

THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM BULLETIN

BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1848

NOVEMBER 2025

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Judaism in Action: From Social Action to Social Justice



What does Judaism have to say about repairing the world — not only through immediate acts of kindness, but also by addressing the deeper causes of injustice?

Join us for a two-part exploration with Rabbi Julia Weisz, an experienced Jewish educator and community organizer, as we uncover the Jewish roots of both social action and social justice.

Part One: Judaism and Social Action – Wednesday November 12 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Explore how Jewish tradition calls us to respond directly to human need—feeding the hungry, sheltering the vulnerable, and offering support in moments of crisis.

>>> *continued on page 4*

23rd Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Sale Coming on November 6



Savor delicious delicatessen when our 23rd Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser returns on Thursday, November 6.

Don't miss out on this once-a-year opportunity! [Order online](#) or [download an order form](#) at www.templecav.org. (Online ordering ends on Wednesday, November 5 at noon.)

Boxed meals are \$21 each (while supplies last), and include a heaping 1/3-pound corned beef sandwich on rye, giant pickle, creamy coleslaw, fudgy brownie, and a drink.

Additional pounds of bulk corned beef are for sale for \$20 per pound. Delivery service is available when you order 12 meals or more by Friday, October 31 for \$15 per address.

>>> *continued on page 7*

Our Community of Communities at Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Share an interfaith celebration of Thanksgiving bringing together our community of communities on Tuesday, November 25 at 7 p.m. at Congregation Achduth Vesholom.

The Temple is pleased for a 13th year to host Fort Wayne's annual community interfaith service. Join us in person or via livestream on [YouTube](#).

A freewill offering will be collected to benefit [Alive Community Outreach](#), which uses educational and relationship-based programming to cultivate nonviolence in the community. A reception will follow the service.

Thank you to Cassie Balfanz and Kate Theise for chairing.



Upcoming Events

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

NOVEMBER

Learning Café: Vayera in Our Days
Wednesday, November 5
12 to 1 p.m.

Corned Beef Fundraiser

Condiment bag stuffing
Monday, November 3 at 1:30 p.m.

Prep Night

Wednesday, November 5
from 6 to 9 p.m.

Deli Day

Thursday, November 6 from
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (pre-order
pickup begins at 10 a.m.;
volunteer shifts begin at 8 a.m.)

**Sherlock Cohn,
The Photo Genealogist**
Sunday, November 9
2 p.m. on Zoom
Sponsored by [NEJGS](#)

Temple Book Club
Tuesday, November 11
7 p.m. on Zoom
[We Would Never](#) by Tova Mirvis

Thoughtful Thursdays
Wednesday, November 12
10 a.m.

**Lifelong Learning:
From Social Action
to Social Justice
Part One: Judaism
and Social Action**
Wednesday, November 12
7 p.m. on Zoom

DECEMBER

Thoughtful Thursdays
Wednesday, December 3
10 a.m.

**Learning Café:
Starting the Jewish Day**
Wednesday, December 3
12 to 1 p.m.

**Lifelong Learning:
From Social Action
to Social Justice
Part Two: Judaism
and Social Justice**
Wednesday, December 10
7 p.m. on Zoom

**Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat
with Musician Juliette Nehring**
Saturday, December 13
10:30 a.m.

Hanukkah – First Candle
Sunday evening, December 14

**Hanukkah and Shabbat Service,
with Blessing for Doris Gottlieb
on her 90th birthday**
Friday, December 19
6 p.m.
Dinner and celebration follow

Shabbat and Holiday Services

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

NOVEMBER

Shabbat Service
Saturday, November 1, 9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, November 7, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, November 14, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Saturday, November 15, 9:45 a.m.

**Shabbat Service with Blessing for
Alan Grinsfelder on his 90th birthday**
Friday, November 21, 6 p.m.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, November 25, 7 p.m.

No Shabbat Service
Friday, November 28

Ongoing Events

LUNCH WITH THE ROMEOS

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

Thursday, November 6
No lunch – Corned Beef Fundraiser

Thursday, November 20
[Chapman's Electric Works](#)
1660 Broadway

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



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

Help Needed with Interfaith Thanksgiving Reception

Baked goods and other items, as well as helpers for set up and clean up, are needed for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Reception on Tuesday, November 25. To offer your help, please contact the Temple office or Co-Chairs Cassie Balfanz and Kate Theise.

If you would like to share your thoughts or favorite quote about what Thanksgiving means to you, please email Kate at katetheise@buckey-express.com or Cassie at cassiebalfanz@gmail.com.

Rabbi Meir Barger



The Sandwich that Builds Community

What makes a corned beef sandwich Jewish? It's not just the brisket, although that helps. It's not just the rye, the mustard, or the pickle (but of course those are required). What makes it

Jewish is the story it tells.

"Corned beef" started out as an Irish way to preserve meat with salt "corns." When Jewish immigrants arrived in America in the late 19th century, they adapted that method for brisket, a kosher cut, using the pickling and curing techniques they already knew from Europe. As historian [Hasia Diner notes](#), that's when brisket met kosher law and gave birth to the deli sandwich.

By the early 20th century, Jewish delis had become the community's unofficial synagogues where they could gather to eat, argue, and belong. Food historian [Ted Merwin called the deli a secular sanctuary](#). A pastrami on rye could cure homesickness as effectively as the words and care of any rabbi.

Even the details are meaningful. Rye bread? The daily bread of Eastern European Jews. Mustard? The only acceptable condiment: it's sharp, honest, a little bit in your face. Pickles? Sour, surprising, full of character and a little crunchy. Just like your friend from shul!

Here at the Temple, our annual [Corned Beef On Rye—Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser](#) on November 6th will carry that tradition forward. It is absolutely our biggest fundraiser. But it is equally a community builder. Each year, the kitchen and our Social Hall vibrate with laughter, teamwork, and the pervasive aroma of corned beef! Volunteers weigh, wrap, deliver, and connect. It is a gorgeous, holy chaos!

When you bite into your delicious corned beef on rye (with slaw, pickle, and fudgy brownie, of course), remember that you're not just eating lunch. You're taking part in a very Jewish story — one of resilience, flavor, and joy shared between friends. It is our story.

As Temple President Beth Zweig tells us in her Bulletin column this month (yes, we're all about Corned Beef in November!), you can be a part of this very special tradition by purchasing a meal, sponsoring the sale, and helping to prepare about 2,000 meals to share with Fort Wayne.

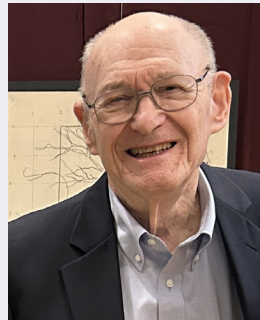
Please join us in carrying the story forward for another year.

Rabbi Meir Named Amplify Israel Rabbinic Fellow

Rabbi Meir Barger is one of 24 rabbis recently named by Stephen Wise Free Synagogue to the third cohort of the [Amplify Israel Rabbinic Fellowship](#), a selective yearlong professional development program for early-career Reform rabbis to provide the tools and resources to incorporate Israel and Jewish peoplehood more fully into their practice.

"Over the coming year, I'll study with colleagues, travel to Israel, and deepen my understanding of Jewish peoplehood and connection to the land and its people," Rabbi Meir said. "My hope is to bring what I learn back to our congregation in ways that enrich our conversations and strengthen the relationships that bind us to Jews everywhere. Thank you for walking this journey with me."

