

THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM BULLETIN

BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1848

JUNE / JULY 2025

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President's Column

Share in our New Intergenerational Shabbat

Please join us for a new Intergenerational Shabbat service on Friday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m., connecting children and adults of all ages for a lively worship experience with music, singing, and stories.

Celebrate Shabbat in person or on [YouTube](#), led by Rabbi Barger, with music by Norm Greenberg.

We also will offer a blessing for children attending a Jewish summer camp before beginning their adventures. A family-friendly Oneg Shabbat will follow the service. All are welcome.



PLEASE JOIN AS OUR SON

Ethan Jacob

is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, July 12 at 10 a.m.

Congregation Achduth Vesholom

–Wendi & Joshua Wallet

LEARN ABOUT
ETHAN'S
**MITZVAH
MISSION**
ON PAGE 6

Temple Annual Meeting

**Wednesday, June 4
7 p.m. in person and on Zoom**

See Page 9

for indepth
news & details

VISITUSONLINE
TempleCav.org



Kris Wise to Speak at Pride Shabbat Service

In conjunction with [Fort Wayne Pride](#) activities, we'll celebrate Pride Shabbat on Friday, July 25 at 6:30 p.m., led by Rabbi Meir Barger, with readings and prayers inspired by the LGBTQ+ experience.

Guest speaker Kris Wise will speak about the impact of discrimination and negative government policies on LGBTQ+ people, particularly youth. A licensed clinical social worker, he previously was the mental health clinician at [BRAVE Alliance](#) and continues to serve the LGBTQ+ community as mental health clinical director at [Alliance Health Centers](#).

Please join us in person or on [YouTube](#) as we recognize the importance of LGBTQ equality and inclusion. An Oneg Shabbat reception will follow, hosted by Rabbi Meir Barger & Jon Tam and Beth & Dan Zweig. We warmly welcome guests.

Wise's passion for social change found him at home in non-profit and higher education arenas. He earned a bachelor's degree in social work from the University of St. Francis and a master's degree in social work from Indiana University. Clinical practice specialties include substance use, trauma, families, sexuality, and gender.

Upcoming Events

Need more information? Visit our website (templecav.org) or give us a call!

JUNE

Learning Café: Jewish Identity in a Post-October 7th World
Wednesday, June 4,
Noon at the Temple or on Zoom
Bring a brown bag lunch

Temple Annual Meeting
Wednesday, June 4
7 p.m. at the Temple and on Zoom

NEIJS Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 5
7 p.m. on Zoom

Camp Joe Levine Begins
Monday, June 23
Meteca County Park

Temple Night at the TinCaps
Saturday, June 28, 6:35 p.m.
[Order tickets](#) by June 17

AUGUST

Friday Night Live and BBQ Hosted by the ROMEOs
Friday, August 8
Dinner at 5 p.m.
Service at 6:30 p.m.
[RSVP for dinner](#) by August 1

IAJGS Jewish Genealogy Conference
Sunday, August 10 to Thursday, August 14
Grand Wayne Center
[Registration required](#)

Corned Beef Mail Prep
Thursday, August 21
10 a.m. at the Temple

Lunch with the ROMEOs

Join the [Retired Old Men Eating Out](#) for lunch at noon:

Thursday, June 5
[The Hoppy Gnome](#)
203 E. Berry St.

Thursday, July 3
[Salvatori's SW](#)
10337 Illinois Rd.

Thursday, June 19
[Black Canyon Restaurant](#)
1509 W. Dupont Rd.

Thursday, July 17
[Sweetwater Music](#)
5501 US Highway 30 West

For more information, please contact Denny Reynolds at dennisreynolds@me.com. [Find the lunch schedule](#)

Shabbat & Holiday Services

Shabbat morning services are usually held on the first and third Saturdays of the month

Our summer Shabbat schedule is underway: Evening services begin at 6:30 p.m.

JUNE

Shavuot Service
Sunday, June 1, 7 p.m.

Intergenerational Shabbat Service and Blessing for Campers
Friday, June 6, 6:30 p.m.
Oneg Shabbat follows

Shabbat Service
Saturday, June 7, 9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service & Blessing for Kit Renner
Friday, June 13, 6:30 p.m.

Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat Morning with Musician Juliette Nehring
Saturday, June 14, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, June 20, 6:30 p.m.
Music: Maestro Robert Nance

Shabbat Service
Saturday, June 21, 9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, June 27, 6:30 p.m.

JULY

No Shabbat Service
Friday, July 4

No Shabbat Service
Saturday, July 5

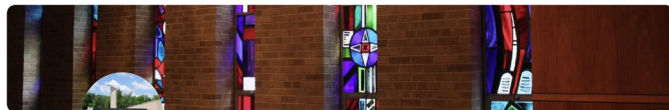
Shabbat Service
Friday, July 11, 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service & Ethan Wallet Bar Mitzvah
Saturday, July 12, 10 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, July 18, 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Saturday, July 19, 9:45 a.m.

Pride Shabbat Service
Friday, July 25, 6:30 p.m.



Achduth Vesholom Congregation

Can't Come In Person? Join Us Online!

Please join us in person or via livestream for worship services. Friday evening services are offered on [YouTube](#).

