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Chanukah Celebration

Menorahs, Dinner, Service and Music!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 6:00PM

You are invited to our festive Chanukah pot luck dinner on Friday, December 27, beginning at 6:00pm. Please bring a dish for 6 people. All contributions are welcome—salads, meat dishes, fruits, vegetables, casseroles, breads, and of course...desserts! Bring your favorite menorahs for our traditional lighting ceremony! There will be a service followed by music with Cantor Ephraim Herrera and Windy and Alma Dankoff.



Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 22nd at 10:00am

Please join us for an important discussion regarding budget approval, selection of new officers and board members.

Join Our Seniors for **Shabbat at Home** Services

Once a month, at two alternating locations, Congregation Beit Tikva holds *Shabbat at Home* services for those who are unable to travel to Friday evening services at the synagogue. All are welcome to join our seniors as we celebrate Shabbat and renew our friendships.



December 13 4:00pm The Montecito Santa Fe

December 20 5:30pm Brookdale Senior Living

January 10 4:00pm The Montecito Santa Fe

January 24 5:30pm Brookdale Senior Living

The Montecito Santa Fe, 500 Rodeo Rd., Santa Fe, 505.428.7777

Brookdale Senior Living, 640 Alta Vista St., Santa Fe, 505.984.8422

If you know of any congregant who has been hospitalized or who is in need, please notify Lela, Rabbi, or the Congregation Beit Tikva president. Thank you.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

What is the meaning of the Chanukah lights? Many will answer that these holiday lights are about freedom, or the victory of a band of fighters against a giant army. But there is a much deeper meaning to these candles, to these spiritual lights. For the Chanukah lights began with the light of creation, by which God was able to create light and inspiration from one end of the earth to the other. Why is this initial light seem to be so hidden, so limited in our day? Folks often remark that we are inured in an age of darkness, a time of discord and acrimony. So what happened to this light of creation, which should offer us inspiration and hope in the face of material problems? According to our Sages, God hid the light beneath the material substance of the world, and thus we have to search for it every day of our lives! Where do we find this light—in the inspiration of Torah, in the wisdom of our holy books and the insights of our extraordinary teachers. “A mitzvah is a candle and the Torah is the light,” writes the author of Proverbs.

So the light we are searching for is found in Torah, and in the beauty of the Chanukah lights.

If one lights the kind of oil the Maccabees lit, it will surely burn for more than one day. For that oil contains the secrets of inspiration and radiance that are part of God’s light in our world. The Maccabean leaders rose in revolt against the Syrian tyrant, and against the Jewish assimilationists who were turning Jerusalem into a Greek city. For this reason and others, the Rabbis of the 2nd century did not offer much credit to the Maccabees in their Talmudic writings. Nevertheless, Judah and his family deserve credit for three achievements. They had the vision to fight an impossible war and the courage to defeat a vast army. Once inside the Temple, they had the persistence to search until they found a vessel marked with the seal of the High Priest. To be sure, the oil they found was too little, but they filled the lamps of the menorah and set them ablaze. They trusted in the Almighty. These three acts symbolize the basic stages of leadership and inspiration that we learn from the Maccabees.

Every day presents us with a choice as to how we perceive and how we act. Do we see disappointment and despair or opportunity and hope? I am always amazed by what people are able to achieve. In conflict situations it is often women who lead the way back to harmony and an understanding that our opponents are people, like ourselves! The common humanity that women discover transcends the power of war and discord. When we see other people being denigrated or forgotten, do we see only people in ruins? Certainly not, for the Chanukah lights remind us that we live in God’s image, that we are all part of the divine temple, restored.

During this season of lights, I trust that if you are reading these words carefully, you will embrace the radiance and wisdom of Chanukah, and focus your energies on the good and the wisdom of our Jewish world. Perhaps the Maccabees would have found a jar of oil that lasted only a day or so. Through their courage and faith, the oil they kindled burned into the future, enabling them to see a new world. All of us need to focus on that nascent world, and lift it up, one soul at a time.

