

THE TEMPLE CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM BULLETIN

BUILDING JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1848

April 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE P3

Rabbi Meir: A Season of our Joy
Lifelong Learning: Love Poetry and Numerology

P6

Mah Jongg Returns in May

P7

News from the Board

P10

Purim Photos

P14

President's Corner

PLUS:

- **Services** page 2
- **Donations** page 12
- **Yahrzeits** page 13

WHY IS THIS NIGHT DIFFERENT? FIND OUT AT TEMPLE SEDER

Passover begins on Friday, April 15 when we retell the story of the Jews' exodus from Egypt and freedom from bondage. Please join our Temple family for the return of our in-person Second Seder after a two-year hiatus on Saturday, April 16 at 6 p.m. at the Temple.

We'll read the Haggadah led by Rabbi Meir Bargerion and dine on a traditional kosher-style Pesach meal. Thank you to the ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) for coordinating the meal -- and especially to Denny Reynolds and David Crell for chairing.

Please call the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 with your reservations by Friday, April 1 and then follow up by sending your check made payable to "CAV - The Temple." When you RSVP, please indicate if you prefer a vegetarian entrée. Masks are optional in the building. (Find the Temple's [COVID safety protocols](#))

Students enrolled in Religious School may attend at no charge by making a reservation and when accompanied by a parent.

The cost for Temple members is \$30 for adults, \$15 for children ages 3-12 who are not enrolled in the Religious School, and free for children under age 3. For non-members, the cost is \$36 for adults, \$18 for children 3-12, and free for children under age 3. No refunds will be issued for cancellations or no-shows. Reservations after the April 1 deadline will be taken if space is available. An accurate count is needed to prepare the appropriate amount of food.



CELEBRATE EARTH DAY CREATING AN ECO-FRIENDLY MEZUZAH



The Torah teaches that humankind was created on Earth, in part, to care for and protect God's creation (Genesis 2:15).

As we approach Earth Day 2022, congregants of all ages are invited on Sunday, April 24 at 11 a.m. at the Temple for an inspirational and experiential morning that brings together Jewish teachings about the environment with a hands-on opportunity to create a Mezuzah.

We'll gather for an Eco-Mezuzah Workshop to transform and repurpose downed tree branches into decorated Mezuzahs. Natural botanicals will be used for decorating each mezuzah, creating a unique case to hold the

Shema prayer for your doorpost.

Thank you to Samara Sheray and Marnie Lowden for chairing this special program.

Space is limited. Please RSVP by Thursday, April 21 to office@templecav.org or (260) 744-4245 - or [sign up directly](#) so that we have enough supplies. Reservations are required to attend.

The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, sparking an environmental movement that led to legislation including the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Education Act, and more.

Read more about the Reform Movement's efforts to help the environment and combat climate change. All of these efforts are part of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).

FOR INDEPTH NEWS & DETAILS

online

TEMPLECav.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES

APRIL SERVICES

Shabbat Service

Friday, April 1
6 p.m.
Music: Hazemir

Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 2
9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Friday, April 8
6 p.m.
Music: Maestro Robert Nance

Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 9
9:45 a.m.

No Shabbat Service

Friday, April 15
Passover begins

Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 16
9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Friday, April 22
6 p.m.

Shabbat & Pesach Yizkor Service

Saturday, April 23
9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Friday, April 29
6 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 30
9:45 a.m.



Join us for worship in person, on Zoom, or [YouTube](#). Links are provided in our weekly email to members. Guests are welcome to attend. Please contact us at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for access information.

APRIL EVENTS

Thoughtful Thursdays

Wednesday, April 13
10 a.m. at the Temple

Location, Location, Location: How Genealogical Research Can Benefit From Historical Maps

Sunday, April 3
2 p.m. on Zoom
[NEIJGS](#)

Pesach Cooking with Eileen Goltz

Sunday, April 3
5 p.m. [on Zoom](#)
Sponsored by [Jewish
Federation](#)

Five Books of Moses Study Group

Sunday, April 24
7 p.m. on Zoom

Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph

Sundays, April 3 & 10
7 p.m. on Zoom

Hebrew Liturgy Study Group

Mondays, April 4, 11, 18, 25
7 p.m. on Zoom

Song of Songs: Love Poetry of the Jewish People With Rabbi Meir

Tuesday, April 5
7 p.m. on Zoom

Congregational Second Seder

Saturday, April 16
6 p.m. at the Temple
RSVP by April 1

Eco-Mezuzah Making

Sunday, April 24
11 a.m. at the Temple
RSVP required by Thursday,
April 21

Yom Hashoah Commemoration

Sunday, April 24
2 p.m. on PBS39
Sponsored by [Jewish
Federation](#)

My Survivor

3 p.m. on PBS39
Sponsored by [Jewish
Federation](#)

The Mysteries of Jewish Numerology

With Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer
Tuesday, April 26
7 p.m. on Zoom

MAY EVENTS

Making the Most of FamilySearch for Jewish Research

Sunday, May 1
2 p.m.
[NEIJGS](#)

Confirmation & Shabbat Service

Friday, May 20
6 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS

Lunch with the ROMEOS

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



Thursday, April 7

[The Lucky Moose](#)
622 E. Dupont Rd.

Thursday, April 21

No Lunch - Passover

RSVP to Denny Reynolds at
dennisreynolds@me.com

[Find the lunch schedule](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

PANDEMIC SAFETY PROTOCOLS UPDATE: MASKS NOW OPTIONAL

In response to significant improvements in Allen County's number of COVID cases, the Temple Board on March 10 discontinued mask and vaccination requirements in the building. The [revised protocols](#) include:

- Proof of vaccination is not required to enter the building.
- Masks are optional inside the Temple. However, staff members may request that masks be worn by visitors to their workspace.
- The Temple President and staff may make adjustments to safety protocols as needed in accordance with [Centers for Disease Control](#) guidelines.

Worship services on Friday evenings will continue to be held in the Sanctuary to give attendees the option to social distance.

In addition, food may be served at congregational events without COVID restrictions and in accordance with Health Department requirements and the [Temple's food policy](#).

We will continue to evaluate safety protocols on an ongoing basis, keeping Jewish values in mind and taking into account guidelines from health officials. Out of respect for others, please stay home if you are not feeling well, have a fever or cold symptoms, lost of taste or smell, or have been exposed to COVID or have tested positive for COVID.

RABBI MEIR BARGERON

A SEASON OF OUR JOY

Springtime in Indiana corresponds with great joy in the natural world. The sun climbs higher and higher in the sky, and its warmth radiates down to awaken the floral bulbs resting in the earth. Early-morning excursions outdoors are again accompanied by the sound of birdsong. The expansive lawn in front of the Temple returns to its verdant state, attracting neighborhood children and families with running dogs to play on our campus. It is a beautiful season.



