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Get your costume ready to join us on Sunday, March 24 to celebrate Purim! The merriment begins with a family-friendly Megillah reading and Purim spiel at 11 a.m., led by Rabbi Meir with the Purim players. Grab a grogger when we tell the story of Queen Esther and make some noise when Haman's name is said!

At noon, following the spiel, everyone is invited to join (or watch) the costume parade to the Social Hall for our annual Purim Carnival! We'll nosh on hamentashen made by a team of Temple bakers and enjoy a lunch spread of lox, bagels, whitefish salad, chopped liver, fruit, and pizza.

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We invite you to share  
a beautiful tradition with our family  
when our son  
**Jake Anderson Copeland**  
is called to the Torah  
as a Bar Mitzvah  
on Saturday, March 9  
at 10 a.m.  
at Congregation Achduth Vesholom  
Kiddush luncheon to follow  
*Hannah and Jack Copeland*



SPECIAL MEETING SET TO VOTE ON PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

A special congregational meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. in person and on Zoom to consider and approve proposed changes to the Bylaws that govern our congregation.

Materials sent to congregants by email (or by U.S. mail if you don't have email) include both the current and proposed Bylaws, as well as a summary of the changes that includes a brief explanation of the reasons for each change. A Zoom link also has been provided for those who prefer to participate online, which includes the ability to vote in real time.

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# UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

## MARCH SERVICES

### Shabbat Service

Friday, March 1  
7:30 p.m.

### Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 2  
9:45 a.m.

### Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat

Friday, March 8  
5:30 p.m.

### Shabbat Service

Friday, March 8  
7:30 p.m.

### Shabbat Service Jake Copeland Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, March 9  
10 a.m.

### Shabbat Service

Friday, March 15  
7:30 p.m.

### Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 16  
9:45 a.m.

### Shabbat Service

Friday, March 22  
7:30 p.m.

### Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 23  
9:45 a.m.

### Purim Megillah Reading & Spiel

Sunday, March 24  
11 a.m.  
Carnival follows at noon

### Shabbat Service

Friday, March 29  
7:30 p.m.

### Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 30  
9:45 a.m.

## MARCH EVENTS

### Thoughtful Thursdays

Wednesday, March 6  
10 a.m.

### Congregational Special Meeting

Wednesday, March 6  
7 p.m. in person and on Zoom

### Jake Copeland Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, March 9  
10 a.m.  
Kiddush luncheon to follow

### Temple Book Club

Tuesday, March 12  
7 p.m. on Zoom

### Hamentashen Baking

Sunday, March 17  
10 a.m.

### Purim Spiel and Service

Sunday, March 24  
11 a.m.

### Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 24  
Noon — 2 p.m.

### Israel at War: A View from the Ground

**Sam Sokol, Political Correspondent, The Times of Israel**  
Sunday, March 17  
3 p.m. on Zoom

## APRIL EVENTS

### NEIJGS/175<sup>th</sup>: Synagogue Mapping Project with Wendy Soltz

Sunday, April 14  
2 p.m.

### Congregational Second Seder

Tuesday, April 23  
6 p.m.  
RSVP by Friday, April 12

## LIVESTREAMING UPDATE

Please join us in person or via livestream for worship services. Friday evening services are offered on [YouTube](#). Saturday morning services are available on Zoom and YouTube.

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](mailto:office@templecav.org)

### Lunch with the ROMEOs

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

**Thursday, March 7**  
[Wu's Fine Chinese Cuisine](#)  
4411 Coldwater Rd.

### Thursday, March 21

[Tequila Mexican Restaurant](#)  
6328 W. Jefferson Blvd.

For more information, please contact Denny Reynolds at [dennisreynolds@me.com](mailto:dennisreynolds@me.com).

[Find the lunch schedule](#)

## PURIM BOOKS FOR ALL AGES IN THE TEMPLE LIBRARY

Check out [the books about Purim](#) in the [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#).

You can also find [a one-sheet of our favorite titles](#) on our website.

[View our full catalog](#) of more than 7,000 titles.

We're open whenever the building is open.

## BRING YOUR FAVORITE FILLING AND BAKE HAMENTASHEN WITH US!

Please join us in getting ready for Purim when we make a variety of delicious hamantashen on Sunday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the Social Hall. Children are invited to share in this fun tradition when accompanied by an adult.

We're making the three-cornered treats to serve as part of our Purim festivities on Sunday, March 24, with our family-friendly Megillah reading and Purim spiel at 11 a.m., followed at noon by our festive Purim Carnival for all ages. 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 RSVP are needed to [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) or (260) 744-4245 no later than Tuesday, March 12 so that adequate supplies will be available. If you have any questions, please contact coordinators Mimi Zelman ([mimiz21@msn.com](mailto:mimiz21@msn.com)) and Bonnie Pomerantz ([bonniepom@gmail.com](mailto:bonniepom@gmail.com)).



## JOIN THE FUN FOR ALL AGES AT PURIM SPIEL AND CARNIVAL

### Continued from page 1

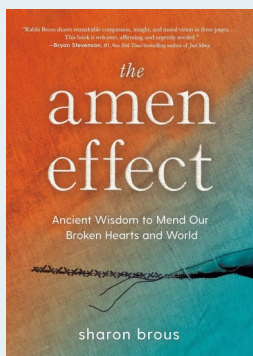
Tickets for the carnival will be available at the door for a suggested donation of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Please RSVP to the office at (260) 744-4245 or [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) by Sunday, March 17 with the number of adults and children planning to attend.

Thanks to our creative Carnival Crew, including Kate Crell (chair), Stephanie Gottesman, Deborah Bauer, Geoff Gordon, Shai Hadashi, and Celeste Sexton. If you'd like to join the team, please let Kate or the office know. We especially need folks to help with clean-up.

## Rabbi Meir Bargeron: BOOK REVIEW— AMEN TO *THE AMEN EFFECT*

Deep in the pages of the *Mishnah*, the first compilation of Jewish oral tradition, lies a precious treasure in a rather unexpected place. The volume Middot discusses the measures of the Second Temple, but [in the second chapter it is written](#):

“All who entered the Temple Mount entered by the right, circled to the right and exited by the left, except for one to whom something had happened, who entered and circled to the left. The person was asked: ‘Why do you circle to the left?’ They replied: ‘I am a mourner,’ and they were blessed: ‘May the One who dwells in this house comfort you. If they replied: ‘Because I have been ostracized,’ they blessed: ‘May the One who dwells in this house inspire them to draw you near again,’ according to Rabbi Meir. But Rabbi Yose challenged him: ‘you make it seem as if the community treated him unjustly. Rather they should bless, ‘May the One who dwells in this house inspire you to hear the words of your community so that they may bring you close again.’”

