

TIKVAH TOPICS

ADAR

NISSAN



February at Beth Tikvah



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Words from Rabbi Rick Kellner

Growing up, every young Jewish athlete found pride in telling Sandy Koufax's story. Arguably one of the greatest pitchers to ever play baseball, Koufax famously sat out the first game of the 1965 World Series because it was Yom Kippur. (When the Dodgers' manager walked to the mound after Don Drysdale struggled in that game, Drysdale reportedly said, "I guess you wish I was Jewish too.") We hold onto that story because Jews are not typically associated with sports.

When I tell people I spend two weeks on faculty at a Jewish sports summer camp, I am often met with laughter that plays into that stereotype. But every so often, Jewish athletes nurture our pride. Perhaps you remember swimmer Jason Lezak, who swam the greatest relay split in history to anchor the [4 x 100 freestyle relay at the 2008 Summer Olympics](#), mounting a comeback to give Team USA the gold medal and secure Michael Phelps' eighth gold of those games. Or maybe you know about [Max Fried, who led the Atlanta Braves](#) to the 2021 World Series after a dominant performance in Game 6. Perhaps you recall [Julian Edelman's MVP performance](#) at Super Bowl LIII for the New England Patriots. Or [Kerri Strug's famous vault](#) on an injured ankle to win gold for the 1996 U.S. Olympic gymnastics team. And then there was [Aly Raisman, who soared to gold](#) at the 2012 London Games, performing her floor routine to "Hava Nagila."



As we spent two weeks last month with our eyes focused on Milan, other Jewish athletes took center stage—or perhaps center ice. Did you that know Aerin Frankel, the U.S. Women's Hockey goalie, is Jewish? [Frankel's performance](#) in the gold medal-winning game was one for the ages, as she helped secure gold for the United States. Early one Sunday morning, Jack Hughes, who had lost a few teeth to a high stick earlier in the hockey game, [scored the golden goal](#) with a wrist shot, giving Team USA its first men's hockey gold medal since the famous "Miracle on Ice" in 1980. When young Jews look around for heroes in the spotlight, we feel an extra measure of pride knowing these standout athletes are members of our tribe.

We may see these stars as heroes—and perhaps they are. But heroism in Judaism is defined a bit differently. In Pirkei Avot, a first-century Jewish ethical treatise, Ben Zoma famously asks, "Who is a hero (literally, who is mighty)? The one who controls their urges." Ben Zoma reminds us that it takes inner strength to overcome what the rabbis call the yetzer hara—the inclination that pushes us toward harmful behavior. When we celebrate Purim, we honor other heroes. Mordecai refuses to bow down to the evil Haman because he is a Jew. We celebrate Esther, who risks her life by going before the king to save her people. Mordecai and Esther are not portrayed as particularly observant Jews; if anything, they are assimilated into Persian culture, yet they still feel pride in their Jewish identity.

Jewish pride is rooted in many places. It can come from identifying with others who share our heritage. It can be rooted in the biblical stories that inspire us. And it can grow from connecting with Jews around the world. When we recognize that someone like Jack Hughes or Aerin Frankel is also Jewish, we are reminded of the pride that lives within our hearts. There is much to be proud of!

Pause for Poetry Rabbi Karen Martin

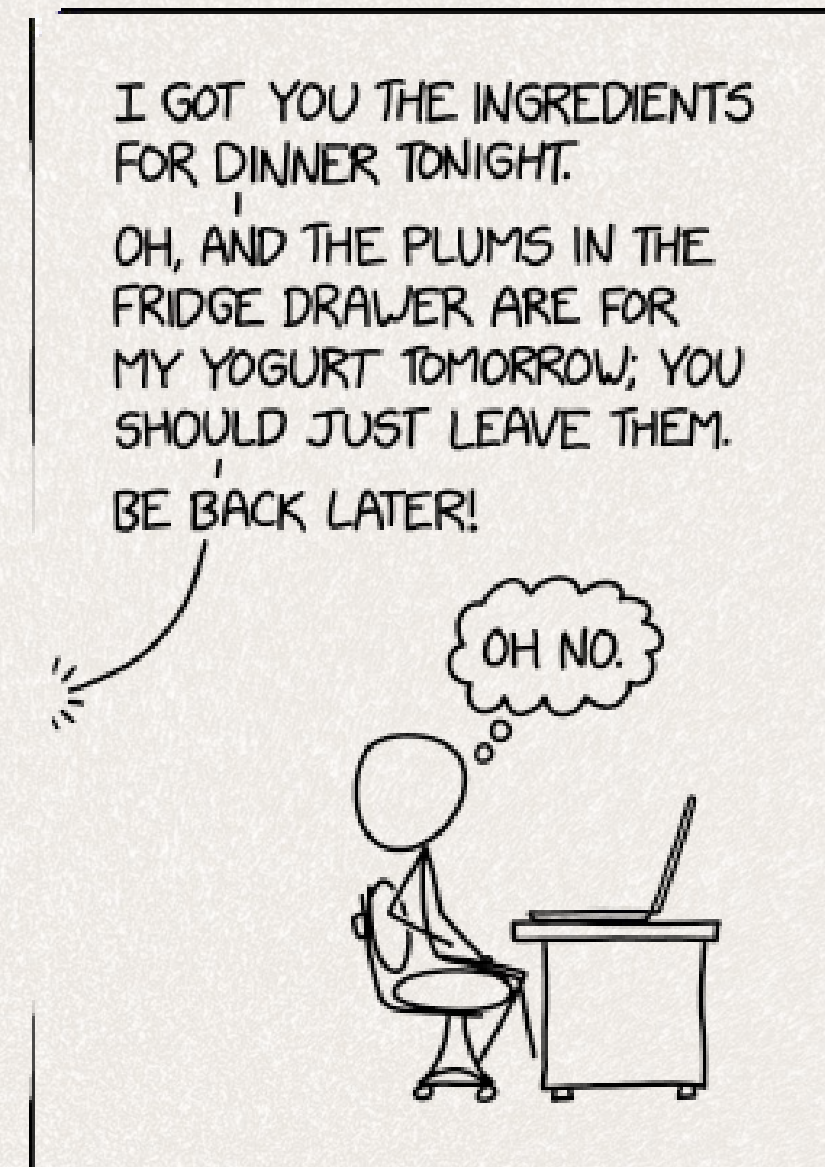
A few days ago, my husband sent me the comic to the right from [xkcd, created by Randall Munroe](#). Since then, I've been thinking about the poetry of William Carlos Williams (1883-1963). His poem "[This is Just to Say](#)" is referenced in the comic. Williams was an American poet, author, playwright, and physician of British and Puerto Rican descent, with Jewish heritage (among others).

