

Chailights

Community Bulletin of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne October 2026

Supper Club Thursday, October 1 6:30 p.m. at the Rifkin Campus

We still have room for you! Join us for an evening of delicious food, friendship, and fun at our first Supper Club gathering!

All Jewish women in our community are invited to bring a favorite soup to share. Please bring enough soup to serve about 10 people, along with a recipe? Just let

[Please see](#)

Our Supper Club is a fun, friendly, and delicious way to gather, with a different culinary theme each time. Come and join us for an evening together and help us plan future gatherings and use our next themes. We hope you'll join us!



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ENDS

help printing your
-we're happy to help!)

What soup you'll be bringing.

Ladies' Night Out — Dinner at P.F. Chang's

Our Rosh Chodesh Women's Group continues to enjoy getting together for good food, laughter, and friendship! Whether you've joined us before or this will be your first dinner, we'd love to have you at the table.

Join us for our next Ladies' Night Out on **Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m.** at **P.F. Chang's**, located at **4201 Coldwater Rd., Ste. D-1**. All Jewish women in our community are warmly invited, and each guest pays for her own meal.



Please RSVP one week before the dinner to office@fwjf.org or leave a message (260) 456-0400. We look forward to another fun evening together!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Executive Director
- Partnership2Gether (P2G)
- PJ Library
- Calendar
- Temple News
- NEIJS News
- Chabad News
- Women's Philanthropy

Confronting the Shoah

Mark your calendars! Holocaust scholar **Dr. David Lindquist** will once again present *Confronting the Shoah*, a seven-week course beginning in January 2027.



This important course provides participants with comprehensive historical and contextual knowledge of the Nazi Holocaust. Through the seven sessions, participants will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Holocaust and its historical significance.

Classes will be held on **Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19, and 26, and February 2, 9, and 16, 2027**, at the **Stillwater Hospice Peggy F. Murphy Community**

Grief Center, 5920 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne. Classes begin at **7:00 p.m.** and will last approximately **2 to 2½ hours** each.

There is **no cost** for Federation members, teachers, principals, historians, or high school juniors and seniors. For all others, there is a **\$5 fee** to cover the cost of materials.

[Click here to register](#), or contact the Federation office at (260) 456-0400 or office@fwjf.org. **Professional Growth Points (PGP) certificates** will be available at the conclusion of the program for those who request them.

Thank you to the **Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation** and the members of Federation for their continued support of this important educational program.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Good day to everyone!

As we welcome 5787, I wish you and your loved ones a blessed and healthy year filled with peace and happiness.

I want to thank you for the generosity, trust, and commitment you continue to show to the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. Your support enables us to advance our core mission of providing assistance in our community, in Israel, and around the world. Your generosity is what makes this support possible.

Our community and Jewish communities around the world face several pressing challenges:

1. Since October 7, 2023, the work of rebuilding communities in Israel has been immense. Individuals and entire communities continue to need additional medical services, restored infrastructure, and essential community programs, just to name a few of the areas we are proud to support.
2. Here in Fort Wayne, as in communities across our country, higher prices are straining families and forcing them to make very difficult choices.
3. We are also seeing a growing need to help people facing weather-related hardships, including property damage and emergency repairs.
4. Jewish communities everywhere continue to face rising security and engagement costs simply to gather safely for religious observances, educational programs, and social events.

Because of your generosity, our Federation can respond thoughtfully and compassionately. Thank you for the trust you place in us and for the many ways you strengthen Jewish life in Fort Wayne and beyond. Please take pride in what you are helping to accomplish.

As you consider your charitable giving for the year ahead, I hope you will consider making a gift to our Annual Campaign. Every contribution, at every level, helps us meet urgent needs, sustain important programs, and fulfill our shared responsibility to care for one another. To those who have already made a pledge, I offer my sincere thanks for your generosity and timely support.

Your partnership makes this caring community stronger. May 5787 be a year of good health, peace, and meaningful connection for you and those you love.