In Jewish tradition, spring (in our part of the world) is also associated with great joy. Purim, the last festival of winter, is centered in the month of Adar, when we are commanded to be joyful. And as we put away our groggers and finish the last of the hamantashen, we look forward to the month of Nisan. The rabbis note the natural beauty of the season: "Rav Yehuda said, 'One who goes out during Nisan and sees trees that are blossoming recites: Blessed are you Adonai our God... who has withheld nothing from this world, and has created in it beautiful creatures and trees for human beings to enjoy.'" (Berakhot 43b)

In Nisan we return our grateful attention to the blossoming trees as we prepare for the greatest festival on the Jewish calendar. The observance of Pesach is commanded to us in Torah as we remember that "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, and Adonai...freed us from Egypt with a mighty hand." (Deuteronomy 5:15) The liberation from enslavement is at the core of Jewish memory for it made everything else that followed it possible. There would be no Torah, and no covenant with the Jewish people without God through Moses leading the Israelites to freedom.

Indeed, but for Pesach there would be no Jewish people; not as we understand ourselves to be, anyway. As our ancestors escaped from Egypt and crossed the Sea of Reeds into the wilderness, they began the long and arduous journey not only to the Promised Land, but to become a people and a nation.

Pesach is a festival of awe at what God did for us and of gratitude for what resulted. And it is a festival of joy. When families and friends gather around their Seder tables to hear the story, celebrate and remember, they experience the joy of cherished traditions shared in loving company. When we gather together as a holy community for the Second Seder on Saturday, April 16 at 6 p.m., we will share the joy of being back together for Pesach after two years of being apart. But more importantly, we will experience the joy of being a part of a congregation, a Fort Wayne Jewish community, and as individual souls counted among the Jewish People.

In this season of spring and with the arrival of Nisan, let us each embrace the joys of life and of our connections to each other.

Chag Pesach Sameach,

Rabbi Meir

TOPICS FOR APRIL: LOVE POETRY & NUMEROLOGY

Expand your Jewish knowledge by joining us for lifelong learning classes that include a variety of Jewish study topics with Rabbi Meir Bargeron and guest teachers.

Please join us for:

Song of Songs: Love Poetry of the Jewish People

With Rabbi Meir

Tuesday, April 5

7 p.m. on Zoom

The Song of Songs is a remarkable collection of love lyrics that is included in the heart of the Hebrew Bible. This book includes no mention of God, Israel, the Exodus or Sinai, yet it is customarily read at Passover. Discover the history and characteristics of the Song of Songs while we read and discuss a number of key verses.

Please RSVP to office@templecav.org by Thursday, March 31 to receive materials.

The Mysteries of Jewish Numerology

With Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer

Tuesday, April 26

7 p.m. on Zoom

Learn about Gematria, the system that converts Hebrew letters to numbers in order to yield a deeper understanding of Jewish texts. This session will include an overview of Gematria and its place in Jewish tradition, as well many interesting examples of how it can be applied. Participants will be given the tools to develop their own insights from Hebrew words.

Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer was ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, is a board-certified chaplain at IU Health and teaches at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck in Indianapolis.

Please RSVP to office@templecav.org by Thursday, April 21 to receive materials.

Links for classes are provided in the weekly email to members of our Temple family. Guests may contact the office for access information.

Ongoing Programs:

Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph with John Planer

Sundays, April 3 & 10

7 to 8:30 p.m. on Zoom

For those who are registered

Hebrew Liturgy Study Group with John Planer

Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Five Books of Moses Study Group with Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan

Sunday, April 24 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

OBSERVE YIZKOR & SHABBAT WITH US ON APRIL 23

Please join us on Saturday, April 23 at 9:45 a.m. for Shabbat services with Yizkor on the last day of Passover, led by Rabbi Meir and Ron Friedman. Pesach is one of the three festival times each year when Jews observe Yizkor and share memorial prayers.



NEW SYDNEY TAYLOR AWARD-WINNERS IN THE LIBRARY

The Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library is proud to showcase the winners of the 2022 Sydney Taylor Book Awards. These awards are given each year by the Association of Jewish Libraries in Picture Book, Middle Grade and Young Adult categories. We have all of the winners, honor books, and notable books in our collection. [Find the list](#)

Susan Kusel's *The Passover Guest* was the winner in the Picture Book category. It's a retelling of a wonderful I.L. Peretz story, "The Magician," set in Washington, DC during the Depression. Picture book honors went to Nancy Churnin's *Dear Mr. Dickens*, a National Jewish Book Award winner, Jeff Gottesfeld's *The Christmas Mitzvah*, and *Nicky & Vera: A Quiet Hero of the Holocaust and the Children He Rescued*. All three titles are based on true stories.

Two more picture book biographies were Notables in the Picture Book category: *A Queen to the Rescue: The Story of Henrietta Szold, Founder of Hadassah*, by Nancy Churnin, and Cynthia Levinson's *The People's Painter: How Ben Shahn Fought for Justice with Art. Red and Green and Blue and White*, by Lee Wind, rounded out that category, again based on a true story of community support in the face of anti-Semitism.

How to Find What You're Not Looking For, by Veera Hiranandani, was the winner for Middle Grade readers. Set in Connecticut in 1967 and written, unusually, in second-person, the novel follows 12-year-old Ariel as she copes with her older sister eloping with an Indian-American, and her Orthodox family's reaction. Ariel's dysgraphia also becomes part of the story. It was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award.

Gordon Korman's *Linked* was one of the Middle Grade Honor books, another National Jewish Book Award winner discussed last month. Eugene Yelchin's *The Genius Under the Table: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain*, was the second Honor title. It's a memoir about life in the Soviet Union during the Cold War. Middle Grade Notables included *The Magical Imperfect*, by Chris Baron, *Sorry for Your Loss*, by Joanne Levy, and *Benny Feldman's All-Star Klezmer Band*, by Alison and Wayne Marks.

The City Beautiful, by Aden Polydoros, is the Young Adult award winner, a powerful work of historical fantasy. Set around the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, the story revolves around Alter Rosen, a recent Romanian immigrant. A finalist for the National Jewish Book Award, it's a thriller involving a dybbuk, a murder mystery, and a queer romance.

Young Adult Honors include *Whistle: A New Gotham City Hero*, a graphic novel by E. Lockhart, *The Summer of Lost Letters*, by Hannah Reynolds, and Leah Scheier's *The Last Words We Said*. Four titles were mentioned as Young Adult Notables. Two were non-fiction Holocaust titles: *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos*, by Judy Batalion, and *Boy from Buchenwald*, by Robbie Waisman and Susan McClelland. A Purim novel, *The Seventh Handmaiden*, by Judith Pransky, and *Why We Fly*, by Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal, rounded out the Notable category.