Saturday morning services are available on Zoom and [YouTube](#). Zoom links are in the weekly email to our Temple family. We warmly welcome guests. Please contact the Temple office for online access information on Zoom at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org



Rabbi Meir Barger



Showing Up Matters: The Sacred Work of Our Annual Meeting

The Temple's Annual Meeting, happening on Wednesday, June 4th

at 7 p.m., is far more than just a routine event. It's a vital expression of our Jewish values in action. When you come — whether to listen, ask questions, vote, or simply be present — you're engaging in something truly significant. In our tradition, we refer to this as *avodah kodesh*—holy service.

Our sages teach: **"Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh"**—we're all responsible for one another (Shevuot 39a). The Annual Meeting is our opportunity to live that out. It's a moment when every voice counts. It's not just about budgets, bylaws, or board terms; it's about shaping the kind of community we aspire to be.

This brings to mind the story of the Mishkan — the sanctuary our ancestors constructed in the wilderness. God instructed Moses, **"Tell the people to bring Me gifts...from every person whose heart is so moved"** (Exodus 25:2).

Each person contributed what they could — gold, fabric, time, effort — and together they created something sacred. That's what we do, too. We each bring our unique contributions: our ideas, our questions, our presence. And when we come together, we create something greater than ourselves.

I know that attending the Annual Meeting might not always seem thrilling, but it's crucial. It's how we take ownership of our community. It's how we stay connected, informed, and grounded in our identity and our shared journey as a sacred community.

In the time between Annual Meetings, the board takes on the important role of representing the congregation, working alongside the staff to ensure the Temple's fiscal and physical health. Their commitment of time and expertise is vital to our congregation's wellbeing. When we gather, we'll have the chance to express our gratitude for their hard work.

So, on June 4th, come with purpose. Come as a builder of this community. Your presence will help make Congregation Achduth Vesholom stronger, wiser, and more complete. We don't build this congregation from the top down. We build it together. And every voice, yours included, makes a difference.

Find more about the Annual Meeting on page 9.

Special Blessing on Shabbat

Please join us on Friday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. for our Shabbat service when we share the joy of Kit Renner on their conversion to Judaism. Kit will speak during the service and receive a blessing. An Oneg Shabbat will follow.



Share Shavuot with Our Temple Family

Please join us for our Shavuot and Yizkor service on Sunday, June 1 at 7 p.m. when we celebrate the

giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai, led by Rabbi Meir Barger. Join us in person or [on YouTube](#). A cheesecake nosh will follow.

In ancient times, Shavuot marked the conclusion of the spring barley harvest and the beginning of the summer wheat harvest. The holiday is celebrated 50 days after Passover. Traditionally, the Book of Ruth is read on Shavuot because just as that story recounts how a young Moabite woman chose to become an Israelite so did the Israelites choose to accept the commandments when they stood before Mt. Sinai.

It is customary to eat dairy foods on the holiday to symbolize the sweetness of Torah and the association of Israel as the land of milk and honey.



Catch the Tincaps with Achduth Vesholom

Join members of our Temple family on Saturday, June 28 for a trip to Parkview Field to watch the Fort Wayne TinCaps play the Great Lakes Loons, followed by post-game fireworks.

The game starts at 6:35 p.m. Tickets are \$14 per person. (Seats are in section 106 close to home plate in the shade.) Please make your reservation and payment online or call the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 by Tuesday, June 17 to reserve your seats and then send your check (made payable to "CAV- The Temple"). We will not order extra tickets, so please make your reservations by the deadline. No refunds will be issued for cancellations.

We'll let you know when your reserved tickets will be available for pick up at Achduth Vesholom so that everyone can meet that evening. Thanks to Mike Barasch, who has been organizing this annual event since we began the tradition in 2009 - the same year Parkview Field opened!



Zionism is Final Topic in “Reform Movement in America Today” Series

Please join us for final session in our lifelong learning series exploring “The Reform Movement in America Today” when we discuss Zionism on Wednesday, June 11 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Led by Rabbi Meir, our discussions are based on episodes of [Re-Form](#), a recent podcast series from Tablet Studios, supplemented with Jewish texts presented during the class. We’ve explored the origins of the Reform Movement, patrilineal descent, social justice, inclusivity, and interfaith marriage.

Participants are highly encouraged to listen to the podcast episode on [Zionism](#) in advance, but this is not required. Come prepared to learn, to question and to share your views on what it means to be a Reform Jew in America today.

The Zoom link will be included in the weekly email to our Temple family. All are welcome.

Learning Café: Jewish Identity In a Post-October 7th World

Bring your lunch and join us for our Learning Cafe, an exciting program at the Temple designed to nourish both the mind and the soul, on Wednesday, June 4 at noon when we explore Jewish Identity in a Post-October 7th World.

Led by Rabbi Meir, we will delve into [For Such a Time as This: On Being Jewish Today](#) by Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove. This book explores critical existential questions for Jews living in the Diaspora and in Israel in a post-October 7th world. Our conversation will explore the impact of recent events on Jewish identity, the rise of antisemitism, and the evolving relationship between American Jews and Israel. We’ll also reflect on how Jewish history and tradition can guide us in contemporary challenges.

Learners are encouraged to read the book before coming to the session, but it is not required. Please RSVP by Tuesday, June 3 to office@templecav.org.

