# ÐH. CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM

September 2021

# **BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1848**

# INSIDE THIS ISSUE 2 **High Holy Days** Schedule

## CELEBRATE THE HIGH HOLY DAYS IN PERSON OR ONLINE

L'shana Tovah! Please join us as we welcome the New Year 5782 as a community, gathering together to hear the sound of the shofar and offering prayers for renewal, forgiveness, good health, and peace.

As we continue to navigate the pandemic, we'll offer Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services both in person and via



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TEMPLECAV.ORG

September 15. Find the full schedule

be offered for a third year.

SHARE SUKKOT CELEBRATIONS AND VISIT OUR SUKKAH Shake the lulav and inhale the lovely scent of the etrog this month during several Sukkot celebrations in honor of the harvest festival. We look forward to welcoming you to the Temple sukkah throughout the seven-day holiday.

> The fun begins when we decorate the sukkah on Sunday, September 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by Pizza in the Hut. We're partnering with

our friends at PJ Library for a family-friendly afternoon of decorating, sharing traditions, reading holiday stories, and eating pizza for lunch at our Temple sukkah. Please RSVP by Friday, September 10 to the Temple at office@templecav.org or (260) 744-4245.

livestream on Zoom and YouTube to allow a choice for members of our Temple family to participate in holiday observances in a way that's most comfortable for them. Reform and traditional worship options will

Erev Rosh Hashanah begins on Monday, September 6 and Erev Yom Kippur begins on Wednesday,

Continued on page 11

# COMPLETE THE CYCLE AND BEGIN ANEW ON SIMCHAT TORAH

Be part of our festive Simchat Torah celebration on Tuesday, September 28 at 7 p.m. when we parade our sacred scrolls through the Sanctuary, enjoy festive singing and flag waving, and complete the reading of the Book of Deuteronomy while also beginning the Book of Genesis. Join us in person or via Zoom or YouTube, led by Rabbi Meir.

As we complete the annual reading of the Torah, our beautiful tradition of completely unrolling the scroll returns. Please come and offer your assistance!

Share in the joy of Jewish community by joining us for a congregational dinner before the service at 6 p.m. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 22 to the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org. Thank you to Pamela Friedman for chairing.

Please familiarize yourself with the Temple's COVID safety protocols for in-person attendance, including when food is served.

Links for the service will be sent directly to congregants in our weekly email. Guests are welcome and may contact the Temple office for Zoom access information.



# **UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES**

# SEPTEMBER AND HIGH HOLY DAYS SERVICES

Reform worship led by Rabbi Meir Bargeron

Traditional worship for the High Holy Days led by Rabbi Ilan Glazer Shabbat morning worship led by Ron Friedman

# **Shabbat Service**

Friday, September 3 6 p.m.

#### Shabbat Service & Ashlyn Sagan Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, September 4 10 a.m. Music: Hazemir

## **Erev Rosh Hashanah Services** & Reception

Monday, September 6 Reform Service - 7:30 p.m. Music: Maestro Robert Nance and Shabbat Shuvah Service Cantorial Soloist Brian Sussman Traditional Service – 8 p.m. Reception follows

# **Rosh Hashanah Services**

Tuesday, September 7 Traditional services

- 8:30 a.m. Shacharit
- · 10 a.m. Torah service and D'var
- 11 a.m. Musaf

Reform Service - 10 a.m. Music: Maestro Robert Nance and Cantorial Soloist Brian Sussman All-Congregation Tashlich – Noon

# Rosh Hashanah Services -

2nd Day Wednesday, September 8

- 8:30 a.m. Shacharit
- 10 a.m. Torah service and D'var
- 11 a.m. Musaf

# **Shabbat Shuvah Service**

Friday, September 10

6 p.m.

Music: Maestro Robert Nance and Thursday, September 9) Cantorial Soloist Brian Sussman

Saturday, September 11 9:45 a.m.

# **Cemetery Services**

Sunday, September 12

- 1 p.m. Lindenwood Cemetery
- 2:30 p.m. Fort Wayne Jewish Cemetery

#### **Erev Yom Kippur Services**

Wednesday, September 15 Traditional Services

- 7 p.m. Mincha
- 7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre Reform Service – 8 p.m. Music: Maestro Robert Nance, Cantorial Soloist Brian Sussman, and Cellist David Rezits



**Shabbat Service** Saturday, September 18

pass information)

**Erev Sukkot Service** 

Friday, September 24

Monday, September 20

(See page 12 for RSVP & traffic

Followed by a Nosh in the Sukkah

Shabbat & Sukkot Service

Shabbat & Sukkot Service

**Erev Simchat Torah Service** 

Saturday, September 25

Tuesday, September 28

Dinner at 6 p.m.

9:45 a.m.

7:30 p.m.

9:45 a.m.

7 p.m.

### Yom Kippur Services

Thursday, September 16 Traditional Services

- 8:30 a.m. Shacharit
- 10 a.m. Torah, Haftorah, D'var, Yizkor
- 11:30 a.m. Musaf
- 6:30 p.m. Mincha
- 7:30 p.m. Neilah
- · 8:30 p.m. Havdalah Break-the-Fast follows (RSVP by

**Reform Services** Music: Maestro Robert Nance and 6 p.m. Cantorial Soloist Brian Sussman, with Hazemir during the Yizkor service

- 10 a.m. Morning Service
- 3 p.m. Afternoon Service
- 4 p.m. Yizkor Memorial
- 5 p.m. Neilah (Concluding) ٠ Service

Break-the-Fast follows (RSVP by Thursday, September 9)

#### Shabbat Service

Friday, September 17 6 p.m. Service

> Join us for worship in person, on Zoom, or YouTube. Links are provided in our weekly email to members.

