

# chailights

MARCH 2022

The [Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley](#) has invited our community to this amazing workshop! [Zoom link](#)



## PURIM MAGIC WORKSHOP

**13 MARCH 2022**  
**1:00PM - 2:00 PM**  
Perfect for ages 5 - 16

Ron Loaplin, one of Israel's Leading Mentalists (Magician) will be leading us in a Magic Workshop. He is an expert in mind reading and NLP, Neuro-linguistic Programming.





### Virtual Pesach Cooking with Eileen Goltz!

Mark your calendars and join our Rosh Chodesh group on Sunday, April 3 at 4 pm via Zoom when we will cook with Eileen. More info soon.

## YOM HASHOAH

FORT WAYNE HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

Once again, our Yom HaShoah Commemoration will be held virtually. Our keynote speaker will be Chad Austin, Professor of Law, Deputy for Faculty Development, Co-Director of International Programs, United States Air Force Academy Department of Law. We will be broadcasting on PBS39 on April 24 at 3 pm. We will also be showing it on other platforms. More information next month.





## My Survivor

WHO WILL TELL THE STORY WHEN THE LAST SURVIVOR IS GONE?

**SAVE THE DATE • SUN April 24 • 3pm**

Local Broadcast  
Sponsored In Part By

 **PBS Fort Wayne**  
Watch • Stream with [pbsfortwayne.org](#)

 **Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne**  
THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE • THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

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

On February 15, 2022, the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne (JFFW) along with Congregation Achduth Vesholom (CAV) presented Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend (CCFWBS) with a check for \$21,868 to aid Afghan refugees as they are resettled in Fort Wayne.



Rabbi Meir Barger (CAV) said, "In Jewish life it is a holy obligation for us to love the stranger as ourselves, and we understand this as the central principle of the Torah, our holy scriptures. The Jewish people have been counted among refugee populations of the world in every age, so it is a privilege to help our new Afghan neighbors as they resettle in Fort Wayne."

Dr. Scott Salon, President of JFFW, wrote, "As a people dedicated to living our Jewish values, we are committed and obligated to help the stranger in our midst and to Tikkun Olam, which in Hebrew means, 'to repair the world.' The size of the Fort Wayne Jewish community is small numerically, but our compassion is not. Most of the Jewish members of our community are supportive of both Jewish communal institutions, and to ensure the contribution we would be sending to CCFWBS for their humanitarian mission to resettle Afghan refugees, the JFFW pledged an initial amount equal to the fundraising goal that was set. The congregation's Board then voted to set a goal of double the original. The revised goal was not only achieved but surpassed by the conclusion of the campaign."

We are very proud of our community's generosity."

During the check presentation ceremony, CEO of CCFWBS, Dan Florin said, "it can be hard to see God's blessings amid a humanitarian crisis, but the solidarity from brothers and sisters of all denominations has been unbelievable. We are so thankful to Congregation Achduth Vesholom and the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne for supporting these families. The proceeds will go entirely to aid Afghan refugees as they are resettled in Fort Wayne."

The fundraising campaign was co-chaired by Jewish Federation Executive Director, Jaki Schreier and Bobbie Golani representing Congregation Achduth Vesholom. Rena Black, chair of the congregation's Social Action committee, also attended the check presentation.