Share Shabbat and Simcha



Celebrate Shabbat with us on Friday, November 21 at 6 p.m. when we also offer a blessing for Alan Grinsfelder in honor of his 90th birthday.

Join us in person or [on YouTube](#) for the service, led by Rabbi Meir. An Oneg Shabbat follows.



Learning Café: Vayera In Our Days

Wednesday, November 5

12:00–1:00 PM

In person and online

Join Rabbi Meir and our Temple learners for an hour of conversation,

insight, and community as we explore **Parashat Vayera** through the lens of our own lives. Together we'll ask: what does it mean to encounter the Divine, to wrestle with moral challenge, and to act with compassion in our own generation? This session is a **special pilot of the new Reform Torah Commentary** from the Central Conference of American Rabbis — offering a fresh, thought-provoking approach to Torah for our times.

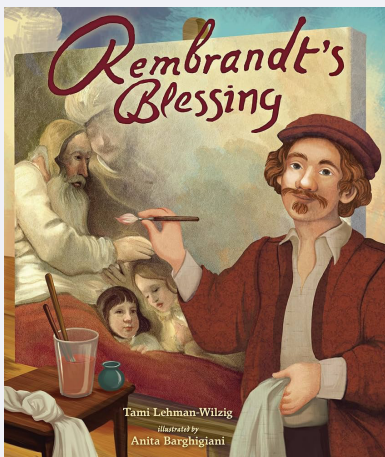
Bring your lunch, your curiosity, and your whole self, and let's learn together. [Learn more about the new Reform Torah Commentary.](#)

Save the date for Learning Café on Wednesday, December 3: [Starting the Jewish Day](#)

LIBRARY NEWS

New Children's Books in the Temple Library from Kar-Ben

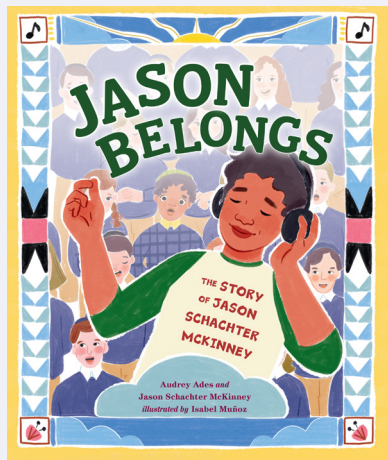
Ten new titles have been added to our collection in the [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#) from [Kar-Ben Publishing](#). This branch of Lerner Publishing focuses on Jewish books for children. Our library is part of their ASAP program, which means we receive two shipments each year of their newest titles.



We had one book out for the High Holidays. *Anyada Buena, Shanah Tovah* by Sarah Aroeste follows the celebration of the New Year in a Sephardic family. Two more are Hanukkah titles and will be on the shelves soon.

Joy Nelkin Wieder's *The Mouse Who Loved Latkes* and Jessica Hickman's *Happy HanukKAT* are two celebrations of the holiday with animals. The latter is a board book for very young children. Also in the box was the latest Sammy Spider title by Sylvia Rouss. *Sammy Spider's Big Book of Jewish Holidays* explores the full calendar of Jewish holidays with Josh and Sammy.

Kai and the Golem, by Carol Matas, was also on our shelves this fall. Instead

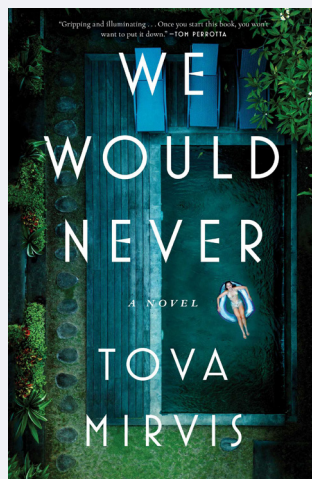


of a big scary monster, Kai's golem makes things look better. *Shira the Singing Puppy*, by Ilana Wieder, celebrates Havdalah, and Joni Sussman's new board book, *Laila Tov, Grover!*, is perfect for bedtime. *Just Say Welcome*, by Emily Raij, welcomes a new Iraqi family to the neighborhood.

Tami Lehman-Wilzig's new book, *Rembrandt's Blessing*, recalls a story about the famous painter. He drew inspiration from a Shabbat dinner at a neighbor's home. *Jason Belongs: The Story of Jason Schachter McKinney*, by Audrey Ades, asks the question, "Can I be both Black and Jewish?" Jason eventually becomes a cantor, using his talent for music and his wonderful voice.

[Check out the full catalog of library offerings online](#) The Temple library is available whenever you are in the building. Use the self-checkout at the library desk, and please plan to take advantage of this resource.

"We Would Never" Focus of Temple Book Club



Our Temple Book Club will return on Tuesday, November 11 at 7 p.m. on Zoom with a discussion of [We Would Never](#), followed by a conversation with author Tova Mirvis. All Temple members are invited to read the book. We're grateful to the [Jewish Book Council](#) for this opportunity through its [LiveChats](#) program.

The novel is a murder mystery centered around a separation

and custody battle. *Hadassah Magazine* says: "More than a whodunnit, Mirvis's characters are multidimensional, wrestling with doubts and guilt, not just about murder, but also about a lifetime of questionable choices."

Please plan to join us for our discussion. The Zoom link will be included in the Temple's weekly e-mail. Thank you to Betsy Gephart for arranging the program.

Save the date for Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m., when our Temple Book club meets to discuss [The Last Dekrepitzer](#) with author Howard Langer

Judaism in Action: From Social Action to Social Justice

« continued from page 1

Part Two: Judaism and Social Justice – Tuesday, December 10 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Go deeper into the systemic and structural issues that create inequality. Learn how Jewish texts and values inspire us to pursue justice, equity, and lasting change.

Together, these sessions will invite us to reflect, discuss, and act — drawing on the wisdom of our tradition to shape a more compassionate and just world.

Kindly RSVP to office@templecav.org by Tuesday, November 11.

The Zoom link will be included in our weekly email to our Temple family.

YOUTH NEWS

Teaching Our Children to Experience The Holidays, Not Just Observe Them

STEPHANIE GOTTESMAN

Youth Education and Family Engagement Director



As I've been adjusting to my new role, I've discovered how the Jewish calendar and the school calendar overlap in a unique way. Our children don't just learn about the holidays — they get to live them. As we wrap up both the High Holy Days and our first six weeks of Religious School, I've been reflecting on how powerful it is when Judaism is something our kids can touch, taste, and dance with, not just read or hear about.

During Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, our youngest learners didn't sit on the sidelines. At our Joy Vey children's services, they blew toy shofars, sang "Happy Birthday" to the world, paraded with the Torah, and dipped apples in honey. They weren't told that the new year is sweet — they experienced it on their tongues. When learning about saying "I'm sorry," they acted out the three steps of an apology and practiced *teshuvah* in language and movement that made sense to them. Then they got to witness firsthand as their parents fasted and broke the fast together.

Sukkot gave us another chance to take tradition off the page and into real space. Children stepped into the sukkah before it was even decorated, danced to songs, played with a toy lulav and etrog, and made decorations that hung during our community celebrations. Then the following week, they gathered together to sing songs, dance, eat, and celebrate as a community in the sukkah they'd helped decorate. They didn't just learn that our ancestors dwelled in temporary shelters — they experienced it firsthand.

And on Simchat Torah, they didn't just hear that we celebrate finishing and beginning the Torah again — they marched, danced, waved flags they decorated, and followed the Torah around the sanctuary with joy that only young children can pull off. They saw the scroll up close, heard the very first words of Bereshit, and learned how the end and beginning of the Torah create an unbroken circle year after year.

