

BULLETIN

**BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1848** 

FEBRUARY 2015

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# CELEBRATE TOGETHER AT HOME SHABBAT

Kindle new friendships and deepen existing ones at our 12<sup>th</sup> annual Home Shabbat on Friday, February 20. Services will not be held that evening so we can celebrate the warmth of the Sabbath in each other's homes.



All you need to do is call us at 744-4245 by Friday, February 6 to say you'd like to host other members at your Shabbat table or prefer to attend as a guest. Then we'll match hosts and guests to foster new friendships and community. Congregants of all ages are invited.

The dinner is potluck so everyone shares in meal preparation. Pet allergies and dietary restrictions will be accommodated. Yahrzeit names for that Shabbat will be read at services on Friday, February 13 and Friday, February 27, both at 7 p.m. Thanks to Nili Ben-Yehoshua and Beth Zweig for co-chairing.

### WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?



For those fans of the TV series or anyone interested in their family history, we have a Learning Havdalah just for you! On Saturday evening, February 21, Temple member Betsy Gephart will host a program at 7 p.m. in her home on "Remembering Family History."

With 30 years experience doing family history research, Betsy will focus on how to find family stories and share them with

others. For the past nine years, she has been producing books for her daughters, Naomi and Grace. If you already have family stories or information to share, learn how easy it is to create books of stories to share with others.

Discover how to get started in genealogy, find a new resource, or learn what might be out there for you to find. To join us for Havdalah led by Norm & Ronnie Greenberg, coffee, dessert, and family story time, please RSVP to (260) 744-4245 by Tuesday, February 17.

### A THEATER EVENING WITH THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

Temple members are invited on Saturday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m. for a performance of "The Merchant of Venice" at First Presbyterian Theater. We have reserved 20 tickets at \$15 each. Please call the Temple at 744-4245 to make a reservation by Friday, February 13 and then follow up with a check (payable to "CAV-The Temple"). We may have a dinner before the show, so please let us know if you're interested.

Need more information? Visit templecav.org or give us a call!

#### **FEBRUARY**

### **Thoughtful Thursdays Bag Assembly**

Wednesdays, February 4 and 18 10 a.m. at the Temple

### **Torah Study**

Saturdays, February 14, 21, 28 9:30 a.m. at Rabbi Cattapan's home

## The Wisdom of the Trees Tu Bish'vat Celebration

Sunday, February 8 Noon at Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory

### Yiddish Language & Culture Class\*

Begins Sunday, February 15 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Temple Sessions: February 15 & 22, March 15 & 22, April 12 & 26

#### **Home Shabbat\***

Friday, February 20 No service at the Temple. Hosts and guests will be matched to celebrate Shabbat in each other's homes.

### RSVPs due February 6

#### Learning Havdalah\*

Saturday, February 21 7 p.m. at the home of Geoff & Betsy Gephart

# Safe Space Training\* Choose a Session:

Tuesday, February 23 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne

Saturday, March 1 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Temple

### Merchant of Venice Theater Night\*

Saturday, February 28 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Theater Optional dinner before. RSVP by February 13

### **MARCH**

### 12th Annual Hamentashen Baking

Sunday, March 1 11 a.m. at the Temple We're baking treats for the Purim Oneg Shabbat. We'll provide the dough – you bring your favorite filling.

### **Purim Shpiel & Service**

Friday, March 6 7 p.m. at the Temple

### **Purim Carnival**

Sunday, March 8
12:15 p.m. at the Temple
Bring the kids for food, games, prizes
and fun at this FOrTY youth group
fundraiser

### SHABBAT SERVICES

### **FEBRUARY**

# Friday, February 6 at 7 p.m. Shabbat Service

Bimah Honors: Irv Adler Ushers: Fran Adler Oneg Shabbat: Maureen Grinsfelder & Dora Itkin

### Friday, February 13 at 7 p.m. Learning Shabbat Service

Bimah Honors: TBD Ushers: Dan & Beth Zweig Oneg Shabbat: Dan & Beth Zweig in honor of their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Friday, February 20 Home Shabbat – No Service

### Friday, February 27 at 7 p.m.

Bimah Honors: TBD Ushers: Melissa Kessel Oneg Shabbat: 2nd & 3rd Grade Families

TORAH STUDY – Our ongoing Torah Study class examining The History of Early Israel continues this month on February 14, 21 and 28 at 9:30 a.m. at Rabbi Cattapan's home. All are welcome.