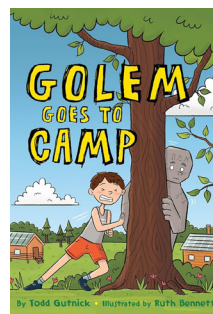
During our ongoing Learning Cafe, we’ll explore a wide range of topics related to Judaism and Jewish life. Each session promises engaging dialogue and new insights. After the session, feel free to stay and schmooze with fellow participants, building community and connection.

LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Camp in the Temple Library

Whether you’re headed to camp this summer or would like to explore the experience in a book, we have summer camp titles for kids of all ages, and even some camp music, in the [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#).

For teen readers, we have four summer camp titles. Julie Buxbaum’s *Hope and Other Punch Lines* follows Abbi and Noah following the tragedies of 9/11. They meet each other as counselors at a summer camp. Rachel Mann’s *On Blackberry Hill* was the winner of the 2016 National Jewish Book Award. Jewish summer camp is the setting for a daughter to connect with her late mother. *OyMG*, by Amy Fellner Dominy, centers around 14-year-old Ellie at a Phoenix, Arizona summer camp. *It’s a Whole Spiel: Love, Latkes, and Other Jewish Stories*, edited by Katherine Locke, is a collection of short stories by Jewish authors.



Middle-grade readers have several summer camp titles to choose from. Rajani LaRocca’s *The Secret of the Dragon Gems* follows Tripli Kapoor and Sam Cohen at their upstate New York summer camp. *The Jake Show*, a Sydney Taylor Honor Book by Joshua S. Levy, is the story of Jake Lightman and his plan to get to summer with his new friends. Todd Gutnick’s *Golem Goes to Camp* is a good read for younger chapter book readers. *Shabbat Sabotage* by Emma Carlson Berne is a mystery surrounding the theft of special Shabbat items at Camp Shalom. For those who like horses, *Camp Mah Tov #4*, by Yael Mermelstein, part of the *American Horse Tales* series, centers around Lila and a horse, Lonny. Twelve-year-old Noah attends Jewish summer camp in Laura Toffler-Corrie’s *Noah Green Saves the World*. Other camp titles include Leslie Kimmelman’s *Sam and Charlies (and Sam Too) at Camp!*, Ari Goelman’s *The Path of Names, Sami’s Sleepaway Summer* by Jenny Meyerhoff, and *Secrets at Camp Nokomis: A Rebecca Mystery* by Jacqueline Dembar Greene.

Camp titles in our picture book collection include Jamie Korngold’s *Sadie, Ori, and Nuggles Go to Camp*, and *No Baths at Camp* by Tamar Fox. Laurel Snyder’s *Camp Wonderful Wild*, *The Ball of Clay that Rolled Away* by Elizabeth Lenhard, *Picnic at Camp Shalom* by Jacqueline Jules, *I Love Camp!* by Todd Parr, and *Noah’s Swim-a-Thon* by Ann Koffsky are all set at summer camp.



We even have a couple of camp books for adults! *The Jews of Summer: Summer Camp and Jewish Culture in Postwar America*, by Sandra Fox, was a 2023 National Jewish Book Award finalist. And *GUCI at Fifty: Alumni Memories from Camp* is also part of our Temple collection. In addition to books, we have a handful of camp music CDs.

You can browse [our full library catalog online](#). The library offers self-checkout whenever the Temple building is open. We hope you’ll check out this resource for Temple members.

Thoughtful Thursdays Wraps Up a Great Year Making A Difference



What a difference our Jewish community and Thoughtful Thursdays program has made in the lives of 51 Brightpoint Head Start families!

During the past school year, we gave away fresh bags of fruit, rotisserie chickens for

Thanksgiving and a holiday meal in December. We filled over 1,000 bags with food and household supplies. We gave more than 2,000 rolls of toilet paper. We filled at least two bags a month starting in September and finishing in May.



Our year ended with homemade blankets, Mother Day's mugs and some extra supplies to help get through the summer months. Thoughtful Thursdays has given members of the Temple and Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne a charitable and fun place to gather – and we even got a few Yiddish lessons and stories along the way.

Thank you for the generous donations through the Temple, the

Jewish Federation, the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation, as well as everyone who made donations to the Apple Project during High Holidays.

We appreciate our hard-working volunteers who filled bags of food and household items. Thank you for the donations of homemade blankets from Kay Safirstein; toothbrushes and toothpaste from Dr. Michael and Ellen Tom; booster seats and coats from Amy & Sam Krouse; the discount we received from Phil's U-Pick Apple Orchard in Huntington; Jon Tam for supplying Trader Joe's bags for us to fill; and so many who donated items and finances to support the Brightpoint families.

Special thanks to Lily Noga and Samara Sheray for purchasing and picking up monthly supplies, and Charles Smiley and Timmy Oberley for helping move supplies and setting up tables.

Thank you to our Thoughtful Thursdays team members:

Fran Adler, Jamie Berger, Cheri Buker, Bonnie and Alex Crubaugh, Nancy Dicker, Jane Downey, Janet Finkel, Rachel Gordon, Doris Gottlieb, Miki Kepes, Suzi King, Amy Krouse, Joanne McCrory, Lily Noga, Bonnie Pomerantz, Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Kitlan Renner, Kay Safirstein, Nancy Salon, Jaki Schreier, Samara Sheray, Kathy Sider, Michael Theise, Ellen Tom, Donna Tourkow, Sally and Steve Trotter, Mimi Zelman, Beth Zweig. Chair: Cheryl Schorey

Remember, hunger doesn't stop just because of inflation. It makes what we do even more important!

