

✧ Congregation Beth Tikvah

TIKVAH TOPICS

TEVET

SHEVAT



Congregation Beth Tikvah • 6121 Olentangy River Road • Worthington, OH 43085
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Rooted in Responsibility: Tu BiShvat Reflection

Words from Rabbi Rick Kellner

When I speak to audiences about what makes Judaism and Jewish life unique, I often highlight the importance of our holidays and the values they embody. My discussions usually focus on the High Holy Days, Passover, Shabbat, and Hanukkah. With limited time, I rarely touch on Purim—and almost never on *Tu BiShvat*.

Yet *Tu BiShvat* may arguably be one of the most unique religious holidays. It is literally the birthday of the trees. While tree planting is a traditional observance, that isn't always possible for Jewish communities in North America. Instead, *Tu BiShvat* has become a time to reflect on our responsibility as stewards of the earth, ensuring its blessings endure for future generations.

Several years ago, we marked *Tu BiShvat* with a local tree expert who spoke about tree cover. We learned that our congregation's location has 100% tree cover—a rarity. Anyone who has spent time at 6121 Olentangy River Rd. knows we are surrounded by beautiful trees. However, visiting certain Columbus neighborhoods quickly reveals a stark contrast. Areas with lower tree cover experience higher temperatures, less shade, increased flooding, and poorer air quality, contributing to higher asthma rates.

Congregation Beth Tikvah sits just a short distance from the Olentangy River. Many of us have walked the Olentangy Trail, enjoyed its parks, or live near the river. An organization called Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (FLOW) works to



protect the river, its tributaries, and surrounding areas. I know people who love to explore, fish, and kayak along the Olentangy, and FLOW helps keep these spaces clean.

If you can't plant a tree on *Tu BiShvat*, you can still plant a seed in your soul—preparing for future tree planting when the weather allows. This year, we are welcoming members of FLOW to teach us about their work and how we can help care for our own backyard. To learn about FLOW and watch a video about their organization, I hope you might spend *five minutes watching this video.*

I am always moved by the midrash in Ecclesiastes Rabbah, which tells us that God showed Adam around the Garden of Eden, reminding him that its beauty was entrusted to him and his descendants. If he failed to care for it, it would not endure for future generations. When we consider ways to help the world, we often think of large-scale policies affecting distant places. But as we celebrate *Tu BiShvat*, let's remember that meaningful change starts close to home—with something as local as the Olentangy.

Columbus Souper Bowl Cookoff XVII

FEBRUARY 8, 2025 | 5-7 PM



You're invited to one of the tastiest events of the year—the 17th Annual Columbus Souper Bowl Cook-Off! Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 8, 2025, and join us at Congregation Beth Tikvah from **5:00-7:00 PM** for an unforgettable evening of delicious soups, friendly competition, and community fun.

What to Expect:

- Over 20 incredible soups to sample and vote on
- A silent auction filled with unique items and experiences
- A 50/50 raffle for a chance to win big
- DJ entertainment and a lively photo booth
- And most importantly—a warm and welcoming community atmosphere

All proceeds support the Beth Tikvah Jewish Camp Fund, which has helped send 246 kids to summer camp over the past 16 years. Last year, we raised over \$9,000!

\$10 for adults | \$5 for children (under 5 FREE)...pre-purchase now to avoid a line!

Bring a can of soup for the Worthington Pantry and help give back!

Don't miss this night of fun, flavor, and philanthropy! Click below to get your tickets and raffle entries today!

[Souper Bowl Tickets](#)

[Raffle Tickets](#)



Due to the heightened security environment, please be ready to show your ID if asked. We may request to take a photo of it if you are not a congregant (18+). We also may request to search your bag.
We will streamline the process for all congregants that we recognize.



Be Like Mike!

Mike Fliegel, *of blessed memory*, recognized the importance of Jewish camping to the vitality of our Jewish future. Mike initiated the concept of seeking Souper Bowl sponsors to help fund scholarships to send our Beth Tikvah children to Jewish summer camp.

