Shabbat Times

Vayera/Veterans’ Day Shabbat
November 6-7/20 Cheshvan
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 5:05 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 6:05 pm

Chayei Sarah
November 13-14/27 Cheshvan
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 4:59 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:59 pm

Toldot
November 20-21/5 Kislev
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 4:54 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:54 pm

Vayetze
November 27-28/12 Kislev
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 4:50 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:50 pm

Vayishlach
December 4-5/19 Kislev
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 4:48 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:48 pm

Vayeshev/Shabbat Chanukah
December 11-12/26 Kislev
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 4:49 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:49 pm

Miketz
December 18-19/4 Tevet
Shabbat Begins/Light Candles 4:51 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:51 pm

Vayigash
December 25-26/11 Tevet
Shabbat Begins/Candle Lighting 4:54 pm
Shabbat Ends/Havdalah 5:54 pm

Rosh Chodesh

Tuesday
November 17/1 Kislev
Morning Minyan 7:20 am
Evening Minyan 5:30 pm

Wednesday
November 16/1 Tevet
Morning Minyan 7:20 am
Evening Minyan 5:30 pm

Chanukah Morning Minyan

Friday
December 11/25 Kislev
Morning Minyan 7:20 am

Chanukah Morning Minyan

December 14-18/28 Kislev-3 Tevet
Morning Minyan 7:20 am

B’nei Mitzvah

Camryn Zidel will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, November 7, 2020. Camryn is the daughter of Katrina and Eric Zidel, the sister of Maya Zidel, and the granddaughter of Dan and Greta Zidel, R.K. Levy, Beverly Sokol, and the late Sally Levy.

Camryn is in 7th grade at Bexley Middle School and attended the Samuel M. Melton Religious School. She received her Bat Mitzvah instruction from Cantor Jack Chomsky and Dr. Jerry Benis. Camryn is a member of the Bexley Middle School tennis team and is passionate about baking and cooking.

The Zidels cordially invite relatives, friends, and members of the congregation to worship with them via Zoom. In lieu of flowers for the bimah, a contribution is being made to “In Christy’s Shoes” in honor of Camryn.

Noah Grischkan will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Noah is the son of Jennifer and Jonathan Grischkan, the brother of Kate Grischkan, and the grandson of Richard and Nancy Slate and Gloria and Michael Grischkan.

Noah is a 7th grade student at Bexley Middle School and attends the Samuel M. Melton Religious School. He received his Bar Mitzvah instruction from Cantor Jack Chomsky.

Noah also plays hockey with the Easton Youth Hockey Association and is an active participant behind the scenes in his school’s theatre arts program.

The Grischkans cordially invite relatives, friends, and members of the congregation to worship with them via Zoom.

Joseph Bertram Gurwin will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 21, 2020. Joey is the son of Pam and Scott Gurwin, the brother of Michael Gurwin, and the grandson of Stephanie and Preston Gurwin, and Judie Swedlow and Gerry Swedlow z”l.

Joey is an 8th grade student at Columbus Academy and attended the Samuel M. Melton Religious School. He received his Bar Mitzvah instruction from Cantor Jack Chomsky.

In lieu of flowers, the Gurwins made a donation to Tifereth Israel in honor of Cantor Jack Chomsky’s 38 years of service. The Gurwins invite relatives, friends, and members of the congregation to worship with them via Zoom.

Lolan Reiss will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 21, 2020. Lolan is the son of Adam and Shara Reiss and the grandson of Bruce and Pam Silberman and Sam and Debbie Reiss.

Lolan is a 7th grade student at Bexley Middle School and attended the Samuel M. Melton Religious School. He received his Bar Mitzvah instruction from Cantor Jack Chomsky. Lolan also loves basketball, watching sports, and spending time with his friends.

In lieu of flowers for the bimah, a donation has been made to Children’s Hospital in honor of Lolan Reiss.

B’nei Mitzvah

To proud grandparents Carol & Stephen Handler, parents Julie & Dan Winick, and big brother Jordan on the birth of Andrew Winick.

To proud parents Sarah & Alex Gardner, grandparents Lynn Gardner, Lisa Mesherberg, and Fred Birnstock on the birth of Solomon Gardner.

