

Building Jewish Community Since 1848

February 2023

Inside This Issue

P3

Rabbi Meir: People of Learning

Temple Book Club

P6-7

We Remember: Rabbi Safran and Clint Rossiter

P8

CAV's 175th Anniversary

P10

Thoughtful Thursdays

P14

President's Corner

PLUS:

- ♦ Services Page 2
- ♦ Donations Page 12
- ♦ Yahrzeits Page 13

For In-depth News & Details ONLINE

Templecav.org

JOIN US FOR TU B'SHVAT: NEW YEAR OF THE TREES

Please join us for a family-friendly Tu B'Shvat celebration on Sunday, February 5 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Temple that includes a seder and tree noshes.

Sometimes referred to as "Jewish Arbor Day," Tu B'Shvat marks the time when almond trees begin to bloom in Israel. We will celebrate the importance of trees to *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and look forward to the return of spring.

Please RSVP to office@templecav.org or (260) 744-4245 by Tuesday, January 31. There is no charge to attend. A free-will offering will be accepted to help defray the expenses.

Volunteers are needed to assist with food, decorations, set-up, and clean-up. If you'd like to serve on the Tu B'Shvat Committee or otherwise help with the event, contact Lyla Spath at lspath@outlook.com.

SHARE SOUPER BOWL SHABBAT DINNER — IT'S A WINNER!

Warm up a cold winter evening at our "Souper Bowl" Shabbat on Friday, February 10 at 6 p.m. at the Temple. We'll sample a variety of homemade soups before declaring the top three "people's choice" winners. Our Shabbat service begins at 7:30 p.m., followed by an Oneg Shabbat.

While you don't need to bring soup to attend, we invite you to get creative in the kitchen and enter the friendly competition. Make your favorite soup to feed 8-10, whether vegetarian, chicken or beef. Maybe matzo balls, noodles or even kreplach? The only requirements: No pork or shellfish and no meat or cheese in the same dish. Please bring your hot soup in a crockpot. Any leftovers will be utilized by the Caring Committee for those in need of TLC.



Please RSVP to the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 by Friday, February 3. Let us know if you will be bringing soup and what kind. The cost is \$6 per person (no charge for children 5 and under). Your check is your reservation. Menu includes salad, soup, challah, and a beverage. Questions or interested in helping? Contact Kathy Sider at ksider812@gmail.com.

BRING YOUR FAVORITE FILLING AND BAKE HAMENTASHEN WITH US!

Help bake a variety of delicious hamantashen with us on Sunday, February 26 at 10:30 a.m. in the Social Hall.

The three-cornered treats will be served after our Purim service and megillah reading on Monday, March 6 at 7 p.m. when we gather as a community to celebrate the holiday.

Dough will be provided, but please bring your favorite filling (no jelly as it is too runny), such as preserves, canned pie and strudel filling, chocolate chips, Nutella etc. If you have a rolling pin and 3-inch cookie cutter, please bring those as well.

Everyone is invited to participate in baking, but please RSVP to office@templecav.org or (260) 744-4245 no later than Tuesday, February 21 so that adequate supplies will be available. If you have any questions, please contact coordinators Mimi Zelman (mimiz21@msn.com) and Deb Vilensky (dmvilensky@yahoo.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES

February Shabbat Services

Shabbat Shirah Service

Friday, February 3 7:30 p.m.

Music: Hazemir

Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 4 9:45 a.m.

Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat

Friday, February 10 5:30 to 6 p.m. at the Temple

Souper Bowl Shabbat Service

Friday, February 10 7:30 p.m.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service & Torah Study

Saturday, February 11 9:45 a.m.

Torah Study and a nosh follow the service

Shabbat Service

Friday, February 17 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 18 9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Friday, February 24 7:30 p.m. at the Temple

Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 25 9:45 a.m.



Please join us in person or via livestream for worship services. Many classes and programs also are offered via livestream. Zoom links are in the weekly email to our Temple family. We

warmly welcome guests. Please contact the Temple office for online access information on Zoom at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org. Services also are available on YouTube.



FEBRUARY EVENTS

Tu B'svhat Seder

Sunday, February 5 10:30 a.m. at the Temple RSVP by January 31

Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph

Sundays, February 5, 12 & 26

7 p.m. on Zoom

Hebrew Liturgy Study Group

Mondays, February 6, 13, 20, 27

7 p.m. on Zoom

NEIJGS/ACPL

The Path of Jewish Immigration

Tuesday, February 7, 14, & 21 2:30 p.m. on Zoom

Confronting the Shoah

Tuesday, February 7 & 14

7 p.m. at the Peggy F. Murphy Grief Center

<u>Jewish Federation of Fort</u> <u>Wayne</u>

Thoughtful Thursdays

Wednesday, February 8 10 a.m. at the Temple

Souper Bowl Shabbat Dinner

Friday, February 10

6 p.m. Dinner, followed by 7:30 p.m. service

RSVP by Friday, February

Creation Stories: Texts & Myths in Jewish Tradition

Wednesday, February 15

7 p.m. on Zoom RSVP by February 9

Hamentashen Making

Sunday, February 26 10:30 a.m. at the Temple RSVP by February 21

MARCH EVENTS

Erev Purim Service

Monday, March 6 7 p.m.

Strings of Inspiration with Bruce Colegrove

Tuesday, March 14 7 p.m.

APRIL EVENTS

Congregational Second Seder

Thursday, April 6 6 p.m.

Yom HaShoah: Holocaust Remembrance Day

Monday, April 17 7 pm at the Rifkin Campus

ONGOING EVENTS

Mah Jongg Open Play

Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Sign up to play

Lunch with the ROMEOs

Join the Retired Old Men Eating Out for lunch at noon:

Thursday, February 2

The Lucky Moose 622 E. Dupont Rd.

Thursday, February 16

Ziano's Italian Eatery 5907 Covington Rd. 5810 Bluffton Rd.

