

chailights

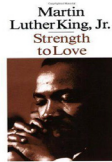
DECEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021



PLEASE JOIN US IN...

THE PEACE COMMITTEE BOOK DISCUSSION

Our first book selection is: "Strength to Love" By: Martin Luther King Jr.



The classic collection of Dr. King's sermons that fused his work as a religious leader with his radical ideas of love and nonviolence as a means to combat hate and oppression.

Group discussion: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 from 6pm -7pm

In the Rotary Zoom Room <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/714544439>

**The book can be purchased on Amazon or Target site for around \$18

We are thrilled to announce Reverend Bill McGill will be joining our discussion. Reverend McGill is Pastor of the Imani Baptist Temple and he is a powerful voice for reconciliation in Fort Wayne.



If you are interested in participating, please email Dee Hoffman - deehoffman@aol.com or Julie Bobay - jbobay@scibuild.com



VIOLINS of HOPE RETROSPECTIVE



Tune in to PBS39
Sunday, December 6th at 2PM

Violins of Hope Retrospective Concert
featuring world-renowned violinist

Vadim Guzman with pianist Angela Yoffe



NOTORIOUS RBG

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF
RUTH BADER GINSBURG

Exhibition offers in-depth look at RBG's life and groundbreaking career combating sexism and expanding equal opportunity



Based on the book and Tumblr page of the same name, Notorious RBG is the first-ever museum exhibition focused solely on the Judicial icon

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION TOUR

HOSTED BY ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Sunday, January 10, 2021 6:00pm

Email jakischreier@fwjf.org for more information.

Confronting the Shoah

Presented by : Dr. David Lindquist
February 2, 9, 16, 23 March 9 & 16

This 6 week class is FREE and open to everyone!

6 pm via Zoom

Register by: January 15, 2021 (260) 456 - 0440 or office@fwjf.org

This course provides participants with comprehensive contextual & historical knowledge regarding the Nazi Holocaust

Zoom link and program materials will be available to all registrants one week prior to class

Major funding for the program is provided by the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and by gifts to the JFFW's annual campaign

Our mission is to support the well-being and continuity of the Jewish people in greater Fort Wayne, in Israel, and throughout the world.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - JAKI SCHREIER



THIS HIT ME...

We at the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne send our sincerest wishes out to each of you during this particularly challenging time. We pray that you and your loved ones are remaining healthy and well.

While perusing the internet a few days ago (something I'm way too guilty of doing now), I came upon a lovely poem written by Nikki Banas. I liked it so much I wrote it out in the Gratitude Journal that I keep. It's about the importance of kindness.

*"You never really know the true impact you have on those around you.
You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them.
You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around.
You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk.*

This poem reminds me that everyone has challenges, many that are hidden from sight. When we are compassionate, we are recognizing our shared human condition. So don't wait to be kind, and don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone else to change. Just be kind, because we all need acts of generosity and caring.

The ancient Greek storyteller Aesop, once said, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." While we don't have control over another person, we do have control over ourselves. We can't make anyone else be kind, but that doesn't have to stop us from aspiring to be kind, no matter what. Being kind can also strengthen our relationships and sense of satisfaction in life. Research also links kindness to a wealth of physical and emotional benefits, as well as being an excellent coping skill for the COVID-19 era. Research finds that kindness can be the secret to a successful and fulfilling life. It's really that simple.

Our actions have a bigger impact than we might realize, so be kind to our loved ones, those we pass on the street, in our congregations, clerks in grocery stores, those whom we may differ with politically, and whomever we come into contact with. Just be kind!

Everyone is affected by an act of kindness; it is contagious; kindness improves our quality of life at home, at work and in our communities. It brings us together. Doing something good for others just feels good. We may all remember our parents reminding us to think before we speak and to ask ourselves, "Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?"

We've all heard the quote, "people may not remember what you said, or what you did, but they will always remember how you made them feel." Why not leave them with something positive?

Finally, remember to laugh throughout the day. Spreading joy is its own act of kindness!

We wish you a lovely Hanukkah and a REALLY GOOD 2021! Be well and be safe.

