

Inside This Issue

P3

Rabbi Meir: The Momentum of Passover

P4

Thoughtful Thursdays

P6

Supporting the LGBTQ+ Community

P7

175th Anniversary Update

P9

News from the Board

P14

Guest Columnist: Steven Greenberg

PLUS:

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

WHY IS THIS NIGHT DIFFERENT? FIND OUT AT CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

Passover begins on Wednesday, April 5 when we retell the story of the Jews' exodus from Egypt and freedom from bondage. Please join our Temple family for the Second Seder on Thursday, April 6 at 6 p.m. at the Temple.

We'll read the Haggadah led by Rabbi Meir Barger and dine on a traditional, kosher-style Pesach meal of brisket with veggies or eggplant parmesan, potato kugel and roasted broccoli. Thank you to the ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out) for coordinating the meal -- and especially to Denny Reynolds for chairing.

Reservations after the March 24 deadline will be taken if space is available. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 to ask if seating remains. Payment must accompany your reservation. (Make checks payable to "CAV – The Temple") We will not be taking payment the night of the event. When you RSVP, please indicate if you prefer a vegetarian entrée.

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 \$35 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 \$40 for adults; \$18 for children 3-12; and free for children under age 3. No refunds will be issued for cancellations or no shows.



For In-depth News & Details
ONLINE
Templecav.org



LEARN ABOUT THE ANCIENT PROCESS OF WRITING A TORAH WITH A SOFER

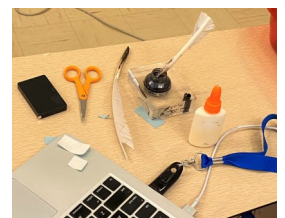
Explore the age-old process of writing, repairing, and caring for a Torah on Tuesday, May 2 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Temple when we welcome Rabbi Moshe Druin, President of Sofer on Site International, in the first program of our 175th Anniversary season.

Please join us for this memorable opportunity for all ages to learn from Rabbi Druin, a sofer (Torah scribe), about some of the complex laws governing the writing of the 304,805 Hebrew letters that comprise a Torah. Learn about the quill, ink, and tools he uses to maintain a sacred scroll according to ancient traditions.

His visit to Fort Wayne is part of Achduth Vesholom's Torah restoration efforts. In addition to working on some of the Temple's 12 scrolls, Rabbi Druin will repair a Torah that will be donated later this year to Goldman Union Camp Institute in honor of our 175th anniversary.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and Carol & Larry Adelman for their support of Rabbi Druin's visit.

Find out more about our 175th Anniversary events on page 7.



UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

April Shabbat Services

Shabbat Service
Friday, April 7
7:30 p.m.
Music: Hazemir

Shabbat Service
Saturday, April 15
9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service & Torah Study
Saturday, April 8
9:45 a.m.
Torah Study and a nosh follow the service

Shabbat Service
Friday, April 21
7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Saturday, April 22
9:45 a.m.

Passover Yizkor Service
Wednesday, April 12
7 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, April 28
7:30 p.m.
Music: Maestro Robert Nance

Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat
Friday, April 14
5:30 to 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Saturday, April 29
9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, April 14
7:30 p.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](#).

APRIL EVENTS

Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph
Sunday, April 2
7 p.m. on Zoom

Congregational Second Seder
Thursday, April 6
6 p.m. at the Temple
RSVPs required

Thoughtful Thursdays
Wednesday, April 12
10 a.m. at the Temple

Yom Ha'atzmaut at Religious School
Sunday, April 16
10:30 a.m. at the Temple

NEIJGS Jewish Life in German-Speaking Lands
Sunday, April 16
1 p.m. at the ACPL

Yom HaShoah: Holocaust Remembrance Day
Monday, April 17
7 p.m.
at the Rifkin Campus

MAY EVENTS

Torah Scribe
Tuesday, May 2
7 p.m. at the Temple

Lag B'Omer BBQ and 5th Grade Prayer Book Presentation
Sunday, May 7
Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Confirmation & Shabbat
Friday, May 12
7:30 p.m.

EVENTS

Ducky & Mila Ash B'nei Mitzvah
Saturday, May 20
10 a.m.

Maccabiah Games
Sunday, May 21
10:30 a.m.

Shavuot Service
Friday, May 26
7:30 p.m.

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, April 6
No Lunch - Passover

Thursday, April 20
[Cosmos Restaurant](#)
9807 Lima Rd.

[Find the lunch schedule](#)

PLEASE RETURN DUES PLEDGES

A reminder to all members to please return your dues pledge by April 15 for the coming year. Your financial commitment to the Temple helps us to plan our budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year that begins July 1. Thank you to all who already have responded for your generous support of our congregation.



CORNERED BEEF ON RYE – SURE TO SATISFY FOR 21ST YEAR!

Our Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser returns for a 21st year on Thursday, October 19 when heaping corned beef sandwiches, gigantic dill pickles, creamy coleslaw, and rich brownies return as part of the Temple's largest fundraiser.

Mark your calendar for Deli Day and help us top last year's record sales of nearly 2,000 meals and 116 additional pounds of corned beef!

Thank you to Co-Chairs Micah Soltz, David Crell, Samara Sheray and their team! Please plan to take the day off work to assist with the sale, as well as Prep Night on Wednesday, October 18. Proceeds support the Temple's general operations.



OBSERVE YIZKOR & SHABBAT WITH US ON APRIL 12

Please join us on Wednesday, April 12 at 7 p.m. for Yizkor as part of our Passover observance, led by Rabbi Meir. Pesach is one of the three festival times each year when Jews observe [Yizkor](#) and share memorial prayers.



Rabbi Meir Bargeron: THE MOMENTUM OF PASSOVER

The story of *Yetzi'at Mitzrayim*, also called the Exodus, is one of the most significant events in Jewish history. Moses, with God's help, broke Pharaoh's hold on the enslaved Israelites and led them to freedom.

We are commanded to tell and hear this story during our Pesach festival, and the story continues beyond what we read in our haggadot. For the Israelites, there was much uncertainty as they crossed the Sea of Reeds, received the Revelation from God through Moses, and entered into an eternal covenant with the Divine.