With gratitude,

Michael Theise

UPCOMING & PAST EVENTS

Ladies' Night Out — Dinner at Casa Restaurant

What a wonderful summer and fall of dining together! Our Rosh Chodesh group has enjoyed several evenings of good food, laughter, and friendship, and our September dinner at Casa Restaurant was no exception. Seven ladies came together for a lovely evening of catching up, meeting new friends, and enjoying a delicious meal. It's wonderful to see our group continue to grow!



Bourbon & Bites — A Night to Remember

What a wonderful evening! More than 30 members of our Jewish community gathered at the Rifkin Campus at 5200 for our Rosh Chodesh Bourbon & Bites tasting — and what a night it was!

We began with Havdalah. Then, Chris and Elaine led the group on a flavorful journey from one bourbon to the next, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with every pour. The evening was equal parts fun, educational, and delicious — a perfect opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy the company of old ones (much like the bourbons themselves!).

Thank you to our Rosh Chodesh committee for planning such a memorable evening, and to the **Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation** for its continued generous support.



Havdalah led by Denny Reynolds, Don Zelman and Marcia Reynolds



Chris shares his bourbon knowledge with the group



Friends



Friends



Your Direct Connection to Israel

[Partnership2Gether \(P2G\)](#) is a program of the [Jewish Agency](#) and the [Jewish Federations of North America](#), promoting people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational, and economic programs. **The Western Galilee Partnership connects 17 U.S. communities of the US Central Area Consortium, Israel's Western Galilee and Budapest, Hungary** [Read more here.](#)

From Our Friends at [Partnership2Gether!](#)

The Western Galilee Partnership connects 17 U.S. communities of the US Central Area Consortium, Israel's Western Galilee and Budapest, Hungary. 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 à 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.

WESTERN GALILEE | US CENTRAL AREA CONSORTIUM | BUDAPEST

IN COMMEMORATION OF OCTOBER 7

P2G Book & Film Club

Featuring the film

From October 6 to October 7

Spanning from the Yom Kippur War to the horrors of October 7, Major General Doron Almog's life reflects some of Israel's most defining and painful moments. Surrounded by five decades of personal loss and national tragedy, this Israel Prize laureate refuses to surrender to despair. The film offers a powerful portrait of a leader who transforms profound grief into resilience, hope, and a lasting legacy.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

12 PM CT • 1 PM ET • 7 PM BUD • 8 PM IL

The event will begin with a brief commemoration marking the events of October 7, followed by a discussion of the film.

The film will be available to registered participants via a private viewing link that will be sent after registration.

RSVP

Watch the Trailer



SPECIAL GUEST:

Major General (Res.)

Doron Almog

Chairman of the
Jewish Agency
for Israel

P2G Book & Film Club: *From October 6 to October 7*

Join us on **Sunday, October 18, at 1:00 p.m.** for a special community viewing of *From October 6 to October 7*, presented through the Partnership2Gether Book & Film Club.

The film tells the story of **Major General (Res.) Doron Almog**, Chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel, whose life spans some of Israel's most defining and painful moments—from the Yom Kippur War to the horrors of October 7. His story is one of profound loss, resilience, hope, and a lasting commitment to Israel.

Let's Watch Together as a Community!

We have reserved a room at the [Peggy F. Murphy Community Grief Center](#) (5920 Homestead Road) for a **community watch party**, giving us the opportunity to experience this meaningful film together and discuss it afterward. The program will begin with a brief commemoration of the events of October 7, followed by the film and a discussion.

Please RSVP by October 1 so we know how many people will be joining us. We need a minimum of 10 participants to hold the in-person gathering.

To RSVP, please email office@fwjf.org or leave a message at (260) 456-0400.

We hope you will join us as we come together as a community to remember, reflect, and learn.

What are we talking about this month:

Sukkot



Word Jumble

Directions: Unscramble each of the clue words.
Then, unscramble the letters that appear in ☐ boxes for the final message.