You can honor Mike's memory - and be like Mike - by making a donation to the Souper Bowl at one of the sponsorship levels.

Become a Sponsor...Be Like Mike!

Sneak Peek at Silent Auction Items



IXTAPAN Yoga & Fitness Resort 7 Day Spa Trip for 2

Experience a 7-day, all-inclusive spa retreat for two, nestled in the foothills of Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains. Your stay includes comfortable accommodations, three nutritious spa meals daily, and a variety of treatments such as Swedish massages, facials, and body exfoliations. This trip is valid through January 2026!

Transfers to & from the airport are not included. [LEARN MORE HERE](mailto:Ritaeppler@yahoo.com) or contact Ritaeppler@yahoo.com (\$4,000 value)



2 Night Stay at Rosewood Lodge, Hocking Hills, OH

This 4-bedroom lodge accommodates up to 10 guests & features private en-suite bathrooms, a hot tub, outdoor decks surrounded by nature, a game room & arcade, a 55" TV, and a grand piano. Relax by one of the two fireplaces, unwind in the hot tub, or gather around the outdoor fire pit. Enjoy high-speed Wi-Fi, charging outlets, and access to scenic hiking trails making this the ultimate getaway. Contact david.a.vanderburgh@gmail.com with questions. (\$1000+ value)

4 CBJ Tickets & a tour of Nationwide Arena before the game

Donated by Marty Mulford, valued at \$732

4 Columbus Crew Tickets

Expires Nov. 1, 2025 - Excludes Inter Miami & FC Cincinnati, valued at \$428

Golf Club of Dublin - Round of 4

Valued at \$280

& More!

BUILDING A SAFER COMMUNITY

A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DEBBIE VINOCUR

One of my key responsibilities is ensuring the safety and security of our building and community. Over the years, I have participated in numerous community meetings and trainings—such as Run, Hide, Fight and tabletop exercises—while helping to develop key safety initiatives for our congregation.

Beth Tikvah has a dedicated Security Committee that meets regularly to review and strengthen our security policies, procedures, and protocols. Our team includes trained volunteer congregants who specialize in situational awareness and behavioral assessment, providing an extra layer of protection during Religious School, the High Holy Days, and large community events like the Souper Bowl Cookoff.

Leading these efforts is our Security Committee chair, who works diligently alongside the committee to ensure our community's safety. If you drop off your child(ren) for Religious School, you may recognize Eric standing watch at the entrance, offering both a reassuring presence and a warm welcome as everyone arrives.

Recently, I joined the Worthington Police Department's Citizen Academy, and just three weeks in, I've already learned so much. I highly recommend signing up when it's offered! Fun fact: Worthington was the first suburb to hire a female police officer in 1977.

Each week, a variety of speakers share their valuable insights. In the first session,

representatives from the Northwest Regional Emergency Communications Center (NRECC) explained 911 operations. When calling 911, they always ask: Where, What, Who, When, and How. I want to highlight two safety apps I learned about:

1. **Smart 911:** This free app allows you to create a safety profile with critical information for dispatchers and first responders. If you're unable to speak during an emergency, your profile provides crucial details. It's easy to set up in about 10 minutes and can include information for your entire family.
2. **What3Words:** This app divides the world into three-meter squares, each assigned three unique code words. Sharing these words with 911 ensures emergency responders can locate you precisely, even if you don't know your exact address.

Both apps are free and could be lifesaving tools.

Safety is a shared responsibility, and taking small steps, like learning more about emergency response and using tools like Smart 911 and What3Words, can make a big difference. I encourage everyone to stay informed, be prepared, and take advantage of resources that can help keep our community safe. If you ever have the chance to participate in trainings offered by Beth Tikvah or programs like the Citizen Academy, I highly recommend it. Knowledge is power, and together, we can create a safer environment for everyone. Stay vigilant, stay connected, and most importantly—stay safe!