These embodied moments matter. When Jewish traditions are interactive and joyful, our children don't feel like observers — they feel like participants. They remember the taste of apples, the smell of food cooking for break-the-fast, the way the light shines through the top of the sukkah, the sound of music during a hakafah, and the weight of a stuffed Torah hugged against their chest. They begin to understand that our holidays are not just stories from long ago, but something alive that they help create.

As we move forward into the regular rhythm of the school year, I hope we can carry this with us. When a child experiences Judaism with their whole body, they don't just learn about it. They learn to love it.



Schedule Change for Joy Vey

Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat will not be held on Friday, November 14. Families with young children are invited for our next Joy Vey on Saturday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. with our musical guest Juliette Nehring.

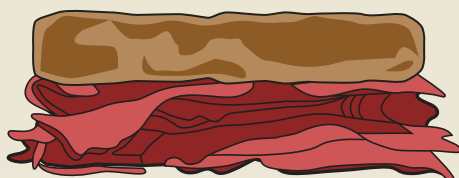


Our new Joy Vey Rosh Hashanah kids' service on September 23 with Rabbi Meir and Hazzan Penny Myers was pure holiday joy! We sang "Happy Birthday to the World," had a parade with the Torah, blew toy shofars, and tasted apples, honey, and festive treats — the sweetest way to welcome 5786.



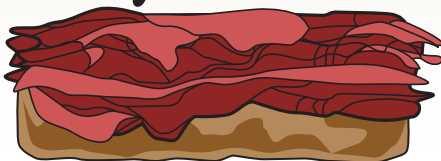
Families gathered in the Temple's sukkah on a beautiful Saturday morning on October 11 for a joyful Sukkot and Shabbat celebration with guest musician Juliette Nehring. Children learned about the holiday and had an opportunity to shake a toy lulav with Rabbi Meir, sing songs, listened to a Sukkot story, painted pumpkins, and enjoyed a potluck brunch with bagels, cream cheese, and donuts provided by the Religious School.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support of Juliette's visit. We greatly appreciate our Joy Vey and Holiday Celebration teams, including Wendy Soltz, Stephanie Gottesman, Kate Crell, and Deborah Bauer.



CORNERD BEEF SALE

— THE —
Making of a Tradition



As we prepare for our 23rd sale this month, the Temple's Corned Beef Fundraiser surely is a tradition, bringing the aroma and tastes of deli to Fort Wayne along with the congregational camaraderie.

But how did we get here?

The long-ago "Hadassah Businessmen's Lunch" was part of the inspiration. Larry Adelman, then a high school student, remembers moving to Fort Wayne in 1968 and the experience of a huge turnout in the Temple's Social Hall for a noon-time meal that helped the Jewish community raise funds and connect to the greater community through food. Cindi Wismer recalls that her parents let her miss school to help at the sale, which brought what looked to a little girl like a "sea of men in white shirts."

Fast forward a few decades, with Larry serving as Temple president and looking for a fundraising idea. Recalling the Businessmen's Lunch, Larry spearheaded a revival, brainstorming with other members to re-imagine it as a corned beef fundraiser that would bring people to our congregation for a delicious meal and support the Temple.

The big sale that began in October 2002 continues today as our biggest fundraiser, returning this year on Thursday, November 6 with Amy Krouse and Micah Soltz serving as co-chair of a 12-member committee. (For those who are doing the math, we did not have a sale in 2020 due to the pandemic.)

Each year in October or November, depending when the High Holy Days fall, we put together boxed meals featuring a heaping 1/3-pound of corned beef on rye, creamy coleslaw, gigantic pickle, rich brownie and a drink.

Online ordering proved wildly popular when we introduced it in 2018. In response to COVID safety concerns in 2021, we did not offer customary in-person dining and added drive-thru pick up of meals. However, we eliminated the drive-thru after three years because of traffic bottlenecks along Old Mill Road.

Hebrew National whole kosher salamis were offered in 2019, 2021 and 2022, but supply chain issues led to discontinuing this option. >>> *continued on page 8*

23rd Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Sale Coming on November 6

<<< *continued from page 1*

On Deli Day, simply park in our spacious lot and walk up to the building, where multiple pick-up stations will be set up for your convenience. In addition, customers who pre-order meals will be able to take advantage of special early bird pick up beginning at 10 a.m., an hour before our regular 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. hours.

[Become a sponsor!](#) While our sponsorship deadline has passed to be included on the enclosure with each meal, we can still add your name or business name to our website and online listings when received by Monday, November 3.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PREP NIGHT

Volunteers are needed on Wednesday, November 5 for Prep Night from 6 to 9 p.m. and on Thursday, November 6,

with shifts beginning at 8 a.m. We also need help prepping "condiment" bags (mustard packets, sporks, napkins, sponsor sheet, etc.) on Monday, November 3 at 1:30 p.m. Contact the Temple at office@templecav.org or (260) 744-4245 to say you'll help with our largest fundraiser!

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

Look sharp and celebrate our unique fundraiser by wearing a custom apron and cap with our corned beef sandwich logo while supplies last. [Find an order form](#)

Thanks to our Corned Beef Crew:

Co-Chairs Amy Krouse and Micah Soltz & their team: Fran Adler, Rabbi Meir Barger, Jamie Fritz, Denny Reynolds, Samara Sheray, Jon Tam, Nick Young, Steve Zacher, Mimi Zelman, Beth Zweig

Corned Beef Sale: The Making of a Tradition

◀◀ continued from page 7



Last year's new order pick-up plan received rave reviews from customers and volunteers alike, and it returns this year.

Customers simply park in our spacious lot and walked up to the front of the building, where multiple volunteers were conveniently stationed outdoors to assist.

In addition, the cumbersome process of looking up customer orders on paper in binders was

replaced last year by a computerized system for easy searching. Once an order is confirmed, a copy is printed inside the building, where our customer fulfillment squad then gathers the sandwich boxes (already prepped in plastic bags with one or two meals) and/or 1-lb. bags of bulk corned beef to bring to the customer. A drink table in front of the building makes it easy to pull the correct soda cans or water bottles to complete the orders. The process is quick and efficient.

We also now enable customers who pre-order meals to take advantage of special early bird pick up beginning at 10 a.m., an hour before our regular 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. hours. We've also increased the number of volunteers to better serve our patrons. When the sale began, we started with many questions, from the most efficient way to "fluff" the meat and wrap the sandwiches to how to uniformly slice the brownies. We pondered whether the gigantic pickles should be served whole or quartered. The "uncut" enthusiasts won over the spear supporters, arguing the full-size pickle would be a conversation starter. It still induces giggles for novices -- and we still get a request or two each year asking if we'll slice a pickle for a customer.

Sally Trotter recalls that we had no idea how many sandwiches we would sell the first year, figuring "we'd be euphoric if we sold 400 to 450." Since we were in unknown territory, we developed early-bird pricing to give us an idea of how much meat to buy.

We ended up selling 1,070 meals our first year. In 2024, we sold about 1,700 meals and an additional 100+ pounds of bulk corned beef. Aided by 41 sponsors, we raised a record \$29,960 to support programs at the Temple.

In addition, the sale has turned into one of the Temple's biggest social events of the year, often bringing more than 100 volunteers of all ages to help on Prep Night and the day of the sale. It's become a not-to-miss event -- and we even have some out-of-towners and friends of members who come to help. We look forward to welcoming many of our new members to their first taste of this special event!

