



CONNECT. ENGAGE. INSPIRE.

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

*See how much we offer!*

### TEMPLE STAFF

Rabbi Leonard Gordon, Rabbi	rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org
Joshua Grossman, Cantor	cantor@bnaitikvahma.org
Michelle Langmead, Head Teacher	teachers@bnaitikvahma.org
Elissa Gordon, Operations Manager	theoffice@bnaitikvahma.org
Donna Blumenthal Office	theoffice@bnaitikvahma.org
Laurie Schertzer Office	theoffice@bnaitikvahma.org
Havey Weisthal, Bookkeeper	bookkeeper@bnaitikvahma.org

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9 am-2 pm  
Tuesday 9 am-5:30 pm , Friday 9 am-1 pm

### LEADERSHIP (Programming)

Natalie Weinberg	President president@bnaitikvahma.org
Andrew Baizen	VP of Strategy & Communications
Melanie Greitzer	VP of Education
Cindy Lurie	VP of Community
Phyllis Hewson	Membership
Sari Epstein/Karen Reiser	Youth
Robin Zoll	Adult Education
Rebecca Baizen/Andrea Woolner	School
Ann Hartstein	Social Action
Jane Silver	Sisterhood

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### B'NAI TIKVAH VISION STATEMENT

B'nai Tikvah strives to be the center of our Jewish community by celebrating and supporting each other. We welcome all, respecting and embracing the many paths by which individuals seek to express their Jewish identity.

The B'nai Tikvah community supports spiritual growth, lifelong learning, family and adult programs, *tikkun olam* (healing the world) through social action and connecting with Israel. We create bonds across generations and draw strength from our proud heritage and traditions. Among these traditions is the ability and willingness to adapt in a changing world, to assure a vibrant Jewish community for future generations.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

B'nai Tikvah is a welcoming, inclusive community that provides exciting educational opportunities and participatory activities for all of its diverse members. We have an active religious school, spirited sisterhood and brotherhood programs and adult education offerings. We offer musical programs for both listening and participation. Younger people can join our award winning USY program while even younger tots can play on Friday mornings.

Join us Shabbat morning in the sanctuary, on a stroll, during a learning session or for a cup of coffee and discussion. We meet to plan our future or learn new recipes or fix something that needs to be fixed or put up the Sukkah.

Whatever we do there is always a place for another participant. If you have a new idea there is always a group to share.

Here's the point: there's lot's to do and many to be with. Join us.

**Natalie Weinberg**

*president@bnaitikvahma.org*

## FROM THE RABBI

This brochure offers an overview of the many ways to connect to B'nai Tikvah. For some, Shabbat, Holiday services and Kiddush are a regular part of a weekly routine. For others, it is our Religious School community of children and families. Some come for a Soul Stroll or Shabbat discussion group and others appreciate weekday adult learning. We have a vibrant Social Action program and opportunities to make a difference in our local community and beyond. During the year ahead we want to help you find your gateway into a deeper connection to Judaism and our community.

We welcome newcomers to all of our events and encourage you to bring your friends with you. As your new Rabbi I look forward to meeting you in person, at programs, in my office or in your homes. Please be in touch. I can always be reached at [rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org](mailto:rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org).

With best wishes for a healthy, productive and peaceful New Year for each of you and for all of us.

*B'Shalom,*

**Rabbi Leonard Gordon**

*rabbi@bnaitikvahma.org*

## ON SHABBAT

B'nai Tikvah offers traditional Saturday morning services as well as alternative Shabbat programming, including:

### Starbucks Shabbat

Enjoy a cup of coffee while discussing various topics ranging from the weekly parsha to current events. This informal group meets in the Temple library from 10-11 am on Saturdays when religious school is in session. No RSVPs are needed; come regularly or just pop in on the occasional Shabbat.

### Soul Stroll

Soul Stroll offers a different path into celebrating Shabbat. This group hike takes place on the third Saturday of each month. Participants explore the natural world and talk about the week's Torah portion. Walking together gives us the chance to connect with each other and get to know congregants more personally. We also connect to our inner spirituality as our feet connect with the handiwork of Creation.