# SEPTEMBER EVENTS

**Five Books of Moses Study** Group 7 p.m. via Zoom

# **Break-the-Fast**

September 10

7 p.m. service

**Simchat Torah Dinner** 

Tuesday, September 28

**RSVP** by September 22

6 p.m. at the Temple

Thursday, September 16 Sundays, September 5, 12, 19, 26 Following Yom Kippur Reform and traditional services RSVP by Thursday, September 9

#### **Erev Rosh Hashanah Reception**

Monday, September 6 Follows Rosh Hashanah Services the Hut

#### **Religious School Begins**

Sunday, September 12 10 a.m. Apple picking and meet up

Sukkah Decorating & Pizza in Sunday, September 19 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please RSVP by Friday,

# OCTOBER EVENTS

**Consecration & Shabbat** Service Friday, October 1 6 p.m. at the Temple

#### **Temple Book Club**

Tuesday, October 5 7 p.m. at the Temple

**Meet Your Mishpocha NEIJGS** Sunday, October 24 Noon to 2 p.m. at the Temple

# **Mark Oppenheimer**

Monday, October 25 7:30 p.m. at the Temple Author of Squirrel Hill: The Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood Sponsored by the Temple, Jewish Federation of Fort Wavne, PFW Institute for Holocaust and **Genocide Studies** 

## Make Your Own Golem Workshop\*

Sunday, October 31 2 p.m. on Zoom RSVP required by Friday, October 15 \*Adults and high school students

Find out more at www.templecav.org

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# RABBI MEIR BARGERON LIVING AS PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

As Jews, we are a "People of the Book," a description I am sure that most of us have heard many, many times. The origin of the phrase comes from what may be a surprising source: it originated in the *Qur'an*, the sacred scripture of Islam, to describe Jews and Christians, and refers, partially, to the intersection that adherents of these faiths share as spiritual descendants of Abraham. (In Fort Wayne, we also recognize "People of the Book" as a beloved lecture series presented by the Jewish Federation!)

The Jewish people have embraced this externally imposed classification as our own. We have a deep love of Torah, our "book," and have built a beautifully intricate tradition of study and interpretation that amplifies the Torah and makes it continuously relevant to our modern lives. This love of learning is captured in the Jewish value of *chochmah*.

*Chochmah* is generally translated into English as "wisdom," and it has the same root as *chakam*, an honorific that means "wise one." *Chochmah* is one of the 10 *sefirot* of *Kabbalah*, the system of Jewish mystical thought, and describes one of the ways through which God interacts with Creation and humanity. Wisdom, in this sense, isn't just about being smart, or about having accumulated experience. It is a means of connecting with God and each other. And that is why I love the association of *chochmah* with learning!

<u>Rabbi Darren Levine</u>, the author of <u>Positive Judaism</u>, includes chochmah/wisdom among 24 strengths that offer a pathway to optimal living. He describes wisdom as encompassing "cognitive strengths that support the acquiring and utilizing of knowledge: perspective, curiosity, creativity, love of learning, and critical thinking." together to learn, we share our knowledge, our experiences, and create something that hasn't existed before: an understanding that springs from each participant. To me, this is how we live as People of the Book. It is not sufficient to merely study. The beauty of Jewish learning comes in our experiencing the uniqueness of our co-learners and the perspective of the generations of



commentators and teachers who have come before us.

And this brings me to a request. After a year of studying *parashat hashavuah*, the weekly Torah portion, the Temple will be offering with the start of 5782 a new series of Jewish learning programs each month, beginning in October. The entire range of Jewish learning is available for us to experience together: the Hebrew Bible, rabbinic literature, philosophy, Jewish history, Israel studies, contemporary topics, and more. The Temple will have a mixture of single and multisession programs throughout the year. My question for you: what would you like to study? If you have a particular love, curiosity, or perspective that you would like to explore with interested members of our congregation, I would love to hear about it. Please give me a call or send an e-mail.

May the coming year of 5782 be a year filled with wisdom, learning and peace.

Shanah Tovah,

Rabbi Meir

That sounds a lot to me like a Torah Study group! When we come

#### Expand your Jewish knowledge

#### by joining us in the coming year for weekly lifelong learning classes on Zoom!

**Rabbi Meir's Tuesday class** resumes on October 12 at 7 p.m. with new topics. Are you curious about a particular aspect of Torah or Jewish learning? Share your interests with him as he develops the sessions.

**Our Hebrew Liturgy Study Group** led by John Planer will reconvene on Mondays at 7 p.m., beginning October 5. They'll resume study and translation of *Unetaneh Tokef.* 

**The Five Books of Moses Study Group** with Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan continues on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. Read and study the Torah with classic commentaries by Rashi, Rashbam, Seforno and many others. Temple members, as well as members of the larger Fort Wayne Jewish community, are invited to participate.

Links are provided in the weekly email to members of our Temple family.



Please join us to celebrate the Bat Mitzvah of *Ashlyn Julia Sagan* Saturday, September 4 at 10 a.m. at Congregation Achduth Vesholom *Jason and Eva Sagan* 

Zoom link will be sent to members in their weekly email.

# TALMUD SET ON THE SHELF AND READY FOR USE!

Our new 42-volume set of Talmud is now on the shelf and ready for member use. It is being kept safe in the storage area of the <u>Rabbi Richard B. Safran</u> <u>Library</u>, but is available for use by request in the building by any Temple member.

The Noé Edition Koren Talmud Bavli presents an enhanced Vilna page (the traditional Talmud layout) with a side-by-side English translation, commentary, photographs, illustrations and more. Come take a look next time you're in the building!



# NEWS FROM THE BOARD



The Temple Board met on Thursday, August 12 for a hybrid meeting, its first regular business meeting not exclusively on Zoom since mid-March 2020 in the early days of the pandemic. Some Board members (with masks) were in the building, while others attended virtually.

#### New sculpture to remember loved ones

Art and Beautification Committee Chair Carol Adelman presented a proposal from her committee recommending that the Board approve a new sculpture to be created by artist <u>George Morrison</u> and installed in the courtyard of the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.

The stainless-steel sculpture, approximately 24-feet long and 12-feet high, would incorporate 980 bronze nameplates from the 10 existing yahrzeit plaques from Achduth Vesholom and B'nai Jacob. No new bronze nameplates will be added.

Carol said the committee looked at various locations in and outside the building to move the existing plaques, but felt the sculpture in the courtyard would create a beautiful, contemplative space to remember loved ones and enhance the existing space. The committee also reviewed two additional proposals before recommending Morrison's design.

The recommendation for the artwork follows a decision by the Board in February 2021 to purchase a new digital yahrzeit touchscreen to include names from the current memorial plaques. Recently installed in the foyer, the digital touchscreen automatically displays yahrzeit names for a given Shabbat.

