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Upcoming Traditional Winter Holidays



The celebration of **TU B'SHEVAT** has been part of Jewish life for more than two millennia. This year the holiday falls on **Sunday, January 20.**

Tu B'Shevat is mentioned in the Talmud, when we learn of the various "new year" celebrations that are part of the agricultural cycle of life. It has evolved in modern times into a *seder* celebration with many interpretations of the "four" symbols of the holiday and harkens back to the teachings of Isaac Luria and the Kabbalah from the late 1500's.



Megillah Reading and Purim

Our Megillah reading for Purim is on **Wednesday, March 20 at 6:00pm.** Come in costume if you wish. We have the gragger noise makers and there will be Hammantashen at the Oneg. Be sure not to miss the reading of the Purim story and the great enjoyment we always have at this festivity.



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If you know of any congregant who has been hospitalized or who is in need, please notify Shana, Rabbi, or the temple president. Thank you.



A young daughter watched her father, a rabbi, prepare a sermon. “How do you know what to write?” The rabbi explained, “After I think for a time, God tells me what to write.” His daughter scratched her head and then asked, “Then why do you keep crossing out so much!” It turns out that the rabbi crossed out much material because he heard the voice of God not before, but after he had written the original draft. The Almighty gives us the chance to make our decisions; afterwards, God moves us to improve the original words and actions.

In this coming secular year, we have much for which to express our gratitude, and still more to achieve and develop. How do we move forward in an effective manner? The story is told of the renowned physicist I. Rabi, who was asked to name the most significant intellectual influence in his life. The interviewer expected to hear names like Einstein or Newton. Dr. Rabi replied, “My Mother.” Each day when he returned from “cheder,” he explained, his Mother would say to him, “So Isaac, did you ask any good questions?” “From my Mother I learned that the key to wisdom is asking good questions.” This woman, growing up in an Eastern European shtetl environment, had embraced an important principle of Jewish thought: all things and ideas must be weighed, scrutinized, and evaluated.

One of our practices that we should examine in the coming year is, “Why am I praying?” Does God really

need to know about our needs, our yearnings? This question aims at the heart of the meaningfulness of prayer. Whether at home or in the synagogue, when we engage in prayer, what is happening in our life?

Do we act as though there exists a cosmic gumball machine that responds to our pleas and requests? One response is that we are not trying to tell the Almighty what we want, but we are attempting to think about what matters most in our lives. When we place our hopes and petitions before God, do these words reflect our highest aspirations, or are they but a reflection of our ego needs? Prayer in our tradition, depends on self-examination and self-judgment. Rabbi Abraham Heschel once wrote, “Prayer takes the mind out of the narrowness of self-interest. Prayer teaches us what to aspire for...prayer makes visible the

right and the false.”

To be certain, contradictions can arise in our prayers. For example, on the Sabbath, we are not supposed to ask for anything! Rather we are to praise, glorify, and honor God, and avoid writing up new shopping lists of our needs. Yet in everyday living, we request understanding, love, and the possibility for new avenues and strength. Sometimes we make confessions, and we take our words seriously! So the next time you are attending Shabbat services, or offering a prayer as you hike the Santa Fe trails, ask yourself, what is the essential meaning of our prayers?

This winter and spring, we will spend time thinking and practicing Jewish prayers. We will begin our thinking, singing, and studying “tefillah” at the end of January, from a multitude of perspectives. Please follow our weekly eblasts for information on our Wednesday evening classes. And with the inspiration of musical insights from our Cantor, we will incorporate our deeper understanding into our weekly worship.

B’shalom,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin W. Levy".

Rabbi Martin W. Levy

505.670.4671

Twenty-three years ago, when a group of friends and Santa Fe acquaintances founded Beit Tikva, we decided, with careful thought and intention, to call our new synagogue a CONGREGATION, not a temple. A temple implies a place, but we weren't concerned with real estate; our aim was to foster a community, a congregation founded on shared values, a similar commitment to Judaism, and a common desire to create a family that would celebrate together, mourn together, and support each other through the whole spectrum of human experience.

We value every member of the Beit Tikva community. Each member has something unique you contribute to the rest of us. Thus, my aim is to retain our current membership by listening to your concerns, addressing them, and searching for ways to enhance your experiences

SHANA'S STANCE

For many of us the New Year is a time when we look ahead to the promise of new beginnings, to clean slates and starts. It's a time in which we rededicate ourselves to work towards both lofty old and new ambitions, a time in which we collectively romanticize about remaking ourselves. But for me the New Year is just as much about introspection. It's an opportunity to reflect on all the triumphs and blessings of the previous year, and this year I was fortunate to have many. 2018 was good to me; it brought me to Beit Tikva.

