



# chailights



DECEMBER 2022 - JANUARY 2023



BARNES & NOBLE

## Join us for Hanukkah Storytime!



After a two-year hiatus, [PJ Library](#), the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) and [Barnes & Noble](#) are bringing back **Hanukkah Storytime!** We hope you can join us on **Sunday, December 18 at 11 a.m.** at **Barnes & Noble** (1034 S. Thomas Road, Suite 107 in Fort

Wayne). We will read a few Hanukkah stories, light the hanukkah, play the dreidel game and work on a craft project. This event is free and open to the public.



We are so thankful for the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.

## Confronting the Shoah

We are back in person with this six-week class presented by **Holocaust Scholar Dr. David**



**Lindquist.** This course provides participants with a comprehensive contextual and historical knowledge regarding the Nazi Holocaust.

Classes will be held at the **Peggy F. Murphy Grief Center** (5920 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne). Classes will be held on **Tuesdays January 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7 & 14** and will begin at **7 pm**. Each class will last about 2 to 2 ½ hours.

There is no cost to Federation members, teachers, principals, historians or high school juniors or seniors. For all others, there is a \$5.00 fee to cover the cost of materials.

To register call the office at (260) 456-0400 or email [office@fwjf.org](mailto:office@fwjf.org) no later than December 15.

Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and members of Federation for its continued support.



**PREMIERES**  
**MON Dec 19**  
**2pm @ Ch. 39.4**

**THUR Dec 22**  
**9pm @ Ch. 39.1**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**11:30am @ Ch. 39.1**



## Dreaming of a Jewish Christmas

The irreverent film "**Dreaming Of A Jewish Christmas**" tells the story of the unlikely Jewish immigrants who, enamored with Broadway and Hollywood, wrote some of the most popular songs in America: Christmas music. This film premieres on PBS Fort Wayne this December, airing on **PBS Fort Wayne Explore (39.4) Monday, December 19 at 2pm** and on **PBS Fort Wayne (39.1) on Thursday, December 22 at 9pm** and again on **39.1 Christmas Day, at 11:30am.**

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

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



### THE GREATEST GOOD IS WHAT WE DO FOR ONE ANOTHER

***"Active citizenship begins with the insight that we are worth what we are willing to share with others."*** Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Many years ago I had the opportunity to go on a mission to the Former Soviet Union (FSU) and Israel with Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)... It was a life changing experience for me. I witnessed first hand just a small part of the impact the Federation movement has made on Tikkun Olam, repairing the world.

JFNA plays an ongoing important role to provide an array of life-sustaining services to needy elderly and vulnerable Jews while also supporting the revitalization of Jewish life, especially in communities in Eastern Europe that were decimated by the Holocaust and driven underground by communism (such as the FSU). While in St. Petersburg (Russia), we visited elderly Jews in their 8th floor one-room walk-up apartments. For many of them, the only people they see are the social workers provided by JFNA who check in to see how they are doing, bring them food, cook, pick up their medications and visit with them. We also: Toured clinics, danced the Hora with Seniors; visited an overnight camp for youth who are seeking to reclaim their Jewish roots; participated in a religious service at a reclaimed synagogue; sat down and worked on projects with young adults with mental challenges who are ignored by the Russian government; we attended a very special ORT program with young adults pursuing Aliyah to Israel. These were just a few of the many programs that we attended. Israel is now home to a core Russian Jewish population of over 900,000.

The Federation's portfolio in Israel is widespread and diverse. It is committed to ensuring that every Jew who wants to live in Israel can. The Federation movement funds programs that ensure access to the economic and educational opportunities and support initiatives that encourage religious diversity and social equality. The mission participants visited an Ethiopian Moshav (collective agricultural settlement); attended a special anniversary celebration of Operation Moses (a covert evacuation of Ethiopian Jews). For decades, the Jewish Federations have worked side by side with their partner, the Jewish Agency for Israel, and the Israeli Government to help 100,000 Ethiopian Jews realize their dream of making Aliyah and to support their absorption into Israeli society.