Shanah tovah,

Rabbi Martin W. Levy
505.670.4671

Happy holidays to all of the friends and congregants of Beit Tikva. We have celebrated our religious holidays and it is time to enjoy and share secular holidays with our friends and families. Speaking of holidays and friends and families, you may remember what was not a large part of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the usual annual appeal for donations. It is not that we are not in need of donations to support our dues income, it was intended to sweeten the holidays and remind us that money is not the main important part of congregational life—but it is important! The reality is that funds are needed to keep our doors open and keep our rabbi and staff supporting us. We need your help and monetary support as much as we need your other kinds of support. As we approach the end of 2019, it is time to look at tax situations and see where charitable donations fit into your year-end plans. You can still reduce your taxable income through charitable donations if you itemize. Your tax preparer can advise about details. RMDs, appreciated securities, as well as cash donations can be used. With so much attention on gift-giving at this time of year, please think of CBT as a recipient of your generous nature and inclination. I send heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you, and look forward to our continuing growth, strength and love in 2020.

Sheila Bicoll
sbicoll@yahoo.com

Administrator's Angle

On December 1st, I celebrated 5 months with Congregation Beit Tikva and what a treat it has been. I am so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful community. While the past months have presented a fair share of challenges as we continue to make a smooth administrative transition, I am thankful for the immense support and patience of Rabbi, the Board and the Congregants. A special thanks to Rabbi Levy, Gail Rapport and Sheila Bicoll for helping me organize a near-flawless first High Holy Days.

Lela Dawkins
admin@beittikvasantafe.com
505.820.2991



Meet Tom and Norma Brenner

By Marc Sanders

At a respectable 6'3", with a lush silver mane, new member Tom Brenner is hard to miss in a crowd. His Peruvian-born wife, Norma, has an aura of strong softness. While vacationing in Santa Fe during one recent summer, the couple, married almost 20 years, was curious about the local Jewish community and, in their research, discovered Congregation Beit Tikva. Coming from a small community in Southern California without a visible Jewish presence, they were pleasantly surprised to find a thriving Jewish community in Santa Fe. After attending Friday services at Beit Tikva, listening to Rabbi Levy's pitch-perfect sermon and chatting with the Rabbi afterwards, they were sold. This will be their new spiritual home.

After three months in Santa Fe and a few weeks as new members, Tom and Norma have demonstrated their commitment to actively participating in Beit Tikva's programs by forming an ad hoc group of members to perform Israeli dancing at the November "Bigguns Bash" honoring our departing Cantor, Ephraim Herrera.

Although Norma is currently employed as an accountant, her passions are languages (she speaks several and is currently studying Hebrew), baking and painting. One goal is to perfect her Challah-baking after the many compliments received over a Challah she brought to an Oneg, suggesting she is close to reaching that goal.

Tom studied landscape architecture in college and had his own landscape design business, but is also a painter who uses unconventional tools for his craft. Rather than a store-bought brush, Tom prefers to use items found in nature, such as pine cones, twigs, feathers, leaves and rocks with which to paint. After watching his aging parents become more isolated and lose their social connections, Tom created a customized concierge program that identifies funding sources for a home visitation business. Intellectually curious, he is also honing his scholarship in studying the Bible, the Mishnah and attending Rabbi Levy's weekly Torah study class.

When asked what they would like to see Congregation Beit Tikva tackle in the future, the couple expressed they would like to find ways to motivate members to be more involved. So, when you see the Brennens, be sure to approach them, introduce yourself and extend a warm welcome.

SOCIAL ACTION

Helping the Homeless

During the winter months, the top priority items requested by homeless shelters are hats, gloves, scarves, and socks. Congregation Beit Tikva continues to donate those to St. Elizabeth's Men's Shelter on Alarid St. and their Casa Familia Shelter (Women's/Families with Children) on Berry St. At this time, Casa Familia is also requesting bottles of shampoo and conditioner, as well as towels.

If it's easier for you to bring the above items to Beit Tikva, we'll be happy to deliver them. If it's just as easy to drop them off yourself, ring the doorbell of either shelter, and staff will gladly take them from you.