Share Community at Interfaith Cooperative Picnic at the Temple

The Temple is participating in the development of a new community collaborative that is calling itself The Fort Wayne Area Interfaith Cooperative. This will bring together clergy and lay leaders from many different congregations, representing multiple religious traditions.

FWAIC will hold a potluck picnic on Saturday, June 14 at 1 p.m. at the Temple. Members of the Temple and area faith communities are invited. Stay tuned for information for how to RSVP and sign up for potluck items. The Super Shot mobile van also will be on site.

The Temple's involvement with FWAIC is being led by Social Action Committee Chair Rena Black, with the assistance of Susie Miller and Rabbi Meir.

Friday Night Live with Heartland Sings and BBQ Returns in August

Our spirited [Friday Night Live](#) service moves outdoors at the Temple on August 8 at 6:30 p.m., led by Rabbi Meir Barger on with [Heartland Sings](#) on their mobile stage.

Tap your toes, get on your feet, and share the joy of Shabbat with this lively worship experience. (Please note that the service will not be livestreamed.)

Join us prior to services at 5 p.m. for a barbecue hosted by the ROMEOS, with Hebrew National hot dogs, veggie burgers, coleslaw, vegetarian baked beans, and chips. After the service, we'll gather around the CAV fire pit for s'mores, popsicles, and ice cream.

Kindly RSVP for dinner no later than Friday, August 1 [online](#) or contact us at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org.

We also look forward to welcoming guests who are visiting Fort Wayne prior to the [International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies](#) conference, which will be held August 10-14 at the Grand Wayne Center and Allen County Public Library.

Please bring your own folding/camping chairs and or blankets/sheets to sit on and long-handled sticks or forks to roast marshmallows. Bug spray is recommended. (We'll have extras available for out-of-town guests.)

Thank you to Denny Reynolds for coordinating and the ROMEOS for hosting the meal.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.

YOUTH NEWS

Enjoy a Joy Vey Musical Morning With Juliette Nehring

Families with young children are invited to share a special musical morning of Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat on Saturday, June 14 at 10:30 a.m. with musician [Juliette Nehring](#).

Meet us in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center to introduce your child to the beauty of a Shabbat morning service with prayer, singing, movement, joyfulness, and friends. Folks are encouraged to stick around afterwards to enjoy coffee, juice, and donuts.

Nehring has been a lay leader and music specialist at Jewish congregations in the Indianapolis area for the past 13 years and has been a professional in the fields of music and education for over 30 years.

Currently, she is dedicated to her position as music specialist, cantorial soloist, and religious school teacher for Congregation Beth Shalom in Carmel. She has a passionate interest in children and families, and community engagement and social justice.

Joy Vey will not meet in July. Please save the date to join us when Juliette returns for Shabbat morning on Saturday, August 23 at 10:30 a.m.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.



Campers Invited for Blessing

Students who will be attending a Jewish camp this summer are invited to our new Intergenerational Shabbat service on Friday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. for a special blessing with our Temple family before they head off on their adventures.

We are fortunate to have young people spending time at Goldman Union Camp Institute, Camp Joe Levine, and other Jewish settings to reinforce their learning at the Temple. Thank you to everyone who supports our campership efforts to assist those who need financial help and to encourage first-time attendance.



Norm Greenberg was our guest musician at Religious School, teaching students variations of some Shabbat songs, as well as new versions of the prayers that we have been practicing in preparation for our Intergenerational Shabbat service on June 6.

Make Birthdays Brighter: Support Ethan's Mitzvah Mission

In honor of Ethan Wallet's Bar Mitzvah on July 12, he is creating Birthday Bundles for each of the 51 students registered for Brightpoint Head Start at the Temple.

He will use gift cards to purchase additional supplies. He will assemble and drop off bundles before the 2025-2026 school year begins.

You can help by donating:



boxed cake mix



icing



candles



gift cards

Donations may be dropped off at the Wallet home, the Temple, or brought to Ethan's Bar Mitzvah Service. Questions? Contact Wendi Wallet at wwallet@gmail.com. Thank you!



Our 5th grade students received prayer books on May 11 at Religious School in honor of beginning their formal b'nei mitzvah studies. Rabbi Meir and teacher Dave Flapan presented the books to Jack Rosman, Sam Gordon and Ella Hadashi. Mazel tov to our students and their parents.



Our classes discussed Yom Ha'atzmaut and had a great time making and sampling hummus, decorating Israeli flags, and painting stones after talking about the story of David and Goliath.



Evan Wallet presented his research project on the history of the Temple, and the origins of the Reform Movement to Kita Gimmel (grades 6-8) and parents at Religious School as part of preparing for his Confirmation on May 30.

Fun, Friendships and Learning Together AT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



Last Day of Religious School and Maccabiah Games - We wrapped up a great year of Jewish Learning on May 18 with lots of exciting activities. Thanks to all who assisted throughout the year!