The Jewish Federations of North America, of which you contribute to and are a part of, is the heart and soul of North American Jewry's philanthropic and humanitarian activities. It embodies a 3500 year-old tradition of caring that goes back to the giving of the Torah and sustains us in the bold pursuit of Jewish community, Jewish values and Jewish peoplehood. Federation is made up of people who care enough to want to perfect an imperfect world. Federation is the passion of commitment, where tzedakah and a sense of social justice can make a difference in someone's life. The Jewish Federation is committed to seizing this moment in Jewish history to ensure the continuity of the Jewish people.

We thank you for your support, your membership, your involvement and volunteerism in the work we do. Thank you for helping us in relieving an older person's hardship, affirm for a child the powerful values of Jewish tradition and continuity, and to help others do the wonderful mitzvah of saving Jewish lives and Jewish life.

We wish you and your loved ones a healthy, happy and prosperous 2023.

In 2022, the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne teamed with Federations throughout North America to raise almost \$30,000 to assist with the rescue of Ukrainian Jews and others. Thank you for your generosity and helping to ensure that future Ukrainians will continue to make positive changes in the world.

## JEWISH CULTURE

### 16 Jews from Ukraine Who Changed the World

*Jews from Ukraine have made essential contributions to Jewish thought and culture, and have also brought world-class talent to science, art, politics and more.*

BY ABBY SEITZ

Ukraine has had a significant and vibrant Jewish community going all the way back to the Middle Ages, but the history of Ukrainian Jewry has been difficult, and often marked by periods of intense antisemitism. In addition, it was not always easy to live in a region that was frequently unstable.

Borders shifted following the collapse of the Russian Empire — and later, the Soviet Union — and near-constant persecution and surveillance led many Jews to emigrate elsewhere. But an astonishing number of Ukrainian Jews, whether they spent their entire lives in the country or traveled elsewhere, have made remarkable contributions to the world in art, culture, science, politics, sports and more. Ukraine was also the birthplace of important Jewish developments, most notably Hasidism.

#### **Baal Shem Tov**

The Baal Shem Tov was the founder of Hasidic Judaism, an Orthodox spiritual revivalist movement that has hundreds of thousands of adherents today. Born Israel ben Eliezer in 1698 in Okopy, Ukraine, Baal Shem Tov literally means “Master of the Good Name” and is often abbreviated as Besht.

#### **Golda Meir**

While Golda Meir ascended to international prominence when she was elected prime minister of Israel in 1969, she was born in Kyiv, Ukraine’s capital, in 1898. Meir was the fourth woman in the world to serve as a head of state. Other Israeli leaders who were born in Ukraine include Israel’s second prime minister **Moshe Sharett**, as well as his successor, **Levi Eshkol**.

#### **Sholem Aleichem**

Born Sholem Rabinovitz in 1859 in Pereyaslav, Ukraine, Sholem Aleichem is considered one of the most beloved Yiddish writers of all time. His short stories about Tevye the Dairyman inspired the hit musical and film *Fiddler on the Roof*.

#### **Mila Kunis**

Born in Chernivtsi, Ukraine in 1983, Mila Kunis and her family fled the Soviet Union when she was seven years old. Her family was resettled in Los Angeles with

the help of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. Kunis ascended to fame by starring in *That 70’s Show* and has had major roles in dozens of shows and films since then.

#### **Menachem Mendel Schneerson**

Known to many as just “the Rebbe,” Menachem Mendel Schneerson was the last rebbe of the Chabad Lubavitch movement and is considered one of the most influential 20th century Jewish leaders. While Schneerson famously led the Chabad movement from its Brooklyn headquarters, he was actually born in Mykolaiv, Ukraine in 1902.

#### **Oksana Baiul**

Figure skater Oksana Baiul made history in 1994 when she became the first athlete representing post-Soviet Ukraine to win a gold medal at the Olympics. While Baiul was raised Orthodox Christian, she discovered and embraced her maternal Jewish ancestry when she was 25 years old. Since retiring from ice skating, she has served as a trustee for the Tikva Children’s Home, a Jewish orphanage in Odessa. While swimmer **Lenny Krayzelburg** represented Team USA at the 2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics, the gold medalist was born and raised in Odessa, until his family fled and resettled in Los Angeles when he was 14. World-renowned tennis player **Elina Svitolina** won a bronze medal for Ukraine at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. Svitolina was also a semi-finalist at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

#### **Selman Waksman**

Selman Waksman was born in 1888 in a small village outside of Vinnytsia, Ukraine. As a researcher at Rutgers University in New Jersey, Waksman discovered a number of antibiotics, which led to the first successful treatment of tuberculosis. Waksman was awarded the 1952 Nobel Prize in medicine for his contributions to microbiology. Many other Ukrainian Jewish scientists have made sterling contributions, including **Waldemar Haffkine**, the microbiologist credited with developing the first vaccines for cholera and bubonic plague, who was born in Odessa in 1860.