Morissa R. Freiberg RJE,

We had a wonderful crowd for Tikvah Tots in December! We are grateful to CJDS for hosting the craft. 3rd-5th graders enjoyed a special Hanukkah party to end the first half of the year. In addition to games, crafts, and fun snacks, they created cards for the residents of Wexner Heritage Village. Our drama chug (elective) performed a fantastic Hanukkah play. Thank you to drama specialist Robin Brenneman for the hard work on this production with our learners.



It was an epic time at Nailed It: Hanukkah! Families learned about what makes Hanukkah menorah kosher and constructed their own edible chanukiahs out of cupcakes and fun toppings.

Join us for our next Nailed it on 4/27 at 2PM to celebrate Israel's Birthday! Keep an eye out for more information as well as the Sign-up link in our weekly emails.

Contact Hannah Karr at comms@bethtikvahcolumbus.org if you are not receiving weekly Beth Tikvah emails.



Religious School Updates...

We kicked off our second half of the year of learning with our 3rd-5th graders choosing new chuggim (electives). Pictured here are our sports and crochet chugs. Crochet began learning skills to start their collaborative Israeli flag project, and sports learned about Jewish basketball player Tamir Goodman. Our Pre-K class is learning all about chesed (lovingkindness), and made cards to take home to their families. Parent-Tot had a great time discovering Tikkun Olam.

TEENS, FAMILY & TIKVAH TOTS

FEB.

1

Tikvah Tots

5:30 PM at Beth Tikvah

Wear your PJs!

RSVP

FEB.

9

JYG Event

6th & 7th Grade

Located at Get Air in Hilliard

2:00 PM

FEB.

22

Parents Night Out Dinner & Cards

Bring your best poker face to Beth Tikvah!

RSVP coming soon...

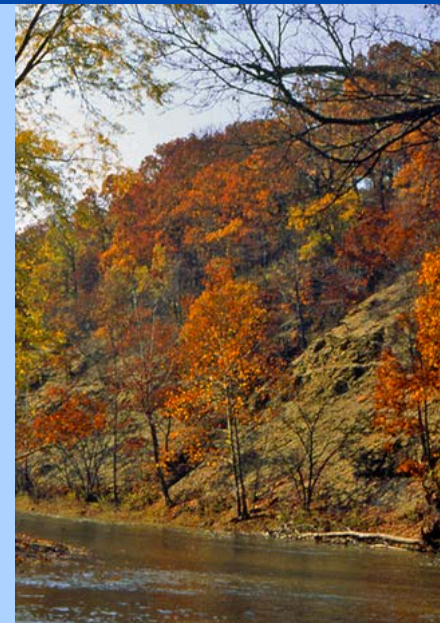
7:00 PM

Tu BiShvat Program

Join us for our Tu BiShvat program with FLOW, Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed.

After learning about their mission to keep our river clean and safe, we will enjoy a self-guided experience to taste the ritual holiday foods!

February 12 at 7:30 PM



JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

CHALUTZIM & JYG (3RD - 6TH GRADE)

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

Reminder: There will be no Religious or Hebrew School on 2/16 due to President's day!

WHAT'S JEWISH ABOUT...

AN ADULT LEARNING SERIES
WITH MORISSA R. FREIBERG, RJE



Join together as we discover the significance of angels in Jewish texts and mysticism, uncover the significance of dreams in biblical and rabbinic thought, and reveal how the zodiac connects to Jewish time and spirituality. Join for all three sessions or pick and choose what works best for you!

THREE SESSIONS: 7:15 PM - 8:30 PM

- 2/10 - Dreams
- 2/24 - Angels
- 3/3 - The Zodiac

RSVP

This course is in-person only.

World Zionist Congress 2025



As 2025 begins, we at Congregation Beth Tikvah remain committed to strengthening democracy—both here at home and around the world. One meaningful way to take action is by participating in the 2025 World Zionist Congress (WZC) elections.