Our library is open to members whenever the building is accessible, with self-checkout available at the library desk. Please take advantage of this wonderful resource!



PLEASE RESPOND TO MEMBER ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

All Temple members will be contacted soon by an individual from the Member Engagement Task Force. In January, President Ronnie Greenberg appointed Micah & Wendy Soltz to lead a 10-person task force to gather information around a crucial query: "How do you want to connect with the Temple and what barriers keep you from connecting?"

The task force has met twice to develop specific questions to ask congregants. The survey will be ready before Pesach and members will have until the end of May to complete it via phone call or emailed survey link.

Thank you for participating and to Wendy & Micah and their team.



SHARE NEWS OF YOUR GRADUATE



We look forward to celebrating education milestones with 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 college graduation information by Wednesday, May 4 to be included in our June/July Bulletin. Contact us at office@TempleCAV.org or (260) 744-4245.



Rachel Beanland, author of "Florence Adler Swims Forever," joined our Temple Book Club on March 8 to dive into her story set in Atlantic City in the 1930s. Beanland, winner of the 2021 National Jewish Book Award for Debut Fiction, shared insights into the writing process and characters, as well as to ties with her own family.

Thank you to Betsy Gephart for organizing the program and to the Jewish Book Council for making the author's visit with us possible.



I was probably five- or six-years-old when my Grandma taught me to lick my thumb and stamp it in the palm of my hand the first time I saw a robin in the spring so that I would have good luck. So, imagine my excitement when I was in the car line at my kids' school this past week inching toward drop off and noticed a robin hopping around on the grass next to our car. I instinctively licked my thumb and put a stamp in my hand. My daughter noticed this weird motion and asked what I was doing. I explained the tradition and rationalized it as best I could: it's *bubbe-keit* (translated roughly to...Grandma stuff(?)). Lucky for me, she bought it and stamped her hand in solidarity, happy to carry on a tradition neither of us understood but were just as happy to continue... so, just like that, *l'dor vador* (from generation to generation)!

A couple of days later, I was preparing for our Religious School lessons and reading about *brachot* (blessings) for *aviv* and read about a special opportunity we have in the month of *Nisan* to fulfill the mitzvah (commandment) of reciting a *bracha* upon seeing two flowering trees in bloom:

ב ארבו מילך ומלועב רסח אלש קלועה קלמ וניהל-א ה התא רועב
קדא ינב קהב תנהל תובוט תוליאן תובוט תוירב.

Baruch atah Adonay Elohaynu melech haolam shelo chasar b'olamo klum u'bara bo b'riyot tovot v'elanot tovim l'hanot bahem b'nay adam.

Blessed are you our G-d, King of the universe, who did not allow anything to lack in His world, and who created within it good creatures and good trees to give pleasure to mankind through them.

Of course my mind instantly went back to my annual tradition of

stamping the robin for good luck. But what if instead of performing this ritual for the sake of *keinehora* (to ward off the evil eye or bad luck) as I had been taught, I could reinterpret the tradition to remind myself of the blessings that accompany me through the simplest moments of my day and that carry me from season to season, year after year. What if I didn't just treat that tradition as an "I have to do this or else" moment, and instead treated it as an "I'm so blessed to get to do this!" moment? I'm using that question to center myself throughout what promises to be a busy several weeks of family travel and holiday gatherings coming up this month.

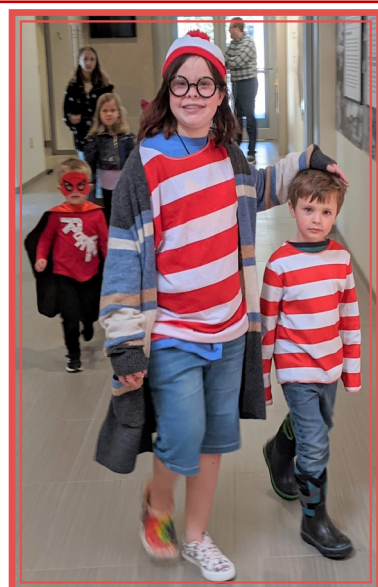
Meanwhile, back at the ranch, I have yet to see blooms on the trees in front of our house, though I did take special care to inspect them closely when I walked to the mailbox this morning. I'm now eagerly awaiting the chance to celebrate those first blooms on the trees this month with a new tradition to go along with my robin stamping!

Upcoming Events:

Religious School will meet less frequently throughout April to accommodate the Spring Break and *Pesach* (Passover) travel schedules of many of our families. We will be back together AND in person on Sunday, April 24 at 10 a.m. at the Temple for an Eco-Mezuzah workshop – hopefully we'll be able to enjoy some time together outside by then!

If you'd like to learn more about the tradition of stamping the first robin of spring, here's the best thing I could find on the internet about it: <https://mynorth.com/2019/04/how-to-stamp-the-first-spring-robin/>

Leise Rosman, Religious School Committee Chair



Religious School families gathered for a Purim Party on March 13, with a costume parade, Bingo, and, of course, hamentashen to nosh. Librarian Betsy Gephart shared a Purim story time and Israeli magician Ron Loaptin taught magic tricks via Zoom.



CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER FUN AT GUCI

Jewish summer camp provides young people with a heightened sense of Jewish community and spirituality.

Registration for summer 2022 at [Goldman Union Camp Institute](https://www.gucicamp.org/) is underway! A sibling discount of \$100 also is available for the summer. GUCI is our regional Union for Reform Judaism camp in Zionsville. Children entering 3rd through 12th grade are eligible. [Find out more](https://www.gucicamp.org/)

Please contact the Temple office for campership information or Campership Chair Brian Rosman. Considering Jewish overnight camp for the first time? Your child may be eligible for a need-blind grant of up to \$1,000 this summer through the [Foundation for Jewish Camp](https://www.fjc.org/).

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR CAMP JOE AT FOX ISLAND

Plans are underway for the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's](https://www.jfw.org/) Camp Joe 2022! We are working to create an exciting program with new opportunities for learning, discoveries, and friendships.

Camp Joe runs Monday through Friday of the following weeks: July 4-8, July 11-15, and July 18-22. Your child may register for one, two or all three weeks. Camper ages are 4-13 years old.

Regular camp hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with before and after care options available.

Find the application [here](https://www.jfw.org/camp-joe). There is an early registration discount for families who register for camp by Friday, April 8. We are looking forward to spending time with all of our campers at Fox Island this summer!

We are excited to introduce a new referral program for this summer!

