joyful engagement with our family, friends and neighbors.

Our better nature inspires us as individuals, and as a congregation, to share our blessings with less fortunate individuals in and around our community. In a few weeks we will be celebrating Chanukah, definitely the favorite holiday for kids of all ages. I loved my Lincoln Logs and model cars and airplanes, I only developed an appreciation for latkes as I out-grew toy cars and was able to drive real ones! But who ever loses an appreciation for receiving a gift!

We are so blessed to be a part of a giving community. The USY food drive, the Sisterhood “Dress for Success Clothing Drive”, the current “Help Needy Families Hygiene Drive” led by Janice Baer, our semi-annual Blood Drive, and our upcoming “Chesed for Chanukah,” distributing sweets to our community responders, are all among the acts of loving kindness that define B’nai Tikvah.

The amazing thing is that all of this great work takes place anytime “except” Shabbat. Shabbat is our time to rest and reflect on that time we spent gathering and doing all of the mitzvot that God has commanded and inspired us to do.

Let’s do a little more “Shabbat Together”, and then we can do an even better job fixing the world.

Happy Chanukah!



NO COST
TO ATTEND

RSVP
REQUIRED

JEWISH BREAKFAST NATIONAL FOR FUND ISRAEL

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER

Captain (Res.) Libby Weiss



Libby Weiss was a prominent IDF spokesperson on social and traditional media. She told the IDF's story to millions of followers on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and YouTube in several languages, and oversaw the military's relations with major North American media in high-stress situations such as the 2014 Gaza war.

EVENT CO-CHAIRS

Beth & Jules Cohn
Stephanie & Joel Markel
Allison & David Nagelberg
Adrienne & Andrew Ross
Shelly & Steve Talmud

**CONGREGATION B'NAI
TIKVAH LEADERSHIP**

Rabbi Robert Wolkoff
Cantor Bruce Rockman

For security purposes,
Jewish National Fund reserves
the right to check IDs and all
bags are subject to search.

Sunday, March 22, 2020

10:30 – 11:30 am Featured Speaker

Please arrive at 10:00 am for breakfast and registration

RSVP by March 14 at jnf.org/gardenstate

Congregation B'nai Tikvah

1001 Finnegans Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902

More Information: Anna Millstein, Senior Campaign Executive, Central NJ,
amillstein@jnf.org, 973.593.0095 x826



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HAKOL

The Newsletter of **Congregation B'nai Tikvah, JCC of North & South Brunswick** 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Published monthly, except July and August. Submissions are encouraged about events, group activities, and anything relevant to the Jewish community. Submissions, subject to available space and editorial constraints, are due by the 15th of the preceding month. Please address all articles and correspondence to Hakol@bnaitikvah.org and try to avoid use of PDF files. Current issues are emailed via the CBT Newsletter. Archives can be found at bnaitikvah.org/hakol. Editors: Gary Bergman, Ann Gold, Art Biderman. Advertising: Meryl Harris and Janet Weiss.

From our President: Marty Abschutz

Excerpt of my prepared High Holy Day remarks



Rabbi Wolkoff's sermon on the first day of Rosh Hashannah discussed community. This was something I had been thinking about too. Our community is made up of many people with different interests, yet we have more in common than we have differences. Among numerous common things are wanting health, happiness and a sweet new year for our families and friends, wanting Israel to continue to be a strong, democratic nation, and wanting CBT to continue to be a vibrant, thriving beacon for us.

As I intimated in my September HaKol article, I did not wake up one day as President of Congregation B'nai Tikvah. In fact, I did not seek it out. I had been happy to serve as the Chair of the Budget & Finance Committee for more than 20 years. While I had served on our Board and as Administrative VP, the Budget Chair role suited me, as a Certified Public Accountant and its (mostly) seasonal nature.

About a year ago, Ruth Anne Koenick, Nominating Committee Co-Chair and a Past President (also a long-time member of the Budget & Finance Committee) contacted me indicating that she wanted to discuss something with me face-to-face, over coffee or lunch. Keep in mind that I was born more than 66 years ago (then) and not yesterday. Even so, I decided to hear her out and knew that she would hear me out. I was humbled and honored to be asked.