Find the lunch schedule



SAGA OF A RUSSIAN JEWISH FAMILY IS FOCUS OF NEXT TEMPLE BOOK CLUB

Please join us for the next Temple Book Club on Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m. on Zoom when we discuss *The Nesting Dolls*, followed by a conversation with author Alina Adams. The novel is a family saga of a Russian Jewish family, spanning from 1930s Siberia to Odessa in

the 1970s to contemporary Brighton Beach.

Adams immigrated to the United States with her family from Odessa, USSR, in 1977. Adams lives in New York City with her husband, Scott, and their three children. Thank you to Betsy Gephart for coordinating the program.



Rabbi Meir Bargeron: PEOPLE OF LEARNING

A common descriptor of the Jewish people is that we are "people of the book." Torah and all of the volumes of the Hebrew Bible, along with the gigantic corpus of rabbinic writings such as Mishnah, Midrash and Talmud, form the foundation of Judaism and our traditions. This

virtual library of Jewish texts remains open to this day, not just as a religious reference, but as a key component of living Jewishly. The sages wrote:

These are the things for which a person enjoys the dividends in this world while the principal remains for the person to enjoy in the world to come. They are: honoring parents, loving deeds of kindness, and making peace between one person and another, but the study of the Torah is equal to them all. (Talmud Shabbat 127a)

Learning is a critical part of Jewish life, something we hold dear to us as a defining value. Rooted in this value is the belief that through the study of Torah, we can come to more deeply understand God and our relationship with God. The mitzvah of learning Torah is as important as almost every other commandment.

This year I am beginning the process of looking at how we continue to evolve our Temple learning programs for (post-Confirmation) adults. It's my hope that together we will be able to:

- Stimulate, invigorate, and enrich our Jewish experience and understanding.
- Create spaces for holy conversations about Torah, concepts of God, Judaism, Israel, and relevant issues of today's world in all their exhilarating, challenging, and profound forms.
- Promote an engaged learning community for Temple members of distinct life-stage cohorts, while also creating opportunities for members of all ages and backgrounds to learn together.
- Stimulate interpersonal social connections through learning.
- Be a resource for Jewish learning for the larger Fort Wayne community.

Lifelong learning is one of the gifts and duties of living a Jewish life. In Pirkei Avot (The Ethics of the Ancestors), it is written, "Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakai used to say: If you have learned much Torah, do not take credit for yourself, because it is for this you were created." (2:8)

If you have ideas about the kinds of learning experiences that would be appealing and meaningful to you, I'd love to hear them! We can meet for coffee, visit at the Temple or jump on a Zoom call; and there's always <u>e-mail</u>. Please be in touch.

Rabbi Meir

LIFELONG LEARNING IN FEBRUARY CREATION STORIES

Beit Midrash translates to "House of Study," and describes the institution of classical Jewish learning. Expand your Jewish knowledge by joining us in the coming year for <u>lifelong learning</u> classes that include a variety of Jewish study topics with Rabbi Meir Bargeron and guest instructors.

Creation Stories: Texts & Myths in Jewish Tradition

Wednesday, February 15 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

The creation of the universe is so compelling that Jewish tradition offers multiple stories about it in Torah, Midrash and Kabbalah. Join Rabbi Meir as we gather to examine these stories and consider their importance to our understanding of the world and of ourselves.

Please RSVP to office@templecav.org by Thursday, February 9.

אור נדר?

Ongoing Weekly Study Groups

Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph with John Planer meets on Sundays at 7 p.m. on Zoom for those who are registered.

Hebrew Liturgy Study Group with John Planer meets on Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom.



CELEBRATE SHABBAT SHIRAH WITH HAZEMIR

Share a musical evening with us on Friday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m. on <u>Shabbat Shirah</u> (Sabbath of Singing), led by Rabbi Meir, with Hazemir. John Planer will give a D'var Torah. Please join us in person or via livestream on Zoom or <u>YouTube</u>.

The service is named for a musical moment in Jewish biblical history when Moses and Miriam lead the Israelites across the Sea of Reeds and out of Egypt. Part of the reading is known as *Shirat HaYam* (song of the sea).

HOLOCAUST TITLES IN OUR LIBRARY TOP 800 WITH NEW ADDITIONS

We recently received a donation of 10 Holocaust-related books from Tom Woodfin in Auburn, Indiana. These titles, all relatively recent, bring our collection of resources about the Shoah to over 800 titles. Here is a brief synopsis of what we recently received:

Non-Fiction, Biography and Memoir

Alex's Wake: The Tragic Voyage of the St. Louis to Flee Nazi Germany – and a Grandson's Journey of Love and Remembrance was written by Martin Goldsmith, a relatively recent guest of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. The author traces the journey and fate of his grandfather and uncle aboard the ill-fated ship.

Kati Marton's *The Great Escape: Nine Jews Who Fled Hitler and Changed the World* traces a small group of Hungarian Jews – four scientists, two filmmakers, two photographers, and a writer – who escaped Hitler and had a significant impact on their fields.

The Hidden Life of Otto Frank, by Carol Ann Lee, is a biography of Anne Frank's father, with a focus on who betrayed the family.

Primo Levi's Survival in Auschwitz is the oldest of the 10 titles. It appears on several "best book" lists of the 20th century, and

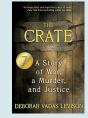
OUR
DARKEST
NIGHT

dates from 1996. Levi was an Italian Jew who chronicled his time in Auschwitz before liberation in 1945.

Flory: A Miraculous Story of Survival was written by Flory Van Beek, a survivor from Amsterdam. In her own words, she tells of trying to escape on the S.S. Simon Bolivar, which was blown up by the Nazis. Returning to Amsterdam, being forced into

hiding, and somehow surviving.