To proud parents Amy & Matthew Brill, big sisters Miriam & Ruby, grandmother Ethel Wolff, aunt and uncle Beth & Brad Naich, and cousins Marc, Evie and Lucy Nach on the birth of David Eli Brill.

To April & Kyle Katz, on the occasion of their daughter, Scarlett, becoming a bat mitzvah on Saturday, October 17.

To Amy & Jason Judd, on the occasion of their daughter, Sigel, becoming a bat mitzvah on Saturday, October 17.

To April & Kyle Katz, on the occasion of their daughter, Scarlett, becoming a bat mitzvah on Saturday, October 24.
Reflecting on the holidays and moving forward

Rabbi Alex Braver | abraver@tiferethisrael.org

I can still remember what it was like when the COVID-19 pandemic began last spring... What seemed like a distant news story emerged as a looming threat and then very quickly transformed into an immediate reality. Synagogue staff and volunteers scrambled into action, transforming the very real bonds of our community into virtual connections, tethering us to one another through Zoom services and classes, not to mention phone calls and other in-person volunteering opportunities. Our sh'at ha-dahak, our moment of emergency, became an extended reality, and changes we expected to live with for only a few weeks became our lived reality for months now.

The High Holidays were our first real test at designing an experience for the coronavirus era from the ground up. It’s hard to understand how jarring it was for us as clergy to stand on the bima, appropriately masked and distanced, looking out on the sanctuary with a capacity for 500 people but populated by a scattered dozen congregants... and in the back of the room, three large cameras, and a table full of computers and other video equipment. For us on the bima, though, if we squinted our eyes a bit, it almost felt like returning back to our normal High Holiday experience.

Our Religious School and Hebrew High have pivoted toward online learning, with opportunities for full-class and smaller-group learning experiences. We’re also using a brand-new, specially designed curriculum that explores how Jewish values can help guide us through this challenging time.

Our Jewish learning is back and better than ever, with opportunities to gather virtually morning, noon, and night. Check our new monthly structure for these holidays. From our Religious School and Hebrew High have pivoted toward online learning, with opportunities for full-class and smaller-group learning experiences. We’re also using a brand-new, specially designed curriculum that explores how Jewish values can help guide us through this challenging time.

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Our Jewish learning is back and better than ever, with opportunities to gather virtually morning, noon, and night. Check our new monthly Amazon Deeper Questions: Judaism 201 class, our Wednesday morning parsha study, or one of our long-running morning classes taught by Rabbi Skolnik, Rabbi Berman, and me. The only downside is that it would not be served by continuing the process at this time. A failure to agree on the list of issues that had to be resolved to enable negotiations to go forward created an obstacle that proved too difficult to overcome. Agudas Achim has hired an in-house rabbi as they continue their search for a permanent rabbi to fill the vacancy that was the initial impetus to examine the merger idea.

I do not mean to infer that the possibility of the merger is gone forever. The time may well come, sooner or later, when it will be possible to go forward and renew merger efforts. In the meantime, we will strive to ensure that the Conservative movement continues to thrive in Central Ohio.

I wanted to share some information about our Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services that I found interesting and exciting. Notwithstanding that only a few congregants could be physically present during services, the level of participation was higher than I expected. On Rosh Hashanah we had 667 unique live stream viewers on the first day and 388 on the second. There were 701 viewers for Kol Nidre and 852 on Yom Kippur day. There were an additional 624 views on YouTube. Rabbi Skolnik, Rabbi Braver, Cantor Chomsky, and all others who were involved in planning and making the services happen are deserving of our deepest gratitude.

We can all be proud of Congregation Tifereth Israel’s creativity and success in dealing with these strange times.

