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**HOT TOPICS SHABBAT
FOCUSES ON PLANNED
PARENTHOOD**

Our Hot Topics Shabbat returns on Friday, February 19 at 7 p.m. when special guest Jessica Marquardt, Senior Educator/Trainer at Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky, joins us to discuss the women's health services offered by the organization and ramifications of the repeated attacks from Congress. An Oneg Shabbat follows.

BIBLICAL GARDEN TO BLOSSOM WITH NEW LOOK

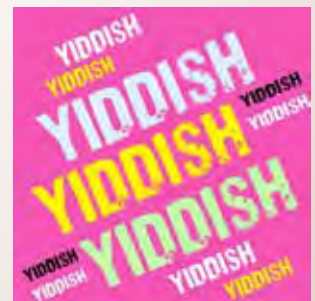
The Biblical Garden in front of the Temple was originally constructed in 1979 by the Temple Sisterhood to bring together nature and the Bible in a way that could be appreciated by all people. Through the years, the types of plants changed from those with Biblical roots to those more adapted to Indiana. When English ivy finally threatened to overtake the garden, a decision to revamp the garden became necessary.

With the anticipation of many visitors to our building after the Madge Rothschild Resource Center opens this fall, the Board of Directors received and approved a proposal from Laura Stine Landscaping to totally redo the area into an environmentally friendly garden filled with many native plants. Work will begin in April, weather permitting. Laura has agreed to allow us to provide "sweat equity" in tearing out the old plantings in order to decrease costs. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ronnie Greenberg.

The Board also voted to change the name of the Biblical Garden Fund to the Temple Gardens Fund. It will be used to maintain all the gardens on the Rifkin Campus at 5200 grounds, including the Spousep Chapel. Donations are appreciated. If you would like to learn about naming opportunities for the new garden, please contact Treasurer Irv Adler for more information.

NU? YIDDISH CLASS COMING IN FEBRUARY

Registration is open for the next six-class session of "Journey Into The World Of Yiddish," beginning Sunday, February 21 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Temple. Taught by Dr. Lee Roberts, Associate Professor of German Studies at IPFW and sponsored by the Temple's Adult Education Committee, the class will cover Yiddish phrases, some writing and reading Yiddish, as well as Yiddish movies, music and culture. The cost is \$25 for Temple members, \$30 for non-members, and \$20 for students of Dr. Roberts. The class will meet two Sundays per month. Your check is your reservation (please include your phone number and email). [Find out more](http://www.templecav.org) at www.templecav.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

*Reservations Required

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

FEBRUARY

Thoughtful Thursdays Bag Assembly
Wednesdays, February 3 & 17
10 a.m. at the Temple

Potluck Dinner* and Torah Study
Friday, February 5
5:30 p.m. at the Temple

Please bring a side dish for eight people to share for dinner. RSVP by the Wednesday, February 3 to the Temple office. During our service, we'll read from the Torah.

Think Summer! Think Goldman Union Camp Institute!

Sunday, February 7
10 a.m. at the Temple
GUCI Camp Director Jeremy Klotz will visit with Religious School parents about our regional URJ camp, followed by a presentation for students.

Torah Study*

Saturday, February 13
9:30 a.m. at Rabbi Cattapan's home
Temple members are invited to join Rabbi Cattapan to discuss the weekly Torah portion. Please RSVP by the Thursday, February 11 to the Temple office.

Journey Into The World Of Yiddish*

Sunday, February 21
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
[Find more information at www.templecav.org.](http://www.templecav.org)

MARCH

Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 20
12:15 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Temple
Lots of food, games, and fun at FOrTY's annual Purim Carnival, the high school youth group's main fundraiser.

Purim Service & Shpiel

Friday, March 25
7 p.m. at the Temple
Celebrate the holiday and nosh on hamentashen at the Oneg Shabbat.