I first encountered Williams in high school, when we read both "This is Just to Say" and "[The Red Wheelbarrow](#)" during an American poetry unit. Only later did I discover his book of poetry *Spring and All* (1923), a deeply human work that pushed past the alienation of its era in search of wonder. I find that sense of wonder most poignantly expressed in this poem:

Spring and All: III [The farmer deep in thought]

By William Carlos Williams

*The farmer in deep thought
is pacing through the rain
among his blank fields, with
hands in pockets,
in his head
the harvest already planted.
A cold wind ruffles the water
among the browned weeds.
On all sides
the world rolls coldly away:*



HELP. IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED.
I SHOULDN'T. BUT HOW CAN I NOT!?

*black orchards
darkened by the March clouds –
leaving room for thought.
Down past the brushwood
bristling by
the rainsluced wagonroad
looms the artist figure of
the farmer – composing
– antagonist.*

Pause for Poetry - Rabbi Karen Martin

We are given this image of the farmer rising before dawn on the cusp of spring, alone with his thoughts in the pouring rain. The land is a blank canvas; the farmer, an artist poised with his brush. The poem reads like a cold, moody, almost oppressive idyll until we reach the final line, the final word: “antagonist.” Looking back, the hints are there: our farmer/artist “bristling” and “looming” over this act of creation.

In William’s poem, creation and cultivation become a threat—an act of destruction that pits the farmer against the land. I find myself asking: What is being destroyed? The fields are blank, or blanketed by brown weeds. The orchards are black. Darkness, wind, and water converge, and I cannot help but hear this echo:

וְהָאָרֶץ הָיְתָה תֵהוֹ וּבְהוֹ וַחֲשֶׁךְ עַל־פְּנֵי תְהוֹם וְרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים מְרַחֶפֶת עַל־פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם:

The earth was unformed wastes, and darkness was upon the deeps, and the wind of God stretched out over the waters.

Like our unnamed farmer, we are taught that God’s act of primal creation was intentional.

In Proverbs 3:19, we read:

**יְהוָה בְּחָכְמָה יִסְדָּאֶרֶץ כּוֹנֵן
שָׁמַיִם בְּתַבּוּנָה:**

*God founded the earth by wisdom
And established the heavens by understanding.*

Creation, we are told, was not haphazard but deliberate, just as the farmer plans out his fields and orchards. In *Bereshit Rabbah*, a book of midrash—rabbinic discourses, stories, and law derived from the words of Torah and Jewish texts—our rabbis build on this idea of intentional creation. They teach that even before the world was created, God created Torah. Proverbs 8:30 tells us that Wisdom (understood by the rabbis as Torah), was with God at creation as an *amon*. “What’s an *amon*?” the rabbis ask. They suggest Wisdom was a caretaker, a nurse, and finally, they suggest that Wisdom was with God as an artisan, declaring, “I was the tool of craft for the Holy One, Blessed Be He,” Later, in *Bereshit Rabbah* 1:4, we read that Israel, who would receive the Torah, was already conceived before the creation of the world.

Pause for Poetry - Rabbi Karen Martin

Despite this idea of careful planning, *Bereshit Rabbah* also tells us that the angels questioned whether the creation of humanity was wise. In *Bereshit Rabbah* 8:1, when God consulted the ministering angels of Mercy, Truth, Righteousness, Peace, they broke into factions and argued in favor (Mercy and Righteousness) or against (Truth and Peace) humanity's creation. While they were busy arguing, God created humanity. There are days, I imagine, when we all have such debates. Yet because of our capacity for Mercy and Righteousness, we're told, God created us.

Still, the poem's darkness and the farmer's antagonistic presence loom. To plant, we must first break and turn the soil creating a soft place for seeds to take root.

In Angela Buchdahl's memoir, *Heart of a Stranger*, she reflects on the Hebrew word *mashber*, meaning crisis, which uses the three-letter root שבר—"to shatter" or "to break." In Middle Hebrew, the word referred to a 'birthing stool.' In Biblical Hebrew, *mashber* was associated with 'birth'—the opening or breaking of the womb. From this, Rabbi Buchdahl teaches us that crisis—shattering—can lead us to renewal, if we can summon the strength to push through.

In language that feels both simple and surprising, Williams conveys an astonishing depth, demanding much of his readers. That is not to say that he consciously intended these echoes; as readers, we inevitably bring our own lenses to the work and to the process of meaning-making.

As we stand on the cusp of spring, with March rains nearly upon us, what are we creating? And what must be broken to make way for the season's renewal?