Luca Crippa's *The Auschwitz Photographer: The Forgotten Story of the WWII Prisoner who Documented Thousands of Lost Souls* tells the story of a Polish prisoner and photographer who was assigned to photograph the Nazi's victims.



The Crate: A Story of War, A Murder, and Justice, by Deborah Vadas Levison, is a true crime account of the author's parents, Holocaust survivors from Hungary. Having moved to Canada, they then are forced to confront a murder when a body is discovered on their property.

Fiction

Jennifer Robson's *Our Darkest Night: A Novel of Italy and the Second World War* is set in Venice and the Italian countryside. A young Jewish woman poses as the wife of a Christian farmer in order to survive in this compelling historical novel.

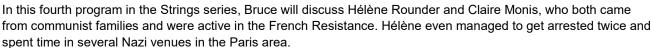
The True Story of Hansel and Gretel, by Louise Murphy, is a retelling of the fairy tale in the setting of the Holocaust in Poland. Two Jewish children are left by their parents near a forest and told to run into the woods and hide until they can be reunited.

The Jewish Dog, by Israeli author Asher Kravitz, was a bestseller in Israel. It is written from the point of view of a dog and is set in 1930's Germany.

A selection of titles for children and youth is featured in a "One-Sheet" available on our website. Our full selection of Holocaust resources, including several videos on DVD, can be found in <u>our online catalog</u>. Feel free to contact Betsy Gephart at library@templecav.org with any questions.

STRINGS OF INSPIRATION WITH BRUCE COLEGROVE RETURNS MARCH 14

Temple member Bruce Colegrove returns on Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m. with his latest Strings of Inspiration presentation with new stories of some of the most remarkable events in the life of the women's orchestra at Auschwitz-Birkenau. Please join us in person or on Zoom.





Hélène was a serious idealist with modest skill on the violin who Orchestra Director Alma Rosé then gave the additional assignments of copying sheet music and doing artwork for the biweekly concerts at Auschwitz-Birkenau. She also was fondly remembered for decorating greeting cards for fellow musicians.

Claire was already a very successful singer before the war who played clubs all over Paris and even had an important role in a Charles Trenet film, *Je chante*. Although she knew how to play the violin, Alma kept her fully occupied doing operettas.

Bruce first shared incredible stories of women's orchestra in fall 2019 when the Violins of Hope programming captivated members of the Fort Wayne community. The enthusiastic response led to additional programs in February 2021 and March 2022.

He describes the women's orchestra as the most eclectic, the most unique, the most controversial, and, without any question, the most zealously documented gathering of female musical talent the world has ever known. By many

regards, it was also the most inspiring.



An ardent researcher in Holocaust studies, Bruce is the developer of the website <u>Women's Orchestra of</u> <u>Auschwitz-Birkenau</u>. He has taught for 20+ years at Canterbury High School and for many years taught Hebrew at Achduth Vesholom.

The Zoom link will be shared in the Temple's weekly email. Contact the Temple office at office@templecav.org for more information.

BECOMING GOOD STEWARDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

February finds us celebrating the new year of the trees: Tu B'Shvat - literally "the 15th of the month of Shvat" and the day when each tree is considered one year older. Tu B'Shvat also is a great time to reflect on the ways we interact with, benefit from, and celebrate nature.

Students in this month's weekly values classes are discussing the theme of achrayut, which is how we respond, answer, or account for our decisions and actions. The root of achrayut is "acher," meaning "other," highlighting the responsibility that we have for others and how our actions have a direct impact on them. This includes our responsibility as stewards of the environment.

Our students will be learning about ways they can help protect our planet. Here are a few concrete steps you and your family can take at home this month to go greener:

- Switch to reusable grocery bags or reuse plastic ones. Keep bags in within easy reach, like in your car trunk, near the front door, or in your backpack.
- Stock your desk and your school lunch box with reusable items. Bring washable mugs, water bottles, plates, bowls, utensils, and napkins.



- Switch out old light bulbs for LED or CFL options. Replace your five most frequently used light fixtures or the lightbulbs in them with ENERGY STAR® qualified products and you will help the environment while saving money on energy bills.
- Unplug "phantom loads." This phrase refers to electronics, such as cell phone chargers or computers, that draw energy even when they are turned off. Wasted energy can be reduced by turning the power strip off at night or when the items are not being used.

And I hope you'll join us as we celebrate with a family-friendly Tu B'Shvat seder on Sunday, February 5 at 10:30 a.m. at the Temple, featuring activities and tree noshes. (RSVP information on page 1) See you then!

Leise Rosman, Religious School Committee chair

LOVE IS FEBRUARY THEME FOR JOY VEY

Gather 'round your little ones (ages 0-5ish and older siblings) for a playful and silly, yet peaceful start to Shabbat for the whole family! We'll meet on Friday, February 10 from 5:30 p.m. to 6 pm. at the Temple to light candles, pray, sing songs, move and groove, and even practice mindfulness. Our February theme is "love."

Please join us in the tradition of blessing your children as we make a joyful place for Shabbat in our lives and hearts... together. Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat will meet in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.

We always meet on the second Friday night of the month. Plan to stay for the Souper Bowl Shabbat dinner this month at 6 p.m. Please RSVP to the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 no later than Friday, February 3. Let us know if you will be bringing soup and what kind.

The cost is \$6 per person (no charge for children 5 and under). Your check is your reservation. Menu includes salad, soup, challah, and a beverage. (Find out more on page 1)



A wonderful first "Joy Vey!" of 2023 brought together our youngest families for a fun Shabbat experience at the Temple! Thank you to Stephanie Gottesman and Sam Krouse for leading the music, Kate & David Crell for providing a nosh, Wendy & Micah Soltz for bringing challah and wine, Rabbi Meir for leading the prayers and blessings, and Executive Director Samara Sheray for her assistance. 5



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RABBI EMERITUS RICHARD B. SAFRAN: A LEGACY OF INSPIRATION

Rabbi Emeritus Richard B. Safran served his congregations, his communities, his friends, and his family with love, devotion and dignity.