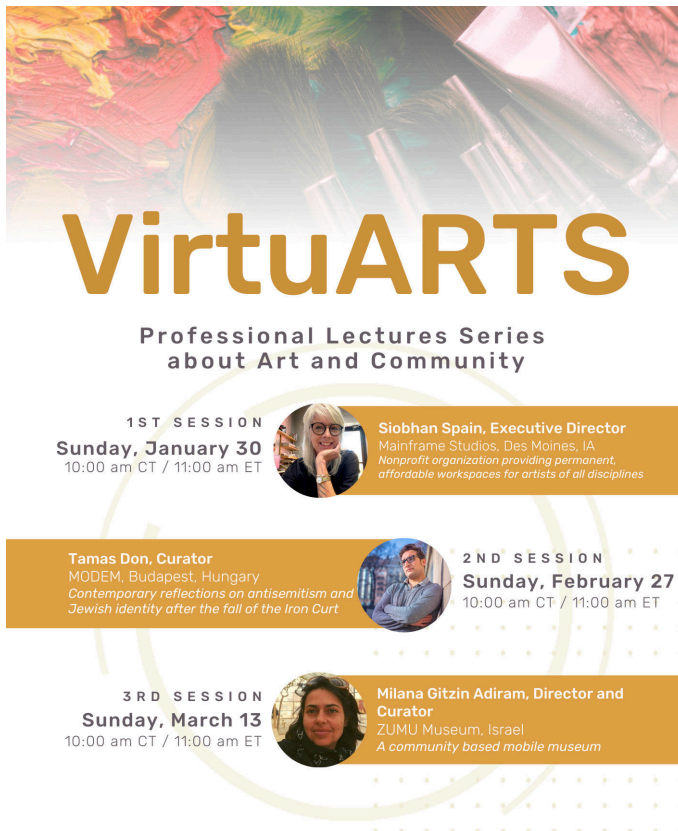


## Your Direct Connection to Israel

[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.




# VirtuARTS

Professional Lectures Series  
about Art and Community


**1ST SESSION**  
**Sunday, January 30**  
10:00 am CT / 11:00 am ET

 **Siobhan Spain, Executive Director**  
Mainframe Studios, Des Moines, IA  
Nonprofit organization providing permanent, affordable workspaces for artists of all disciplines

**2ND SESSION**  
**Sunday, February 27**  
10:00 am CT / 11:00 am ET

 **Tamas Don, Curator**  
MODEM, Budapest, Hungary  
Contemporary reflections on antisemitism and Jewish identity after the fall of the Iron Curtain

**3RD SESSION**  
**Sunday, March 13**  
10:00 am CT / 11:00 am ET

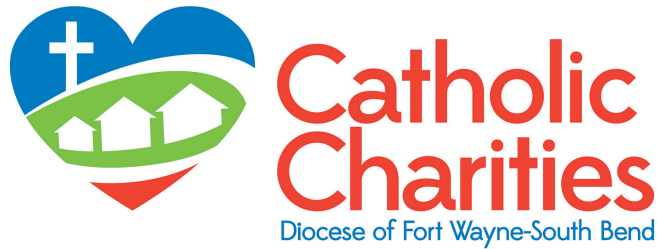
 **Milana Gitzin Adiram, Director and Curator**  
ZUMU Museum, Israel  
A community based mobile museum

### VirtuARTS: Professional Lectures Series about Art and Community

~  
This unique series, initiated by the artists community of the Community Engagement Committee,

**March 13th, 11:00 a.m. ET**  
**Milana Gitzin Adiram, Israel**  
**ZUMU Museum**

[RSVP](#)



**VOLUNTEERS WELCOME AND NEEDED:** [Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne/South Bend](https://www.catholiccharities.org/fortwayne-southbend) welcomes volunteers to assist with their resettlement efforts of the Afghan Refugees to their new home in Fort Wayne. If you would like to inquire on how you can help, please contact Nicole Kurut at the following: [Nkurut@ccfwsb.org](mailto:Nkurut@ccfwsb.org) Be the positive change in the world!



### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION UPDATE

There is an old Yiddish adage, "Man plans and God Laughs." (And in this case Mother Nature even chimed in!)

The unpredictability of the last two years caused us to change our plans for the recognition of our **100th anniversary, originally scheduled for the fall of 2021.**

The new date for our celebration is **MAY 21, 2022.** Save the date and look to celebrate this momentous occasion with all the splendor, significance and spirit it deserves.



### PEOPLE OF THE BOOK UPDATE

The uncertainty also caused us to postpone our **People of the Book** evening with noted author **Ron Suskind**, originally planned for last November.

We hope to have a new date sometime this spring. Please watch for an announcement of the new date.

We are happy to announce that plans are underway for Camp Joe 2022! We are working to create an exciting program with new opportunities for learning, discoveries and friendships.



Camper ages are 4-13 years old.

Regular camp hours are **9 AM to 4 PM** with before and after care options available.

Camp Joe runs Monday through Friday of the following weeks:

**July 4-8**  
**July 11-15**  
**July 18-22**

Your child may register for one, two or all three weeks.

Our application is available [here](#). There is an early registration discount for families who register for camp by April 8th.

We are looking forward to spending time with all of our campers at Fox Island this summer!