The first year brought the realization that we didn't have enough refrigerator space for all the goodies. That led to rental of a refrigerated truck. When some of us realized we had aching backs, our maintenance chief Clint Rossiter z"l came to the rescue, creating a way to raise our worktables so we didn't need to bend over. Rabbi Jonathan Katz, our spiritual leader in the early years, felt entertaining "words of wisdom" would add a nice touch to the boxed meals, so we've offered those most years to the delight of customers.

In 2011, we added delivery service on larger orders for a small fee. In recent times, our challenges have included what to do when our supplier stopped providing the meat already sliced and when favorite rye bread brands have been discontinued.

For the first time in 2022, we utilized a three-tiered sponsorship level.

In 2022, by proclamation of Mayor Thomas C. Henry (z"l), the City of Fort Wayne encouraged "all citizens to duly note this occasion (corned beef sale)" and highlighted that the Temple is proud to serve "corned beef on rye, which surely does satisfy" and has for 20 years been "bringing the aroma and tastes of deli to Fort Wayne," as well as the congregational camaraderie.

The most recent innovation in 2022 is credited to Denny Reynolds, who used his engineering skills and PVC pipe to create a "counting grid" to help with accuracy in tracking the number of meat packets for sandwich orders. He also found a new way to stack coleslaw cups to maximize refrigerator space and avoid spills.

Since the sale is a team effort, Beth Zweig, who has helped with marketing every year, suggested in 2019 the creation of a logo and branded aprons and caps (available for \$18 apiece as part of our fundraising efforts).

With 20+ years of success, we still ask ourselves if our biggest fundraiser has run its course, given the size of our congregation, large number of volunteers vital to operations, physical work involved, and rising cost of the corned beef. On the other hand, we don't know what other project would raise comparable funds or bring so many members together. And, besides, the food is delicious!



Celebrate the High Holy Days

5786 (2025)



Our Temple family came together for meaningful worship services, led by Rabbi Meir, Cantor Penny Myers, and Ron Friedman. The theme "Strive to be Human" was a focus during the Days of Awe (see page 10). A new Joy Vey Rosh Hashanah Service (see page 6) and healing service also were offered. Holiday activities included the Rosh Hashanah Reception (chaired by Dawn Hammond and Sheryl Merritt); apples and honey on Rosh Hashanah morning (chaired by Betsy Gephart and Mimi Zelman); Tashlich (led by Cantor Myers), and Break-the-Fast hosted by the ROMEOS (chaired by Denny Reynolds). Our shofar blowers were Norm Greenberg, Don Zelman, and Trevor Wyatt. A wonderful season from Selichot through Sukkot (see pages 6 and 11) and Simchat Torah (see page 11)!



Strive to Be Human in 5786



Rabbi Meir opened the new year by naming many of today's harsh realities and calling for a courageous, compassionate response. Drawing on Hillel's charge, "In a place where no one is human, strive to be human" (Pirkei Avot 2:5), he urged the community to embody justice, mercy, and hope.

He invited everyone to practice these concrete steps in 5786: Return, Love, Welcome, Hope, Remember, Bless, Give, Believe, and Forgive, so that we become the humanity our world longs for.

Each of those attending services were invited to pick up a small gift from the Temple - a silicon bracelet, inscribed with "5786 Strive to Be Human." Rabbi Meir said, "Slip the bracelet on your wrist, and let it be a reminder, a challenge, and an inspiration to you during these Days of Awe."

Additional bracelets are available at the Temple to wear throughout the year as a reminder of this important message.

STRIVE TO BE HUMAN...

RETURN

The High Holy Days remind us: it is never too late to return to our best selves and to each other.

COMPASSION

To be human is to show compassion, even in small, everyday acts.

LOVE

Love is the foundation of our humanity.

BLESS

To be human is to bless the world with kindness, presence, and care.

FORGIVE

Forgiveness is at the heart of our humanity—and at the center of the High Holy Days.

JUSTICE

We stand for justice, especially when it's difficult.

HOPE

Being human means holding onto hope, even in uncertain times.

WELCOME

Our humanity shines brightest when we open our arms to welcome others.

REMEMBER

To be human is to remember—our ancestors, our loved ones, and the lessons of our tradition.

GIVE

Generosity makes us fully human.

We asked on Facebook – "Are you wearing your Strive to Be Human bracelet?" The answer was "yes."



“IN A PLACE WHERE NO ONE IS HUMAN,
STRIVE TO BE
HUMAN,”

PIRKEI AVOT 2:5



Our Sukkot and Shabbat service on October 10 included prayers for peace and a moving memorial for the victims of October 7 and its aftermath. Rabbi Meir Bargerón offered a reflection on the impact of the past two years as we await the imminent return of the captives. After the service, we enjoyed Kiddush in the sukkah and a wine and cheese Oneg Shabbat hosted by Fran & Irv Adler and Beth & Dan Zweig. Watch the service at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjNtrH7QZxE>

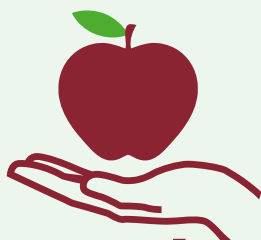
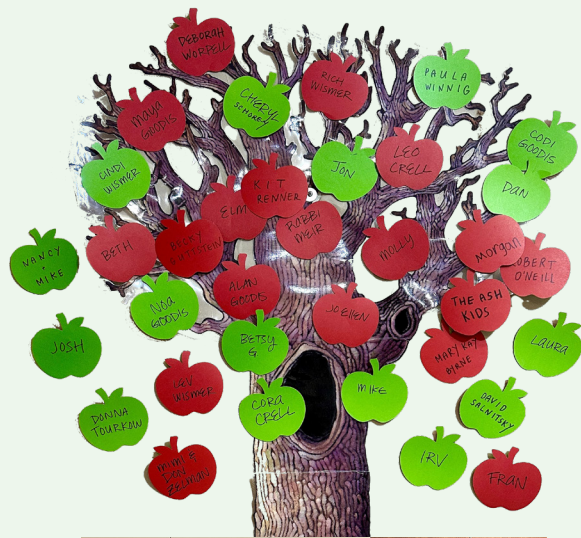


Havdalah for the Hostages on Simchat Torah - We gathered on October 14 to observe Simchat Torah, while also remembering coming together two years ago for the holiday on the day after the horrific attack on Israel on October 7, 2023. Rabbi Meir recalled lighting a candle on that day - and every Shabbat and holiday in the two years since - and placing it by the stained-glass window in our Sanctuary depicting the founding of the State of Israel. He noted that the hostages were in our prayers every week during that time.

On this Simchat Torah 5786, we marked the return of the living hostages with joy, while also awaiting the return of the deceased hostages amid the fragile peace. Rabbi Meir read a prayer called "Havdalah for the Hostages" by Alden Solovy. Ronnie & Norm Greenberg, who have family in Israel and a granddaughter serving in the IDF, represented the congregation and extinguished the vigil candle.