COVID-19 UPDATE FROM THE JEWISH FEDERATION

“ Kindness is realizing that we're all in this together. ”

- RAKtivist



The staff and leadership of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne are continuing to prioritize the health of our community as we move forward. Taking into consideration the constant number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and upon the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, we will remain closed to the public until further notice.

We continue to work on various programs and engagement opportunities in an effort to keep connected with our community. Our staff continues to work remotely and are available via email. We check our voice messages regularly in the event you prefer to call us. We will return your phone calls as soon as we are able.



Your Direct Connection to Israel

[Partnership2Gether \(P2G\)](#) is a program of the [Jewish Agency](#) and the [Jewish Federations of North America](#). The vision of P2G is to build a global and united Jewish people made up of a tapestry of strong, lively, flourishing and interconnected Jewish individuals, families and communities working together to enrich Jewish continuity, identity and cultural understanding between Jews in Israel and their peers around the world. [Read more here.](#)

From Our Friends at [Partnership2Gether!](#)

Along with 13 other U.S. cities and Budapest, Hungary, our Federation belongs to the Central Area Consortium, partnered with the Western Galilee area of Israel. Our members have benefited from programs we've offered with guests who've come from the Western Galilee to Fort Wayne, as well as opportunities to travel in our Partnership area. We are excited to share with you a diverse list of a la carte programs from our [Partnership2Gether](#). We invite you to sign up for the programs that spark your interest! These programs are a great way to engage with Jewish communities throughout our [Partnership2Gether](#) Consortium without needing to leave your home.

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL
הסוכנות היהודית לראשון ישראל
Every one of us, together.

PARTNERSHIP 2GETHER
WESTERN GALILEE CENTRAL AREA CONSORTIUM

HERE WE ARE
VIRTUAL TOUR
YOUNGSTOWN, OH
THE CITY OF YOU

A special tour through the sights
of Youngstown, Ohio, and its
Jewish community.

December 8 | 18:00 BUD
12:00 PM ET | 19:00 ISL

RSVP

Here We Are: Youngstown, Ohio! Dec. 8th @ 12 PM ET.

Join an exclusive virtual tour of
Youngstown, OH, The City of You!

[RSVP HERE](#)

In collaboration with the
Youngstown Area Jewish
Federation.



Virtual Exhibition and Gallery Talk
January 10th @ 1:00 PM EST

You are invited to join the opening of the CREATE2Gether Virtual Exhibition and Gallery Talk with artists from Israel, Budapest and the U.S.A.

[RSVP HERE](#)

Where can you get Kosher or Vegan items in Fort Wayne?

TRADER JOE'S®

[4110 W. Jefferson Blvd.](#)
[Fort Wayne, IN 46804](#)

[260-432-5828](tel:260-432-5828)

www.traderjoes.com



[6306 W Jefferson Blvd](#)
[Fort Wayne, IN 46804](#)

[260-459-9691](tel:260-459-9691)

www.thefreshmarket.com

PEMBROKE
BAKERY & CAFÉ

fresh breads, baked goods & gourmet deli

[300 E. Main Street, Fort Wayne, IN, 46802](#)

[260-247-7220](tel:260-247-7220)

pembrokebakeryandcafe.com



Healthy Vegan & Vegetarian Cuisine

[7605 Coldwater Rd](#)
[Suite A](#)
[Fort Wayne, IN 46825](#)

[260-489-8686](tel:260-489-8686)

lovingcafefw.com

Need Challah?



[2021 Broadway, Fort Wayne IN](#)
[260-420-5565](tel:260-420-5565)

georgesinternationalmarket.com



[Various locations](#)

www.panerabread.com

Happy Hanukkah

Lighting the Hanukkah menorah

Light the *Shamash*, the helper candle, first. Then say two blessings – one for lighting the candles, and one for miracles.



Use the Shamash to light the other candles, starting with the newest candle, on the left.



The candles are placed in the menorah from **right to left**, with one more candle added each night.

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, asher kideshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu lehadlik ner shel Hanukkah



Dear God, Creator of our world, thank You for giving us rules that make our lives special and for teaching us to light these Hanukkah candles.