While there was uncertainty, anxiety, and even dissent (remember the Golden Calf?!) as the Israelites began their journey to the Promised Land, there was also powerful momentum – they were moving forward. The Exodus is so deeply rooted in Jewish memory that when we gather around seder tables, we say, "We were slaves to Pharaoh in the land of Egypt. And Adonai, our God, took us out from there with a strong hand and an outstretched forearm." We are the enslaved and they are us.

The Passover story is one of hope and redemption, reminding us that no matter how dire our circumstances may seem, there is always a way forward towards freedom. However, while the Passover story represents a powerful symbol of forward

momentum towards freedom, the reality is that many people continue to experience oppression and injustice in our world today. The Indiana Legislature passed SB 1, a law that will ban abortion, putting Hoosiers' health and safety at risk. Citizens in many states across the country have lost the right to access abortion care. This is a tremendous loss of personal autonomy, which is the root of freedom.

As I write this, abortion remains legal in Indiana, only because the abortion ban has been temporarily blocked in state court while litigation proceeds. Organizations such as Hoosier Jews for Choice, the National Council of Jewish Women and the American Civil Liberties Union are working diligently to make sure that Hoosiers' never lose the right to abortion care. These and other worthy organizations that are fighting for reproductive justice deserve our support and assistance.

The Passover story teaches us that there is always a path forward towards freedom, even in the face of great adversity. However, we must remember that the struggle for justice is ongoing, and we must act. By doing so, we can continue the Israelites' journey towards the Promised Land, a world where all people are free to make choices about their bodies, their families, and their futures.

Kadima, let us move forward!

–Rabbi Meir

LIFELONG LEARNING: JUDAISM AND THE ENVIRONMENT

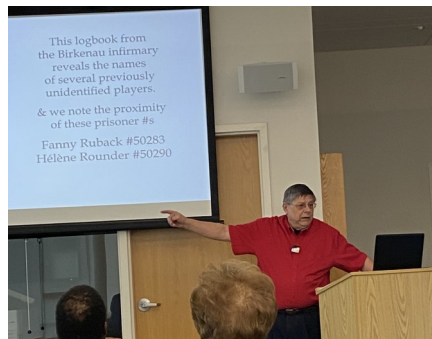
Beit Midrash translates to "House of Study," and describes the institution of classical Jewish learning. Expand your Jewish knowledge by joining us for lifelong learning classes that include a variety of Jewish study topics with Rabbi Meir Bargeron and guest instructors.

Caring for the World: Judaism and the Environment

Tuesday, April 11 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

The mitzvah of Tikkun Olam, repairing our world, takes on an urgent resonance in the age of climate change. Join Rabbi Meir as we study Jewish traditions and discuss their application to our shared obligation to care for the Earth.

Please RSVP to office@templecav.org by Thursday, April 6. Zoom links are provided in the weekly email to our Temple family



Thank you to Bruce Colegrove for sharing some of his extensive knowledge on March 14 about the women's orchestra at Auschwitz-Birkenau. In this fourth program in his Strings of Inspiration series, he shared stories about Hélène Rounder and Claire Monis, who both came from communist families and were active in the French Resistance.

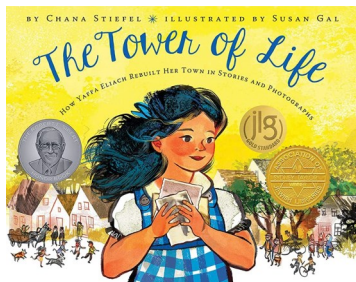
Watch the program on [YouTube](#).

An ardent researcher in Holocaust studies, Bruce is the developer of the website [Women's Orchestra of Auschwitz-Birkenau](#).

SYDNEY TAYLOR AWARD-WINNERS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY

Winners of the [Sydney Taylor Awards](#) were announced by the [Association of Jewish Libraries](#) in late January and are now available in the [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#).

The Sydney Taylor Book Award is presented annually to outstanding books for children and teens that authentically portray the Jewish experience. Gold medal, Honor and Notable books are recognized in three categories – picture books, middle grade and young adult literature. The 2023 winners have all been recently added to our library collection.



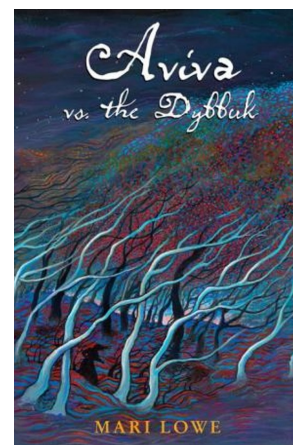
In the Picture Book category, this year's winner was Chana Stiefel's *The Tower of Life: How Yaffa Eliach Rebuilt Her Town in Stories and Photographs*. It gently relates how Yaffa Eliach recovered thousands of photographs to preserve the memory of her Polish town

destroyed by the Nazis. The collection is now a permanent exhibit at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Picture book Honors were awarded to *Big Dreams, Small Fish*, by Paula Cohen, *The Very Best Sukkah: A Story from Uganda*, by Shoshana Nambi, and Erin Silver's *Sitting Shiva*. Four titles were mentioned as Picture Book Notables: Ruth Behar's *Tia Fortuna's New Home: A Jewish Cuban Journey*, Susan Goldman Rubin's picture book biography, *Madame Alexander: The Creator of the Iconic American Doll*, *Shoham's Bangle*, by Sarah Sassoon, and *Raquela's Seder*, by Joel Edward Stein. The eight titles include stories from Uganda, Cuba, Iraq, and Inquisition-era Spain, along with the United States.