### BAKERS KNEADED TO MAKE HAMENTASHEN

Join us for a Purim prep party during Religious School on Sunday, March 1 at 11 a.m. at the Temple when we make a wide array of hamentashen to be served following our Purim service on Friday, March 6 at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to take up a rolling pin to make these tasty three-cornered treats.

The dough will be provided at this 12th annual event. We need you to bring your favorite filling (no jelly, please, because it is too runny), such as preserves, canned pie and strudel filling, chocolate chips, etc. Rolling pins are needed, too. Please call the Temple office to say you're coming. Thanks to Bonnie Pomerantz for chairing the event.

### THANKS TO OUR LAY LEADERS

Many thanks to Norm & Ronnie Greenberg for leading our Shabbat service on January 23 while Rabbi Cattapan was out of town.

Cakewalk and Prize Donations Needed – Donations of baked items are needed for the popular Purim Carnival Cake Walk as part of the Temple Youth Group's annual Purim Carnival set for Sunday, March 8. Baked goods may be brought in advance and placed in the Temple freezer or early the day of the carnival (marked with your name). Raffle prizes may be delivered to the Temple office any time before the carnival. Sponsorships also would be appreciated to help underwrite the cost of the fundraising event. Thank you for your help and support. FOrTY Youth Group

## Rabbi Javier Cattapan

### HOME SHABBAT AND SHABBAT AT HOME



The reality of most Reform congregations, including ours, is that the Shabbat observance of our congregants is limited to attending our regular Shabbat Evening services.

Friday night is the time when we come together as a community and fulfill our obligation of public worship on Shabbat. Yet, particularly in the dead

of winter and at the height of summer, our attendance at Shabbat services dwindles and all too often we fail to have a *miniyan*. That by itself would not be a reason for alarm, except that it seems to indicate the apathy of our congregations towards Shabbat in general.

Perhaps I am mistaken and every Friday evening most of our families gather for a special meal with candles, Kiddush and *challah*. If that were the case, I would be delighted knowing that so many of you observe Shabbat at home. Or perhaps, most of our families gather at the end of Shabbat to recite *Havdalah*, the short ceremony separating Shabbat from the rest of the week.

If that were the case, I would be more than satisfied. More creative families may gather on a different night of the week and have a Shabbat-like meal – special, festive. Although not traditional, celebrating Shabbat on an evening other than Friday is an acceptable and valid way to honor our tradition. If any of these practices were taking place on a regular basis, we would be on the right track. Yet, after more than four years serving as your rabbi, I have yet to hear about any of the ways in which our families observe/celebrate Shabbat on a REGULAR basis.

This month we will gather at homes for another congregational "Home Shabbat." (see page 1). I would like to issue a challenge to those who will attend: How are you going to bring "Home Shabbat" home in the next few months? It is great to meet new people, but we should not forget that what brings us together in the first place is our traditional attachment to Shabbat. Home Shabbat must lead us to find new, creative ways of bringing Shabbat to our homes as well.

I invite you to visit my blog at <a href="http://operarabbi.blogspot.com/">http://operarabbi.blogspot.com/</a> to share your Shabbat traditions and to find some ideas on how to celebrate Shabbat.

### Rabbi Javier E. Cattapan

# CƏLLING ƏLL MƏVENS: YIDDISH CULTURE AND LANGUAGE CLASS

A six-session class on Yiddish Culture and Language will begin Sunday, February 15 at the Temple for those interested in learning a little *mama-loshen* (mother tongue). There will be a cultural component, a lesson with grammar and words, and Yiddish music. Dr. Lee Roberts, Associate Professor of German Studies at IPFW, will teach the class. Contact the Temple office to see if space remains. More at www.templecav.org

### BECOME AFFIRMING ALLY OF LGBTQ

As a welcoming congregation, the Temple invites its members to attend one of the remaining Safe Space seminars that guides attendees through LGBTQ terminology, recent events, and developing affirming ally skills. The one-hour session is offered on Monday, February 23 at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne and on Sunday, March 1 at 1 p.m. at the Temple. Please register for a session. There is no cost to attend. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.