**continued on page 7**

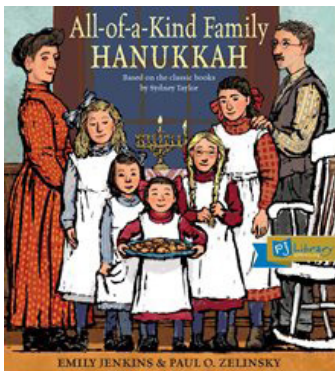


## What are we talking about this month:

### Hanukkah Books for Interfaith Families

Does your family tell the story of the Maccabees and of Saint Nick? Are your cousins curious about your family's traditions? Here are some wonderful children's books that help everyone learn about Hanukkah traditions.

*Related: [The Hanukkah Story for Kids](#)*



***All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah*** by Emily Jenkins

*Recommended for ages 5 to 6*

Remember the characters from the classic *All-of-a-Kind* series? They're back in this sweet picture book. Rejoin Ella, Henny, Sarah, Charlotte, and especially Gertie as this loving Lower East Side family prepares

for a Hanukkah feast.

***Hanukkah Cookies With Sprinkles*** by David A. Adler

*Recommended for ages 6 to 7*

Sara and her family are getting ready for Hanukkah -- which means delicious foods, including cookies! But then she notices one man who doesn't seem to eat much at all, let alone Hanukkah treats. Sara decides to try and help.



***Nonna's Hanukkah Surprise*** by Karen Fisman

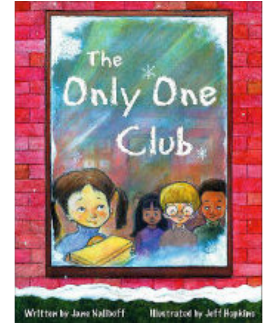
*Recommended for ages 4 to 5*

Rachel's Italian grandma, Nonna, doesn't celebrate Hanukkah, so Rachel plans to bring Hanukkah to her house. But when her plans go awry, Nonna makes it all okay.

***The Only One Club*** by Jane Naliboff

*Recommended for ages 4 to 5*

As the only Jewish child in her class, a young girl not only learns that each person is unique but is able to share this understanding with her classmates.



***The Trees of the Dancing Goats*** by Patricia Polacco

*Recommended for ages 7 to 8*

During a scarlet fever epidemic in Michigan, the members of a Jewish family help make Christmas special for their very sick neighbors.

See all [PJ Library Hanukkah selections](#)  
Grownups can also listen to holiday-themed stories from celebrated authors with the [Hanukkah Lights: Stories of the Season](#) series from NPR

[Reprinted with kind permission](#)





## JOIN OTHER SMALL JEWISH COMMUNITIES FOR A ONCE IN A LIFETIME TRIP!

### Israel celebrates 75!

We are partnering with other small Federations in North America for an **Experience Israel Mission** trip April 17 - 23, 2023. Participants will have the opportunity to celebrate Shabbat in Jerusalem; visit the northern border of Rosh Hanikra, tour Caesarea (built by Herod the Great and experience its archaeological wonders); spend a day in Akko and walk the Crusader Halls; Float in the Dead Sea; Climb Masada; visit Yad Vashem; visit the Old Port City of Jaffa; take a culinary tour through the Lewinsky Market, and so much more. This itinerary includes a wide range of activities and attractions designed to immerse you in the Jewish world. This is an excellent opportunity to see the impact the Jewish people have had on the world, to see how Jewish communities interact today, and to personally witness and be inspired by the role every Jew can play in supporting the continuation of the Jewish people wherever they may live. You will get an insider's look at how Federation, the most effective Jewish community building organization on the planet, unites and cares for Jews in Israel and around the world.

The [Jewish Federations of North America \(JFNA\)](#) will hold its [General Assembly \(GA\)](#) immediately following. The GA will be held April 23-26. If you have never experienced a GA, it is JFNA's premier event and one you will always remember and treasure.