A standing joke for many is "how could you be crazy enough to be synagogue President?" On the contrary and for your consideration, I have found that every volunteer situation I've undertaken at CBT etc. has given me more than I've put in.

My theme for this year is WELLNESS. Wellness is the quality or state of being healthy in body and mind, especially as the result of deliberate effort. I'd like to focus on one its synonyms: wellbeing. In my mind, part of that wellbeing is having a place that serves more than our religious needs.

I love this place. By "place," I don't particularly mean the building, I mean the people who make up our community: all of you. All the things CBT offers, there is almost "something for everyone" – and I don't mean "A Comedy Tonight" (apologies to Burt Shevelove, Larry Gelbart and Stephen Sondheim, for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum") – although we had Murder Marinara in October, (although that could mean we died laughing).

Youth Corner

Passport to Israel



Shea Krane

This summer I went on the USY summer program Eastern Europe. On this trip my group and I went to the Czech Republic, Poland, and Israel. In Israel I saw every type of Jew there was. I saw Conservative Jews, Orthodox Jews, Ashkenazi Jews, and even Italian Jews. I went to Saturday morning services in a different synagogue every week, each service was different, and it really showed how different one religion can be. But on that trip I learned the heart of how Judaism thrives, kindness. No matter the temple I was at, there was always at least one person who greeted me, asked where I was from, what trip I was with. I even met a few people that lived here in New Jersey. I found it amazing how I could be so far away from home yet find so many people that were just an hour away from me. Whether it was the kindness of strangers or of my friends, it was prominent throughout my whole trip. We would constantly buy stuff for other people if they were short on money, or lost their wallet at the previous hotel. This made me think about the kindness throughout our own temple; how B'nai Tikvah's Passport to Israel, and how they helped me pay for my summer trip. Thank you and Chag Sameach.

Torah for Tots with Morah Stacey

Sunday December 14th 10:30am –noon
For children 7 years old and younger.

Our Yahoo Groups

There have been several announcements from and about Yahoo.com that have caused considerable confusion in the online community. The reality is that the email groups, as we have been using them here at B'nai Tikvah, remain unchanged. It's the features that we have not been using, such as the calendar, forums, and online document storage are no longer available. Please continue to use eGroup@bnaitikvah.org and any other Yahoo email groups you may belong to.

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH

With Your B'nai Tikvah Family

Wednesday, December 18th - 6pm

COST: \$10 per family

SPONSOR A PIZZA w/ADMISSION: \$18 per family!

Pizza, Latkes & other holiday treats

Dreidel games galore

Chanukah Sing-along

R.S.V.P. by Friday, December 13th

Check payable to CBT or pay online at bnaitikvah.org



Bar Mitzvah
Ethan Kaelin
Son of
Amy & David
November 16th



Bat Mitzvah
Savannah Newman
Daughter of
Robert & Marnie
December 7th



Bat Mitzvah
Rose Rykus
Daughter of
Lee & Shari
December 21st



Lori Sookerman



Shelly Wistreich

Come join the Sisterhood for the 2019-2020 year as we focus on our Mind, Body and Spirit. At each event you attend, you will receive a raffle ticket; a drawing will take place at our last meeting in May. The more events you attend, the more chances you have to win! Prizes will be devoted to your Mind, Body, and Spirit!

SAVE THE DATE

January 4th, 2020 - Latkes and Vodka.

Mazel Tosses

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood provide these bags of soft candy in order to sweeten the day. Also great for an aufruf. Order your Mitzvah Baskets and Mazel Tosses at bnaitikvah.org at least one month before your mitzvah.

Contact: Marci Abschutz, 732-735-1946.

Mitzvah Baskets

Help us decorate the bima with nonperishable food baskets. We also deliver baskets to other synagogues. Tell your friends about this service.