#### **GUCI'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR TO VISIT**

Rachel Waldorf, Goldman Union Camp Institute's new assistant director, will meet with students on Sunday, February 1 to share exciting plans for our URJ summer camp in Zionsville. Parents are invited to meet Rachel at 11:30 a.m. to share a nosh, and learn more about GUCI. Information will be available about camperships.

### REGISTER NOW FOR A GREAT SUMMER

- Goldman Union Camp Institutes currently is enrolling campers entering third grade in the fall through high school for next summer. A new two-week "Taste of GUCI" option is available for first-time campers.
- Camp Joe Levine, a day camp for children age 4-14, returns to Fox Island this summer. Contact the <u>Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne</u> for information about camp and camperships.

Campership Committee Chair Dan Zweig is available to discuss scholarships, including incentives for first-time campers. Other assistance for first-time campers is available from the Foundation for Jewish Camp. At <a href="https://www.onehappycamper.org">www.onehappycamper.org</a>.



Our Latke Tasting event in December included candle-lighting, delicious potato pancakes and corned beef sandwiches. The Latke Tasting was made possible by an anonymous donor in memory of Dr. Moses Safirstein.

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### LEONARD GOLDSTEIN: WRITE TO MAKE RIGHT



Every day when Leonard Goldstein picks up the newspaper, he reads something that disturbs him. That's when he gets the urge to write a letter to the editor.

"I've always felt Judaism is based on justice," said the 94-year-old chair of the Temple's Social Action Committee. "Injustice always raised my ire. I could write every day. Rikki (his wife and sometime editor) calls me 'the last angry man."

By his estimates, he's written about 4-5

letters a month, primarily to the Fort Wayne newspapers, since the very first note in 1948 when he shared his thoughts about a local judge who made anti-feminist remarks about women "trolling on the street."

Len said he feels everyone should try this effort at *tikkun olam*, "repairing the world." "When someone tells me they liked my letter, I thank them and say 'why don't you write?" he said. "That's why we have the politicians we have today because people don't write, though we do have other Jews with opposite views of mine who also are active."

Larry Adelman, a past president of the Temple and chair of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's Community Relations Committee, said he always looks forward to Len's letters because of their clarity.

"He is, and always has been, the conscience of our community," Larry said. "Whether readers agree or disagree with his position, he is universally respected in the community for his passion, his commitment, and his willingness to be heard publicly."

Len acknowledges that he doesn't always write when he's irked and not everything he writes is printed. However, The Journal Gazette twice has given him the monthly Golden Pen Award for most effective letter under his name and a third time when he wrote under a *nom de plume* for a fellow congregant.

Len, who serves on the Temple Board, has a stack of file folders with copies of his letters to the editor. So what's he passionate about? Jewish issues. Education. Liberal politics, economics, and Israel. Church-State issues. Women's Rights. Health Care. Same-sex marriage.

"Letters about education get the most responses," he said.

What makes a good letter? "It gets published," he said with a smile, adding that letters should be thought-provoking and motivate action.

While Len does get comments on some of his letters, including during Oneg Shabbats, he said the impact of sharing his opinions this way is immeasurable. "I do it," he said, "because I'd be frustrated if I didn't."

Len said he would like his epitaph someday to read: "I hope I made a difference."

Read his most recent letter to The Journal Gazette.

### **NEW IN THE LIBRARY**

We have several new books in the Temple library related to current adult education programs. For those taking our Yiddish class, we offer *Basic Yiddish* by Rebecca Margolis, as well as *Talk Dirty Yiddish* by Ilene Schneider, both recommended by instructor Prof. Lee Roberts. If you're also interested in the history of the language, you may want to check out *Yiddish: A Nation of Words* by Miriam Weinstein, a National Book Award winner recommended by the URJ.

For the Federation's "Confronting the Shoah" class, we have purchased *Crossing the Borders of Time* by Leslie Maitland, currently on the National Jewish Book Club list. Other new Holocaust titles include *The Boy on the Wooden Box* by Leon Leyson, and *The War Within These Walls*, a National Jewish Book Award winner by Aline Sax. Also recently purchased is *Paper Love* by Sarah Wildman. This non-fiction title tracks the author's search for her grandfather's girlfriend, left behind in Berlin in 1938. Not only is it a history of the Holocaust, but it also ties in with our third subject, family history. A great deal of information about Holocaust research is included.