The WZC is the democratically elected international body that convenes every five years, giving Diaspora Jews like us a voice in shaping Israel's future. This is our opportunity to stand up for Reform Jewish

values of pluralism, equality, and a just path to peace. This election will help ensure that Israel remains a place where our children and our grandchildren will always feel safe and welcome.

The 2025 WZC elections will take place from **March 10 - May 4, 2025** and Congregation Beth Tikvah is building a team to mobilize our community. We need your help!

What's at Stake?

Our opponents in this election are pushing a vision of Israel that threatens democracy and pluralism. They aim to:

- Erode Israel's democracy
- Roll back progress on gender equity, LGBTQ+ rights, and religious pluralism
- Strip Reform clergy—especially women rabbis—of their rights, funding, and recognition
- Deny legitimacy to Reform converts and their children in the Jewish state



Will You Stand With Us?

Learn More & Get Involved

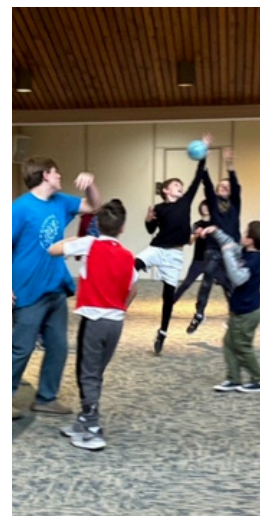
Click the button above to learn more about the WZC, the election, and its impact on our community.

Our power in this election comes from participation. The more Reform Jews who vote, the stronger our voice. Join Beth Tikvah's WZC campaign and help us spread the word!

Together, we can shape an Israel that reflects our values.

Will you stand with us?

Beginning 2025 at Beth Tikvah



Legacy Circle: A Conversation with Professor Pamela Nadell & Rabbi Rick Kellner

“Jewish continuity is not guaranteed—it is built, generation by generation.”



This past weekend, Congregation Beth Tikvah was honored to welcome Dr. Pamela Nadell, acclaimed scholar and professor at American University, as our Resler Scholar-in-Residence. Among the many enriching moments she shared with our congregation, a special highlight was the conversation between Dr. Nadell and Rabbi Rick Kellner, held for members of our Beth Tikvah Legacy Circle.

The discussion was a heartfelt exploration of Jewish identity, history, and the importance of legacy. Dr. Nadell reflected on the challenges faced by Jewish communities throughout history, emphasizing that “Judaism has survived because each generation made the conscious choice to preserve it. It was never accidental; it was intentional.” Her words resonated deeply, reminding us that the commitment and education of today will shape our Jewish future.

Dr. Nadell highlighted a central truth about Jewish history: “Every synagogue, every community, every act of preservation is a choice. It is how we write the next chapter of the Jewish story.” Her words struck a chord with our Legacy Circle members, who have already committed to ensuring that our congregation’s story continues.

This conversation underscored the vital work of our Beth Tikvah Legacy Circle. By joining the Legacy Circle, members are making an intentional decision to support the continuity of Judaism for future generations. Their generosity ensures that our congregation will remain a center for Jewish life and learning for decades to come.

Dr. Nadell reminded us that the work of preservation is not only a responsibility but also a privilege. “When you support your community,” she said, “you are not just sustaining a building or a program. You are sustaining a people, a culture, a faith. That is an extraordinary legacy.”

As we reflect on the weekend’s meaningful moments, let’s celebrate the enduring strength of our community. If you’d like to learn more about the Legacy Circle and how you can make a lasting impact, contact Debbie Vinocur at dvinocur@bethtikvahcolumbus.org or Carol Folkerth carolfolkerth@gmail.com.