ISIS, TERRORISM AND FUTURE CIVILIZATION

Dr. Ronen Hoffman, an Israeli academic and politician, will speak on "ISIS, Terrorism and Future Civilization" on Monday, February 1 at 7 p.m. at [The History Center](#). The program is sponsored by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#).

SERVICES

FEBRUARY

Friday, February 5 at 7 p.m. Shabbat Torah Service
Bimah Honors: Beth Zweig
Ushers: Scott & Sam Goldberg

Friday, February 12 at 7 p.m. Shabbat Service
Bimah Honors: Yoko Rudolph
Usher: Mike Rush

Friday, February 19 Hot Topics Shabbat Service at 7 p.m.
Ushers: Marv & Doris Gottlieb
Speaker: Jessica Marquardt from Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky

Friday, February 26 at 7 p.m. Shabbat Service
Bimah Honors: Mike Rush
Usher: Mike Rush



At our Hot Topics Shabbat in January, we welcomed Nyein Chan, Director of Refugee Resettlement Services at Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne-South Bend, as our speaker. Also attending (from left) were his colleagues Development Director Liz Flaherty and Clinical Director (and Temple member) Bobbie Golani, and our Adult Education Chair Jan Sarratore.



More than 30 people attending Yiddish movie night last month for a screening of "Mamele" followed by a discussion led by Dr. Lee Roberts, who teaches our Yiddish class. (Find registration information on page 1.)

Rabbi Javier Cattapan

EXODUS' LESSONS FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM



During the month of February, the Torah portions come from book of Exodus. The great biblical scholar Nachum Sarna teaches, "Exodus is the great seminal text of biblical literature; [...] It profoundly influenced ethical and social consciousness so significantly that it is frequently invoked as the motivation for protecting and providing the interests and rights of the stranger and the disadvantaged in society."

Historical knowledge begs the question: Why anyone or any group is seen as "the stranger"? Why have so many been excluded, oppressed, persecuted, and, unfortunately, killed? One could not answer every aspect of this question, so let us concentrate on the book of Exodus.

Let me remind you, that most of the interpretations we find in Rabbinic Judaism attempt to explain what happened in Egypt as well as to reflect their own time. The sages of the Midrash lived 1,000 after the enslavement in Egypt, but they themselves were under foreign domination, that of Rome, so when we study their interpretations, we have to keep in mind that they are also talking about their own time.

There are two main thrusts in explaining why the Jewish people was enslaved in Egypt:

Firstly, some interpretations suggest that slavery was a punishment for assimilating into the Egyptian way of life and wanting to be like the Egyptians. This line of interpretation answers the question, "Why are the Jews persecuted?" by teaching that it was because they did not follow God's *mitzvot*. In other words, bad things happen to people as a punishment for not following God's commandments.

I offer this interpretation for your consideration, but I prefer the teaching found in the *Mekhilta*, a very ancient Midrash collection. "The Jews were worthy of being redeemed precisely because they did not assimilate. Throughout the years of slavery, they did not change their names, their language, or their modes of dress." (*Mekhilta Bo 5*).

In other words, they embraced their otherness. Today we would say, the Jews celebrated their queerness, their diversity, their uniqueness. In this interpretation, enslavement in Egypt is part of God's long-term plan, first expressed in the book of Genesis, to take the Jews to Egypt and teach them (us), through the experience of being slaves and then being redeemed, that we must all be sensitive to the needs of the stranger AND to be thankful to God for intervening and setting us free.

In recent weeks, restricting immigration has risen to top of the political debate, in particular by those who suggest that Muslim immigrants are to be blamed for terrorist attacks around the world. From all quarters of the organized Jewish community, the message has been loud and clear: Concern for national security is not an excuse for xenophobia and isolationism; it is never a good idea nor a justifiable policy to blame one religious or national group for the violence we face daily. To the contrary, we should be even more forceful in working for a sensitive immigration and refugee reform; showing our compassion for the stranger will play an important role in fighting terrorism and enriching our nation.