If you have bags of clothes that you'd like to donate to one or both of the shelters, please take them there on your own. Clothes, coats, and shoes are always needed, especially during the bitter cold weather.

Today Rabah!

A Bash to Remember

BY MARC SANDERS

The only thing missing was a red carpet.

Congregation Beit Tikva's sanctuary sparkled with glitter and glam on the evening of Saturday, November 16th, as well-dressed congregants and friends of CBT joined Rabbi Levy, Sheila Bicolli and the Board in our biggest and brightest fund raiser of the year—**The Bigguns Bash**—to honor Beit Tikva's beloved Cantor Ephraim Herrera who, after fulfilling his contractual obligations, has retired, effective at the end of 2019.

Talk about a class act! This highly festive affair had all the right touches: tabletop floral arrangements, catered Italian cuisine, an enthusiastic crowd and top-notch entertainment by a coterie of talented professional singers and musicians (led by the Cantor), many of whom furnish the liturgical music for Beit Tikva's High Holy Days services.

The unabashed affection and good will for the Cantor in the room was palpable. After arriving at the temple, 70+ guests found a place setting at a table of their choice and then were invited to peruse the many tables laden with high-quality silent auction inventory items such as professional art works, handmade jewelry, indigenous peoples' ceremonial pieces, health and wellness services, and a voucher for an overnight stay at a refurbished Fred Harvey Hotel.

A buffet complemented by a cash bar took care of everyone's hunger and thirst and the lovely singers and instrumentalists took care of everyone's musical appetite. Throughout the evening guests were treated to the melodies of George Gershwin. Joan Kessler



and Marc Sanders also contributed to the musical entertainment.

An authentic sense of community was showcased when new members, Tom and Norma Brenner, performed a romantic Israeli pas-de-deux, followed by the Beit Tikva Hebrew Hoofers dancing a classic Israeli folk dance. Honored guests were invited to participate in a quick lesson. Minutes later a dozen joyous people linked hands in a circle and were hoofing the hora to a brisk, plaintive melody. It was the most fun anyone had had in a long time.

After the two enormous cakes were cut, on which were icing-written notes of affection and congratulations, several speakers proffered their thanks and good wishes to the popular Cantor, some jokingly threatening to not let him get away.

Rounding out the evening was the silent auction in which the closing bids were tallied and the winning bids announced, followed by bittersweet goodbyes.

Even if our fund raising goal hadn't been met (it was), the Bigguns Bash would have been considered a rousing success. Bringing so many people together for a good cause that's fun and reaps enormous benefits for the synagogue is a huge accomplishment for which we should be proud. I look forward to the next one.

Chanukah Blessings

CANDLES ARE ADDED TO THE CHANUKIYAH (MENORAH) from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first. (On the Shabbat of Chanukah, kindle the Chanukah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.) Light the Shamash—the helper candle—first, using it to kindle the rest of the Chanukah lights. As you do, say or sing:

Hebrew

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

Hebrew

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wonderful deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

For first night only:

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

Hanerot Halalu

We kindle these lights because of the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Chanukah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance.

High Holy Days 5780-2019



Pledge Opportunities to Support Our Congregation

Congregation Beit Tikva

Rabbi Martin W. Levy
Cantor Ephraim A. Herrera
Founding Rabbi Leonard A. Helman, z"l

P.O. BOX 24094 SANTA FE, NM 87502 TELEPHONE: 505.820.2991 WWW.BEITTIKVASANTAFE.ORG

2020 Membership Pledge Form *(please print)*

_____		_____	
Adult #1		Adult #2	
_____		_____	
Address		City, State, Zip	
_____		_____	
Email address	Adult #1 day/home phone	Adult #1 cell phone (optional)	
_____		_____	
	Adult #2 day/home phone	Adult #2 cell phone (optional)	
_____		_____	

This pledge is for membership from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.
Membership includes one High Holy Day ticket for each member.

