

# THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM

# BULLETIN

BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1848

April 2020

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## SHARE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19 CLOSING

To be responsible to our congregational community, the Temple's Board of Directors made the difficult decision to close our building beginning Friday afternoon, March 13 through at least Saturday, April 18 due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. All worship services, education classes, and social programs are canceled or being held by virtual communication methods.

Sadly, this means we will not have a second-night Seder on April 9 (see page 3) nor will we publicly be able to celebrate Leo Powell's Bar Mitzvah on April 4. (You're invited to share in Leo's simcha online.)

Please watch for email and Facebook updates on our congregational page as we share online streaming of some worship services and educational programs in the coming weeks. Our website at [www.templecav.org](http://www.templecav.org) also will provide updated information.

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## RABBI MEIR BARGERON NAMED TEMPLE'S 24TH SPIRITUAL LEADER



We are very pleased to announce that Rabbi Meir Bargeron will join Congregation Achduth Vesholom on July 1 as the Temple's 24th spiritual leader.

Rabbi Meir will be ordained at Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles on May 17, 2020 and enters the rabbinate after a career

in clinical social work and nonprofit management in the health care sector. HUC-JIR has postponed the in-person graduation and ordination ceremonies and currently is working on plans to mark the occasion.

A native of Petoskey, Michigan, Rabbi Meir graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in English Education. He began his working years in Silicon Valley and quickly learned how much he enjoyed working with people. This led him to complete a Master of Social Work degree at the University of St. Thomas and St. Catherine University in St. Paul, MN.

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## ATTEND LEO POWELL'S BAR MITZVAH ONLINE

During this time of social distancing, we aren't able to gather in person as a congregation to call Leo Powell to the bimah as a Bar Mitzvah as planned.

However, we can share in the day online with Leo and his parents, Marnie & Mark Lowden and Jason Powell, as they mark this important milestone from home on Saturday, April 4 at 11 a.m. via Zoom, led by Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig from her home.

Please join us for this simcha - the support of Jewish community is especially important during this unusual moment in history. RSVP to the Temple office at [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) by Thursday, April 2. We will send you the link to attend the bar mitzvah.

We look forward to calling Leo to the Torah in our Sanctuary at a future date to recognize his efforts and share in the celebration together! Mazel tov to Leo and family!

FOR INDEPTH NEWS & DETAILS

online

TEMPLECav.ORG



## Schedule Changes

## IN THIS TIME OF UNCERTAINTY, THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

As the Temple supports our congregants and the Jewish community in new ways in the coming weeks, we also look to brighter days ahead. Our rabbi, staff, and leadership continue to reach out to members to check on immediate needs. At the same time, we are looking down the road in planning programming, worship, simchas, social action, and Religious School when it's safe again to gather together on Old Mill Road at the Rifkin Campus.

We know many of our members have had sudden changes in their employment situation and business operations. Please know that the Temple is here for you. We do not turn away anyone based on his or her ability to pay membership dues. At the same time, we rely on those who are able to help to make up for those who cannot afford their annual commitment to the congregation.

Before the current COVID-19 crisis, the Temple sent dues pledge letters to members in an effort to help us realistically plan our budget. Thank you to those who returned them. We appreciate your continued generosity to the Temple. Please contact VP Finance Scott Goldberg at (765) 749-4739 or [treasurer@templecav.org](mailto:treasurer@templecav.org) if you have any questions or concerns about your dues. We rely on these honest and confidential conversations to help us plan Temple finances. Thank you.

# YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS.

## THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS HOPES TO RESUME BAG ASSEMBLY IN MAY

The Jewish community's Thoughtful Thursdays volunteers will not meet in April. We hope to meet on Wednesday, May 6 at 11 a.m. to assemble the final bags of the school year for our 72 Brightpoint Head Start children who attend class at the Temple.

Thank you to all who contributed money to help purchase socks for our Fresh Start program to assist men, women, and young adults who are exiting various segments of the judicial system. We also are continuing to collect hotel-size shampoo, conditioner and body wash for Fresh Start.

Thoughtful Thursdays is nearing the end of our 10th year and we couldn't have accomplished so much without the many committed and loyal volunteers. Following our final bag, we'll gather for a volunteer appreciation luncheon and meeting.

Thank you to our volunteers from Congregation Achduth Vesholom and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#).

-Co-Chairs *Jamie Berger and Bonnie Pomerantz*



## APRIL SERVICES AND EVENTS

Activities in our building are cancelled through at least Saturday, April 18. Some virtual classes and programs will be offered. Please visit our website at [www.templecav.org](http://www.templecav.org) and our [Facebook page](#) for updates or check the weekly congregational email. (Contact us to be added to our weekly email)

We are following recommendations of health and government officials. Shabbat services at the Temple will resume as soon as we are safely able to do so. Thank you.

### ADULT LEARNING:

**Tuesday, March 31** from 7 to 8:30 p.m. - [How to Hook Up to The Hotline to God](#)

**Wednesday, April 1** at noon - [Lunch & Learn With Rabbi Winnig](#)

## VIRTUAL SHABBAT AND PASSOVER EVENTS

**Friday, April 3** from 6 to 6:15 p.m. - [Shabbat Candle Lighting Together](#)

**Saturday, April 4** at 11 a.m. - [Leo Powell's Bar Mitzvah](#)

**Wednesday, April 8** from 6 to 6:15 p.m. - [Passover Candle Lighting](#)

**Saturday, April 11** from 10 to 11:30 a.m. - [Pesach & Shabbat morning service and Torah study](#)

**Tuesday, April 14** at 7 p.m. - [Passover Yizkor service](#)

## ONGOING EVENTS

Check the [Temple website](#) in the coming weeks for updates on:

- Mah Jongg Open Play
- Lunch with the [ROMEOS \(Retired Old Men Eating Out\)](#)

## OUR CAMPUS PARTNERS

- [The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) has postponed events during April, including the annual People of the Book lecture and the Yom Hashoah community commemoration.
- [The Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) has postponed its May 3 program with the [Indiana Jewish Historical Society](#) on the Indiana Cemetery Project and Reading Jewish Gravestones.
- [The Fort Wayne Jewish Cemetery Association](#) and [Purdue Fort Wayne Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies](#) are working remotely.
- [Brightpoint Head Start](#) classes are not meeting.

## MITZVAH DAY POSTPONED

Plans to care for the Jewish section at Lindenwood Cemetery as part of the Temple's Mitzvah Day have been postponed from Sunday, April 19.



# RABBI PAULA JAYNE WINNIG

## ADAPTING FOR AN UNUSUAL PASSOVER



בשנה הבאה בירושלים

*Bashana Habah B'iyrushalayim*

Next year in Jerusalem

The words "Next Year in Jerusalem" are used to end every Pesach seder. They are used to remind us that we hope and pray each year that next year we will live in a world of peace, security, and freedom for all. I think this year, more than ever, these words resonate with us as we face a Passover without the physical presence of our friends, family and community. Sadly, we enter this Pesach with anxiety, fear and concern like what Jews have felt throughout the ages.