A member may touch a name or search for a name in the archive to find a page for the individual. Individual pages may be personalized with photographs, a biography, Hebrew names, quotations or prayers. A link also can be added to connect to pages for other family members who have plaques.

Moving forward, yahrzeit plaques purchased in memory of a loved one will be virtual rather than physical. Yahrzeit plaques are available for \$500 each, with proceeds going to the Temple's Endowment. The memorial boards currently on the wall will remain during a transition period before the artwork is created.

The Board voted unanimously to approve commissioning the sculpture. A timeline has not yet been determined. More information will be coming to congregants.

#### Innovative Plan Approved for Religious School

Leise Rosman, a Board member and chair of the Religious School Committee, outlined what she calls an "exciting opportunity for innovation" for the 2021-2022 school year. Several factors have come together, she said, to inspire a reimagination of the program.

After a year of online learning due to COVID, the recent search for a new principal, and changes in the availability of teachers, Leise said the committee and Rabbi Meir looked at ways to re-energize our program.

They recommend reframing the Religious School calendar into Family Education programming called "KESHER" (Connection) to build connections between families of youth in grades Pre-K through 10 through hands-on Jewish learning experiences.

The approach incorporates our existing Shalom Learning curriculum, as well as an initiative by the Union for Reform Judaism to assist smaller congregations in networking and leveraging resources.

Classes would include a mix of in-person activities, as well as virtual courses in Jewish Values and Hebrew, that would bring together Temple students with those from other communities. Leise said the goal is to have a cooperative effort with parents and the larger congregation providing support as needed.

The board approved restructuring the program and related adjustments to the Religious School budget.



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# YOUTH NEWS

# **REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

We're looking forward to beginning a new year of Jewish learning in our Religious School on Sunday, September 12! Enroll your child in pre-Kindergarten (age 4+ by September 1) through high school. Families must be members of the congregation to enroll children.

Find registration materials on our website. Please contact Religious School Committee Chair Leise Rosman at leise.rosman@gmail.com with any questions.





Nearly 70 members of our Temple family spent a beautiful summer evening celebrating Shabbat outdoors at our spirited Friday Night Live service led by Rabbi Meir Bargeron and featuring Heartland Sings on their mobile stage. Before the service, we enjoyed kosher hot dogs for dinner and the opportunity to share community and conversation in the gorgeous setting behind the Temple. Thank you to Micah Soltz for coordinating the cookout and serving as grillmaster! After the service, we roasted marshmallows for s'mores on the new CAV firepit, built by members of our gardening crew who do a super job tending our lovely grounds. Thanks also to Executive Director Samara Sheray for running the livestream for those worshipping at home and for her overall support. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.



The Retired Old Men Eating Out are back dining together again! The gang gathered outdoors on August 5 for lunch -- the first time since March 2020 when the pandemic shutdowns began. Thanks to Denny Reynolds for organizing! Find out more about the ROMEOs and the lunch schedule.

Join the ROMEOs on Thursday, September 2 at 800 Degrees Wood Fired Pizza, 10020 Lima Rd. There will be no lunch on September 16 in observance of Yom Kippur. Reservations can be made to Denny Reynolds at dennisreynolds@me.com. 5



Congregants may pick up their membership directory and Jewish calendars at the Temple.

# OUR EXCITEMENT'S SKY HIGH FOR THE RETURN OF CORNED BEEF ON RYE!



Get ready to savor delicious delicatessen when our 19th <u>Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser</u> returns on Thursday, November 4. After a one-year hiatus due to the pandemic, our Deli Day will be back – including whole kosher salami!

The committee is working hard to top banner sales from our most recent fundraiser in 2019 when we sold nearly 1,600 corned beef sandwiches and 175 Hebrew National salamis to raise nearly \$23,000 to benefit the Temple. We are grateful to the 68 sponsors, 100 volunteers, and many enthusiastic customers who

contributed to the success of our last sale.

Order meals, become a sponsor, tell your friends about our mouthwatering meal, and volunteer your time!

Boxed meals are \$15 each when ordered by Friday, October 22. After that date and at the door, meals are \$18 each. Each meal includes a heaping 1/3-pound corned beef sandwich on rye, giant pickle, creamy coleslaw, fudgy brownie, and a drink.

Returning this year: Hebrew National whole kosher salami (12-oz. size) will be available for \$12 each.

Online ordering will begin later this month at <u>www.templecav.org</u>. We've also got additional pounds of bulk corned beef for sale for \$18 per pound. Delivery service is available when you order 12 meals or more by Friday, October 22 for \$15 per address.

Become a sponsor by donating \$100 or more to help underwrite our costs by Friday, October 22. Names of individuals and businesses will be recognized in every meal and on our website, and posted the day of the sale at the Temple.

Volunteers are needed on Wednesday, November 3 for Prep Night from 6 to 9 p.m. and on Thursday, November 4, with shifts beginning at 9 a.m. Contact the office to say you'll help. Please check as the dates get closer for the Temple's <u>latest COVID safety protocols</u> and any modifications to our customary procedures.

**Thanks to the Corned Beef Committee**: Co-Chairs Larry Adelman and Micah Soltz, Carol Adelman, Fran Adler, Rabbi Meir Bargeron, Jamie Fritz, Scott Goldberg, Shai Hadashi, Sam Krouse, Amy Krouse, Marie McFadden, Lee Pomerantz, Denny Reynolds, Nancy Salon, Samara Sheray, Micah Soltz, Jon Tam, Ellen Tom, Steve Zacher, Judy Zacher, and Beth Zweig

### 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!



Purchase yours for \$18 per item to support the congregation and share in the magic of the Temple's annual Deli Day. They also make great gifts. Wear them year-round! <u>Find an order form</u>







Thank you to the nearly two dozen volunteers who helped prepare a large mailing to go out in late September for the Temple's 19th Corned Beef on Rye - Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser! Our volunteers prepared some 1,800 envelopes - folding, stuffing, stamping, labeling, sealing, sorting! Thanks to Administrative Assistant Marie McFadden for all the advance work to prepare and keep us organized! Deli Day is November 4.

# RON SUSKIND TO SPEAK AT PEOPLE OF THE BOOK PROGRAM IN NOVEMBER



Ron Suskind, an American journalist and author, will be the featured speaker at the People of the Book program on Monday, November 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rifkin Campus at 5200. He was the senior national affairs writer for the *Wall Street Journal* where he won the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing for articles that became the starting point

for his first book, A Hope in the Unseen.