- \$ 950 Singles, children included
- \$ 1,750 Families, children included
- \$ 2,500 Sustainer
- \$ 4,000 Rabbi's Circle

Under 40 Member Dues:
For singles or couples under age 40 (The younger member of the couple qualifies the couple for these dues.)
1st year: \$180 for couple, \$100 for single
2nd year: 1/3 of annual published dues
3rd year: 2/3 of annual published dues
4th year: Full annual published dues

Recommended Additional Contribution
Building and Grounds Maintenance Fund:
Family – \$100 Individual – \$50

Over the years our premium donors' generous support and dedication to our synagogue has enabled Congregation Beit Tikva to enhance our facility and improve our ability to serve our congregants.

This year, those who are willing to pledge at the premium levels will be underwriting our prayer, study and festivities with their generous donations. At the \$2,500 level you become a Sustainer. At the \$4,000 level you join the Rabbi's Circle. In addition to underwriting our cultural and worship programs, your

generosity supports the Rabbi's position. This is a significant aspect of our continued growth and connection to the greater Santa Fe community.

Your gifts have enabled us to enhance our synagogue life in a myriad of ways and we thank each of you for your generosity at whatever level you choose to contribute.

Please return your pledge form by February 1st in order to facilitate our budget for 2020.

You may elect to pay in: *(Please check appropriate box)*

- One payment January 2020
- Two payments January & July 2020
- Four payments January, April, July & October 2020

I/we hereby pledge \$ _____ Enclosed is \$ _____

Credit card # _____ Expiration Date _____
You may use your Visa/MC for your pledge payment

Adult #1 signature _____ Adult #2 signature _____

The First Friday of each month is Simchat Shabbat, where we recognize our members whose birthdays or anniversaries fall in that month. Please plan on joining us to celebrate your Simchat.

December Birthdays

Marc Geller	December 2
Kaycee Canter	December 4
Phyllis Kapp	December 5
Ed Mazria	December 7
Marilyn Cohen	December 10
Janie Siskin	December 13
John Goldman	December 15
Barbara Marco	December 19

December Anniversaries

Susan & Gary Katz	December 19
Joan & Herman Scheinberg	December 20

January Birthdays

Rabbi Martin Levy	January 2
Larry Cohen	January 3
Reggie Klein	January 6
Ed Sorken	January 9
Kate Shane	January 15
Barry Hornstein	January 18
Lorraine Haneyko	January 22
Gail Karr	January 26
Asenath Kepler	January 31

January Anniversaries

Joy & Phil LeCuyer	January 12
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Our Weekly E-Blast

Our weekly e-newsletter is the best way to stay current with all our Congregation's happenings. Please contact Windy Dankoff, windydankoff@mac.com to join the e-blast list. Or, go to www.beittikvasantafe.org and click on the blue button, top right.

Another Way to Give to Congregation Beit Tikva

Congregation Beit Tikva is now accepting **appreciated stock** for your annual contributions. If you've held it for more than one year you may take a charitable tax deduction for the market value of the stock, and neither you nor the charity has to pay capital gains taxes when the stock is sold.

To talk further about how this might work for you or to transfer your appreciated securities to Congregation Beit Tikva, please contact our Treasurer, Carlos Duno at carlos_duno@yahoo.com to tell us how you want the funds to be credited.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2019 DONATIONS October 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019

Biggun's Bash

Thank you all for your contributions and support!

Jessica Bicoll
Sheila Bicoll
Eleanor Brenner
Norma & Tom Brenner
Kathleen Carswell
Linda Cohen
Laura Cowan
Alma Dankoff
Windy Dankoff
Jonathan Frey
Jolene & Robert Gear
Jackie Geister
Jean Gorman
John Graham
Elizabeth Herrera
Ephraim Herrera
Carol Karps
Gail Karr

Lynn Y. Kelly
Joan Kessler
Judith Kingsley
Ron Kite
Susan Krohn
Linda Krull
Barbara & Armon LaMont
Sandra Levine
Rabbi Martin Levy & Kaycee Canter
Mary Porter
Gail & Sonny Rapoport
Marc Sanders
Donna Secular
Nora Segal
Joan Vernick
Dirk Wassner
Tim J. Wolfe