Our ancestors in Europe worried that during their seders someone would try to plant evidence that they were guilty of blood libel. During the time of the black plague, our ancestors worried they would be accused of spreading the disease. Many times in our history, some observed Passover in secret so neighbors would not know they were Jews.

And even the rabbis who created our seder rituals sat hidden in caves celebrating Passover out of view of the Romans. But celebrate they did because Passover gives us hope! Hope for freedom. Hope for the future and hope that all people and our world will be united and whole.

If the Coronavirus experience has taught us nothing else, it has certainly taught us how interconnected our world really is. We have learned how something from a city far away can affect all of us. We are truly one world, even if most of the time we forget that fact.

This Passover will be hard. We can't get all the foods we usually eat or use for our seder plates. We can't be with our loved ones in person. We can't invite our friends and neighbors to share our Passover experience in person. It won't be the same.

But not being the same doesn't mean it can't be fabulous!!! Fortunately, through the blessing of electronics, we can bring our loved ones into our homes. We can still cook a lovely meal and carry on our centuries-old rituals. We can definitely drink our four cups of wine (no driving to worry about this year!) and ask the four questions. We can also contemplate new questions about our world and the future.

In this newsletter and in the coming days, you will receive information about how to access materials for your family's seder. I will post videos to help guide you through the preparation for a seder and the various parts of the seder. We will gather to light the candles together on the first night of Passover on Wednesday, April 8 at 6 p.m. [via Zoom](#) to share in welcoming the holiday and greet each other.

We will rejoice in our community, our family, and our world this Passover and pray that next year we will be in the Jerusalem of our souls, reunited with family and friends and living in a world safe, secure, and free.

*Hag Sameach*, Happy Passover to all! May you be safe and healthy!

Sending virtual hugs to all!

Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig

### WHY IS THIS NIGHT -AND YEAR- DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHERS?

Passover begins on Wednesday, April 8 when we retell the story of the Jews' exodus from Egypt and freedom from bondage. While we need to practice social distancing this year and had to cancel the congregational second seder, we can still make the holiday meaningful and utilize technology to be together.

As a congregation, we will gather virtually to light candles together on Wednesday, April 8 from 6 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. [via Zoom](#) to share in welcoming the holiday and greet each other. Rabbi Winnig will be posting videos on the [Temple's Facebook page](#) to offer guidance in preparing for a seder and its various parts. (See Rabbi Winnig's column above.)

**Also during Passover:**

Virtual Torah Study & Worship and Yizkor Service - See page 14.

Resources for having a virtual Passover celebration with family and friends include:

- [How to Hold A Virtual Passover Seder in the Year of Coronavirus](#)
- [How to Host A Virtual Passover Seder: A Comprehensive Guide](#)
- [Find a virtual seder, gathering or program](#)
- [Digital content to enliven this year's virtual seder](#)
- [Passover in a pandemic: Families on Zoom, solo seders and broken traditions](#)
- [9 Easy Seder Activities You Haven't Thought Of Yet](#)
- [Five Passover Movies You'll Love](#)
- [MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger](#)
- [Make your own Haggadah](#)
- [A guide to online Passover shopping amid a pandemic](#)





**HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO RABBI SAFRAN!**  
 Our Temple family wishes a very happy and healthy birthday to Rabbi Emeritus Richard B. Safran on his 90th birthday on Monday, April 6!

Rabbi Safran served as Achduth Vesholom's spiritual leader for 26 years, retiring in 1995. He's lived in Tucson for many years since.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Library Fund in honor of Rabbi Safran's milestone and to benefit our Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library. The congregation named the library in 2000 in honor of Rabbi Safran's 70th birthday.

**ONLINE RESOURCES FOR BOOKS AND STORIES**

With the [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#) temporarily unavailable until the building re-opens, we're featuring resources that you can access at home to find Jewish books. There are several resources online for all ages of readers.

Beginning with the youngest readers, [PJ Library](#) has some wonderful kids' material on its website. In particular, "Listen" offers story podcasts and music audio for Jewish children. They also have a podcast, "Have I Got a Story for You!" that comes out monthly and features a Jewish folktale for kids. On the [PJ Library Facebook page](#), they're offering virtual story times and craft-alongs and even virtual field trips.

Continuing the tradition of storytelling, [ReformJudaism.org](#) offers a weekly podcast called "[Stories We Tell](#)," featuring a Jewish folktale or fairy tale. Read by various URJ Rabbis, the episodes are about five

minutes long and there are three years of weekly stories available.

For adults, the [Jewish Book Council](#) is the premiere resource for book suggestions, with book reviews, reading lists, and book club guides on their website. They have a new "Book Search" option which allows you to search by genre and category. [Tablet magazine](#) is another good source for Jewish book reviews and ideas. Or if you're feeling really adventurous, check out the Online Digital Library at the [Yiddish Book Center](#).



This is just a small sample of what is available. We'd love to hear about any resources you discover!

**A PRAYER DURING THE TIME OF COVID-19: "SOUL AND BREATH" BY DR. ELANA STEIN HAIN**

Our God, the souls and breaths that you have placed within us are pure

You created them, You fashioned them, You breathed them into us and You preserve them within us,

And for each and every breath we must praise You,

As is written, "Every soul (neshamah) shall praise God,"

"Every breath (neshimah) shall praise God.

Lord of souls and breaths,

We seek out Your face, and Your spirit to hover over the deep that has opened up

To breathe into us once again the breath of life

For we are in great travail – all who bear the breath of life

And we do not know what to do.

Instill within all medical teams and world leaders a spirit of wisdom

To understand, to discern to learn, to teach and to do

A spirit of counsel and might to renew their strength.

And instill within all of us a spirit of knowledge to protect ourselves

And the fear of God to care for our fellow – the weary, the exhausted and infirm

And to honor our elders.

Bless us with a spirit of forbearance for we have not enough strength against this great multitude that comes against us.

And fulfill through us that which is written:

"Thus said God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them forth, Who spread forth the other and that which comes out of it, Who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk therein. I, the Lord have called you in righteousness and have taken hold of your hand and protected you..."