When he died on December 2, 2022 at age 92 in Tucson, Arizona, Rabbi Safran left a legacy of inspiration.

Rabbi Safran became Achduth Vesholom's 17th spiritual leader in 1969, serving for 26

years in what was the second longest tenure at our congregation. As Rabbi Meir Bargeron highlighted <u>in his eulogy</u>, Rabbi Safran's love of people animated his rabbinate.

He taught children about Torah and Judaism, celebrating b'nei mitzvah of generations of young Jewish adults. He gave inspiring sermons on the issues of the day. And he served as a mentor.



"He saw the possibilities in the young people under his spiritual care and he inspired them to pursue lives filled with Jewish meaning," Rabbi Meir said, adding that Daniel Safran told him that his father was especially proud of the legacy of Jewish leadership that he inspired.

Rabbi Safran's inspirational example and mentorship supported the emergence of three rabbis from our

congregation, Rabbi Jonathan Greenberg, Rabbi Rachel Greengrass, and Rabbi Jennifer Gubitz, and others who have become Jewish communal leaders.

In speaking at the funeral, Rabbi Greenberg shared many memories and reflections of Rabbi Safran and what he meant to someone growing up at Achduth Vesholom.

Rabbi Sandford Kopnick, who was Rabbi Safran's immediate successor at the Temple, shared with Rabbi Meir that Rabbi Safran's graciousness and kindness were attributes that "allowed a very young and inexperienced rabbi to have the space to grow and develop."

Through a mix of encouragement and high expectations, Rabbi Meir said, Rabbi Safran provided space for students and young professionals to learn by doing, by making mistakes and growing stronger from them. And by being a steadfast example of what the rabbinate could be.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Rabbi Safran grew up on Long Island, NY where his parents owned a kosher deli. He attended Far Rockaway High School, where he met his wife, Lois. His religious focus began as an Air Force assistant chaplain during the Korean War.

He was ordained by the Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion in 1960. In addition to his congregational duties in Brooklyn (Canarsie), NY, Peabody, MA, Steubenville, OH, and Fort Wayne, IN, he was also a

chaplain at prisons,



hospitals, and veterans' hospitals for decades as well, in Indiana, Ohio and Arizona.

Through his love of people, Rabbi Safran was driven to bring them together, becoming a community creator who forged relationships with the non-Jewish clergy and was honored by the Islamic Center.

Rabbi Safran was also a lifelong hiker, camper and nature enthusiast. This began in his childhood, when he camped often with friends, and continued into adulthood as he visited many of America's famous national parks with his wife and sons, every summer.

This enjoyment continued as he led many annual congregation campouts and hikes, where he introduced many to his enjoyment of the outdoors. He was active well into his mid-80s, hiking multiple miles, multiple times per week, in the mountains surrounding Tucson and volunteering at Sabino Canyon.

During his many years as a Rabbi, chaplain, community activist, volunteer and friend, he touched many hundreds, if not thousands of lives, bringing love, hope, caring, empathy and education to all who knew him.

Rabbi Safran is survived by his son, Daniel; his three grandchildren, Ethan, Hannah and Samantha, and sister Geraldine Schwartzstein, along with daughters-in-law Cindy and Dawn. He was preceded in death by his wife Lois (Vogel), his elder son (Jonathan), mother, Reba (Rothstein), father (David), and brother (Jay). He is also survived by nieces, a nephew and cousins, a large community, the many that he served, and his many, many friends.





CLINT ROSSITER: "HE WAS FAMILY"

During nearly 21 years serving as the Temple's Facilities Manager, Clint Rossiter tended lovingly to our congregational home as if it were his own. He helped prepare for almost every simcha, worship service, program, and occasion for two decades, developing friendships within and fondness for our Jewish community.

Slightly more than a week before his death on January 10 at age 69 after

a long battle with cancer, Clint came to work for the last time and assembled a chuppah, doing his part to ensure the marriage canopy was strong for the young couple.

"He liked taking care of this building," said Executive Director Samara Sheray. "It was an extension of his home and he treated it as such. No job was too big or too small. He handled them all with grace. He

really was a special person. He was family."

As we mourn the loss of Clint and think of his wife, Nancy, and their five children and five grandchildren, we remember fondly his many contributions to our Temple family. Those extended from his considerable job skills to the way he lived his strong Christian faith by helping others whenever possible.

Clint was a familiar presence at the Rifkin Campus, always ready with a

smile, whether atop a ladder fixing the motor in the Ark curtain, riding a mower across the lawn, clearing the sidewalks in the winter, polishing the floors in the hallway, skirting tables, installing an alarm, setting up for the Purim Carnival, or, for many years, turning on the yahrzeit bulbs on the bronze plaques before a Shabbat service.

The wall near his work area included outlines of his many tools to make sure everything was kept in – and returned to–its proper place.

He knew the building from top to bottom, as familiar with changing bulbs in the Sanctuary as he was adding lights in the crawl space underneath the facility. When floodwaters threatened the Temple in 2003 and our Torahs and library books were moved for safekeeping, Clint was a key person monitoring the situation and our infrastructure.

During the pandemic when the building was closed to most, he and his daughter, Anna, used the quiet time to work on bigger projects, such as stripping and refurbishing the floors in the Religious School wing.

A natural problem-solver, Clint looked for solutions when challenges presented themselves. Perhaps his greatest innovation – the stuff of legend at CAV – is how he responded when volunteers complained about aching backs after the first Corned Beef Fundraiser in 2002. His remedy: he cut PVC pipes for the legs of each worktable, creating risers so we didn't need to bend over.

During his tenure at the Temple, he installed LED lights and changed fixtures throughout the building, painted walls, and came up with innovations wherever he could, such as creating a simulated campfire for our indoor "GUCIbat" camp-style service.