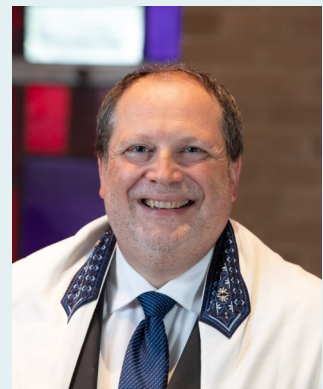


Outside the entrance to the holiest space in the Jewish world, a sort of circle dance took place that brought the spiritually wounded bereaved and those who transgressed face to face with each member of the community, each of whom offered a blessing.

In her new book, [The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend Our Broken Hearts and the World](#), Rabbi Sharon Brous, founder of the radically innovative Los Angeles congregation IKAR, uses this text from Mishnah to

ground her teaching. “Two thousand years ago, the Rabbis constructed a system of ritual engagement built on a profound psychological insight: when you’re suffering...you show up. You root your suffering in a context of care.”

This is the foundation of what Brous calls the *amen effect*: “The very human longing for connection – in our most intimate relationships, in community, with strangers, perhaps with God... The amen effect is an argument for the sacred and life-changing power of true heartfelt encounter.”



In 189 pages of concise, beautiful prose, Brous skillfully weaves together personal anecdotes, theological insights, and social commentary to paint a compelling picture of the *amen effect* – the ripple effect of actions that transcend individual boundaries and touch lives in unexpected ways.

Through stories of reconciliation, forgiveness, and social activism, she demonstrates how personal presence can be a powerful tool for addressing societal injustices and promoting human dignity. While the context is decidedly spiritual, the book is also a call to action: our presence and our connection to one another are essential to living in Jewish community — or anywhere.

*The Amen Effect* is a beautiful and exciting prescription for the disconnection so many are experiencing in a post-pandemic society that is politically and culturally fraught. I commend this uplifting book of practical wisdom, presented in the voice of one of America’s most prominent Jewish spiritual leaders.

*Rabbi Meir*



## ISRAEL AT WAR: A VIEW FROM THE GROUND WITH SAM SOKOL ON MARCH 17

Israel lost over 1,200 people on October 7, when thousands of Hamas terrorists burst through the Gaza border, launching a war which has dragged on for months — leading to tens of thousands of deaths and leaving both Israelis and Palestinians wondering what’s next.

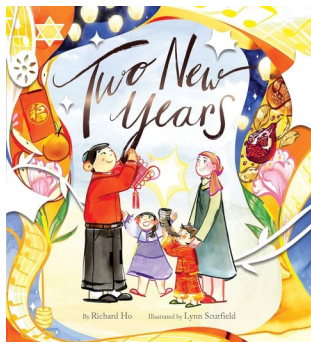
Please join us on Sunday, March 17 at 3 p.m. on Zoom to hear from [Sam Sokol](#), political correspondent from *The Times of Israel*, who has been covering Israel’s war against Hamas, both on the ground in the south and in the halls of the Knesset.

He has reported from Israel for the past 15 years and previously served as a correspondent for *Haaretz*, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and *The Jerusalem Post*. Sokol also is the author of [Putin’s Hybrid War and the Jews](#), a book about Russia’s weaponization of antisemitism and the [destruction of eastern Ukraine’s Jewish communities](#).

The program is sponsored by [Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#) and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) with support from the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation.

## CHECK OUT OUR AWARD-WINNING TITLES IN THE TEMPLE LIBRARY!

The [2024 Sydney Taylor Book Award Winners](#) winners were announced recently, and all the titles are now available for checkout in your [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#). The award recognizes books for children and teens with Jewish content.



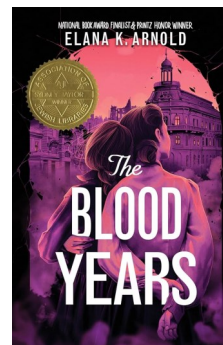
In the picture book category, *Two New Years* by Richard Ho, is the gold medal winner. This Rosh Hashanah book introduces the celebration of both the Jewish and the Lunar New Year. Silver medalists in the picture book category include *Afikomen* by Tziporah Cohen, *Hanukkah Upside Down* by Elissa Brent Weissman, and *Elisa Boxer's Hidden Hope: How a*

*Toy and a Hero Saved Lives During the Holocaust*. This last title tells the story of a Jewish girl in the French Resistance. Susan Tarcov's *The Rabbi and His Donkey*, and *Zhen Yu and the Snake*, by Erica Lyons, were named Notable Picture Books.

The winner in the Middle Grade category is Mari Lowe's *The Dubious Pranks of Shaindy Goodman*. Set in an all-girls Orthodox Jewish middle school, the story follows Shaindy as she manages her relationships with her peers. Silver Medalists in this category include *Don't Want to Be Your Monster*

by Deke Moutlon, *The Jake Show* by Joshua S. Levy, *Not So Shy* by Noa Nimrodi, and Susan Lynn Meyer's *A Sky Full of Song*. *The Witch of Woodland* by Laurel Snyder was named the Notable Middle Grade Book.

Finally, in the Young Adult Category, the gold medal is *The Blood Years* by Elana K. Arnold. The novel was inspired by the author's grandmother's experience in Romania during the Holocaust, when her town was invaded by both Russian and German armies. Silver medalists in the Young Adult category include Neal Shusterman's graphic novel, *Courage to Dream: Tales of Hope in the Holocaust*, *Going Bicoastal* by Dahlia Adler, *Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Europe* by Steve Sheinkin of Rabbi Harvey fame, and *Wrath Becomes Her* by Aden Polydoros.

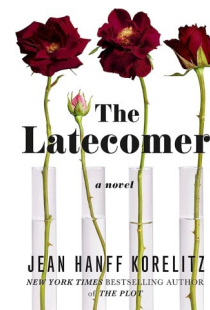


We hope you will take advantage of our library collection to check out these new titles. Self-checkout is available whenever the building is open. Let us know which ones you liked best!

## THE LATECOMER FOCUS OF TEMPLE BOOK CLUB IN MARCH

Our Temple Book Club will meet on Tuesday, March 12 at 7 p.m. on Zoom to discuss [The Latecomer: A Novel](#) by Jean Hanff Korelitz, followed by a conversation with the author. Named one of the best books of 2022 by NPR, as well as by the *New Yorker* and others, the novel follows the story of triplets born to a wealthy, Jewish family in New York, the Oppenheims. The book examines the relationship of the siblings when their parents decide to have a fourth child.