MARCH SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICES

MARCH 13 RESLER SHABBAT SERVICE Friday, March 13 at 7:15 PM

Join us in-person or on Zoom for Friday night services as Rabbi Nir Barkin reflects on the central importance of gathering as one people in moments when we are striving toward peace, and especially in times of crisis.

MARCH 20 ED SCHECTER AWARD Friday, March 20 at 7:15 PM

This meaningful honor recognizes Don Goldbaum, a Brotherhood member who exemplifies dedication, leadership, and service within our Beth Tikvah community. All are welcome to attend this special moment of gratitude and celebration.

MARCH 27 SHIR AVIV PERFORMANCE Friday, March 27 at 7:15 PM

This special Shabbat service celebrates the arrival of spring and the spirit of Pesach through music in Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, and English—including a playful Passover parody. Led by Julie Sapper, Director of Music Programming, featuring adult singers from our community.





CONGREGATION

Beth Tikvah

First Night

PASSOVER SEDER

Join us for a family-friendly Seder that brings the story of the Exodus to life through song, storytelling, ritual, and delicious food!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

5:45 PM

From young children to empty nesters—everyone has a seat at our table.

REGISTER HERE!

MEMBERS:

Adult: \$65 | Child 4-12: \$40 | 3 & Under: Free

NON-MEMBERS:

Adult: \$75 | Child 4-12: \$50 | 3 & Under: \$25



FAMILY Events



6

MARCH

Sign-Up

SHABBAT SHABOOM

Join us at 10:00 AM in the PI Library Room at Beth Tikvah for a Shabbat program for 0-4 year olds and their families. We will read a story, braid challah, sing songs, and more! This program is in partnership with JCC North Preschool, JewishColumbus, and PI Library.

8

MARCH

Sign-Up

THE WIZARD OF OZ - JCC

Calling all 3rd-7th Graders...join us in partnership with the JCC for our Wizard of Oz event on Sunday, March 8 at 2:00pm. There will be transportation to and from the JCC. Limited tickets...\$25 per person.

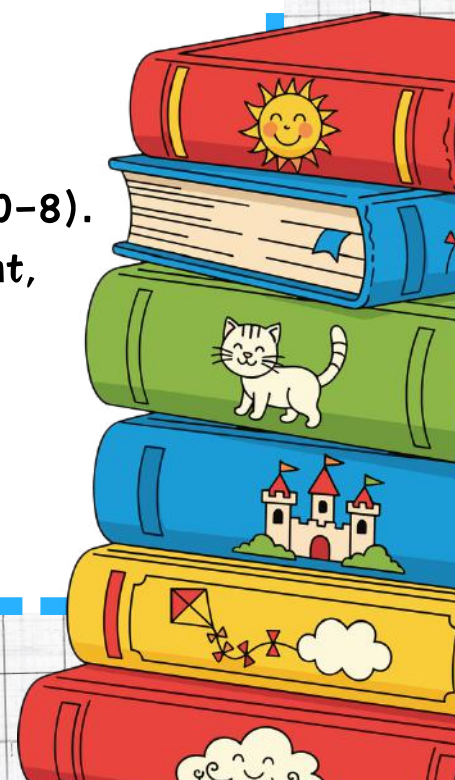
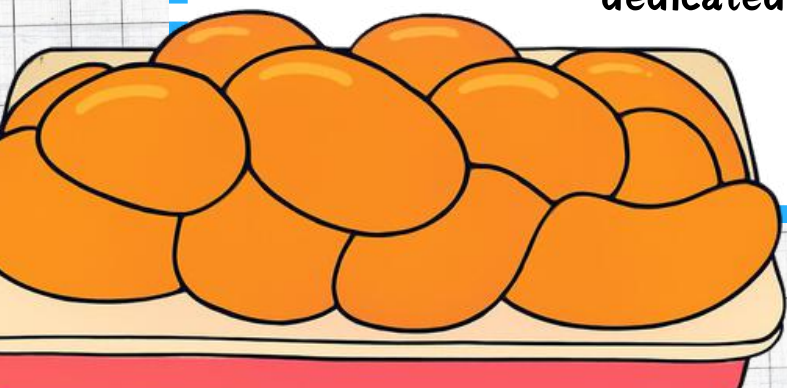
21

MARCH

Sign-Up

TIKVAH TOTS

Join us at 9:30 AM for a Shabbat experience designed for families with young children (ages 0-8). Each gathering includes songs, stories, movement, and age-appropriate Jewish learning led by our dedicated clergy and educators.





MORISSA FREIBERG-VANCE, RJE

LEADING BY LEARNING

I deeply believe that strong Jewish education begins with educators who are continuously learning. If we want our students to grow, we have to model that growth ourselves. This winter has been filled with meaningful professional development, for me personally, and for our teaching team!

The Tzedek America Impact Fellowship

I am honored to share that I was recently accepted into the Tzedek America Rabbi Emily Feigelson Impact Fellowship. This national fellowship brings together Jewish professionals who are committed to strengthening Jewish identity, leadership, and civic responsibility through social-action based learning. Tzedek America aims to equip Jewish educators with the tools and knowledge to guide middle and high school students through educational social justice experiences.

This opportunity allows me to think deeper about our already-existing teen social action programming, particularly B'Yachad (8th grade) and Mitzvah Corps (11th/12th grade), and how we can expand on these already successful components of our Teen Program.

The fellowship consists of three webinars, culminating with a trip to Los Angeles in June to help staff a Tzedek America program and put our learning into action.