For Simchat Torah, we also paraded our sacred scrolls through the Sanctuary and unrolled two Torah scrolls to complete the reading of Deuteronomy and began anew with Genesis. Thank you to Torah readers Ron Friedman and Ronnie Greenberg. Watch the service at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5xnWf96d6o>





Thoughtful Thursdays

Thoughtful Thursdays Team Bagged Apples & More

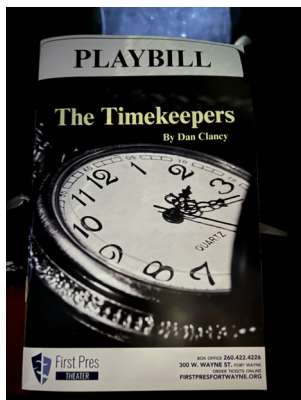
Our Thoughtful Thursdays Apple Project marked its 15th year with our amazing volunteers bagging approximately 376 pounds (16 half bushels) of apples for the 69 families and the staff of Brightpoint Head Start at the Temple. This was an opportunity to give to families who might not get fresh fruit and help to alleviate the food insecurity of our local community. The success of this endeavor is a testament to the invaluable contributions and numerous donations received through the Apple Project.

In other news, we're thrilled to introduce Lily Noga as our new co-chair with Cheryl Schorey of Thoughtful Thursdays.

Lily is a master at finding the best deals and ordering for our monthly bags. She's a real lifesaver for the project! We're grateful for our many volunteers who help with set up and bagging every month during the school year when we assemble food and non-perishable items.

Our bag assembly team will meet on Wednesday, December 3 at 10 a.m. at the Temple. Please contact Cheryl for further information at cheryl_schorey@yahoo.com, or just stop by to join us and do something good for the community.

Thoughtful Thursdays is a project of Congregation Achduth Vesholom and the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. We're grateful to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and others who donate to this project.



A group from the Temple and Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne attended on October 11 the play, "The Timekeepers," presented by First Presbyterian Theater. Following the performance, Rabbi Meir joined in a talk-back with the director, cast, local clergy, and the audience to process the shared experience of the play set in a concentration camp during World War II. Thank you to First Pres for hosting members of the Jewish community.



A Neighborhood Block Party on September 7 with friends from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne, as well as our Woodhurst and Southwood Park neighbors, was great fun for all. The Fort Wayne Pride Band provided music while people picnicked and played. Thank you to Dawn Hammond for coordinating.



Our Intergenerational Shabbat Service on September 5 launched the new fall service time of 6 p.m. and connected children and adults of all ages for a lively worship experience with music, singing, and stories. We also celebrated Consecration with three students who are beginning their formal Jewish education. Mazel tov to Morgan Gottesman-Tod, daughter of Stephanie Gottesman and Jon Tod; Noah Krouse, son of Amy & Sam Krouse; and Jacob Menzies, son of Anya & Marc Menzies. The service was led by Rabbi Meir with music by Norm and Ronnie Greenberg.

Thank you to Rabbi Meir, Youth Education and Family Engagement Director Stephanie Gottesman, Ritual Committee Chair Dawn Hammond, Kate Crell, Norm Greenberg and Nola Katinsky, as well as those who contributed to the beautiful Oneg Shabbat.

Thank you to Stephanie Gottesman, Joanne McCrory, and Jon Tam for the wonderful pictures.



Meet Our New Administrative Assistant



CARA TWISS

We're pleased to introduce Cara Twiss, who began in August as our new Administrative Assistant in the Temple office. She is thrilled to join the CAV staff! Cara has lived in Woodhurst for 10 years with her husband, Ryan, and their two daughters, Jane, 6, and Eve, 4, with whom she has stayed home since her eldest's birth.

She is active as a director for Woodhurst's HOA and enjoys volunteering for PTA events at Bunche and Towles, where her children attend school.

Cara grew up on the southwest side of Fort Wayne, graduating from Homestead High School. She studied Speech Therapy at Purdue West Lafayette and Purdue Fort Wayne. Her professional background has been in social service donor engagement and volunteer management.

Cara has a huge heart for mid-century modern architecture, furniture and design, and loves spending time swimming, cycling, knitting, gardening, and making art with things she has grown.

News From The Board

The City of Fort Wayne's lift station project behind the Temple is progressing. Executive Director Samara Sheray told the Temple Board that the timeline for completion has shifted from September to later in the fall. Recent improvements include installation of a cedar fence along the north property line and new curbs, with new blacktop coming soon.

As a gesture of appreciation and community support, she said, the city plans to add 20 mature evergreen trees in December along the north property line and expanded the "drivable area" of blacktop at the rear of the building. Samara said this additional space will significantly improve day-to-day operations, particularly during high-traffic events such as the corned beef fundraiser, allowing for safer and more efficient vehicle navigation.

The Temple received a generous donation of \$30,000 from the Audrey & Joe Gerson Foundation.

Rabbi Meir Bargerion reported to the Board that we have retained Cantor Penny Myers for 5787 to lead Conservative High Holy Days services.

The Board approved two membership applications: In September, Emily & Alex Kutsenok and their children, Iris, 5, and Avi, 4, and in October, Rabbi Bruce J. Pfeffer & Dr. Amy Beth Kressel.

Mazel Tov To:

BRANDON ROBERTS on his marriage to Skylar Wnetrzak on September 27, 2025 in Fort Wayne. Mazel tov to his parents, Debby & Keith Roberts, and grandmother, Susie Miller. Congratulations also to Skylar's parents, Jennifer Vidal and Christopher Wnetrzak.

Welcome Our New Members

RABBI BRUCE J. PFEFFER & DR. AMY BETH KRESSEL

We're pleased to welcome Rabbi Bruce J. Pfeffer & Dr. Amy Beth Kressel as the newest members of our Temple family!

They relocated in October to Fort Wayne from Indianapolis for Amy's new position as System Level Medical Director of Infection Prevention at Parkview Health. Bruce is a hospital chaplain and co-chair of the Indiana Board of Rabbis.

Amy & Bruce grew up on the East Coast and met in Cincinnati. Bruce was ordained at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati. They have two children, Leia, 24, and Max, 21, who grew up in Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

Bruce volunteered for the Marion County Master Gardeners Association as a volunteer auctioneer at the annual Plant Sale and Auction. He's also a student (and sometime teacher) of origami, Haiku, crochet, and book binding.

They look forward to participating in lifelong learning and worship services at the Temple. Bruce also is interested in interfaith activities and helping with the corned beef fundraiser.

Want To Get More Involved at Temple?

What better way to meet people and get involved in congregational life than by volunteering your time and talents. Whether you have a special skill to contribute or can assist wherever needed, we appreciate and need volunteers. Our volunteers provide vital assistance to our staff and help our congregation thrive. We need you!

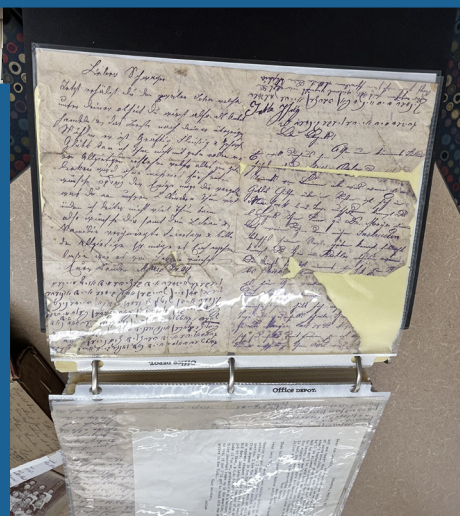
We have ongoing or occasional volunteer opportunities!

Assist with Thoughtful Thursdays, teach in our Religious School, help with mailings, or make phone calls to those in need of caring. Usher at services, prep wine and challah on Friday evening, host an Oneg Shabbat, organize a Shabbat dinner after services, or polish and help with upkeep of ritual objects. Set tables or help with a fundraiser or holiday activity, work in the library, or assist with an event.