Written by Hannah Karr

EVENTS SCHEDULE

SISTERHOOD

**CLICK HERE FOR
FULL NEWSLETTER**

MAH JONGG

RSVP

2/5 2/18 3/5 3/18

Join us at Beth Tikvah for Mahj...newbies are always welcome! Sign-up using our SignUp Genius and indicate if you will be bringing snacks! For questions, email Shelley at sgrievezerkel@gmail.com

SOUPER BOWL

RSVP

February 8 | 5-7 PM

The Sisterhood is supporting the Souper Bowl by supplying food items that were previously supplied by Mike Fliegel, *of blessed memory*. Click the RSVP button to sign up to bring donations.

BOOK CLUB

BOOKS

February 11 | 12:30 PM

The Sisterhood Book Club will be discussing the book, "West With Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge. No sign-up, just show up! Click the button to review the chosen titles for months to follow!

MITZVAH DAY

April 6, 2025 | 10:30 AM - 12 PM

Plans for Mitzvah Day are in the works! If you have any project ideas or are interested in volunteering, please contact Marla Moskowitz at marlajmoskowitz@gmail.com or Tanya Shats at tshats2014@gmail.com.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE

Located in D.C. from April 4-7, 2025...become better educated & trained on social justice issues. Learn advocacy skills and address timely topics in a welcoming & encouraging environment. [Click HERE for more info.](#)

WRJ HEARTLAND DISTRICT

June 27-29, 2025

Congregation Beth Tikvah will host the WRJ Heartland District East Regional Meeting. More details will be announced later. All women of Beth Tikvah are invited to attend!

Wine Tasting

BETH TIKVAH SISTERHOOD

Join us for a delightful evening of wine tasting and pizza at House Wine! The perfect opportunity to connect with friends, enjoy great conversation, and savor a selection of wines paired with delicious pizza and salad.

FEB. 4
6:30 PM

Cost: \$30 per person

RSVP by February 3 using the button below. If you are gluten free or have food allergies, please indicate this in comment section.

RSVP

The space is limited to 22 attendees, so don't wait...secure your spot now!

Location: House Wine

644 High St.

Worthington, OH 43085



Rabbi Marla J. Feldman Social Justice Conference

Registration for WRJ's Social Justice Conference (SJC) is officially open!

Now more than ever, we must show up for the issues that matter most. Register to become better-educated and trained on social justice issues, learn advocacy skills you can utilize at home and on a larger scale, and address timely topics in a welcoming and encouraging environment.

SJC is intended for anyone who identifies as female, nonbinary, or gender fluid (age 18+) and is interested in advocacy through a Jewish feminist lens. All interested – including those who identify as male – are welcome to register for the “[Empowerment Package](#).”

Register Here



What is Included?

The four-day conference will feature inspiring speakers, including experts and those impacted by issues like reproductive justice, climate change, and violence against women. Attendees will experience a meaningful Shabbat, gain tools to advance social justice in their communities, and have the opportunity to lobby on Capitol Hill. The event also fosters connections with Jewish leaders across North America while deepening ties to WRJ's core pillars: sisterhood, spirituality, and social justice.



Brotherhood Update

Art Flesch

Brotherhood's January "open table" luncheon took place on January 14 at The Rusty Bucket in the Lane Avenue Shopping Center. Attendees enjoyed good food and fellowship. The February luncheon will occur at the same location at 11:30 AM on February 18, 2025.

Our first dinner program of 2025 was held on Tuesday, January 7, at Beth Tikvah. Following a pizza and salad dinner, 31 attendees heard a presentation by Brotherhood member Adam Winter on "AI: The Dangers, Opportunities, and Challenges to Society."

The major Brotherhood event in February will be the annual "Souper Bowl" on February 8. This fun activity generates significant support for the Beth Tikvah Camp Scholarship Fund. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., and by 7:00 p.m., hundreds of individuals will sample soups prepared by professional and amateur chefs. A popular vote by attendees will select the top soups in both categories. Additional food and beverages will be available, a DJ will keep the energy up, and kids will have a variety of activities to enjoy. There will also be a silent auction with wonderful items and gift certificates, as well as a 50/50 raffle. Prize winners will be announced at the conclusion of the event.