“נְשָׁמָה וְרוּחַ”  
 א-לוֹהֵינוּ, נִשְׁמוֹת וְנִשְׁמוֹת שְׁנַת בְּנוֹ  
 טְהוֹרוֹת הֵן  
 אַתָּה בְּרֵאתָן אַתָּה יִצְרַתָּן אַתָּה נִפְחַתָּן בְּנוֹ  
 וְאַתָּה מְשַׁמְרָן בְּקִרְבֵינוּ,  
 וְעַל כָּל נִשְׁמָה וְנִשְׁמָה חַיִּיבִים אֲנַחְנוּ  
 לְקַלֵּם לָךְ  
 כְּדַכְתִּיב, כָּל הַנִּשְׁמָה תִּהְלֵל י-ה, [1] כָּל  
 הַנִּשְׁמָה תִּהְלֵל י-ה [2]  
 אֲדוֹן הַנִּשְׁמוֹת וְהַנִּשְׁמוֹת,  
 מִבְּקָשִׁים אֲנוּ אֶת פְּנִיךָ וְאֶת רוּחְךָ לְרַחֵף עֵי  
 הַתְּהוֹם שֶׁנִּפְתַּח  
 לְהַפִּיחַ בְּנוֹ עוֹד נִשְׁמַת חַיִּים  
 כִּי בִצְרָה גְדוּלָה אֲנַחְנוּ כָּל אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁמַת רוּחַ  
 חַיִּים בְּאֶפְרוֹ וּבִאֶפְרוֹ  
 וְאַנַּחְנוּ לֹא נִדְעַ מִה נַעֲשֶׂה  
 אֲתָן בְּכָל צוּרוֹתֵי הַרְפּוּאָה וּמְנַהֲיָגֵי תַבַּל רוּחַ  
 סְקָמָה  
 לְהַבְיִין וְלְהַשְׁכִּיל לְלַמֵּד וּלְלַמֵּד וּלְעֲשׂוֹת  
 וְרוּחַ עֲצָה וְנִבְרָה לְהַחֲלִיף אֶת כּוֹחַם  
 וְתָן בְּנוֹ רוּחַ דְּעֵצָה לְשִׁמּוֹר עַל נַפְשׁוֹתֵינוּ  
 ה' [3] לְטַפֵּל בְּזוּלָתְךָ, בְּעִיפִים וּבִיגְעִים  
 וּבְנַחֲשֵׁי שְׁלֵימָה,  
 וְלְהַדִּיר פְּנֵי זְקֵנֵינוּ.

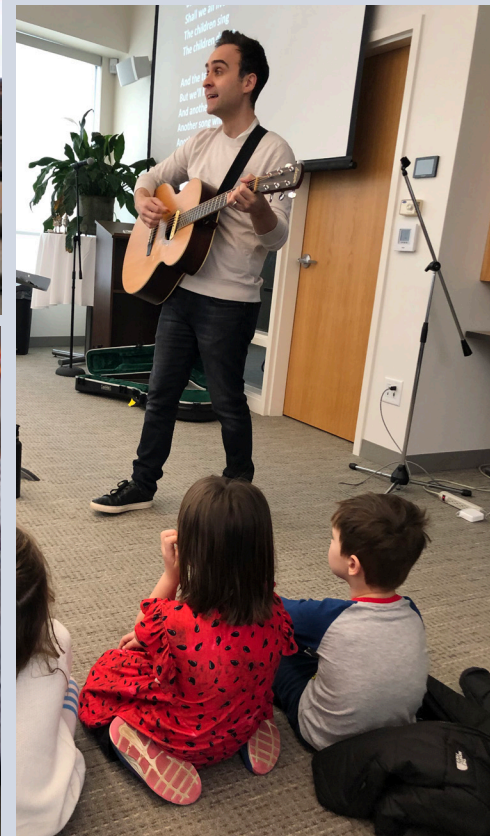
בְּרַךְ אֹתָנוּ עִם אַרְךָ רוּחַ כִּי אֵין בְּנוֹ כַּה לֹא  
 הַהַמּוֹן הַרַב הַזֶּה הַבֵּא עֲלֵינוּ [4]  
 וְקִיִּים בְּנוֹ מִה שְׁכַתּוֹב:  
 " כֹּה-אָמַר ה'-ל ה' בּוֹרֵא הַשָּׁמַיִם וְנִשְׁמָתָם  
 רָקַע הָאָרֶץ וְצִאֲצִיאָהּ נְתַן נִשְׁמָה לְעַם עַלְיוֹן  
 וְרוּחַ לְהַלְכִים כֹּה אָנִי ה' קְרֵאתִיךָ בְּצִדְקָה  
 וְאֶסְמְךָ בְּנֶדֶף וְאֶצְרָךְ ... [5]"

[1] Tehillim (Psalms) 150:6; [2] Bereshit (Genesis) Rabbah 14:9; [3] Isaiah 11:2; [4] II Chronicles 20:12; [5] Isaiah 42:5-6

# YOUTH NEWS



Religious School students spent a musical morning with Artist-in-Residence Alan Goodis on March 1. The singing was especially lively when Alan taught the children a song he wrote with kids at URJ Camp Eisner encouraging them to “Stand Up! Go Be Courageous... Be Strong! Make It Contagious... Don’t Stop You’ve Got the Fight” Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salom Foundation for its support.



## JEWISH FRIENDSHIPS AND FUN AT GUCI

A great summer of fun and Jewish friendships is planned at [Goldman Union Camp Institute](#), our regional Union for Reform Judaism camp in Zionsville. Register soon to ensure your child has a space! Need campership information? Contact the Temple office for an application.



## SUMMER FUN AT CAMP JOE LEVINE

[Registration](#) is open for the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#)'s Camp Joe Levine for children ages 4 to 13. The day camp meets during the weeks of July 6, 13 and 20 at [Fox Island County Park](#). For more information, please contact the Federation office at (260) 465-0400 or [office@fwjf.org](mailto:office@fwjf.org).

## DONATE TO PROVIDE BIRTHDAY BOXES FOR FOSTER KIDS

Religious School students will be providing [birthday](#) boxes for local children ages 3 to 13 in foster care with cake mix, frosting, birthday candles, a banner or streamers, a new children's book, a gift card, and a personalized note with birthday wishes.



The goal is to raise enough funds to make 60 boxes by May 2020 to deliver to the Allen County Foster Parent Association. Weekly tzedakah collected at Religious School will go toward the project. Each box will cost approximately \$36. Additional donations are appreciated. Checks should be made payable to “CAV – The Temple” and earmarked for “birthday boxes.”

## GRADUATION NEWS WANTED

Since most graduation ceremonies are not taking place this year in the same way as originally planned, we are especially eager to celebrate this education milestone within our Temple family.

If you have a child graduating from high school or college this year, please let us know so that we may offer congratulations, list the school attended, and include future plans in our Bulletin. Please send graduation information by Wednesday, May 6 to be included in our June/July Bulletin. Contact us at [office@TempleCAV.org](mailto:office@TempleCAV.org) or 744-4245.



# CELEBRATING PURIM AT THE TEMPLE



With rolling pins, cookie cutters, and a variety of fillings at the ready, a team of Temple bakers prepped for Purim on March 1, making dozens of delicious hamantaschen for the Temple's Purim events. President Ellen Tom recruited the helpers and organized the fun event. Using dough made by Wendi Wallet, we rolled, cut, and filled the three-cornered cookies with Nutella, Biscotti, strawberry, blueberry, apricot, and Honeycrisp apple preserves. We sampled a few hamantaschen fresh out of the oven and, after our work time, also enjoyed delicious egg salad made by Pam Feldman. Thanks to all who assisted!