Several years ago, he and Nancy shared their puppetry skills with us, putting on a show and workshop for our children and families. They also participated in Temple game nights and other activities.

Sally Trotter, who worked with Clint for 11 years as our Temple Administrator, said Clint was thoughtful, humble, and "one of the

kindest people I've ever met."

"The big thing over the years was that when we had to pay a service person to fix something, he'd always watch carefully so he could do the job the next time," she said. "He saved the Temple a lot of money. It was almost to the point where he didn't want to have to call anyone."

Clint was beloved by our Temple staff for his dedication, sense of humor, thoughtfulness, and integrity. Many a board member, event chair or

volunteer who was around the Temple during a quieter time of day or night benefited from a conversation with Clint, who often provided helpful insights.

"He was a vital part of our congregation," Sally said. "He wasn't just a maintenance engineer. He was so much more than that. He loved the Temple and the people loved him."

May his memory be for a blessing.



The Temple has created a fund to provide assistance and support to Clint's family during this painful transition. Donations may be made to Congregation Achduth Vesholom to be deposited in the Clint Rossiter Family Support Fund by check (payable to "CAV – The Temple") or online.



MAZEL TOV TO:

Becka Roberts & Alex Kastner on their marriage on December 30, 2022 at the Temple. Congratulations to her parents, Debby & Keith Roberts, and grandmother, Susie Miller, and his parents, Jim & Kim Berger and Rick Kastner of Fort Wayne. The couple lives in Florida.

Carol & Larry Adelman on the B'nai Mitzvah of their grandsons Gunner and Archer Perelman, sons of Leslie & Jeremy Perelman, on December 17, 2022 at Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, NY.





Following a beautiful Champagne Shabbat service on December 30 and singing "Auld Lang Syne," we shared Kiddush and a toast to a happy and healthy 2023! Rabbi Meir is a man of many skills - including safely opening a bottle of bubbly!

LET'S CELEBRATE! TEMPLE MARKS ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR

The Temple will proudly celebrate its 175th anniversary in 2023 as Indiana's oldest Jewish congregation with events throughout the year, including a festive weekend on November 10-12, 2023.

Along with Shabbat services, the celebration weekend will feature an open house on Sunday afternoon for the Jewish and greater community that will include:

- A Jewish Heritage Tour currently under development with <u>ARCH</u> – that focuses on locations related to Jewish life in Fort Wayne from the early days of Jewish immigration to the present
- The grand opening of the Goldman Memorial Museum in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center that will include new displays on holidays and life-cycle events
- Musical entertainment, food, and docent-led tours of the Rifkin Campus

"We're excited to celebrate this special milestone with our Temple family and the Fort Wayne community," said Beth Zweig, co-chair of the 175th celebration with Kathy Sider.

"This is a great opportunity to honor our rich heritage and look to the future as a vibrant congregation as we continue with our tradition of building Jewish community."

As part of the celebration, we are making repairs to several of our Torahs, with plans to donate one scroll to an emerging Reform congregation in the U.S. or abroad. As a charter member of the Union for Reform Judaism, Achduth Vesholom would like to support a community in need of a Torah and also

embrace the chance for our members to engage with another Jewish community. We also will offer an educational program with a Torah scribe ("sofer") to explain the process of



writing and repairing a sacred scroll.

A variety of events is being planned to appeal to congregants of all ages, including programs with a family-friendly musician and scholar-in-residence.

In addition to the co-chairs, the committee includes Fran Adler, Jamie Berger, Nancy Dicker, Janet Finkel, Stephanie Gottesman, Norm Greenberg, Dawn Hammond, Marcia Reynolds, Cheryl Schorey, John Stein, Jon Tam, Donna Tourkow, Irene Walters, Mimi Zelman, Ronnie Greenberg, Samara Sheray, and Rabbi Meir Bargeron.

"I am looking forward to all the exciting programming to celebrate this historic event in our congregation's history," Kathy said.

We are grateful to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its generous support of our celebration events. More information will be coming about sponsorship opportunities, volunteer needs, and additional programs.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

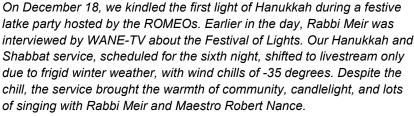
Irv Adler for receiving a mention in the <u>AJR Journal</u> (Page 6, December 2022 issue) of the Association of Jewish Refugees for his advocacy of Vienna's Steine der Erinnerung (Stones of Remembrance). Most recently in May, Irv and his wife, Fran, <u>dedicated stones in Vienna</u> in memory of his loved ones who were murdered by the Nazis.















Thank you to everyone who donated winter outerwear for the women, men and children served by <u>Wellspring</u>
<u>Interfaith Social Services</u> through their clothing bank.

Several dozen coats were donated – enough to fill seven large bags. Plastic grocery bags also were collected at Wellspring's request. Thank you to the Social Action Committee for organizing this mitzvah.

THANK YOU TO OUR CHALLAH BAKERS AND SPONSORS!

We are fortunate to have a dedicated team of bakers and sponsors who provide us with delicious and beautiful challot to enjoy on Friday evenings after services.

Thank you to Jamie Berger, Nola Katinsky, Joanne McCrory, Wendy Soltz, Deb Vilensky, Jon Tam and Beth Zweig for baking and/or sponsoring challot. We

welcome Becky Guttstein to the team! Special thanks to Jon Tam for baking the challot for the Tu B'Shvat celebration.

Join us in the coming weeks on Friday evenings to enjoy this social time after services and the culinary efforts of our baking team.

If you're a challah baker, we'd love to have you join our team of volunteers who take turns providing 4-5 loaves for a given month. If you're not a baker, we welcome your financial support to sponsor this effort so that we can purchase challah or ingredients for our bakers to use. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org to find out more about this effort.