For your convenience, you can pre-purchase admission and raffle tickets on ShulCloud to avoid the event-day crowd. As this is a public event, please cooperate with police and Beth Tikvah's security team, who will work to keep this a safe and enjoyable time for all.

The next ARC blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Due to a post-pandemic drop in donations and recent natural disasters, the nation is still facing the largest blood shortage in history. What greater mitzvah can you perform than giving the gift of life? Online registration is now open at redcrossblood.org. Search for the "Beth Tikvah" location and select your time. If you have questions or difficulty signing up, contact Art Flesch at artflesch@hotmail.com or (614) 530-7560.

Planning continues for upcoming Brotherhood events, including luncheons, dinner programs, and future blood drives.

The goal is to continuously improve activities that support the Beth Tikvah community and provide opportunities for fellowship among male congregants.



The Beth Tikvah Brotherhood is a vibrant, fun organization dedicated to providing the men of the congregation with opportunities to participate in a range of activities that reinforce shared Jewish values. We encourage any male member of Beth Tikvah interested in joining Brotherhood to contact Don Goldbaum, membership chair, at dongoldbaum@gmail.com or (614) 745-4754. First-year members of the congregation are provided with a free initial year's membership in Brotherhood.

Brotherhood Events

Feb.
18

Lunch @ Rusty Bucket

Join the Brotherhood at 11:30 AM in the Lane Ave. Shopping Center.

RSVP by contacting Jeff Albert jpalbert46@gmail.com



BLOOD DRIVE
AMERICAN RED CROSS & BROTHERHOOD

TUESDAY, MARCH 11
12 PM - 6PM

located at Beth Tikvah

To schedule an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: bethtikvah or contact Art at artflesch@hotmail.com.

SHISHIM PROGRAM

February 13, 2025

10:45 AM
Hobnob

11 AM
A Conversation with
An Artist

12 PM
Lunch

1 PM
The Life of Lincoln



MEMBER LUNCH

NON-MEMBER LUNCH

JOIN ON ZOOM

A CONVERSATION WITH AN ARTIST

Join us in discovering the vibrant world of Columbus artist **Hani Hara** as he takes us on a captivating journey through his colorful and iconic art. Delve deeper into his extraordinary life story, from his childhood in Egypt to the serendipitous path that led him to Columbus as an immigrant.

THE LIFE OF LINCOLN

John Cooper, a Historic Reenactor, will share a short biography of the life of Lincoln, including his boyhood, early political career, becoming a lawyer, & election to President. He will conclude with remarks about the Civil War and Gettysburg Address. This is not a lecture, it's a dramatic reenaction of Lincoln's life.

LUNCH: We will be enjoying a variety of main courses & side dishes from Catering by Scott. The cost is \$15 for Beth Tikvah members and \$18 for non-members. **The deadline to order lunch is Feb. 6.** You can still attend the event without ordering lunch by contacting David-Binkovitz@columbus.rr.com
Attend in-person or on Zoom!

PURIM

Events



March

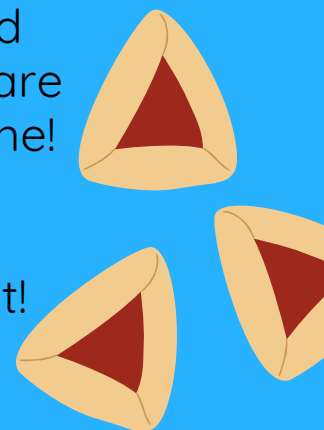
9

COMMUNITY PURIM FESTIVAL

Join together with 16 other Columbus Jewish institutions to celebrate a vibrant Purim filled with fun, food, and community spirit! There are family-friendly and fun activities for everyone!

Tickets

Drinks, snacks, and Hamantaschen will be provided! Parking is included with your ticket!



March

13

DEFYING TRAGEDY: A WICKED AWESOM PURIM SPIEL

Join Beth Tikvah for a Purim Spiel with a Wicked theme! A group of Beth Tikvah's singers, Religious School teachers, and students will perform their whimsical Spiel at 6:30 PM.