The Zoom link for our discussion will be included in the Temple's weekly email. The book is available in the Temple library.



## THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS PROVIDES SPECIAL ITEMS DUE TO GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Through the end of the school year, Thoughtful Thursdays plans to include some special items, such as fresh fruit, in the bags that we send home each month with the Brightpoint Head Start Children who attend class at the Temple. These extras are made possible through the continued generosity of the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and members of our Jewish community. A warm thank you to Suzi Stone for her extremely generous donation recently.

We will be sending home bags in March that include ingredients for a chicken noodle casserole that is popular among our Thoughtful Thursdays families. One mother told us it has become her family's favorite!

Thoughtful Thursdays is a project of [Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#) and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#), with support from the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation. If you are interested in volunteering for Thoughtful Thursdays, please contact me at [sartrotter@gmail.com](mailto:sartrotter@gmail.com). Our next bag assembly date is Wednesday, March 6 at 10 a.m. at the Temple.

**Remember, hunger doesn't stop just because there is inflation!**

Sally Trotter, Thoughtful Thursdays chair



# Youth News

## FINDING JOY THROUGHOUT THE MONTH!



As we move through the month of Adar, which occurs twice on the Hebrew calendar because it's a leap year, our activities will focus on increasing our joy!

The Talmud (Ta'anit 29) says, "When Adar enters, increase in joy."

Interestingly, I thought that this instruction would be found in *Megillat Esther* because I've always heard it associated with Purim. As it turns out, it actually comes from a section about fast days associated with Tisha B'av, where we are also told, "When the month of Av enters, decrease in joy." So, one takeaway could be that we are expected to maintain a stable baseline level of joy all year long, with an increase in Adar and a decrease in Av. Challenge accepted!

When was the last time you connected with your joy? It's gloomy and gray and the middle of a workday right now as I'm writing this, so I know for me it feels like it's been a minute. I took to the internet to look up "how to find joy" (I can only imagine what the algorithm is going to do with that now), and I found a few questions to ponder that I think could make for an interesting family discussion:

- When do you feel most connected to the world around you?
- What is something you miss doing that you could find a way to experience in a new way?
- What types of people make you feel valued?
- What is outside your comfort zone, but would feel great to accomplish or experience?
- What is something unique or goofy about yourself that sets you apart and makes you special?

Hopefully you enJOY learning something new about each other and end up with some takeaways for how to increase your joy this month.

We have a busy month together for Religious School, with Sunday values sessions on March 3 and March 17. Our JOY Vey group will meet on Friday, March 8. Our youngest students will also JOYn in the fun of hamentashen baking on Sunday, March 17. And we will have our congregational Purim spiel and carnival on Sunday, March 24. Looking forward to a very festive and JOYful month!

*Leise Rosman, Religious School Committee chair*



Religious School students learned about the mitzvah of welcoming guests (*hachnasat orchim*) and how to help people feel honored, relaxed, and at home. They made bookmarks for our siddurim to wish Temple guests a "Shabbat Shalom!"

## JOY VEY! A SHABBAT SERVICE FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

Please join us on Friday, March 8 at 5:30 p.m. for Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat for a playful and silly, yet peaceful start to Shabbat for the whole family!



We'll light candles, pray, sing songs, move and groove, and even practice mindfulness. We also embrace the tradition of blessing children as we make a joyful place for Shabbat in our lives and hearts... together. Meet us in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center on the second Friday night of each month. Folks are encouraged to stick around to enjoy a glass of wine/juice, challah, and dinner afterwards!



Our monthly Joy Vey group of families with young children gathered on February 9 at the Temple, led by Wendy Soltz with music by Evan Sexton. We learned about the Torah portion by playing interactive games. The kids danced and had a great time.

We recited the blessings and enjoyed challah before many families joined the fun at Souper Bowl Shabbat. Thanks to all who contributed to a lovely evening.

# INDIANA SYNAGOGUES FOCUS OF NEIJGS AND 175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM



## Mapping Project and Restoration of Former Synagogue in Ligonier

The [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) is excited to welcome Dr. Wendy Soltz and Greg Merrell to the [ACPL Genealogy Center](#) on Sunday, April 14 at 2 p.m. for an afternoon of local history in conjunction with [Congregation Achduth Vesholom's](#) 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

- 2 p.m. – **Indiana Synagogue Mapping Project** - [Dr. Wendy Soltz](#) will go over the digital map and its functionality and will demonstrate what information one can glean from data visualization platforms as she has help to preserve and document the synagogues across the state of Indiana.
- 3:30 p.m. – **Ligonier Restoration** – Greg Merrell will relate how he and his wife Stacey have purchased the former synagogue, [Ahavath Shalom](#), from Indiana Landmarks in an effort to convert a historic property into a home.



Director of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society. Over the course of five years and a grant from the National Parks Service, Wendy has made 45 survey stops and has conducted archival research to reveal and document 66 purpose-built synagogues across the State of Indiana from 1865-2015.

Greg Merrell is an I.T. Director for an Illinois-based consulting firm. He and his wife, Stacey, had always wanted to live in non-conventional housing. With roots in Indiana but requiring a quicker commute via the South Shore Line into Chicago, Greg and Stacey moved North. Thus began a two-year project to convert Ahavath Shalom Synagogue into a Home.

This program is in-person at the Genealogy Center. If you are unable to attend, [register to join us online](#).

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

Wendy Soltz, a Temple member, is an Assistant Professor of History and Director of the Public History Program at Ball State University. She regularly works with the public and non-profits to curate exhibitions, organize collections, and assist in historical programming. Wendy conceived of the Indiana Synagogue Mapping Project in 2018 while she was the Executive

Please contact Pamela Friedman at [vp@NEIndianaJGS.org](mailto:vp@NEIndianaJGS.org) for more information.



## A LOOK AT HISTORY WITH DR. GARY ZOLA

As our recent scholar-in-residence, Dr. Gary Zola, Executive Director Emeritus of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati, offered stimulating presentations, informal teaching moments, and opportunities to gain new perspectives on history and current events.

On February 22, Dr. Zola led us on in an engaging text-study exploring “George Washington, Jews, and the Story of Religious Freedom in America.”