We are happy to announce that the Goldenberg family has graciously allocated funds to assist with the cost of this experience. Because of their generosity we are able to gift \$1,500.00 to each member of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne who is in good standing. We are truly appreciative of the Goldenberg family for providing these funds.

We are including additional information on the [Experience Israel Mission](#) and the [General Assembly](#) for your consideration. To register go to: <https://lp.amiel.com/>

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the office at 260 456-0400.

We hope to share this amazing trip with you!

#### CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY - SEASONS CHANGE, BUT YOUR LEGACY IS ETERNAL



Jewish tradition teaches that one of our main responsibilities is to make the world a better place for future generations.

Federation's role is to secure the future of the Jewish community at home, abroad, and in Israel.

Working with local, national and international partners, we help Jews around the world live a Jewish life, and ensure that no Jew is left behind.

You can create a lasting legacy with the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) to benefit your children, grandchildren, and future generations, while supporting the causes you care about. Using a current or deferred endowment gift, you can become part of Federation's Legacy Society.

## TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne is excited to remind our families about the Jewish Studies tuition reimbursement program.



A student whose family is a member of the Federation will be reimbursed at a rate based on one-half the tuition cost per Indiana University credit hour for classes taken in Judaic Studies.

As many of our youth are attending college all over the country and the tuition varies considerably from college to college, this policy provides equitable treatment to all of our university students.

A transcript, showing the course and grade received, and a copy of a fee payment receipt must be submitted as proof for reimbursement. The Federation reserves the right to request a syllabus or additional description of the class taken. A C+ grade or its numerical equivalent must be earned in the course work in order to qualify for reimbursement.



BALL STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Family membership is defined as a minimum gift of \$104.00 to the most recent Federation Annual Campaign, which runs from November through March.

Any questions, please call Jaki Schreier at (260) 456-0400 or contact her at [jakischreier@fwjf.org](mailto:jakischreier@fwjf.org).

## S.K.I.P (Send a Kid to Israel Program)

Established in 1984 by the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) in partnership with [Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#), and revised in November 1999, the program has provided a savings vehicle for many families and has helped make a trip to Israel a reality for so many of our youth. The Federation portion of the savings plan is provided by income from the Federation Endowment Fund for members of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.



The Federation, for each year a child participates in **S.K.I.P.**, contributes \$200.00 per year per child. This is matched by a Congregational contribution of \$75.00 per year. Your parent contribution, on behalf of each participating child, is \$175.00 or more per year.

The program is available to local youth enrolled in their congregational religious school in grades 1-10. The fund may be used for an organized trip to Israel any time after grade 10 until the youth reaches age 23.

Each **S.K.I.P** account is supplemented by a gift from the **HY AND LORRY GOLDENBERG BIRTHRIGHT FUND** and the **MINNETTE AND MEYER RUCHMAN FUND**.

Looking for a bar/bat mitzvah, confirmation or special gift for one of our local youth, then please consider making that gift to their **S.K.I.P.** Fund account. An acknowledgment will be sent to you and a card indicating your gift will be sent to the designee.

Enrollment packets will be sent to all families not yet enrolled. If you do not get a packet or have any questions, please contact Federation's Executive Director Jaki Schreier at [jakischreier@fwjf.org](mailto:jakischreier@fwjf.org) or (260) 456.0400.

continued from page 3

### Natan Sharansky

Born in Donetsk, Ukraine in 1948, Natan Sharansky is one of the most famous refuseniks who advocated for Soviet Jewry's right to emigrate during the 1970s and 1980s. Between the years of 1977 and 1986, Sharansky was imprisoned for his activism. After being released, Sharansky immigrated to Israel and entered the world of politics. Sharansky was awarded the Israel Prize in 2018.

### Vladimir Horowitz

Hailed as one of the greatest pianists of all time, Vladimir Horowitz was born in Kyiv in 1903. He left the Soviet Union at 22 years old and went on to reside in Berlin and New York City. After winning dozens of Grammy Awards from the late 1960s to the early 1990s, Horowitz earned the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 1990. There have been many other remarkable Ukrainian Jewish musicians including internationally renowned violinist and six-time Grammy winner **Isaac Stern**.