The book of *Shemot*, Exodus, teaches us to how to understand the plight of the stranger among us and those who may join us. It was not an easy lesson to learn for our ancestors in Egypt and it is not any easier today, but we must strive to pay heed to the historical lessons we learn from the experience of enslavement. As we read the book of *Shemot*, I pray that it will bring about the end of anti-immigrant rhetoric and that we will find the strength to face our own fears so that we can come together as a nation who welcomes and celebrates the stranger among us.

THANKS TO HOME SHABBAT HOSTS

The Temple's 13th Annual Home Shabbat brought together 65 members on January 29 at six homes throughout Fort Wayne.

We'll have photos next month

from this special evening. Thank you to Co-Chairs Leah Hadashi and Beth Zweig for organizing the evening and donating the challah. We also thank our hosts: Fran & Irv Adler, Elissa & Steve Cohen, Betsy & Geoff Gephart, Leah & Shai Hadashi, Nola & Matthew Katinsky, and Beth & Dan Zweig.



Members of the Building Oversight Committee and Architect Richard Wismer reviewed samples of carpet, tile, paint, and cabinets in January to make selections for the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.

The concrete slab for the resource center has been under wraps and curing since late December. Weather permitting, the steel structure is expected to start to appear before the end of January.

LEARN MORE ABOUT STROKE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND CARE

On average, a stroke occurs every 40 seconds in the United States. It is the number one cause of life-changing disability and the third leading cause of death. We invite you to learn more about this important subject by attending a workshop on stroke prevention, intervention, and care for loved ones who have had a stroke on Sunday, March 13 at 10 a.m. at the Temple.

Dr. Rakesh Khatri, Medical Director and President of the Board of Directors for the [StrokeCareNow Network](http://StrokeCareNowNetwork.com), will discuss risk factors, signs and symptoms, potential treatment options, and current research trials. The workshop is sponsored by the Temple's Adult Education and Caring committees. Please RSVP to the Temple office at 744-4245 by Wednesday, March 9.



The ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) offered best wishes to Manny Silverman on his 90th birthday in December.



The Temple hosted clergy and representatives from 13 congregations for the community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service in November.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FOOD DRIVE

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



The Temple's annual Hanukkah celebration in December included a beautiful group candle lighting and latkes.

WARM UP WITH BOOKS FROM TEMPLE LIBRARY



It's February – cold, gray and sometimes a bit tough to get through. A good book will help! Whether you're looking for a novel or non-fiction, we have books for all ages in the Temple Library.

Not only do we have a large selection of our "Friends of the Library" books, but other newer titles include Mark Lavie's "Broken Spring," and "My Basmati Bat Mitzvah" by Paula Freedman. The library is staying put in its "Gift Shop" space in the lobby for a couple more months, and we're open during Religious School on Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and on Tuesday evenings from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.. Contact Betsy Gephart at library@templecav.org with questions or suggestions.

RABBINICAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Temple's Rabbinical Search Committee is reviewing applications for candidates to become our next spiritual leader, beginning July 1. Thank you to Co-Chairs Stan Levine and Steve Zacher, and Committee Members Rikki Goldstein, Matthew Katin-sky, Chuck Replane, Danny Rifkin, Chris Riley, Kathy Sider, Ellen Tom, Wendi Wallet, and Ethan Zweig.

THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS COLLECTING TISSUES



The Jewish community's Thoughtful Thursdays team is collecting boxes of tissues to distribute to the 72 Brightpoint Head Start students who attend class at the Temple. Volunteers are welcome to join the Bag Assembly team on February 3 and 17 at 10 a.m. to put together food, household and educational items to distribute to the families. Questions? Contact Jamie Berger, Thoughtful Thursdays chair.