On February 23, Dr. Zola joined members of the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society for a guided tour of the Lincoln Collection at the Rolland Center at the Allen County Public Library. Thanks to the Lincoln librarians and Curt Witcher, manager of The Genealogy Center and Director of Special Collections.

Later, during our Shabbat service, Dr. Zola discussed “The Future of The Past: The Meaning of our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,” reflecting on historical lessons from Achduth Vesholom’s



remarkable longevity and durability. [Listen to his sermon](#). Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sponsors for their support.





## GREAT SESSIONS WITH LEGACY RABBINIC SCHOLARS

[Rabbi Rachel Greengrass](#) joined us via Zoom on January 30 for the second in our Legacy Rabbinic Scholars Series. Her program, "The Real Housewives of the Talmud," highlighted the presence of women in Judaism's compendium of law and lore. These "housewives" were wise, assertive and often had great influence over the sages in Talmud. The participants shared a few moments of laughter and amusement at some of the rather spicy excerpts. Rabbi Greengrass is an associate rabbi at Temple Beth Am in South Miami-Dade County.

[Rabbi Jen Gubitz](#) taught us about Mussar on February 20 on Zoom about the foundations of Mussar, a Jewish tradition of self-improvement through spiritual reflection. It was a special treat to learn and to connect with many former congregants, including Rabbi Gubitz' parents, Charlene and Jeff Gubitz.

Our Legacy Rabbinic Scholars are "children of CAV" who discovered a love of Judaism at Achduth Vesholom and later became rabbis. [Rabbi Jonathan Greenberg](#) also spoke in January. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its support of the series and our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sponsors.

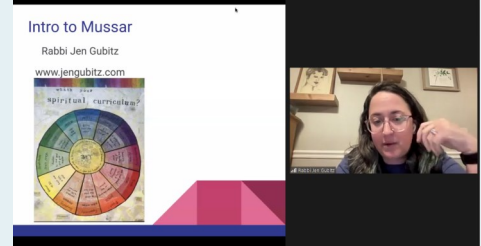


Photo Courtesy of FWMoA



## 175<sup>TH</sup> ART EXHIBIT SERVED AS ILLUMINATION IN TIME OF DARKNESS

After a 2 ½-month run of interesting, thought-provoking and educational art, history and commentary, the collaborative art exhibit between Congregation Achduth Vesholom and the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, called "Jewish History and Art Illuminated: 175 Years of Congregation Achduth Vesholom," came to a close on January 28, 2024.

It began as an idea generated from the Temple's Art and Beautification Committee in celebration of the 175th anniversary activities. It would incorporate art created by Jewish artists who were a part of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art collection, as well as Judaica, art and artifacts from the Temple's collection. It would bring together themes within the art and tie those themes into 175 years of Jewish life and history that connects Achduth Vesholom, this community and our world.

It was a tall order, but thanks to the knowledge and skill of Dr. Wendy Soltz and the all-in attitude of the Museum and Temple staff, it was a resounding success. The opening reception on November 19 and Wendy's popular and "sell out" talk kicked off visits and tours of the exhibit which were received with great interest and appreciation. It also came at a time when the understanding of our Jewish community, its roots and its connections was much needed. It served as a true illumination in a time of darkness.

Articles in the local newspaper, business journal, and arts magazine inspired additional visitors to see the exhibit.

And most recently, it was nominated for an Arts United Award in the area of "Outstanding Artistic Endeavor" by the Fort Wayne Museum of Art.

For those of us who helped generate the idea, played a part in the exhibit's creation and execution, and experienced the result, it was a privilege. It has received so much positive feedback from the Museum staff, as well as from others who have seen the exhibit.

Thank you, Art and Beautification Committee, Temple leadership and community for your amazing interest, support and guidance.

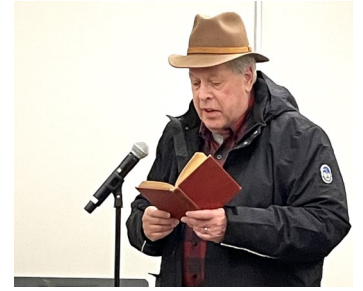
*Sharon Eisbart and Wendy Soltz*

*Co-Curators of "Jewish History and Art Illuminated: 175 Years of Congregation Achduth Vesholom"*

From top left, clockwise:

1. FMoA 175 Years Exhibit
2. David Schonbrunn, "Representation of Torah Ark Curtain" Acrylic on Canvas, c, 1960, Loan from CAV





## TEMPLE TALENT SHOWCASED AT BEIT CAFE

CAV's got talent – and our Beit Café Coffee House on February 3 provided the perfect showcase! The entertainment offered by our Temple family covered everything from a “Bubbie” telling jokes to a Mozart selection on French horn and piano, from the Spy Run String Band to vocals of R'tze from Jewish liturgy and the Great American Songbook, from a poetry reading about “The Cremation of Sam McGee” to song requests played by Maestro Robert Nance.

Our hospitality crew shared CAV talent in a different format that featured an array of delicious coffees and decadent desserts, with tables decorated with candles and coffee beans.

Thank you to Rabbi Meir, Maestro Nance, and the wonderful performers! Special thank you to Ashlee Bickley McCrory, mezzo-soprano with Heartland Sings, for sharing her amazing voice with us.

Thank you to Beth Zweig, Fran Adler, Dawn Hammond, and Irene Walters for the delightful refreshments and to our Temple team of Samara Sheray, Cheri Buker, and Timmy Oberley for all their help.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sponsors for their support of the Beit Café. Thanks also to our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Co-Chairs Kathy Sider and Beth Zweig.



## SPECIAL MEETING SET (from page 1)

### Special Congregational Meeting— Vote on Bylaws

- Wednesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. (in person and on Zoom)

Absentee ballots are available by contacting the Temple at [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) or (260) 744-4245. Members in good standing are eligible to vote, with a maximum of two votes per household. Absentee ballots must be returned by the start of the meeting. Changes to the Bylaws require approval by 2/3 of the members eligible to vote.

During two virtual Town Hall meetings in February, President Ronnie Greenberg presented the proposed changes and answered questions from members. Nearly 40 congregants attended one of the gatherings, which covered more in-depth financial topics such as the Endowment and special reserve funds and other topics related to Temple operations.

**Two overarching reasons prompted the need to review our Bylaws. The first is the implementation in the past year of a**

**partnership model of operation.** In this new flatter, less hierarchical model, the Rabbi, the Executive Director (ED) and the board are on an equal level on the organizational chart, and the position of the ED has been professionalized. The Rabbi and ED still report to the full board but are elevated into more authoritative, leadership roles, which allows the board to detach from operational issues and focus on strategic issues. This reassignment of responsibilities required revisions in the Bylaws to the duties of the officers of the board and the duties and structure of committees.