What are we talking about this month:

## Learning the Four Mitzvot of Purim



Purim, like many Jewish holidays, is a celebration of the Jewish people's redemption from catastrophe. It's also a noisy, riotous, carnival-like festival, which makes it especially fun for kids! Children and grown-ups alike [dress up in costume](#) and get ready to party. The [story of Purim](#) – how the Jewish queen of Persia, [Esther](#), saved her people from doom – is told in the Book of Esther, known as the *Megillah* in

Hebrew. In addition to the fun traditions that surround Purim, there are also four commandments or *mitzvot* – the plural of [mitzvah](#) – to fulfill. All of the mitzvot associated with Purim are related to taking care of one another:

### Reading the Megillah

On Purim, the Megillah is read aloud in synagogues all over the world – and this is one time when no one is discouraged from making noise during the service! In fact, listeners shake their groggers (Yiddish for “noisemakers”) every time they hear the name of the villain of the story, Haman. Many communities also stage funny Purim spiels (Yiddish for “plays”) to accompany the Megillah reading.

### Giving Gifts to Friends and Neighbors

The second mitzvah is sending gifts, or *mishloach manot* which is Hebrew for Purim gift baskets. Gifts of food to friends and colleagues ensure that everyone has the means to be happy, further foiling the evil plans of Haman. Here are some easy [gifts in a jar](#) to assemble with your family for your mishloach this year. Don't forget to add a [special gift tag](#) too!

### Eating a Special Meal

In addition to the *Purim spiel*, the costume parade, and baking hamantaschen, many families also enjoy [the Seudah](#), or the Purim feast. Basically, this commandment is to “eat, drink, and be merry.”

### Giving Support to Those Who Need Help

Giving directly to those experiencing poverty, *matanot l'evyonim*, is the fourth mitzvah. Giving to others, especially on Purim, ensures that everyone has the means to celebrate during the holiday and also honors Esther and Mordechai's legacy of saving the Jewish people. Fulfilling the mitzvah of *matanot l'evyonim* can be as simple as dropping coins into a [tzedakah](#) box or making donations of food or clothing to a local pantry or shelter.

<https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/february-2019/learning-the-four-mitzvot-of-purim>



## By Elana Broitman, Senior Vice President for Public Affairs, JFNA

Growing up in a Jewish family in Odessa in the 1970s, I listened, wide-eyed, to my grandparents' tales of fleeing our Nazi-occupied city during the Second World War. I was reminded of the plight of Tevye's family in the stories by Sholem Aleichem that were my constant companion. Little did I imagine that this situation, of being driven from one's homeland because of antisemitism, would be my fate as well.

As it became increasingly more difficult for Jews to pursue higher education and professional opportunities in Ukraine, many, including my own family, determined to leave for America or Israel.

The largest wave of Russian Jewish immigration to America, which occurred roughly between 1970 and 2010, brought 700,000 refugees to these shores. However, these numbers obscure how wrenching each family's experience of immigration was. Before we departed for the United States in 1975, the authorities confiscated the keepsake jewelry my parents sought to bring as a memory from their parents, forbade my mother, who was a professional pianist, to bring her piano, and ripped apart my little sister's teddy bear to make sure we weren't smuggling jewels or gold. I was unable to share my feelings even with my teacher in school; if I had told her that I didn't want to leave, the government could have taken me away.

We flew to Vienna and took a train to Rome, where my sister and I slept together on a reclining chair for four months, waiting for U.S. visas to come through. During the day, we went to museums and anything else that was free. Finally, after many trials and tribulations, we were cleared to come to America. We ended up living in the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania, where my family was active in the local Jewish community.

The tumultuous experiences my family underwent instilled within me two core values. One is a deep-rooted love for America, the country that opened its doors and provided my family with the opportunities to live freely as Jews. The other was that there is still work to be done, and I decided to go to law school to work for justice for all those who are marginalized in our society.

After law school, I worked for about a dozen years in government, including as a senior advisor on foreign policy, national security, and Jewish affairs to Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY). It was so fulfilling to take the senator to Sderot to show her the dreadful threats that Israel faces. Back home, we visited Monsey in the wake of the horrible stabbing attack there in December of 2019; we then marched with leaders of all backgrounds across the Brooklyn Bridge to demonstrate solidarity with victims of antisemitism.

After leaving Senator Gillibrand's office, I returned as a senior vice president at UJA-Federation of New York, where I managed capacity building and funding for almost 100 Jewish organizations. One organization that I was particularly grateful to help was Rachel's Place, an independent living program for runaway and homeless girls from the religious community. I also spearheaded a new New York City government-funded program for people with autism.