*Janice Halpern*, rjhalpern@comcast.net

### Friday Night Excitement

We offer periodic musical Friday night services as well as family-friendly evenings that include services, children's programs and conclude with a community dinner. Most months we will also host a series of popular lectures led by Rabbi Gordon and professors from Northeastern University on a range of topics including current issues and world-wide Jewish culture.

### CALLING ALL TORAH AND HAFTORAH READERS

Rabbi Gordon and Cantor Grossman are building a list of all B'nai Tikvah Torah and haftorah readers. Do you remember (or would you like to relearn) your Bat or Bar Mitzvah haftorah reading? Did you miss having a Bat or Bar Mitzvah and are you interested in learning? Are there readings you have done in the past that we can slot you in for this year? We will also offer a multi-session class on Hebrew reading to support active participation in our services. Please let the Rabbi or Cantor know.

### Early Shabbat Morning Study

Join us for study and discussion on eight Shabbat mornings 8:30-9:25 am, before services. This year Marvin Wolfert will lead a discussion of "Zionism Since 1948: The State of Israel," looking at major trends in Israeli Jewish thought since the establishment of the State of Israel. These will include trends in political, cultural, and religious thought.

Primary text will be *The Zionist Ideas*, edited by Gil Troy (Jewish Publication Society, 2018). This volume is intended as a continuation and expansion of the classic *The Zionist Idea*, edited by Arthur Hertzberg, which we used last year in our discussions on Zionism before 1948. Both volumes are readily available for purchase through Amazon or elsewhere online. We will have relevant brief excerpts available at each study session, but those who are interested are encouraged to purchase their own copy.

We will be discussing a different aspect of Zionism each time, so feel free to attend as many or as few sessions as you like. First session is October 26. See calendar for other dates and topics.

For information: Marvin Wolfert, wolfertemcm@aol.com

### Social Action Shabbatot

Social Action Shabbatot inform and engage our community in one of the pillars of our religion, *Tikkun Olam*. Speakers and special programs will provide insight to issues that affect us all.

### Simcha Shabbatot

Celebrate your simcha with the B'nai Tikvah family. This monthly Shabbat program gives you the opportunity to honor yourself or someone who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or any simcha.

### Shabbat is Almost Here Preschool Program

This free monthly program for children ages 2-5, accompanied by an adult, will feature games, stories, crafts and snacks. You do not need to be a B'nai Tikvah member to attend.

Tot Shabbat will be held from 9:30-11 am on Fridays. Check calendar for dates.

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

B'nai Tikvah's Religious School provides a warm and joyous environment which inspires Jewish children to embrace lifelong Jewish learning and living. Through a strong Jewish Education grounded in Hebrew, T'fillah (prayer), Tanakh (Torah), History, Israel, and Jewish calendar, students are prepared to become active members of their synagogues, local, and global communities.

Our unique two-day a week program on Tuesdays and Saturdays is bolstered by special family programming, community programming and more throughout the year. Students in grades 2-7 meet on Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings. The Shorashim (Roots) program for students in grades K-1 meets on Saturday mornings.

B'nai Tikvah's Religious School has three main principles:

**Personalized:** We tailor the learning plans to meet the needs of each individual student. We provide flexibility in what, when, where, and how the student learns. We support parent involvement in the student's learning and encourage relationships between student, teacher, and families.

**Mastery-based:** We recognize that students master concepts at different times and in different ways. We work with students to set goals to reach their own individual levels of mastery and success.

**Experiential:** We believe that learning happens through doing. We celebrate real-life Jewish experiences – prayer, holidays, Shabbat, mitzvot and tzedakah.

*Info:* Michelle Langmead, [teachers@bnaitikvahma.org](mailto:teachers@bnaitikvahma.org)



## YOUTH

The B'nai Tikvah Youth Committee is focused on organizing programs that bring our youth together and keep them engaged with the Temple and the Jewish community through their school years. We are also focused on joining together younger and older members in programming that promotes community.