By way of example, rather than dictating how many members must be on each committee, the proposed Bylaws require that the members of a committee reflect the diversity of our congregation. Except for the five standing committees – Executive, Board Development, Resource Development Finance, Religious School and Ritual – no other committees are mandated, leaving us free to form committees or task forces as the need exists.

**The second reason driving the need for revision was to give the board more flexibility, particularly in financial matters.** The board, which is elected by the congregation and is the congregation's representative, has the responsibility



for the financial health of the congregation. **Three major changes are proposed to provide the board with more tools to accomplish this.**

**The first is a change to the total amount of unbudgeted expenditures the Board has the authority to approve without seeking Congregational approval.** That amount is currently 8% of the annual expense budget and the proposal is to increase that to 10 %. This amount is thought to be more reasonable given recent inflation rates and provides the Board more flexibility in handling emergency situations.

**The second change is to the annual payout allowable from the Endowment Fund.** The current Bylaws allow the Board to adopt an annual payout not to exceed five (5) percent of a rolling average of the prior three years' value as determined on December 31. The new wording states that the Board may adopt an annual payout from the Endowment Fund in an amount necessary to decrease a deficit in the following year's budget, endeavoring not to invade the principal of the Fund.

Upon initial reading, this may seem like giving the Board carte blanche to use the Endowment Fund. That actually is NOT the case. The payout adopted from the Endowment each year is clearly shown in the congregational annual budget, which must be approved by the Board and subsequently approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. In other words, the congregation has the final say on the use of the Endowment Fund through the annual budgeting process.

As prices of everything have increased and as we are endeavoring to pay our employees a competitive and fair wage, we increasingly have found ourselves bringing a deficit budget to the congregation. But a deficit on paper translates to a funding shortfall in real life. In order to continue to provide the outstanding programs and services our congregants appreciate, as well as to continue to maintain our beautiful building, we need to find a way to cover the deficit. Dues increases can only go so far. I'm sure we all agree that cutting back on programming, building maintenance or compensation for our staff would be unwise and shortsighted. The board believes that using the Endowment Fund as necessary is the responsible thing to do.

**The third change to provide more flexibility to the Board and the organization is the addition of an article allowing the suspension of any rules in the Bylaws for a specified period of time.** A suspension would require a 2/3 vote of the congregation, the same as for amendments to the Bylaws. We may never use this option but, according to Robert's Rules, we cannot ignore or suspend any part of the Bylaws if we have not made provision for doing so in the Bylaws.

If you have questions, please contact Ronnie Greenberg or Finance Vice President John Stein.

Please plan to attend this special meeting to vote in person or virtually in real time. Or request an absentee ballot.

Your voice and your vote are critical.



## A SUPER SOUPER BOWL SHABBAT!

The Temple's Souper Bowl Shabbat was, well, super! Crockpots filled with delicious homemade soup created by our CAV chefs were available for adults and children to sample, followed by an opportunity to vote for a favorite in a friendly competition. Festive decorations added to the fun, which brought together congregants of all ages, including our Joy Vey families.

Eight outstanding soups were on the menu, including Italian vegetable soup; chili; chicken enchilada soup; potato cheese soup; and salmon chowder.

The people's choice top 3 winners: French lentil and carrot with chicken soup made by Samara Sheray (first place); wild mushroom and beef soup made by David Crell (second place); and Creole beef sausage, potato, olive, tomato soup made by Joanne McCrory (third place).

Our soup chefs also included Fran Adler, James Holstein, Cynthia Leigh, Sheryl Meritt, and Beth Zweig. Leftover soup will be utilized by the Caring Committee.

Thank you to Souper Bowl Chair Dawn Hammond and her team - Suzanne Hammond, Cynthia Leigh, Holly Leigh, Sheryl Merritt, Cheryl Schorey, Mimi Zelman, and Beth Zweig - for a lovely meal that also included salad and challah, followed by an enticing dessert table.

Special thanks also to Marcia & Denny Reynolds and Nola Katinsky for leading our Shabbat service.



## WHY IS THIS NIGHT DIFFERENT? FIND OUT AT CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

Passover begins on Monday evening, April 22 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 Tuesday, April 23 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.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, April 12 to the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org), and then follow up by sending your check made payable to "CAV - The Temple" [or pay online](#). When you RSVP, please indicate if you prefer a vegetarian entrée. Reservations must accompany payment. We will not be taking payment the night of the event.

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. Reservations after the April 12 deadline will be taken if space is available. An accurate count is needed to prepare the appropriate amount of food.



## SECURITY UPDATE FOR THE TEMPLE

Some of you may have seen recent disturbing news reports about a man charged with threatening the Jewish community of Fort Wayne. We want to reassure you that the security of our members and the Jewish community continues to be a top priority.

We are grateful that no direct, specific threats were made to the Temple, our members, or our campus partners, and that law enforcement officials are on top of the situation.

Our Executive Director Samara Sheray is in regular contact with local law enforcement officials, FBI, Homeland Security, and others to ensure the Rifkin Campus and our events are safe. Please contact us with questions or concerns.

## MEET OUR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

We're pleased to introduce Lily Noga, who began last month as our new Administrative Assistant in the Temple office.

Lily said she is thrilled to join the CAV staff and connect with the Jewish community in Fort Wayne. She grew up in metro Detroit, attending Hebrew School, NFTY events, and services as a member of Temple Emanu-El in Oak Park, Michigan. She attended Michigan State University, graduating with a degree in Advertising Art Direction.

Her professional background is in graphic design, textile design, and art direction. When she's not greeting you at the Rifkin Campus door or on the phone, she is likely designing textiles, gardening, cooking, and camping. She and her husband, Matt, are newlyweds and enjoy quality time together and with their dog, Mira, an Australian Shepherd.

### Thank you to Cheri Buker



We are grateful to Cheri Buker, who has been working with Lily in recent weeks. Cheri has been an important member of our team while serving temporarily as our Administrative Assistant covering a maternity leave in May through July, and again from November through February.

Often called "Aunt Cheri" by her Temple friends since she's the aunt of Executive Director Samara Sheray, Cheri is an active volunteer with Thoughtful Thursdays, the corned beef fundraiser, and in many other ways as a member of our extended Temple family.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR 22ND CORNED BEEF FUNDRAISER

Our Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser returns for a 22<sup>nd</sup> year on Thursday, November 7 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 sales of 1,800 meals! We raised a record \$29,688 for the Temple's general operations!