Please contact President Beth Zweig at president@templecav.org to let us know your interests so we can connect with you.



Meet Your Mishpocha Shabbat - We enjoyed a taste of Jewish family history on October 17 during Shabbat services with the help of the [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#). NEIJS member Maureen Grinsfelder, a Churubusco native, shared some of her discoveries, including family letters and new mishpocha. An Oneg Shabbat hosted by NEIJS followed with an opportunity to learn more about our local Jewish genealogy group, the Fort Wayne Jewish Families Project, and The Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library. Thank you to NEIJS President Betsy Gephart and her team for organizing the program.



Touring the Temple - As part of Indiana's Statewide Preservation conference, Dr. Wendy Soltz provided a look at Fort Wayne's Jewish architectural heritage on September 30 with a presentation on six purpose-built synagogues, including our own, designed by renowned Jewish regional architects.

She also gave a brief tour of our 1960 building, a Mid-Century Modern design recently nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Wendy, a Temple member, is Associate Professor & Director, Public History Program, at Ball State University. The conference was sponsored by Indiana Landmarks, Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, and Indiana University.

Temple Included in Article About the Power of Small Congregations



The Temple was featured in a recent story about how small congregations affiliated with the [Union for Reform Judaism](#) are thriving by forming partnerships, merging traditions, and leveraging collaboration and connection to build stronger, more resilient communities.

CAV is one of three featured congregations, and Rabbi Meir was interviewed for the story. Our portion of the story describes the coming together of the Temple with Congregation B'nai Jacob in 2019, and how we thrive as a small congregation with two traditions. [Read the full article](#), which includes this section about the Temple:

Collaborating to Thrive

In Fort Wayne, Indiana, Congregation Achduth Vesholom is a prime example of how collaborating and adapting allow congregations to thrive. Established in 1848, Congregation Achduth Vesholom is no stranger to evolving to meet the needs of the community. Originally established as an Orthodox German burial society, the congregation became affiliated with the Reform Movement in 1874, less than a year after the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (later named the Union for Reform Judaism) was established.

In 2019, members of Congregation Achduth Vesholom and B'nai Jacob, a Conservative egalitarian synagogue, voted to

come together. Congregation Achduth Vesholom once again evolved to meet the needs of all congregants, beginning to offer traditional services right away. The new, unified congregation honors both Reform and Conservative traditions, offering services in both styles while remaining Reform in practice, affiliation, and philosophy. Rabbi Meir Bargerone shared that the congregation's relationship with the URJ has "helped [them] navigate large and small questions over time."

Like Congregation Ohev Beth Sholom, Congregation Achduth Vesholom incorporated artifacts from B'nai Jacob's building into their newly renovated campus, including its ark and reading table, symbolically blending the histories of both communities into something new and unique.

Congregation Achduth Vesholom and B'nai Jacob joining together has strengthened Fort Wayne's Jewish community, fostering collaboration across organizations. Today, the congregation's campus also houses the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne, Purdue Fort Wayne's Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society, becoming a vibrant hub of Jewish life and learning.

Rabbi Bargerone reflected, "Being small is our superpower; relationships drive our engagement. Our lifelong learning series, family Shabbat programs, and hands-on mitzvah projects invite every member to bring their full self. That intimacy is what keeps people learning, volunteering, and leading."

Congregation Achduth Vesholom's success proves that connection and evolution are at the heart of thriving Jewish communities everywhere.



Terezin Tree Dedication - On Sunday, October 19, Religious School students and our Temple community gathered to dedicate a new silver maple tree on our grounds — a direct descendant of the legendary Tree of Terezin (Theresienstadt).

Planted originally in 1943 by the children of Terezin with the help of their teacher Irma Lauscher, the tree was nurtured with their limited water

rations — an act of courage and faith in a time of unimaginable darkness. Its descendants now grow in sacred places around the world.

Our sapling came to Congregation Achduth Vesholom through a chain of friendship and remembrance: Kevin Kolar, a friend of Temple member Steve Zacher, connected with Sam Harris, a Holocaust survivor. This sapling once grew at the Illinois Holocaust Museum before finding its new home here in Fort Wayne.

We intentionally planted it beside our playground, where our children can watch it grow tall and strong, just as the children of Terezin once did. The tree reminds us that even in the face of hatred and loss, life and learning endure.

During the dedication, Rabbi Meir offered this blessing:

"Blessed are You, Source of Life, who makes new beginnings possible. May this tree grow in strength and beauty. May it teach our children the power of hope, the necessity of remembrance, and the holiness of nurturing life."

Confronting the Shoah Begins in January

Mark your calendars for “Confronting the Shoah,” a seven-week class presented by Holocaust scholar Dr. David Lindquist that begins in January. Sponsored by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#), this course provides participants with a comprehensive contextual and historical knowledge regarding the Nazi Holocaust.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays, January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10 and 17 at the [Stillwater Hospice Peggy F. Murphy Community Grief Center](#) (5920 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne). Classes begin at 7 p.m. and last about 2 to 2 ½ hours.

There is no cost to Federation members, teachers, principals, historians or high school juniors or seniors. For all others, there is a \$5 fee to cover the cost of materials. Register [here](#) or call the Federation office at (260) 456-0400 or email office@fwjf.org.

We will be providing Professional Growth Points (PGP) certificates at the end of the program upon request.

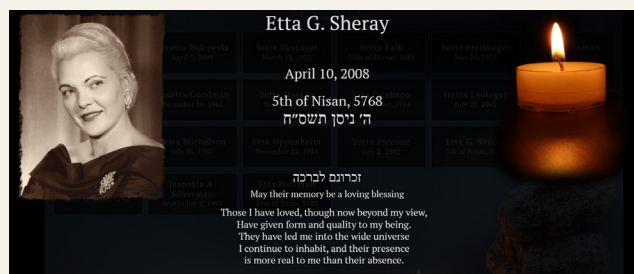
Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and members of Federation for its continued support.

Personalize Your Loved One's Digital Yahrzeit Page

Have you previously purchased a bronze yahrzeit plaque for a loved one at Achduth Vesholom or B'nai Jacob? Or have you recently purchased a digital plaque on our display in the foyer?

If so, we invite you to take advantage of special features on our digital yahrzeit display by providing biographical information and photos of your family member. Forms are available both [online](#) or [on paper](#) to fill out with specific information about a loved one to submit to the Temple office to be added to the display.

Digital yahrzeit plaques are available for \$500 each, with proceeds going to the Temple's Endowment. While the congregation draws from our entire yahrzeit list when we say Kaddish during services, the digital display includes only names for those whose loved ones have purchased a plaque. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 with any questions.



Meet Rosh Chodesh Group for Dinner

Celebrate community and connection with the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's](#) Rosh Chodesh group! We'll be gathering for dinner on Wednesday, November 12 at 6 p.m. at [BBs Indian Kitchen](#) (3235 N. Anthony Blvd).

Dinner is self-pay, but the laughter, stories, and meaningful connections are free to all. Whether you're reconnecting with old friends or meeting someone new, there's a seat for you at the table.

RSVP by Wednesday, November 5 to office@fwjf.org or call (260) 456-0400. All Jewish women in our community are warmly invited.

Unlocking Family Stories Hidden in Photographs



How often have you looked at a family photograph and wondered what more it could reveal about your ancestors? Beyond the familiar faces and dates lie subtle visual clues that deepen our understanding of the people who came before us — their relationships, choices, personalities, and the moments they chose to capture.