As our nation honored the life and holy work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., interfaith leaders, including Rabbi Meir, and the community gathered for an annual commemoration in January at Plymouth Congregational Church. Find the link to the full program

CHAG PURIM Sameach



Come celebrate with KESHER!

Family Hamentaschen Making
Bring your favorite filling!
February 26 at 10:30 AM at Temple CAV

Temple Purim Carnival

Featuring games, drinks, a costume contest, and more!

March 5 at 12:00 PM at Temple CAV

Temple Purim Service

Join the congregation for our Purim Spiel!

March 6 at 7:00 PM at Temple CAV

Please RSVP for all events to office@templecav.org



THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS APPRECIATES OUR THOUGHTFUL SUPPORTERS

Just as our Brightpoint Head Start families are very appreciative of what Thoughtful Thursdays does each month, Thoughtful Thursdays is also appreciative of the support that we receive.

In December, our deli-roasted chickens were donated once again by a very generous anonymous benefactor. Also, 600 grocery bags were provided by Mike Intravia, manager of Trader Joe's, and toothbrushes and toothpaste this month were contributed by Dr. Michael & Ellen Tom. We are so grateful for this additional support.

In February, we will send home bags that include peanut butter, jelly, chicken noodle soup, canned fruit, crackers, four rolls of toilet paper, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste and a Valentine goodle bag.

Thank you to our amazing Thoughtful Thursdays volunteers! We also appreciate the continued generosity of the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and 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 for Thoughtful Thursdays, please contact me at sartrotter@gmail.com.

Sally Trotter, Thoughtful Thursdays chair



TEMPLE BECOMES ADL "SIGNATURE SYNAGOGUE"

Congregation Achduth Vesholom has partnered with the ADL to be part of its <u>Signature Synagogue</u> program. According to the ADL, the program "ignites congregation-wide commitment to challenging antisemitism and hate through community education and engagement."

Benefits to CAV for participating in this program include direct access to ADL's programs, resources and learning opportunities, including:

- One free program chosen from a variety of relevant topics facilitated by a regional ADL representative.
- Access to training programs for youth and adults on spotting and countering antisemitism.
- Webinars that feature ADL experts on extremism, antisemitism, international affairs, cyberhate and more.
- Clergy and staff will receive regular communication including the most up-to-date ADL reports, education programs and resources. This also will include special invitations to ADL Midwest events.



Religious School students and their parents shared a fun morning on January 22 learning about Israeli culture through dance, led by our own Anna Nagle.

EXPLORING EUROPEAN MIGRANT JOURNEYS DURING THE AGE OF STEAM

The Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society is excited to welcome Dr. Nicholas J. Evans, a Senior Lecturer in diaspora history at the University of Hull, for a series of free virtual programs on Tuesdays in February, beginning at 2:30 p.m., on "The Making of a Mosaic: European Migrant Journeys during the Age of Steam."

These lectures are offered in conjunction with the <u>Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center's</u> Tuesday afternoon virtual programs.

Dr. Evans will explore questions such as "why did so many Europeans leave?", "What was the journey *really* like?", "Why when an ancestor arrived at Ellis Island did they settle in the Midwest?" Programs include:

- **February 7:** Preparing to Leave Europe This talk will illustrate how one can piece together the gathering of ancestors from their village/town of birth to the moment they commenced their journey west.
- **February 14:** The Journey to America This talk will illustrate the details of both the direct and indirect routes enabling Europeans to reach the American eastern seaboard.
- **February 21:** *Internal Migration within the United States* This talk will explore how migrant records enable one to piece together the numerous journeys that complete the migrant's settlement in their new homes.
- **February 28:** Resolving Your Genealogical Puzzles (NEIJGS members only) Questions submitted by NEIJGS members will be addressed, particularly any whose story remains incomplete.

Dr. Evans uses his research on voluntary and coerced migration around the Atlantic to empower religious and ethnic minority communities. He enjoys helping people unearth the personal stories of their migrant ancestors.

Dr. Evans has spent the last 17 years as an academic researcher in the prize-winning Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation in his home city of Hull, England.

Registration is required to attend this free virtual program.

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

Please contact Pamela Friedman at vp@NEIndianaJGS.org for more information.

CONDOLENCES TO:

Cheryl Schorey and family on the death of her father, Solomon Kramer, on January 23, 2023 in Fort Wayne.

Nancy Rossiter and family on the death of her husband, Clint Rossiter, on January 10, 2023 in Fort Wayne. We also think of their children and grandchildren.

Deborah & Michael Worpell and family on the death of his mother, Anne Worpell, on December 28, 2022 in Royal Oak, MI. We also think of their children Rebekah, Parker, and Kylie on the loss of their grandmother.

Eva & Jason Sagan and family on the death of her father, Dr. George Meschel, on December 4, 2022 in Chicago. We also think of their children, Jared and Ashlyn, on the loss of their grandfather.

The family of Rabbi Emeritus Richard B. Safran, who died on December 2, 2022 in Tucson, AZ. We think of his son, Daniel; his three grandchildren, Ethan, Hannah and Samantha; his sister, Geraldine Schwartzstein; and his daughters-in-law Cindy and Dawn. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lois (Vogel); his elder son, Jonathan; his mother, Reba (Rothstein); father, David; and brother, Jay.

DOCUMENTARY EXPLORES HIDDEN JEWS OF THE SOUTHWEST

"A Long Journey: The Hidden Jews of the Southwest," a feature-length documentary by award- winning director Isaac Artenstein and producer Paula Amar Schwartz, will bring to life the unique and fascinating stories of contemporary families in the American Southwest whose secret was their hidden Jewish roots while living an outwardly Catholic life. The physical



journeys of these secret Jews - the Conversos - ended in colonial times; their internal journeys continue to this day.