YOUTH NEWS

GUCI DIRECTOR TO VISIT WITH PARENTS AND KIDS AT THE TEMPLE

Jeremy Klotz, director of [Goldman Union Camp Institute](http://www.gucicamp.org) in Zionsville, will visit Religious School on Sunday, February 7 to share the latest news about camp, including opportunities for



first-time campers. Parents of students in grades 1 to 8 are invited to meet with Jeremy at 10 a.m. and then join their children for the program that follows.

During the morning, parents will find out about special discounts for Temple members who register their children by the end of February and about camperships, including those available through our congregation. First-time campers may be eligible for \$1,000 camperships through the Foundation for Jewish Camp at www.onehappycamper.org.

Registration is underway at GUCI for children entering grades 3 through 10. A two-week Taste of GUCI program is offered for first-time campers entering grades 3 through 6, with the option of extending for two additional weeks (space permitting).

The impact of Jewish summer camp lasts a lifetime with opportunities for making friends, learning, and, most importantly, having fun in a setting where it's cool to be Jewish! Questions about Jeremy's visit? Contact Dan or Beth Zweig.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

We welcome Kristin Goldberg as the newest member of our Religious School staff. She will be teaching students in grades 4 & 5. Jessica Ash previously taught the class.



Ethan Zweig, 17, shares photos and stories with other Religious School students from his spring 2015 semester attending the NFTY-EIE High School in Israel. To find out about summer Israel trips for high school students, visit www.nftyisrael.org



Kindergarten students practice the Shema for their Consecration. We celebrated the start of their formal Jewish learning during our Shabbat service on January 22. Mazel tov to the students and their families.



Religious School students made holiday cards for Thoughtful Thursdays families as part of their Hanukkah activities in December.

SOCIAL ACTION FOCUS OF NFTY PROGRAM

FORTY President Ethan Zweig was one of 90 high school students to attend NFTY's Winter Kallah last month at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. The kids had an exciting weekend focused on social action and social justice, as they learned about LGBT rights and meal planning on a tight budget. They also discussed gun violence prevention, which is NFTY's social action focus for the year. The teens enjoyed the comedic talents of Rabbinical Student Michael Danziger, as well as music from student song leaders. FORTY is looking forward to NFTY-Ohio Valley Spring Kallah on April 14-17 in Nashville, Tennessee.

PRIZES NEEDED FOR PURIM CARNIVAL

FORTY, our high school youth group, is looking for donations of raffle prizes and silent auction items for the Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 20. Please consider donating gift cards, movie tickets, a specialty food item, and more. We're looking for unique silent auction items, too. Please drop off prizes at the Temple. Please contact us at fortyouthgroup@gmail.com with questions. Thank you for your support!

Jack & Gertrude Adelman Facility Improvement Fund

In memory of Ruth Aichele:
Fritz & Sally Aichele

Campership Fund

In memory of Lorry Goldenberg:
Sherman & Karen Goldenberg
In memory of David Warshauer: *Doris Fogel*
In memory of Leonard Weinraub:
Karen Sandler

Endowment

In honor of Manny Silverman's 90th birthday
and in memory of David Warshauer and
Shep Weinswig:
Alan & Maureen Grinsfelder
In memory of Roy Lawrence Kalver:
Neil & Carol Sandler

Floral

In memory of David Warshauer:
Jim & Suzi King

General Operations

Donations were received from:
*Flapan Family, Juan Suarez and
Bill & Louise Warshauer*
In appreciation of the support of our friends:
Leonid & Dora Itkin
In honor of Alan Grinsfelder's birthday:
Leonid & Dora Itkin
In honor of Manny Silverman's 90th birthday:
Steve & Sally Trotter
In memory of Ruth Aichele:
Andy & Janet Katz
In memory of Ida Finkelshteyn:
Jon & Jamie Berger
In memory of Henry Friedman:
Norma Friedman
In memory of Dr. Max M. Gitlin:
Dorothy Gitlin
In memory of Samuel Greenberg:
Norm & Ronnie Greenberg
In memory of Clair Johnson and Fraida
Safirstein: *Kay Safirstein*
In memory of Manuel K. King:
Jim & Suzi King
In memory of Celia Mastbaum: *Leonard &
Cookie Mastbaum*
In memory of Stephen J. Novitsky:
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lipsig