We came together '60s-style and got by with a little help from our friends during a Beatles-themed Purim celebration on Monday evening, March 8. A delicious pasta dinner followed the merriment. The evening included a traditional telling of the story of Esther and Mordechai, with chanting of the megillah by Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig and Pam Friedman.

Thank you to our Purim singers accompanied by Maestro Robert Nance and our acting crew. Thank you to Rabbi Winnig for all her efforts creating a wonderful evening. Special thanks to Executive Director Samara Sheray for making magic in the kitchen. Thanks to all who participated on the streets of Shushan and to those who donated macaroni and cheese boxes to shake when Haman's name was read - which was donated to the YMCA's Youth Service Bureau.



The Temple's annual Purim Carnival on March 8 brought delights for all ages! The afternoon of fun included a costume contest, games and a bounce house; silent auction items from artwork to jewelry to pasta-making; Bingo games and prizes for adults; beer from Chapman's Brewery, wine and a Bloody Mary bar; and pizza, lox & bagels, kugel, hamantaschen, and more.

Thank you to the Carnival Committee: Leslie Cohen, Geoff Gordon, Shai Hadashi, Matthew Katinsky, Amy Shepsman Krouse, Samara Sheray, and Ellen Tom. We appreciate our volunteers and all who supported a wonderful event!



Alan and his wife, Codi, and their daughter with Codi's parents, Temple members Cindi & Richard Wismer

Artist-in-Residence Alan Goodis shared a weekend of Jewish music and inspiration with us at the Temple. He joined Rabbi Winnig on February 28 for a beautiful Shabbat evening service. We celebrated Leap Day night in our own “coffeehouse,” beginning with a lovely Havdalah service. Alan introduced us to many new songs with insights into the Jewish texts and meaning. He also shared stories behind how some of them were written during his visits to Jewish summer camps. Thank you to Kathy Sider for coordinating Alan’s visit and the delicious refreshments. We also thank the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.



**TOUR A JEWISH MUSEUM OR VIEW AN EXHIBIT ONLINE**

Even with museums worldwide closed temporarily, we can still visit them from our homes through online exhibitions or virtual tours.

Whether the Jewish Museum in New York, the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, museums in Israel, or a guide to Jewish Heritage Europe, get comfortable in front of your screen and take a look.

Possibilities include:

- **The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum** – Look at online exhibitions. The Holocaust: History and Memory provides a new way for students to learn. The virtual field trip includes nine different scenes from the museum.
- **Israel’s museums** are using the web to offer cultural options, hosting virtual tours of current exhibits, activities for the young and old, talks from curators and artists, and lectures. Find out more.
- **Judaica Europeana** is a network of archives, libraries and museums working together to integrate the most important collections of European Jewish heritage and make them discoverable to more people. Find out more.
- Check out the Ultimate Guide to Virtual Museum Resources, E-learning, and Online Collections.

**Online Exhibitions**

SHARE   



**Americans and the Holocaust**

This exhibition examines the motives, pressures, and fears that shaped Americans' responses to Nazism, war, and genocide.

## RABBI MEIR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rabbi Meir served the community as a leader in two nonprofit organizations in the health care sector before working in a group practice as a clinical social worker. Meanwhile, Rabbi Meir was an active member at Congregation Shir Tikvah, his home synagogue in Minneapolis, where he was a lay prayer leader, served on committees, and eventually served on the board of trustees. Jewishness and Judaism became the center of his life, and eventually he discerned a call to serve the Jewish people as a rabbi.

During his rabbinical education, Rabbi Meir served as a chaplaincy intern at a nursing home in Jerusalem and also at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, a student rabbi at Congregation B'nai David in Visalia, CA and a rabbinic intern at Congregation Or Ami in Calabasas, CA.

At Or Ami, Rabbi Meir taught in the religious school and led a program to engage teens in social action. He also provided guidance to a lay-led social justice team and to a group of older congregants as they built a village community within the congregation. Rabbi Meir coordinated communications and provided pastoral support as the congregation responded to the needs of those who were displaced or lost their homes in a series of wildfires. He continues this work to support congregational connection during the current public health crisis.

He also led High Holy Day services for two years for the Jewish community in Port Angeles, WA. Rabbi Meir's rabbinic thesis is titled "I Will Be What I Will Be: Biblical Texts for Those Who Are Becoming Jews," and provides pastoral commentaries to support those who are in the process of converting to Judaism. Learn more about him at <https://www.rabbimeirbarger.com/>.

Rabbi Meir is married to Jon Tam, an engineer and college instructor.

The Temple's Board of Directors approved Rabbi Meir's hiring following the unanimous recommendation from the 11-member Rabbinic Search Committee chaired by Fran Adler and Mike Rush. We have signed a three-year contract.

In unanimously recommending Rabbi Meir to the board, the Search Committee members said they had "found a man who is warm, approachable, empathetic, and kind. He is intelligent and thoughtful and has a deep love of Judaism. He is eager to reach ordination and step into the position of a congregational rabbi. We were all very impressed with his authenticity."

The committee indicated that "the reason we even considered a soon-to-be-ordained student is that Meir came to the rabbinate as a second career, with a strong background in social work. He is mature, has tremendous life experience, and has the confidence to take on new challenges."

As July approaches, we'll keep you informed about opportunities to welcome Rabbi Meir and Jon. A Transition Committee will be named to assist them in getting settled in Fort Wayne and at Achduth Vesholom.

Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig, who began serving as our Interim Rabbi in August 2019, will continue as our spiritual leader through June 30, 2020 before assuming a new post as Interim Rabbi at Congregation Rodef Sholom in Youngstown, Ohio. Please save the date to join us for services and an Oneg Shabbat in honor of Rabbi Winnig on Friday, June 26.

**For the past two years, our Rabbinic Search Committee has been diligent in seeking the right rabbi for Achduth Vesholom. Thank you to Fran Adler and Mike Rush for their leadership and committee members Elissa Cohen, Bruce Colegrove, Marnie Lowden, Tom O'Neill, John Planer, Scott Salon, Mark Schneider, Wendy Soltz, and Sally Trotter for a job well done.**



*Cheryl Schorey and other participants in Rabbi Winnig's tallit-making class continued to work on their prayer shawls in early March.*



# COVID CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Temple staff is working remotely and keeping all aspects of the operations of our congregation running. Phones are forwarded and messages listened to regularly. Email is continually monitored and mail that comes through the postal service is picked up. Rabbi Winnig is available for virtual visits and phone calls.

Individually and collectively, our day-to-day life has been upended during the past few weeks. Though the Temple is unable open its doors right now as a destination for Jewish community, we've shifted to offer online options to bring us together and continue to connect.