Helpers Needed with Mail Prep for 23rd Corned Beef Sale

Volunteers are needed to help prepare a large bulk mailing on Thursday, August 21 at 10 a.m. at the Temple as we get ready for our 23rd Corned Beef Fundraiser.

Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org to say you can assist.

Mark your calendar and clear your schedule to help with our Deli Day and biggest fundraiser on Thursday, November 6. We especially need volunteers during the corned beef sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., as well as Prep Night on Wednesday, November 5 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Thanks to our Co-Chairs Amy Krouse and Micah Soltz and their team. If you'd like to join the committee, please contact us at office@templecav.org.



Enroll Now for Camp Joe

The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's [Camp Joe Levine](#) will be held once again in beautiful [Metee County Park](#) on the weeks of June 23, June 30, and July 7. We look forward to having your child (ages 4 to 13) join us for 1, 2 or all 3 weeks! More information can be found [here](#).

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and the Janet Finkel Campership Fund for continued support.



More than two dozen people watched the captivating documentary "Colleyville" on April 29 at Purdue Fort Wayne's Neff Hall, followed by a discussion on antisemitism and themes in the film, led by Rabbi Meir Barger.

The film told the story of a seemingly ordinary Saturday morning on January 15, 2022 when a terrorist stormed Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, during a live-streamed service, taking a group of innocent worshippers hostage. Led by the courageous Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, the hostages endured a harrowing ordeal that captured the world's attention.

The event was sponsored by Congregation Achduth Vesholom and Purdue Fort Wayne's Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, with support from the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation.

Thank you to Dawn Hammond and the Temple's Social Action Committee for coordinating the program, Rabbi Meir for sharing his insights, and Dr. Steve Carr, IHGS director, for his support.



Leo Powell on his graduation from Leo High School. He plans to attend Trine University to study engineering. Proud parents are Marnie & Mark Lowden and Jason Powell.

Shelah Shaw on her graduation from Indiana Institute of Technology magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration – Entrepreneurial Studies. Proud parents are Sarah Jo & Tim Sarrazin and grandmother is Susie Miller.

Isabella Wallet on her graduation from Homestead High School. She plans to attend Purdue University in West Lafayette to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Design. Proud parents are Wendi & Josh Wallet.

Theo Zacher on his graduation from the Culverhouse School of Business at the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations and Real Estate. He plans to pursue a career in commercial real estate. Proud parents are Judy & Steve Zacher.

Stay Informed on Social Action Issues

For more than six decades, the [Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism](#) (the RAC) has worked to educate, inspire, and mobilize the Reform Jewish community to advocate for social justice. The RAC mobilizes around federal, state, provincial, and local legislation on more than 70 pressing socioeconomic issues, including gun violence prevention, immigration, reproductive rights, and criminal justice reform.

As a joint instrumentality of the [Union for Reform Judaism](#) and the [Central Conference of American Rabbis](#), the RAC represents the values of the largest and most diverse Jewish Movement in North America to governments at all levels. Visit www.rac.org for information on advocacy issues. If you're interested in being part of the Temple's Social Action Committee, please contact the Temple office.

Stay Informed About Temple News at 177th Annual Meeting

Learn about continued efforts to strengthen our congregational leadership and new member engagement plans during the Temple's 177th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 4 at 7 p.m.

Please join us in person or on Zoom when we also share news from a special meeting in early May when members approved a change to our bylaws creating a new position of President-Elect.

Information has been sent to members for the Annual Meeting, including candidates for leadership, the proposed budget for 2025-2026, and voting details. Members in good standing will be able to vote in person, in real time via Zoom, or by absentee online ballot.

During the meeting, President Ronnie Greenberg, the Board of Directors, Rabbi Meir Barger, and Executive Director Samara Sheray will review the past year's activities, including steps to increase membership and involve congregants and youth in new ways.

We also will thank outgoing board members for their service: President Ronnie Greenberg, VP Finance John Stein, and Trustees Shai Hadashi and Kathy Sider. Members of the L'dor Vador Legacy Society also will be recognized for indicating they've made a planned gift to the congregation.

Candidates for the 2025-2026 Leadership

The Board Development Committee presents the following slate of officers and trustees for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, beginning July 1.

OFFICERS

Nominated for 2-year term ending in June 2027

President: Beth Zweig

President-Elect: Amy Krouse

Nominated for 1-year term ending in June 2026

Vice President Programs:
Dawn Hammond

Vice President Finance:
Sam Krouse

Secretary: Nick Young

TRUSTEES

Nominated for a 2-year term ending in June 2027

Geoffrey Gordon

Becky Guttstein

Leise Rosman

Greg Shoup

Micah Soltz

TRUSTEE

Nominated for a 1-year term ending in June 2026

Kate Crell

TRUSTEES

Serving 2-year term ending in June 2026

David Crell

Mimi Zelman

Become Legacy Society Member with Planned Gift

One of the best ways we can sustain a Jewish presence in northeast Indiana is through a lasting gift to Congregation Achduth Vesholom.

More than 40 congregants already have become members of the L'dor Vador Legacy Society since it was established in 2012 to encourage individuals to make arrangements to remember the Temple in their estates. Legacy society members are recognized at the Temple's Annual Meeting in June.

