



chailights



AUGUST 2021

Havdalah under the Stars

The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne and Congregation Achduth Vesholom invite you to an evening of fun!

Join us Saturday August 7th at 7 pm

Little River Wetlands/Eagle Marsh
6801 Engle Road



Join us for a(n optional) 45 min guided nature walk, s'mores, and schmooze while participating in Havdalah led by Rabbi Bargerion and accompanied by music led by Norm and Ronnie Greenberg.

Bug spray and folding chairs recommended.

This event is free and open to the community.

Please RSVP by August 3rd

office@templecav.org (260) 744-4245

office@fwjf.org (260) 456-0400

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

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

This year marks the centenary of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne (1921-2021). This significant milestone offers the opportunity for Fort Wayne's Jewish community to reflect on its past and dream about its future.

The Federation's commemoration and celebration involves several interesting projects and programs, all of which will culminate in the Centennial Celebration scheduled for Saturday, November 13, 2021.

DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION

The most significant investment in the commemoration is the Federation's production of a three-part documentary (30 minutes/part) **100 YEARS: LOOKING BACK & MOVING FORWARD – Exploring The History of Fort Wayne's Jewish Community (1921-2021)**.

To know who we are and where we are going, we must know whence we came. History enables us to share ideas, values and experiences. It is the living source of our many shared cultural traditions.

The goal of the documentary is to not only explore the growth and vitality of Fort Wayne's Jewish community over the past century, but also highlight the significant role Fort Wayne's Jewish community has played in the growth and vitality of the greater Fort Wayne community.

The documentary will use archival photographs, materials, videotaped interviews as well as on-camera interviews with many of the current members of Fort Wayne's Jewish community. The lens through which the story of Fort Wayne's Jewish community over the past century will be told is through the significant role the Jewish Federation has played (and continues to play) and its accomplishments and achievements on behalf of both the Jewish community and the greater Fort Wayne community.

100 YEARS: LOOKING BACK & MOVING FORWARD looks to capture the story of how a small but determined group of Jewish individuals worked and continue to work to uphold Judaism's precepts – Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam – to be of service not just to Fort Wayne's Jewish community, but also the greater Fort Wayne community as well as to Jews around the world.

Please forward ASAP any information/materials or reach out to the documentary's production team should you have any comments/memories/details you would like to share, documentary@fwjf.org

CELEBRATE: 100 DAYS

For the 100 days leading up to the Centennial Celebration (November 13, 2021) the Federation is honoring its centenary with the dissemination of a daily newsletter **CELEBRATE: 100 DAYS**, August 4, 2021 – November 13, 2021.

The newsletter serves to celebrate Federation's century of work as well as offer ways to engage with Fort Wayne's Jewish community.

Every day subscribers will receive an Act of Kindness, a calendar of upcoming events/activities, a Remembrance of the Day and a Warm Fuzzy (a Jewish inspirational/thoughtful quotation, proverb or saying).

And we want you to assist with the celebration.

The daily **Remembrance Of The Day** showcases fun memories, stories, recollections, remembrances and recipes. We would like to ask you to share your stories and pictures from your family photo albums showcasing significant events, participation in Temple/Synagogue/Federation events/activities, Passover Seders, trips to Israel, etc.

We would also love for you to share fond memories and fun stories about your experiences and involvement in Fort Wayne's Jewish community as well as those "not-so-secret" family recipes for everything from challah to kugel, mandel bread, stuffed cabbage and other Jewish delicacies that could always be found on your Bubbe's kitchen table.

We want to use **CELEBRATE:100 DAYS** as an opportunity for us all to connect and celebrate the Federation's and the Fort Wayne Jewish community's history & happenings.

Please send your photos (with detailed caption information), stories, recollections and recipes to be included in the newsletter to celebrate100@fwjf.org. (But you better get them in fast as we only have 100 days to cover and the days are quickly counting down!)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANNUAL MEETING SPEECH - JUNE 6, 2021

Shalom and thank you for joining us virtually for the 100th annual meeting of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. Even though we aren't able to come together physically, we treasure this opportunity to share in the many accomplishments that the Federation has had. As we say, "Next year in Jerusalem" then I say "next year 'live' in Fort Wayne"!



Renaissance and Renewal.

It's clear during this Centennial year that the work of our Federation may be different and just, as if not more, challenging than when it began in 1921.... And there still is so much that needs to be done....