The documentary will be shown on PBS39 on Wednesday, February 15 at 10 p.m. and Sunday, February 19 at 2 p.m. and is sponsored in part by the <u>Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne</u>.

SAVE THE DATE:

Yom HaShoah

Monday, April 17 at 7 pm at the Rifkin Campus

Sponsored by the <u>Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne</u>

Donations

Adelman Facility Improvement Fund

In memory of Gertrude Stein Adelman: Carol & Larry Adelman, Rita & Tom O'Neill

In memory of Ruth Aichele: Fritz & Sally Aichele

Adult Education

In memory of Thomas Butz: Nola & Matthew Katinsky

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: *Ann Grover*

Campership Fund

In honor of Doris Fogel: *Karen Sandler* In memory of Vitaliyi Leybman: *Charlene & Jeff Gubitz*

Dr. John Planer Music Fund

A donation has been received from: John Baidinger, Stuart Block

In memory of Dr. Jerome Gerber: Ron Cousino

In memory of Dr. George Meschel: Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Jo Ellen & Mike Rush, John Planer & Janina Traxler

In memory of Marsha Dan: Dennis Dan

In memory of Paulette Bussell Oatley, Anna Bussell, and Louis Groden: David Bussell

In memory of Geraldine Greenberg Reich: Ronnie & Norm Greenberg

Endowment Fund

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: Vivian & George Skadron, Maureen & Alan Grinsfelder

Temple Gardens Fund

A donation has been received from: Rachel & Geoff Gordon

In memory of Louis Meyers: Patrice & Mike Sposeep

In memory of Samuel Greenberg and Geraldine Greenberg Reich: Ronnie & Norm Greenberg

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: Patrice & Mike Sposeep, Ronnie & Norm Greenberg

In memory of Jeanette Lewis: Rita & Mike Lewis

General Operations

A donation has been received from: Scott Fergusson, Michele Helfgott

In appreciation of all the support, condolences and donations offered on behalf of the passing of Richard B. Safran: *Dan Safran and family*.

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: Jo Ellen & Mike Rush, Cindi & Richard Wismer, Carol Sandler, Sharon & Ben Esibart, Beth & Dan Zweig, Micki & Sherwin Kepes, Rabbi Meir Bargeron & Jon Tam, Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Rita & Tom O'Neill, Carlyse Evans, Cookie & Leonard Mastbaum, Judy & Steve Zacher, Fran & Irv Adler, Janet & Steve Cohen, Doris Gottllieb, Ruth Rosenberg, Eileen & Neil Baitcher, Howard Levin Trust

In memory of Solomon Safirstein: Kay Safirstein

In memory of LeRoy Shine: *Thomas Shine*

In memory of David Warshauer: Louise & Bill Warshauer

In memory of Frances Groden Bussell: David Bussell

In memory of Elmer Zweig, Jack Rosenberg, Leona Rosenberg, Henry Haskell Glazer, and Ruth Zweig: Beth & Dan Zweig

Ryan Goldstrom Memorial Fund

In memory of Glen Goldstrom: Lori & Rob Goldstrom

Himelstein's Children's Library Fund

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: Cathy Lash, Karen Sandler, Marie Warshauer, Betsy & Geoff Gephart, Susan & Alan Cooperman, Doris Fogel, Chris & Paul Riley, Jeff Gubitz, Carol & Larry Adelman

Holocaust Education Fund

A donation has been received from: Anne & Dan Droegmyer

In memory of Ida Finkelshteyn: Dora & Leonid Itkin

Kathryn Kann Mendelblatt Cultural Enrichment Fund

In memory of Samuel Rothberg and David Rothberg: Stephen Rothberg

In memory of Maurice Rothberg: Deborah Rothberg

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: Suzi Stone

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation has been received from: Cindy & Dan Safran

In memory of Gute Goldin and Ethel Rath: *Irene & Robert Walters*

In memory of LeRoy Shine: Steve Shine In memory of Etta Jacobson: Susie Miller

Rabbi Kornspan Tzedakah Fund

In memory of Rabbi Richard Safran: Janet Finkel

Religious School

A donation has been received from: Ronnie & Norm Greenberg

ROMEOs

A donation has been received from: Rabbi Meir Bargeron & Jon Tam, Marlene Cooper

Thoughtful Thursdays

A donation has been received from: Susan & Alan Cooperman

In memory of Mo Safirstein and Deborah Taub: *Kay Safirstein*

In memory of Guy Miller: Harriet Miller & Monica Wehrle

In memory of Marilyn Salon: Nancy & Scott Salon

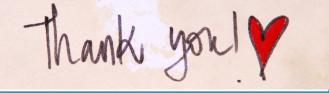
Wyle Weiman Youth Activities Fund

A donation has been received from: Lisa & David Post

In memory of LeRoy Shine: Lawrence Shine

In memory of Mollie Kutcher: Rikki Goldstein

Explore all our <u>Tribute Funds</u> or make a <u>Donation</u>



February Yahrzeits

February 3-4 February 10-11 Sidney Baitcher Stephen Bosell Judith Baitcher Louis Brenn Nancy Barasch Dr. Maurice A. Chodosh Hyman Jerome Bass Jennifer Cohen Svlvia Brateman **Esther Congress** Ann Butler Jacob E. Dessauer Jane Costanza Abraham Edelman **Beatrice Cristil** Yetta Falk Nathan Fisher Meir Fichman Mae Freiburger Leah Margaret Ford Fred Golden Shirley Ruth Jason Ford Michael H. Green Esther Garber Pearl Hertzman Rose Goldberger Irma Hesslein Hy Goldenberg Elizabeth Kirschner Frida Greengrass Mary Kohn Mary Brooks Gutowitz Marvin Kravitz Henri Hagendorf Rose Leader Abraham Heilbroner Clara Magazine Fran Herman Isadore Hersh **Eleanor Margolis** Joan Leva Marx Kathy Jarvis Rosa Novitsky Louis Jason Ben Oppenheim Roy Lawrence Kalver Fay Pecken Julia Kraus Alan Richie Morris Kudysh Mae Rifkin Benjamin Kurzner Stephen Russ Joseph Kutcher Pearl Starr Sachsel Peter Lauinger Harvey Siegel John Vaun Malay Samuel Strass Hyman Marcus Abraham Strouse **Douglas Martin** Shari Troy Arthur Marx Jennette M. Vogel Mark Merin Marshall Warshauer Louis Abraham Messe **Charles Weinraub** Rebecca Milstein Harry A. Wenbert Anna Perlman Nathan Wertheimer Elias Punsky