For Middle Grade readers, Mari Lowe's *Aviva vs. the Dybbuk* was given the gold medal. A suspenseful novel set in an Orthodox community, the story centers around Aviva and her

widowed mother and a dybbuk that haunts the mikvah. Honors were awarded to *Honey and Me*, by Meira Drazin, *Black Bird, Blue Road*, by Sofiya Pasternack, and *Ellen Outside the Lines*, by A.J. Sass. Three notable books were mentioned in the middle grade category: *Alias Anna: A True Story of Outwitting the Nazis*, by Susan Hood with Greg Dawson, *The Woman Who Split the Atom: The Life of Lise Meitner*, by Marissa Moss, and *The Prince of Steel Pier*, by Stacy Nockowitz.



The Young Adult Winner was Sacha Lamb's *When the Angels Left the Old Country*, a work of historical fantasy. It follows an angel and a demon from an old-country shtetl as they work to help emigrants in need of their help. Set at the time of Ellis Island, it is full of Jewish folklore, and has been compared to the works of Sholem Aleichem. Young Adult honors were awarded to *My Fine Fellow: A Delicious Entanglement*, by Jennieke Cohen, *Some Kind of Hate*, by Sarah Darer Littman, and *Eight Nights of Flirting*, by Hannah Reynolds. The two notable books for young adults included Barbara Krasner's *Ethel's Song: Ethel Rosenberg's Life in Poems*, and *The Ghosts of Rose Hill*, by R.M. Romero.

From biographies to mysteries, holiday picture books to romances, there is a tremendous amount of variety in this list. Stop by the library any time you're in the building to check out any of these titles. Self-checkout is available at the library desk. [Search our full collection online](#).

THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS HELPS FAMILIES WITH TWICE-MONTHLY BAGS

As we all know, the price of groceries is skyrocketing and families are struggling to put food on the table. Through [Thoughtful Thursdays](#), we do our best to help ease the pressure for the 51 Brightpoint Head Start families in our program by providing two bags each month of food and household products.

The rising cost of items creates challenges for our volunteers when shopping. However, it makes what we do that much more important! We do our best to stretch our budget through sale and bulk pricing.

As we gather on Wednesday, April 12 (one week later than usual due to Passover and spring break), we will be packing bags with ingredients and the recipe for "Easy Chicken Noodle Casserole," boxes of brownie mix, aluminum foil, salt and pepper, paper towels and rolls of toilet paper.

Thank you to the continued generosity of the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and the members of our Jewish and extended 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.

Remember, hunger doesn't stop because of inflation!

Sally Trotter, Thoughtful Thursdays chair.



Youth News



A fun-filled Purim Carnival on March 5 brought lots of excitement and smiles for kids and adults alike, with games, bounce houses, signature drinks, a sundae bar, bingo, and prizes! Thanks to Rabbi Meir Bergeron, Kate Crell, David Flapan, Geoff Gordon, Stephanie Gottsman, Shai Hadashi, Marie McFadden, Mike Rush, Samara Sheray, & Micah Soltz for their help.

Upcoming Religious School Programs:

Religious School and KESHER families are invited on Sunday, April 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the Temple to celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel Independence Day) as we mark Israel's 75th anniversary!

We'll play games, make our own Israeli flag, enjoy a Hummus Bar, and more. Also learn about the SKIP (Send a Kid to Israel) program, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne in partnership with Congregation Achduth Vesholom.



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 graduation information by Friday, May 12 to be included in our June/July Bulletin. Contact us at office@TempleCAV.org or (260) 744-4245.

JOIN THE FUN AT JOY VEY! A KID-ISH SHABBAT IN APRIL

Gather 'round your little kids for a playful and silly, yet peaceful start to Shabbat for the whole family on Friday, April 14 from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Temple.

In our cooperative, family-run service, we light candles, pray, sing songs, move and groove, and even practice mindfulness. Our April theme is "freedom."

Find the [link](#) for more information on signing up to help with the co-op.

Please join us and Rabbi Meir 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.



Our monthly "Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat" on March 10 provided a wonderful opportunity for our young families to share the beauty of Shabbat and strengthen friendships in our Temple family. Thanks to everyone who contributed to a special evening.



TEMPLE VOICES SUPPORT OF LGBTQ+ AND TRANS COMMUNITY

The Temple joined other progressive congregations in voicing support for the LGBTQ+ and transgender community through a half-page ad in The Journal Gazette on March 11 & 13.

Led by Rabbi Meir Barger, the Temple's leadership supported signing the statement for social justice and opposing the anti-trans legislation that is proposed in Indiana and around the country and "against the hatred that drives it."

Other congregations that signed the statement include Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren, Cross United Church of Christ in Berne, First Congregational United Church of Christ in Angola, Peace United Church of Christ, and Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

As faith communities rooted in a shared tradition, we affirm our belief that all people are living images of God and are beloved of God.

Thus we are called to voice our support of and solidarity with our trans neighbors and all members of the LGBTQ+ community.

We cry out against the wave of anti-trans legislation being introduced in Indiana and across the country, and against the hatred that drives it.

We lament the unnecessary pain, suffering, and death this legislation will cause, particularly among young people.

We call on all people to join us as repairers of this breach of justice.



If you are interested in learning more about how we think about and live into our faith, you are welcome to visit any of our congregations for worship and fellowship.

RABBI MEIR PART OF HUC-JIR TESHUVAH WORKING GROUP

For the past several months, an 11-member Teshuvah Working Group that includes Rabbi Meir Barger has been developing a path to healing and accountability at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion. The effort follows an independent investigation into historic misconduct as well as efforts to support a sacred, respectful culture at the College-Institute.

The working group met from June 2022 to March 2023 to develop recommendations to bring healing to those impacted and to strengthen institutional accountability. HUC-JIR President Andrew Rehfeld accepted the recommendations in March and implementation plans are being developed.

INDIANA BOARD OF RABBIS OPPOSES ANTI-TRANS BILL

Rabbi Meir Barger and 14 of his colleagues from the Indiana Board of Rabbis issued a statement on March 23 opposing Senate Bill 480 and House Bill 1608 in the Indiana General Assembly that they maintain would place the lives of LGBTQ young people at risk.

The full statement explains the sacred Jewish traditions that supports their viewpoint.