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, our Federation Board, led by Ben Eisbart, worked diligently to ensure the Jewish community does not waiver on its commitment to provide human services... and that we continue to advocate for a just social policy. We remain committed to our worldwide Jewish family, working to strengthen our spiritual and community link to Israel.... while many out there wish that she would go away.

I am very proud to represent the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. I find it hard to believe that it has been eight years since you honored me with the position of Executive Director. As I reflect on these past eight years and the challenges that we have faced together as a community and a people, I remain steadfastly optimistic, but make no mistake, I also remain concerned.

While the Jewish people as a whole share a great many things in common, we are also upended by divisions in our ranks that impede our central task, that of building and growing a strong, vital and cohesive Jewish community.

In this regard, I recognize the need to engage Jews of all backgrounds and especially that of our young people, both in our sacred work and in the joys of our traditions. Yes, differences of opinion on how to accomplish these sacred tasks, can not only be healthy, but also help us to understand better our complex problems, thus enabling us to successfully reach real solutions. If we stop listening to each other and stop caring about one another, it is then that I would be truly concerned.

Yet, I remain optimistic.... due to the fact that many lay leaders from our community and members of Federation, all of whom I've had the honor to work with represent the best of what Jewish principles and ethics truly are. In order to ensure a vibrant Jewish future for our children and grandchildren, all of us need to remain committed to making sure we preserve these core values.

These sacred virtues are based upon an understanding that each and every one of us has a responsibility to one another and to the world at large.... that is... to continue to repair and heal our World, consistent with the moral code of our Torah.

Remembering the lesson of the great teacher Rabbi Hillel, who, when asked to explain the meaning of the Torah said, "What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. Everything else is commentary. Go now and study it."

My hope is for all of us, as we look to the future, is that we try harder to hear and understand one another.

Because of our common values and traditions, we, as a people, have not only survived for over 3,000 years, but have made so many great contributions to better this world of ours. This is what now propels us to continue doing the sacred work of caring for people in need both right here in Fort Wayne and the world at large.

The Federation continues to be a positive voice in our community.

Even during this pandemic, we have managed to keep a busy and productive schedule. Additionally, through the miracle of ZOOM, we've been able to host virtual events and here are just a few of them:

- A Partnership 2Gether program with our sister Federations in the United States, Hungary and Israel, called "The Anthropology of Beer," led by our own Micah Soltz.
- "Pesach Cooking with Chef Marla" who entertained us all live, while teaching the secrets of preparing a delicious Seder meal.
- "The BIG RBG", a tribute to the Honorable Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, also live from the Illinois Holocaust Museum.
- Another year of a successful Teachers Holocaust Workshop, led by our friend Dr. David Lindquist.
- A Tribute to local hero, Minnette Baum - written and presented by our own Harriet Miller.
- "Confronting the Shoah" the annual in-depth Holocaust compendium six-week class, also taught by Dr. David Lindquist.
- A Virtual Yom HaShoah commemoration that included a beautiful service led by Rabbi Meir, music, personal video messages from Governor Eric Holcomb and Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry various readings from members of our Jewish community and a lecture on "How the Holocaust Happened," by distinguished professor of history Dr. Barry Jackisch.

Continuing the great success of Violins of Hope, the largest and most successful interfaith, organizational, business and community partnership in the city of Fort Wayne's 225 year history, we again joined with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and PBS 39 Public Television for an amazing concert titled, "Violins of Hope, A Retrospective".

The JFFW and our Community Relations Council continue to speak out on the malignant growth of anti-Semitism, regardless of where it comes from. We solemnly vow to continue being a strong voice, remaining vigilant against the perverse and fixated bias directed at the State of Israel and the virulent attacks both against Judaism as a religion and as a people.

The Federation has pursued and sponsored additional Holocaust-related programming for viewing on PBS 39. We continue to successfully expand Holocaust education in a number of school districts, including public, Catholic, and Lutheran schools. Our interfaith outreach continues to grow.

Our Federation successfully continues to work relentlessly to build positive dialogue and support for both Israel and our Jewish community with local, state, and national political and religious leaders.

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PRESIDENT ANNUAL MEETING SPEECH - JUNE 6, 2021



Today, my term as Federation president ends, having come full circle on a journey which began 49 years ago... when my wife, Sharon, 8 months pregnant at the time...and I packed up our household goods ...left our apartment in Hamden, CT, and traveled more than 800 miles to INDIANA...a state we had only known as the host of the “Indy 500” and a city - Fort Wayne – which we were familiar with as the home of WOWO... the BIG 50,000-watt station of “the BIG business of farming”...for I had accepted a job to be the executive director of the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation.