Yamim: Learning with Colleagues Across Columbus

Rabbi Karen and I had the opportunity to participate in Yamim 2026 through M2: The Institute for Experiential Jewish Education (IEJE), alongside colleagues from across the Columbus Jewish community. Yamim is a day-long professional development lab that invites Jewish professionals to explore Israel through its clarifying visions and complicated crossroads, and to design meaningful, values-driven learning experiences for their communities.



LEADING BY LEARNING

MORISSA FREIBERG-VANCE, RJE

This program focused on experiential ways of connecting with Zionist thinkers, in relationship to the upcoming Yamim, Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut. It challenged us to think not just about what we teach, but how we create lessons about Israel that students truly feel and remember.

Learning shoulder-to-shoulder with other Columbus educators and synagogue professionals was incredibly meaningful. There is something powerful about stepping out of the day-to-day and being reminded that we are part of a larger network of Jewish professionals working toward the same goal: raising knowledgeable, proud, engaged Jewish young people with a deep love for Israel.

Thank you to JewishColumbus for hosting this amazing training!

Strengthening Our Classrooms: Inclusion & Classroom Management

Closer to home, our teachers recently engaged in professional development with Hanna Fotsch, Director of Community Inclusion at JewishColumbus. Hanna first spent time observing in our classrooms, which allowed the training to be tailored specifically to our students and our teachers.

The workshop focused on practical, research-based classroom management strategies rooted in compassion, structure, and relationship-building.

Teachers reflected honestly on their hardest classroom moments and explored what Hanna called “The Big Three.”

- **Action** – incorporating movement and micro-breaks to support engagement
- **Interaction** – structured peer learning and social connection
- **Structure** – clear routines that set students up for success

What I appreciated most was the emphasis on seeing behavior through a compassionate lens. We discussed validating feelings (without validating harmful behaviors), using restorative and reflective consequences, and remembering that behavior is often a skill deficit, not defiance.

Our teachers left with tangible strategies they could implement immediately in their classrooms, including clear entry tasks, consistent attention signals, restorative conversations, and simple in-the-moment de-escalation tools. Perhaps most importantly, the training reinforced that small, intentional adjustments can reduce stress for teachers while creating calmer, more inclusive classrooms for students.

Professional learning is not an “extra” for us—it is a core value in our program at Beth Tikvah. I feel incredibly grateful to work alongside clergy and teachers who are so committed to growing in their practice. When we invest in our educators, we invest directly in our children.

I look forward to continuing to share how this learning shapes our school!





Columbus Souper Bowl 2026

Brotherhood's Souper Bowl Draws Record-Setting Crowd

Article & Photos by David Binkovitz

The Eighteenth Annual Columbus “Souper Bowl” Cook-Off, held on February 7, drew its largest crowd—over 300 people—who spent the evening sampling various soup recipes and voting to determine the best soup in Columbus.

All proceeds from the cook-off are used to provide scholarships to help send children to Jewish summer camps. The event is sponsored by the Beth Tikvah Brotherhood and coordinated by Jeffrey Wasserstrom.

In the professional division, first place went to Katzinger’s Deli (German Village) with their Hearty Chicken and White Bean Soup. The runner-up was Flavor 91 (East Columbus) that served Chicken Cream of Mushroom Soup.

Among the amateur competitors, Brian Gonzalez (Lorain, OH) received the first-place award for his Chicken Paprikash Soup. The runners up were four students from Beth Tikvah’s Religious School. They prepared a Tomato Basil Soup.

Each of the award winners received gift certificates from Wasserstrom Restaurant & Supply Company.

“While we value all of our competitors,” Wasserstrom said. “We truly appreciate that

Katzinger’s Deli has participated in the Souper Bowl every year for the past 18 years and Catering by Scott has supported us for 17 years.”

“With their commitment, and the support of other restaurants and amateur cooks, we have raised around \$159,000 from the Souper Bowl over an 18-year period,” Wasserstrom said. “That has allowed us to provide several hundred scholarships for children who want to attend Jewish summer camps.”

“Beth Tikvah’s brotherhood has organized this fundraiser because the Jewish camp experience strengthens our children’s bonds to Judaism and enriches their lives,” explained David Binkovitz, a brotherhood member. “Sending our youth to camp is an investment in the children, the congregation, and in Judaism.”

“Thanks to the support of the community and our sponsors, the Eighteenth Anniversary ‘Souper Bowl’ was a big success,” Wasserstrom said. “Each year, the cook-off gets better and enables the brotherhood to increase its donations to the Jewish summer camp scholarship fund.”

Wasserstrom announced: “Plans are underway to make next year’s event—‘Souper Bowl Nineteen’—even better!”



Religious School Friendship Brings Four Students Together as Award Winners in the Souper Bowl

Article & Photos by David Binkovitz

Four students—all who attend different public schools—became friends as a result of meeting one another at Congregation Beth Tikvah’s Religious School. This year, they decided to compete in the 2026 Souper Bowl. Calling themselves “Kidz IRL,” the team received the Runner Up award in the amateur division.

Led by Ari Swissa, who competed in two previous Souper Bowl Cook-Offs, the four sixth grade students were: Aidan Martinez, Oliver Moore, Evey Thomas, and Avi Swissa.

Aidan goes to Hastings Middle School in Upper Arlington, Oliver attends Davis Middle School in Dublin; Evey goes to McCord Middle School in Worthington, and Avi is a student at World Language Middle School in Columbus.



This was Avi’s third year preparing soup and competing in the Souper Bowl Cook-Off at Beth Tikvah. The first two years, he teamed-up with his mother, Alisa Swissa.

“This year, we decided to enter as a team so that we could all have something fun to do together,” said Avi. He shared that while they all attend different schools, they met and became good friends during their time spent at Beth Tikvah’s Religious School. “Since we had a great time this year,” Avi said, “we plan to compete again next year.”