Rabbi Meir, who is the co-chair of IBOR, also shared the statement and his views during a D'var Torah at Shabbat evening service on March 24. Listen to the D'var Torah



More than 30 Temple bakers created a variety of delicious hamantaschen on February 26 to serve after our Purim Spiel. They brought favorite fillings for the centers of the three-cornered treats, including apricot, strawberry, cherry, chocolate, marshmallow, prune, and more.

Experienced bakers shared tips with novices as we shared stories and got better acquainted. Religious School students and younger children also baked.

Thank you to Deb Vilensky and Mimi Zelman for making the dough and chairing the hamantaschenpalooza.

175TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON TO BEGIN IN MAY

We're excited to launch the Temple's 175th Anniversary season in May when we learn about the ancient art of writing and repairing a Torah from a sofer (Torah scribe), the first in a series of activities as we mark this significant milestone as Indiana's oldest Jewish congregation.

In addition to visits by leaders in the Reform Movement, we'll have special Shabbat and Havdalah programming, music and art offerings, a new Jewish heritage tour and exhibits in the Temple's Goldman Memorial Museum, mitzvah projects, and a festive celebration weekend on November 10-12.

Visit our [175th Anniversary page](#) at www.templecav.org for information about the events taking place from spring 2023 through winter 2024.

Save the dates and please join us for these special events:

Rabbi Moshe Druin, a sofer, will share some of the important details of his sacred work on Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. (see page 1).

Musician-in-Residence Shira Kline, also known as ShirLaLa, will join us on Friday and Saturday, August 18-19. She incorporates music, interactive storytelling, imaginative play and spirituality to enrich and inspire.

- On Friday, an early Shabbat service for our families with young children will build on our "Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat" experience. A BBQ hosted by the ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out) for the whole congregation follows before an outdoor Shabbat service for all ages, led by Rabbi Meir with Shira Kline.
- On Saturday, we'll have a Havdalah program and community concert for all ages with Shira at the Temple.

She'll also be meeting during her time in Fort Wayne with the leaders of Joy Vey.

Hilarie Couture's Unity with Variety portraits will be the focus of an art exhibit on Sunday, August 20 at both the Temple and next door at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne. Many of Couture's 52 paintings of people

from diverse cultures in our community will be featured. The Temple will host a panel discussion and reception, along with showing some of the artworks.

175th Anniversary Weekend Celebration:

Friday, November 10 - Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the Union for Reform Judaism, will give the D'var Torah during our Shabbat service. Orin Reynolds, a Seattle-based musician who grew up at the Temple, will be our guest musician. During the service, we plan to present a Torah scroll in honor of our 175th Anniversary to representatives of [Goldman Union Camp Institute](#), our regional URJ summer camp in Zionsville. A festive Oneg Shabbat will follow the service.

Saturday, November 11 –

- Morning Shabbat service, followed by a Kiddush luncheon
- Evening Havdalah program with Orin Reynolds

Sunday, November 12 – Open house from 1 to 5 p.m. for congregants and the greater Fort Wayne community:

- A new Jewish Heritage Tour (including self-guided option and trolley tour with docents) currently under development with [ARCH](#) that focuses on locations related to Jewish life in Fort Wayne from the early days of Jewish immigration to the present.
- Open house at the Temple with docent-led tours
- Grand opening of the Temple's Goldman Memorial Museum in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center
- Entertainment by a String Quartet from the Fort Wayne Philharmonic performing klezmer-inspired music
- Refreshments, including some Jewish treats.

A collaborative exhibit featuring art created by Jewish artists from the Fort Wayne Museum of Art collection, as well as artworks, Judaica and artifacts



on loan from the Temple and its community, will be featured on November 9, 2023 through January 2024 at the FWMoA. A reception and talk will be held on Sunday, November 19 at 2 p.m. at the Art Museum.

The exhibit will be curated by Charles Shepard, Executive Director of the Art Museum, and Sharon Eisbart, CAV Art & Beautification Committee Chair.

A Beit Café evening directed by Maestro Robert Nance on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 7 p.m. will begin with Havdalah and feature a musical coffeehouse showcasing congregant and staff talent, including song, spoken word, and instrumental music.

A Scholar-in-Residence Program with Rabbi Dr. Gary Zola will focus on history in early 2024. [Dr. Zola](#) is Executive Director of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) and Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Jewish History at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Cincinnati.

A dynamic and popular speaker, Dr. Zola returns to Fort Wayne to share insights into our 175 years of history. The Temple became a charter member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in 1873 and elected one of Hebrew Union College's first four ordinands, Rabbi Israel Aaron, to its pulpit.

Mitzvah Days and Hot Topics Shabbats are coming later in 2023 and spring 2024 as a way for our Temple family to show its commitment to tikkun olam (repairing the world).

Continued on page 12

TEACHER SYMPOSIUM FOCUSES ON HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

A symposium to help support Indiana teachers at all levels in educating students on the Holocaust and Holocaust-related events will be held on Tuesday evening and Wednesday, June 13-14 at the Temple.

The effort is a collaboration between the [U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum](#) and the [PFW Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies](#). Congregation Achduth Vesholom is the lead sponsor and generous supporter of this initiative. [Find the application](#)

Now more than ever, this education needs to take place in Indiana classrooms.

Workshop hosts are Steven Alan Carr, director of IHGS at Purdue Fort Wayne, and Stella Schafer, USHMM Teacher Fellow 2016-2017 and Tippecanoe School Corporation ELA Teacher.

The program will review best practices for teaching about the Holocaust. It also will include sessions on Judaism, eugenics, Indiana's state mandate for teaching the Holocaust, and how

to use primary source materials like films and historical newspapers to prompt students to grapple with complex questions. Teachers will take classroom-ready materials and proven resources back home with them, increasing their confidence in teaching the Holocaust to their students. Upon request, attendees can receive up to six Professional Growth Points (PGP).