49 years have passed and we’re still here...and so you may ask...why are we still here? So I’ll tell you...

We found Fort Wayne a place where we could “do Jewish”...where we could translate values into impact. Where, together, we could build a better world.

Our Jewish Federation’s mission is to inspire Jewish life.

People come to Judaism in different ways, so we support initiatives in Jewish culture, education, and engagement....from arts to advocacy... we are creating a community that is welcoming and vibrant for all, regardless of religious background or affiliation.

We initiate programs to inspire Jewish life and hopefully respond to each individual’s search for meaning, connection, and community.

Together, we fund and nurture programs that provide access to a wide range of Jewish experiences – from Camp Joe to Community Relations...from “Violins of Hope” to speaking out against anti-Semitism, from teacher training about the Holocaust to Passover “goodie” bags...and so much more, the Federation enriches the lives of those it touches.

And how do we do this?

Nothing would be possible without the support of each donor within the community and our volunteers supported by our staff of Jaki, Bonnie (and her husband, Lee) as well as our co-religionists at the Temple.

And speaking of The Temple, I would be remiss if I didn’t note that during my 3 years a president, I had the good fortune of working with two special spiritual leaders – Rabbi Paula and now Rabbi Meir – and...if you’ll excuse the pun...I have been truly BLESSED!

Our rich Jewish tradition has survived because of our strong sense of community, our commitment to mitzvot and values: Chesed (kindness), Tzedakah (giving) and Tikun Olam (redeeming the captive).

All of these require partnership in daily Jewish life as a community, as a family.

The Federation works to improve Jewish life locally, nationally, and around the world. Whether by providing opportunities to perform mitzvot, or learning more about our history, we educate ourselves, making the experience of Jewish life as rewarding and meaningful as possible... in our little “Shtetl” ...of Fort Wayne.

On this, our 100th anniversary year of the Federation, we celebrate the rich heritage of our local community...a legacy and a treasure we must preserve and pass on. Through remembrance, education and preservation we safeguard the memories, the faith, and the deeds of those who came before us, as the greatest gift we can make to their legacy is to strengthen and build upon it for future generations.

Our activity year of 2020-2021, a year like no other, has proven to be a year of resilience requiring innovation...outreach...self sacrifice and introspection...we learned a lot about ourselves and a lot about our neighbors.

Our world has changed...no longer it appears will our life be “business as usual”. We have come through challenging and sobering times. But for us, as Jews, our response has never been to shirk from our responsibilities. It is during times like these that we must demonstrate how we can make the world...our world...a better place.

For as Hillel wrote, “If I’m not for myself, who will be for me? But if I’m only for myself, what am I? And if not now, WHEN?”

To our Federation “family”... Nothing is possible without you...to be there...to care...to be engaged in “doing Jewish”!

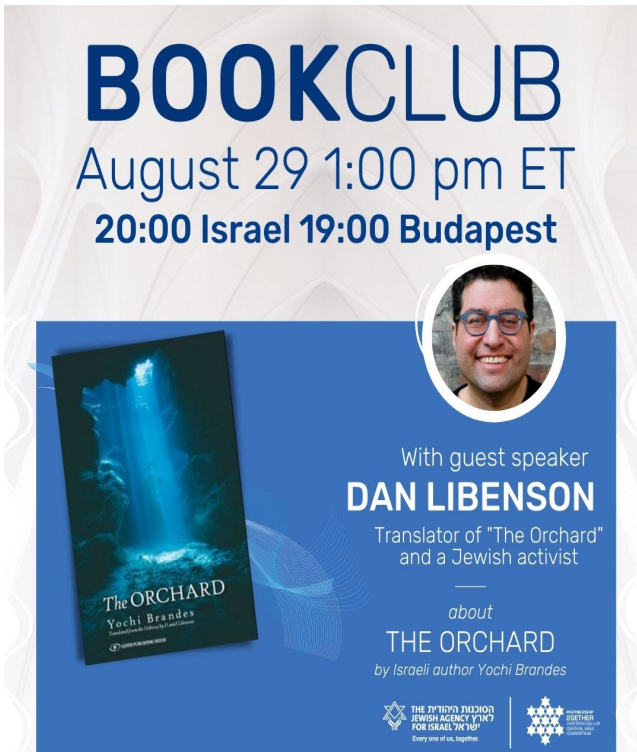
“May we go from strength to strength “

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.