In Memoriam

Daniel Wagner, father of Warren (Shari) Wagner, Stephanie (Bill) Tuthill, Carolyn Sgall (Juvenal Diaz) and Rosalie (Clark) Harrison Julius Goldstein, husband of Shirley Mассer Goldstein
Arnold David Rubin, father of Karl Rubin (Sarah Simon), Nancy (Bruce) Bailey and Judaism (Linda) Rubin; granddaughter of Jacob Rubin, Rayln Slaton, Yshto, Benjamin and Leah Bailey and Allison and Shannon Rubin Solbert Green, father of Ellen Green, Jody (Gary) Greenwald and Lisa Green (Ted Moulineau)

Josh Pavlovsky; husband of Kathy Pavlovsky; brother of Marlene (David) Miller, Gary (Lisa) Pavlovsky, and Ervin (Wendi) Pavlovsky; father of Veronica Pavlovsky, Ashley (Eric) Munoz, Coni Pavlovsky, Victoria Hayes, Erika Hayes, and Andrew (Elizabeth) Pavlovsky

Jules Joseph Duga, husband of Cyril Z. Duga; father of Teri (Joel) Ghtman and Jan Z. Duga; grandfather of Abigail Ghtman and Michelle Ghtman
Henry Walens, father of Judth (Ed Webber) Walens-Webber, Sanford (Norma) Walens and Stanley (Stephanie) Walens.

VETERANS’ SHABBAT

All veterans are invited to join us for Zoom services for an aliyah on Saturday, November 7 at 9:30 am.

Zoom Link
Meeting ID: 628206212
Password: tifereth

Help us honor our veterans!
If you are a veteran or know a veteran, please email Rebecca at rhaimowitz@tiferethisrael.org to ensure we can reach out to all of them.

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I WILL GO HOME, EAT, DRINK, AND BE AT PEACE WITH MYSELF.”

BAYT OYANT MALAM TAMID, TNA


Contact for more information: Cathy Levine, cathylevine@gmail.com Beth Brown, bethbrown021@bhcatholic.org Diane Paters, surrenderedredmusic@gmail.com Rosa Stolz, rasa@thehostguru.com

Check us out on Facebook!
Why I love Tifereth Israel

Rebecca Gurk | rebeccagurk@aol.com

When our family moved to Columbus from Alabama fifteen years ago, it was almost a certainty that we would join Tifereth Israel. Stuart and I had been members of a Conservative synagogue in Birmingham, so we were looking for a traditional, egalitarian shul with a robust youth program for our three children and a well-rounded assortment of activities for us. Tifereth fit the bill — it had what we required.

What we didn’t realize at the time was that this large, long-established, seemingly conventional congregation was bursting with vitality, creativity, and people who were willing to make things happen. The output of effort towards initiating new programs, enlivening standard practices, and pushing the envelope went way beyond what we expected. For example:

• Most shuls offer a few adult education classes a year, or just a once-a-year scholar. But Tifereth has some kind of Jewish learning going every day, plus multiple guest speakers annually. The programs have changed over time, but the number and breadth of offerings is as high as ever — and there is so much to choose from.

• Most synagogues present a cultural program periodically. Tifereth makes music and performance a central attraction — not just by bringing in guest artists, but by featuring our own talented composers and singers in services and concerts, as well as a professionally-produced, and often congregant-written, Purim spiel.

• Many congregations set up alternative services at the high holidays. Tifereth has offered an array of creative Shabbat alternatives throughout the year for as long as we’ve been here. Service of the Souls, Minyan Chadash, Musical Kabbalat Shabbat, and the special Learners’ Minyan developed by members of our Men’s Club. Not to mention a variety of children’s services that run 12 months — not just September to May.

• Conservative synagogues usually have a social action committee, but how many take the initiative to reach across an entire city and help build an interfaith social justice organization like B.R.E.A.D? The fact that the network continues to grow and have a positive impact after decades of operating at the grassroots level is a testament to the dedication of our active clergy and congregants.

What’s in the air at Tifereth? No doubt we have and have had creative clergy and synagogue professionals. Certainly there are Tifereth lifers and clergy and synagogue professionals. But even more, there is the dedication of our active clergy and congregants.

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What’s in the air at Tifereth? No doubt we have and have had creative clergy and synagogue professionals. Certainly there are Tifereth lifers and active newer members who step up to the plate, to run programs, and volunteer. There is a unique spirit of willingness to try new things and energy to see them through that makes Tifereth an especially vibrant and dynamic community.