In memory of Deborah Rachel Neiman,
Ethel J. Trotter and Jerome Moses Trotter:
Steve & Sally Trotter

In memory of Pauline Price: *Stan Levine*
In memory of Minnette D. Ruchman and
Leonard Weinraub: *Bill & Louise Warshauer*

In memory of Minnette Ruchman:
Bruce & Holly Warshauer

In memory of Harry Rush:
Mike & Jo Ellen Rush

In memory of David Warshauer:
*Larry & Carol Adelman, Norm & Ronnie
Greenberg, Tom & Rita O'Neill and
Steve & Sally Trotter*

In memory of David Warshauer and Ida
Finkelshteyn: *Dan & Beth Zweig*

In memory of Leonard Weinraub:
*Emily Kass, Donna Weinraub, Michael
& Sharon Weinraub and Steve & Shirley
Weinraub*

In memory of Shep Weinswig:
*Larry & Carol Adelman, Alan & Susan
Cooperman, Burton & Clare Figler,
Norm & Ronnie Greenberg, Planalytics,
Kathy Schreiner-Leipsner and Marilyn Segal*

Gold/Turansky Campership

In memory of Sidney Gold and Dorothy B.
Gold: *Joe & Rita Gold*
In memory of Sidney Gold and Edwin
Turansky: *Bud Turansky*

Ryan Goldstrom Memorial

In memory of Glen Goldstrom:
Rob & Lori Goldstrom
In memory of David Warshauer:
David & Cookie Rosenblum

Dr. John Planer Music Fund

In appreciation of Norm & Ronnie
Greenberg: *Mike & April Barasch*
In honor of Manny Silverman's 90th birthday:
Norm & Ronnie Greenberg

Holocaust Memorial

In memory of Ida Finkelshteyn:
Steve & Sally Trotter
In memory of Shep Weinswig:
Leonid & Dora Itkin

Jacob & Ethel Mansbach Campership

In memory of Susan Hakey and Ann Shafer:
Art & June Shafer

Prayer Book Fund

In honor of the Ben-Yehoshua family:
Irv & Fran Adler

Project Assist - Thoughtful Thursdays

In honor of Jon Berger's birthday:
*Irv & Fran Adler, Steve & Sally Trotter and
Steve & Judy Zacher*

In honor of Jon Berger and Manny
Silverman's special birthdays:
*Larry & Carol Adelman and
Richard & Cindi Wismer*

In memory of David Warshauer:
Richard & Cindi Wismer
In memory of Sam Fogel and Leonard
Weinraub: *Doris Fogel*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation was received from Andy & Janet
Katz
In appreciation of Rabbi Cattapan:
*Mike & April Barasch, Leonid & Dora Itkin,
Jim & Suzi King and Lorraine Weinswig*
In memory of Beatrice Cristil and Sam
Cristil: *Marvin Cristil*

In memory of Sidney L. Schecter: *Kari Bentz*
In memory of Leonard Weinraub:
Janet Weinraub
In memory of Shep Weinswig:
Jeremy & Leslie Perelman

Religious School

A donation was received from the Flapan
Family

Rifkin Campus at 5200

In memory of David Warshauer:
Jon & Jamie Berger

S. Wyle Weiman Youth Activity

In memory of Mollie Kutcher:
Len & Rikki Goldstein

Temple Gardens Fund

In memory of Faye Bodenstein:
*Andy & Jennifer Cohen and Steve & Elissa
Cohen*
In memory of Loren Meyer and Geraldine
Reich: *Norm & Ronnie Greenberg*
In memory of Shep Weinswig:
Steve & Elissa Cohen

