



Congregation Beth Tikvah

February 20, 2020
25 Shevat 5780

Dear Members of Congregation Beth Tikvah,

There is a little-known biblical commandment that each adult Israelite give a half shekel to the synagogue for its maintenance. This has evolved into a mitzvah called “Machatzit HaShekel” (Half shekel campaign) and is done on the eve of Purim. Since most of us do not have any half shekels lying around, CBT will use half dollars instead. For a donation of any amount, we will give you a half dollar. Your donation will be used to maintain and beautify our sacred space. We have targeted two projects that will enhance all members’ experience when they spend time in our CBT home.

- CBT sustained a partial ceiling collapse a year ago. After careful consideration, the Board of Trustees decided to replace the entire ceiling to insure a safe environment for all of us. We were able to complete basic work on the ceiling replacement and return to the sanctuary and social hall last March. We still need to purchase items including acoustical and electrical equipment and registers for air flow.
- It is also time to once again replace the well-used carpeting in the sanctuary and social hall.

Our goal for this effort is \$75,000. We have received a matching gift pledge of \$25,000, so each dollar that you donate will immediately be doubled. All gifts are welcome. Please donate what you can—\$1.80, \$18.00, \$180.00 or \$1,800. A chart will be on view in the synagogue entrance showing our progress toward our \$75,000 goal. Our school children will also be encouraged to participate by bringing whatever small donations they have. They will also be responsible for helping to update the chart on a weekly basis.

Use the DONATE NOW button on the CBT website (<http://btikvah.org/donations/>) and specify Half Shekel campaign to contribute, or send in your check to the office. Alternatively, bring your donations prior to the Megillah reading on March 9. You can collect your half dollars then, whether you contributed on the eve of Purim or earlier.

Thank you,

Jerry Goldberg, President

Valerie Gladfelter, Chair