1. DEKHTZAA

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Jewish value of "righteous giving"

2. CUMOTNIMY

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

People who live and work together are called a _____

3. MINPUKP

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Orange squash popular in autumn celebrations

4. KUTSOK

☐☐☐☐☐☐

Festival holiday when Jewish people spend time in huts

5. VIIGGN

☐☐☐☐☐☐

Providing something to another person

6. EDENS

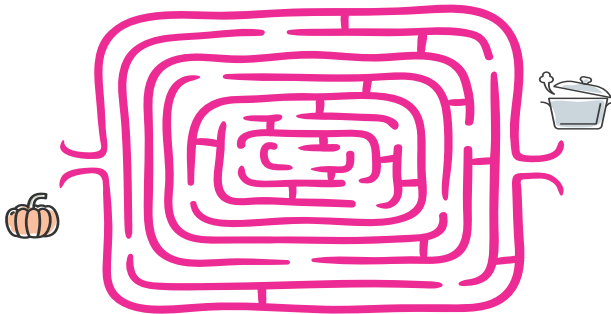
☐☐☐☐☐☐

Things someone has to have

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Maze

Help Micah get from the pumpkin patch to the soup kitchen.



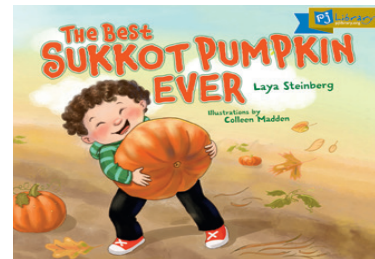
Word Scramble Answer Key
1. tzedakah; 2. community; 3. pumpkin; 4. Sukkot; 5. giving; 6. needs; Final message: soup kitchen

MORE PJ LIBRARY RESOURCES

bit.ly/PJGtS-Pinterest-tzedakah

BIG QUESTION

What can we do to meet the needs of other people?



The Best Sukkot Pumpkin Ever

Righteous giving
Tzedakah
צְדָקָה

DISCUSS JEWISH VALUES WITH YOUR CHILD

Tzedakah, the act of giving, is a central Jewish value because helping people in need is a just thing to do. Judaism teaches to think of others and give generously.

What are some of the things that people need, and how can you help those people?

What is one thing we could do right now as a family to help someone in need in our community?

DO FUN STUFF AT HOME

Make giving tzedakah a habit for your family and share your enthusiasm! Create colorful posters or flyers about an organization that is important to you, such as a medical foundation or animal shelter. Hang your creations at school to encourage others to support their work. How will you help the organization? Maybe your family will collect needed items, fundraise, or visit and lend a hand.



CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
KEY: Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne (The Federation) - JFFW The Temple - CAV Chabad - CHA	Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society - NEIJGS ROMEOs - RO Special Events			1 Noon - RO Lunch 6:30 p.m. JFFW Rosh Chodesh Supper Club	2 JFFW Office Closed 6:00 p.m. CAV Shabbat Service	3 9:45 a.m. CAV Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m. CAV Simchat Torah
4 10:00 a.m. CAV Religious School 12:30 p.m. CHA - Simchat Torah	5 CAV Office Closed	6 6:30 p.m. CHA - Jewish Insights - weekly Torah class	7 10:00 a.m. CAV Thoughtful Thursdays 5 p.m. CHA - JUDA Hebrew School of the Arts 7:00 p.m. CAV Remembering October 7	8 	9 JFFW Office Closed 6:00 p.m. CAV Shabbat Service	10 10:30 a.m. CAV Joy Vey!
11 10:00 a.m. CAV Religious School	12 JFFW Office Closed & CAV Office Closed	13 6:30 p.m. CHA - Jewish Insights - weekly Torah class	14 5 p.m. CHA - JUDA Hebrew School of the Arts 7:00 p.m. CAV Beit Midrash	15 Noon - RO Lunch	16 JFFW Office Closed 6:00 p.m. CAV Shabbat Service	17 10:00 a.m. CAV Shabbat Service
18 10:00 a.m. CAV Religious School 1:00 p.m. JFFW - From October 6 to October 7 movie 1:00 p.m. CAV Open House	19 CAV Office Closed	20 6:30 p.m. CHA - Jewish Insights - weekly Torah class	21 5 p.m. CHA - JUDA Hebrew School of the Arts 6:00 p.m. JFFW Rosh Chodesh Dinner - PF Chang's	22 	23 JFFW Office Closed 6:00 p.m. CAV Shabbat Service	24 10:30 a.m. CAV Shabbat Service
25 10:00 a.m. CAV Religious School	26 CAV Office Closed 1:30 p.m. CAV Corned Beef condiment prep	27 6:30 p.m. CHA - Jewish Insights - weekly Torah class	28 5 p.m. CHA - JUDA Hebrew School of the Arts 6:00 p.m. CAV Corned Beef prep	29 10:00 a.m. CAV Corned Beef fundraiser	30 JFFW Office Closed 6:00 p.m. NEIJGS - Family History Shabbat 6:00 p.m. CAV Shabbat Service 6:30 p.m. CHA - First Friday YJP Shabbat Dinner	31