### Jan Koum

Born in Kyiv in 1976, Jan Koum immigrated to California with his mother as a teenager. After working for several years in cybersecurity and programming, Koum invented the messaging application WhatsApp in 2009. WhatsApp has billions of users worldwide and was acquired by Facebook's Meta Platforms for \$19.3 billion in 2014.

### Rav Nachman of Breslov

Rav Nachman, also known as Nachman from Uman or Reb Nachman, was born in Medzhybizh, Ukraine in 1772. A grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, Rav Nachman went on to found the Breslov Hasidic movement, which combined elements of mysticism with Torah writings. He moved to Uman in 1810 and died later that year. Today, Rav Nachman's grave in Uman is a pilgrimage site that receives tens of thousands of visitors each year.

### Ilya Kaminsky

Ilya Kaminsky was born in Odessa in 1977. At age 16, Kaminsky and his family emigrated to the U.S. due to antisemitism in Ukraine. Kaminsky's poetry collections *Dancing in Odessa* and *Deaf Republic* both received international accolades, and Kaminsky was selected as a Guggenheim Fellow in 2018.

### Mendel Beilis

After the body of a missing 13-year-old boy was discovered near the Kyiv factory where he worked,

Mendel Beilis was accused of ritually murdering the child and using his blood to make matzah. Beilis was jailed for more than two years while awaiting trial. While he was eventually acquitted, the month-long trial brought international attention to rampant antisemitism in the Russian Empire. Like the better-known Dreyfus Affair in France several years earlier, the case confirmed for many Ukrainian Jews that the country's leadership was fundamentally antisemitic and drove many to emigrate.

### Hayim Nahman Biyalik

Born near Volhynia, Ukraine in 1873, Hayim Nahman Bialik is remembered as a pioneer of modern Hebrew poetry. He is just one of many Ukrainian Jews who molded early Israeli literature and Zionist thought. **Ahad Ha'am**, an essayist who was also influential in the revival of Hebrew writing, was born in Skvyra, Ukraine to a Hasidic family in 1856. He is also considered the father of Cultural Zionism; **Ze'ev Jabotinsky**, the founder of Revisionist Zionism, was born in Odessa in 1880. Jabotinsky also established the Beitar youth movement and the Irgun, a paramilitary organization in pre-state Israel.

### Shlomo Ganzfried

A rabbi and expert in Jewish law, Shlomo Ganzfried was born in 1804 in Uzhhorod, Ukraine. Considered a child prodigy in Eastern Europe's yeshiva world, Ganzfried's most notable contribution to Judaism was penning the *Kitzur Shulchan Aruch*, a condensed and easily understood version of the *Shulchan Aruch*, the most widely cited code of Jewish law.

### Volodymyr Zelensky

Born in the city of Kryvyi Rih in 1978, Volodymyr Zelensky was raised in the area that was once known as the Pale of Settlement, the only region in the Russian Empire where most Jews were permitted to live. While Zelensky gained fame in Ukraine as an actor and comedian, he switched gears in 2019 and successfully ran for Ukraine's presidency where he became a hero to the country in the wake of the Russian invasion in February 2022. Read 18 things to know about Zelensky [here](#).

*Want to learn more about the Jews of Ukraine, past and present? [Sign up for My Jewish Learning and JTA News' email series](#) to learn more about the complicated Jewish history of Ukraine and how the past sheds light on the battles unfolding today.*

[Reprinted with permission](#)





### CELEBRATE HANUKKAH AND SHABBAT WITH OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

Kindle the lights of Shabbat and Hanukkah with us at our service on Friday, December 23 at 7:30 p.m., led by Rabbi Meir, with music by Maestro Robert Nance.

Add to the joy and warmth of the holiday by bringing your *hanukkiyah* to celebrate the sixth night of the Festival of Lights as a community amid the glow of many candles.

Join our Temple family as we mark the Maccabees' triumph over the Greeks and their rededication of the Temple, as well as sing Hanukkah songs during the service. Kiddush follows. [What is Hannukah?](#)

### HANUKKAH PARTY INCLUDES LATKES AND LIGHTS

Spin the dreidel, nosh on latkes, and kindle the first candle together at a fun-filled Hanukkah party for the Jewish community on Sunday, December 18 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Temple. Please bring your *hanukkiyah* and candles to light.