Contact: Teresa Samtur 732-821-8163 or msamtur@comcast.net

Torah Fund

The new pins are available with a \$180-or-above pledge. We would love to welcome you as a Torah Fund benefactor, helping the Women's League for Conservative Judaism to support the Jewish Theological Seminary, its teachers, Cantors, and Rabbis. Contact: Ann Rosenzweig 732-249-9141 Anndyapt@optimum.net

Gift Shop

Store Hours: Sunday 9AM-12PM

By appointment, call Serena Blackin 848-702-3445

20% off all games

All clearance items 75% off

Hanukah begins December 22nd

Cash or checks accepted only at this time.

Membership

Please visit bnaitikvah.org/sismember and discover the joy of getting involved in our circle. Sisterhood would love to welcome you. See our membership form in this edition of Hakol.

Contact: JessicaZink@optonline.net

SAVE THE DATE



Saturday, January 18th, 2020 - 7:30pm



Craig Cohen



Josh Oliver

Sunday, December 15th at 4pm

Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs North NJ Region Congratulates and Celebrates



Charlie Valan
CBT Men's Club
Man of the Year

Classical Caterers
Buffet Dinner,
Minyan, & Award
Ceremony



Corey Sookerman
CBT Youth of the Year

\$60 pp; (\$40 MC Members) - Payable: CBT Men's Club (indicate MOY)
RSVP – Steve Katz 732-329-0687 skatz56@aol.com



Please place an ad in the Journal - nnjr.org/journal - scan →



The synagogue earns up to 15% when you shop at **smile.amazon.com** (not amazon.com). Click under the search bar where it says: "Supporting:" Enter to search for: "Congregation B'nai Tikvah" and select the one that indicates: "**N Brunswick NJ**"



DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE

Wheelchairs, walkers, and canes are available to congregants in need of short-term assistance, compliments of the Bikur Cholim Committee. Ask any of the ushers during services.

Saturday
January 18, 2020

7:30PM

B'nai Tikvah Presents

Dueling

PIANOS

Live

Two Pianos. One Night Only!

\$65 Per Person
21+ Only

RSVP by January 8, 2020
www.bnaitikvah.org/piano

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Date Night Attire



Adrienne Ross

Tikvah for Israel

“Wine of the Month” Club

Bring a little Israel to your dinner table.

If your first taste of Israeli wine was “Carmel Concord Grape,” you are not alone! For many of us, we were first introduced to Israeli wine that was used as part of ritual. Much has changed over the past few decades, with Israel producing a wide variety of wines from different regions of the country.

Today, wine can be thought of as representing modern Israel, as its varieties and complex tastes are akin to the country. Israel is being widely recognized as capable of producing world-class wines, and growth is happening fast—one of the biggest problems is that supply cannot meet demand! And, of course, more than 80% of the wines produced in Israel are consumed in Israel.

Show, in some small way, your support of Israel.

Choose 2 wines (red and/or white) selected by Rabbi Wolkoff.

Cost: \$72 (checks made to Tikvah for Israel)

Orders Due: December 3rd, 2019

Through the website or email to: adrienne.d.ross@gmail.com



Learn more about the Israeli wine industry: Scan: bit.ly/israel-wines

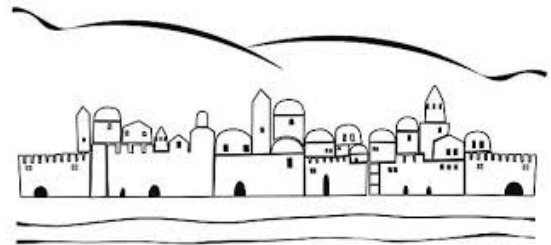
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WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Contact the Rabbi whenever tragedy or trauma occurs, regardless of the hour. On Shabbat or Yom Tov, come to the Synagogue during services or come or send someone to his home (8 Hidden Lake Drive), or call (732-570-7634) after Shabbat or Yom Tov.

*Save the
Date*

**The Roaring
20s are Back!**

Saturday, March 14, 2020

*Gambling. Dancing.
Boozing.*

Shabbat Together

Friday, December 6, 2019 – 6:15pm in the social hall

FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES 7:10pm IN THE SANCUTARY

REGULAR SERVICES FOLLOWING AT 7:30pm

Back by popular demand Baked Ziti!!