BOOKCLUB
August 29 1:00 pm ET
20:00 Israel 19:00 Budapest

With guest speaker
DAN LIBENSON
Translator of "The Orchard"
and a Jewish activist

about
THE ORCHARD
by Israeli author Yochi Brandes

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

August 29th, 1:00 p.m. ET
12:00 p.m. CT | 19:00 BUD | 20:00 ISL

P2G Book Club

Join our international Book Club in discussion about the book: "The Orchard," by Israeli author Yochi Brandes. Our guest speaker is Dan Libenson, the translator of the book, and a Jewish activist in his own right.

[RSVP NOW](#)



RAISE A TOAST FOR THE
**HEBREW
NEW-YEAR!**

2021

September 12

1:00 p.m. ET | 20:00 ISL
12:00 p.m. CT | 19:00 BUD

SAVE THE DATE

September 12, 1:00 p.m. ET
12:00 p.m. CT | 19:00 BUD | 20:00 ISL

L'Chaim for Rosh Hashana

Join Partnership friends and family for a joint L'Chaim in honor of the Hebrew New Year. Gather in your community or join individually via Zoom.

[RSVP NOW](#)

What are we talking about this month:

10 Simple Summer Activities for Kids

When school ends and [summer break begins](#), many families find their schedules filling up quickly with activity after activity to keep the kids busy. After a while, all of those summer extracurriculars can start to add up. Here are 10 easy, everyday, and totally free activities you can do as a family in those quiet moments between [camp](#), [traveling](#), or catching up on your [summer reading](#): The best part about this list? All of these activities will help develop your family's sense of *hakarat hatov*, recognizing the good.

Go on a Play Date Outside



Meet up at a local park or garden. Set a summer goal to visit every playground in your neighborhood or city by the end of

the summer.

Have a Water Fight

Fill up some buckets, grab some spray bottles or squirt guns, and get ready to splash, splash, splash! The best part about a water fight? On a hot day, everyone wins!



Build a Fort in the Backyard with Family or Friends



Or, if you don't have a backyard, head to the living room and make one.

Ride Bikes

You'll get some exercise and get to take a tour of your neighborhood.



Play Outdoor Games like Tag or Hide-and-seek

Need some ideas? Here are [seven outdoor activities](#) that also keep kids sharp between school terms.



Climb Trees

Or spread out a blanket and lay in the shade. Don't forget your copy of *Thank You, Trees*



Make Mud Pies or Sand Castles



Or dig in the garden -- just go ahead and get your hands dirty.

Pick Flowers

Make a pretty bouquet for your [Shabbat](#) table!



Eat Ice Cream



Or try making one of [these cool treats](#).

Blow Bubbles

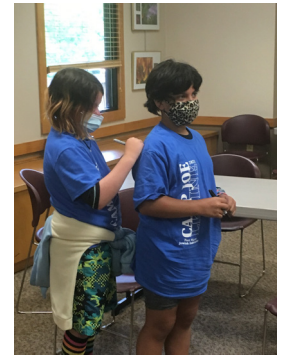
No matter what age you are, blowing bubbles is always fun. See who can make the biggest one.



<https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/june-2018/10-simple-summer-activities-for-kids>

campjoelevine

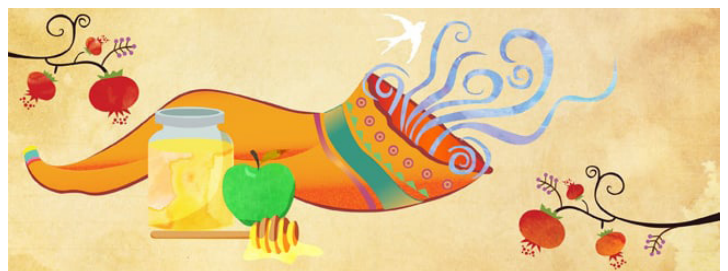
Camp Joe is back!
Summer fun at Fox Island!



HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE AT THE TEMPLE

Please join us in person or via livestream for worship services and events during the [High Holy Days](#) season. Additional information, including [COVID safety protocols](#), will be available at www.templecav.org.