Over the past half year I've grown so much personally and professionally and I've had the privilege to work with a lot of really inspirational and dedicated individuals. I want to personally thank so many of you for coming in to help me in so many different capacities. However I'd like to particularly acknowledge Gail Rapoport for her tremendous time and guidance over the past several months. Gail you've been such a patient teacher. Thank you for helping me make all the necessary preparations for Norton's funeral, for helping me organize the past several end-of-the year mailings, and for your extensive help with all the preparations for our recent annual congregational meeting.

I also want to recognize and thank all the members of the outgoing board—Jerry Bork, Larry Cohen, Gary Katz, Jeff Less, Gary Poldony, Kate Shane and Ed Sorken. Thank you for giving so much of yourself over the past several years to our community. Jeff, I want to especially thank you for your faith in me. I often think back to my initial Skype interview for this position with both you and Sue. Thank you for recognizing my passion and potential and for taking a chance on me. I'll always be immensely grateful for that.

I also want to take a moment to thank another unsung hero in our community—Valerie Frost. Valerie, you're a stellar role model for me! From polishing the silver for the High Holidays, to going on last minute wild goose chases for Chanukah Candles, to showing up early and staying late on Friday evenings to help the open/closer with set-up and clean-up. You do so much to enhance and maintain the sacredness of our community. No task is beneath you; you're always willing to step up to the plate when something needs attention.

as a part of our congregational family.

I will wholeheartedly support Rabbi Levy during this year leading to his retirement at the end of 2019. At the same time, the Board and I will work to prepare the congregation for the transition to new rabbinic leadership.

Please, if you know of any congregant who is in the hospital or in need of help, don't hesitate to let our temple administrator, Rabbi Levy, or myself know so we can offer the full range of resources and personal support to them and their families.

As we begin this new calendar year, let us all hope and work for a successful 2019 for our Beit Tikva community.

Blessings,
David

Thank you.

In the wake of the Pittsburg Tree of Life shooting I also wanted to relay that our friends at Christ Church of Santa Fe took the time to deliver and write us many handwritten and heartwarming condolences. If you'd like to read what their congregants had to say I have a copy of all of their letters in the office. Please stop by; their thoughtful messages reinforce our shared humanity and brotherhood at this difficult juncture in time.



On a more chipper note, our Chanukah potluck was extremely successful and well attended, with 65 participants all coming together to kindle the light. I want to especially acknowledge Babara Locke-Graham, Laurel Abes, Kate Shane, Sandy Levine and Carol Karps for their tremendous help with the execution of this lovely event. I also want to thank Lynn Kelly for putting together such a beautiful volunteer appreciation dinner earlier this fall. Lynn, it's obvious how much time, thought and care went into arranging this. Thank you for including me in this special event. I was really touched by your immense kindness and generosity, personally underwriting all the expenses so that those who give so much of themselves to our community could be appropriately acknowledged and celebrated.

On that note I want to remind all of you of my regular office hours this winter: **Tuesdays thru Thursdays: 10:30-3:30**. If these times don't work I'd be happy to arrange another time to personally address any of your questions or concerns. With all that being said I'd like to encourage each of you to set aside a few minutes in the coming days for thoughtful introspection. As the New Year is just as much about looking ahead to the promise and fulfillment of new hopes and aspirations, as it is about taking stock of all that we already have.

Shana Pava
505.820.2991 • admin@beittikvasantafe.org

Tea Time Cabaret

A Memorial for
Norton Bicoll

Sunday, January 13

1:00 – 5:00pm

Kingston Residence

2400 Legacy Court, Santa Fe

Please join legendary musician **David Geist** and a *panoply* of highly musical guests in a celebration of the life of **Norton Bicoll**. Enjoy High Tea prepared by award-winning chefs at Kingston. A \$25 donation is requested as a benefit for Congregation Beit Tikva. Please call 505.820.2991 for reservations or with questions. **Be there or be square...or both!**



SOCIAL ACTION

Giving to the Interfaith Homeless Shelter

Mark your calendars, and consider volunteering on **March 13** and **April 10** when Congregation Beit Tikva provides dinner at the Interfaith Homeless Shelter (Pete's Place on Cerrillos Rd.). Donations are needed to purchase the food for each of those nights. We provide a full course dinner to 150 Shelter guests. Please either make your donation online or mail your check made out to Congregation Beit Tikva (P.O. Box 24094, Santa Fe 87502) with the notation, "Shelter Dinner". Thank you, in advance, for your ongoing support of this important annual project.