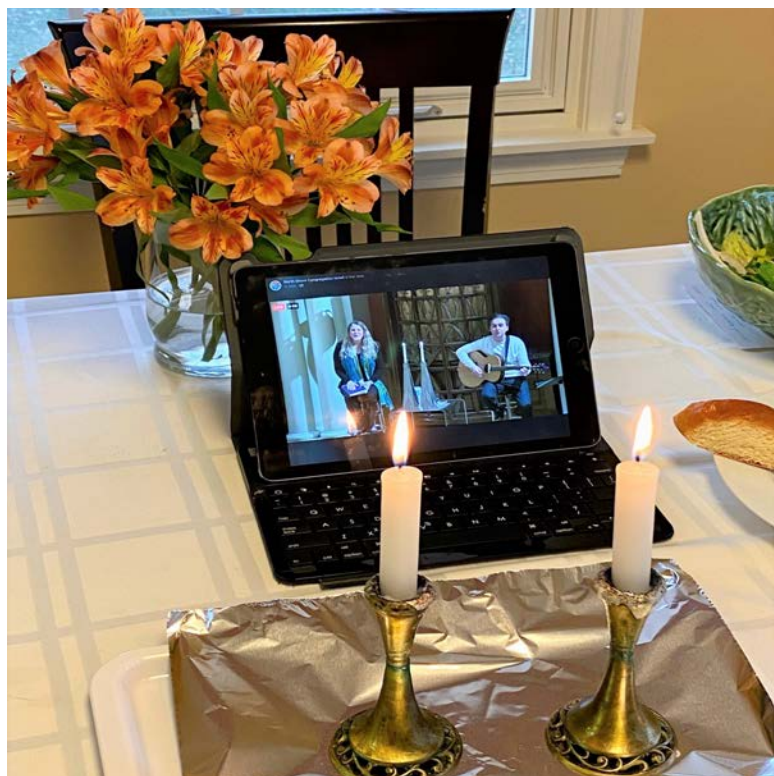
## The decision to close

During the days and hours before the board meeting on March 12, closings of schools, decline of the stock market, cancellation of large gatherings, and worrisome news from health officials were accelerating. We moved the board meeting from the conference room to the main area of the Madge Rothschild Resource Center to allow for sitting farther apart and practicing social distancing.

A lengthy discussion about whether to close the building included the Temple board, along with Jaki Schreier, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.

While everyone felt that action was necessary, concerns were discussed about the impact on our Campus Partners, including Brightpoint Head Start and its preschool program for low-income children ages 3-5. (Brightpoint later decided to close through May 1.)

The Temple board also decided that all Achduth Vesholom employees would be paid during the closing.



*With the Temple closed, some members shared Shabbat dinner with family at home and attended an online worship service.*

Once the leadership decided to temporarily close our doors, the Temple's staff and volunteers stepped up to help. Phone calls were made immediately that evening to those impacted by the cancellation of a Religious School dinner the next evening, an upcoming simcha, and the second Seder.

The next morning, President Ellen Tom, Rabbi Winnig, Executive Director Samara Sheray, Administrative Assistant Marie McFadden, and Communications Committee Chair Beth Zweig consulted to develop plans and inform congregants and Campus Partners.

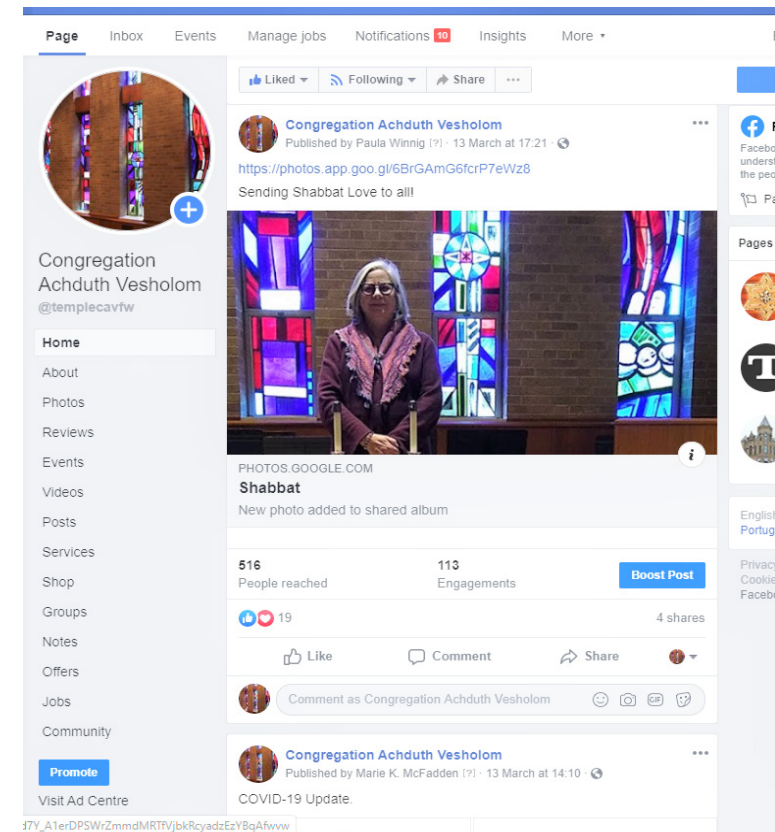
A letter from Rabbi Winnig and Ellen went by email to members and was posted on the Temple website and Facebook page. A Callingpost went to all members (to make sure to reach those without internet access). The ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) and mah jongg players were alerted to cancel plans for the time being.

Phone-forwarding and voice-mail procedures were checked so we could maintain operations. A list of yahrzeit names for the coming weeks was prepped. Videoconferencing and livestream options were explored. We reviewed plans with Bonnie Pomerantz at the Federation and the postal carrier who brings our mail to maintain smooth operations.

Maintenance Chief Clint Rossiter and Anna Rossiter continued cleaning efforts and discussed plans to disinfect the building before we reopen.

Within an hour of closing and before Shabbat on March 13, Rabbi Winnig posted a video on our Facebook page with a message recorded in the Sanctuary offering her thoughts and the blessing over the Sabbath candles. In other posts, she said a Mishebeirach prayer of healing, as well as read yahrzeits and led Kaddish for our Achduth Vesholom family.

Continued on page 10



*Rabbi Winnig offered a Shabbat greeting on Facebook that was recorded in the Sanctuary on March 13 - a last message in the building before the Temple closed in response to the COVID-19 health emergency.*

## COVID CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

By Monday, March 17, Achduth Vesholom's leadership and Caring Committee began partnering with the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne to reach out to the Jewish community to offer good wishes and support through virtual visits, food shopping, or helping with other needs.

### The move to virtual community

On Fridays during the weeks of closing, Rabbi Winnig posts on the Temple's Facebook page to offer a Shabbat message, light candles, say Mishebeirach, read yahrzeits and recite Kaddish.