Please join the [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) on Sunday, November 9 at 2 p.m. on Zoom for a presentation by Ava Cohn, known worldwide as [Sherlock Cohn, The Photo Genealogist](#).

During her presentation, “*Clued-In: The Stories are in the Details*,” she invites participants to uncover the hidden stories preserved in family photos. This engaging session explores questions such as: What were our relatives hoping to convey when they posed for the camera? How did the photographer influence the image? And how does provenance—the story of how a photograph was passed down—shape our interpretation?

Cohn is an internationally recognized expert in the analysis and interpretation of Jewish family photographs. With clients spanning Europe, North America, Israel, Canada, Australia, and beyond, Cohn has become the go-to authority for uncovering the rich personal and cultural histories preserved in family photos.

A graduate of Brandeis University, Cohn's background includes extensive study in decorative arts, photography history, and costume and theatre history. Since 2009, Cohn has specialized in accurately dating, locating, and identifying individuals in historical photographs, with a particular emphasis on immigrant experiences and Eastern European Jewish traditions.

Registration is required to attend this free virtual program. The link can be found at [Upcoming Events – Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society \(neindianajgs.org\)](#).

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation, the Dr. Louis and Anne B. Schneider Foundation, and the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center for their continued support of NEIJGS programming.

Donations

Jack and Gertrude Adelman Facility Improvement Fund

In memory of Tom O'Neill and Jack Adelman: *Carol & Larry Adelman*

In memory of Jack Adelman: *Rita & Tom O'Neill*

Adult Education Fund

In memory of Todd Sider: *Kathy Sider*

B'nai Jacob (Conservative) Judaism Fund

A donation was received from: *Cantor Penny Myers*

Endowment Fund

In memory of Dorothy Reynolds: *Marcia & Denny Reynolds*

General Operations

A donation was received from: *Christa Cartwright; Juan Suarez, Rachel & Geoffrey Gordon, Judy & Steve Zacher; Adelman Family Philanthropic Fund*

In honor of Micki & Sherwin Kepes' 65th wedding anniversary: *Hannah Lee Pomerantz*

In memory of Oscar Mastbaum: *Cookie & Leonard Mastbaum*

In honor of Samara Sheray's work to keep the 45th Jewish Genealogy Conference attendees safe: *Fran & Irv Adler*

In memory of Jean J. Pownall: *Linda Bullerman; Sue & Jerry Pownall*

In memory of Tom O'Neill: *Susan & Alan Cooperman; Ron Cousino; Dora & Leonid Itkin*

In memory of Abraham Fichman: *Ann Fichman; Kay Fichman*

In memory of Barbara Katinsky: *Ronnie & Norm Greenberg*

In memory of Tobi Greenspan Kepes: *Micki & Sherwin Kepes*

In memory of Leonid Isakovich Kyner: *Eda Kyner*

In memory of Lillian and Irma Benson: *Joanne & Elliott McCrory*

In memory of Max Cohen: *Rebecca & Michael Park*

In memory of William Edward Pownall: *Sue & Jerry Pownall*

In memory of Joe Congress: *Marcia & Denny Reynolds*

In memory of Moses Safirstein, Daniel Stut, and Robert K. Johnson: *Kay Safirstein*

In memory of Jeff Shulkin, Linda Sulkin, and Melvin Shulkin: *Donna & Josh Tourkow*

In memory of Al Zacher: *Judy & Steve Zacher*

In memory of Felix Zweig and Benjamin Rosenberg: *Leona Zweig Rosenberg Charitable Trust*

Holocaust Memorial Fund

In memory of Fira Kutsenok: *Victor Kutsenok*

Max & Gerda Schmitz Holocaust Education Fund

In memory of Hannah Crell: *Rossya & Howard Klebanow*

Kathryn Kann Mendelblat Cultural Enrichment Fund

In memory of Leonard Castle and Dr. Maurice Rothberg: *Cathy Lash*

In honor of Alan Grinsfelder's 90th birthday: *Jennifer and Amy Helburn*

In honor of Stephen Rothberg: *Deborah Rothberg*

In memory of Maurice Rothberg: *Stephen Rothberg*

In memory of Peter Rothberg, Morris Ruderman, Josephine Tothberg, Betty Castle, and Edward Doehrman: *Suzi Stone*

Library Fund

A donation was received from: *Carol & Norman Kempler*

In memory of beloved brother and uncle, Richard Kaplan: *Roberta and Barbara Silverman*

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Guy Copeland: *Barbara Silverman*

Nancy & Michael Dicker Youth & Religious School Fund

In memory of Suzanne Watemberg: *Nancy & Michael Dicker*

Dr. John Planer Music Fund

In honor of Bob Nance's Special Birthday: *Ronnie & Norm Greenberg*

Rabbi Kornspan Tzedakah Fund

A donation was received from: *McNair Engel; Jan & Bill Chambers; Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation was received from: *Christa Cartwright; McNair Engel; Jane Ritchhart & Joyce Stevens; Dora & Leonid Itkin*

In memory of Dorys Meyers, Rose J. Kaplan, and Danny Bradley: *Susie Miller*

In memory of Esther King: *Jim King*

In memory of Irving Walters and Rose Walters: *Irene & Bob Walters*

Religious School

In memory of Felix Zweig and Benjamin Rosenberg: *Leona Zweig Rosenberg Charitable Trust*

ROMEos

A donation was received from: *Cantor Penny Myers; Fran & Irv Adler; Dawn Wilson & Mitch Harper*

In honor of the ROMEos for a delicious Break the Fast: *Amy & Sam Krouse*

Temple Gardens Fund

In memory of Mariam Nemeroff: *Howard Nemeroff*

Thoughtful Thursdays

A donation was received from: *Talia Bugel; Betsy & Geoff Gephart*

In memory of David Ash: *Jessica & Roger Ash*

In honor of Sally & Steve Trotter's Anniversary: *Susan & Alan Cooperman*

In memory of R.J. O'Neill: *Rita & Tom O'Neill*

Weiman Youth Activities Fund

In memory of Kathleen Shine and Myrtle Shine: *Larry Shine*

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](#)

Please Plan for 2025 Year-End

For your 2025 tax planning purposes, our guidelines for establishing the date when dues payments and donations are received:

If by mail, the postmarked date

If hand delivered, the date received at the Temple

If by phone or directly online (credit cards only), the date of the call

Any gifts of appreciated securities must be received into the Temple's account on or before December 15. Contact Robin Tribbett, Senior Financial Advisor, at Optare Financial Partners, Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, at (260) 299-7009 for further information. Wells Fargo Advisors is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC, Member SIPC.

November Yahrzeits

We will not have Shabbat services on November 28. Yahrzeit names for the week will be read on November 21. Please contact the Temple office with any questions.