When Eric Fingerhut offered me my current role leading JFNA's Public Affairs Division last Summer, it felt like the culmination of the work I had set out to do. At JFNA, I would collaborate with the Federations to drive policy, create civic partnerships, and expand our own communal diversity and inclusion on the local, state, and federal levels.

And what a journey it has been—launching a comprehensive set of initiatives for pandemic relief throughout Jewish communities nationwide, mobilizing more than a hundred Jewish and non-Jewish organizations to lobby for the bipartisan Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act (which the president signed last May), and enlisting the participation of numerous Members of Congress, civil rights leaders, and celebrities in the hugely successful Virtual Rally Against Antisemitism.

Among my priorities have been to deepen the work of our Israel Action Network to combat antisemitism and antizionism—particularly after both spiked so precipitously last spring—and to jumpstart a series of innovative programs to promote justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the Jewish community and beyond. I love the entrepreneurship of the Federation system and am focused on building the Advocacy Corps, a national program to engage volunteers in supporting government priorities.

I was particularly gratified that Federations from coast to coast took a major role in resettling Afghan refugees in their communities; it highlighted for all of us the importance of caring for the stranger in our midst.

Our amazing Public Affairs team is growing, and so are all the needs that the Federations have. We have much to do to support the Federations and the communal interests that they represent as systematically and deeply as possible.

Ten percent of the American Jewish population now has roots in the Former Soviet Union, although Russian Jews remain seriously underrepresented in the leadership of both the American Jewish community and of our society as a whole. I hope that this will change as a new generation of Russian Jews comes to the fore. After all, Russian Jews are already making a mark in the cultural realm—think of actress Mila Kunis, writer Gary Shteyngart, and singer/songwriter Regina Spektor.

The blessings of liberty are real and tangible to me, and I feel extraordinarily fortunate, as both a Jewish refugee and as a woman, to have the opportunities I might not have had, if my family had not fled here, to support the best of America's promise.

Every so often, I think back to my childhood in Odessa, to the painful decision that my parents made to leave their homeland, and how my own experience of being uprooted, as traumatic it was, gave me empathy for those who have had to surmount so many challenges to begin their own lives anew. I feel an almost sacred responsibility to them on two fronts that reinforce each other — to help ensure the vitality of future generations of the Jewish community and to make this country, as much as it often struggles to fulfill its own promise, as perfect a union as it is possible to be.

Reprinted with permission



## Q&A with the Israeli Minister of Diaspora Affairs Nachman Shai

Israeli Minister of Diaspora Affairs Nachman Shai sat down for a wide-ranging interview last month with JFNA. Shai served as Director General of Federations' office in Israel and Senior Vice President of UJC before being elected to the Knesset more than a decade ago, serving first as a member of the Kadima Party and then being re-elected as a member of the Labor Party. In the interview, he discussed how Israel can improve its efforts to reach out to the North American Jewish community, especially to the members of the younger generation who feel less of a connection to the Jewish State. He also discussed his views on the controversy over prayer at the Kotel.

**Q: What do you think are the most important tools for connecting North American Jews, particularly the younger generation, to Israel?**

A: The best way is for them to visit the country through Taglit-Birthright, MASA, and other programs. If we can't get them to come here, then let's reach out to them wherever they are, especially on college campuses. We have at least three national organizations—Hillel, Chabad, and Olami—who are running programs on behalf of the Ministry of the Diaspora. We haven't done enough on the digital front, through what I call digital dialogue. It's the most important challenge of my present position—not to lose the young generation, but to gain their confidence and attention, to bring them into the system either while they are in university or after graduation. That's the best investment in the future of the North American Jewish community and even for the Jewish world as a whole.

**Q: Can you explain a bit more about what you think needs to be done in the digital or social media space?**

A: One of the conclusions from last summer's conflict with Hamas was that we weren't doing enough in this space. I wasn't yet a government minister—I was a visiting professor at Duke University—but I was watching it from a distance and I was very upset. They said that we "lost" the social media war. There is no reason why Israel can't develop ideas, content and technologies to reach out to every target group in the world, including in North America. My students are totally dependent on their devices; if they don't come to us, then we need to come to them. We may not always be able to convince them, but at least we can present them with the facts of whatever situation or crisis we're dealing with. We are teaching Israeli culture, history, and, of course, how to combat antisemitism. We can help North American Jewish communities to prepare themselves for any kind of antisemitic attacks, whether verbal or physical.