The [ROMEOs](#) (Retired Old Men Eating Out) will be hosting the dinner, which includes latkes, applesauce, kosher hot dogs, vegan hot dogs, salad, and *sufganiyot* (jelly donuts).

Please RSVP for dinner to the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) by Wednesday, December 14. Donations always are appreciated to help the ROMEOs continue to sponsor these wonderful events. Thank you to Denny Reynolds and the ROMEOs for providing the meal and Leise Rosman for coordinating the festivities.

### LIGHT AND NATURE UPCOMING THEMES FOR JOY VEY

Gather 'round your little ones (ages 0-5ish and older siblings) for a playful and silly, yet peaceful start to Shabbat for the whole family! We'll meet on Friday, December 9 and Friday, January 13 from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Temple to light candles, pray, sing songs, move and groove, and even practice mindfulness. Our December theme is "light" and our January focus is "nature."

Please join us in the tradition of blessing your children as we make a joyful place for Shabbat in our lives and hearts... together. Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat will be led by Bekah Worpell, music and movement mentor, and Rabbi Meir in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.

We meet on the second Friday night of the month and folks are encouraged to stick around to enjoy a glass of wine/juice and a bite of challah afterwards!

### BECOME A LIFELONG LEARNER

Expand your Jewish knowledge by joining us in the coming year for [lifelong learning](#) classes online that include a variety of Jewish study topics with Rabbi Meir Barger and guest speakers.

### The Jews and the Greeks: A Hanukkah Object Story With Rabbi Sarah Berman

Tuesday, December 13

7 p.m. on Zoom

The Hanukkah story pits the ancient Jews against their Hellenistic Greek neighbors, but in real life the divisions between these two groups were often much less dramatic. Join [Rabbi Sarah Berman](#) to explore art and objects that tell more nuanced stories about the encounter between Judaism and Hellenism — and come away with a

new understanding of Hanukkah.

Please RSVP to [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org) by Thursday, December 8 to receive materials.

### Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph Sundays, January 15 to April 2 7-8 p.m. on Zoom

Ready to follow along in the Hebrew at Shabbat services? Wondering how to master your pronunciation of the prayers? Then Hebrew 1: Kita Aleph is for you!

John Planer will guide us through our study of Hebrew on Sunday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. via Zoom. The class will meet for 11 sessions from January 15 to April 2. (No class on February 19.) The class is offered at no charge, but participants must purchase the required text and have it at the first session. Textbook: ***Aleph Isn't Tough: An Introduction to Hebrew for Adults, Book 1***. Purchasing Options: [Behrman House](#) or [Amazon](#).

Registration is required by Wednesday, January 4 by emailing us at [office@templecav.org](mailto:office@templecav.org). The Zoom link to attend will be sent to those who register.

### CELEBRATE SHABBAT AT THE TEMPLE

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

Rabbi Meir Barger will lead services most Fridays at 7:30 p.m. Ron Friedman will lead worship most Saturdays at 9:45 a.m., with Rabbi Meir offering a D'var Torah.

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.

### ROASTED CHICKENS PROVIDED TO THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS FAMILIES

Our Thoughtful Thursdays team is providing a hot, fully-cooked roasted chicken for each of our 51 Brightpoint Head Start families in December. Though we've provided frozen turkeys in the past, we thought the rotisserie chicken was a better choice because of the continued supply chain shortage and rising cost of food.

Thank you to our volunteers who helped pick up and distribute the chickens: Cheri Buker, Suzi King, and Sally & Steve Trotter.

In addition to the roasted chicken, we will be sending home two bags with each student that include mashed potatoes, corn, savory chicken and wild rice soup, vanilla pudding, and chocolate fudge brownie mix.

We also continue to collect athletic wear (shirts and sweatpants) in children's sizes 3-8, with the greatest need in sizes 6-8.

From December through March, we are collecting bottles of hand sanitizer (8 oz. or larger) and boxes of tissues (60-120 count). Please drop donations at the Temple.

Thank you to all of the amazing volunteers who have made this year a success! Thoughtful Thursdays is a project of Congregation Achduth Vesholom and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#).