Sandra Levine, levinesy@comcast.net, 505.466.4041

A Message From the CBT Security Committee

At the recommendation of the Santa Fe Police Department and the FBI, we have been advised to upgrade our building security. This has necessitated some changes to building access on all Friday evening Shabbat services.

Effective January 25, 2019, and every Friday night thereafter, the main entrance door will be locked at 7:15 pm. Anyone arriving after 7:15 pm will be able to gain building access by ringing the front doorbell. Latecomers will see a sign posted by the door with simple entry instructions.

The doorbell is equipped with a camera and two-way intercom, which allow someone to promptly open the doors.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member of our Security Committee: Larry Singer, Windy Dankoff or Dirk Wassner.

SHABBAT AT HOME

NEW—Services will be held at **Montecito Senior Living, 500 Rodeo Rd.** on Friday, January 11 and Friday, February 8 at 4:00pm.

Services will be held at **Brookdale Senior Living, 640 Alta Vista St.** on Friday, January 25 and Friday, February 22 at 5:30pm.

Adult Education Winter/Spring Series Begins

Rabbi Levy's Winter/Spring 2019 adult education study classes begin on **Wednesday, January 30th, at 6:00pm**, continuing on Wednesdays evenings into the spring. Our focus is "A Gateway to Prayer: Understanding the Prayer Book and the Dynamics of Faith." Have you ever wondered why our Sabbath prayers differ from the High Holiday prayers? Where did these prayers come from, and how did the Sages create a new prayer book in the Middle Ages? What do these "tefillot" mean to us in our time? We will trace the siddur, the Jewish diary of the soul through the ages. Dr. John Graham will also provide insights into the modern dynamics of prayer rituals. Join us for this in-depth learning process, which will lead us to one of our favorite prayer books, the Haggadah.

RABBI LEVY IN THE COMMUNITY

Our Rabbi will be the guest speaker at **Unity Santa Fe church, 1212 Unity Way, on Sunday, January 13 at 10:30am.**

Rabbi Levy met with Scott Levin, regional director of the **Anti-Defamation League** (office in Denver) to discuss educational programs for high school students, focused on ILA, the Interfaith Leadership Alliance of Santa Fe, and serves on the education committee dealing with discrimination and anti-Semitism.



Chanukah 2018 Potluck and Celebration



Dr. Evans spends her free time riding and competing in Dressage, helping kids learn to read with Dempsey, a licensed therapy dog, studying Mussar and Torah with her husband Mark, and skiing. She works in Dallas during the week and spends her weekends and holidays in Santa Fe with Mark, Dempsey, and her new horse Navarre. She seems to have zero natural talent to bake challah.

Introducing Trustee William Fine

It is an honor to represent such a welcoming and intellectually/spiritually vibrant community.

My Jewish background is of one who found his way back to Judaism from an early Orthodox Bar Mitzvah in Newton, MA. Studying for a philosophy of life, I found good teachers teaching the “great books” curriculum within the Catholic “contemplative tradition.”

During a year in Israel after the Gulf War, I wanted to experience the fullest spectrum of Jewish living. I began at a secular kibbutz, but at Ohr Somayach Yeshiva in Jerusalem I learned about the life of the tzaddik and studied the texts of the Tanya.

I have a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Dallas in Irving, Texas and an M.S. in Political Science from Suffolk University in Boston. I then worked inside the D.C. beltway as an executive director and federal lobbyist.

When not embroiled shaping political policy, I can be found writing poetry or avidly hiking the trails around New Mexico. I’ve enjoyed climbing peaks like Fuji, half way up Killimanjaro, and exploring the wild terrain of New England.

Thanks to Rabbi Martin and the members of our Torah study class, my entire family was encouraged to go to Israel, which was a true ingathering for all of our family to share.

Our 2019 Board of Directors

There was an overwhelming vote of approval for our new board members and executive directors. If you have innovative ideas that you’d like to see implemented in our congregation or in our greater community in the coming months, please contact anyone on the board. We are committed to hearing you out and following up.