**Q: You worked for a number of years as the head of the Federations' Israel office and then you worked for the UJC, the predecessor organization to JFNA. What was the most important thing that you learned during that period?**

A: I learned more than anything the strategic importance of the relationship between Israel and the North American Jewish community. I realized that we have to invest a lot on both ends. On the Israeli side, we need to form relationships with Israeli politicians and other leaders so that they can understand better the relationship between American Jewry and Israel. We have also led a number of delegations of members of the Israeli media to the United States. There's a mix of arrogance and ignorance on both sides that we need to overcome to find better ways to communicate with each other.

**Q: What is the importance of Federations to your work in Israel?**

A: Federations have been one of the key reasons for Israel's success. It's a glorious story of friendship and love between North America and Israel. In all of Jewish history, there has never been a success story like that of the Jews of North America. And we appreciate very much your continuing support—not just financial support, but political support as well. We need two-way communication, not just from North America to Israel, but from Israel to North America. We are asking not just what you are doing for us, but what we can do for you through our knowledge and know-how. I was the only government minister who visited Surfside after the building collapse. I delivered a message of sorrow and comfort. When we are in trouble, you come to help us, and when you experience dark days, we are there to extend our hand to you and say that we are together.

**Q: Do you have any information on when the Kotel compromise may be implemented?**

A: There are growing political pressures on both sides to implement Netanyahu's outline for the Kotel from [January of] 2016. It's time to move forward. But what's the best timing? It's time to look at this and say, 'Enough is enough' and adopt this compromise. This is my position and I'm not a single voice in the government—I'm one of many who would like to see this coming soon.

Reprinted with permission

### ESTHER HAMALKAH: EXPLORING PURIM'S QUEEN

Expand your Jewish knowledge by joining our Temple family for [lifelong learning classes](#) that include a variety of Jewish study topics with Rabbi Meir Barger and guest teachers.

Please join us this month for:

#### Strings of Inspiration with Bruce Colegrove

Wednesday, March 2 at 7 p.m. in person and on Zoom

Bruce will share new stories of some of the most remarkable events in the life of the women's orchestra at Auschwitz-Birkenau. (See related article)

#### Esther HaMalkah: Exploring Purim's Queen

Wednesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

The Book of Esther is a fascinating volume of the Hebrew Bible — at once familiar because of its annual public reading at Purim, while also complex and mysterious.

Writing for the Jewish Women's Archive, [Sidnie White Crawford](#) calls the Book of Esther "a Jewish novella that deals with the enduring issues of preserving Jewish identity and ensuring survival amid cultural pressures and hostile enemies in a foreign land." We will discuss the origins of the book, and also read and discuss key verses to explore their meaning and significance to us today.

Please RSVP to [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) by Thursday, March 3 to receive materials.

Links for classes are provided in the weekly email to members of our Temple family. Guests may contact the office for access information.

#### Ongoing Programs:

##### Hebrew Liturgy Study Group with John Planer

Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

##### Five Books of Moses Study Group with Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan

Sundays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

#### STRINGS OF INSPIRATION WITH BRUCE COLEGROVE RETURNS MARCH 2

Temple member Bruce Colegrove returns on Wednesday, March 2 at 7 p.m. with his latest Strings of Inspiration presentation with new stories of some of the most remarkable events in the life of the women's orchestra at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

The orchestra at Auschwitz-Birkenau included three different pairs of sisters, all of whom played fascinating roles in the ensemble. Remarkably enough, a mother-daughter pair also found its way into the group.

Eva Steiner, the daughter of that pair, is one member about whom we know much from the extensive literature around the orchestra. The mother, on the other hand, is one member about whom little has been known — until recently. In fact, no published resource to date has been able to report as much as her first name.

As it turns out, Eva Steiner died in late December 2021 at the young age of 100, and her nephew, Robby Steiner, reached out to Bruce

Colegrove hoping to discover some poignant details that he could include in his eulogy for Eva.

In Bruce's presentation, he will share many of the inspiring details about Eva that he shared with her nephew. He also will present some of the exciting new findings that his contact with Robby disclosed about this Jewish family, including Eva's fascinating mother, Jolanda.

Join us in person or via Zoom or [YouTube](#). The link will be shared in the weekly email to our congregational family. Guests are welcome and asked to contact us at [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) for access information. Please follow our [COVID safety protocols](#).