- **Selichot Service & Memorial Plaque Dedication** – Saturday, August 28
 - 8:30 p.m. Begin the holiday season together with Havdalah and meditative prayer and readings as we change the Torah covers. We'll also dedicate yahrzeit plaques added in the past year.
- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Services** – Monday, September 6
 - 7:30 p.m. Reform service
 - 8 p.m. Traditional service
 - Reception follows
- **Rosh Hashanah Services** – Tuesday, September 7
 - **Traditional services**
 - 8:30 a.m. - Shacharit
 - 10 a.m. Torah service and D'var
 - 11 a.m. Musaf
 - **10 a.m. Reform Service**
 - **Noon – All-Congregation Tashlich**
- **Rosh Hashanah Service – 2nd Day** – Wednesday, September 8
 - **Traditional services**
 - 8:30 a.m. - Shacharit
 - 10 a.m. Torah service and D'var
 - 11 a.m. Musaf
- **Shabbat Shuvah Services** –
 - Friday, September 10 at 6 p.m.
 - Saturday, September 11 at 9:45 a.m.
- **Cemetery Services** – Sunday, September 12
 - 1 p.m. at Lindenwood Cemetery
 - 2:30 p.m. at Fort Wayne Jewish Cemetery
- **Erev Yom Kippur Services** – Wednesday, September 15
 - Traditional Service – Mincha at 7 p.m., Kol Nidre at 7:30 p.m.
 - Reform Service – 8 p.m.
- **Yom Kippur** – Thursday, September 16
 - **Traditional Services** –
 - 8:30 a.m. Shacharit
 - 10 a.m. Torah, Haftorah, D'var, Yizkor
 - 11:30 a.m. Musaf
 - 6:30 p.m. Mincha
 - 7:30 p.m. Neilah
 - 8:30 p.m. Havdalah
 - Break-the-Fast follows (Please RSVP)
 - **Reform Services**
 - 10 a.m. Morning Service
 - 3 p.m. – Afternoon Service
 - 4 p.m. – Yizkor Memorial Service
 - 5 p.m. – Neilah (Concluding) Service
 - Break-the-Fast follows (Please RSVP)
- **Erev Sukkot Service** – Monday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m., followed by Kiddush and Nosh in the Sukkah
- **Shabbat Sukkot Services** –
 - Friday, September 24 at 6 p.m.
 - Saturday, September 25 at 9:45 a.m.
- **Erev Simchat Torah Service & Congregational Meal** – Tuesday, September 28 – Dinner at 6 p.m. and service at 7 p.m.





CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH US

Begin your weekend with Shabbat and share the warmth of Jewish community throughout August with us in person with a reservation at the Temple or via Zoom.

Throughout the month, Rabbi Meir Barger on will lead services on Fridays at 6 p.m., including a special outdoor Friday Night Live service with [Heartland Sings](#) on August 20. Ron Friedman will lead worship on Saturdays at 9:45 a.m., with Rabbi Meir offering a D'var Torah.

Looking ahead: Please make a note that our Shabbat service on Saturday, September 4 will begin at 10 a.m., when we also celebrate a Bat Mitzvah.

Our [COVID safety protocols](#) are being updated so please visit our website at www.templecav.org for the latest information.

We warmly welcome guests to join us at the Temple or online. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org to make a reservation to attend in person or for information about accessing online services.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE WITH HEARTLAND SINGS, BBQ & BONFIRE

Our spirited Friday Night Live service moves outdoors for the first time at the Temple on August 20 at 6 p.m., led by Rabbi Meir with [Heartland Sings](#) on their mobile stage. Tap your toes, get on your feet, and share the joy of Shabbat with this lively worship experience.

Join us prior to services at 5 p.m. for a barbeque, with the Temple providing Hebrew National hot dogs and light sides. After the service, we'll have a "S'mores Oneg" around the newly built CAV fire pit.

Please bring folding/camping chairs or blankets/sheets to sit on and sticks to roast marshmallows. (Optional: Bring a favorite BBQ treat and/or refreshments to enjoy with dinner.) Bug spray is recommended.

Kindly RSVP for dinner by Monday, August 16 to (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org. Please visit www.templecav.org for updates.

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

SHARE THE HIGH HOLY DAYS IN PERSON OR ONLINE

When we celebrate the [High Holy Days](#) next month at Congregation Achduth Vesholom, we'll welcome the New Year 5782 as a community, gathering to hear the sound of the shofar and offering prayers for renewal, forgiveness, good health, and peace.