YAHRZEITS

FEBRUARY 5

Judith Baitcher
Sidney Baitcher
Louis Brenn
Ann Butler
Dr. Maurice A. Chodosh
Jane Costanza
Beatrice Cristil
Mae Freiburger
Henry Friedman
Pearl Z. Gladstone
Fred R. Golden
Mary Brooks Gutowitz
Abraham Heilbroner
Irma Hesslein
Isadore Kaplan
Mary Kohn
Rose Latker
Peter Lauinger
John Vaun Malay
Arthur Marx
Joan Leva Marx
Rosa Novitsky
Ben Oppenheim
Fay Pecken
Mae Rifkin
Emily Sahlmann
Ben Salon
Rabbi Samuel Strass
Abraham Strouse
Jennette M. Vogel
Harry A. Wenbert
Nathan Wertheimer
Max Yaffe
Jacob Yentis

FEBRUARY 12

Stephen Bosell
Esther Congress
Jacob E. Dessauer
Adolph Epstein
Leah Margaret Ford
Shirley Ruth Jason Ford
Florence Frank
Rose Goldberger
Hy Goldenberg
Frida Greengrass
Louis Jason
Roy Lawrence Kalver
Julia Kraus
Joseph Kutcher
G Irving Latz
Rebecca Milstein
Irving Rifkin
Dr. Herman Rudensky
Jack Ruderman
John Sabo
Max Salon
Jack I. Schultz
Ann Shafer
Diane Spanjer
Ethel Strassberg
Mildred Weber
Sadie Zinn

FEBRUARY 19

Joseph Baum
Norman Bosell
William Bronstein
Carrie (Latz)Frank
Lawrence D. Gordon
Michael Guerrasio
Leon Himelstein
Ruth Horn
Rose Horwitz
Benjamin J. Hutner
Ernest S. Iczkovitz
Sam Jacobson
Clair Johnson
Alex K. Klein-Klarke
Stella Komito
Beatrice Lamb
G. Irving "Bud" Latz II
Eliza Lichtenberg
Robert Polz
Fannie Ress
Dr. J. M. Rosenthal
Harriet Rudensky
Harry Rush
Hyman Abraham Sachs
Robert B. Schuller
Abraham Silver
Louis Sulzer
Sally Zack

FEBRUARY 26

James Walter Burcham
Fannie Cohen
Sam Cristil
Alexander Drozdova
Steven L. Ellis
Sheila Gaspar
Dr. Conrad Goode
Lillie Gosney
Nettie Gottlieb
Lillian Altman Gubitz
Ruvim Gurevich
Louis A. Heilbroner
Helen Hassan Kaufman
Isadore Kramer
Samuel Kwatnez
Malcolm Lachman
David Landy
Hattie Lehman
Estelle Lesser
William Lesser
Rae Wolf Levine
Henry Levy
Jacob Lipp
Eva Orenstein
Jeanne Phillips
Mary Pollak
Pauline Price
Irwin Rosenbaum
Cecelia Rothschild
Louis Ruderman
Fraida Safirstein
Irwin Samuel Sagan
Tillie Bosell Snow
Rabbi Leo Stillpass
Esther S. Stillpass
Robert A. Watson
Irving Weinswig
Larry Wittenberg

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE WITH YAHRZEIT PLAQUE

Please contact the Temple office at 744-4245 if you'd like to purchase an individual nameplate in memory of a loved one to be displayed on the wall outside the Sanctuary. Plaques are \$300. Lights are illuminated next to individual names on the anniversary of death and on Yom Kippur. Proceeds support the Temple's Endowment.



CONDOLENCES TO:

- Alan, Jennifer, Sam, Grace, Jacob and Mia Bodenstein and their family on the death of Alan's mother, Faye Bodenstein, who died on January 13, 2016 on Long Island, NY.
- Dora & Leonid Itkin and Larisa Drozdova

and their families on the death of Dora's stepmother and Larisa's aunt, Ida D. Finkelshteyn, who died on December 29, 2015 in Fort Wayne.