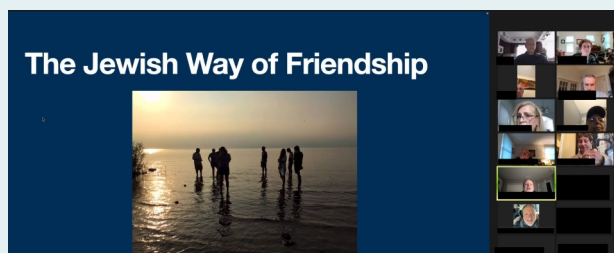
Limited housing - with some meals provided - may be available at no cost to participants who need to arrive early. In addition, small stipends may be available to cover travel and other expenses.

Priority registration closes on Saturday, April 15, 2023.



The program will begin with a dinner and presentation on Tuesday, June 13 at 6 p.m. with Rabbi Meir Barger on "What Is Judaism and What Does It Mean to Be Jewish?"

Sessions on Wednesday, June 14 are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. [Find the tentative schedule](#)



After playing some songs celebrating friendship, Rabbi Meir shared Jewish perspectives on the importance of these close relationships on March 21 during a lifelong learning session with more than 15 people on Zoom. We learned that the first emotion expressed in the Torah is loneliness: "The Eternal One said, 'It is not good for the human to be alone.'" (Genesis 2:18)

"AFTER AUSCHWITZ" FILM TO AIR ON APRIL 16



Six Jewish women who survived the Holocaust — Eva Beckmann, Erika Jacoby, Rena Drexler, Lili Majzner, Renee Firestone and Linda Sherman — tell their extraordinary life stories. When Auschwitz was liberated in January 1945, it was the beginning of a lifelong struggle for these survivors.

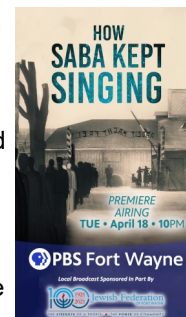
"[After Auschwitz](#)" recounts how the six women have built their lives since the war — getting married, immigrating to America, building careers, and raising children and grandchildren — while looking for a way to understand their trauma and loss.

Sponsored by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#), the film will be aired on Sunday, April 16 at 2 p.m. on PBS Fort Wayne. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support.

"HOW SABA KEPT SINGING" TO PREMIERE ON APRIL 18

Musician David "Saba" Wisnia believed that he survived the horrors of Auschwitz by entertaining the Nazi guards with his beautiful singing voice.

Join David and his grandson Avi as the pair embark on a journey exploring the mystery of Saba's past on Tuesday, April 18 at 10 p.m. on PBS Fort Wayne. "[How Saba Kept Singing](#)" is sponsored by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) with support from the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation.



YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION SET FOR APRIL 17

Please join us on Monday, April 17 at 7 p.m. at the Rifkin Campus for our annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration service exploring "The Neverending Hate." Our keynote speaker will be [Andrew Lapin](#), journalist and host of the podcast "[Radioactive](#)." Also joining us will be Tree of Life Synagogue survivor Carol Black, who will be sharing how this horrific day changed her life.

Light refreshments will follow. Sponsored by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#), this event is free and open to the public. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.



SHARED HISTORY PROJECT EXHIBIT COMING TO FORT WAYNE

The [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) is excited to host the [Leo Baeck Institute's](#) exhibit "1700 Years of Jewish Life in German-Speaking Lands" on Sunday, April 16 at the [Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center](#).

The afternoon includes a tour of the exhibit and two free public programs:

- 1 p.m. - Tour of the exhibit with [Karen S. Franklin](#), Director of Family Research at the Leo Baeck Institute
- 2 p.m. - Presentation by Karen Franklin: "Genealogical Journey," focusing on eight objects from the exhibit
- 3:30 p.m. - Presentation by Mike Brown, Executive Director of the [Indiana Jewish Historical Society](#), on "Early Indiana Synagogues and the Germanic Period of Indiana Jewish History."



This exhibit tells the story of German Jewry through 58 artifacts presented chronologically to create a multifaceted historical

narrative of the complex coexistence of Jews and non-Jews. Themes such as migration, everyday life, inclusion/exclusion, persecution/exile, achievement, and resilience through the centuries will be explored.

The Leo Baeck Institute in New York and Berlin is a research library and archive focused on the history of German-speaking Jews.

If you are unable to attend in-person, [register to join us online](#). The exhibit will be on display at the library from April 16 through the end of the month.

Thank you to Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation, the Dr. Louis A. and Anne B. Schneider Foundation Trust, the Bureau of Jewish Education Endowment, the Lande Genealogy Fund, and the Indiana Jewish Historical Society for their support of this program.

For more information, please contact Pamela Friedman at vp@NEIndianaJGS.org.



NEIJGS TO HOST 45th INTERNATIONAL JEWISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCE IN 2025!



We are pleased to tell you that the [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) has recently been awarded the honor of hosting the 45th [International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies Conference](#) in August 2025. The annual conference typically draws hundreds of Jewish genealogists from around the world and features presentations covering all aspects of Jewish genealogy.

This annual event has been held in cities such as New York City, Los Angeles, Jerusalem, and Warsaw, Poland. [This year's conference](#) will be held in London, England.

Founded in 2018, the NEIJGS has worked closely with the [Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center](#) and its director, Curt Witcher. This collaboration has gained significant attention as well-known speakers have visited the area to speak to the Society and the Fort Wayne genealogy community on various aspects of Jewish genealogy and have spread the word about the resources available in Fort Wayne.

While the work involved will be significant, the NEIJGS is excited to be awarded the conference, and looks forward to welcoming everyone to Fort Wayne in 2025.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

At its March meeting, the Temple Board agreed to sell the City of Fort Wayne a section of our property to build a stormwater pump station near the northwest corner and install a new underground consolidation sewer on the north property line. A permanent utility easement and temporary construction easements are part of the agreement.

The city said the project will reduce the likelihood of flooding in surrounding neighborhoods during heavy rain and/or high river levels and will help reduce the frequency of combined sewer overflows. As part of the agreement, the Temple will receive about \$29,000 from the city, as well as new fencing and landscaping.

Executive Director Samara Sheray said dates have not yet been set for construction of the pump station. During construction, she said, the driveway leading to the back of the Temple near the kitchen entrance will be restricted.