How it Works:

Refer a new family to Camp Joe. When they register, make sure we know that you referred them. Both you and the new family will receive 10% off your payment.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne at 260-456-0400.



HELP SET UP HOMES FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

Your generous donations helped the Jewish community raise \$21,868 in December to help Catholic Charities with resettlement of Afghan refugees in Northeast Indiana. Your help now is needed to set up homes for the refugees in our community.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Social Action Committee Chair Rena Black as soon as possible at rena.black.fw@gmail.com.

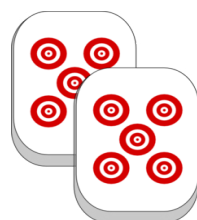


Our hamantaschen team included bakers of all ages on March 6, rolling out dough and adding delicious fillings that included strawberry, nutella with marshmallows, chocolate chips, lemon curd, cherry, peanut butter, poppy seed and more!

Thank you to Co-Chairs Deb Vilensky and Mimi Zelman, our Religious School families, and Temple bakers for preparing goodies for the congregation to enjoy at our "go-neg" following the Purim service and spiel.

BAMS, CRACKS, AND DOTS RETURN - IT'S TIME FOR MAH JONGG!

Get ready for the click-clack of tiles when mah jongg resumes at the Temple this spring! Beginning the week of May 2, we will resume open play on Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons.



To prepare, you can order your 2022 card now at www.nationalmahjonggleague.org. Need a refresher? Real Mah Jongg is a popular app. And the Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library has several mah jongg titles, including two different guides, that might come in handy.

Going forward, we'll be offering games on Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and on Thursday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Sign up here for these informal sessions. Players of all levels are welcome! We ask for a \$2 donation each time you play to help support mahj and other programs.

Games will take place in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center. If you'd like to be added to our occasional mah jongg e-newsletter, please contact us at office@templecav.org.

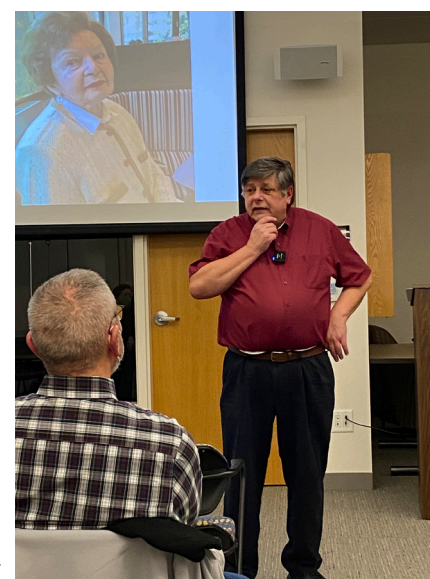
We welcome newer players and gladly will assist as you learn the rules. (If you know anyone who would like to be contacted when we again offer lessons for beginners, please contact the Temple office at office@templecav.org.)

Masks are optional in the Temple. (Find our COVID protocols) Out of respect for others, please stay home if you are not feeling well, have a fever or cold symptoms, loss of taste or smell, or have been exposed to COVID or have tested positive for COVID.



Temple member Bruce Colegrove inspired an attentive audience of some 30 people (both in person and on Zoom) on March 2 with his passion and research about the women's orchestra at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

During the third presentation in Bruce's ongoing Strings of Inspiration series, he shared new stories about Eva Steiner and her mother, Jolanda, and their role with the orchestra and after the war. Bruce is an ardent researcher in Holocaust studies and developer of a website dedicated to the Women's Orchestra of Auschwitz-Birkenau.





NEWS FROM THE BOARD

An update from the March 10 meeting of the Temple Board:

Livestreaming Upgrades

With the increased use of livestreaming for worship services and programs, the Temple is working on a plan to upgrade streaming equipment.

Executive Director Samara Sheray detailed the current one-camera system, which was purchased in 2016 when technology and our needs were different. In addition to the need to improve the picture quality, the sound system and lighting situation also create some challenges for livestreaming. Various aspects are being considered while gathering bids.

In addition to acoustics, issues to address include staffing to operate the equipment and logistics when streaming concurrently from the Sanctuary and Goldstine-B'nai Jacob Chapel during the High Holy Days.

The board discussed that congregant expectations are different since we began using Zoom and YouTube during the pandemic. Our weekly worship services have a regular following online, as well as our ongoing lifelong learning opportunities. These include members who

live in town and out-of-town, as well as snowbirds, and others from the community. Some older congregants aren't comfortable driving at night to the Temple, and streaming has increasingly become their link to us.

Mask and Vaccination Requirements Lifted

In response to significant improvements in Allen County's number of COVID cases, the Board voted unanimously to discontinue mask and vaccination requirements in the building. (See page 2.)

Rabbinic Coverage Policy Approved

The board approved guidelines for Rabbinic coverage for emergency life-cycle events during the scheduled absence of the Rabbi, such as during vacations, conferences, or other approved absences.

Under the policy, the Rabbi will arrange for coverage by other ordained Jewish clergy whenever he/she will be absent for longer than a few days and/or will be unavailable to respond to an emergency. The substitute clergy must be available and willing to handle pastoral care emergencies and funerals.

The policy also covers payment guidelines for the substitute clergy, including when officiating at a funeral. Financial responsibilities are detailed for those receiving services, depending on whether the situation involves congregants or non-congregants.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to introduce the newest members of our Temple family:

Audrey Gerson and Rhonda Gerson-Hurwitz –

Audrey joins Achduth Vesholom after many years at Congregation B'nai Jacob, where she served three times as Sisterhood President. A Detroit native, she moved to Fort Wayne in 1952 with her husband, Joe Gerson (z"l).



Her daughter, Rhonda, is a semi-retired social worker and substitute teacher. An Indianapolis resident, Rhonda has been living in Fort Wayne during the pandemic. Involved at B'nai Jacob while growing up, Rhonda currently is a member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. They hope the Temple will continue to offer as many activities as possible on Zoom.

Lyla Spath – A Huntington native, Lyla is a writer and illustrator. Her children's historical fiction book, *Salamonie Summer: An Ezmay Beck Adventure*, is set in her hometown and was inspired by memories of visits to her grandparents' farm in Bippus, Indiana, during the 1960s and 1970s.

She lived in Muncie for 40 years, where she also served as a board member and librarian at Temple Beth-El. Lyla also lived in Merida, Mexico, for three years before returning in late 2021 to Indiana. She currently is taking the Temple's online Hebrew class and looks forward to becoming actively involved at Achduth Vesholom.

Libby & Adam Hochberg and their children, Evan and Ari – The Hochberg family welcomed their daughter, Ari, in February, joining big brother, Evan, 2.