Suskind has written six books and been published in several periodicals. He has written about the George W. Bush Administration, the Barack Obama Administration, and related issues of the United States' use of power.

Published in 2014, his bestseller *Life, Animated*, chronicles his family's 20-year journey raising and connecting to their autistic son, Owen. The Suskind family is also the subject of an award-winning documentary feature of the same name. Their story has driven activism and research about the compensatory strengths of those with autism and others who are differently-abled.

The People of the Book program is hosted by the <u>Jewish</u> <u>Federation of Fort Wayne</u>, and is free and open to the public. A question-and-answer session will conclude Mr. Suskind's talk followed by a dessert reception and book signing by the author. His books will also be available for purchase.

The People of the Book lecture is made possible with the generous support from the Dr. Louis A. and Anne B. Schneider Foundation.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR JEWISH FEDERATION'S CENTENNIAL

100th Commemoration

Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne

Saturday, November 13

7 p.m.

Rifkin Campus at 5200



THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE • THE POWER OF COMMUNITY



Even the beautiful apple tree in front of the Temple is ready for Rosh Hashanah!

Nearly 50 members of the Jewish community gathered at Eagle Marsh on August 7 to end Shabbat with a nature hike, s'mores, and Havdalah Under The Stars.

We shared the final moments of Shabbat led by Rabbi Meir Bargeron with music by Ronnie & Norm Greenberg during the program sponsored by the Temple and the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.

Rabbi Meir also noted the beginning of Rosh Chodesh Elul, the beginning of the new month leading to the High Holy Days, traditionally a time of introspection when we take "an accounting of the soul" – cheshbon hanefesh in Hebrew – and hear the sound of the shofar. With Norm Greenberg blowing the shofar, we enjoyed the custom in a beautiful setting and began the lead-up to the holidays together.

Thank you to Marnie Lowden, Bonnie Pomerantz, and Amy Shepsman Krouse for planning the event, and to Rabbi Meir and Norm & Ronnie Greenberg for leading Havdalah.







# COMING IN OCTOBER!

# EXPLORE THE JEWISH LEGEND AND MAKE YOUR OWN GOLEM

Protection. Safety. Strength. Power. Right now we could all use a little more sense of well-being. The Jewish myth of the golem summoned ancient Jewish magic to create protection in difficult times.

Temple members are invited to explore the golem legend and use your hands to create your own symbols of protection and safety. Join <u>Isaac and Rabbi Shawna Brynjegard-Bialik</u> on Sunday, October 31 at 2 p.m. to "make your own golem" out of paper and cut-up comic books during a 90-minute workshop on Zoom that includes visual learning about the legend of the golem and a hands-on activity with materials provided. No art experience, clay or magic spells required; just your enthusiasm.

Isaac and Rabbi Shawna are the dynamic duo behind <u>Paper Midrash</u>. They bring together contemporary art, pop culture, and scholarship in hands-on workshops. We also look forward to welcoming them via Zoom during our Shabbat service on Friday, October 29 at 6 p.m. to teach about the Torah portion Chayei Sarah.

The golem workshop is open to adults and high school students. Please reserve your spot no later than Friday, October 15 to (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org. Space is limited to 30 participants. Non-members of the Temple may register on a space available basis through Tuesday, October 26. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.

Each participant will receive a program kit that will include nearly all the necessary supplies, plus instructions for getting a small amount of easily available supplies. Kits must be picked up from the Temple during business hours no later than Wednesday, October 27 to ensure your spot.

# AUTHOR TO DISCUSS TREE OF LIFE SHOOTING & SOUL OF A NEIGHBORHOOD



Please join us on Monday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Temple to hear author Mark Oppenheimer, whose new book, *Squirrel Hill: The Tree of Life Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood*, will be released in early October.

His appearance comes almost exactly on the third anniversary of the shooting, which occurred October 27, 2018, and was the deadliest attack on the Jewish community in the United States.

Mr. Oppenheimer is a freelance journalist and writes for The New York Times magazine, Mother Jones, Slate, and Tablet. He teaches English at Yale University, where he is the director of the Yale Journalism Initiative. He lives with his family in New Haven, Connecticut.

The evening will include a Q&A, refreshments, and an opportunity to buy the book and have Mr. Oppenheimer sign it.

This program is sponsored by Congregation Achduth Vesholom (Holocaust Education and Social Action committees), the <u>Jewish</u> <u>Federation of Fort Wayne</u>, and the <u>PFW Institute for Holocaust</u> <u>and Genocide Studies.</u> Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for it support.

# "MEET YOUR MISHPOCHA" AT NEIJGS EVENT

For its third annual "Meet Your Mishpocha" program, the <u>Northeast Indiana Jewish</u> <u>Genealogy Society</u> is planning a hybrid event in celebration of Family History Month. The NEIJGS will hold a public "Jewish family day" open house on Sunday, October 24 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.



Scanners from the <u>Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center</u> will be available to digitize family documents and photographs, mentors will consult about family history research, and representatives from the Oral History Video Project and the Indiana Jewish Historical Society will be onhand either virtually or in-person.

The Society will highlight its <u>Fort Wayne Jewish Families Database</u>, now encompassing over 7,000 people, as part of the open house, and a "Photo ID" table of Temple photographs will be set up for members of the community to identify. In-person guests can take advantage of the full complement of offerings at tables set up throughout the Resource Center.

Those wishing to attend virtually will be able to register for 20- to 30-minute sessions with four of our presenters. Registration information and more details will be available in the weeks to come. Questions can be directed to Betsy Gephart at vp@NEIndianaJGS.org. Wherever you are with your family history, and however you're comfortable attending, please plan to be part of this celebration of Fort Wayne's Jewish family history.

# AWARD-WINNING "THE LOST SHTETL" ON TAP FOR BOOK CLUB

On Tuesday evening, October 5, <u>the Temple Book Club</u> will discuss *The Lost Shtetl: A Novel* by Max Gross. Beginning at 7 p.m., we'll discuss the novel as a group, followed at 7:30 p.m. by a virtual conversation with the author via LiveChat, made possible by the <u>Jewish Book Council.</u>

The 2020 National Jewish Book Award winner in the Book Club category, *The Lost Shtetl's* premise is that a Polish shtetl somehow remained isolated through the twentieth century and escaped the Holocaust.