In connection with the upcoming Learning Havdalah about family history, we have added a new addition of the "bible" of Jewish genealogy, From Generation to Generation by Arthur Kurzweil. The Family by David Laskin, currently on the National Jewish Book Club list, has also been added to our collection. Your Temple library has lots to share. Come check us out!

# THANKS FOR SUPPORTING OUR DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE

We appreciate everyone who donated pasta for our December Food Drive to benefit the food bank at Wellspring Interfaith Social Services.



The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service in November brought area clergy together representing 11 congregations and organizations at the Temple.

# YOUTH NEWS



# RAISING OUR KIDS IN THIS "NEW WORLD"

Jessica Ash teaches 4th to 6th grade students in our Religious School. She shares her thoughts:

In a world that is becoming tolerant about many things from drunken kids at the Jersey Shore and reality shows featuring duck callers to legalizing marijuana to (finally) gay marriage, we still seem to be backwards when it comes to religion. In a plethora of worldwide atrocities, without

learning anything from the Holocaust, Jews are still being persecuted.

In our nation alone, Jews were initially blamed for the 9/11 attacks. Why? Unfortunately, American Anti-Semitism pales in comparison to what is occurring throughout the world. What happened in France is a travesty on so many levels. Americans live our lives with Free Speech being the First Amendment to the Constitution. We are lucky to live in a country where everyone has a voice. We have the right to talk, to talk back, and to talk behind your back.

The thing that struck me the hardest with the recent Parisian attack wasn't the horrible attack on Charlie Hebdo, it was the complete silence about what happened in the kosher supermarket. I know I am not saying anything new when I comment about France and its anti-Semitic tendencies. I just have a difficult time that 60+ years post-Holocaust we haven't seemed to come very far when it comes to Freedom of Religion.

We say "next year in Israel" with a wink and a nod. French Jews are making this a reality because of their lack of safety. In all of our progression worldwide, it still seems that the vast majority of the world either doesn't care about religious adversity or is passively anti-Semitic.

So, how does this all fit into an article about the Temple's Religious School?

How do we teach our children to navigate passive-aggressive waters? How do we demonstrate pride with not only our religion, but our traditions and our heritage in a fast-moving world that doesn't really seem to move fast when it comes to religious acceptance? How do we keep the lessons from the Holocaust alive while calming fears about many other types of terrorist attacks?

Unfortunately, the answers are not simple. In my opinion, the only thing I can do as a parent and teacher is to pass down Jewish traditions with the hope that they get passed down generation to generation. I choose to teach acceptance, not fear of the unknown. I refuse to be afraid and help shape our world by helping our children learn to accept differences, to question differences to learn more about why they exist, and to learn how to be their own person.

In the world, being Jewish can feel like being a small fish in a big pond. By choosing to be a part of a community, there's no need to feel like an outsider. As a community we have a voice and we can use our voices to shape the future by embracing our differences. Being different isn't bad, it's just being a Fruit Loop in a bowl full of Cheerios: a wonderful surprise.

### SAVE THE DATE: BUFFALO WILD WINGS FUNDRAISER

Bring your family and friends to Buffalo Wild Wings, 5519 Coventry Lane, on Wednesday, March 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. to celebrate March Madness with a meal to benefit the Temple's Religious School. Just print a <a href="BWW certificate">BWW certificate</a> from <a href="https://www.templecav.org">www.templecav.org</a> to present that evening to your server and 10 percent of your food purchases will be donated back to the congregation. Thanks to Leah Hadashi for organizing this fun event.

#### EXPERIENCE THE WISDOM OF THE TREES

Tired of the ice and cold? Looking for a nice escape from the white wolf of winter? All Temple members are invited on Sunday, February 8, to join our Religious School families as we celebrate "The Wisdom of the Trees." We will explore Fort Wayne's Botanical Conservatory and learn more about the wonderful Jewish traditions of Tu B'Shvat with topics for adults and children alike.