Thank you to Co-Chairs Micah Soltz & Amy Krouse and their team! Please plan to take the day off work to assist with the sale, as well as Prep Night on Wednesday, November 6. If you'd like to join the committee, please contact the Temple office.



## TEMPLE PURSUING NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES DESIGNATION

Congregation Achduth Vesholom has stood in the Woodhurst neighborhood since 1960, a shining example of mid-century modern architecture by Sigmund Braverman, a prominent Jewish architect who designed more than 40 synagogues in the United States and Canada.

Efforts are currently underway, led by Dr. Wendy Soltz with the support of the Temple Board, to seek designation for our building on the [National Register of Historic Places](#). The process is complex with long-term benefits if it proves successful.

A little background: The Woodhurst Homeowners Association is working with a consultant to pursue a Historic District nomination for the National Register of Historic Places in the Fall of 2024. They are working at a fast pace to secure the nomination because of the threat of cellphone towers being constructed in the neighborhood. Once Woodhurst is declared a Historic District, the cell towers would not be permitted in the neighborhood, and our Temple would be listed on the National Register.

However, if Woodhurst is declared a Historic District, then the Temple would be prohibited from pursuing an individual nomination to the National Register. An individual listing on the National Register is beneficial for several reasons. It allows us to tell our own story, preserve more of our history, and potentially protect our building in the future with the prestige individual listing holds.

Wendy, a Temple member who is an Assistant Professor

of History and Director of the Public History Program at Ball State University, presented this information to the Temple board on February 8, and the Board voted to allow Wendy to proceed with the individual nomination process.

In January, Wendy submitted a Determination of Eligibility for Congregation Achduth Vesholom for an individual nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and heard back on February 14 that the INDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology decided, "the building is eligible for the National and State registers for its architectural and ethnic heritage significance."

To proceed with the individual nomination, Wendy will need to conduct the research and writing and submit the nomination before the Woodhurst Homeowners Association submits its Historic District nomination in the fall.

Wendy said she plans to submit a draft of the nomination to the Temple's Museum Committee. Following their review, a final copy will be submitted to the Board and the INDNR DHPA office for review. At that point, the DHPA office may request some revisions/edits/additions. Once approved, they send it to the Department of the Interior/ National Park Service for listing on the National Register.



## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest members, Herbert & Diane Leshay, who joined the Temple in February.

Natives of New York, they have been married since 1985 and have three adult children. They lived in Yaphank, New York; Charleston, South Carolina; and Poinciana, Florida, before moving to Fort Wayne in December to be near family. Diane's son and daughter-in-law, her grandson and granddaughter-in-law, and two great-grandchildren live nearby.

While living in Yaphank, Herb served as president of Congregation Shaaray Tefillah. He later served on the board Temple Beth Shalom in Winter Haven, as well as Brotherhood president.

They are interested in participating in membership, worship, and adult education at the Temple.



## REGISTER FOR JEWISH SUMMER CAMP

[Goldman Union Camp Institute](#), our regional Union for Reform Judaism camp in Zionsville, provides campers from Achduth Vesholom with a heightened sense of Jewish community and spirituality, along with new friendships.

[Registration is open](#) for summer 2024 at GUCI for children entering 3<sup>rd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) for Campership information.

Campership Chair Brian Rosman also can answer questions. Your child also may be eligible for a need-blind grant up to \$1,000 this summer through the [Foundation for Jewish Camp](#).

## ESCAPE TO SHANGHAI AT ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

"[Escape to Shanghai](#)," a virtual reality film telling the story of Temple member Doris Fogel z"l, will be featured in March at the [Illinois Holocaust Museum](#) in Skokie.

Created by Illinois Holocaust Museum and award-winning production company East City Films, *Escape to Shanghai* allows audiences to accompany [Doris Fogel](#) on her epic journey from Nazi Germany to Shanghai, China, as her family made a temporary home and a new life cut off from the horrors playing out in German-occupied Europe.

After witnessing Doris' firsthand experience of *Kristallnacht*, the Night of Broken Glass, audiences travel with Doris from Berlin, Germany to the Hongkew area of Shanghai, China, where she lived in a single room with five family members amongst 20,000 Jewish refugees.

Doris died at age 89 on December 13, 2023.

She was a past president of Congregation Achduth Vesholom and a past president and former Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.

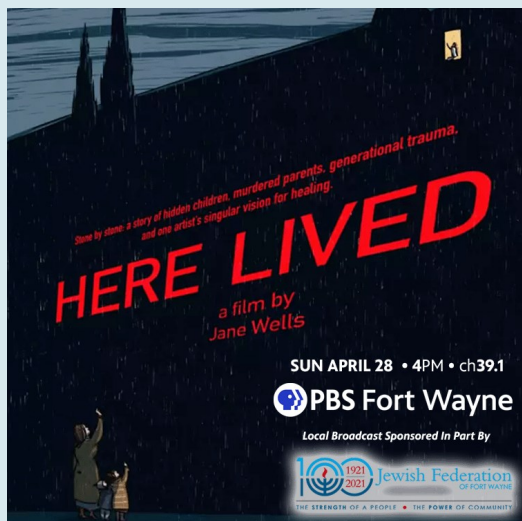


## THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH ISRAEL

[Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#) and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) thank all of you who supported the We Stand With Israel - Swords of Iron - campaign.

One hundred percent of the funds raised were immediately sent to the [Jewish Federations of North America](#) for distribution to Israelis needing a multitude of assistance.

The Fort Wayne Swords of Iron fundraising efforts have concluded. While the campaign is over, the need is still great. The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne will continue to accept contributions. [Donate here](#)



## “HERE LIVED” DOCUMENTARY TO AIR ON PBS

[Here Lived](#) is the story of hidden children, murdered parents, generational trauma and one artist's singular vision for healing. Produced by 3 generations films, it is the story of a German artist creating small monuments on the streets of Europe of people lost in the Holocaust. It's also the story of survivors of Nazi victims looking for some connection to their lost families. Ultimately it is a story of the beauty of discovery, love, and reconciliation and the unimaginable sadness of the Holocaust.

Sponsored by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#), the program airs on [PBS Fort Wayne](#) (39-1) on Sunday, April 28 at 4 p.m.; on PBS Explore (39-4) on Monday, April 29 at 2 p.m., Wednesday, May 1 at 11 p.m., and Thursday, May 2 at 9 a.m.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.