Rabbi Meir reported to the board that the Temple will donate a Torah to Goldman Union Camp Institute to commemorate our 175th anniversary and in honor of our long-standing association with GUCI, reflected in the enthusiastic camp attendance of our young people over the years, the engagement of our rabbis, and the philanthropy of our past president Myron S. Goldman z"l for whom the camp is named. We hope to formally present the Torah during our anniversary weekend in November.

Continued on page 10




The Temple's Purim Players made merry on March 6 with an interactive Spiel called "Choose Your Own Megillah," retelling the story of Esther with the audience voting along the way.

Thank you to Rabbi Meir and our talented actors: Ron Cousino, Doris Gottlieb, Ruthi Greutman, Denny Reynolds, Marcia Reynolds, Leise Rosman, Mike Rush, Lyla Spath, and Don Zelman. After the spiel, we noshed on hamentashen created by a team of Temple bakers.

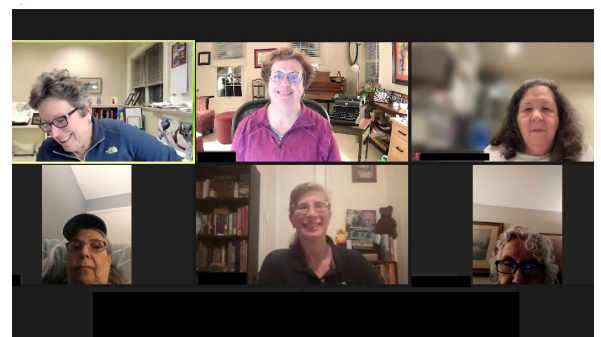
NEWS FROM THE BOARD, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Five congregants are attending the Union for Reform Judaism's Had'ra-cha Seminar, which teaches lay leaders a variety of skills to help them support and lead communal worship and lifecycle events, such as funerals and baby namings. The program is intended for small congregations with no more than one full-time clergy. Nola Katinsky, Mike Rush, Denny Reynolds, Marcia Reynolds, and Don Zelman are enrolled.

MAZEL TOV TO:



Rena Black on being one of 15 women honored by the NAACP on February 25 at their "Women in Hats, Who Continue to Make a Difference...in Our Community" event. Women in NAACP (WIN) focuses on enhancing the leadership role of women and children, and advocating for the positive development of children. Attendees were encouraged to wear African attire for the event and headwear to keep with the continuing theme.



Alina Adams, author of *The Nesting Dolls*, joined us on February 28 at our Temple Book Club for a very interesting discussion about her family saga of a Russian Jewish family.

Thank you to Betsy Gephart for coordinating our Temple Book Club and to those who attended!



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

We're happy to welcome the newest members of our Temple family:

Deborah Bauer & Seth Weinglass and their children, Orson, 6, and Victor, 2, already are participating in the Temple's Joy Vey Shabbat program and are interested in family-centered activities. Deborah, a South Bend native, is an Associate Professor of Modern European History at Purdue Fort Wayne. Seth, a New Jersey native, is Program Manager at City Utilities of Fort Wayne. Orson, 6, attends kindergarten at Whitney Young Early Childhood Center and Victor, 3, attends Alyssum Montessori pre-school.

June Shafer returned to Fort Wayne and the Temple after spending the past 30 years in Naples, Florida. As a child, June and her parents, Ethyl & Jack Mansbach (z"l), were members of Congregation B'nai Jacob. She later joined Achduth Vesholom in 1956 with her husband, Arthur (z"l), after his service in the Air Force. The Shafers were long-time members of the Temple, with their daughter, Susan Hakey (z"l), and son, Cary Shafer. Their grandchildren also grew up at the Temple.

Guest Coumnist: Steven Greenberg

Continued from page 14

Think of a law banning women from, say, public swimming pools. Then picture 5,000 women showing up at every pool that tries to uphold this law. That's a totally realistic scenario. It's just not viable.

And because the government knows this, they will eventually have to reach some sort of compromise. The problem is that they are doing unimaginable damage to the cohesion of the country, to today's and tomorrow's economy, and to our international standing. This is already a fact, and something that a future, more responsible government will have to address.

So, What Can We Do?

It's not an easy time to be an American Zionist, I'm sure. If you're wondering how you can help...I'm sorry to say that you really can't, unless you have imminent Aliyah plans. Although we may be (hopefully, still) a symbol for Jews everywhere – we are just a regular, messed up nation that happens to have a Jewish majority. And America, better perhaps than most countries, can certainly understand internal strife.

That said, U.S.-based organizations like Israel Bonds, which just hosted Israel's openly racist Minister of Finance, Bezaleel Smotrich, should be held to account. Also, you can encourage your elected officials to shun Israeli government representatives that openly espouse hatred of minorities and preach violence, like Minister of National Security, Itamar Ben Gvir. These people should have no place on the world stage, and you can facilitate their removal.

The Takeaway

Despite the ugliness you may be seeing from our government, the best of Israel is still alive and kicking, and hard. I see it at every demonstration I go to. We are far, far better than this government, which represents only our ugliest sides. History is on our side, and we will prevail.

Fort Wayne native Steven Greenberg is an Israel-based single dad and writer. You can find his novels at <https://amzn.to/3JhReHE> and follow his Times of Israel blog at <https://bit.ly/3rKDH5z>. He grew up at Achduth Vesholom and is the son of Ronnie & Norm Greenberg.

MEET OUR NEW FACILITIES MANAGER

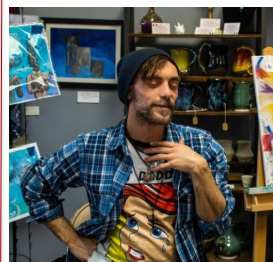
Jason M. Price started as our new Facilities Manager in March. He and his wife, Kathy, will celebrate 21 years of marriage in May. He is the father of three active teenagers, Ashen, 19, Luke, 17, and Jessica, 15, two dogs, two cats, and three big personality chickens!