Jeff Wasserstrom (left) coordinated the Souper Bowl at Beth Tikvah with the assistance of many other brotherhood members including Davud Binkovitz (right).



A record crowd at the Souper Bowl 18 will help raise funds to send Beth Tikvah children to Jewish summer camps.

Thank You to our Souper Bowl Sponsors!

CHICKEN WING

Blue Line Entertainment
Greg & Anne Russell

CHICKEN THIGH

Barry Bagels
GUCI
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Renewal By Anderson
The Wasserstrom Company
Herb & Judy Weisberg
Rabbi Rick and Family

CHICKEN DRUMSTICK

Brady Ware
Brownie Points
Camp Wise
Chicken Salad Chick
Dairy Queen
Mill Run Vision Center
6 Points URJ Specialty Camps
Jonathan Beck & Lisa Kalson
Hal Keller & Laurie Kaps-Keller
Marsha Pond
Steven & Maria Rosenthal

CHICKEN WISH-BONE

The Mascot Organization
Meijer
Andrew Smith &
Lavea Brachman
Barb Mindel
Betty Klapper
Bob Fisher & Bobbie Garber
Brad & Tara Rozen
Bruce & Ellen Sass
David Binkovitz
David & Julie Sapper
Don & Abby Goldbaum
Doug & Debbie King

Elliot & Margie Davidoff
Gary & Teresa Katz
Harvey & Evie Freeman
Iris Ailin-Pyzik
Jeff & Cheryl Wasserstrom
Jeff & Linda Albert
John & Eileen Ames
Larry & Debbie Romanoff
Randy & Wendi Stern
Robert & Karen Rosenberg
Rose Luttinger
Steve & Bridget Dritz
Toba Feldman

THE CAROB TREE PROJECT

TOBA FELDMAN

Toba Feldman has always been guided by principle. She is a person who pauses before agreeing, who asks what lies beneath an assumption, and who is more interested in consequences than consensus. She values clarity over charm and substance over ease.

“You can do anything,” she said. **“But the more important question is, should you do it?”** For Toba, thinking carefully is not optional. It is a responsibility. **“Another key element of that question is, can you accept the consequences?”** she added. **“Most people, particularly today, do not accept responsibility, accountability, or consequences.”** That distinction — not what is allowed, but what is right — has shaped how she has lived her life.

Toba grew up in a household molded by intelligence and curiosity. Her family history carries the imprint of immigration and incomplete records. **“My mother came over with her parents in 1921,”** she explained. **“She was maybe almost a year old, so I’m the first American citizen.”** On her father’s side, the story stretches back to Eastern Europe, though some details were lost. **“We have very little information about his father actually,”** she said. From both what was known and what was missing came a household that cherished knowledge, questioning, and imagination.

The influence of Toba’s mother still lives on in her home, not only through family stories, but through the objects she passed down. An array of art pieces hang on the walls, chosen carefully and filled with meaning. They reflect attention to words, ideas, and wit. One piece showcases an Einstein quote: “Logic will get you from A to Z. Imagination will get you everywhere.” A cross-stitch piece displaying the Ten Commandments reads: “Rx Take two tablets daily.”

Toba followed her own path into newspaper reporting, law, and later into the classroom. Each demanded the same discipline. Words mattered. Precision mattered.

“Be concise and be precise with what you write,” she said. **“Know who your audience is and write to them.”** For her, legal thinking was not about memorizing rules, but about judgment. **“In most cases, you’re working with gray areas,”** she explained. What matters most is intent, and understanding what you’re trying to accomplish before deciding how to proceed.

Toba has never limited her thinking to a single field. She has written many articles and columns throughout her lifetime. She interviewed public figures and asked difficult questions. She has written letters to countless editors, continuing a lifelong habit of engaging the world through ideas, because when something needs to be said, she believes it should be said clearly.

That engagement extends beyond public discourse. Toba has long rejected the notion that science and faith exist in opposition. **“I never thought there was a conflict between science and faith,”** she wrote in an essay. **“It is not faith versus science. It is faith and science. It is values and knowledge.”** For her, science explains how the world works; faith explains how we should live within it.

Judaism, for Toba, is not performative. It is ethical, historical, and demanding. She notices patterns. She draws connections. She remembers. She kept a letter her mother wrote to a Dayton editor in 1973 defending Israel. At the time, her mother was responding to global criticism of Israel during the Yom Kippur War. Toba still remembers her words. **“Nobody’s talked about this,”** while other countries had not been similarly criticized. Noticing what is missing from the conversation became part of how Toba learned to think.

She does not soften her edges. She does not apologize for thinking deeply or speaking plainly. She knows some failures are inevitable. That perspective has guided her as she has navigated life’s complexities, asking not just what is possible, but what responsibility demands.

RESLER SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

MY HEART IS IN THE EAST

FRIDAY, MARCH 13 | 7:15 PM

“AM YISRAEL: THE IMPORTANCE OF GATHERING”

Rabbi Barkin will offer a sermon during Shabbat services rooted in the Torah portion *Vayakhel-Pekudei*, reflecting on the central role of gathering as one people.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 11:00 AM

“A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME: REFORM JUDAISM IN ISRAEL”

Following Library Minyan at 10:00 AM, explore the Jewish journey and the enduring necessity of a strong, meaningful Reform Judaism in Israel.

Followed by a luncheon at noon.

[SIGN-UP HERE](#)

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 4:30 PM

“TWO YEARS OF WAR”

We will use the blog Rabbi Barkin started after October 7th to reflect on Jewish life, leadership, faith, and resilience during an extraordinary period, concluding with Havdalah.