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה

Amen

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, sheh'asa nisim lavoteinu bayamim haheim bazman hazeh



Dear God, Creator of our world, thank you for performing miracles for our ancestors, long ago and now.

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה

Amen

If it's the first night of Hanukkah, add a third blessing for celebrating.

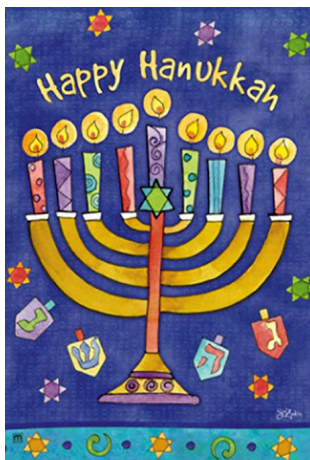
Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, shehecheyanu vekiyemanu vehigi'anu lazman hazeh.



Dear God, Creator of our world, thank you for keeping us alive so we can celebrate this important moment.

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

Amen



Happy Hanukkah!
Happy New Year!

From our Board of Directors
and Staff,

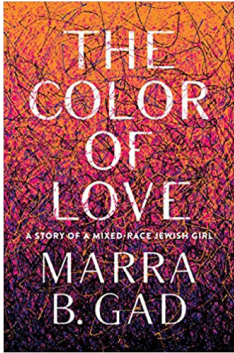
May you have a wonderful
holiday and a healthy new year!



FEDERATION BOOK CLUB



The Color of Love by Marra B. Gad



Marra Gad's memoir, *The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl*, is the story of her life as a biracial Jew.

She was born in 1970 to a white Jewish mother and a Black father. With the help of a rabbi in New York, she was adopted by a Jewish couple in Chicago. The rabbi hadn't been told that the baby's father was Black and, once the baby was born, told her parents they could change their minds; but they insisted that Marra was their daughter.

Marra writes about growing up in a very loving family, with two parents and a Bubbie who adored her and with a younger sister and brother with whom she is very close. In fact, she describes herself as "the luckiest girl alive" because of her close-knit family.

However, there were also hostile relatives, including most of her father's family, who made it clear that, in their eyes, Marra wasn't a legitimate family member. When any relatives or friends showed hostility toward Marra, her parents cut them out of their lives – with one notable exception: her mother's Aunt Nette, who adored Marra's mother and who was adored in return. Nette, married for the fifth time and with no children, lived with her husband, Zeit, near San Francisco.

Nette was always warm and kind to Marra's sister, Alisa, and Marra hoped for the same treatment. Nette repeatedly rejected her, but her abuse was subtle, never flagrant. The family (and Marra) made excuses for years, until Nette cruelly lashed out at Marra at Alisa's wedding, within hearing of all the family. They could no longer overlook her animosity, and the family had no contact with her for 15 years.

But then a social service agency in California contacted Marra's mother. Nette and Zeit were unable to care for themselves, and a state social worker was handling all their affairs. They had listed Marra's mother as their next of kin and executor of their estates. Nette had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and had been placed in a nursing home. Zeit was living in their home with a caregiver.

It seemed clear that the family had to do something, at least go and assess the situation; but Marra's mother had serious health problems and couldn't travel to California. Alisa was married with young children. Their brother refused to go. Marra, despite strong misgivings, decided she would go. At that point she was traveling to Los Angeles often for business, and a detour to the Bay Area seemed reasonable.

Marra didn't know what to expect. But when she got to the nursing home and stood in Nette's doorway, her great-aunt said, "They sent you? As if being trapped in this place isn't bad enough, they had to send you."

Thus began several years of painful and frustrating monthly visits, with Marra trying to improve conditions for both Nette and Zeit, despite the social worker's resistance. Nette jumped in and out of

lucidity. When she recognized Marra, she was hostile. When she didn't, she was warm and complimentary.

Eventually, Marra was able to move Nette to the Chicago area to be near the family. Marra vowed that she would have nothing more to do with her. But, in time, she did go to visit.