Since 2015, Jason has been the owner/operator of Earthworx, a ground maintenance company that specializes in landscaping and lawn care. He previously was a state-certified road and bridge inspector for 12 years for various engineering firms in Fort Wayne and Indianapolis.

Jason enjoys attending his children's high school sporting events, watching movies with his family, and family road trips. He also enjoys reading articles on business or stock investments, cooking, playing golf, and dinner dates with friends.

MEET OUR CUSTODIAN



We'd also like to formally introduce Timmy Oberley, our custodian, who began working at the Temple in recent months. He shares his story:

The details of my life are quite inconsequential. I have been a resident of Fort Wayne nearly all of my life, graduating from the noble and esteemed South Side High School around 2008. I spent the next few years touring and recording with a band, and honestly my life was a rather zany, despairing mess.

In 2015, I was blessed with the responsibility of fatherhood. Now, I am a single father, a custodian here at Congregation Achduth Vesholom, as well as a teacher's assistant for Brightpoint Head Start, also in the Temple.

When I find spare time, I like to paint and write poetry and focus heavily on the spiritual side of my life. And I am quite content.

Donations

Art and Beautification Fund

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

Campership Fund

In memory of Goldie & William DuBow and Harry Leiberman:
Vivian Skadron

General Operations

In memory of Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt: *Enid & Stanley Rosenblatt*

In memory of Rebecca Safirstein: *Kay Safirstein*

In memory of Herman Davis: *Jerry Davis*

In memory of Morris Kaye: *Thomas Shine*

In memory of Sarah Cohen: *Becky Park, Micki & Sherwin Kepes*

In memory of David Levin: *Laurin & Ronald Jacobson*

Kathryn Kann Mendelblat Cultural Enrichment Fund

In memory of Peter Alan Rothberg and donation received from:
Deborah Rothberg

Library Fund

In memory of Etta Gepsman: *Martin Gepsman*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation has been received from: *Cheryl Schorey*

In memory of Ron Miller: *Sarah Jo & Tim Sarrazin*

In memory of Morris Kaye: *Steve Shine*

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

Religious School Fund

In memory of Margot Krel: *Rossya & Howard Klebanow*

Ryan Goldstrom Memorial Fund

In memory of Eddie Field: *Steven Field*

Sposeep Chapel Fund

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

Thoughtful Thursdays

A donation has been received from: *Susan & Alan Cooperman*

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

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

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

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

CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER CAMP AT GUCI



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

Register your child for summer 2023 at [Goldman Union Camp Institute!](#) A sibling discount of \$100 also is available. GUCI is our regional Union for Reform Judaism camp in Zionsville. Children entering 3rd through 12th grade are eligible. [Find out more](#)

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](#).

THINKING ABOUT SUMMER? THINK ABOUT CAMP JOE!



It's never too early to start thinking about summer! The [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's Camp Joe](#) will be held at [Metea County Park](#).

Sessions are offered for three weeks, beginning June 26 and ending July 14. You may register your child ages 4 to 14 for one, two, or all three weeks!

Our "refer a friend" program is back! When you and your "friend" register, you will both receive a 10% discount on your payment. [Find registration information](#)

Our thanks to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and the Janet Finkel Campership Fund for amazing support!

175TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON TO BEGIN IN MAY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

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.

Volunteers also will be needed for the celebration weekend and other events. Please contact the Temple office to offer your help.

We are grateful to our 175th Anniversary Committee:

Co-Chairs Kathy Sider and Beth Zweig

Fran Adler, Rabbi Meir Barger, Jamie Berger, Nancy Dicker, Janet Finkel, Stephanie Gottesman, Norm Greenberg, Ronnie Greenberg, Dawn Hammond, Marie McFadden, Marcia Reynolds, Cheryl Schorey, Samara Sheray, John Stein, Jon Tam, Donna Tourkow, Irene Walters, and Mimi Zelman



April Jahrzeits

April 7-8

Steve Abrams
 Libby Babich
 Lucy Z. Berk
 Harry G. Browarsky
 Loretta Bukowski
 Mildred Cramer
 Harry Dale
 Rae Dorman
 Louis Engelhard
 Jacob Eppstein
 Herman Freiburger
 Jan Gassman
 Rosemary Gentle
 Minnie Glucklick
 Rita Gold
 Ida Goldberg
 Isser Goldin
 Ira Greenberg
 Bella Gubitza
 Aaron Haslachner
 Ida Hutner
 Sidney M. Hutner
 Tillie Starr Isay
 Elizabeth Ruth Johnson
 Sylvia Laderman
 Rebecca Lande
 Ida Latz
 Samuel Lauferty
 Mary Levy
 Bessie Levy
 Dorothy G. Maier
 Jerry Morgenstein
 Valette Moyer
 Jane L. Neiman
 Chaim Norkin
 Barbara Rosen
 Bess Rosenblatt
 Otto D. Rothschild
 Tauba Schachter

Ethel Schnitt
 Benjamin Schultz
 Sylvia L. Shafer
 Isabel Sider
 Adam Smulovitz
 Barney Sterling
 Flora Strouse
 Sharon Subeck
 Marguerite Waltemath
 Florence Weis
 Karen S. White
 Jane P. Woolner
 Samuel Zweig

April 14-15

Ronald Brateman
 Jacob Bruch
 May Bussel
 Sonia Finkelstein
 Oren Evan Ford
 Eva Friedman
 Cecilia Gans
 Etta Gepsman
 Fred Glazer
 Tania Leah Grinschpoun
 June Saul Himelstein
 Louis Hirsch
 Dorothy Horn
 Leopold Isay
 Judy Isroff
 Bella Kessler Klein
 Samuel Kornspan
 Harry Levey
 Isidor Levy
 Irving Luskin
 Ruth Mark
 Mike Mattingly
 Irma M. Meyer
 Frederick Milz
 Harriet Mirman