Meet at noon at the Botanical Conservatory – and get ready for lots of adventure, surprises and delicious, fruity treats! If you park in the municipal garage, bring your ticket to the Conservatory to have it stamped and avoid the charge. This will be one Temple event you won't want to miss!

Junior Youth Group members went ice skaing over winter break.





The annual
Maccabiah
Games were a
great way to end
the first half of
Religious School
in December.

### DONATIONS

### Jack & Gertrude Adelman **Facility Improvement Fund**

In memory of Betty W. Sandler & Louis Sandler:

Howard & Caryl Sandler

### **Adult Education**

A donation was received for the speedy recovery of Micki Kepes & Manny Silverman: Steve & Jan Sarratore

### Art & Beautification Fund

In memory of Lois Dygert: Don & Rena Black

### Campership Fund

In memory of Minnette D. Ruchman: Bill & Louise Warshauer

#### **Endowment**

In memory of Michael H. Green: Marilyn Salon In memory of Manuel K. King: Jim & Suzi King In memory of Vitaliy Leybman, Morris Gubitz, Caroline Schwartz, Morris Schwartz, & Lillian Gubitz: Jeff & Charlene Gubitz

### **General Operations**

A donation was received from Bill & Louise Warshauer

A donation was received for the speedy recovery of Dan Zweig: Norman & Carol Kempler In memory of Marsha Dan: Joel & Sandra Elson In memory of Lillie Gosney: Manny Silverman In memory of Clair Johnson, Frieda Safirstein, Salomon Z. Safirstein & Deborah Taub: Kay Safirstein In memory of Deborah Rachel Neiman & Jerome Moses Trotter: Steve & Sally Trotter In memory of Howard & Maryleonne Ronsheim: Andy & Janet Katz In memory of Harry Rush: Mike & Jo Ellen Rush In memory of Leonard Schreier:

Larry & Carol Adelman Norm & Ronnie Greenberg Andy & Janet Katz Tom & Rita O'Neill Kay Safirstein Dan & Beth Zweig In memory of Tillie Bosell Snow: Norman & Joann Snow In memory of Rose Weinraub: Charles & Karen Nevadunsky

### **Gold/Turansky Campership**

In memory of Sidney Gold: Joe & Rita Gold

In memory of Stanley Maier: Steve & Janet Pleak In memory of Edwin Turansky: **Bud Turansky** 

### Dr. John Planer Music Fund

In memory of James Walter Burcham: Ken Burcham **Holocaust Memorial** In memory of Stanley Maier: Doris Fogel

### **Library Fund**

A donation was received from Rabbi Richard Safran In memory of Ruth Aichele: Andy & Janet Katz

### Jacob & Ethel Mansbach Campership

In memory of Ann Shafer: Art & June Shafer

### **Prayer Book Fund**

A donation was received from Irv & Fran Adler

### **Project Assist - Thoughtful Thursdays**

A donation was received from Shirley Johnson Carol O'Shaughnessy

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation was received from Irv & Fran Adler

Al & Hannah Zacher A donation was received for the speedy recovery of Manny Silverman & Dan Zweig: Sherwin & Micki Kepes In memory of Beatrice Cristil & Sam Cristil: Marvin Cristil In memory of Thomas Gray: Carolyn Gray

### Max & Gerda Schmitz **Holocaust Educational Fund**

In memory of Mo Safirstein: Don & Rena Black In memory of Bessie Schmitz, Marquard Bach, & Karoline Stein: Joel & Jan Greenberg In memory of Leonard Schreier: Doris Fogel Betty Stein

### S. Wyle Weiman Youth **Activity**

In memory of Joseph Kutcher: Len & Rikki Goldstein

### Rifkin Campus at 5200

In appreciation of the Temple Staff:

Amir & Nili Ben-Yehoshua In appreciation for all the kindness to our family during Dan's recent illness: Dan & Beth Zweig In memory of Sam Edlow: Betty Stein



### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** ABOUND FOR THOUGHTFUL **THURSDAYS**

The roads were icy, visibility was poor, and the wind chill factor was below zero a few weeks ago. Yet eight dedicated Thoughtful Thursdays volunteers came anyway to Achduth Vesholom to assemble

bags for the students who attend Temple Head Start.