As we continue to navigate the pandemic, we'll offer Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services both in person and via livestream to allow a choice for our extended Temple family to participate in holiday observances in a way that's most

comfortable for them. Reform and traditional worship options will be offered for a third year.

Erev Rosh Hashanah begins on Monday, September 6, and Erev Yom Kippur begins on Wednesday, September 15.

The Temple's COVID safety protocols continue to evolve based on current recommendations from health officials. Updated information on changes to mask and social distancing guidelines for those who are fully vaccinated will be in place for the holidays. Reservations will not be required to attend services during the High Holy Days. [The latest COVID procedures](#) for the Rifkin Campus will be available at www.templecav.org.

Under the spiritual guidance of Rabbi Meir Barger on, the Temple's Board, lay leaders, and staff are preparing a meaningful and memorable High Holy Days experience. We look forward to welcoming Rabbi Ilan Glazer as our guest to lead traditional worship services during the holidays.

Two favorite Achduth Vesholom traditions return this year. The Rosh Hashanah Reception and the Break-the-Fast hosted by the ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out). More complete details of services and activities will be available at www.templecav.org as the holidays approach.

Guests are welcome to join us for the High Holy Days, both in person and virtually. Kindly review our [COVID safety guidelines](#). Links for worship services and online prayer books are sent directly to members. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for access information.

HELP PURCHASE APPLES FOR THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS FAMILIES

Help supply a bag of apples for each of the children who attend Brightpoint Head Start at the Temple through the 11th annual Thoughtful Thursdays Apple Project. This year Head Start is planning for the normal enrollment of 72 students!

Many of the students rarely have the opportunity to eat fresh fruits and vegetables. We provide them with delicious Honeycrisp apples purchased from a local orchard. This mitzvah is a wonderful way to prepare for the High Holy Days season!

A tree will be on display at the Temple decorated with paper apples featuring the name of each person who donates \$10 or more for the apple project by Tuesday, September 21. [Donate online](#) at www.templecav.org. Indicate the amount of your donation, designate "Project Assist/Thoughtful Thursdays" and indicate the name you would like to appear on the apple for the tree. You also can mail a check payable to "CAV-The Temple" earmarked for the Thoughtful Thursdays Apple Project.

Pictures of the tree will be posted on the Temple's Facebook page as it "grows."

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GENEALOGY SOCIETY ANNOUNCES NEW PROGRAMS

At its Annual Meeting in June, the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society announced its slate of new programs for the upcoming year. For its fourth season, the Society will host four free public presentations by nationally known speakers along with additional programs specifically for NEIJGS members.

The season will open with a "Meet Your Mishpocha" open house on October 17th. As part of October's Family History Month celebrations, the event will include advice on researching and preserving family history, highlights of the NEIJGS Fort Wayne Jewish Families Project, and more. Representatives from the Indiana Jewish Historical Society and the Oral History Video project should be on hand. This event will take place at the Madge Rothschild Resource Center. Stay tuned for more details.

On November 14th, JewishGen's Nolan Altman and Jeannie Regan-Dinius of the Indiana DNR will present a virtual program, "Jewish Cemeteries – Indiana and Beyond." Their talks will feature a report on Indiana's Jewish cemeteries and information about deciphering headstones and their meaning.

Genealogist Warren Blatt will speak on February 13, 2022, about Jewish names. His two programs, "Jewish Given Names" and "Jewish Surnames" will focus on the origins and histories of names, how they changed, and how they can be helpful in

genealogical research. This and the following lectures will take place in person at the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center.

On April 3, 2022, Ed Mitukiewicz will present "Location, Location, Location: How Genealogical Research Can Benefit from Historical Maps." Identifying the places where our ancestors used to live can be a critical step in finding sources of genealogical information, but locating those places can be quite a challenging task, particularly in Eastern Europe.

Finally, Todd Knowles, from FamilySearch, will speak on May 1, 2022, about "Making the Most of FamilySearch for Jewish Research." Todd is an accredited genealogist who specializes in English and Jewish research. His quest to find more about his G-G-Grandfather, a Polish Jew, has led to the creation of the Knowles Collection, six databases that contain the records of the Jewish people.

NEIJGS members will have opportunities to interact with our featured speakers throughout the year. Other member programs include lunches with ACPL Genealogy Center staff and an annual workshop. For more information about the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society and its programs, visit their website at www.NEIndianaJGS.org.