Bruce first shared incredible stories of these women in fall 2019 when the Violins of Hope programming captivated members of the Fort Wayne community. The enthusiastic response led to a second program in February 2021.

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

An ardent researcher in Holocaust studies, Bruce is the developer of the website [Women's Orchestra of Auschwitz-Birkenau](#). Recently retired from many years teaching Hebrew at Achduth Vesholom, he has taught for 20+ years at Canterbury High School.

#### FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO FIND THE MEGILLAH OF OZ

We're Off To See The Wizard during The Megillah of Oz, a delightful Purim Spiel that will be presented somewhere Over the Rainbow (well, actually, in the Sanctuary) on Wednesday, March 16 at 7 p.m.

Whether Dorothy or the Tin Man, the Cowardly Lion or Scarecrow, Good Witch Glinda or the Wicked Witch, Flying Monkey or Munchkin, dress as your favorite character from the story! Join the fun as we make merry in retelling how Queen Esther and her cousin Mordechai saved the Jews of Persia.

Led by Rabbi Meir with musical accompaniment by the Purim Players and Maestro Robert Nance, we'll tell the story of Purim in the Land of Oz. Come ready to boo when Haman's name is read. We'll have plenty of groggers, but please also bring boxes of macaroni and cheese to shake and then donate as part of our social action programs.

Don't forget to pick up a few hamentashen to nosh made by a team of Temple bakers.

#### HEARTLAND PRESENTS "ASPECTS OF LOVE"

We use the word "love" every day, but what does it actually mean?

[Heartland Sings](#) will explore this question fully in a concert program entitled "Aspects of Love" on Sunday, March 20 at 3 p.m. at the Temple. This concert, co-sponsored by Congregation Achduth Vesholom, will be directed by Founding Artistic Director Maestro Robert Nance and is part of Heartland Sings' 25<sup>th</sup>-anniversary season.

The program will feature six distinctive musical selections that delve into love and all its facets. The centerpiece of the program is the Midwest premiere of a work by imaginative American composer Don McCullough entitled "Song of the Shulamite," which brings to

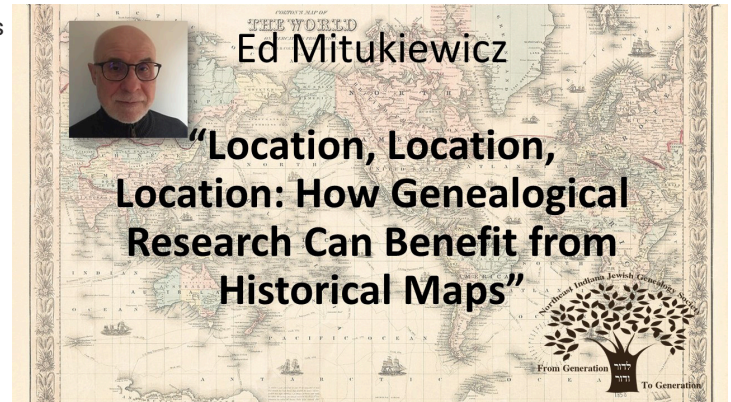
continued on page 9





## NEED HELP FINDING YOUR ANCESTRAL TOWN?

The Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society is excited to welcome genealogist and mathematician Ed Mitukiewicz for a free virtual program on Sunday, April 3rd, beginning at 2:00 p.m. “Location, Location, Location: How Genealogical Research Can Benefit From Historical Maps” is the focus of the afternoon’s presentation. Identifying the towns and villages where our ancestors used to live can be a critical step in finding relevant sources of genealogical information. However, locating some of those places often becomes quite a challenging task, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, where use of multiple languages, spelling or transliteration errors, appearance of similar names in different locations and countries, frequent name changes and shifting national borders introduce additional complications. Readily available web-based resources—including digital repositories of historical maps and geographic information databases—can help to overcome many of those challenges. This presentation demonstrates the methods and techniques of using such resources to facilitate locating ancestral towns in Central and Eastern Europe.



Ed Mitukiewicz is a mathematician and computer scientist by education, researcher and technology consultant by profession, and amateur cartographer and genealogist by coincidence. Ed has a particular weakness for historical maps - rumor has it that he never met one he did not like. Ed worked as editor, translator and map consultant during the production of the 2015 “Raise the Roof” documentary film about reconstructing the roof and painted ceiling of an 18th century wooden synagogue of Gwozdziec. He has presented illustrative scenarios of using historical maps in genealogical research at various genealogy conferences in Poland, Israel and the United States.