Incoming Executive Committee

David Pollak, President
Phil Goldstone, Co-Vice-President
Lois Podolny, Co-Vice-President
Larry Singer, Treasurer
Julia Evans, Recording Secretary
Susan Katz, Past President

New Trustees

William Fine Sandy Levine
Robert Gear Lisa Sinoff
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Windy Dankoff Marc Sanders
Gary Goldstein Dirk Wassner

With Heart Felt Thanks To Our Outgoing Trustees

Jerry Bork Gary Podolny
Larry Cohen Kate Shane
Gary Katz Ed Sorken
Jeff Less

Introducing Secretary Julia Evans

Dr. Julia Evans is a Northern New Mexico native, graduating from Los Alamos High School in ‘78. She grew up skiing, river running, and barrel racing. She completed her B.S. at CU Boulder, her M.S. at Columbia Teachers College, and her Ph.D. at U-Michigan. Dr. Evans went on to do a Postdoctoral fellowship in Pittsburgh in Cognitive Science at Carnegie Mellon University. She was a professor at UW-Madison and University of California San Diego and San Diego State before moving to Dallas, where she is now a professor at UT Dallas. Her research focuses on the neurobiology of developmental language disorders in children.

The Jewish Federation of New Mexico presents the
2019 Signature Program

From the CIA to SANTA FE

Bob Baer Live!

Monday, January 21

7:30pm at the Drury Plaza Hotel

Bob Baer is an intelligence columnist for *Time*, an expert on Middle Eastern affairs, an analyst for CNN, and host of the History Channel's "Hunting Hitler." A 21-year CIA veteran, Baer is one of America's most elite intelligence case officers. He spent the majority of his career on the front edge of international espionage and counter-intelligence. Maybe *HE* knows what's going on!

For details and tickets go to <https://jewishnewmexico.org> or call 505.821.3214.

Spinoza and the Cunning of Imagination

A talk by Prof. Eugene Garver

With a message from NM Jewish Federation

President Ron Duncan Hart

Prof. Eugene Garver, Regents Professor Emeritus at St. John's University gave a lecture, "Spinoza and the Cunning of Imagination" on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at Congregation Beit Tikva. The lecture was the title of his new book from the University of Chicago Press. This was the Leonard Torobin Memorial Lecture, part of the Jewish University of Santa Fe Distinguished Lecture Series. Prof. Garver is a specialist on rational philosophy and has published books on Aristotle, Machiavelli, and American philosophy.

For 300 years, Spinoza's life and writings have fascinated people, and he was the Jewish philosopher who shaped so much of modern thinking about God and ethics. Readers have praised or blamed him for being an atheist on one hand or someone "drunk with God" on the other. He was a champion of freedom and one of the first to declare that democracy was the most natural form of government. In his time, Spinoza's ideas were so radical that his book, *Ethics*, was only published after his death. His book, *Theological Political Treatise*, was published under the name of a non-existent publisher. He was asked to leave the Portuguese synagogue in Amsterdam, because his ideas about God were so radical that the Jewish community feared offending the Christian community and their own status within it. Prof. Garver says, "I believe that the idea of freedom runs through his life and writings, and accounts for the conflicting responses people continue to have over his work". The film of his talk can be seen at www.youtube.com/GaonWebFilms under Jewish University. The lecture on December 2 at Beit Tikva attracted more than 90 participants. Many thanks to Prof. Garver, William Fine and Phil Goldstone for implementing this special program.

January Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Rabbi Martin Levy | January 2 |
| Larry Cohen | January 3 |
| Reggie Klein | January 6 |
| Joan Less | January 6 |
| Ed Sorken | January 9 |
| Julianne Sherman | January 10 |
| Kate Shane | January 15 |
| Barry Hornstein | January 18 |
| Lorraine Haneyko | January 22 |
| Leah Ruiz | January 25 |
| Gail Karr | January 26 |
| Asenath Kepler | January 31 |

January Anniversary

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Phil & Joy LeCuyer | January 12 |
|--------------------|------------|

February Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Carol Clifford | February 1 |
| Carol Gajewski | February 3 |
| Elliot Rapoport | February 7 |
| Laura Cowan | February 10 |
| Valerie Frost | February 15 |
| Michael Golden | February 16 |
| Rita Solomon | February 20 |
| Beth Moise | February 21 |
| Burton Krohn | February 25 |

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to our Oneg Providers*

November 2018

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Gary & Karen Goldstein

December 2018

Michele & John Goldman

Nancy & Artie Hartington

*In Loving
Memory*

Norton Bicoll

NOVEMBER 14, 2018

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018 DONATIONS Received between Oct 20, 2018 – December 31, 2018