[SIGN-UP HERE](#)

**RABBI
NIR BARKIN**

**Kehillat YOZMA
Modi'in, Israel**



Online Meditation

March 11 | 10:30 AM

JOIN ON ZOOM HERE

Join Morissa R. Freiberg-Vance, RJE in a guided meditation to rejuvenate your soul and calm your mind. Beginners are welcome!

This meditation session is on Zoom only.



Women's Shabbaton



APRIL 11, 2026 | 9 AM

For women and non-binary people.

TASO
TURKISH AMERICAN SOCIETY OF OHIO



Iftar Dinner

SUNDAY, MARCH 8
THURSDAY, MARCH 12

SIGN-UP FOR DINNER

Join Beth Tikvah & the Turkish American Society of Ohio for Iftar dinner as we share food, culture, and connection!

SUNDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP

**“Miracles and Wonder:
The Historical Mystery of Jesus”**

by Elaine Pagels

JOIN ON ZOOM HERE





[click here for full newsletter](#)

Daytime Mahj

1:30 - 3:30 PM

Located at Beth Tikvah

Upcoming Dates:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Wed. March 4 | Tues. April 14 |
| Tues. March 17 | Wed. May 6 |
| Wed. April 1 | Tues. May 19 |

SIGN-UP

Evening Mahj

6:30 - 8:30 PM

WBT has started an Evening Mahj group led by **Leigh Zircher** that plays twice a month on **Mondays**.

Upcoming Dates:

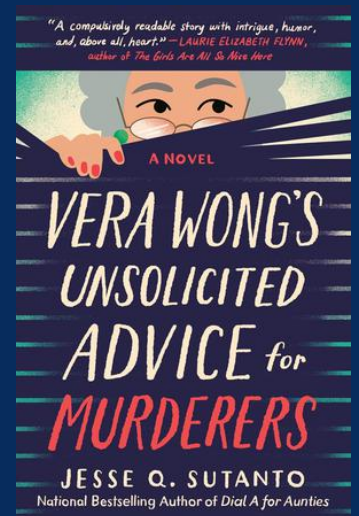
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| March 16 | April 27 |
| March 30 | May 11 |

SIGN-UP

Book Club - Tuesday, March 10 at 12:30 pm

Join us in the Beth Tikvah Library to discuss *Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jesse Q. Sutanto.

Vera Wong is a lonely little old lady who lives above her forgotten tea shop in the middle of San Francisco's Chinatown. Come discuss this captivating mystery about a lonely shopkeeper who takes it upon herself to solve a murder in the most peculiar way.



Mazel Tov Marci!

We are so proud to celebrate our very own Marci Delson as she is installed as **WRJ Heartland District Co-President** at the WRJ Heartland District Convention on March 14. Marci will also be honored with the **WRJ Lev Tov ("Good Heart")** Award, recognizing her leadership, care, and dedication to Jewish community. This is a well-deserved honor, and we are grateful to have Marci as part of our Beth Tikvah family!



[click here for full newsletter](#)



Women
OF BETH TIKVAH

2026 Passover Sale

Sun, March 22 from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Located at Beth Tikvah

Join us in the social hall during Religious School to shop for Passover essentials:

**Haggadahs
Decor
Passover Cards
Kiddush Cups**

**Seder Plates
Matzah Covers
Toys
& More!**



Eco - Pour Class (resin alternative)

Sun, April 26 | 2:30 - 4:00 PM



Using Magic Pour casting powder — a non-toxic, odorless, quick drying alternative to epoxy resin — Jenny Holz will teach the class to make smooth, opaque projects with a high-end ceramic feel and discuss ideas on ways to decorate them.

There's a large variety of items you can make, including a trinket tray, a set of coasters, jewelry, keychains, and more! You have the option to make more than one project!

Cost is \$10 per project.

BROTHERHOOD NEWSLETTER

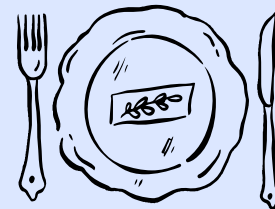


FEBRUARY LUNCH

MARCH 17 | 11:30 AM

Located at **Bravo** off Bethel Road

Contact Jeff Albert to RSVP



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 from 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Brotherhood is proud to sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, from 12:00-6:00pm at Congregation Beth Tikvah. Donating blood is a simple yet powerful way to save lives and support our wider community. Whether you're a first-time donor or a regular, we invite you to roll up your sleeve and help make a difference.

[CLICK HERE TO SCHEDULE DONATION - USE CODE BETHTIKVAH](#)

ED SCHECTER AWARD PRESENTATION

Friday, March 20, 2026 at 7:15 PM

Join us on Friday, March 20 during Shabbat services at 7:15pm, for the presentation of the Ed Schechter Award. This meaningful honor recognizes Don Goldbaum, a Brotherhood member who exemplifies dedication, leadership, and service in our Beth Tikvah community. All are welcome to attend this special moment of gratitude and celebration.

AGES 60+

SHISHIM

MARCH PROGRAM

MARCH 12, 2026

11 AM - History of Lucy Depp Park

Lucy Depp Park, a quiet neighborhood along Dublin Road in Delaware County, holds a remarkable and overlooked history. From its origins as a farm purchased by a freed slave, to its role in the Underground Railroad and later a haven for African Americans, the area has played an important part in Ohio's story. Third-generation resident and community historian **Michael Hamilton** will share this little-known history.

12 PM - Lunch

We will be catering Aladdin's Eatery with a variety of main courses, side dishes, and dessert.