Office Closings

November
Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 – Thanksgiving

December
Thursday, December 24 @ 1:00 pm – Christmas Eve
Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day
Thursday, December 31 @ 1:00 pm – New Year’s Eve
Friday, January 1 – New Year’s Day
Jewish Learning

WECKLY PROGRAMS

All classes are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

PEREK YOMI
Wednesdays with Rabbi Skolnik
9:00 - 10:30 am
Explore a new section of the Hebrew Bible each week, beginning with "In the beginning" and moving onward from there! Drop in for a few sessions, or make it a regular part of your week.

Zoom Link

RASHI: WEEKLY TORAH STUDY
Tuesdays with Rabbi Skolnik
9:00 - 9:30 am
Through careful reading and lively discussion, come study the classic commentary of Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo ben Yitzchak) and other Medieval Torah commentators. Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. New students are always welcome.

Zoom Link

RABBIS' STUDY CIRCLE
Wednesdays with Rabbi Skolnik & Braver
9:30 - 10:30 am
Session 1: October 14 - November 18
The Heart of Torah: Essays on the Weekly Parsha, by Rabbi Shai Held

Session 2: February 3 - March 10
Tales of the Rabbis: Stories from the Talmud

Session 3: May 5 - June 9
On Conservative Judaism

Zoom Link

SISTERHOOD SHORT STORY GROUP
Wednesdays with Fran Duchene, Marilyn Fais, Helen Miller and Lola Steinhart
10:30 - 11:30 am
Please join our lively discussions of intriguing stories that engage and entertain. Session dates same as above.

Zoom Link

FRIDAY BOOK GROUP
Fridays with Rabbi Braver
8:15 - 9:15 am
On November 20, we’ll be finishing our study of Marc Brettler’s How to Read the Jewish Bible.

Beginning December 4, we’ll begin Roger Kamenetz’s The Jew in the Lotus: A Poet’s Rediscovery of Jewish Identity in Buddhist India

Zoom Link

WELCOMING SHABBAT MINDFULNESS
Fridays with Beth Brown
2:00 - 3:30 pm
Explore meditation techniques from a Jewish perspective. Ease ourselves away from the stresses of the week. All are welcome.

Zoom Link

SHABBAT WARMUP
Saturdays with Rabbi Skolnik & Braver
9:00 - 9:30 am
Get ready for Shabbat services with a different learning opportunity each week!

Ma Chedash (1st & 3rd Shabbatot)
What’s new in Israel and the American Jewish community? (Rabbi Skolnik)

Torah Talks (2nd & 4th Shabbatot)
Questions and conversation about the weekly Torah portion (Rabbi Braver)

Zoom Link

PEREK YOMI
"New!" ASKING DEEPER QUESTIONS: JUDAISM 201
1st Wednesdays with Rabbi Skolnik & Braver
October - May
6:15 - 7:05 pm
Feel like you’ve got the basics, but want to take your Jewish education to the next level? Join us for this once-a-month series focused on exploring some deeper questions about Jewish thought and practice, while also providing practical skills and advice for those looking to add more Jewish ritual to their lives.

Cost: free, with suggested donation of $27 for the entire series.

Upcoming dates:
November 4
How To Get More Out of a Saturday Morning Service

December 2
Jewish Ethics Case Study: The Ethics of Punishment and Mass Incarceration

Registration Requested
Zoom Link

SIDDUR & TORAH TROPE TUTORIAL
2nd and 4th Sundays with Rabbi Benis
10:00 - 11:00 am
Learn how to lead parts of the Shabbat morning service and chant Torah trope, or refresh your memory. Basic Hebrew reading skills required.

RSVP to jennybenis@yahoo.com.
Zoom Link

LUNCH & LEARN
2nd & 4th Wednesdays with Rabbi Skolnik & Braver, and guest teachers
12:00 - 1:00 pm
Study and discussion over lunch, with our rabbis and guest teachers.

November 11 with Rabbi Skolnik
Lessons to Learn from the Election

December 9 with Micheal Avera-Samuels
Columbus Community Israel Shlichah Journey to Jerusalem

December 23 with Rabbi Braver
Why Should I Give Tzedakah...and How Much?