## GENEALOGY SOCIETY HIGHLIGHTS IMMIGRATION RECORDS



Marian Smith

More than 150 people attended Marian Smith's informative program, "More than Manifests: Immigration and Naturalization Records," hosted by the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society in November. She introduced numerous records held by the National Archives and elsewhere that most people have not heard about. Members of the group met virtually with Ms. Smith after her public presentations for an information Q &A session, and will have access to recordings of her presentations.



Dr. Nicholas Evans

Looking ahead, the NEIJGS will be changing things up a bit in February by offering three one-hour programs on Tuesday afternoons with Dr. Nicholas Evans of the University of Hull in England. Beginning at 2:30 each Tuesday afternoon of the month, he'll offer a virtual program about some aspect of Jewish immigration. The plan is to begin with the trip immigrants took from their homes in Eastern Europe to various European ports. The second program will discuss travel to America and elsewhere, and the third program will highlight the lives of immigrants in this country. All three programs will be co-hosted by the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center. On the fourth Tuesday, NEIJGS members will have the opportunity to question Dr. Evans in their own special session. More information will be provided on the NEIJGS web-

site at [www.NEIndianaJGS.org](http://www.NEIndianaJGS.org).



*Our wish for you, may peace, love and joy come to you during the Festival of Lights.*

**Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne  
Board of Directors and staff**



The **Board of Directors** and the **staff** of the **Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne** wish you all a happy healthy 2023!

Please note that our office will be closed on Monday, December 19 - January 1, and Monday, January 16.

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP



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.



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.



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

- **Israel@75 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**
- **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



### Janet Finkel Campership Fund

- A donation was received from **Jaki Schreier** in appreciation of **Audrey Gerson and Janet Finkel** for their contributions to **Camp Joe Levine**

### JNF - Plant a tree in Israel

- A donation was received from an **anonymous** donor

every contribution is  
hugely valued

thank  
you!

## 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)

**December 1 – Club Room at the Clyde**  
1806 Bluffton Road

**December 15 – Joanna's Family Restaurant**  
10368 Leo Road

**January 5, 2023 - Mad Anthony Brewing Company**  
1109 Taylor Street

**January 19 - China Palace**  
5810 Bluffton Road

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

**2022 - 2023 Board of Directors**

**Officers:**

President: Scott Salon  
Vice President: Bob Walters  
Secretary: Amy Krouse  
Treasurer: Lee Pomerantz  
Executive Director: Jaki Schreier

**Delegates-At-Large**

Ben Eisbart  
Ron Friedman  
Rhonda Gerson-Hurwitz  
Bonnie Pomerantz  
Mike Rush  
Ellen Tom  
Leah Zimmerman

Rabbi Meir Bargerone

Staff

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

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

Bonnie Pomerantz  
Office Manager  
[office@fwjf.org](mailto:office@fwjf.org)

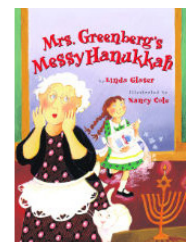
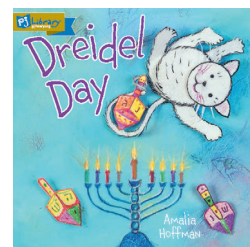
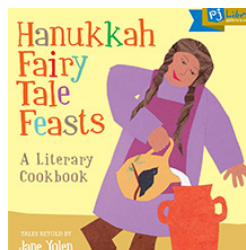
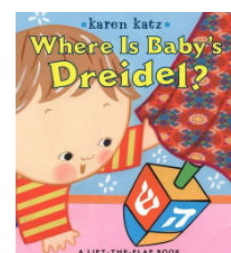
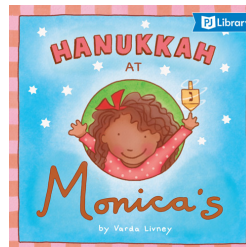
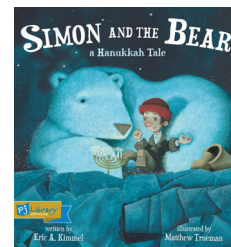
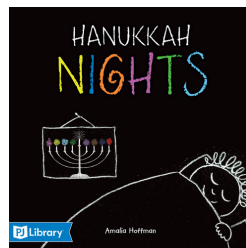
[Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](http://Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne)  
5200 Old Mill Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

(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.