## ROSH CHODESH GROUP TO TOUR DEBRAND FINE CHOCOLATES

On Wednesday, March 13 at 6 p.m. the ladies of the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's](#) Rosh Chodesh group will take a delicious tour of [DeBrand Fine Chocolates](#) at 10105 Auburn Road.

This event is free to Federation members; all others will be charged \$10. RSVP to [office@fwjf.org](mailto:office@fwjf.org) or leave a message at (260) 456-0400. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.



## SAVE THE DATE: YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

The [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne's](#) annual Yom HaShoah commemoration will take place on Monday, May 6 at 7 pm. More details to follow.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.



**YOM HASHOAH**  
FORT WAYNE HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

## Donations

### B'nai Jacob Conservative Judaism Fund

In memory of Meir Fichman: *Ann Fichman*  
In memory of Irvin Friedman: *Pam & Ronald S. Friedman*  
In memory of Helen Zaslowsky: *Adrienne Brateman*

### Campership Fund

A donation was received from *Rabbi Rachel Greengrass*

### Holocaust Memorial

In memory of Doris Fogel: *Carol & Larry Adelman*

### General Operations

A donation was received from *Juan Suarez; Leslie Nirdlinger; Cynthia Leigh; Kroger Marketplace*  
In memory of Doris Fogel: *Susie Ferkel*  
In memory of Jacob Schwartz: *Donna & Josh Tourkow*  
In memory of Esther Congress:  
*Marcia & Dennis Reynolds*  
In memory of Abraham Edelman: *Debra Edelman*  
In memory of Ruth Kepes: *Micki & Sherwin Kepes*  
In memory of Harry Rush: *Jo Ellen & Mike Rush*  
In memory of Barbara Berger:  
*Jonathan & Jamie Berger*  
In memory of Rikki Goldstein: *Carol & Larry Adelman*

### Library Fund

A donation was received from *Rachel & Geoffrey Gordon*

### Kathryn Kann Mendelblatt Cultural Enrichment Fund

In memory of Samuel Rothberg: *Deborah A Rothberg*

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation was received from *Dawn Hammond; Mindy Blackstock; Cristene I. Sargent*  
In honor of Bayla Blackstock's Bat Mitzvah: *Ellen Berman*  
In honor of Rabbi Meir Bargeron: *Janet Finkel*  
In memory of Abe Kaplan and Rose Ochstein Kaplan:  
*Susie Miller*  
In memory of Robert Hochberg: *Adam Hochberg; Ina Hochberg*  
In memory of Manuel King: *Suzi & Jim King*  
In memory of Hannah Zacher: *Al Zacher*  
In memory of Helen Rath: *Irene & Bob Walters*

### Religious School

In honor of Joy Vey: *Kate & David Crell*  
In honor of his parents Norm & Ronnie Greenberg:  
*Rabbi Jonathan Greenberg*

### Temple Gardens Fund

In memory of Marlene Glickman: *Rita & Mike Lewis*  
In memory of Lynn Cohen and Jennifer Cohen:  
*Elissa & Steve Cohen*

### Thoughtful Thursdays

A donation was received from: *Amy & Sam Krouse; Jessica and Roger Ash; Suzi Stone Schreiber*  
In memory of Estelle Salnitsky: *Rita & Tom O'Neill*

### Souper Bowl Shabbat

A donation was received from *Dawn Hammond; Ruthann Stuckey Greutman*

**Explore all our Tribute Funds or make a Donation**



### MAZEL TOV TO:

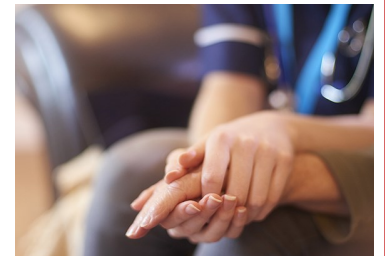
**Amy & Sam Krouse** on the birth of their daughter, Miriam Eliza Krouse, on February 13, 2024 in Fort Wayne. Congratulations to big brother, Noah, and big sister, Ruth!

## MISHEBEIRACH HELPS US COME TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

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

Names will remain on the list for four weeks. For those who wish to have a family member or friend's name listed for longer, please contact us to make another request. Thank you for helping us keep your list current. You also may share your loved one's name during services when the service leader asks for additional Mishebeirach names.

[Learn more about the Mishebeirach prayer.](#) Rabbi Meir and the Temple's Caring Committee are available to offer support and comfort, so please let us know when situations arise where we may be of help. We are a kehillah kedoshah, a holy community. Our Temple family supports one another during difficult times and joyous ones.



## BECOME LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBER WITH 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](mailto:blzweig@msn.com).

## February Jahrzeits

### March 8-9

Robert Adams  
Phyllis Adele Agrue  
Jesse Amber  
Rebecca Appelbaum  
Josephine Bach  
Anatoly Berkovich  
Shalome Boudai  
Rose Burrs  
Ralph Clark  
Sarah Cohen  
Louis Dessauer  
Carrie Dessauer  
Mordacai Falakovicz  
Raymond Farhi  
Rosa S. Fishman  
Marian L. Frankenstein  
Fanny Gary  
Audrey Gerson  
Rose Goldstine  
Matilda Hallenstein  
Yetta Hassan  
Robert P. Hirsch  
Penelope Houseman  
Sam Jacobson  
Rose Ochstein Kaplan  
Dorothy Kay  
Morris Kaye  
Charlotte Korin  
Sam Kramer  
Frieda Kretzman  
Louis Kwatnez  
Harriet Lesser  
Jerry Lesson  
Edna Levine  
Elmer Lewis  
Nathan Liff  
Jim Long  
Anna Lee Marcus  
Sarah Kalver Max  
Ben Mocle  
Theresa Perlman  
Amy Pincus  
Paul Rath  
Ed Roberts  
Abraham Joseph Roseman  
Alex Rosenberg  
Harry Rosensweet  
Frances Rothenberg