Marra was asked in an interview why she had cared for Nette after the treatment she had received. She answered, "Love is always a choice, and love in the face of hatred is a powerful choice. I made a choice to make sure Nette was cared for because I know what it is to be hated just because I exist in this form. If my parents had agreed with the rabbi who arranged my adoption, I would have been placed in the system as a difficult kid to find a home for. My parents truly embodied unconditional love. When you grow up in that kind of environment, even with other problems swirling around us all the time, I'm glad that's the Kool-Aid I drank."

Marra is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and holds a master's degree in modern Jewish history from Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University. She is an independent film and television producer and lives in Los Angeles.

Family members aren't the only ones who haven't accepted Marra. She writes about many incidents within the Jewish community – a lack of acceptance and understanding that she (or anyone) could be BOTH Jewish and Black. She has been asked in synagogues why she was at services. She has been mistaken for "the help" at meetings, including last year's URJ Biennial.

Sadly, her experience is far from unique. And we have the opportunity to learn from Jews of Color what kinds of discrimination they've faced and, ideally, help to eliminate it. Here are links to two videos and three articles that may offer insights:

YouTube interview with Marra Gad – St. Louis Jewish Book Festival
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdmKYW7R68s&feature=youtu.be>

"A message from Jews of Color" – URJ video
https://vimeo.com/426045696/33cc67e63f?fbclid=IwAR2BJN_QD0mLMAvnlBln51hX1JS1LY-DZl-nOtlmECL-9pvSSt8oaY_4LE

"My Black Jewish family's values were 150 years in the making"
<https://www.jta.org/2020/07/01/culture/my-black-jewish-familys-values-were-150-years-in-the-making>

"My mom is white and my dad is black. Don't call me a 'Jew of Color.'"
<https://www.jta.org/2020/06/16/opinion/my-mom-is-white-and-my-dad-is-black-dont-call-me-a-jew-of-color>

"We're a Multiracial Jewish Family. We Don't Have the Answers, but Here's a Place to Start

<https://urj.org/blog/were-multiracial-jewish-family-we-dont-have-answers-heres-place-start>

- review by Fran Adler



CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH US FROM YOUR HOME

Begin your weekend with Shabbat and share the warmth of Jewish community throughout December and January with our Temple family from your home via Zoom. Share in our Hanukkah celebration on Friday, December 11 and toast to a better year ahead with a glass of bubbly during Champagne Shabbat on Friday, January 1.

Rabbi Meir Bargeron will lead services on Fridays at 6 p.m. Ron Friedman will lead worship on Saturdays at 10 a.m., with Rabbi Meir offering a D'var Torah. Please have your candles and wine nearby when we say the blessings together.

We warmly welcome guests to join us for worship. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for information about accessing online services. Visit the Temple website at www.templecav.org for any schedule changes as dates approach.

KINDLE HANUKKAH LIGHTS TOGETHER ONLINE

Kindle the lights of Hanukkah and Shabbat together with our Temple family on Friday, December 11 at 6 p.m. via Zoom. Connect through the glow of candles and spirit of community online during this unusual period in our lives as we embrace the holiday with renewed strength and resilience.

Rabbi Meir Bargeron will lead us in worship and share insights about the story of the Maccabees' triumph over the Greeks and their rededication of the Temple. Have your candlesticks and hanukkiya nearby when we offer blessings for Shabbat and the second night of Hanukkah. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for information about accessing online services. *Chag Hanukkah Sameach!*

DELVE INTO TORAH WEEKLY WITH RABBI MEIR

Join Rabbi Meir Bargeron for Torah Study on Zoom when we delve into important lessons from the Torah. We'll meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on these Tuesdays: December 1, 8, & 15 and January 5, 12, 19, & 26.

This learning series grew out of robust discussions during our Shabbat morning services that demonstrated an enthusiasm and interest from congregants in nurturing and encouraging an in-depth study of Torah. Everyone who is post-B'nai Mitzvah and older is welcome. Guests are invited to contact the Temple office at office@templecav.org or (260) 744-4255 for access information.