Each bag contained items for a chicken and rice casserole, toothbrushes and toothpaste for the whole family, and an educational activity using shapes.

Listening and watching the hustle and bustle in the room always makes me smile. We catch up on each other's family activities and travel plans. We also brainstorm about ways to improve the Thoughtful Thursdays program.

No one is pressured to help, yet we have 15 volunteers who come when they can to assemble bags. A lot of planning and hard work goes into feeding the 86 Head Start families twice a month. More than five years into the program, the support and enthusiasm of the volunteers is what keeps it going.

Please join us the first and third Wednesdays of the month to assemble bags. If you are only available once in a while, come when you can. Shoppers are needed on a regular basis, so contact me to assist. I'll give you a list of items and then you have two weeks to shop and get the items to the Temple. Also available are at-home projects. Please contact me at 672-8715 or jberger02@ comcast.net if you are interested in getting involved.

Throughout the winter months we will be collecting boxes of tissues and hand soap.

Thank You for all your support!

Jamie Berger, Thoughtful Thursdays chair

### **YAHRZEITS**

#### **FEBRUARY 6**

Sidney Baitcher Stephen Bosell Dr. Maurice A. Chodosh

Dr. Maurice A. Chod Esther Congress Jane Costanza Beatrice Cristil Fred R. Golden Joseph Kutcher Peter Lauinger John Vaun Malay Mae Rifkin Ann Shafer

### **FEBRUARY 13**

Mildred Weber

Jacob Yentis

Jennette M. Vogel

Leah Margaret Ford
Shirley Ruth Jason Ford
Louis Jason
Roy Lawrence Kalver
G Irving Latz
Rebecca Milstein
Dr. Herman Rudensky
Harriet Rudensky
Harry Rush
Robert B. Schuller
Diane Spanjer

#### **FEBRUARY 20**

Norman Bosell
Carrie (Latz )Frank
Lawrence D. Gordon
Lillian Altman Gubitz
Michael Guerrasio
Leon Himelstein
Ruth Horn
Ernest S. Iczkovitz
Sam Jacobson
Clair Johnson
G. Irving "Bud" Latz II

Hyman Abraham Sachs

EEDDUADY 07

Abraham Silver

Tillie Bosell Snow

### **FEBRUARY 27**

James Walter Burcham Sam Cristil Alexander Drozdova Dr. Conrad Goode Lillie Gosney Nettie Gottlieb Betty Jane Barton Gubitz Helen Hassan Kaufman Samuel Kwatnez Rae Wolf Levine Jacob Lipp Eva Orenstein Pauline Price Leonard Rifkin Fraida Safirstein Irwin Samuel Sagan Robert A. Watson Irving Weinswig

### **OUR CONDOLENCES TO:**

- Michael & Rita Lewis and family on the death of his mother, Jeanette Lewis, on January 19, 2015 in Fort Wayne.
- Iris Goldstrom on the death of her husband, Glen, on January 12, 2015 in Fort Wayne and to Rob & Lori Goldstrom and their sons, Scott and Brad, on the loss of their father and grandfather.
- Hod & Heather Hefer and family on the death of her grandmother Gertrude Kraker on January 9, 2015 in Allendale, Michigan.
- Eric & Jaki Schreier and their children Mallory, Abe, and Brooklyn on the death of their father and grandfather, Leonard Schreier, on January 4, 2015 in Kona, Hawaii.
- The family of former long-time member Stanley Maier, who died December 1, 2014 in Lake Worth, Florida. We think of his wife, Gail, and children Brian Maier, Jill Maier-Collins, & Sharon Greenstein and their families.

### RIFKIN CAMPUS AT 5200 UPDATE

As we move toward the end of the fund development campaign, finalize designs for the Resource Center, and make plans for our next congregational meeting involving the Rifkin Campus at 5200,

we thought it might be useful to recap what we have accomplished so far.



1. Front drive and

entrance improvements, which included widening the front drive to two lanes and making it two-way; adding parking spaces in the front of the building, especially handicapped spaces and adding a circular drop off area that allows cars to drive up to our front portico.