**Sari Epstein**, [sarijepstein@gmail.com](mailto:sarijepstein@gmail.com)  
**Karen Reiser**, [karenreiser@verizon.net](mailto:karenreiser@verizon.net)

## UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH (USY)

B'nai Tikvah is a member of South Area USY, which offers Jewish children and teens (grades 3-12) the opportunity to immerse themselves in a variety of Jewish social activities while forming friendships that will last a lifetime. Local activities include holiday celebrations, lazer tag, movie trips and community service projects.

We are also part of HaNer Region USY and participate in regional events including conventions, summer encampment and dance.

Registration Open House will be held soon. Contact us for more information.

**Advisor:** Lecee Sandler, [esile8103@comcast.net](mailto:esile8103@comcast.net)

## CALLING ALL TEENS

We want to revitalize our connection to our teens post-Bar and Bat Mitzvah. Our Youth Committee and Rabbi Gordon are planning programs to engage teens that will include site visits to Jewish and other religious institutions and dinner/discussions on current issues including preparing for college and thinking about Israel. We plan to create a data base to enable us to invite our youth to return and celebrate the anniversary of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah with the B'nai Tikvah community. Our goal is to continue Jewish learning, performing Tzedakah, and connecting with other teens.

## ADULT LEARNING

B'nai Tikvah is a community that promotes life-long learning. We encourage you to *Learn With Us!*

### Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Gordon

Wednesdays 11:30 am

Bring a dairy/vegetarian lunch and a willingness to learn. We will provide coffee and cold drinks. Newcomers are welcome and no prior knowledge is assumed. This Fall we will be reading "Five Surprising Books of the Bible" starting with the Book of Ruth. In the Spring we will read from Pirkei Avot (Sayings of the Sages) and an introduction to the first book of rabbinic Judaism. How did Judaism transform itself in the past and what lesson does that hold for us today?

### Introducing the Major Holiday Seasons

Mini-courses will be held during the week and on Friday nights before each of the major holiday seasons, including:

*Before the High Holidays:* Rabbi Gordon offers two sessions on "40 Days to Change A Habit – How to prepare for a truly new New Year."

*Before Hanukkah:* Rabbi Gordon presents "The Maccabees: Freedom Fighters or Fanatics" and Professor Lori Lefkowitz will speak about "The Secret of the 7<sup>th</sup> Candle: Women in the story of Hanukkah."

*Before Passover:* Rabbi Gordon offers sessions on "Enhancing your Passover Seder" and "The Common Origins of Passover and Easter" and Dr. Lefkowitz will talk about "Miriam, the Miriam's Cup and New Rituals for your Seder."



### Jewish Studies Scholars' Series

B'nai Tikvah and Northeastern University are joining together for special Friday night lectures throughout the year featuring Professors from Northeastern University on such topics as "Jewish Catskills," "The Rabbi from Timbuktu," "American Jews and Israel" and "Rules for Rebels: How to understand and counter international terrorism." Watch your mail/email for details.

### B'nai Tikvah On the Road

Getting together off-site is a wonderful way to build community. We are considering a trip to New York City (Jewish Museum, Jewish Theological Seminary, Broadway, Kosher Delis). Also in the works is a Shabbaton (Sabbath experience off-site for families) and we are starting to think about a congregational trip to Israel focusing on classic spirituality and contemporary realities. Let us know what interests you!

### A Novel Group

Book discussions are held the third Monday of the month at 7:30 pm either at the temple or at a book group member's home. The books we discuss, chosen by the host(hostess) of the month, either have a Jewish author or a Jewish theme. All are welcome and we look forward to your becoming A Novel Group member.

*Info:* Harriet Lavine, harriettlavine@yahoo.com

## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

B'nai Tikvah welcomes all who wish to participate in Jewish life: singles, couples and families of all forms; interfaith couples; individuals with disabilities; all people, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression; and financial means. We immerse ourselves in the beauty of our Jewish traditions. We are a house of worship and a house of study. We are also engaged in numerous social action and adult education programs.

Join us to stimulate your mind, get a sense of peace or belonging, or attend a program and enjoy the company of like minded people. Information on programming will be forthcoming.