- Janet Weinraub and Susie Ferkel and their families on the death of their father, Leonard Weinraub, on December 27, 2015 in Florida.

- The Warshauer and Zacher families on the death of David Warshauer, who died December 19, 2015 in Indianapolis. We think of his wife, Marie Zacher Warshauer, and their sons; his parents Bill & Louise Warshauer; his siblings Bruce & Holly Warshauer, Ed & Amy Platt, and Don & Susan Kennicott; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Al & Hannah Zacher; and his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Steve & Judy Zacher.
- Bonnie & Alex Crubaugh and family on the death of his mother, Geraldine Crubaugh, who died December 19, 2015 in Austell, Georgia.
- Lorraine Weinswig and family on the death of her husband, Shep, who died on November 23, 2015 in Fort Wayne.

Charter Member of the Union For Reform Judaism
Javier E. Cattapan, Rabbi Rabbi@TempleCAV.org
Richard B. Safran, Rabbi Emeritus

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Want to receive our newsletter?
Send your email address to
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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, Brightpoint Head Start, and the Madge Rothschild Resource Center (Coming in Fall 2016).



www.facebook.com/templecavfw

WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS

The Temple board welcomes your comments and suggestions. We will do our best to address your questions and concerns. Please contact the Temple office at 744-4245 (office@TempleCAV.org) for information. President Joe Cohen can be reached at 260-423-8861 or hjc@barrettlaw.com.

USHER IN SHABBAT WITH CHALLAH

Get involved at the Temple by volunteering to usher at Shabbat evening services and receive a delicious challah! All Shabbat ushers receive a gift certificate for a tasty loaf donated by [Waynedale Bakery](#), 2610 Lower Huntington Road. Please call to volunteer.

HELP THE TEMPLE THROUGH KROGER

Please support the Temple by registering your Kroger Plus card to indicate you'd like Achduth Vesholom to benefit from your purchases. [Find out more about Kroger Community Rewards](#) on our website.

The deadline for the March bulletin is Friday, February 12.

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

Guest Columnist



If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? If not now, when?

These are the words of Hillel that I would like you to consider as we begin the process of developing a Temple budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, and as we look ahead

for the next few years. The key part of this process is our dues pledge campaign, which will start in a few weeks.

You will be getting a letter and a dues pledge sheet from the Temple with contribution guidelines. We will ask you to make a dues pledge to your congregation. Although, it would be wonderful if we had a money tree growing behind the Temple, unfortunately, we don't. We rely on the generosity and the sense of responsibility of our congregants to provide sufficient dues to support the operating expenses of our Temple.

No, we don't have a crisis, but we do have a problem that we are working to address and your dues contributions are an important part of the solution. Because of demographics and other factors, our membership base has been shrinking, while the needs of our congregation continue. And with this change in membership comes a loss in revenue from dues, which puts significant strains on our budget.

With the Rifkin Campus at 5200 and the new Madge Rothschild Resource Center as a focal point for the Fort Wayne Reform Jewish Community, and likely other Jews as well, we hope our membership will increase. However, we don't have a crystal ball. We have to deal with our demographics - like it or not. So, as we plan for our upcoming fiscal year, we need sufficient revenues from dues to support our congregation.

For the past 167 years our Temple has been an example of Judaism for the Greater Fort Wayne Community. Congregation Achduth Vesholom provides a moral compass to the Jewish community, a house of counsel, a sanctuary for those of our community in need, a center of education and a safe haven for those who require assistance.

We realize that there are congregants who may have financial issues and we respect that. Fortunately, we have congregants who accept the responsibility of stepping up for those who are less able, and the Temple is grateful for their generosity.

So when you receive your dues pledge letter in the mail, please look at it and, if possible, raise your dues commitment. Please support your congregation and its good works. Thank you!

Irv Adler
Treasurer