Zoom Link

DINNER DRINKS & DRASH
1st & 3rd Tuesdays with Rabbi Skolnik & Braver, and guest teachers
6:30 pm
Join our rabbis and guest teachers from across Columbus and beyond for nights of learning and discussion.

November 17 with Rabbi Skolnik
Making Meaning of the New Month: Rash Choshash in Liturgy and Tradition

December 1 with Rabbi Braver
Etz Hayyim H: The Torah Service in Depth

December 15 with Dr. Ted Borkan, Clinical Psychologist: Discovering the Torah’s Encrypted Parenting Lessons

January 5 with Tifereth Israel Clergy Topic TBD

January 19 with Dr. Krista Dalton, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Kenyon College
Rewritten Bible as “Fan Fiction” in the Dead Sea Scrolls

Interested in sponsoring a night of learning in honor or memory of a loved one? Contact Rabbi Braver.

Zoom Link

ISRAEL DISCUSSION GROUP
2nd Saturdays with Rob Cohen
12:15 pm after services
Discuss the latest in Israel news with a lay-led discussion about recent events.

Zoom Link

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE
Fridays with Rabbi Braver
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Share Shabbat together with our Rabbi and Sing to the Lord.

Zoom Link

How much better to acquire wisdom than gold! To acquire understanding is preferable to silver.
Proverbs 16:16
BNEI MITZVAH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM for Tifereth Israel's 6th & 7th graders:

- Explore how to celebrate during a pandemic; navigate expectations from friends and family; find Jewish meaning in their bar/bat mitzvah; manage being the center of attention on this special day.
- Meet with your peers (during Sunday class) and with parents (on November 15, 2020 and January 31, 2021 at 7:00 pm)

Check out @13, Moving Traditions’ podcast!

Moving Traditions’ mission is to embolden teens by fostering self-discovery, challenging sexism, and inspiring a commitment to Jewish life and learning.

Questions?
Contact Miriam Berk at mbber@tiferethisrael.org

The Year to Come
Laura Moskow Sigal | lmsigal@tiferethisrael.org
Interim Executive Director

The ability to combine your passion with your profession is rare these days. When you’re lucky enough to have both, it’s a blessing. Working at Tifereth Israel these past three months has truly been a blessing.

As a TI member for the past 22 years, I’ve often wondered how the clergy and staff work together, what they do on a daily basis, and how my dues are spent. Seeing the impact that our clergy have on our members has been an eye opener and I can now say that I know the answers to those questions. In the midst of the pandemic, I now understand what they’ve had to do to pivot to everything new.

In this new year, I hope we have a chance to reassess what’s important to us. My goals as the interim executive director are to bring my non-profit expertise to TI, reduce expenses, increase revenue, and bring staff and congregants together around a shared mission. That, and figure out how to cover the expenses of a 100-year-old building that seems to have a mind of its own. I won’t ask you for a donation to the building fund, but I can tell you that leaky roofs and broken water pipes do not fix themselves.

P.S. I’m writing this on the day after our first virtual Spotlight. It occurred to me that things will be changing again. Cantor Chomsky is leaving us. All the bnei mitzvah students will be working with someone else. We will no longer hear his voice on Shabbat. He won’t be stopping into my office to say hi and chat about Fenway, his cat, or what cell phone might work in Israel. I bid and won a “Jackdaca” item on the TI online auction. It will be a way for me to remember that although “times they are a changing,” some will remain the same.

Margie has served as a vice president of Mercaz, a board member of JTS, Ziegler and American Friends of Neviah Hanna. Previously she was the President of South Shore Long Island/Island Brooklyn Region, a Women’s League consultant, former Lead Trainer at 22 WCJ Leadership Institutes and the WL Convention 2014 Chair.

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Questions?
Contact Miriam Berk at mbber@tiferethisrael.org

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"As a torch is not diminished, though it kindles a million candles, so will one not lose who gives to a good cause." — Exodus Rabbah 30:3

In order for an acknowledgment to be sent from our office and the names to be listed in the Forum, the minimum donation to our various funds is set at $18. Donations to the Prayer Book Fund are set as follows: Siddur Lev Shalem-$36/Chumash-$50

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