From Hadassah Magazine, "Judging by *The Lost Shtetl*, his brilliant debut novel, author Max Gross is the metaphysical love child of Sholem Aleichem and J.K. Rowling." This book should be the basis of a great discussion and is available in the <u>Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library.</u>





# SUPPORT THE TEMPLE WITH HIGH HOLY DAYS DONATION

It's tradition to donate to the congregation during the High Holy Days as a way to support our year-round efforts and ensure a Jewish presence in Northeast Indiana.

As our holiday observances return to more normalcy with a hybrid format, the Temple continues to need your help. Technology needs continue as we try to make services accessible to as many as possible. Our corned beef sale will return as our chief fundraiser, yet times remain uncertain.

Please consider being a "sponsor" of Achduth Vesholom's High Holy Days 5782 with a gift to support our general operations.

Sponsors who donate \$54 or more will be recognized in our holiday announcements. To be included in the Rosh Hashanah listing, donations must be received by Tuesday, August 31. For Yom Kippur, the deadline is September 9.

Donations offered in any amount will be greatly appreciated.

We're proud to be one congregation with two worship traditions.

Whether your customary gift is through sponsoring aliyot during traditional services or your annual donation contributes to other congregational needs, we value and appreciate your assistance.



We have several ways to give:

- <u>Donate online</u> to general operations and indicate "in honor of the High Holy Days"
- Send a check payable to "CAV- The Temple" to sponsor the High Holy Days (5200 Old Mill Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46807)
- For aliyot during our traditional worship, contact Josh Tourkow at jtourkow@tcrjlaw.com

Please specify if your donation is in honor or memory of a loved one or occasion.

Thank you!

# Holiday Schedule on page 2



# NEW WAYS TO SUPPORT HIGH HOLY DAYS FOOD DRIVE

Over the past year we learned that many of the ways we have always done things had to change. We as a community have always held a food drive at High Holidays time, but how we do this needs to be reimagined.

The Social Action Committee has been in conversation with the administration at <u>Wellspring Interfaith Social Services</u>. They know and

understand the needs of the people they serve in <u>their food bank</u>. Often the food/staple products we provide might clear out our cupboards, or we might have gone shopping to fill a bag with things we think are needed; but then we find that isn't really what Wellspring needs.

Wellspring has explained what is most helpful is monetary donations that enable them to purchase what will aid their community best. With that in mind, we have several different ways to participate in this year's Food Drive:

- There will be a Tzedakah Box at the Temple where you can place a check made out to "Wellspring" for the "High Holiday Food Drive." Please write Holiday Food Drive on the memo line of your check. No muss, no fuss.
- If you are not planning to attend holiday services in person or prefer not to bring a check during the holidays, please drop by or mail your check (payable to Wellspring) to the Temple and write "Holiday Food Drive" on the memo line of your check. We will make sure they get it after the holidays.
- Donate online directly to the food bank at Wellspring.
- If you would really prefer to provide food items for the food drive, please feel free to bring a bag of food/staple items to the Temple. We will make sure Wellspring receives your donation.

And thank you very much for your support in this very worthwhile Mitzvah. *L'shana tova!* 

**REMEMBERING YOUR LOVED ONES** If you wish to have a loved one's name included during memorial services on Yom Kippur, please provide information to the Temple office by Tuesday, September 9. Call us at (260) 744-4245 or email at office@templecav.org. Join us for memorial services on Monday, September 16.



# HELP PURCHASE APPLES FOR THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS FAMILIES



Help supply a bag of apples for each of the 66 children who attend Brightpoint Head Start at the Temple through the 11th annual Thoughtful Thursdays Apple Project.

Many of the children rarely have the opportunity to eat fresh fruits and vegetables. We provide them with

delicious Honeycrisp apples purchased from a local orchard. This mitzvah is a wonderful way to prepare for the High Holy Days season!

A tree is on display at the Temple decorated with paper apples featuring the name of each person who donates \$10 or more for the apple project by Tuesday, September 21. <u>Donate online</u> at <u>www.templecav.org.</u> Indicate the amount of your donation,

You also can mail a check payable to "CAV-The Temple" earmarked for the Thoughtful Thursdays Apple Project.

Pictures of the tree will be posted on the Temple's <u>Facebook</u> page as it 'grows.'

Thoughtful Thursdays will begin its 12th year on Wednesday, September 1 at 10 a.m. when our bag assembly meets to

help the Brightpoint Head Start families. Contact Sally Trotter or Bonnie Pomerantz to learn more.



# CEMETERY SERVICES PLANNED

Memorial services will be held Sunday, September 12 at 1 p.m. at <u>Lindenwood Cemetery</u> and 2:30 p.m. at <u>Fort Wayne Jewish Cemetery</u>. Join Rabbi Meir for the traditional *El Maleh Rachamim* and Kaddish prayers, along with the appropriate psalms, poetry and prayers.

# CAST AWAY YOUR SINS

The Hebrew word *tashlich* literally means "You shall cast away." In the book of Micah (7:18-20) we find the verse: "And you shall cast (*tashlich*) into the depths of the sea all their sins." Traditionally, Jewish communities throughout the world have taken Micah's words to heart by gathering on Rosh Hashanah and symbolically casting away their sins by throwing breadcrumbs into a lake, stream or ocean.

Join us for Tashlich on Tuesday, September 7, following Rosh Hashanah morning services. Meet in the lobby to walk as a group to Foster Park (behind the Temple) to the St. Mary's River. Bread will be provided.

#### JOIN US FOR BREAK THE FAST

The <u>ROMEOs</u> (Retired Old Men Eating Out) are preparing a delicious break-the-fast meal for the congregation following both Reform and traditional Yom Kippur services on Thursday, September 16. Everyone is invited for Tuna salad, egg salad, bagel, lox, herring in wine sauce, herring in sour cream, kugels, fresh fruit and other delicacies.



Reservations are required to the Temple office

at (260) 744-4245 by Thursday, September 9 so that we can prepare enough food and seating. Thanks to the generosity of the ROMEOs, there is no charge. However, cash donations gladly will be accepted to help offset the costs.