Tickets

Dinner from Aladdin's will be held prior to the Spiel at 5:45 PM. Adults: \$15 | Children under 10: \$10
RSVP for dinner by 3/7



NEXTGEN GAME *night*



Friday, February 21 at 8:30 PM

following Shabbat services at
Congregation Beth Tikvah

Ages
21-45

Free Event! BYOB & any
board games that you love!

SIGN-UP HERE





Broadway Sing-Along

Tuesday, February 25

7:30 PM

Can't make it to New York to catch the latest shows? No problem! Beth Tikvah is bringing the magic of Broadway to you!

John Stefano & Julie Sapper will be our musical tour guides as we take a break from winter and enjoy singing some of our favorite tunes from Broadway. This sing-along is a fun program for those who want to have a chance to sing with others in a relaxed and informal setting. No singing experience necessary—just an openness to “belt it out” when the spirit moves you!



2025

Save-the-Dates

Click the events to be taken to the Sign-Up links!

MARCH 1	Women's Shabbaton Join Morissa Freiberg, RJE at 10:30 AM at Beth Tikvah	
MARCH 6	Rabbi's Adult Learning Program More information coming soon...	
MARCH 9	Community Purim Festival 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM...buy tickets to receive the location!	RSVP
MARCH 11	Red Cross Blood Drive 12 PM – 6PM at Congregation Beth Tikvah	RSVP
MARCH 13	Purim Spiel & Dinner Purchase tickets for dinner (5:45 PM) prior to the Spiel (6:30 PM)	RSVP
APRIL 6	Mitzvah Day Religious School: 9:30–10:30 AM Mitzvah Day: 10:30 AM – 12 PM	
APRIL 18	Presentation of the Ed Schechter Award	
MAY 4	Rabbi Rick Kellner's Celebration 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM at Congregation Beth Tikvah	

Let's Celebrate

RABBI RICK KELLNER'S

18 YEARS IN THE RABBINATE



MAY 4, 2025

5-7 PM



Growing Together: Embracing Inclusion on Tu B'Shevat

Join us on February 13, 5-7 pm at the JCC in the Schottenstein rooms

Join us for inclusive songs, stories, art, and activities for kids 0-10 and parents!

Registration required. Pizza provided.

Scan to register!



Torah Trailblazers: Celebrating Remarkable Jewish Women

GLORIA STEINEM

Gloria Steinem, born in Toledo, Ohio, in 1934, was a journalist, activist, and organizer; she played a pivotal role in advocating for gender equality, reproductive rights, and social justice. She co-founded Ms. magazine in 1972, which revolutionized the way women's issues were covered in the media. She also helped establish the National Women's Political Caucus, empowering women in politics, and the Women's Action Alliance, which worked to advance feminist initiatives across the country.

Beyond her work in publishing and activism, Steinem traveled the country speaking about women's rights, often highlighting issues of domestic violence, workplace discrimination, and reproductive freedom. She testified before Congress, protested against restrictive policies, and advocated for the Equal Rights Amendment. Her impact extended globally, as she worked with women's movements around the world, fighting for justice and equality.

Although not religiously observant, Steinem's Jewish heritage influenced her outlook on justice. Her paternal grandmother, Pauline Perlmutter Steinem, was a Jewish immigrant and a suffragist who fought for women's rights in the early 1900s. Reflecting on this



legacy, Gloria once said, "I had a Jewish suffragist grandmother, Pauline Perlmutter Steinem, who died when I was about five. She had addressed Congress, but nobody told me about that." ([JWA](#))

Her life's work aligns deeply with Jewish values. At Beth Tikvah, we strive to create an inclusive and just community, advocating for equality and fairness in all aspects of life. Gloria Steinem's dedication to dismantling oppression and empowering the marginalized reflects the moral compass that guides our congregation. By celebrating her legacy, we reaffirm our own commitment to social justice and the ongoing fight for equality in the United States and around the globe.