Along with salmon, veggie side and non-dairy pasta

As usual, veggies to nibble on when everyone arrives

Number of adults: _____ @\$10.00/adult\$ _____

of young adults (14-18): _____ @ \$5.00/person\$ _____

of children 13 and under: _____ @ \$0.00 \$0.00

of people eating salmon (this will help with our preparation) _____

Names of those attending (please list ages of children):

Celebrating something special in December?

For \$18 we will make an announcement on your behalf, including that you are sponsoring our Kiddush dessert.

{ } Sponsoring Kiddush @18.00 (minimum) Occasion to be announced:

Total enclosed:\$_____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make check payable to “Congregation B’nai Tikvah” with “Shabbat Together” on the envelope.

Mail to the synagogue or leave in the Family Shabbat slot in the synagogue office

RSVP A MUST by Tuesday, December 3, 2019 for dinner prepared for Friday, December 6, 2019

Contact: Bobbi Binder 732-690-4779 bobbibinder@gmail.com

NOTE: Family Shabbat Services begin 7:10 followed by regular services at 7:30

USY / KADIMA

Youth Recap!



Sydney Sookerman

In the month of November, our Youth groups had events filled with fun while connecting to the community. Our USYers hosted an Israel themed bingo night created by our Israel Awareness VP, Bashe Rockman, enjoyed by all with hummus, pita, and even chocolate hummus! Then our USYers attended the annual Hagalil Fall Kinnus, this year in Marlboro. Close to thanksgiving, the USYers had a Charity Friendsgiving where we participated in a potluck and hand made fleece blankets that were donated. USYers and Kadimanicks attended CBT's Interfaith Thanksgiving, giving back all around.

Lastly, USYers came together for Friday night services and enjoyed USY tunes. Kadima had an awesome chapter event in November on a Sunday after Hebrew school where they had a cereal bar and watched cartoons together. CBT's youth groups have been having a successful year so far and we look forward to 2020.

Congratulations to our USY President, Corey Sookerman on Youth of the Year for the Federation of Jewish Men's Club North Jersey!!



2020 Mah Jongg Cards From Sisterhood

Order your 2020 Mah Jongg League cards for you and your friends to be ready to play by April. No orders accepted after Jan. 8. Make checks payable to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood and send to:



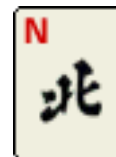
Lisa Seidman
397 Halsey Road
North Brunswick, NJ 08902



STANDARD CARD: # of cards _____ X \$8.00 = \$_____

LARGE PRINT CARD: # of cards _____ X \$9.00 = \$_____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$_____



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____



בני
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Tikvah

Fourth Annual

Chesed



for

Chanukah



Acts of Loving-Kindness

Sweets for Community Responders

"Our masters taught; loving-kindness is greater than charity in three ways. Charity is done with one's money, while loving-kindness may be done with one's money or with one's person. Charity is done only to the poor, while loving-kindness may be given to both the poor and to the rich. Charity is given only to the living, while loving-kindness may be shown to the living and to the dead." (Sukka 49b)

Wednesday, December 25th

10am-11am at B'nai Tikvah

We will show our appreciation with an
Act of Loving-Kindness—Chesed

We will gather to pack your home-baked sweets, then we will visit and deliver our packages of cakes and cookies to our local first responders, medical personnel & all friends and neighbors who must sacrifice their holiday time for our community

Let us Know that You will Participate

Please contact Meryl Harris in the synagogue office or
Cantor Rockman for more details.

732-297-0696, office@bnaitikvah.org or cantor@bnaitikvah.org



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PJ Library Hanukkah Hoopla

Sunday, December 8th | 3-4:30pm

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North Brunswick, NJ 08902



Kosher Hanukkah Snacks



Face Painting

Games

Crafts

 PJ Library Book Nook



RSVP BY: Dec. 3rd | Register here:

www.bnaitikvah.org/event/pj-library-hanukkah-hoopla

For more information, contact: Melissa Kessler at
pjprograms@bnaitikvah.org



Jewish Federation
IN THE HEART OF NEW JERSEY

**B'NAI TIKVAH
THE JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK**

**HELP NEEDY FAMILIES
HYGIENE DRIVE**

**Every year, Bnai Tikvah's Needy Family Program
provides support for those less fortunate.**

Believe it or not, there are people in nearby neighborhoods who do not have the money to purchase food for their families and buy the hygiene items that we all take for granted. We are collecting the following items so these people can have food in their bellies and feel good about their appearance. Let's do our part in Tikkun Olam-Repairing the World!