\$15 for Beth Tikvah members, \$18 for non-members.

Indicate your dietary needs in the "Notes" section of the ShulCloud form.

1 PM - 5 Decades of Conversations with Killers

Dr. Jeffrey Smalldon, a board-certified forensic psychologist who has consulted on nearly 300 death penalty cases, will share his extraordinary experiences speaking with some of America's most notorious serial killers. Dr. Smalldon will have books available for purchase.

This program is available in-person and on Zoom.

The Zoom link can be found in the Shishim program message. If you do not receive the Shishim program message, send a message to David at dbinkovitz2@aol.com



**ORDER
LUNCH**



NextGen

6:30 PM

YOUNG
JEWISH
ADULTS

WORTHINGTON TAVERN
671 HIGH ST.
WORTHINGTON, OH

inner Meetup



[SIGN-UP HERE!](#)

MARCH 8, 2026

COST OF THE MEAL IS NOT INCLUDED

Movie Night

A large illustration of a film reel with a red frame and a film strip extending from it. The reel is positioned on the left side of the page, and the film strip winds around it and extends downwards. There are three white starburst graphics scattered around the reel and strip.

THE MIDDLE
ages 45ish-60ish



We'll be seeing **The Optimist: The Bravest Act Is Truth** a 2026 film about a Holocaust survivor who finds healing through sharing his long-held secret with a troubled teen.

SUN, MARCH 15 @ 1:10 PM
MARCUS CROSSWOODS
158 HUTCHINSON AVE.

After the film, we meet at **Panera Bread in the Worthington Mall** for coffee & conversation!

[RSVP FOR PANERA](#)

[PURCHASE YOUR MOVIE TICKET](#)

Central Ohio WRJ Tzedakah Collective

The Central Ohio Women of Reform Judaism Tzedakah Collective is in its 12th year working toward social justice in Central Ohio. By pooling funds, members make a difference through grantmaking. All Jewish women in Central Ohio are encouraged to join.

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.

Featured Non-Profit: Nellie’s Champions for Kids (NC4K)

DATE: SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

TIME: 3:30-5:00 PM on Zoom

SPEAKER: Mandy Powell, Executive Director

This non-profit developed from a 16 year old’s fund raising efforts to help people with cancer, to now a well-established, essential resource that supports Ohio families facing a pediatric cancer diagnosis. Their mission is to provide financial assistance, emotional support, and fun events to ensure that no child or teen or their family fight cancer alone.

Executive Director, Mandy Powell, will explain the unique needs these families unexpectedly face and how the NC4K team and volunteers lift them up in so many tangible ways. Please join us for this enlightening presentation!

Meetings are held six times a year, mostly by zoom. You do not have to be a member to attend the meetings to hear the presentations. Everyone is welcome to benefit from this education about our community. An annual tax- exempt donation of just \$60 (or more if one wishes) brings membership and the right to vote to allocate grants. Tzedakah Collective Steering Committee members: Jan Alloy, Pamela Feldman-Hill, Bobbie Garber, Stacy Levin, Lori Sachs, Laurel Zulliger, and Coordinator, Marsha Pond (marshapond@msn.com). All inquiries are welcome!

Save-the-Dates

**16
MARCH**

B.R.E.A.D. Team Assembly

7:00 PM at Christ United Methodist Church

**20
MARCH**

Ed Schecter Award Presentation

Begins at 7:15 PM

**1
APRIL**

First Night Passover Seder

Register Here

**8
APRIL**

Yizkor Service

8:30 AM in the Beth Tikvah Library

**12
APRIL**

Mitzvah Day!

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM at Beth Tikvah

**24
APRIL**

Legacy Shabbat Service

Begins at 7:15 PM



2026 - 2027 SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT

**Enrollment for New Families
opens February 24 @ 9:00am**

Why Choose us?

- ✓ Experienced & Passionate Staff
- ✓ Full & Half Day Options For Infants - Pre-K
- ✓ Swim Lessons
- ✓ Hot Kosher Lunch & Snacks
- ✓ Specialty Instruction in Judaics, Music, Hebrew, & Phys Ed



8 TIME WINNER!



Schedule a Tour Today!

Visit columbusjcc.org/earlychildhood to learn more

ECLC BEXLEY
ECLC NEW ALBANY
ECLC WORTHINGTON



SAVE-THE-DATE

Legacy Shabbat

APRIL 24, 2026



CONGREGATION BETH TIKVAH
FOUNDATION

At Beth Tikvah, our Legacy endowments are established by our congregants and serve as permanent sources of funding that support our synagogue's programs, education, and community initiatives for generations to come. Each one reflects the generosity and vision of congregants who want to ensure a vibrant Jewish future. You have the ability to contribute to any of these funds at any point in time to help strengthen the foundation of Congregation Beth Tikvah. Reach out to Executive Director, [Debbie Vinocur](#) or Life & Legacy co-chairs [Carol Folkerth](#) and [Andy Shafran](#) for more information.