General Fund

Richard Aptekar – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Marcelle & James Cady – In memory of James P. Cohen
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Shelly Fritz – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Barbara Zoe Gayl
Ruth Getz-Koval – In honor of the birthday of Linda Cohen
Michele & John Goldman – In memory of Barbara Cohen
Michele & John Goldman – In memory of Paul Grace
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Jerald N. Groner
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Doreen Hurtig – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Carol Karps – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Gail Karr – In memory of Philip Kaplan, father of Gail
Gail Karr – In memory of Shirley Kaplan, mother of Gail
Susan & Gary Katz – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Susan & Burton Krohn
Judy & Noel Lawson – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Myra & Larry Lawson – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Moise Family Fund, Santa Fe Community Foundation
Carolyn Miller – In memory of Norton Bicoll

Michael O'Connor – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Marjorie Popp – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Alan Rapoport – In memory of Esther & Sydney Rapoport, parents of Alan
Gail & Elliot Rapoport – In honor of Rabbi Helman's coin collection
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Kai Joshua Bernstein
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Herman Rosenberg, father of Stuart
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Al Pack, friend of Stuart
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of David Joseph Joel, husband of Angie Levy Joel
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Frances Rosenberg, mother of Stuart
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Donna Lubran
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of James Katz
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Ruth Wheeler
Connie & Stuart Rosenberg – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Jeri & David Silver – In honor of Shalom Bee Silver, daughter of Claude Silver, granddaughter of Jeri & David, and great-granddaughter of Bee Schulman
Pat & Bob Wartell – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Dorothy & Neil Weber – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Mary Carole & Jerry Wertheim – In memory of Jeanette Wertheim, great aunt of Jerry

2019 Rabbi Underwriters

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Sharon & Edward Sorken – In honor of the birthday of Barbara Bork
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Sharon & Edward Sorken – In honor of the birthday of Heidi Hahn
Sharon & Edward Sorken – In honor of the birthday of Janie Siskin

Sharon & Edward Sorken – In honor of the anniversary of Gail & Elliot Rapoport
Sharon & Edward Sorken – In honor of the anniversary of Barbara & Jerry Bork
Sharon & Edward Sorken – In honor of the anniversary of Sue & Gary Katz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Sheila Bicoll – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Nora Segal

Future Fund

Asenath Kepler & Edward Mazria

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Marilyn & Larry Cohen
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Oneg

Valerie Frost – In honor of Lynn Kelly, Marc Sanders, & Linda Krull for organizing the volunteer recognition dinner
Valerie Frost – In honor of Kate Shane, Laura Abes, and Babara Locke-Graham for the Chanukah pot luck

Music Fund

Valerie Frost – In memory of Norton Bicoll
Sharon & Edward Sorken – In memory of Norton Bicoll

A VERY SPECIAL THANK
YOU TO ALL OUR
CONGREGANTS WHO
CONTRIBUTED TO THE
RABBI'S CAMPAIGN.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY/FEBRUARY TORAH PASSAGES

January 5 Exodus
Va'era 6.2 – 9.35
God's appearance & promise of redemption
The ten plagues begin

January 12 Exodus
Bo 10.1-13.16
The last three plagues, the Exodus from
Egyptian oppression

January 19 Exodus
Beshallah 13.17 -17.16
Redemption from Egypt, crossing the
Reed Sea
Shabbat Shirah
Sabbath of Song
Song & Dancing at the Sea

January 26 Exodus
Yitro 18.1 – 20.23
"Jethro" the father-in-law of Moses
Arrival at Sinai, the Ten Commandments

February 2 Exodus
Mishpatim 21.1 – 24.18
Ordinances, civil legislation, morality &
ethical behavior
Shabbat Shekalim
Laws of the Shekel

February 9 Exodus
Terumah 25.1 – 27.19
The tabernacle, building of the ark, free will
offering

February 16 Exodus
Tetzaveh 27.20 – 30.10
Rules of the Kohanim
Commandments regarding bringing pure oil
and the construction of the alter
Shabbat Zachor
Shabbat of remembrance

February 23 Exodus
Ki Tisa 30.11 – 34.35
Rules for a census, the golden calf, Moses &
the mountains

JANUARY/FEBRUARY SERVICES

Friday, January 4 7:00pm
Simchat Shabbat

Friday January 11 7:00pm

Friday January 18 6:30pm
HaMakom Service

Friday January 25 7:00pm

Friday February 1 7:00pm
Simchat Shabbat

Friday February 8 7:00pm

Friday February 15 6:30pm
HaMakom Service

Friday February 22 7:00pm