Carrie Nathan
 Helen O'Neill
 Tillie Ochstein
 Samuel Ochstein
 Ann Peltz
 Jean Rehm
 Peter Alan Rothberg
 Bernard Rothschild
 Arthur Albert Sapirie
 Anna Lee Schefman
 Max T. Schmitz
 Harry Sheray
 Erna Shulkin
 Rosetta R. Siegle
 Lena Silverman
 Mark Smith
 Samuel Stein
 Earl Stewart
 Emma A. Strass
 Anna Trauner
 Morton Trauner
 Philip Trivus
 Israel Weber
 Rosa Weil
 Wyle Weiman
 Samuel Weinberg
 Dorothy Whisler
 Tina Wilcox
 Alan Winnerman

April 21-22

Gilbert Yossef Haim Ben Youdoul
 Moses Amber
 Charles Baskes
 Samuel Brateman
 Edward K. Burcham
 Sonia Cooperman
 Sara A. Doppelt
 Sophia Ebner

Leah Edelman
 Rebecca Goldberg
 Leonard Goldstein
 Lena Goltz
 Leonel Kahn
 Rebecca Kaplan
 Charles Kirschner
 Irina Kutsenok
 Louis Latker
 Larry Levin
 Ben Levy
 Irwin Mallin
 Werner Manheim
 Minnie S. Mendelson
 Steven Moyer
 Gary Nemeroff
 Nate Nemeroff
 Adelaide Pollak
 Zeldia Punskey
 Virginia Ray
 Catherine Revesz
 Jo Rothberg
 Arthur Michael Rudek
 David L. Safran
 Minnie Silverman
 Alan Slutsky
 Louis Stiefel
 Ida Ruth Superior

April 28-29

Irwin Adams
 Sylvia Baker
 Ruth Beck
 Ann Block
 Jacob Brateman
 Ruth Cohen
 Hannah Cohen
 Joan Erb
 Muriel Feinstein
 Pearl Fichman

Meyer Fine
 David Fishman
 Irwin Golden
 Elaine Harvey
 Nannette Heilbroner
 Samuel A. Heilbroner
 Clara Heilbroner
 Rabbi Samuel Hirschberg
 Dora Kudysz
 Frances Levy
 Louis Masursky
 Jane L. Neiman
 Esther Nelson
 Alfred Novitsky
 Donald Nusholtz
 Janet Perlman
 Stephen Powers
 Paul N. Richardson
 Ida Rigelhaupt
 Charles J. Rothschild
 Morris Ruderman
 Lois Safran
 Eva R. Salon
 Hazel Schultz
 Margaret Silverman
 Norman Snow
 Samuel Herbert Stern
 Bertha Strass
 Sidney David Troy
 Jennie Weisman
 Lillian Weiss
 Molly Wolf
 Lucile Wolf
 Harry Wolff
 Samuel Zaslowsky

OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Rhonda Gerson-Hurwitz and family on the death of her mother, Audrey Gerson, on March 3, 2023 in Fort Wayne.



The family of former Congregation B'nai Jacob member Bee Siegel, who died on March 13, 2023 in Phoenix, AZ.

BECOME A LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBER WITH A PLANNED GIFT

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.





THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM

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 (z"l) Rabbi Emeritus

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES
President: Ronnie Greenberg
VP Programming: Kathy Sider
VP Finance: John Stein
Secretary: Amy Krouse

Larry Adelman	Brian Rosman	Micah Soltz
David Crell	Leise Rosman	Mimi Zelman
Juli Dominguez	Mike Rush	Beth Zweig
Sam Krouse	Mark Schneider	

Rabbi Meir Bargeron: rabbi@templecav.org
Samara Sheray: Executive Director cavadmin@templecav.org
Marie McFadden: Admin. Assistant office@templecav.org
Beth Zweig: Bulletin Editor bulletin@templecav.org
Marie McFadden: Bulletin Production
Jamie Fritz: Comptroller accounts@templecav.org

Temple Office Hours:

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

The Temple office will be closed April 6 for Passover.

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.



www.facebook.com/templecavfw



Achduth Vesholom Congregation



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.

The deadline for the May Bulletin is
Monday, April 17.

Guest Columnist Steven Greenberg

It's a confusing time to watch the news about Israel, I'm sure. Here's a brief explainer of where we are and where we're going.

What the Heck is Going on Over There?

OK, so Israeli democracy's checks and balances are inherently weaker than those in the U.S. system of government. To compensate for this, our Supreme Court has traditionally filled the vacuum - striking down laws that violate certain broad principles based on either law or precedent. This system is far from perfect and needs to be changed - ideally by the creation of a constitution.

Unfortunately, the recently-elected government led by Benjamin Netanyahu decided to forego the "hassle" of consensual systemic change. It is comprised of openly racist, misogynist, and homophobic Jewish supremacists who were unfortunately but democratically elected. But in order to further their agenda, they need the pesky Supreme Court out of their way.

To do this, they began legislating a series of laws designed to hobble the Court - eliminating most legal checks or balances. Coincidentally (or not), much of the proposed legislation would also assist our "Crime Minister," who is facing multiple counts of corruption, in his bid to evade justice.

Bottom line: what's being sold as a "judicial reform" is actually a thinly-disguised attempt at regime change. No more, no less.

No, Seriously. Really?

Seriously. How serious? It's serious enough that...

- Literally hundreds of thousands of Israelis - some 20% of the electorate by some estimates - are involved several days a week in a massive campaign of nonviolent civil disobedience.
- Business leaders and investors have pulled billions of dollars out of Israel in recent weeks. Hi-tech companies are leaving, as are employees.
- Significant parts of the IDF military reserves have announced a refusal to serve.
- The head of the Bank of Israel and a cadre of prominent economists have warned of irrevocable damage to the economy.
- World leaders have publicly called on Netanyahu to back off.
- I found myself sitting in the middle of a highway last week, holding a flag and chanting DEMOCRACY! with hundreds of others. And I'll do it again. And again.

Wow. Is There Any Hope?

Totally. The thing is, we have a highly-educated, highly-motivated, highly-involved, and, frankly, feisty-as-heck population. Even if this government manages to pass part or all of the legislation, laws based on it will be unenforceable.

Continued on page 11