Hygiene Items
Shampoo/Conditioner
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
Body wash
Soap
Deodorant
Body lotions
Feminine Sanitary napkins
Toilet paper

**Please leave these items in the box in front of
the main office or Religious School entrance.**

Donations accepted now until December 14th
Any questions, please contact Janice Baer:
Jbbd11@verizon.net



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If you have prayer books in need of repair, please bring them to the synagogue where Jay will be happy to rebind them for you.



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Buy B.D.S. by Gary Bergman

I recently discovered a website that offers suggestions for great Israeli products. www.bdsl.org/full-list/ provides a long list of reputable and high-quality products from Israel to benefit US consumers. Although it wasn't their intention to endorse these products, I found them to be a valuable resource for products that offer high quality imported items from Israel. I urge you to check it out. Also see bit.ly/buybds



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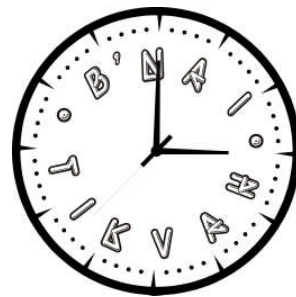
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Daily Schedule of Services

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
Friday	8:00 pm

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THANK YOU



A hearty “Thank You” to Margery Atwater, Joyce Fishelberg, Gilda Gildenberg, Jay Scheuer, and Risa Stolly for making birthday calls. Also thanks to Phyllis Pinsky for doing beautiful calligraphy on the B’nai Mitzvah and Baby Naming certificates.

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	Rochelle Wistreich	732 422-4273	wis437@optonline.net
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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 3 Kislev No Religious School Rutgers Promenaders	2 4 Kislev Board of Directors Open Men's Basketball	3 5 Kislev Wine Orders USY Event Open Men's Basketball	4 6 Kislev Lunch with Rabbi Religious School	5 7 Kislev	6 8 Kislev Shabbat Together	7 9 Kislev Jr. Congregation
8 10 Kislev Religious School Men's Club Breakfast	9 11 Kislev Sisterhood Board Open Men's Basketball	10 12 Kislev Open Men's Basketball	11 13 Kislev Lunch with Rabbi Religious School USY Board	12 14 Kislev	13 15 Kislev Birthday Shabbat	14 16 Kislev Jr. Congregation Lunch & Learn
15 17 Kislev RS - Bet JET RSC Meeting Congregational Meeting Kadima Event Rutgers Promenaders Men's Club Man of the Year	16 18 Kislev Open Men's Basketball	17 19 Kislev Open Men's Basketball	18 20 Kislev Lunch with Rabbi Religious School Hanukkah Party	19 21 Kislev Bikur Cholim	20 22 Kislev	21 23 Kislev
22 24 Kislev Start of School Winter Break Brunch with Rabbi EREV HANUKAH	23 25 Kislev Open Men's Basketball HANUKAH	24 26 Kislev HANUKAH	25 27 Kislev Chesed for Chanukah Office & School Closed HANUKAH.	26 28 Kislev Executive Committee HANUKAH	27 29 Kislev HANUKAH	28 30 Kislev HANUKAH ROSH CHODESH
29 1 Tevet Rutgers Promenaders LAST NIGHT OF HANUKAH ROSH CHODESH	30 2 Tevet Open Men's Basketball LAST DAY OF HANUKAH	31 3 Tevet New Year's Eve			Candle Lighting 6 th 4:13 13 th 4:13 20 th 4:16 27 th 4:20	Shabbat Ends 7 th 5:21 14 th 5:22 21 st 5:24 28 th 5:29