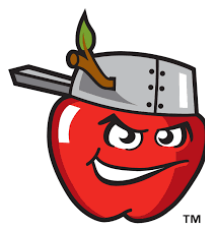
Libby is from the Chicago area and Adam is from the New York area, though both moved to Florida as children. They moved to Fort Wayne from Florida in 2019.

Adam is co-owner of Allendale Treatment and Fort Wayne Recovery, both behavioral health facilities in Northeast Indiana.

CATCH THE TINCAPS WITH CAV

Join members of our Temple family on Saturday, July 9 for a trip to Parkview Field to watch the Fort Wayne TinCaps play the Lake County Captains, followed by post-game fireworks.

The game starts at 6:35 p.m. Tickets for seats in the All-Star section behind home plate are \$14 per person. Please call the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 by Wednesday, June 22 to reserve your seats and then send your check (made payable to "CAV-The Temple"). We will not order extra tickets, so please make your reservations by the deadline. No refunds will be issued for cancellations.



We'll let you know when your reserved tickets will be available for pick up at Achduth Vesholom so that everyone can meet that evening. Thanks to Mike Barasch for organizing this annual event.

SUPPORT JEWISH COMMUNITY IN UKRAINE

Please help the Jewish community in Ukraine through the Ukraine Crisis Fund, established by World Union for Progressive Judaism. Money will be spent on individuals and communities to ensure their safety and well-being. Your donations are crucial and necessary help for many people.

הזב הז מברע לארשי לכ

Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Bazeh.

All of Israel Are Responsible for One Another

Thank you for your support.

Additional ways to respond to the crisis in Ukraine may be found at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.



THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS SEEKING DONATIONS FOR BOOSTER SEATS

As we continue to navigate these difficult times of inflation and supply chain issues, we have learned of another way in which we can help the Brightpoint Head Start families. Brooke Hartman, Brightpoint site director at the Temple, recently shared that they are again in need of car booster seats for some of the children.

Since parents still are not permitted to come into the Temple building to drop off or pick up their children, there is a car line and Brightpoint staff brings the children in and out of the building. If a staff member sees that a child is not properly restrained (as in a booster seat), they are required to report it, since it is the law.

In an effort to keep the children safe and continue to focus on upholding Judaism's highest priorities of maintaining life and health, we are asking 25 people to each contribute \$25 for the purchase of 25 Graco booster seats for the Brightpoint Head Start children.

Our Thoughtful Thursdays team will gather on Wednesday, April 13 (one week later than usual due to spring break), with masks optional. We will meet in the Social Hall for the rest of the school year to socially distance. This month we will be assembling bags filled with cans of chunk white chicken, cream of chicken soup, Rotel tomatoes and chilies, black beans, taco seasoning, jars of applesauce, tortilla chips, and a recipe for a chicken taco casserole, as well as bottles of body wash, facial tissues, paper towels and toilet paper.

A special thank you to Mike, the manager of Trader Joe's, for donating 300 paper bags to Thoughtful Thursdays! We also appreciate the continued generosity of the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and the members of our Jewish community for making Thoughtful Thursdays possible.

Thoughtful Thursdays is a project of Congregation Achduth Vesholom and the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact sartrotter@gmail.com.

Remember, hunger doesn't stop just because there is a supply chain issue or inflation!

Sally Trotter, Thoughtful Thursdays Chair



MY NOT-SO-QUICK JOURNEY TO AUSTRIAN CITIZENSHIP



Temple member Irv Adler is president of the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society.

In early October 2018, I found out that the Austrian Parliament had passed a law that would allow the children of Austrian Holocaust survivors to apply for Austrian citizenship, based on patrilineal descent. My father came to the U.S. in 1939, married in 1941, and was naturalized in 1945. I was born in 1943 and was an Austrian citizen at birth. Now, I just had to prove it.

In March 2019, I contacted the Austrian Consulate in New York City to initiate the process. Little did I realize what an ordeal this would be. I had to assemble a collection of 15 documents that proved my father was Austrian and that he was forced to leave Austria because of the Nazi persecution, eventually settling and raising a family in New York City, and that I was his son. Bureaucracy, COVID, and an inexperienced Austrian Consulate official caused numerous delays. I learned two things: to have lots of patience and a new word, "apostille."

The process took 33 months. And apostille, simply put, requires that every U.S. document that I had to submit for my citizenship application, whether in my possession or that I had to obtain from the issuing state, required authentication from the Secretary of State of that state.

In mid-2021, I connected with a highly competent consular official, who really helped move things along. In October 2021, I had received the *Bescheid*, the official notice that I was approved to apply for Austrian citizenship.

But we were not done yet: I was told to fill out another set of forms and to present them, along with some of the same documents that I had previously provided in early 2020, in person at the Austrian Consulate in New York City. I did that on December 13, 2021. All the documents and forms were faxed to the appropriate Austrian agency. My citizenship and passport were granted shortly thereafter.

My new Austrian citizenship applied to my daughter and son, too. My daughter made the citizenship and passport application appearance with me, and my son is in the process of scheduling a similar appearance.

So why did I decide to become an Austrian citizen? I knew that my whole family was from Vienna, Austria. Then I learned a lot more about my family as I was working on my book, *Then and Now: Discovering My Viennese Family*. Given the chance to become more connected to my Austrian roots and become a dual American and Austrian citizen, and a citizen of the EU, I took it. And, if I became an Austrian citizen, my kids could also. I knew my daughter wanted more accessibility to the EU and the Austrian citizenship and passport, would give that to her.



RABBI MEIR CELEBRATES FORMAL ORDINATION



Rabbi Meir Barger and other members of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's Los Angeles Class of 2020 were formally ordained on Sunday, March 27 at Congregation Beth Israel in San Diego. This ceremony was held in conjunction with the convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

The pandemic has delayed this formal ritual, although these rabbis were honored in a consecration ceremony on Zoom in May 2020. During the ceremony, each rabbi was asked to offer a Jewish text that has reflected

their experience of the first two years in the rabbinate. Here is the text of Rabbi Meir's teaching:

"Joshua ben Perachiah used to say: 'Make for yourself a rabbi, acquire for yourself a friend, and judge every person favorably.' (Pirkei Avot 1:6) Regarding this verse, the Lev *Simchah* taught: 'A rabbi encourages fear of God, but a friend can lead to love of God, which we learn is even greater than fear.' (*Maggdei HaEmet*)

"Over these last two years, I have been learning to embrace people in friendship in a way that I never thought possible. In the first months of the pandemic, I became the rabbi of Congregation Achduth Vesholom and they became my congregation. With them, I have experienced a type of relationship that is entirely

new to me. We are joining in holy community and in friendship, as we accompany one another to experience the Holy Blessed One. And as I teach them, they are teaching me. We are blessings to one another.