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Thoughtful Thursdays will begin its 12th year this fall! Plan to join the Jewish community's teams as we continue to help the Brightpoint Head Start families in need. Contact Sally Trotter (sartrotter@gmail.com) or Bonnie Pomerantz (bonniepom@gmail.com) to learn more.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS IN AUGUST

We're looking forward to beginning a new year of Religious School at Congregation Achduth Vesholom on Sunday, August 22! Registration begins in August for students in Pre-kindergarten (age 4+ by September 1) through high school. Families must be members of the congregation to enroll children.

[Enrollment materials and more information](#) can be found on the Temple website. Questions? Please contact Religious School Committee Chair Leise Rosman at leise.rosman@gmail.com.

BEGIN SACRED SEASON WITH SELICHOT

For centuries, Jews have gathered in synagogues on Saturday evening near Rosh Hashanah to prepare for the sacred season of self-scrutiny and renewal on Selichot. The word comes from the Hebrew for "forgiveness" and "pardon."

Continue the tradition with us on Saturday, August 28 at 8:30 p.m. at the Temple or via Zoom. Please join us for Havdalah, help change the Torah covers to white for the New Year, and begin the holiday season with meditative prayer and readings, led by Rabbi Meir Bargeran.

JOIN US FOR BREAK THE FAST

The [ROMEos](#) (Retired Old Men Eating Out) are preparing a delicious break-the-fast meal for those attending both Reform and traditional services on Thursday, September 16. Everyone is invited for tuna salad, egg salad, bagel, lox, herring in wine sauce, herring in sour cream, kugels, fresh fruit, and other delicacies.

Reservations are required to the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org by Thursday, September 9 so that we can prepare enough food and seating. Thanks to the generosity of the ROMEos, there is no charge. However, cash donations gladly will be accepted to help offset the costs.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANNUAL MEETING SPEECH - JUNE 6, 2021

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The Federation and the Temple have partnered to provide holiday bags to both members of the Jewish community and to our special friends. We've further expanded our reach to members through cards and phone calls as an effort to keep in touch.

This is all just a few of the things that fill our days.

In commemoration of the Jewish Federation's 100th Anniversary, the 100th Anniversary Committee is working on some very special programming and events such as:

- For 100 days, starting August 4th, a daily email will be distributed that highlights and celebrates the Fort Wayne Jewish Community. The daily email will include a calendar of events, daily acts of kindness, and opportunities to "do Jewish".... as well as contributions of photos, recipes, stories, from the Fort Wayne Jewish community.
- A special edition of CHAILIGHTS will be sent out in mid-June to give you all the details about how you can be involved.

Please save the date - November 13th - as the Jewish Federation will come together live to honor and celebrate the Federation's centennial.

The theme for the commemoration is: 100 Years: Looking Back, Moving Forward: A Period of Time in the History of Fort Wayne's Jewish Community.

The Jewish Federation is underwriting the development and production of a three-part (30 minutes each) documentary that explores Fort Wayne's Jewish community over the past 100 years. The documentary will also explore the important role Indiana and Fort Wayne have played in the establishment of the Reform Jewish movement, Hebrew Union College and being home to the oldest Jewish Congregation in the state of Indiana.

This documentary will explore the significant role Fort Wayne's Jewish community and its citizens have had and continue to play in many of Fort Wayne's important arts, culture, social services and various other organizations over the past century. It will highlight many of Fort Wayne's Jewish families that have deep roots in the community.

The documentary will further explore the Federation's vital role in our area and how it continues to evolve and remain relevant not only to the Jewish community but also to the community at large. Through the collection of archival photos, materials and first-person interviews, this documentary series will serve as a collective memory of Fort Wayne's Jewish community.

In the special issue of CHAILIGHTS, you will learn about opportunities for you to lend your support to this very important project. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact our office to volunteer.

As part of our deeply held belief that we must never forget... We must cherish our history and take the time to record it for posterity and honor those who have come before us. This is how we, as Fort Wayne's Jewish community, will continue to evolve and thrive.

In conclusion, I owe so much to our amazing staff: administrative assistant Bonnie Pomerantz, accountant Jeff Griggs, volunteer social worker Fran Volante and 100th Anniversary project manager Sara Fiedelholz.

We thank the staff and leadership at the Rifkin Campus for their support.