24th CORNED BEEF ON RYE – SURE TO SATISFY SALE COMING OCTOBER 29

Get ready to savor delicious delicatessen when our Corned Beef on Rye – Sure to Satisfy Fundraiser returns on Thursday, October 29 for a 24th year at Congregation Achduth Vesholom. We're looking forward to topping last year's sales of more than 1,700 scrumptious meals!

Take advantage of early-bird pricing, pick up, and delivery options! [Order online](#) or [download an order form](#) at www.templecav.org.

Boxed meals are \$21 each when ordered by Thursday, October 15. After that date and at the door, meals are \$25 each (while supplies last). Meals include a heaping 1/3-pound corned beef sandwich on rye, giant pickle, creamy coleslaw, fudgy brownie, and a drink.

Additional pounds of bulk corned beef are for sale for \$25 per pound. Delivery service is available when you order 12 meals or more by Thursday, October 15 for \$15 per address.

On Deli Day, simply park in our spacious lot and walk up to the building, where multiple pick-up stations will be set up for your convenience. In addition, customers who pre-order meals will be able to take advantage of special early bird pick up beginning at 10 a.m., an hour before our regular 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. hours.

We have exciting new sponsorship opportunities this year! Visit [the Temple website](#) for details at www.templecav.org. We also welcome volunteers. Offer your help at office@templecav.org.

CELEBRATE SIMCHAT TORAH & CONSECRATION

Be part of the Temple's festive Simchat Torah celebration on Saturday, October 3 at 6 p.m. when we parade our sacred scrolls through the Sanctuary, enjoy festive singing and flag waving, and complete the reading of the Book of Deuteronomy while also beginning the Book of Genesis.

We'll also celebrate Consecration with our new Religious School students ages 5 and up who are beginning their study of Torah. Yizkor will also be observed. Join us in person or on [YouTube](#). An Oneg Shabbat will follow.

REMEMBERING OCTOBER 7 WITH PRAYER, REFLECTION AND CONVERSATION

Share an evening of remembrance and prayer as we commemorate October 7, followed by reflection and conversation with Daniel Sherman about "Israel: Between Fear and Hope" on Wednesday, October 7 at 7

p.m. at the Rifkin Campus or on [YouTube](#).

Three years after the attacks of October 7, Israelis and Jews around the world continue to wrestle with their consequences — for Israel's security and society, its place in the Middle East, and our understanding of Jewish history, fear, and hope.

Sherman is an Israeli strategic and organizational consultant whose career has spanned the military, diplomacy, civil society, human rights, and Jewish communal life.

A former senior officer in the IDF Strategic Planning Division, Sherman brings a distinctive perspective to the challenges facing Israel and the region.