The Temple also has added new adult education sessions, including a Lunch & Learn class, with Rabbi Winnig online via Zoom videoconferencing. As sessions are planned, links are provided to members and subscribers in our weekly email on Thursdays and to the general community on our [Facebook page](#) and [website](#). We've also made arrangements for a virtual service for Leo Powell's Bar Mitzvah.

We are providing links to online Shabbat services all over the U.S. and some of the other Jewish offerings. Our monthly Bulletin continues to be sent by e-mail with congregational news.

Our staff and volunteers have participated in virtual meetings with others in the Reform Movement to share ideas and resources.

[Maestro Robert Nance](#), who has shared a musical piece on his Facebook page every day of the national emergency, reached out with [Shabbat greetings](#) to our Fort Wayne Jewish community. "Mi Chamocha," "Oseh Shalom," and "Mi Shebeirach" were the featured pieces. Bob played piano with vocals by Temple member Stanley Levine and Brian Sussman of [Heartland Sings](#).

Several of our members were among the 400+ people who participated in a virtual Havdalah service on Saturday, March 21 sponsored by [Goldman Union Camp Institute](#), our regional Union for Reform Judaism camp, as part of their new [GUCI Gatherings](#).

Rabbi Winnig and Bruce Colegrove continue to teach their Hebrew students using internet conferencing.

Temple committees continue to meet via conference call. Our staff and leadership continue to be in touch and are navigating as the situation evolves.

### Now what?

We wait and see what health and government officials recommend.

Allen County Health Commissioner Dr. Deborah McMahan issued an order beginning March 22 prohibiting church gatherings of more than 10 people. She encouraged places of worship to utilize online opportunities to meet spiritual needs and to encourage social distancing and avoiding any nonessential gatherings.

The Temple board will consult in the coming weeks to see when we can re-open for Shabbat worship and in-person events. We are postponing Mitzvah Day on Sunday, April 19, the L'dor Vador Shabbat service on Friday, May 1, and the Holocaust Symposium on Monday, June 15.

While we can't anticipate dates yet, we look forward to dedicating the newly remodeled Goldstine-B'nai Jacob Chapel, to celebrating in-person the milestone of Leo Powell becoming a Bar Mitzvah, and being together for Shabbat, meetings, and special occasions.

In the meantime, we need to work hard to stay connected to each other. Please keep in touch with each other. Please reach out to help people who might be in need of food assistance. Please stay calm and peaceful as we heal our bodies and our world in the coming weeks.

### THANKS TO OUR TEAM OF CALLERS!

We appreciate the staff and volunteers from the Temple and Federation to assist in our effort to reach out to Fort Wayne's Jewish community during this challenging time. The team included: Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig, Larry Adelman, Pam Friedman, Melissa Kessel, Marie McFadden, Bonnie Pomerantz, Denny Reynolds, Jaki Schreier, Samara Sheray, Kathy Sider, Ellen Tom, Wendi Wallet, and Beth Zweig

### BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AT WORK

The Board Development Committee is hard at work putting together a slate of candidates for the Temple's Board of Directors for the fiscal year 2020-2021. If you are asked to serve, please give the honor serious consideration.

The congregation will vote on candidates at the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 10 at 7 p.m. Thanks to Chair Bobbie Golani and her committee: Jamie Berger, Pam Friedman, Ronnie Greenberg, Chuck Replane, and Donna Tourkow.



### MAZEL TOV TO:

[Rabbi Jen Gubitz](#), who serves Temple Israel of Boston and grew up at Achduth Vesholom, on being named in February by Combined Jewish Philanthropies in Boston a [Chai in the Hub](#) honoree. She is one of "12 young adults are doing amazing things personally and professionally to better Greater Boston's Jewish community." Asked to describe her career in one sentence, she said: "Judaism + Human Condition = intentional conversation, compassionate listening, deep learning, and innovative ways of gathering." Congratulations also to her parents, Charlene & Jeff Gubitz.



# WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTION NEWS

Voting for U.S. representatives to the World Zionist Congress, the international “parliament of the Jewish people,” ended on March 11 and was conducted primarily online at ZionistElection.org with thousands of paper ballots also sent in by postal mail. Find election results.

The seven-week U.S. election for the World Zionist Congress garnered over 120,000 votes, more than double the turnout of the last election in 2015 and the highest number of votes since the election began for the entire American Jewish community 30 years ago.

ARZA/Vote Reform and Reconstructionist Movement won the election, garnering 31,500 votes, an increase of nearly 50% from the 2015 election, putting it in position to lead a powerful progressive block to work in the name of Reform values: pluralism, equality, and freedom.

“The election results demonstrate the strength of our platform, and the Vote Reform slate is ready and eager to help build a democratic society in Israel that truly reflects the Jewish values we hold dear: pluralism, equality, economic justice, and peace,” says said Rabbi Josh Weinberg, URJ’s vice president for Israel and Reform Zionism and the executive director of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America.

A total of 15 slates, composed of nearly 1,800 candidates, were vying for 152 American seats for the Congress during the election organized and facilitated in the US by the American Zionist Movement (AZM).

The World Zionist Organization designates representatives to The Jewish Agency for Israel, The Jewish National Fund, and other affiliates. The Congress meets every five years in Jerusalem, and it is the only body in which all of World Jewry is represented democratically. These decisions influence hundreds of millions of dollars in funding and paid portfolios.

After the votes are certified, the number of delegates per slate will be apportioned using a formula outlined in the official election rules. The 38th World Zionist Congress is scheduled to be held in Jerusalem from October 20-22, 2020.



## APRIL IS GENOCIDE AWARENESS MONTH



Due to the current health emergency, Fort Wayne’s annual Yom Hashoah commemoration this month has been postponed by the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.

Achduth Vesholom also has postponed its Holocaust education program planned for June and the keynote address by David Estrin, grandson of four Holocaust survivors

who is the founder and chief executive officer of Together We Remember. Together We Remember is a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming remembrance of the past into a global movement to advocate for victims of atrocities, genocide, and identity-based violence.

April is Genocide Awareness Month. During the coming weeks, Together We Remember is transforming its in-person events into virtual experiences and helping others do the same. Find the events. The group notes:

“At a time when we have to come together to counter hate, the Coronavirus is keeping us apart. The haters and deniers won’t rest and neither will we. That’s why we’re taking our national campaign online to transform remembrance into action.”

Join the founders and architects behind the #TogetherWeRemember movement for the official (virtual) launch of the national campaign on Wednesday, April 1 at 8 p.m. During the meeting, the organization will commemorate and celebrate life and share its vision for Genocide Awareness Month and how to get involved in a meaningful way from the comfort and safety of your home. Expect speakers and maybe even a few special performances in the global TWR community.

Events include a Virtual Yom Hashoah Ceremony: 75 Years After Liberation, Turning Memory Into Action on Sunday, April 19 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. with the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

## JOIN US FOR VIRTUAL YOM HASHOAH AND YOM HAATZMAUT OBSERVANCES

While we cannot gather in-person this year, we invite you to share in a virtual commemoration of Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on Monday, April 20 at 7 p.m., led by Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig via videoconferencing. Find out how to connect to this important observance for our Fort Wayne community via Zoom.

Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel’s Independence Day, will be observed on April 28-29. Please watch your email and our Facebook page for updates.



### NOTES ON THE TEMPLE’S USE OF ZOOM

One of the ways we are staying connected with our congregation is through the use of Zoom, a video-conferencing system. Due to security concerns, we will put all people in a “waiting room” for our zoom conferences before we let you in.

A few reminders:

- Please be patient as it may take some time to identify everyone.
- Please “rename” yourself so we can see who you are as you enter our Zoom waiting room.
- Please try to get online a few minutes before the start of each online experience so that we can start on time.

You also can use Zoom on your phone by using the call-in number. We won’t be able to see you, but you will be able to hear our programs. If you have questions about using the Zoom technology please see: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>.

# DONATIONS

## Adelman Facility Improvement Fund

In memory of John Aichele: *Sally & Fritz Aichele*  
In memory of Estelle Salnitsky: *Rita & Tom O'Neill*

## Joseph & Elsa Adler Memorial Fund

In memory of Joseph Adler, Chaje Nichtern, and Elsa Adler:  
*Fran & Irv Adler*

## Campership

In memory of Goldie & William DuBow: *Vivian Skadron*  
In memory of Sophie Glazer, Fred Glazer, and Samuel Zweig:  
*Beth & Dan Zweig*  
In memory of Chuck Weinraub: *Susan & Alan Cooperman*  
In memory of Rabbi Frederick Doppelt, Lucille Doppelt, and  
Thomas Gray: *Carolyn Doppelt Gray*

## Dr. John Planer Music Fund

In memory of Sarah Cohen: *Micki & Sherwin Kepes*

## Endowment Fund

In memory of Morris Kaye: *Larry Shine*  
In memory of Chuck Weinraub: *Maureen & Alan Grinsfelder*  
In memory of Helen Rath: *Irene & Bob Walters*

## General Operations

Donations were received from: *Samara Sheray, Scott Fergusson*  
In memory of Lois & Conrad Goode and Hannah Zacher:  
*Judy & Steve Zacher*  
In memory of Molly Cohen: *Lis Kahn*  
In memory of Chuck Weinraub: *Cindi & Richard Wismer,*  
*Ronnie & Norm Greenberg, Betty Fishman, Karen Sandler*  
In memory of Roz Greenstein: *Karen Sandler*  
In memory of Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt: *Enid & Stan Rosenblatt*  
In memory of Morris Kaye: *Thomas Shine*  
In memory of Daryoush Shalom Boudai: *Doris & Kourosh Boudai*  
In memory of Rosa Fishman: *Carol & James Levy*  
In memory of Abe Dubin and Frieda Kretzman: *Donna & Josh Tourkow*

## Holocaust Education Fund

In memory of Morris Erman and Frieda Erman: *Fran & Irv Adler*

## Holocaust Memorial Fund

In memory of Eddie Field: *Diane & Steven Field*

## Katherine Kann Mendelblat Fund

In memory of Josephine & Peter Rothberg: *Steve Rothberg*

## Library Fund

In honor of Rabbi Richard Safran: *Karen Sandler, Fran & Irv Adler,*  
*Susan & Alan Cooperman, Betsy & Geoff Gephart, Beth & Dan Zweig,*  
*Dora & Leonid Itkin, Micki & Sherwin Kepes*  
In memory of Chuck Weinraub: *Betsy & Geoff Gephart*

## Prayer Book

In memory of Harry Leiberman: *Vivian Skadron*

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Chuck Weinraub: *Janet Weinraub, Cathi & Ron King*  
In memory of Morris Kaye: *Jody & Steve Shine*  
In memory of Abraham Kaplan and Rose Ochstein Kaplan:  
*Susie Miller*

## Religious School

In memory of Herb Rynearson and William Ochstein: *Mical Rynearson*  
In memory of Mort Trauner: *Theresa & Scott Trauner*

## Temple Gardens Fund

In memory of Elmer Lewis: *Rita & Mike Lewis*

## Thoughtful Thursdays

In memory of Monroe Marcus and Dr. Robert King: *Suzi & Jim King*  
In memory of Loni Wolf: *Jo Ellen & Mike Rush*

**Explore all of our Tribute Funds.**



## HELP TEMPLE WITH AMAZON

Did you know that you can help the Temple when you purchase items through [AmazonSmile](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-0135020)? Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-0135020> and indicate you'd like your purchases to benefit Achduth Vesholom Congregation. Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price. Thanks!



## SHOP AT KROGER AND SUPPORT THE TEMPLE

Here's how you can help when your purchase groceries or other items at Kroger:

- Learn how to [register your Kroger Plus Card](#)
- Don't have a Kroger Plus card yet? [Request one](#)
- Already have a Kroger Plus Card? [Sign in](#)
- Need Kroger's organization number for the Temple? It's IF039

Thanks for supporting the Temple!



# APRIL YAHRZEITS

## April 3-4

Jerome Ackerman  
 Mariana Apfelbaum  
 Sam Berebitsky  
 Lucy Z. Berk  
 Elizabeth Bransilver  
 Herbert Brateman  
 Mose Caplan  
 Mildred Cramer  
 Herman Davis  
 Semen Drozdov  
 Louis Engelhard  
 Henriett Erber  
 Arnie Feinberg  
 Helen Fine  
 Sophie Glazer  
 Minnie Glucklick  
 Mushke Golder  
 Bella Gubitz  
 Louis S. Hallenstein  
 Florence M. Hill  
 Sarah Mildred Jacobson  
 Dr. Sheldon Kantor  
 Abraham Kaplan  
 Samuel Lauferty  
 David Levin  
 Barney Levin  
 Shirley Ruth Marer-Brateman  
 Benjaim Margolies  
 Ronald Miller  
 Nelson K. Neiman  
 Jane L. Neiman  
 David Ochstein  
 Ida Price  
 Barbara Rosen  
 Izidor Schacter  
 Etta G. Sheray  
 Isabel Sider  
 Adam Smulovitz  
 Nikki Kaplan Stern  
 Flora Strouse  
 Lila Berman Tankel  
 Marguerite Waltemath  
 Nathan Weinstein  
 Florence Weis  
 Karen S. White  
 Diane Wolf