Ruth & Herbert Abrams Endowment

**Michael Alexander & Jane Mitchell Endowment
for the Education of all Jewish Children**

Davidoff Family Camp Scholarship Fund

Arthur W. Davidson Endowment

Daniel Engler Memorial Legacy Fund

**Flamm Family Endowment for
Adult Learning**

**Flesch Family Fund for Security at
Beth Tikvah**

Forman Pay-It-Forward Fund

**Dr. Gail E. Herman Endowment in Celebration
of the Life of her son, Drew P. Mendelbaum**

Teen Allies for Justice Endowment

**Rabbi Gary A. Huber Endowment for
Education**

Linda Kellner Camp Scholarship Fund

**Rabbi Richard M.C. Kellner Endowment for
Jewish Life**

Kon Family Fund for Holocaust Education

**Alan & Risa Lazaroff Endowment for Repairing,
Maintaining, and Improving the Building &
Grounds**

**Stacy & Howard Levin Educator Professional
Development Fund**

**Manfred & Rose Luttinger Endowment for Adult
Learning and Social Action**

Mandell Family Fund

**Barbara A. Mindel Endowment for Hebrew
Learning**

**Louis & Susan Pomerantz Endowment for Beth
Tikvah Senior (60+) Adult Community**

**Jewish Women's Spiritual & Educational Studies
Endowment**

**Patti & Sid Price Beth Tikvah Religious School
Endowment in Memory of Lee Kimchee McGrath**

**Martin & Marian Rosenthal Legacy Fund for
Holocaust Education**

**Tara & Brad Rozen Beth Tikvah Mitzvah
Community Outreach Fund**

Marjory & Martin Seltzer Endowment

Bob & Beverly Shafran Endowment

B. Myer Simon Building Maintenance Fund

William & Ann Slabodnick Building Endowment

William & Ann Slabodnick Operating Endowment

**Taxier Family Fund for Youth Engagement
Through Tikkun Olam**

Weisberg Endowment for Music at Beth Tikvah

**Stu & Rochelle Zweben Endowment for
Technology**

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS...

Bima Flowers & Oneg

- Lynne & Daniel Allen in memory of Lynne's parents, Irene & Gerald Friedman
- The Brotherhood in honor of the Ed Schechter Award winner, Don Goldbaum

Brotherhood Donations

- Cameron & Lauren Crane
- Robert Allen in loving memory of Barnett Robert Feldman
- Rochelle & Martin Cohen in loving memory of Bob Feldman
- Kellie Grant in loving memory of Barnett "Bob" Feldman

Caring Community Dedicated

- Robyn Howard in loving memory of her mother, Terry Howard
- Marcey Forman in loving memory of Sylvia Kolbe

Garden Buds Donation

- Rita Eppler-Goss in memory of Rick Forman
- Suzanne & David Parr in loving memory of Richard Forman, beloved husband of Marcey Forman
- Bruce Chapman & Lois Winnick-Chapman in loving memory of Richard Forman, beloved husband of Marcey Forman

Holocaust Education Dedicated

- Susan Rapoport in memory of her dear father, Robert Kahn, a holocaust survivor

Jewish Camping Dedicated

- Robyn Howard in loving memory of her father, Norman Howard
- Cheryl & Jeff Wasserstrom in loving memory of Bernice, Jeff's beloved mother

Linda Kellner Camp Scholarship Fund Endowment

- John & Stacie O'Connell in memory of Marcia Roobin Lurey, mother of Stacie

Meditation Dedicated

- Andrea & Chase Adkins
- Nada & Robert Mazurek

Music Fund Dedicated

- Constance Cantor in honor of the Neshama ensemble musicians
- Bruce Chapman & Lois Winnick-Chapman in loving memory of Sylvia Kolbe

Rabbi Martin Discretionary Fund

- Stuart & Marilyn Cooper
- Marcey Forman in appreciation for Rabbi Martin's kind help with Rick Forman's funeral and shiva

Rabbi Kellner Discretionary Fund

- Stuart & Marilyn Cooper in loving memory of Stuart's brother, Howard Cooper
- Jim Kolbe in appreciation of Rabbi Karen Martin
- Rico & Blanche Mittelman in loving memory of Caleb Mittelman & in gratitude to Rabbi Rick Kellner
- Marcey Forman in appreciation for Rabbi Kellner's help before and during Rick Forman's funeral

Religious School Dedicated

- Michael Alexander & Jane Mitchell in memory of Sylvia Kolbe

Security Dedicated

- Robyn Howard in loving memory of Bob Feldman

Shishim Donations

- Jane Mitchell & Michael Alexander in memory of Bev Butter
- Zinaida Kreynin in loving memory of her mother, Lyubov Spektor

Social Action Dedicated

- Mary Lou Davis in loving memory of Bob Feldman
- Margery Hollander in loving memory of Bob Feldman
- Nancy Schwartz in loving memory of her mother, Susan G. Loviso
- Nancy Schwartz in honor of her sisters
- Sheldon & Jacqueline Chizever in honor of Michael & Barbara Taxier's granddaughter, Talia Rose

Special Events Dedicated

- Jaclyn & Christopher Laine

Taxier Family Fund for Youth Engagement Through Tikkun Olam

- Nada & Robert Mazurek in honor of the birth of Talia Rose, granddaughter of Barbara & Michael Taxier

The Forman Pay-It-Forward Fund

- Darla Abraham in memory of Rick Forman, husband of Marcey Forman and father of Jackie and Scott Forman
- Marci & Lawrence Delson in memory of Richard Forman with sincere condolences
- Marcey Forman in loving memory of Betty & Ernie Goulder
- Shelley Grieve-Zerkel & Danny Zerkel in memory of Rick Forman
- Marcie Kaplan in loving memory of Rick Forman
- Stacy & Howard Levin in memory of Rick Forman
- Louis & Susan Pomerantz in loving memory of Richard Forman
- Richard & Joyce Sabgir in memory of Rick Forman
- Marc Schare in loving memory of Rick Forman, beloved husband of Marcey Forman
- Emma Stern in memory of Rick Forman

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

Director of Marketing & Community Engagement
comms@bethtikvahcolumbus.org



Scan QR Code OR [Click Here](#) for the Calendar.

If you do not have the passcode to the calendar, reach out to Hannah Karr



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