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# ***ChaiLights***

The monthly newsletter of Temple Beth Tikvah

January 2019  
Tevet/Sh'vat 5779

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Visit the TBT Web site

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## ***Hanukkah at TBT***

Mother Nature crashed our original date for our TBT Chanukah celebration on Friday, December 8 – so it was moved to Saturday the 9th. It did not stop the TBT family celebration as the menorahs were lit, latkes eaten, and music provided by Myrna and Jon! Thanks to Cinnamon who brought latkes and those who brought

delish dishes! LOVE  
this picture of the  
Castrosegal girls who  
shone just as brightly  
as the candles!! A  
good time was had by  
all!!! I hope you all had  
a most wonderful  
miraculous Chanukah!



## President's Message

Can you believe that it's already January? And 2019? Oy!  
Time is moving way too quickly.

As you are reading this, several of us are being thrilled by the sights and magnificence of Israel. We can't wait to get back and share all of the things that we are experiencing.

After being rained out on the original night, we held our Chanukah service the following evening. What a beautiful event! Many thanks go out to Myrna Reingold, Jon Zelon, and Deb Nowinski, for leading us in a night of song, honoring the seventh night of the Festival of Lights. Thanks also to those who brought goodies to eat, and to Nancy Schwartz and crew for decorating the sanctuary.

About 10 weeks ago, after our Interfaith Service following the tragedy in Pittsburgh, Don Maieron suggested that we set up a special account for security expenses. Don was kind enough to kick off the fund with a donation of \$100. This was a great idea, and the board enthusiastically supported it. I would like to invite all who are interested to make donations to this account, which has been set up to be a "dedicated" fund, not to be used for any other

purpose. Having this account well funded will prevent the necessity for us to make last-minute appeals to pay for police officers at special services, or for other security needs. I thank you in advance for helping to beef up this account.

We look forward to having Don Piper speak to us on January 20. See Rabbi Deborah's message for more details.

Be on the lookout for info regarding the Chicken Soup Cook-Off, to be held on January 27. It's always a fun-filled morning. Enter your favorite soup recipe and/or just come and enjoy tasting the delicious selections.

Planning for the Purim Carnival is in full swing. It will be held on March 24<sup>t</sup> at Congregation Shaar Hashalom. You will soon be receiving requests for sponsorships and other assistance. I know that you all will band together to make this the best carnival ever. Thank you to Dave Salinsky, Nancy Harris, and Jill MacGregor for taking the lead as our committee representatives.

Our community Passover Seder will again be held at Bay Oaks Country Club on April 19. Mark your calendars and plan to bring in Pesach with our TBT family.

Finally, I was going to suggest that you all make a New Year's resolution to attend services and events at TBT, but, who keeps their resolutions? So, I won't recommend that. Hahaha! Have a wonderful and safe New Year!

Stuart



## Rabbi's Message

Hi, I would like to update you about a number of upcoming events for the beginning of 2019.

Thank you so much to Deb and Myrna for covering services during our TBT Israel trip.

In case of an emergency while I'm away, I have two colleagues who are also congregational rabbis who will be covering for me:

- Rabbi Dan Gordon who can be reached on his cell at 281-216-2558 from December 23- January 3, and
- Rabbi Josh Lobel who can be reached on his cell at 646-413-2341 from January 4- 8.

On Sunday, January 13, I will participate in an Interfaith service to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day beginning at 6 p.m. at Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Church, 17503 El Camino Real. Please see the flyer below. Everyone is invited to attend!

We are looking forward to having Don Piper, author of 90 Minutes in Heaven speak to us beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, January 20. His talk will complement the conclusion of my series of classes about Jewish views of the afterlife.

Our next series of Adult Education classes will be a discussion of selected chapters of the 2018 book Rise and Kill First: The Secret History of Israel's Targeted Assassinations by Ronen Bergman. It is available on Amazon. Remember to order on AmazonSmile and choose Temple Beth Tikvah as your charity so we can receive a very small percentage of your purchase!

For our first class, which will be Sunday, January 13 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., please read the first three chapters, through page 51. Classes will continue on Sundays, February 3 and February 24 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. (Please join us for the Sisterhood soup cook-off on Sunday, January 27 and Yom Limmud on Sunday, February 17.)

Tu B'Shevat begins Sunday evening, January 20. We will observe it during our oneg after our Torah service on January 18. Stay tuned to hear from Joe Wallack for how you can help ensure we have the three different categories of cut up fruit and grape juice/wine to celebrate!

We will have a special guest speaker during services on Friday night, January 25. International Holocaust Remembrance Day is January 27 and Jonathan Hersh will be sharing his grandfather's experiences as a Jewish liberator of the concentration camps at the end of WWII.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to both Clay Moliver whose mother Margery Arrons Moliver passed away on Thursday, December 13, and to Stuart Eisen on the passing of his Uncle Don Eisen on Friday, December 14. Clay and Stuart, your TBT family mourns the loss of your beloved family members.

A hearty mazel tov to Morgan Moliver and Eric Atkinson and Clay, Michele, Hunter, and Annie on Morgan and Eric's upcoming wedding!

Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing 2019.

Warmly,  
Rabbi Deborah

## Torah Study

We had another wonderful Torah Study on Saturday, December 15. We studied Joseph and the word “forgiveness,” which was the first time that word appeared in any written form in the Torah. We learned the difference between ethics of guilt vs. ethics of shame. We had a great discussion and a little nosh! I urge you to attend our next meeting in February with the Rabbi. All opinions welcomed and remember: learning Torah is a mitzvot! Come join our wonderful circle!

Deborah Nowinski  
Ritual Director

## Book Club

**January 13 @ 12:15 p.m.**

TBT Library, Phyllis Baker reviews Linda Hirshman's *Sisters in Law*

**February 24 @ 12:15 p.m.**

TBT Library, Christine Paul reviews Ruby Namdar's *The Ruined House*

### TBT Board of Directors

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Sisterhood – Harriet Hayes

**Spiritual Leadership**

Rabbi Deborah Schloss

[rabbi@templebethikvah.org](mailto:rabbi@templebethikvah.org)

Office hours by appointment

**January**  
**Shabbat Services**

**January 4 at 6:30 p.m**

Musical Shabbat

led by Myrna Reingold &

Deb Nowinski

Pot luck oneg

**January 11 at 7 p.m**

## **Oneg Sponsorship**

The TBT Oneg Fund provides catered onegs for musical shabbats and occasions when there is no sponsor.

To sponsor an oneg or donate to the fund, please contact [Joe Wallack](#).

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