Volunteers are needed help with set ups and other tasks. Please contact the Temple office to offer your assistance. If you would like to sponsor the sweet wine for Kiddush, please let us know.

# CELEBRATE HIGH HOLIDAYS, CONTINUED

# CHECK OUT OUR HIGH HOLIDAYS TITLES



Whether you're looking for inspiration, scholarship, or a good picture book for the holidays, the <u>Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library</u> is a valuable resource available to members. We have dozens of fiction and non-fiction titles for all ages, several music CDs and a handful of DVDs specifically geared to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We've put together a quick <u>"One-Sheet" list</u> of our favorites, or you can view the full catalog of High Holiday titles.

The library is open for visitors when the building is open, following COVID protocols. Self-checkout is available at the library desk. Contact Betsy Thal Gephart at library@TempleCAV.org with any questions.

SWEETS, TREATS, AND MORE NEEDED

Please volunteer to help and to bake for the Rosh Hashanah Reception when we all come together as a congregation following services on Monday, September 6. Baked goods are needed at the Temple no later than Friday, September 3. Items may be put in the freezer, but please mark them for the reception including your name.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up. Please contact the Temple office to offer your assistance at (260) 744-4245 or office@ templecav.org. Thank you to Co-Chairs Bobbie Golani and Deb Vilensky.



<u>Rabbi Meir Bargeron</u> will lead Reform worship with musical accompaniment by <u>Maestro Robert Nance</u> and <u>Cantorial Soloist Brian Sussman</u>. Cellist David Rezits will play Kol Nidre for the Reform service on Erev Yom Kippur. Sharing their voices for Yizkor will be the Hazemir Choir under the direction of John Planer.

The Temple also welcomes Rabbi Ilan Glazer as our guest clergy to lead traditional worship services.

While we're pleased to provide the option for in-person worship, please be aware that masks are required in the building. Kindly review the Temple's <u>COVID safety protocols</u> prior to the High Holy Days.

**Fully vaccinated individuals** are asked to please sign a *brit* (covenantal document). By stating that you've been fully vaccinated, you may move more freely around the building and attend events without social distancing. While masks currently are required at the Temple and Rifkin Campus, signing the *brit* will enable you to be mask free in the building at such time as conditions and health guidelines change.

Kindly return your *brit* electronically prior to the holidays so that we have it on file. Or print a copy to sign and return as soon as possible to assist our ushers in directing you to your seats.

#### For those who are not fully vaccinated, including children under 12:

- Masks and social distancing are required in the building. Another option for worship is virtual attendance.
- Important note: Due to space limitations in the Goldstine-B'nai Jacob Chapel, only fully vaccinated individuals may attend traditional services in person.
  - We encourage those who are not fully vaccinated to attend traditional services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur on Zoom or YouTube.
  - However, sufficient seating will be available in the Sanctuary at Reform services tto allow for social distance seating for those who are not fully vaccinated.

Achduth Vesholom members and those in our extended Temple family will receive the links by email to join us via livestream, as well as links to online prayer books. Please ask guests to contact the Temple office for access information.

Along with the clergy and service leaders, our <u>lay leaders</u>, <u>staff</u> and volunteers have been working hard to ensure a meaningful and lovely start to the year. Two favorite Achduth Vesholom traditions return this year <u>with COVID safety guidelines</u> in place: The Rosh Hashanah Reception and the <u>Break-the-Fast</u> hosted by the ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out).

May we go from strength to strength together!

# MACHZORIM FOR THE HOLIDAYS

For those attending services online for the High Holy Days, we are making the Temple's *machzorim* (holiday prayer books) available for congregants to borrow during the Days of Awe for both Reform and traditional worship.

For the best worship experience, we encourage congregants to either borrow or purchase copies.

If borrowing, members must follow guidelines for keeping the prayer books in great condition and return them no later than Friday, October 1. Please note that the borrower is responsible for replacement of any misplaced or damaged books at \$40 per copy.

To make arrangements for borrowing, please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org on Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Other options include:

- Mishkan HaNefesh, the Reform *machzor* available for purchase in book or a Kindle ebook format. Find out more
- Mahzor Lev Shalem, the traditional machzor Find a book for purchase or a digital version



RABBI ILON GLAZER TO LEAD TRADITIONAL HOLIDAY SERVICES Rabbi Ilan Glazer will lead traditional worship services at Congregation Achduth Vesholom during the High Holy Days 5782 as our guest clergy.

He previously served as a pulpit rabbi at Temple Beth-El in North Bergen, NJ, and Beth Shalom Synagogue in Memphis, TN, both Conservative congregations.

Rabbi Ilan is passionate about ending the stigma of addiction in the Jewish world and helping Jews in recovery and their loved ones. Founder of Our Jewish Recovery, he also is the author of the award-winning And God Created Recovery: Jewish Wisdom to Help You Break Free From Your Addiction, Heal Your Wounds, and Unleash Your Inner Freedom.

Rabbi Ilan was ordained as a Rabbi and Mashpia (Spiritual Director) by ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal, as a Maggid (Inspirational Speaker and Storyteller) by Yitzhak Buxbaum, and also studied at City College of New York, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, the Nava Tehila Bet Midrash, and around the Jewish world.

Rabbi Ilan has worked with many Jewish environmental and social justice organizations. He is a freelance recovery, relationships, and transformation coach, a spiritual counselor, and an accomplished storyteller and musician.

He lives in Baltimore, Maryland with his wife, Sherri, and their cats, Peretz Dov and Annie Lev. Rabbi Ilan has been leading High Holiday services every year since 1998 and looks forward to joining the Achduth Vesholom community this year.

# VISITORS WELCOME FOR HIGH HOLY DAYS

Do you know someone who is new to Fort Wayne? Will you have family or friends visiting for Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur? Please ask them to join us!

Our High Holy Days services are open to all. This year we are offering services both in person and via livestream. We look forward to welcoming everyone and kindly request that all attendees at the Temple to review our <u>COVID safety protocols</u>. To receive information on how to access virtually, please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav. org.

We're especially eager to welcome those who are new to our Jewish community to explain the benefits of membership at Achduth Vesholom. Please call us to let us know so we can reach out to newcomers.