Registration is required to attend this free virtual program. The link can be found at the NEIJGS website at [www.NEIndianaJGS.org/upcoming-events/](http://www.NEIndianaJGS.org/upcoming-events/). NEIJGS members may attend an additional virtual workshop with Mitukiewicz that afternoon. Additional information about the NEIJGS can be found at [www.NEIndianaJGS.org](http://www.NEIndianaJGS.org), or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NEIndianaJGS/>. Contact Betsy Gephart at [vp@NEIndianaJGS.org](mailto:vp@NEIndianaJGS.org) for more information.

continued from page 8

life the book Song of Solomon from the Hebrew Bible and its poetic expression of love that is passionate, yet pure and holy.

“Song of the Shulamite” was commissioned by Maestro Nance, along with a consortium of directors across the country. The work is scored for solo soprano, chorus, harp, marimba, and vibraphone. Prior to the presentation, Rabbi Meir will speak on the significance of the Song of Solomon.

Five other diverse pieces will complement it with their own rich texts, focusing on deeper levels and features of this small word that is so full of meaning. [General admission tickets](#) are \$25 (\$10 for students).

### CELEBRATE SHABBAT AND B'NAI MITZVAH AT THE TEMPLE

Begin your weekend with Shabbat and share the warmth of Jewish community and a simcha in March at Congregation Achduth Vesholom in person or via livestream on Zoom or [YouTube](#).

Rabbi Meir Barger will lead services Fridays at 6 p.m. Ron Friedman will lead worship most Saturdays at 9:45 a.m., with Rabbi Meir offering a D'var Torah. We will celebrate the B'nai Mitzvah of Milly and Oliver Cunningham, children of Shara & Harry Cunningham, on Saturday, March 5 at 10 a.m.

Kindly note that only vaccinated individuals may enter the Temple building. Proof of vaccination (a vaccination card or photo of the card) is required. Masks are required. Find our [COVID safety protocols](#). Visit our website at [www.templecav.org](http://www.templecav.org) for the latest information on our schedule.

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](mailto:office@templecav.org) for links to access services on Zoom.

## 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](mailto: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

### JNF - Plant a tree in Israel

- Donations were received from an **anonymous** donor
- A donation was received from **Jaki & Eric Schreier** in honor of **Mike Rush's** retirement



## 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)

**March 3 – Mad Anthony Brewing Company**  
2002 Broadway

**March 17 – Olive Garden**  
315 W. Coliseum Boulevard

**Anyone interested in joining the ROMEOS for lunch can contact Denny Reynolds at 260-637-0507 or [dennisreynolds@me.com](mailto:dennisreynolds@me.com)**

**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  
Bonnie Pomerantz  
Mike Rush  
Micah Soltz  
Ellen Tom  
Bob Walters  
Leah Zimmerman

Rabbi Meir Barger

Staff

Jaki Schreier  
Executive Director  
[jakischreier@fwjf.org](mailto:jakischreier@fwjf.org)

Jeff Griggs  
Bookkeeper  
[bookkeeper@fwjf.org](mailto:bookkeeper@fwjf.org)

Bonnie Pomerantz  
Administrative Assistant  
[office@fwjf.org](mailto:office@fwjf.org)

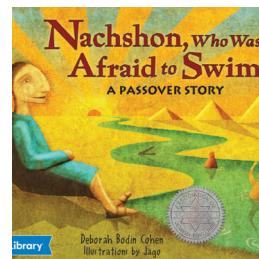
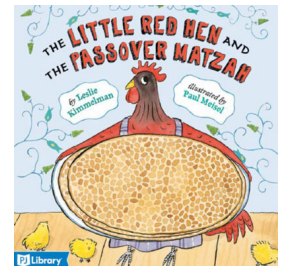
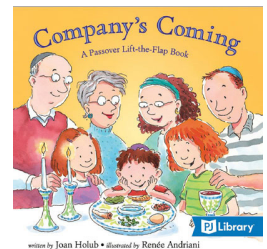
[Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](http://Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne)  
5200 Old Mill Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

(260) 456-0400 phone  
(260) 456-0500 fax  
[www.fwjf.org](http://www.fwjf.org)



**Which books did you receive this month?**

A program of the [Harold Grinspoon Foundation](http://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.



[PJ Our Way](http://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.