General Fund

Eleanor Brenner
Marilyn & Larry M.D. Cohen – In Honor of Gail & Sonny Rapoport Anniversary
Gail Davis – In Honor of Jordan Davis M.D.
Michael Edelman
Fran Fryman
Melanie & Barry Herrstein – In Honor of Gail & Sonny Rapoport
Susan & Gary Katz – In Honor of Cantor Ephraim Herrera and Sheila Bicoll
Nancy Mandel
Gail & Sonny Rapoport
Howard Sherry
Sheldon Weinstein
Brian A Yapko

High Holy Days End-of-Year Appeal

Marcelle Cady
Arlene & Merrill Ehrenberg
Lori Gibson
Eileen Mandel
Donna Secular & Stuart Ehrich
Joan Vernick

High Holy Days Yizkor

Susan Krohn
Todd Myers – In Memory of Kevin
Laura Reid

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Bella & Eric Blackman
Clarke Fountain

Oneg

Ruthie Koval
Marlene & Marvin Maslow

For your convenience, donations can be made on our website at www.beitikvasantafe.org/donate

Thank You Oneg Sponsors

Todah rabah and honorable menschen to our Oneg Providers



OCTOBER

Doreen Hurtig
Reggie Klein
Marjorie Johnson
Alma & Windy Dankoff

NOVEMBER

Gail & Sonny Rapoport
Carolyn Handler-Miller & Barb Lamont
Jolene & Robert Gear

DECEMBER

Jean O'Gorman
Norma & Tom Brenner
Lynn Kelly

Winter Adult Education Class and Torah Study with Rabbi Levy

Starting Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 6:00pm in the Helman Library:

The Worlds of Rationalism & Faith: Maimonides' Bridge from Faith to Reason.
Join us for an exploration of Mose Maimonides' writings about Jewish faith and the questions of rationalism and fundamentalism. This class continues on Wednesday evenings through March 11, 2020.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Every Saturday at 9:15am we meet for ongoing discussion of the weekly Torah portions. We study the Torah and Haftorah texts for each Sabbath portion. Everyone is welcome for this lively discussion.



In Loving Memory

Beth Moise, PhD

DECEMBER 1, 2019

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020 TORAH PASSAGES

December 6 Genesis
Vayetze 28.10 -32.3
Jacob's dream, Jacob's labors
His two wives, Leah & Rachael
Birth of Jacob's children

December 13 Genesis
Vayishlach 32.4 – 36.43
Jacob's fear of Esau, Jacob becomes Israel
The reunion with Esau, The return of Jacob to Bethel
The death of Isaac

December 20 Genesis
Vayeshev 37.1 – 40.23
The story of Joseph, The coat of many colors
Joseph & his slavery in Egypt
Joseph the student of dreams

December 23 1st Night of Chanukah

December 27 Genesis
Miketz 41.1 – 44.17
Joseph's interpretation of the Pharaoh's dreams
His promotion to leadership in Egypt
Joseph's brothers come to Egypt, Joseph tests his brothers

January 3 Genesis
Vayigash 44.18 – 47.27
The family of Joseph & his brothers are reunited
Peace & harmony in ancient Egypt

January 10 Genesis
Veyechi 47.28 – 50.26
Death of Jacob & Joseph
Embalming of Joseph, End of the Book of Genesis

January 17 Exodus
Shemot 1.1 – 6.1
Children of Israel prosper in Egypt
New king arises who knew not Joseph
Moses the redeemer is born

January 24 Exodus
Va'era 6.2 – 9.35
God's appearance & promise of redemption
The ten plagues begin

January 31 Exodus
Bo 10.1-13.16
The last three plagues, leaving Egypt

DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020 SERVICES

Friday, December 6 7:00 pm
Simchat Shabbat

Friday, December 13 7:00 pm

Friday, December 20 6:30 pm
HaMakom Service

Friday, December 27
Chanukah Shabbat
Chanukah pot luck dinner 6:00pm
Service 7:00pm

Friday, January 3 7:00 pm
Simchat Shabbat

Friday, January 10 7:00 pm

Friday, January 17 6:30 pm
HaMakom Service

Friday, January 24 7:00 pm

Friday, January 31 7:00 pm