"Blessed are You Adonai our God, who brings friends together to reach out to You in love."



Rabbi Meir spoke on the significance of the Song of Solomon as part of concert "Aspects of Love" presented by Heartland Sings on March 20 at the Temple. The performance included the Midwest premiere of a work by American composer Don McCullough entitled "Song of the Shulamite," which was commissioned by Maestro Nance, along with a consortium of directors across the country.

PERSONALIZE YOUR LOVED ONE'S DIGITAL YAHRZEIT PAGE

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

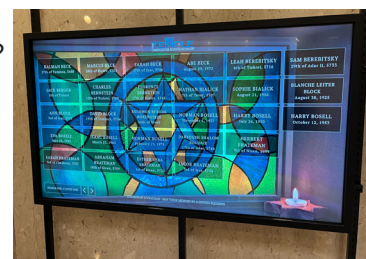
If so, we invite you to take advantage of special features on our new yahrzeit display by providing biographical information and photos of your family member. Forms are available both online or on paper to fill out with specific information about a loved one to submit to the Temple office to be added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

This is the latest step in our yahrzeit project that grew out of the transition that began in July 2019 when members of the former B'nai Jacob became part of Achduth Vesholom. The long history of both congregations meant we had nearly 1,000 bronze nameplates on 10 larger boards with limited wall space.

The Temple's Board of Directors voted in February 2021 to purchase the interactive digital display, which was installed last September. The existing bronze plaques will be incorporated into a sculpture in the courtyard of the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.

Digital yahrzeit plaques are available for \$500 each, with proceeds going to the Temple's Endowment. While the congregation draws from our entire yahrzeit list when we say Kaddish during services, the digital display includes only names for those whose loved ones have purchased a plaque.

Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 with any questions.





We followed the Yellow Brick Road Somewhere Over the Rainbow in retelling the Story of Esther in The Megillah of Oz on March 16 during our Purim Spiel and service.

Thank you to Rabbi Meir, Maestro Robert Nance, and the Temple's Purim Players Denny Reynolds,. Ron Cousino, Nola Katinsky, Leise Rosman, Marcia Reynolds, David Crell, Micah Soltz, Eleora Soltz, Lyla Spath, and Mike Rush!

To complete the festivities, delicious hamentashen were served to go at our "Go-Neg." Thank you to the baking team, led by Deb Vilensky and Mimi Zelman. What a delight to have more than 50 people in person and others on Zoom to share in the holiday!



NEED HELP FINDING YOUR ANCESTRAL TOWN?

The Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society is excited to welcome genealogist and mathematician Ed Mitukiewicz for a free virtual program on Sunday, April 3, beginning at 2 p.m. "Location, Location, Location: How Genealogical Research Can Benefit From Historical Maps" is the focus of the afternoon's presentation.



Identifying the towns and villages where our ancestors used to live can be a critical step in finding relevant sources of genealogical information. However, locating some of those places often becomes quite a challenging task, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, where use of multiple languages, spelling or transliteration errors, appearance of similar names in different locations and countries, frequent name changes and shifting national borders introduce additional complications.

Readily available web-based resources — including digital repositories of historical maps and geographic information databases — can help to overcome many of those challenges. This presentation demonstrates the methods and techniques of using such resources to facilitate locating ancestral towns in Central and Eastern Europe.

Registration is required to attend this free virtual program. NEIJGS members may attend an additional virtual workshop with Mitukiewicz that afternoon. Additional information about the NEIJGS can be found at www.NEIndianaJGS.org, or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NEIJGS). Contact Betsy Gephart at vp@NEIndianaJGS.org for more information.

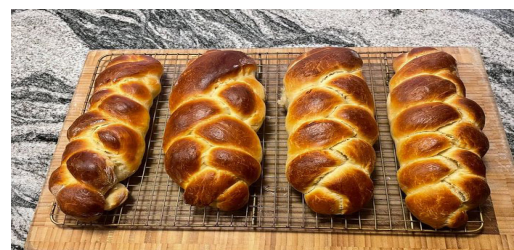


LEARN ABOUT FAMILYSEARCH IN MAY

FamilySearch.org is a massive free online genealogical resource maintained by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons). It contains a huge number of records that the church has filmed and digitized from around the world. Much is indexed, but probably even more

is not yet searchable, so learning how to take advantage of these resources is important.

Todd Knowles, from the Family History Library, will be the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society's speaker on Sunday, May 1, in person at the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center. He will speak at 2 p.m. about how to use FamilySearch and how it works. At 3:30 p.m., he'll delve into the huge number of Jewish records available and what is to come. Mark your calendar to learn about this spectacular resource!



How wonderful to share Kiddush and a return to mini-Onegs after our Friday services!

These beautiful loaves were made by Jon Tam and greatly enjoyed by congregants. If you bake and would like to help ensure that we have challah following Shabbat evening services, please contact Rabbi Meir at rabbi@templecav.org.



SHARE IN COMMUNITY YOM HASHOAH

Once again, the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's Yom HaShoah Commemoration will be held virtually. Our keynote speaker will be Chad Austin, Professor of Law, Deputy for Faculty Development, Co-Director of International Programs, United States Air Force Academy Department of Law. We will be broadcasting on PBS39 on Sunday, April 24 at 2 p.m. We will also be showing it on other platforms. More information soon.

YOM HASHOAH
FORT WAYNE HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

JOIN EILEEN GOLTZ FOR PASSOVER COOKING ON APRIL 3H OBSERVANCE ON PBS39



Get ready for Passover when the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's Rosh Chodesh group hosts a virtual Pesach Cooking program with Eileen Goltz on Sunday, April 3 at 5 p.m. [Find Zoom info here.](#)



My Survivor

WHO WILL TELL THE STORY WHEN THE LAST SURVIVOR IS GONE?

SUNDAY, April 24 • 3pm

PBS Fort Wayne
Watch • Stream with pbsfortwayne.org

Local Broadcast
Sponsored In Part By



The Jewish Federation of New Mexico presents:
AN EVENING WITH PULITZER PRIZE WINNING JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

TOPIC: "THE BIG TRENDS
SHAPING THE WORLD TODAY:
ECONOMICS, TECHNOLOGY, AND
GEOPOLITICS"

Co-Sponsored by:
The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne



Sunday, April 10th 2022
at - 9 PM EDT

Register for the Zoom Webinar [here](#).

Bestselling author of *The World is Flat* and New York Times foreign affairs columnist Tom Friedman is renowned for his direct reporting and accessible analysis of complex issues shaping the world. According to *Foreign Policy* magazine, "Friedman doesn't just report on events: he helps shape them." Winner of three Pulitzer Prizes, he has covered the monumental stories from around the globe for *The New York Times* since 1981. *Vanity Fair* called him "the country's best newspaper columnist."