To become a society member, please inform the Temple in writing that you have made provisions to remember the congregation in your estate.

For further information about the L'dor Vador Legacy Society or making a planned gift now or in the future, contact Planned Giving Committee Co-Chairs John Stein john@steinadpromos.com or Beth Zweig at blzweig@msn.com.



Our lifelong learners gathered for lunch at the Learning Café on May 7 with Rabbi Meir leading a great session about "Truth and Lies in Jewish Tradition." We looked at when truth is absolute and when compassion allows for flexibility.

Updates on Programs & IAJGS Conference at NEIJGS Annual Meeting

NEIJGS Annual Meeting

The [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, June 5 at 7 p.m. ET. On the agenda for this brief virtual session will be the announcement of the group's 2025-2026 programs, an update on August's [IAJGS Conference](#), and official society business. If you're interested in attending, please contact Betsy Gephart at president@NEIndianaJGS.org to get the link for the program.

Save the Date for Federation Annual Meeting

Federation Annual Meeting

The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's 104th Annual meeting will take place on Sunday, June 29 at 3 p.m. at the [Pearl Street Arts Center](#), 234 Pearl Street (please enter via door #3 at the back of the building).

The annual meeting is open to all members who have paid their 2024 - 2025 pledge. Please contact the Federation office at (260) 456-0400 or at office@fwjf.org if you would like an absentee ballot. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.

45TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY FORT WAYNE, INDIANA AUGUST 10-14, 2025

And We Settled Here... The Jewish Journey

www.iajgs2025.org



Volunteers Needed for IAJGS Conference

The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) is holding its [annual conference](#) in Fort Wayne this year from August 10 to 14. It's a huge vote of confidence in our city and the [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) (NEIJGS)!

It's a huge undertaking, too, for our small community; but we are confident that we will rise to the challenge. We have two very powerful assets: the world-renowned [Genealogy Center](#) at the Allen County Public Library, with its knowledgeable and helpful staff, and the outstanding Grand Wayne Convention Center.

The third asset we need is people – like you! Co-chairs for Volunteers are Fran Adler (NEIJGS) and Elizabeth Hodges (ACPL). Co-chairs for Hospitality are Beth and Dan Zweig (NEIJGS).

Some of you have already agreed to help, and we appreciate you. But we will need many more.

Here are some of the roles you might fill:

Help people who have registered online check in and get their badges and other materials.

Welcome attendees and help to familiarize them with Fort Wayne – from local attractions to the huge selection of downtown restaurants.

Help them find their way around both sites and also find their way back and forth between the Grand Wayne and the Library, including physically assisting attendees with mobility challenges.

Serve as session monitors to ensure that things go smoothly for both speakers and attendees.

Help as needed with the Share Fair, the Film Festival, and other events.

Wondering about a time commitment? It could be as little as one two-hour stint to perhaps half a day, or several times over the five days, but that's **your** choice. You will be able to choose the time(s) you volunteer and for how long. **And if you register for the conference, we will work around YOUR schedule, so you can help without missing any of the sessions you want to attend.**

If you want to help the NEIJGS make this a truly superlative conference, please contact Fran Adler, fran@adlerfw.com, to volunteer. We will be very grateful!

Fran, Elizabeth, Beth, and Dan

Donations

Jack & Gertrude Adelman Facility Improvement Fund

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Carol & Larry Adelman

Adult Education Fund

A donation was received from:
Jane Downey

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Sarah (Kitlan) Renner

General Operations

A donation was received from:
Juan Suarez; Gl Latz Foundation; Davida & Richard Rothberg

In memory of Bessie Levy:
Linda Bullerman

In memory of Doris Tillinger:
Jenny & Howard Levitin

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Christa Cartwright

In memory of Stephen Powers:
Kaye Fichman

Ryan Goldstrom Memorial Gift Fund

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Christa Cartwright

Kathryn Kann Mendelblat Cultural Enrichment Fund

In memory of Josephine Rothberg and Peter Rothberg:
Stephen Rothberg

In memory of Danny Rifkin:
Fran & Irv Adler

Library Fund

A donation was received from:
Rachel & Geoffrey Gordon

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Barbara Silverman

Nancy & Mike Dicker Youth & Religious School Fund

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Christa Cartwright

Norma Jean Rifkin Educational Fund

In memory of Danny Rifkin:
Marlowe Family Charitable Trust

Thoughtful Thursdays

A donation was received from:
Karen Sandler; Jessica & Roger Ash

Rabbi Kornspan Tzedakah Fund

A donation was received from:
William Chambers

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Danny Rifkin:
The Daniel Rifkin Revocable Trust

Religious School

In memory of Stephen Powers:
Rossya & Howard Klebanow

Max & Gerda Schmitz Holocaust Education Fund

In honor of Sam Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah:
Sarah (Kitlan) Renner

Temple Gardens Fund

In memory of Lois Safran and Joseph Stumpf:
Ronnie & Norm Greenberg

In memory of Rivah Meyers:
Patrice & Mike Sposeep

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Your gift to Congregation Achduth Vesholom helps us offer a wide range of worship services, educational opportunities, cultural programs, social events, and activities to build and strengthen Jewish community.

Thank you for your support!

