

Rabbi Dresner and Temple Beth Tikvah:

During his time on the pulpit, Rabbi Dresner was the conscience of Temple Beth Tikvah.

Already well-known as a Freedom Rider during the Civil Rights Movement with MLK, Jr., Rabbi Dresner initiated numerous thought-provoking and ground-breaking programs and practices here at TBT, positioning our Temple as a leader in the greater Wayne community.

Below are just some of his many contributions:

- **Scholar-In-Residence Program**, in which scholars from a variety of disciplines spent the weekend at TBT lecturing and leading discussion groups throughout the weekend.
- **Rabbi Shai Shacknai Memorial Lecture** that has continued for the past forty-three years.
- **Annual Confirmation Class trip to Israel**, where he guided hundreds of our students through Israel with very hands-on experiences in Israeli history and contemporary life for our students.
- **Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah** classes for congregants who never experienced this milestone at 13 years old.
- **Annual Religious School Trip** to the Lower East Side in Manhattan, and to the Lubavitch community in Brooklyn to give them the experience of the history of Jews in the United States.
- **Eighth Grade weekend at Camp Kutz**, to absorb the opportunities available to them through Reform Judaism, and to help them enjoy a camp experience with other Jewish teens throughout the region.
- **Well Known Guest Speakers** were regularly invited to TBT to promote goodwill and justice in the world.
- **Full participation of Women** both on the bima and in the governance of the temple – leading to the installation of the first woman president of the congregation.