In his latest bestseller, *Thank You for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations*, Friedman offers a blueprint for overcoming the stresses and challenges of a world being transformed by technology, globalization, and climate change.

DONATIONS

Adelman Facility Improvement Fund

In memory of Jennifer Cohen: *Marlene & Steve Calderon*

Art & Beautification Fund

A donation has been received from: *Rachel & Geoffrey Gordon*

Campership Fund

In memory of Goldie Dubow: *Vivian Skadron*

Dr. John Planer Music Fund

A donation has been received from: *Shara & Harry Cunningham*

In memory of Anthony Kirdahy: *Marcia & Denny Reynolds*

In honor of Milly and Oliver Cunningham: *Ron Cousino*

In memory of Abe Kaplan and Rose O. Kaplan: *Susie Miller*

Endowment Fund

In memory of Dr. Don Alan Lee and Jennifer Cohen: *Larry Lee*

In honor of Irene Walters: *Larry Lee*

General Operations

A donation has been received from: *Barbara & Mooch Lewis, Scott Fergusson*

In memory of Molly Cohen: *Lis Kahn*

In memory of Rosa Fishman and David Fishman: *Carol Levy*

In memory of Doris Tillingier: *Jenny Levitin*

In memory of Peter Rothberg: *Deborah Rothberg*

In memory of Bessy Levy: *Linda Bullerman, Sue & Jerry Pownall*

In memory of Elizabeth Ruth Johnson: *Kay Safirstein*

In memory of Irina Kutsenok: *Edna Kyner*

In memory of Herman Davis: *Jerry Davis*

In memory of Fred Glazer and Samuel Zweig: *Beth & Dan Zweig*

Holocaust Education Fund

In memory of Edith Warchawski: *Doris Fogel*

In memory of Irina Kutsenok: *Victor Kutsenok*

Kathryn Kann Mendelblatt Cultural Enrichment Fund

In memory of Jo Rothberg: *Deborah Rothberg*

In memory of Peter Alan Rothberg: *Stephen Rothberg*

Library Fund

In memory of Judy Greengrass: *Karen Sandler*

In memory of Lois Safran and David Safran: *Rabbi Richard Safran*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Dr. Robert King: *Suzi & Jim King*

In honor of Milly and Oliver Cunningham: *Shara & Harry Cunningham*

In memory of James Leib, Arlene Leib, Michael Hunter Leib, and Rose

Leib Rothman: *Jere Leib*

Ryan Goldstrom Memorial Fund

In memory of Dr. Sheldon Kantor: *Lori & Rob Goldstrom*

In memory of Philip Blinder: *Iris Goldstrom*

Temple Gardens Fund/Spousep Chapel

A donation has been received from: *Rachel & Geoffrey Gordon*

In memory of Jennifer Cohen: *Judy & Steve Zacher, Rita & Tom O'Neill,*

Sally & Steve Trotter, Jere Leib, Marie Warshauer, Chris & Paul Riley,

Kathy & Todd Sider, Nancy & Rick Fisher, Elissa & Steve Cohen

In memory of Elsie Shepsman: *Sally & Steve Trotter*

In memory of Anthony Kirdahy: *Ronnie & Norm Greenberg*

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

In memory of Lynn Cohen: *Elissa & Steve Cohen*

In memory of Edna Levine, Zalman Levine, and Lois Edwards: *Stan Levine*

Thoughtful Thursdays

A donation has been received from: *Kay Safirstein*

In memory of Mark Smith: *Cindi & Richard Wismer*

In memory of Helen O'Neill: *Rita & Tom O'Neill*

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

Wyle Weiman Youth Activities

In memory of Monroe Marcus: *Suzi & Jim King*

In memory of Wyle Weiman and Leonard Goldstein: *Rikki Goldstein*

Youth Group

In memory of Eddie Field: *Steven Field*

Explore all of our [Tribute Funds](#) or [Make a Donation](#)

BECOME A LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBER WITH A PLANNED GIFT TO THE TEMPLE

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

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

To become a society member, please inform the Temple in writing that you have made provisions to remember the congregation in your estate. For further information about the L'dor Vador Legacy Society or making a planned gift now or in the future, contact Planned Giving Committee Chair Beth Zweig at blzweig@msn.com.