Ruth Zamrin  
 Ryan Zimmerman

## April 10-11

Steve Abrams  
 Samuel Appel  
 Samuel Babich  
 Libby Babich  
 Harry G. Browarsky  
 Loretta Bukowski  
 Harry S. Dale  
 Rae Dorman  
 Goldie DuBow  
 Rabbi Jacob M. Eppstein  
 Herman Freiburger  
 Jan Gassman  
 Rita Gold  
 Ida Goldberg  
 Isser Goldin  
 Ira Greenberg  
 Aaron Haslacher  
 Dorothy Horn  
 Edith Horwitz  
 Sidney M. Hutner  
 Ida Hutner  
 Tillie Starr Isay  
 Leopold Isay  
 Sylvia Laderman  
 Rebecca Lande  
 Ida Latz  
 Mary Levy  
 Bessie Levy  
 Dorothy G. Maier  
 Jerry Morgenstein  
 Valette Moyer  
 Carrie Nathan  
 Chaim Norkin  
 Helen O'Neill  
 Ann Pelz  
 Bess Rosenblatt  
 Otto D. Rothschild  
 Arnold Schaffer  
 Ida Schneider  
 Benjamin Schultz  
 Sylvia L. Shafer  
 Mark Smith  
 Samuel Stein

Barney Sterling  
 Earl Stewart  
 Emma A. Strass  
 Sharon Subeck  
 Jane P. Woolner  
 Samuel Zweig

## April 17-18

Moses Amber  
 Charles Baskes  
 Ronald Brateman  
 Jacob Bruch  
 Sonia Cooperman  
 Sara A. Doppelt  
 Sonia Finkelstein  
 Oren Evan Ford  
 Eva Friedman  
 Cecilia Gans  
 Etta Gepsman  
 Fred Glazer  
 June Saul Himelstein  
 Louis Hirsch  
 Judy Isroff  
 Elizabeth Ruth Johnson  
 Charles Kirschner  
 Bella Kessler Klein  
 Samuel Kornspan  
 Betty Lauferty  
 Harry Levey  
 Isidor Levy  
 Ben Levy  
 Irving Luskin  
 Ruth Mark  
 Mike Mattingly  
 Irma M. Meyer  
 Frederick Milz  
 Harriet Mirman  
 Steven Moyer  
 Tillie Ochstein  
 Samuel Ochstein  
 Jean Rehm  
 Peter Alan Rothberg  
 Bernard Rothschild  
 Anna Lee Shefman  
 Max T. Schmitz  
 Harry Sheray  
 Erna Shulkin

Rosetta R. Siegle  
 Lena Silverman  
 Anna Trauner  
 Morton Trauner  
 Philip Trivus  
 Israel Weber  
 Rosa Weil  
 Wyle Weiman  
 Samuel Weinberg  
 Dorothy Whisler  
 Tina Wilcox  
 Alan Lawrence Winnerman

## April 24-25

Sylvia Baker  
 Samuel Brateman  
 Edward K. Burcham  
 May Bussel  
 Sophia Ebner  
 Leah Edleman  
 Meyer Fine  
 Rebecca Goldberg  
 Leonard Goldstein  
 Lena Goltz  
 Samuel A. Heilbronner  
 Leonel Kahn  
 Rebecca Kaplan  
 Irina Kutsenok  
 Louis Latker  
 Larry Levin  
 Irwin Mallin  
 Werner Manheim  
 Gary Nemeroff  
 Nathan Nemeroff  
 Adelaide Pollak  
 Zelda Punsky  
 Virginia Ray  
 Catherine Revesz  
 Jo Rothberg  
 Arthur Michael Rudek  
 David L. Safran  
 Arthur Albert Sapirie  
 Margaret Silverman  
 Alan Slutsky  
 Samuel Herbert Stern  
 Louis Stiefel



## CEMETERY PLOTS AVAILABLE AT LINDENWOOD

Temple members in good standing are eligible to purchase plots in the congregation's Y and YY section at Lindenwood Cemetery. Please contact the Temple office for information. Each plot is \$2,200.

## WE CARE

Please let the Temple office or Rabbi Winnig 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.

## OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

**Jeff Wolf and his brother, Ed**, on the death of their sister, Loni Wolf, on February 26, 2020 in Fort Wayne.

**Maestro Robert Nance and family** on the death of his mother, Virginia Anne Mumford Nance, on March 8, 2020 in Fort Wayne



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 Paula Jayne Winnig, Interim Rabbi  
 Richard B. Safran, Rabbi Emeritus  
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 VP Program: Kathy Sider  
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 Secretary: Bobbie Golani

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Jessica Ash	Wendi Wallet
Talia Bugel	Steve Zacher
Pamela Friedman	Beth Zweig

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**TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS:**

The Temple office is currently closed until at least April 18, 2020. Temple staff can be reached remotely Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (260)-744-4245.

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.



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



Want to receive our newsletter?  
 Send your email address to  
[office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org)

**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 (260) 744-4245 ([office@TempleCAV.org](mailto:office@TempleCAV.org)) for information. President Ellen Tom can be reached at [president@templecav.org](mailto:president@templecav.org).

**The deadline for the May Bulletin is  
 Tuesday, April 14**

**GUEST COLUMNIST  
 WENDI WALLET**

*Wendi Wallet is chair of the Religious School Committee.*

**“If you do not create change, change will create you.” ~Unknown**

As I write this column, I stare out my window and notice that the grass has started to change from brown to green. The tree outside my window has changed from being bare to having buds. The season has changed from winter to spring. In the last month our lives have drastically changed...

Change, to most of us, can make us worried, scared or anxious. Change often makes us feel uneasy. It’s no wonder that we are resistant to change. But what we don’t realize is that change itself is constant. Resisting or avoiding change will not prevent it from entering our lives. Are unplanned and unexpected changes bad? Ask yourselves, what if all changes were good by default?

Congregation Achduth Vesholom has gone through a number of changes since I moved to Fort Wayne in 2012. These changes include things like hiring new Rabbis, installing a new Executive Committee and President, adding the Madge Rothschild Resource Center, welcoming Congregation B’nai Jacob, and remodeling the Goldstine Chapel.

Some of these changes were planned and expected and others were unplanned and unexpected. Whether they were expected or not, they changed our congregation. Those changes have ultimately defined who we are as a community and have been beneficial and helped us to grow as a congregation.

As we stare at change in the face and our country tries to find normalcy, I challenge you to try to find something positive in the changes we are experiencing. Try and remind yourselves that those changes were bound to happen. Change is inevitable and it is up to us to make these changes a positive experience.

Not being able to go to work each day has allowed me to spend more time with my children and watch them grow and do that thing that makes us feel uncomfortable--change! Embrace the changes as they are presented and focus on how those changes make us better people.



**TORAH STUDY AND WORSHIP ONLINE FOR PESACH**

Join us during Passover for a virtual Shabbat morning service led by Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig on Saturday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We’ll gather online for an abbreviated service and Torah Study with appropriate prayers and readings for Passover. All are welcome. Connect with us via Zoom.

**YIZKOR PESACH SERVICE ON APRIL 14**

Passover is one of the three festival times each year that Jews observe Yizkor. Please join us on Tuesday, April 14 at 7 p.m. for a virtual Yizkor service on the evening of the seventh day of Passover, led by Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig. During Yizkor, we’ll share memorial prayers. Connect via Zoom.