[Explore our Tribute Funds
or make a Donation](#)

We Care

Please let the Temple office or Rabbi Meir know if a family member is in the hospital or if other situations arise when the congregation may be of assistance or comfort. We aren't always aware of situations unless family or friends notify us.

June Jahrzeits

June 6-7

Issadore (Al) Adelman
Jonas Arnold
Linda Babb
Al Berk
Baruch Bronstein
Ken Burcham
Gary Cohen
Archibold Cohen
Georgia B. Daniel
Edward T. Dinken
Fannie Edelman
Miriam Falakovicz
Nissim Yuda Farhi
Alice Fenyes
Motel Golder
Rose Goldman
John C. Gosney
Isaac M. Hallenstein
Fred Hefter
Sarah Jacobson
Jacob Kaplan
Anna Landy
Julie See Latz
Jan Levin
Ann Levy
Leopold Loeb
Anna Marlow
Morris Meyer
Abe Minske
Bessie Ochstein
Edward Phillips
Eleanor B. Platka
Herman Price
Martha Replane
Anna Mae Rosenblatt
Joseph Schachter
Anna Schultz
Eleanore Schwarz
Todd Sider
Zuse Silverman

Louis Smith
Nathan Snow
Samuel Ralph Tourkow
Helen G. Warshauer
Meyer Warshauer
Rose K. Weigler
Sidney Weiss
Eugenia Young
Irving Zeal

June 13-14

David G. Altheide
Abraham Brateman
Michla Breindel
Peter Bronstein
Mitchell Bronstein
Ameila Butz
Norma Jean Chambers
John Cornell
Gail Cousino
Joel Deitch
Kate Dicker
Moses Englehard
Louis Fishman
Allen Fleischman
Jack Frank
Rose Gibson
Sarah Goldfarb
Sylvia Goodman
Jack Goodman
Bernard Gross
Leon Hasid
Getel Himmelstein
Robert Hutner
Julius Lyman Isay
Lauren Kaminsky
Margaret Katz
Helen Kornspan
Della Krainess
Aaron M. Krakower
Charles A. Lampel
Danny Levin

Mildred Llewellyn
Pearl Marks
Barbara Miller
Dorothy Mullennix
Beryl Novitsky
Thelma Ochstein
Robert M. Pollak
Myron Russ
Lottie Sahlman
Louis Siegel
Larry Slutsky
Leah S. Tourkow
Julia W. Trauerman
Norma Trauner
Isador Vigran
Flora S. Weil
Samuel Weiner
Billie A. Wenbert
Edward Zamrin

June 20-21

Dale Chambers
Ruth Davis
Lisa Deitch
Levi Edlavitch
Morris Erman
Yitzchok Falk
Rebecca Farhi
Joseph Finkelman
Jean Fishbein
Betty Golden
Ann Golder
Sara Hirsch
Dr. James B. Katz
Kathryn Kann
Mendelblat
Nathan Mull
Babette "Bobby"
Dessauer Neuwirth
Clara Nichtern
Harold B. Price
Susan Schwartz
Prigozen

Herta Rosanix
George Sandel
Isaac Schwartz
Martin Schwartz
Doris Sedgwick
Harold Sheyer
Esther Smith
Tillie Speyer
Hyman G. Steiber
Morris A. Stillpass
Emauel Strauss
Jacqueline Weber
Becky Weinberg
Florence Weinberg
Wayne C. Whisler
Abraham Wolf
Helena Wolf
Etta Hoffman Zussman

June 27-28

Rena Babich
Joel M. Bass
Toba Baum
Elana Ben-Yehoshua
Joseph Bialick
Alain Biger
Samuel C. Blumenthal
Stanley Cohn
Sarah DuBow
Louis Erdrich
Alvin Avraham Farber
Margot Field
Solomon Gabe
Otto Gartner
Sabine Gartner
Teresa Hanna Gartner
Naf Gladstone
Morris Gladstone
Charlotte L. (Lottie)
Goldstine
Robert Goldstine
Bertha Gross

Olga Haas
Ruth Henzel
Samuel Herman
Helaine Kann Hill
Morris Hyman
Philip Kaplan
Andy Kollman
Jack Komisarow
Louis Levin
Lawrence Levy
Betty Lusk
Abe Magazine
Louise Marcus
Sol Mastbaum
Samuel Milstein
Stephen Alan Mirman
Glen Noyes
Louis Papernick
Yetta Piccone
Carol Rosenberg
Ada Rothberg
William Rothenberg
Aaron Rothschild
Benjamin Rothschild
Nathan Rothschild
Samuel Schecter
Louis Schefman
Sigfried Schmitz
Eleanor C. Schwartz
Bernard Silverman
Max Spanjer
Doris M. Sposeep
Max Sposeep
Nathan Stoller
Harry Trauner
Macon Traxler
Florence Wald
Rosa Wertheimer
Robert Wollman
Rubin Zamrin

July Yahrzeits

We will not have Shabbat services on July 4-5. Yahrzeit names for the week will be read on June 27.
Please contact the Temple office if you have any questions.