Written by Hannah Karr

Empowering Women Through Philanthropy

For 11 years, The Central Ohio Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) Tzedakah Collective has empowered women to become philanthropists and work toward social justice by pooling their funds and making a difference through grantmaking. Members are from Congregation Beth Tikvah, Temple Beth Shalom, Temple Israel, Kehillat Sukkat Shalom, and unaffiliated Jewish women in Central Ohio.

The Hebrew word “Tzedakah” means righteousness and justice. The Tzedakah Collective seeks to lift all people up by learning about the needs in our community and supporting the non-profits that address those needs in the populations they serve. The Tzedakah Collective focus is to help restore human dignity in underserved populations.

Most non-profit presentations are by zoom and you do not need to be a member to attend.



An annual tax- exempt donation of just \$60 (or more if one wishes) brings membership and the right to vote to allocate grants.

The first meeting of 2025 will feature the non-profit Sanctuary Night on Sunday, February 23, 2025, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM via Zoom. The speaker will be Hannah Estabrook, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Sanctuary Night.

Sanctuary Night is a sacred space serving vulnerable women at risk for sexual exploitation. It provides a place to rest, eat, connect, and access desired resources. This vibrant community is led by survivors and champions, promoting the flourishing of all who sit at their table. The drop-in center operates with a harm reduction and peer support approach. In 2023, Sanctuary Night served 644 unique women, offering meals, clothing, showers, health care, resources, and a sense of community. Eleven of their eighteen staff members bring lived experience, allowing them to connect with guests in deeply meaningful ways.

Please join us to learn about the important work this unique non-profit does. For inquiries and zoom link, contact Coordinator, Marsha Pond marshapond@msn.com

Congregation Beth Tikvah

2025 Jewish Overnight Camp Fund Application

The child's family must be members of Beth Tikvah to apply.

Applications are due March 1, 2025. Please submit to the Temple office in a sealed envelope with "Camp Fund Application for Executive Director" written on it, or email to dvinocur@bethtikvahcolumbus.org.

*** Note: Decisions will not come out until March 2025, but you can start submitting now. ***

Camper's Name: _____

Name(s) of Parent(s): _____

Name of Jewish Overnight Camp: _____

Number of weeks attending: _____ **First-time Overnight Camper?** ____ Yes ____ No

Total cost of Camp (tuition, travel, etc...): \$ _____

Child Birth Date: _____

Is there anything else you would like the Executive Director to be aware of as your request is processed?

Have you applied for funds from any other organizations? ____ Yes ____ No **If so, please list:**

Organization: _____ **Amount Requested:** \$ _____

Organization: _____ **Amount Requested:** \$ _____

Organization: _____ **Amount Requested:** \$ _____

Please have your camper answer the following questions in the space below. Why do you want to go to camp? How do you think it will help you grow as a Jew and as a person?

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS...

Adult Education

- Darla Abraham in memory of Lila Newman
- Scott & Terri Gordon in memory of Lila Newman
- Maria & Steven Rosenthal in memory of Lila Newman
- Joel & Connie Mayerson in loving memory of Nancy Mayerson

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- Darla Abraham in honor of Ed Schechter Award winner, Larry Romanoff

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- Joel & Connie Mayerson in loving memory of Mary Schaffer
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TIKVAH TOPICS

Editor's Note:

It is my privilege to design, write, and publish Tikvah Topics each month. This newsletter is a reflection of the heart and spirit of our community.

If you have content ideas, information to share, or suggestions for upcoming editions, please feel free to reach out to me at comms@bethtikvahcolumbus.org. Your input helps ensure Tikvah Topics continues to represent and celebrate our vibrant congregation.

Hannah Karr

Marketing & Communications Specialist

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Our mission at Congregation Beth Tikvah is to empower individuals to live and learn Jewishly, and to make the world a better place.