We will begin by studying the weekly Torah portion, and may experiment with different formats. All that is needed is access to a *Tanakh* (Hebrew Bible). Free resources include Sefaria.org, a non-profit, free comprehensive library of Jewish texts. [Other options](#) for purchase may be found on the Temple website.





LEARN ABOUT POLISH AND GALICIAN RECORDS

Following a successful webinar with Photo Detective Maureen Taylor in November, the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society will present genealogist Mark Halpern on February 14th via Zoom. Mark works with JRI-Poland, JewishGen, the IAJGS and others helping others research their roots. He serves on the Board and Executive Group of JRI-Poland, is the founder of Bialystok Area Jewish Genealogy Group, and is on the Advisory Board of Geshet Galicia. Mark was honored in 2018 with the IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award.



On February 14th, he will present two virtual programs, both free and open to the public. The first, "The Basics of Jewish Research in Poland," will

begin at 2:00. At 3:30, he'll present "A Deeper Dive into Galician Records." Galicia, a province of Austria-Hungary that is now split between Poland and western Ukraine, is the place of origin for many American Jewish families. We hope you will plan to join us for these informative programs! Registration information will be posted on the Society's website at www.NEIndianaJGS.org.



NEIJS NEWS

More than 70 people from around the world attended Maureen Taylor's webinar for the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society in November. She spoke about immigrant photographs, displayed a wide array of old photographs and discussed the clues to be found in them. Following her free public webinar, members of the NEIJS joined Maureen for a "Roadshow" featuring photographs submitted by nine members of the organization. Maureen provided information for members to consider as they research their families and their photographs.

The NEIJS will be holding a workshop in January for its members. This virtual event will feature one-on-one consultations with more experienced researchers. Members will submit their questions or "brick walls" with their registration, and they will then be matched with someone to help them out. Anyone with membership in the Society will be eligible to attend the workshop. For more information about the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society, or to join the group, visit their website at www.NEIndianaJGS.org.



COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

COVID-19 COMPARED TO OTHER DISEASES AND CONDITIONS*



SYMPTOMS	COVID-19	FLU	COMMON COLD	MALARIA	DENGUE	ALLERGIES
FEVER	COMMON	COMMON	RARE	COMMON	COMMON	RARE
DRY COUGH	COMMON	LESS COMMON	LESS COMMON	RARE	RARE	LESS COMMON
TIREDDNESS	COMMON	COMMON	LESS COMMON	COMMON	COMMON	LESS COMMON
SHORTNESS OF BREATH	LESS COMMON	LESS COMMON	RARE	RARE	LESS COMMON	LESS COMMON
ACHES AND PAINS	LESS COMMON	COMMON	RARE	LESS COMMON	COMMON	RARE
HEADACHE	LESS COMMON	COMMON	RARE	COMMON	COMMON	LESS COMMON
SORE THROAT	LESS COMMON	LESS COMMON	COMMON	RARE	RARE	RARE
DIARRHEA	LESS COMMON	LESS COMMON	RARE	COMMON	RARE	RARE
STUFFY NOSE	RARE	LESS COMMON	COMMON	RARE	RARE	COMMON
RUNNY NOSE	RARE	COMMON	COMMON	RARE	LESS COMMON	COMMON
SNEEZING	RARE	RARE	COMMON	RARE	RARE	COMMON

*This table provides general information and is not a substitute for seeking medical attention. If you are worried about your health, please call your healthcare provider or your local COVID-19 telephone hotline, if possible.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP



Help is Available

We are very fortunate to have a Social Worker who is able and willing to assist any member of the Fort Wayne Jewish community in need of services.

She works for us as a volunteer, on an as-needed basis.

If you become aware of someone in the Jewish community who may need assistance at some point, please let us know. Obviously, this would be kept in the strictest of confidence. Contact us at (260) 456 - 0400 or office@fwj.org.

Help is Available



We know that during these trying times, we can all use a little help once in a while. For those in need, we do offer food vouchers and gas cards. Please call the [Federation office](mailto:office@fwj.org) at (260) 456 - 0400. All calls are confidential.



We are also accepting donations of gas cards. If you would like to make a donation, please send in a check with "gas card" in the memo or call the office.