November 7	Bessie Schmitz	Itta Finkelshteyn	Gittel Rovel	Jacob Reich	Peter Lauinger
Chester Ambler	Haskell Schultz	Kisel Finkelshteyn	Samuel Ruderman	Roslyn Rozeen	Louis Leader
Sam Barabash	Dora Silverman	Leib Finkelshteyn	Minnie Moyer	Rabbi Richard Safran	Sarah LeShay
Solomon Saul Bleifeld	Isaac Steiber	Meyer Finkelshteyn	Sapirie	Nathan Salon	Elsie Levin
Norman Bosell	Jacob Sunshine	Yankel Finkelshteyn	Nathan Shine	Bessie R. Schmitz	Leonard J. Levy
Fannie Salon Bronstein	Leo Sunshine	Betty Fishman	David Lester Smith	Claire Selan	Stanley Maier
Kathy Chapman	Edith Thomson	Phillip Flora	Max B. Wetzstein	James Solomon	John V. Malay
Robert Edgar	Samuel Tillinger	Sophia Maude Gale	Rosalind Wiletzky	Sam Stoller	George Meschel
Rose Ewing	Evangeline Weil	Jennie Gilbert	Celia Zweig	Ron Subeck	Charlotte Novitsky
Isolina Behar de Faierstein	Bronnica Weinberg	Mark Glucklick	November 21	Sidney Trivus	Milton Ontell
Minnie Fidler	Nathaniel S. Wittenberg	Etta S. Gold	David Appel	Maurice Waldman	William J. Platka, Jr.
Abe Fox	Corrine H. Wittenberg	Joseph Golden	Larry Belans	Sarah Weinberg	Rita Jo Levin
Julius Gilbert	November 14-15	Joel Groden	Rose Cohen	Shep Weinswig	Rainey
Annette Glazer	Sonia Abrams	Daisy Hefter	Beatrice Feldheim	November 28	Ruth Rosenthal
Mendel Himelstein	Goldye Appel	Seth Aaron Horwitz	Morris J. Foreman	David J. Ash	Samuel Rothberg
Abe Lachoff	Marquard Bach	Myron M. Horwitz	Saul Goodman	Rachel Behar	Rebecca Ruderman
Isidore Lande	Dorothy "Dot" Burcham	Melvin Krel	Esther F. Grossman	Fanny Brenn	Toba Malka Schwartz
Frances Levis	Sally Cramer	Allen Kwatnez	William Hornstein	Herman Cohen	Kathryn Sheray
Henrietta Levy	Lena Dinnerstein	Mabel H. Kwatnez	Eva J. Huebschman	Emanuel Cohen	Elizabeth H. Smulo
Loren (Gus) Meyer	George Droegmyer	John T. Lawrence	Oscar Allen Isay	Frances Cornell	Vicki Sours
Adolph Meyers	Della R. Ellis	Arlene Siegle Leib	Benjamin Kaplan	Pearl Davidson	Joseph Stiefel
Gertrude Nusholtz	Boris Epstein	Mae Levy	Gladys Katz	Mae Fine	Marguerite Long Thal
Helen Perlis Planer	Maxine Fichman	Alan Lichtenberg	Abraham Levy	Marion K. Grinsfelder	Rose Warshauer
David J. Platka	Rosalyn Friedman Fink	Rachel Lipp	Samuel Liff	Albert Herzog	Herbert Weinraub
Jacob Portman	Dvoiyra Finkelshteyn	Wayne McIntyre	Charlotte Maier	Herman Himelstein	Rebecca Winnick
Irving J. Pressman	Hana Finkelshteyn	Margaret Merin	Moses Mayer	Samuel D. Hurwitz	Mindel Yoinovicz
Dorothy Hassan Schiller		Frank Mullins	Samuel S. Meyers	Edith Gold Hutner	Esther Zissen
		David B. Nelson	Zelda Novitsky	Susan Kaplan	Wilbur Zweig
		Art Perlman	Mildred Prady	Ethel Kruger	
		Joseph Rezits	Harold Prigozen		

Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil and Worship

Each year on November 20, First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne hosts a Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil and Worship Service to honor the lives of transgender and gender nonconforming individuals who have been lost to violence in the past year.

This gathering offers a sacred space for lament, reflection, and hope, as we reaffirm the truth that every person is created in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. The vigil is an intentional spiritual experience, not a religious one.

Temple members are invited to attend the service on Thursday, November 20 at 6:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian (300 West Wayne Street, Fort Wayne). A light cookie and coffee reception will follow, offering an opportunity for fellowship and connection among our wider affirming faith community.

Condolences To:

NOLA & MATTHEW KATINSKY

on the death of his mother, Barbara Katinsky, on September 21, 2025 in Atlanta. We also think of their children, Hannah and Sam, on the loss of their grandmother.

RITA O'NEILL on the death of her husband, Tom O'Neill, on October 5, 2025 in New Haven, CT. We also think of their children, Josh and Noah (Ashley) O'Neill; and their grandchildren, Ryan, Max, and Tess O'Neill.

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.

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

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Jamie Fritz: Comptroller accounts@templecav.org

Stephanie Gottesman: Youth Education and Family Engagement Director youth@templecav.org

Just Sue Graphic Design: Bulletin Design

**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.

[facebook.com/templecavfw](https://www.facebook.com/templecavfw)

[Achduth Vesholom Congregation](https://www.youtube.com/AchduthVesholom)

President's Corner



BETH ZWIG

I lived within walking distance of two delis, Frenkel's and Fanny's, when I was a kid growing up in the Chicago suburbs. I loved going with my parents to pick up a loaf of Rosen's rye bread along with corned beef and coleslaw. Salamis, salads, and smoked fish added to the wondrous

delicacies on display. The well-stocked glass cases provided a backdrop for a long line of barrels, each with pickles bobbing in brine and producing tantalizing aromas filled with promise.

Many years later when I lived in Indianapolis, Shapiro's Deli brought memories from my childhood of tastes and scents. The eatery also became a favorite lunch spot for our CAV contingent - parents and campers alike - before drop-off on the first day of summer camp at GUCI.

For my kids and many others in Fort Wayne, the defining pickle of their childhood is the enormous specimen from the Temple's "[Corned Beef on Rye - Sure to Satisfy](#)" Fundraiser, this year on Thursday, November 6. The impressive "Temple Pickle" definitely gets some giggles from those customers who can't imagine trying to tackle it without first slicing it into smaller spears. Take it from me, you'll want to [order your meals](#) while supplies last!

Make sure also to partake of the entire corned beef experience by helping on Prep Night and Deli Day! Wear a hairnet, rubber gloves, and apron. Put pickles into plastic bags, fill cups of coleslaw, slice brownies, and weigh individual portions of corned beef. Make

sandwiches, fill orders, or assemble drinks. Come earlier in the week to assemble condiment bags with mustard packs, sporks, and more. Our volunteers are vital to pulling off such a large event!

This much-anticipated lunch has become both an important moneymaker for Temple programs but also a not-to-miss event for the Jewish and greater community. New friendships and memories have been made over the sandwich assembly line. Friends are welcome to help, too!

We're grateful to our sponsors - individuals and businesses - whose generosity contributes to the success of Deli Day by helping to underwrite our expenses. Though the sponsorship deadline has passed, we still welcome your [donation](#). (Contact the Temple office with questions.)

Proceeds from the corned beef sale are critical to the Temple's bottom line. Last year, we raised almost \$30,000 on Deli Day to supplement income from membership dues, endowment, donations, planned gifts, and facility rentals.

I'm grateful to our Corned Beef Co-Chairs Amy Krouse and Micah Soltz and their team for their hard work, as well as Executive Director Samara Sheray and our Temple staff for contributing to this favorite event.

Thank you for helping with this important congregational endeavor! Enjoy the camaraderie, savor a mouthwatering meal, and support the sale with your sponsorship and meal purchases! Most of all, make some new memories at our pop-up Jewish deli!



FROM THE TEMPLE BOARD AND STAFF

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. For information, please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org. President Beth Zweig can be reached at (260) 433-3244 or president@templecav.org.

Want to receive our newsletter?

Send your email address to office@templecav.org

The deadline for the December/January Bulletin is Friday, November 14.