- 2. Constructed offices for the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne in the former library/museum space. The JFFW is currently completing its first year on the Rifkin Campus.
- 3. Completely gutted and rebuilt the main men's and women's restrooms making them fully handicapped-accessible in the process.
- 4. Constructed new boys' and girls' fully handicapped-accessible restrooms in the center of the Religious School wing for use by all youth who use that wing, Temple members and Head Start.

Haven't noticed yet? The next time that you are in the building, please take a look at all of our improvements.

We are happy also to report that all of these improvements were paid for from funds that were raised as part of the Rifkin Campus at 5200 Capital Campaign. Donations from members, Woodhurst neighbors, other friends and, of course, area foundations were the source of those dollars and we offer a big "thanks" to all those who have participated.

John Stein & Sally Trotter, Rifkin Campus at 5200 Co-Chairs

### REGISTER YOUR KROGER CORD TO HELP TEMPLE

As of January 1, Kroger has changed its community rewards program. Instead of using gift cards, Temple members now will be able to register their Kroger Plus card to indicate that they'd like Achduth Vesholom to benefit from their purchases. With that one step by our members, we'll receive a percentage of the amount they spend. We will soon receive a code number that our members can use to go on Kroger's website to link to CAV. We'll have more information when available in the Temple's weekly email and <a href="https://www.templecav.org">www.templecav.org</a>. Thank you!

### SHALOM PARTY FEATURES VIOLINIST

The <u>Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's</u> annual Shalom Party on Saturday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m. features delicious food, a tasting of Kosher and Israeli wines, and a performance by Violinist Pavel Ilyashov. Plan to attend this great evening of community at the Rifkin Campus at 5200.



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The Temple is located at the Rifkin Campus at 5200. Our Campus partners: the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne, the Fort Wayne Jewish Cemetery Association, and Temple Head Start.





www.facebook.com/templecavfw

### WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS

The Temple board welcomes your comments and suggestions. We will do our best to address your questions and concerns. President Hod Hefer can be reached at 616-617-0367 or Presidentcav@gmail.com.

### USHER IN SHABBAT WITH CHALLAH

Receive a delicious challah by volunteering to usher at services. All Shabbat ushers receive a gift certificate for a tasty loaf donated by <u>Waynedale Bakery</u>, 2610 Lower Huntington Road. Please call to volunteer.

#### SHOP THE TEMPLE GIFT SHOP

Looking for hostess gifts or something special for a holiday or simcha? We're open Sunday mornings and Tuesday through Friday by appointment.

The deadline for the March bulletin is Friday, February 13.

**TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS:** The Temple office is open on Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Want to receive our newsletter? Send your email address to office@templecav.org.

# Hod Hefer

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER



My family is looking forward to hosting Home Shabbat again this year when we'll welcome Temple members to share a Shabbat meal at our house and become better acquainted. Heather and I like to have people over because it helps us have a feeling of com-

munity.

One of the many benefits of being involved at Achduth Vesholom is getting to know others in our congregation and learning why it's important to them to be part of our *k'hillah*. For me, it's meaningful because it enables my wife and children to experience a sense of my heritage, culture, and religion.

Whether this month finds you sharing conversation around a fellow member's Sabbath table, attending services, learning a little Yiddish in our new class, finding out how to research your family history at our Learning Havdalah, or sharing in a night of theater, being part of Fort Wayne's Reform Jewish community -- the oldest Jewish congregation in Indiana - is very important and special.

As a non-profit religious organization, the Temple relies on the generosity of individuals and businesses for support. Please

know that we can't do it without the assistance of community-minded individuals just like you!

It takes all of us contributing in order to sustain our congregation. Give your time, participate in services, attend events, share holidays, and, of course, provide financial support.

Treasurer Irv Adler and his team recently were challenged by our board to develop a multi-year plan to help address financial concerns. As part of this effort to find a workable budget for the coming years, you should have received a letter asking you to re-examine your current dues pledge and to consider increasing your dues payment for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1.

We ask you to sincerely consider giving what you can afford to support the congregation and help us avoid a continued budget shortfall. We need your support to help us continue to thrive.

As always, I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions, questions, or concerns at <a href="mailto:presidentcav@gmail.com">presidentcav@gmail.com</a>.

Hod Hefer President הוד חפד