APRIL YAHRZEITS

April 1-2	Louis Engelhard	Sara A. Doppelt	Irwin Golden	Sonia Finkelstein
Jerome Ackerman	Rabbi Jacob M. Eppstein	Rae Dorman	Isser Goldin	David B. Fishman
Mariana Apfelbaum	Herman Freiburger	Oren Evan Ford	Leonard Goldstein	Lena Goltz
Samuel Babich	Jan Gassman	Eva Friedman	Samuel A. Heilbroner	Elaine Harvey
Sam Berebitsky	Rosemary Gentle	Cecilia Gans	Louis Hirsch	Nannette Heilbroner
Elizabeth Bransilver	MinnieGlucklick	Fred Glazer	Leonel Kahn	Clara Heilbroner
Mose Caplan	Rita Gold	Mushke Golder	Charles Kirschner	June Saul Himelstein
Molly Cohen	Ida Goldberg	Tania Leah Grinschpoun	Samuel Kornspan	Rabbi Samuel Hirschberg
Semen Drozdov	Ira Greenberg	Dorothy Horn	Irina Kutsenok	Rebecca Kaplan
Henriett Erber	Aaron Haslachner	Leopold Isay	Ben Levy	Louis Latker
Arnie Feinberg	Ida Hutner	Judy Isroff	Mary Levy	Jean Lee
Helen Fine	Sidney M. Hutner	Bella Kessler Klein	Bessie Levy	Larry Levin
Marx Frank	Tillie Starr Isay	Harry Levey	Irving Luskin	Samuel Levis
Sophie Glazer	Sarah Mildred Jacobson	Isidor Levy	Dorothy G. Maier	Frances Levy
Bella Gubitz	Elizabeth Ruth Johnson	Mike Mattingly	Werner Manheim	Jane L. Neiman
Louis S. Hallenstein	Sylvia Laderman	Irma M. Meyer	Ruth Mark	Esther Nelson
Florence M. Hill	Rebecca Lande	Jerry Morgenstein	Frederick Milz	Gary Nemeroff
Edith Horwitz	Ida Latz	Carrie Nathan	Harriet Mirman	Nate Nemeroff
Dr. Sheldon Kantor	Samuel Lauferty	Chaim Norkin	Steven Moyer	Alfred Novitsky
Joseph Klarke	James Leib	David Ochstein	Tillie Ochstein	Stephen Powers
Helen LaPoff	David Levin	Peter Alan Rothberg	Samuel hstein	Zelda Punsky
Isaac Lauferty	Shirley Marer-Brateman	Bernard Rothschild	Ann Peltz	Paul N. Richardson
Sigmund Lehman	Ronald Mille	Taubach Schachter	Adelaide Pollak	Ida Rigelhaupt
Barney Levin	Valette Moyer	Max T. Schmitz	Virginia Ray	Dr. Charles J. Rothschild
Monroe Marcus	Jane L. Neiman	Lena Silverman	Jean Rehm	Charles J. Rothschild
Benjaïm Margolies	Helen O'Neill	Samuel Stein	Catherine Revesz	Arthur Michael Rudek
Nelson K. Neiman	Ida Price	Barney Sterling	Jo Rothberg	Morris Ruderman
Calvin Prady	Barbara Rosen	Emma A. Strass	David L. Safran	Lois Safran
Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt	Bess Rosenblatt	Sharon Subeck	Harry Sheray	Eva R. Salon
Barbara Sachs	Otto D. Rothschild	Israel Weber	Minnie Silverman	Arthur Albert Sapirie
Barbara Hirsch Schreier	Izidor Schachter	Rosa Weil	Margaret Silverman	Anna Lee Scheffman
Isabel Sider	Arnold Schaffer	Wyle Weiman	Louis Stiefel	Hazel Schultz
Adam Smulovitz	Benjamin Schultz	Dorothy Whisler	Anna Trauner	Erna Shulkin
Flora Strouse	Sylvia L. Shafer	Alan Lawrence Winnerman	Morton Trauner	Rosetta R. Siegle
Leta Taker	Etta G. Sheray	Ryan Zimmerman	Philip Trivus	Norman Snow
Lila Berman Tankel	Mark Smith		Samuel Weinberg	Harry N. Speyer
Nathan Weinstein	Nikki Kaplan Stern	April 22-23	Tina Wilcox	Samuel Herbert Stern
Karen S. White	Earl Stewart	Gilbert Ben Youdoul		Bertha Strass
Loni Wolf	Marguerite Waltemath	Steve Abrams	April 29-30	Lucile Wolf
Ruth Zamrin	Florence Weiss	Charles Baskes	Sylvia Baker	Harry Wolff
	Diane Wolf	Ronald Brateman	Ruth Beck	
April 8-9	Jane P. Woolner	Jacob Bruch	Samuel Brateman	
Lucy Z. Berk	Samuel Zweig	Edward K. Burcham	Hannah Cohen	Yahrzeit Donations can be
Harry G. Browarsky		May Bussel	Sophia Ebner	<u>made online.</u>
Loretta Bukowski	April 16	Sonia Cooperman	Leah Edelman	
Mildred Cramer	Moses Amber	Harry Dale	Joan Erb	
Herman Davis	Libby Babich	Etta Gepsman	Muriel Feinstein	
Goldie DuBow	Herbert Brateman	Rebecca Goldberg	Meyer Fine	

CONDOLENCES TO:

Dana & Jay Zemmol and family on the death of her father, Dr. Jerry Lesson, on March 14, 2022 in West Bloomfield, Michigan. We also think of their children, Zachary and Zoey, on the loss of their grandfather.

The family of Judith Prizer Greengrass, former member of Achduth Vesholom, who died on March 22, 2022 in Florida. We think of her husband, Marty Greengrass, daughters, Sara Greengrass (Sean Brennan) and Rabbi Rachel Greengrass (John Cray), and five grandchildren.

PLEASE RETURN DUES PLEDGES

A reminder to all members to please return your dues pledge by April 8 for the coming year. Your financial commitment to the Temple helps us to plan our budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year that begins July 1. Thank you to all who already have responded for your generous support of our congregation.



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

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Marie McFadden: Bulletin Production
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Jamie Fritz: Comptroller Accounts@TempleCAV.org

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.



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Achduth Vesholom Congregation



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
May Bulletin is Monday, April 18.**



PRESIDENT'S CORNER RONNIE GREENBERG

This is a very busy time of year at the Temple – but then what time of year isn't? I am continually amazed at the number and variety of services, programs, and events available at Achduth Vesholom, especially given the size of our congregation. More on that later. Right now, let's talk about what's going on.

COVID picked a good time to finally release us from its grip. As I write, Purim is just around the corner and we are planning a Religious School party (thank you Leise Rosman), as well as a Megillah of Oz retelling of Queen Esther's story (thank you

Rabbi Meir, Bob Nance, and all the players), complete with hamantaschen (thank you Deb Vilensky and Mimi Zelman and their baking team). Then comes Passover and our beloved second night Seder is back (thank you Denny Reynolds, David Crell, Samara Shera, and the ROMEOs and their Juliets).

Concurrently, there is a long list of weekly adult education programs from which to choose, from liturgical Hebrew (thank you, John Planer) to Torah study. Thank goodness for the Thursday email with all the lists of programs, times, and zoom links (thank you Beth Zweig) to keep us on track.

At the same time, there is also much going on behind the scenes. As the weather improves, work will begin on the new yahrzeit sculpture in the courtyard of the Madge Rothschild Resource Center. The Board is busy wrapping up the business of this year and planning for the coming fiscal year, recruiting new board members, discussing a budget, and examining projects to improve our infrastructure. Several ad hoc task forces are busy at work studying special issues to report to the board and congregation (thank you Micah & Wendy Soltz and Carol Adelman and Jay Zemmoll).

How does all this happen, simultaneously, in a congregation our size? One word – members – those who share their time and talent.

There is a famous quotation from Rabbi Hillel that says "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" This tells us that, while we must care for ourselves, we must not care ONLY for ourselves. In order to have a vibrant Jewish community and congregation, we must all pitch in and do as much as we can. And we need to do it now.

Don't tell yourself that you will be more active later, when the kids are older or when your job slows down. When that day finally comes, you'll be busy with something else. Don't tell yourself you've done it for years and it's someone else's turn. With participation comes responsibility. If you want the Temple to continue to offer the quantity and quality of programming now available, you need to help make it happen.

So how does one go about getting involved? Easy. When you see something in the Bulletin or weekly email that interests you, volunteer to help with it. If you don't know whom to call, feel free to call me. I'll be happy to help connect you. Sharing in the work of the congregation will be one of the most rewarding things you will ever do. Participating in Temple life not only strengthens our Jewish community, but it can lead to growing your personal network of wonderful friendships.

One more thought. In addition to sharing our time and talent, we all need to share our treasure also. Dues pledge letters for the coming year were recently mailed. Please be generous. If you don't do it, who will? If not now, when?