*Phyllis Hewson*, [membership@bnaitikvahma.org](mailto:membership@bnaitikvahma.org)

## SISTERHOOD

Welcome to the B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood! We are so excited to start this new year in our new Congregation!

Sisterhood is affiliated with Women's League of Conservative Judaism, a group of women who share a love for Judaism and Israel. We promote causes that embrace a tradition that includes Torah and deeds of loving kindness, working together in friendship to advance these ideals. Mutual support strengthens our goals and dreams for Temple and Sisterhood.

We welcome all women to attend our many engaging programs, which include Shabbats and holiday Seders, speakers, games and crafts, Donor Dinner, ice cream social minyan and more!

Check the calendar, the bulletin, the monitor, or your emails for program details.

*Jane Silver*, President, [janesilver@comcast.net](mailto:janesilver@comcast.net)

## BROTHERHOOD

Brotherhood offers a variety of religious, educational, cultural and social programs and activities to stimulate the interest of its members in the B'nai Tikvah community, and to help foster and promote a spirit of fellowship and sociability. It is open to all Jewish males 18 years of age or older.

Annual Brotherhood events include: breakfasts with speakers, Brotherhood Shabbat, Passover Wine Tasting and Sale, and Yom Hashoah Candle program. Brotherhood also has a Scholarship Fund for students to help further their Jewish education.

Brotherhood is affiliated with the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and holds several programs in conjunction with FJMC including the World Wide Wrap in February (teaching students and interested adults how to put on tefillin).

## SOCIAL ACTION

With a focus on making a difference in the world and grounded in Jewish values, the B'nai Tikvah Social Action undertaking is an integral part of our temple community's efforts. As the focal point for coordinating this work, the Social Action Committee provides members of all ages and abilities with opportunities to carry out the mitzvah of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world through actions that will make the world a better place. Members are provided an opportunity to affirm the congregation's ethical and social responsibilities to our communities by participating in social action and social advocacy and representing B'nai Tikvah in local community outreach programs concerning social and humanitarian issues.

You can make a difference in our world by participating in such social action projects as: annual Mitzvah Day, food drive for Canton and Randolph Food Pantries and Jewish Family Table, social action Shabbatot, voter registration drive, and making afghans for hospitalized veterans.

We also participate in CHAI – Community, Helping, Action, Involvement – the South Area Social Action Collaboration, working with other local Jewish organizations to help the greater community.

The Committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Temple. All are welcome.

*Ann Hartstein*, [ann.hartstein@gmail.com](mailto:ann.hartstein@gmail.com)

## Chesed Committee

Social Action works with the Chesed Committee to assist and visit Temple members in times of need for compassionate support.

Fern Cagen is the Chesed coordinator. To assist with one-time or regularly scheduled volunteer opportunities, contact Fern through the Temple office.

## HOLOCAUST

B'nai Tikvah is committed to remembering the Holocaust. The Lustbader/Babcock Holocaust Library hosts a collection of books on a variety of Jewish topics, Israel and works by Jewish authors.

The Izzy Geller Education Series, in conjunction with the Lustbader-Babcock Holocaust Library, fund programming for both the adult congregation as well as for the religious school on topics including but not limited to the Holocaust and Yom Hashoah.

In the fall of 2019, we dedicated our beautiful courtyard commemorating those who were lost, those who survived and those who liberated the camps. We are the guardians of the torah rescued from a community in Czechoslovakia which proudly rests in our lobby.

Harriet Lavine, harriettlavine@yahoo.com

Wendy Lustbader, welslp@aol.com

Stan Zoll, spzoll@gmail.com



## CANTON FALL CLASSIC

The Canton Fall Classic road race has been an annual event of our Temple community for 31 years! Volunteering to assist at the race is a great way to get involved and meet people.

This year's race is on Sunday, October 27 and features 5K and 10K races beginning at 10 am, a senior walk at 9 am and a kids' run at 9:45 am. More info is at [www.cantonfallclassic.com](http://www.cantonfallclassic.com).

Volunteers are needed! Please contact Melissa Mayer at 781-799-4894 or [melissamayer29@gmail.com](mailto:melissamayer29@gmail.com).