We owe so much to our new spiritual leader, Rabbi Meir, for leading this community in Avodah, the holy work we do. He's a treasure, and we're thankful every day that he and Jon chose to make Fort Wayne their home.

We thank the Federation Board, committee members and vital others as they continue to be a source of inspiration through their commitment, philosophy, and active volunteerism. They believe that our shared commitment and the power within each individual is the key to making a difference in our community.

We thank the Salon and Schneider Foundations for making much of our programming possible. So much is owed to them for understanding how a community benefits when resources are made available.

We thank Ben Eisbart for his outstanding and encouraging leadership. His intelligence, experience and wisdom have led this Federation through three good years. We whole heartedly look forward to welcoming our next president, Scott Salon... He will continue to lead the Federation in its quest to further the work of growing our organization and making our community a better place.

So, as we open the door to the next 100 years of service... May we continue with our noble task of tikkun olam ... being a vibrant light unto our community and to all nations.

Thank you again for allowing me the honor and privilege of being your Federation Director. Toda Raba...



THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE • THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Save the Date - Saturday, November 13, 2021
You are invited to help us celebrate our 100th Anniversary!
More information soon

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 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.



“ Kindness is realizing that we’re all in this together. ”
– RAKtivist



COVID-19 UPDATE FROM THE JEWISH FEDERATION

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.

FUNDS AND DONATIONS

JEWISH FEDERATION FUNDS

ENDOWMENT

- **100th Commemoration Fund**
- **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.

DONATIONS

100th Commemoration Fund

- Donations were received from **Enid & Stanley Rosenblatt, Leise & Brian Rosman, Jaki & Eric Schreier and Curt Witcher**

Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund

- A donation was received from **Audrey Gerson**

Emergency Cash Assistance Fund

- A donation was received from **Audrey Gerson**

General Operations

- A donation was received from **Isabel**

every contribution is
hugely valued

thank
you!

& **Steven Berg** in honor of the awards received by **Carol & Larry Adelman**

- A donation was received from **Janet Finkel**
- A donation was received from **Mark Rozeen** in honor of **Hoosier Legends Ben Eisbart & Larry Adelman**

Janet Finkel Campership Fund

- A donation was received from **Audrey Gerson**

JNF - Plant a tree in Israel

- Donations were received from an **anonymous donor**

Online Donations Accepted!

The [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) now accepts [online donations](#). You may contribute to our General Fund, or select a specific fund that you want to support. In addition, you may elect to have a donation made in Honor of or In Memory of an individual, and a card will be sent letting them or their families know the donation has been made.

It's secure, fast, and easy to support the work the Federation does to support the well-being and continuity of the Jewish people in greater Fort Wayne, in Israel, and throughout the world.

Thank you for your support. It is sincerely appreciated!

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

We are back!

August 5– Junk Ditch Brewery
1825 W. Main Street

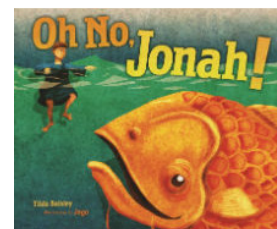
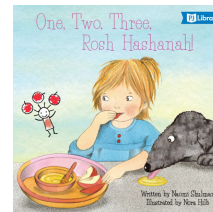
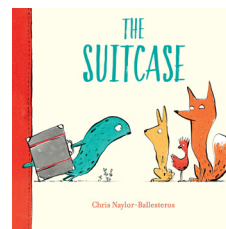
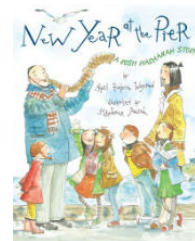
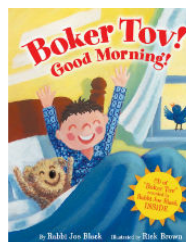
August 19– The Han Dynasty
6401 W. Jefferson Boulevard

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.



2021 - 2022 Board of Directors

Officers:

President: Scott Salon
Vice President: Larry Adelman
Secretary: Amy Krouse
Treasurer: Lee Pomerantz
Immediate Past President: Ben Eisbart
Executive Director: Jaki Schreier

Delegates-At-Large

Carol Adelman
Sara Fiedelholz
Bonnie Pomerantz
Mike Rush
Micah Soltz
Ellen Tom
Bob Walters
Leah Zimmerman

Rabbi Meir Bargerion

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[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.