Traveling to another URJ congregation that requires tickets? Contact the Temple office as soon as possible if you need a letter verifying that you're a member in good standing of Achduth Vesholom in order to obtain tickets at another Reform congregation.



We welcome donations to the Temple to support our holiday and year-round efforts. Donations may be made <u>online</u>, or by mailing a check to the Temple (to "CAV – The Temple") at 5200 Old Mill Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46807.

# SUKKOT CELEBRƏTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PƏGE 1

We'll observe Sukkot both in person and online via Zoom and YouTube during three worship opportunities. Please join us on:



• Monday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m. for our Erev Sukkot service, led by Rabbi Meir. Following the service, share Kiddush and

a Nosh in the Sukkah, hosted by Janet Finkel and Sheryl Merritt.

- Friday, September 24 at 6 p.m. for our Shabbat & Sukkot service, led by Rabbi Meir. We'll light the Sabbath candles, learn more about the symbols of the holiday, and enjoy an autumn evening of community.
- Saturday, September 25 at 9:45 a.m. for our Sukkot & Shabbat morning service, led by Ron Friedman. Share a lovely morning of Torah and learning. Rabbi Meir will offer the D'var Torah. Join us in the sukkah after the service for Kiddush as we delight in the season.

We look forward to celebrating together! Zoom links will be sent in the weekly email to our Temple family. Please be mindful of the Temple's <u>COVID safety protocols</u>. Guests are welcome and asked to contact the Temple office for access information.



# DONATIONS

Jack & Gertrude Adelman Facility Fund In honor of Ben Eisbart and Larry Adelman: Tom & Rita O'Neill

Adult Education In memory of Arnold Katinsky: Nola & Matthew Katinsky

#### **General Operations**

A donation has been received from: Marilyn & Jeff Herman In memory of Marian Einstein: Thomas Remenschneider In memory of Bertha & Joseph Doranabe and Rae Lipp: Louise & Bill Warshauer In memory of Norman Snow: Susan & Alan Cooperman In memory of Mariam Nemeroff: Nancy Nemeroff In memory of Francine Schubert: Linda & Philip Schubert In memory of Frances Shine: Lawrence Shine In memory of Fira Kutsenok: Yefim Kutsenok In memory of Leonid Isakovich Kyner: Eda Kyner In memory of Howard Levin: Jason Levin

#### Dr. John Planer Music Fund

In honor of Dr. John Planer: Eva & Jason Sagan In memory of Marian Einstein: Ronnie & Norm Greenberg, Ron Cousino, Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Betsy & Geoff Gephart In memory of Kurt Einstein: Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Betsy & Geoff Gephart

In memory of Joe Congress: Marcia & Denny Reynolds

**Holocaust Education Fund** In memory of Leonid Finkelshteyn: Dora & Leonid Itkin

#### **Holocaust Memorial Fund** In honor of Bruce Colegrove: Eva & Jason Sagan

#### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

In honor of Isabella Wallet: Wendi & Josh Wallet In memory of Michael Hunter Leib and Rose Leib Rothman: Jere Leib In honor of Rabbi Meir Bargeron: Jessica & Roger Ash In memory of Marilyn Sax: Enid & Stanley Rosenblatt In memory of Frances Shine: Jody & Steve Shine In memory of Rose Walters: Irene & Robert Walters

#### **Religious School Fund**

In honor of Isabella Wallet: Wendi & Josh Wallet

#### **Thoughtful Thursdays**

In memory of Robert O'Neill: Rita & Tom O'Neill In memory of Moses Safirstein and Robert Johnson: Kay Safirstein

#### **Temple Gardens Fund**

In memory of Abe Nemeroff and honor of Nancy Nemeroff: Howard Nemeroff In honor of the Cohen Family: Elissa & Steve Cohen In memory of Tobi Kepes Greenspan: Micki & Sherwin Kepes In memory of Nettie Stumpf: Ronnie & Norm Greenberg

#### Explore all of our Tribute Funds or Make a Donation

# FORT4FITNESS WILL IMPACT TRAFFIC NEAR THE TEMPLE

Please contact the Temple office if you plan to attend the Shabbat morning service on Saturday, September 18 to get a traffic pass. The annual Fort4Fitness scheduled for that morning will impact roads accessing the Temple.

**HELP THE HUNGRY with a donation to MAZON:** A Jewish Response to Hunger. Find out more at www.mazon.org. Contribution envelopes are available at the Temple.

# FIND THE TEMPLE'S LATEST COVID PROTOCOLS

We continue to require masks in the building. Find the Temple's COVID safety protocols at www.templecav.org. We will keep these updated as we continue to monitor pandemic guidelines from government and medical officials.

# HELP US KEEP OUR MI SHEBEIRACH LIST CURRENT

Our Mi Shebeirach list helps us come together as a congregation and community to think of those among us who need healing, care, and compassion. We encourage you to add your loved one's name to our list by calling the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or emailing us at office@TempleCAV.org so that those we hold dear will be called to mind during our Shabbat services.

Names will remain on the list for four weeks. For those who wish to have a family member or friend's name listed for longer, please contact us to make another request. Thank you for helping us keep our list current.

# GROCERY SHOP AND SUPPORT THE TEMPLE

Did you know that you can support CAV just be shopping at Kroger? It's easy when you enroll in Kroger Community Rewards and, once enrolled, you'll earn rewards for The Temple every time you shop and use your Plus Card. Thank you for the support!