Charitable Adult Rides and Services (CARS)

Do you have a car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or airplane that you no longer need or use?



Donating them has never been easier! Simply choose [CARS](#) and their trained staff will guide you through the donation process.

Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund



This Fund was set up to offer an interest-free loan up to \$2,000 to members of the Jewish community who are undergoing financial hardships. Please call the Federation office at (260) 456 - 0400 to speak to someone confidentially.



Our office will be closed the weeks of December 21 and 28.

While we are still working remotely, we will be back in the "office" January 4, 2021.

FUNDS AND DONATIONS

JEWISH FEDERATION FUNDS

ENDOWMENT

- Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund
- Baum/Goldenberg Scholarship
- Emergency Cash Assistance Fund
- Holocaust Education Fund
- Jewish Experience Fund
- JNF - Plant a tree in Israel
- Prejudice Reduction Elimination Fund
- Thoughtful Thursdays Fund
- **Community Relations Committee (CRC):**
To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.
- **Goldenberg Camp Joe Fund:**
Every year we get a number of requests for assistance with the registration for our three-week Camp Joe Levine Day Camp.



- **Janet Finkel Campership Fund:**
In April 2008, Audrey Gerson established the Janet Finkel Campership Fund in honor of Janet Finkel. This fund makes it possible to help youngsters go to a Jewish Camp or to a Music Camp.
- **PJ Library:**
Supports reading anytime of the day, but we know that many families sit down to read books at bedtime, in their pajamas. PJ Library books can be enjoyed any time you want a good story.
- **The Martha Rothenberg Replane Theater & Creative Arts Fund:**
This fund was created in Memory of Martha Rothenberg Replane to honor her memory and her love for theater and creative arts. The fund will be used to encourage theater and creative arts presentations and knowledge in our community.

Community Relations Committee

- A donation was received from **Jaki & Eric Schreier**

General Operating Fund

- Thank you to our **anonymous** donors.

DONATIONS

Holocaust Education Fund

- A donation was received from **Steve Carr**

JNF - Plant a tree in Israel

- Thank you to our **anonymous** donor.

every contribution is
hugely valued

thank
you!

JFFW Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name _____ Fund (pick from list) _____
 Donor Address _____ In honor of _____
 Donor City/St/Zip _____ In memory of _____
 Send card to: Name _____ Notes: _____
 Send card to address _____
 Send card to City/St/Zip _____

Send your donation and this form to:
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne
5200 Old Mill Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

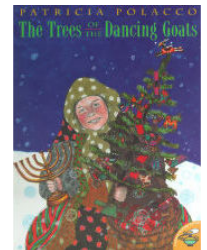
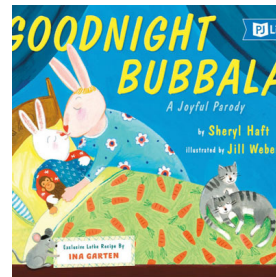
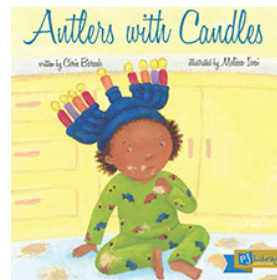
**R.O.M.E.O.s
(Retired Old Men Eating Out)**

Anyone interested in joining the ROMEOs for lunch can contact Denny Reynolds at (260) 637 - 0507 or dennisreynolds@me.com



Which books did you receive this month?

A program of the [Harold Grinspoon Foundation](#), PJ Library is made possible through partnerships with philanthropists and local Jewish organizations. Families with kids ages 6 months through 8 years old with Judaism as part of their lives are welcome to sign up.



2020 - 2021 Board of Directors

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(260) 456-0500 fax
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Bonnie Pomerantz
Administrative Assistant
office@fwjf.org

[PJ Our Way](#) is for kids ages 9-11. It is kid-driven - they choose their own books, creating a totally tailored experience based on their own interests and reading level. To make the choice easier, our website includes summaries and author bios, along with ratings, reviews, and video trailers created by members themselves. Kids can also take polls and quizzes, participate in monthly interviews and challenges, post their own reviews, and comment on blog posts.