Ida Rothschild  
Florence Rudin  
Arlene Sambur  
Eugene Schmidt  
Rose S. Schwartz  
Rose Schwartz  
Diane Spanjer  
Ida Stern  
William Warshauer  
Francis Weisberg  
**March 15-16**  
Regina Ackerman  
Isadore Babich  
Yochuonon Barton  
Rose Becker  
Daryoush Boudaie  
Perry Carson  
Betty Cohen  
Yetta Dessauer  
Abe H. Dubin  
Frances Schwartz Edlow  
Eddie Field  
Benjamin Friedman  
Dave Gold  
Lois Goode  
Abraham Goodman  
Helen Himelstein  
Ken Horwitz  
Joy July-Amber  
Sigmund W. Kann  
Abraham Kaplan  
Mildred Price Katzenstein  
Robert M. King  
Reuben Leb Komisarow  
Donald Kornspan  
Margot Krel  
Paul Lecher  
Becky Levin  
Miriam Light  
Bill Llewellyn  
Calla Lowenhar  
Sayde Marlin  
Joseph Mast  
Samuel Nemeroff  
Hannah Nirdlinger  
Stephen Pomerantz  
Esther Roseman  
Solomon Rothschild  
Herbert Rynearson

Estelle King Schaffer  
Julius Schwarz  
Elaine Shine  
Bee Siegel  
Florence Smith  
Melvin Smith  
Rosalie W. Solomon  
Isaac Sposeep  
Julius J. Stein  
Rose Sulzer  
Sigmund Teitel  
Doris Tillinger  
Edith Warschawski  
Minnie Weinraub  
Eve Weinswig  
Edie Zweig  
**March 22-23**  
Joseph Adler  
John Aichele  
Samuel Babich  
Racheal Barton  
Henry Baum  
Jacob Ben-Yehoshua  
Sam Berebitsky  
Walter Bordens  
Isaac Bosell  
Dorothy M. Brazy  
Joseph Chodash  
Molly Cohen  
Lynn Jeanette Cohen  
Louis Cremer  
Morris Dicker  
Lucille Doppelt  
William DuBow  
Lee Gilbert  
Ruth G. Haslacher  
Edith Horwitz  
Helen M. Isay  
Sam Kay  
Betty Lauferty  
Harry Leiberman  
Zalman Levine  
Alfred Levy  
Chester Lichtenberg  
Virginia Mayer  
Robert Samuel Mirman  
Calvin Prady  
Mordecai Rifkin  
Elizabeth Schwartz

Moses Strouse  
Irene Todd  
Jack O. Weil  
Nathan Weinstein  
Rachel Weiss  
Loni Wolf  
Thomas Zefo  
Louis Zweig  
**March 29-30**  
Mariana Apfelbaum  
Samuel Appel  
Herman Davis  
Semen Drozdov  
Goldie DuBow  
Rena Edlavitch  
Lois Levine Edwards  
Arnie Feinberg  
B. David Fishman  
Marx Frank  
Hazel L. Grove  
Louis S. Hallenstein  
Florence M. Hill  
Sarah Mildred Jacobson  
Joseph Klarke  
Helen LaPoff  
Isaac Lauferty  
Sigmund Lehman  
James Leib  
David Levin  
Moses Lichtenberg  
Monroe Marcus  
Shirley Ruth Marer-Brateman  
Mac Marlow  
Ronald Miller  
Nelson K. Neiman  
Harold J. Novitsky  
Norman Prady  
Ida Price  
Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt  
Madelon J. Rothschild  
Barbara Sachs  
Rebecca Safirstein  
Izidor Schachter  
Arnold Schaffer  
Barbara Hirsch Schreier  
Paul F. Schwartz  
Betty Joe Seligman  
Etta G. Sheray  
Sarah Steiber

### CONDOLENCES TO:

**Jeanine Smythe and family** on the death of her husband, Gary on February 10, 2024 in Fort Wayne.

### WE CARE

Please let the Temple office or Rabbi Meir know if a family member is in the hospital or if other situations arise when the congregation may be of assistance or comfort. We aren't always aware of situations unless family or friends notify us.

# THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION ACHDUTH VESHOLOM

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[www.templecav.org](http://www.templecav.org)

Charter Member of the Union for Reform Judaism  
 Meir Bargeron, Rabbi  
 Richard B. Safran, Rabbi Emeritus z"l

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 VP Finance: John Stein  
 Secretary: Amy Krouse

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Juli Dominguez	Brian Rosman	Mimi Zelman
Shai Hadashi	Leise Rosman	
Dawn Hammond	Kathy Sider	

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 Jamie Fritz: Comptroller [accounts@templecav.org](mailto:accounts@templecav.org)

### Temple Office Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 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.



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

Achduth Vesholom Congregation

Want to receive our newsletter?  
 Send your email address to [office@templecav.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@templecav.org) for information. President Ronnie Greenberg can be reached at (260) 483-6327 or [president@templecav.org](mailto:president@templecav.org).

The deadline for the April Bulletin is  
 Friday, March 15

## President's Corner Ronnie Greenberg



In early February, my granddaughter Lia (below) finished her eight-month combat basic training in the IDF's mixed-gender Search and Rescue Division. She was recognized for excellence in her platoon, which was decimated in the October 7 attack on her base near Gaza. Despite losing seven friends and being nearly untrained, Lia's actions under fire that day saved the lives of some 20 Israeli civilians – some of whom have since reached out to thank her.

Now, Lia joins the ranks of the hundreds of thousands of young men and women actively protecting Israel with their bodies and hearts. Although military service is mandatory in Israel, combat service is not, especially for young women. She could have easily evaded it. Yet she did not. And I am torn between immense pride in her choice and natural "Bubbie" concern for her well-being as a combat soldier during a multi-front war.

We have no comparable institution to the IDF in the U.S.. It is, of course, a military organization. But it is also part melting pot (Lia's platoon comprises religious and secular Jews, men and women, along with Druze soldiers), part socialization platform, part cultural and religious meeting point, part networking springboard for the future. In a time of deep societal division, the IDF remains a crucial force for Israeli social unification – something that we sorely lack here in the U.S..

What does this translate into on the ground? Think about the decisions our 19-year olds face: what university to attend, what to major in, which fraternity to pledge. These are serious decisions with serious *individual* repercussions, no question. Yet 19-year-old IDF commanders make decisions (often life and death decisions) for themselves, their comrades, and their subordinates. Think about the level of social responsibility and community commitment this engenders. When your actions at age 19 directly affect whether others of diverse backgrounds live or die, you learn that you have personal responsibility for both yourself *and* your peers. You learn that your choices have both individual and communal repercussions. Lia has learned, admirably, that she is Israel and Israel is her.

I mourn the fact that my granddaughter has faced mortal terror and lost so many friends so early in life. At the same time, I celebrate the fact that her IDF service has empowered her as a woman and a citizen – it's given her the opportunity to encounter the best part of herself and the best parts of others.  
 Kol Ha'kvod, Lia!