# September 3-4 Rose J. Kaplan Jol

Abe Beck Herbert Berger Blanche Leiter Block Anna Bluestein Clara Brosler Gita Bruckman Dora Buxbaum Joe Congress Hyman Doppelt Betty Dubinsky Max Dubrowin Alex Feldman William A. Gitlin, MD Dorothy B. Gold Robert Johnson Rose J. Kaplan Rex P. Mercer Hamin Ochstein Dr. Abraham J. Ochstein Betty Lehman Pollak Lloyd Ray Lawrence Ress Marian Rodman Abner Rosenberg Eugenia Russ Dr. Moses Safirstein Dorothy R. Salon Seymour Samet Marilyn Sax Morris Schuster Fannie Spanjer Nelson W. Williams Goldie Yaffe

#### September 10-11

Gladys Adams Lottie Albert Grace Becker Lottie Colucci Abraham Dicker Harry Fryefield Robert Gaskill Irving Golder Joseph Y. Goltz Dr. Morris Himelstein Ruby Jackson Mildred K. Jacobs Sophia Maier Johnston

Rose J. Kaplan Robert I. Kesselman Shirley Komito **Edward Krainess** Michael Kupersmith Moses Lamley Steven Warren Landy Eduard Lefand Sam Levin Laura Himmelstein Levine Theodore Levy Joseph Mayer Levy Katie Meyer **Dorys Meyers** Jack Moyer Mariam Nemoff Lillian Facks Ochstein Col. William. J. Platka Pearl Russ **Francine Schubert** Leah Schulman Gerlinde Schwartz Irene P. Sherr Jeanetta A. Silverman Jack Singer Pamela Spielman Irmgard A. Stein **Thelma Strouse** Nettie Stumpf Jacob Weil Ida Weinstein Inez Zacharia

#### September 17-18

Herb Albert Lloyd Amster Claudine Bartel Benjamin Becker Leah Berebitsky Joe Blumenthal Blanche Boyles Louis Israel Brateman Herman Brateman Joseph Cristil Daniel Daniel Terri Darienzo Clifford Ewing Rena Farber Rabbi Eddie Fox

John Gilbert Louis Goldberg Ryan Goldstrom Adolph Greenebaum Lottie Guttmacher Rose Kaufman Himelstein Frieda Hyman Milton Jay Siegmund Merin Shirley Ruth Konigsberg Adrienne Korr Carole Krainess Leonid Isakovich Kyner Sam Landy Charles Leopold Howard Levin Jennie Levitetz Levis Joseph Lowenhar Sima Lowenhar Leah Cohen Malay Ethel Mansbach Fanny Merin Siegmund Merin Simon Merin Sidney Motel Julius Nathan Robert Nusholtz Barry Pass Mary Peurye Nate Pollack William Pollak Ronald Repka Benjamin Rosenberg Henry Schwartz Fay Slutsky Mashe Soloway David Spanjer Bruce Stone **Emmanuel Warshauer** Dr. Irvin I. Weinraub Esther Rose Weinstein Samuel N. Weinstein Judith Zala

#### September 24-25

Sidney Barasch Minnette Baum Charles Bernstein Sarah Bosell Sam Boudaie Gertrude Brateman Rose Carol Brown Helen Coffman Jack I. Dubrove Israel Edleman Ernest Einstein Jim Etzler Samuel N. Field **Bella Rachel Fink** Morris Fogel Mollie Frank Ida Golden Sheldon Goltz Israel Hattner Elias Horn Goldye Kaplan Freda M. Kaplan Steve Kelman Tobi Kepes Greenspan George King Ricka Lehman Jacqueline Levin Renee Levin Raymond Levis Becky (Betty) Lichtscien Lucile K. Marx Lillian Starr Messe Josephine Mocle Jennie Morris Linda Shulkin -Nail Esther Rothschild Rose Rubenstein Jennie Schneiderman Tillie Schubert **Frances Shine** Simon Singer Harold M. Smith Jane Stiefel Ira Tanner **Rose Walters** Rose Wattenberg Sophie Harmon Wetstein Louella Williams Felix Zweig Morris Zweig

# 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 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.





5200 Old Mill Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46807 P: (260) 744-4245 F: (260) 744-4246 Office@TempleCAV.org www.TempleCAV.org

Charter Member of the Union For Reform Judaism Meir Bargeron, Rabbi Richard B. Safran, Rabbi Emeritus

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# TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 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.



Want to receive our newsletter? Send your email address to 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. We value the diversity of viewpoints within our congregation.

Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for information. President Ronnie Greenberg can be reached at (260) 483-6327 or President@templecav.org.

The deadline for the October Bulletin is Monday, September 20.

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER RONNIE GREENBERG

Shana Tova! On behalf of the Board of Directors and along with Norm and our family, I wish you and your family a happy and healthy 5782!

In thinking back over this past year, I am amazed at what we have accomplished, regardless of COVID restrictions which complicate everything. We continued to offer Shabbat services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings, as well as holiday observances. Who can forget our beautiful virtual Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services or our Purim spiel on Zoom?



We adapted throughout, providing other programs, including movie nights and a book club, as part of a Jewish smorgasbord from which to choose. And in our building, we focused on the physical part of having one congregation with two traditions through the remodeling of the Goldstine-B'nai Jacob Chapel and the decision to display our combined yahrzeit plaques on a new digital screen in the foyer. (See News from the Board on page 4 for more information).

And how did we accomplish all this regardless of the constraints imposed by COVID? Through innovative and committed people, both staff and congregant volunteers!

We are truly blessed to have Rabbi Meir Bargeron, who is full of energy and ideas, and keeps us focused on Jewish values. Executive Director Samara Sheray can juggle a dozen projects at once and ensure they all are completed properly. Our Administrative Assistant Marie McFadden and Comptroller Jamie Fritz keep all the details of running – and paying for – an organization straight. And what can we say about Facilities Manager Clint Rossiter, who keeps our aging building in such good shape, except "That man can fix anything!" Each of our staff members take care of our business and our building as if it was their own. For all they do, we owe them a huge THANK YOU!

Obviously, much of congregational life is driven by volunteers, congregants like you and me. If I tried to list and thank everyone who gave of their time and talent this past year, I would need the space of the whole Bulletin! So, I would like to focus on one group that doesn't usually get much fanfare, although you see the fruit of their labors every time you come to the Temple – the gardens crew.

Nearly every Tuesday morning from April through October, this group gathers at the Temple to take care of the gardens and the landscaping. Ron Cousino, Marnie Lowden, Norm Greenberg, Denny Reynolds, Jon Tam, Donna Tourkow, Janina Traxler, Deb Vilensky, and yours truly spend several hours each week planting, pruning, weeding, mulching, and generally playing in the dirt and having a good time. More recently, we have undertaken pruning some of the larger trees, clearing brush, and creating mulch. Ron, Denny and Norm even helped Micah Soltz build the new CAV firepit. It is a labor of love. We love to garden and we love Achduth Vesholom.

As we enter a new year, I hope you will think about what you love to do, and volunteer to share that talent with your fellow congregants. Please be in touch to let me know how we can help you get involved.