July 11-12

Irving Appel
Mollie Barasch
David Block
Bart Broederz
Maurice Cohen
Oscar Eisbart
Abe Field
Edward Finkel
Simon Freiburger
Jerry Friedman
Sarah Gerber
Bertha Giftis
Klara Goldfarb
Florence Goode
Libby Harris
Nathan Hendelman
Herb Kocks
Ida Lefko
Joan Lesson
Harry Marlin
Isidore Marx
Louis Novitsky
Marshall Pallas
Dr. Eric Ray
Milton J. Rosenthal, Jr.
Julius Saffron
Betty Saul
Adria Sax
Don Sewell

Jeanette Sposeep
Walter Weinstein
Rose Smith Wittenberg

July 18-19

David Auerbach
Solomon Babich
Leah Babich
Isadore Berkowitz
Dr. Hyman L. Cohen
Armand Cohodes
Ann Doran
Bernard Dubinsky
Marguerite Elder
Betty Fischer
Dora Fisher
Belle Frank
Gulian Friedman
Frieda Friedman
Cheryl Gannon
Jack Golder
Philmore I. Harris
Ben Kelman
Naomi Levin
Myer Levin
Nanette Mayer
Abraham Metzger
Henry Ney
June Shafer
Manny Silverman
Miriam Singerman

Albert Smith
Minnie Sposeep
Celia Pearl Steiber
Jacques Tourkow
Isaac Trauerman
Adolph B. Weigler

July 24-25

Kalman Beck
Marvin Berg
Harry Bosell
Samuel Bretzfelder
Alfred Milton Bronstein
Mary Kay Byrne
Dr. Harold Cline
Anna Dively
Jack Feldheim
Herman Fischer
Lillie Hutner Fleck
Leopold Freiburger
Joe Gerson
Arthur Hill
Morris Horn
David S. Hutner
Israel Kaplansky
Isaac Kretzman
Annette Latker
David Lauferty
Iretta Lauinger
Rita S. Marks
Celia Masursky

Betty Meyer
Phyllis Pinzow
Frace Polz
Marlene Primack
James H. Richardson
Raoul Roderick
Amelia Rosenthal
Rose Moyer Rothberg
Gladys Rudin
Elinor Sachs
Charles Samet
Thomas Sarratore
Albert Schnitt
Charles W. Schwartz
Maurice Seelberg
Phyllis Silver Silverman
Zalman Sposeep
Fannie Wertheimer
Sylvia Wolfe

Charter Member of the Union For Reform Judaism
Meir Barger, Rabbi

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Shai Hadashi	Leise Rosman	Mimi Zelman
Amy Krouse	Kathy Sider	

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**Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**



The Temple is located at the Rifkin Campus at 5200. Our Campus partners are the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne, the Fort Wayne Jewish Cemetery Association, the PFW Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Brightpoint Head Start, the Madge Rothschild Resource Center, and the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society.

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▶ Achduth Vesholom Congregation

President's Column



My last president's column! After 4 years and 38 columns – 34 penned by me, 2 by Vice President Finance John Stein about finances, 1 by board member and Religious School Committee Chair Leise Rosman about the Religious School and 1 by our son Steve Greenberg about Israel – it is time to turn over the bully pulpit to the next president.

Looking back, I would have thought that I had written frequently about the things I consider most important, like volunteerism, commitment to the Temple, and participation in Temple events. But my topics were all over the place. I wrote about corned beef, music, gardens, strategic planning, the Bylaws, the pump station being constructed and, in the very first column, the end of COVID. But aren't all these "everyday" things really just evidence of reasons to commit yourself to the Temple and participate in Temple life?

Looking back, I didn't really realize how long four years could be. Do you remember the song 'Seasons of Love' from the musical "Rent"? The phrase "525,600 minutes" is used frequently in the song and refers to the number of minutes in 365 days to highlight the fleeting nature of time. It's a beautiful song with a haunting melody. But if that is 1 year, then 4 years contains over 2 million minutes!

Given that it was a significant length of time, was it time well spent? Looking back at the strategic changes we made in the

Temple organization and operations, the more flexible way we now handle our finances, and the increasing number of young families and Jews by choice joining us, I would say yes, the work we did in the last four years was worthwhile and is taking us where we want and need to go.

So, what does all this mean for us going forward? For the board, the groundwork is there to continue to examine the strategic issues we face. The processes we used to problem-solve are in place and you understand how to use them. Be bold, but wise and deliberative. The decisions you make and the proposals you bring to the congregation will determine our future direction. We are fortunate to be in a stable situation, with an involved, well-liked Rabbi, attractive building and grounds, and relatively stable finances. So we can consider our next steps from a position of strength.

For congregants, the challenges and rewards are much the same as before. We need your commitment to the Temple through your volunteerism and, yes, your financial support. We want you to participate, to provide leadership when possible, sweat equity when not, and attendance at other times. Get to know other members so our Temple family grows and strengthens. Make our congregation a priority when you plan how to use your resources – your time, your energy, and your money – and make the Temple a vibrant, important part of your life.

And lastly, thank you for the opportunity and privilege of serving as President of Congregation Achduth Vesholom.

★ *Happy
Fathers
Day* ★

We Welcome Your Comments

The Temple Board welcomes your comments and suggestions. We will do our best to address your questions and concerns. We value the diversity of viewpoints within our congregation. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for information.

President Ronnie Greenberg can be reached at (260) 483-6327 or president@templecav.org.

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

**The deadline for the August Bulletin
is Wednesday, July 16.**