Jacob Yentis

Richard Sachsel **Emily Sahlmann** Ben Salon Neil Sandler Ida Schneider Jack I. Schultz Jacob Schwartz Ann Shafer Joseph Tillinger Frank Winnick Max Yaffe Helen Zaslawsky Jennie Zweig Joseph Baum Irvin Friedman Robert Garber

February 17-18 Manuel Babich **Dennis Bargeron** Norman Bosell William Bronstein **Shirley Cohodes** Adolph Epstein Florence Frank Carrie (Latz) Frank Lawrence D. Gordon Aaron S. Heiligman Benjamin J. Hutner Ernest S. Iczkovitz Clair Johnson Alex K. Klein-Klarke Stella Komito **Beatrice Lamb** Eliza Lichtenberg Beckie Metzger **Dorothy Moyer** Abe Ochstein William Ochstein

Fannie Ress Irving W. Rifkin Harriet Rudensky Jack Ruderman Harry Rush Hyman Abraham Sachs Louis Scheinberg John Schmitz Robert B. Schuller Jean Siegel Abraham Silver Ethel Strassberg Louis Sulzer Mildred Weber Sally Zack

February 24-25 Jose Ash Frieda Barris Molly Bleifeld **Edward Brower** James Walter Burcham Fannie Cohen Sam Cristil Steven L. Ellis Fred Fidler Sheila Gaspar Pearl Gladstone Adrianne Gold Dr. Conrad Goode Lillie Gosney Sol Greenberg Eunice Greenstein Lillian Altman Gubitz Michael Guerrasio Ben Hersh

Leon Himelstein

Rose Horwitz

Ruth Horn

Isadore Kaplan Helen Hassan Kaufman Gertrude Kessler Abraham Kritzer Albert Kudysh Samuel Kwatnez Malcolm Lachman David Landy G. Irving Latz Hattie Lehman Max Levant Henry Levy Edward S. Merin Sam Pass Jeanne Phillips Mary Pollak Robert Polz Dr. J. M. Rosenthal Jesse E. Ross Cecelia Rothschild Herman Rudensky Louis Ruderman Irwin Samuel Sagan Max Salon Tillie Bosell Snow Rabbi Leo Stillpass Robert A. Watson Irving Weinswig Alexander Welcher Ralph Wolf Hannah Zacher Sadie Zinn

PERSONALIZE YOUR LOVED ONE'S DIGITAL YAHRZEIT PAGE

John Sabo

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? Etta G. Sheray

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.

Digital yahrzeit plagues 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.



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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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, Brightpoint Head Start, the Madge Rothschild Resource Center, and the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society.







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Want to receive our newsletter? Send your email address to office@templecav.org

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.

President's Corner Ronnie Greenberg

It isn't easy being green. Some of you may remember that phrase from Kermit the Frog on Sesame Street. (If I have to explain Sesame Street, we're in big trouble!) It's

always been a favorite saying in our family. We use it to characterize something that will be hard to do and for which there are easier alternatives available; but in the long run, the harder path is the right thing to do. But it isn't easy being green.

As I've mentioned in this space in November and December, your Board of Trustees has chosen just such a path – the harder but necessary path.

In November, the board voted to implement a partnership model of operation. This new model is flatter and less-hierarchal, with the Rabbi, the Executive Director (ED) and the board on an equal level on an organizational chart. The Rabbi and ED report to the full board and are elevated into more strategic roles, which allows the board to detach from operational issues and focus on strategic issues. Of course, the board continues to provide oversight.

With more professional staff leadership, the workload of the President and other officers should decrease. While this may sound self-serving, it actually should be beneficial to the congregation, making it easier to recruit congregants to be officers and board members.

As part of the partnership model, we professionalized the position of Executive Director, making it a full-time position. A new position description, evaluation form, and evaluation procedure were adopted. The board also adopted a form to use to evaluate its own performance annually.

With our new structure in place, the board turned to an exploration of CAV's foundational statements: our mission, vision, and values. Our consultant, Don Gulbrandsen from Empower Nonprofit Consulting, led us through a series of exercises designed to help us identify what we wanted in each of those statements.

We started with a vision statement, which describes what an organization looks like when it achieves its mission. Here is the vision statement adopted by the board in December:

Congregation Achduth Vesholom is a welcoming religious community for all who want to share and engage in the joy of Judaism in Northeast Indiana.

A beautiful sentiment and perfect statement of our vision, right? We are currently working on our values statement, with the mission to follow.

Another area we will begin to tackle in the spring is that of our committee structure. We do have a lot of committees. Although the functions they perform are all discrete and necessary for the organization, it is not always easy to recruit congregants to chair them. It's easier to recruit committee members than committee chairs. Therefore, we are studying ways to restructure to convert appropriate committees to "organizational committees" that are chaired by, and report to, the Rabbi or ED rather than to the board. It's still a work in process – more information to come later.

If you think this sounds like a full plate, it is! And remember that, in addition to the work described above, the board also has been conducting its "regular" oversight work of the congregation, as well as "special" events like planning our 175th anniversary celebration. It's like using both sides of our collective brain! So, the next time you talk to a board member, remember it isn't easy being green, and be sure to say "thank you" for all they do for OUR Temple!