Drawing on his personal experience of October 7 and its aftermath, Sherman will explore how the past three years have shaped Israel's domestic and regional challenges, how history influences Israeli and Jewish understandings of vulnerability and security, and where we might find grounds for hope.

The evening will include ample time for questions and nuanced conversation. Sponsored by [Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#) and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#). All are welcome.

CELEBRATE SHABBAT AND SIMCHAS AT THE TEMPLE

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

Rabbi Meir Barger leads services most Fridays at 6 p.m. Ron Friedman leads worship on most first and third Saturdays at 9:45 a.m., with Rabbi Meir offering a D'var Torah. We invite you for these special events:

- [Joy Vey! A Kid-ish Shabbat](#) for families with young children will meet on Saturday, October 10 at 10:30 a.m. with musician Juliette Nehring.
- [L'dor Vador Shabbat](#) on Friday, October 16 at 6 p.m.
- [Shabbat & Bat Mitzvah of Eleora Soltz](#), daughter of Wendy & Micah Soltz, on Saturday, October 17 at 10 a.m.
- [Meditation Shabbat](#) on Saturday, October 24 at 10:30 a.m.
- [Family History Shabbat](#) with the [Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society](#) on Friday, October 30 at 6 p.m. Temple member and NEJGS Vice President Pamela Friedman will share a few of

her favorite genealogy discoveries and reflect on how exploring our ancestors' lives helps preserve memories, strengthen our sense of identity, and carry their stories *l'dor v'dor*.

- [Shabbat & Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Gordon](#), son of Rachel & Geoffrey Gordon, on Saturday, November 7 at 10 a.m.
- Find the schedule at www.templecav.org.

THE JEWISH CASE FOR HOPE

How do we hold on to hope in difficult times? Jewish tradition is deeply honest about fear, uncertainty, grief, and struggle — yet it also insists on the possibility of meaning, resilience, and renewal.

Join Rabbi Meir and our lifelong learners on Wednesday, October 14 at 7 p.m. on Zoom for an evening of Jewish learning and conversation as we explore timeless texts and modern insights about hope, courage, and what it means to "choose life" in today's world.

No prior background or preparation is necessary. Come ready to learn, reflect, and join the conversation. The Zoom link will be in the weekly email to our Temple family.

TEMPLE GALLERY SHOWCASES ART BY BETTY FISHMAN

A new display area in the Temple lobby is showcasing art by the late Betty Fishman, a local artist and supporter of the arts in the region. Betty was also a congregant who served as the Temple's long-time chair of the Art & Beautification Committee. The works are on loan from the Fort Wayne Museum of Art through November 8.

Please join us for a public open house on Sunday, October 18 from 1 to 4 p.m., which will include a reception hosted by Maureen & Alan Grinsfelder.

JOIN THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS BAG ASSEMBLY TEAM ON OCTOBER 7

Join the Jewish Community's Thoughtful Thursdays team as they assemble bags of food and household items on Wednesday, October 7 at 10 a.m. for the 52 children who attend Brightpoint Head Start and have classes in our building.

Thank you to Chair Joanne McCrory and her team.

Thoughtful Thursdays is a project of [Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#) and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#). Thanks to everyone who supported our apple project to provide fresh fruit to the families.

DISCOVERING YOUR FAMILY'S PAST IN THE AGE OF AI



Genealogy has always involved asking questions, following clues, and making connections. Now, artificial intelligence offers new ways to approach that work — from organizing information and deciphering difficult records to brainstorming research strategies and preserving family memories.

The Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society (NEIJS), in partnership with the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center, is introducing a new **AI Special Interest Group (AI SIG)** for anyone curious about using these emerging tools in family history research.

The group's first virtual meeting will take place on **Wednesday, October 21, at 6:30 p.m.** The program, **"Your Family History Starts Here with AI,"** will offer an informal introduction to the group and to the possibilities — and limitations — of artificial intelligence for genealogists.

You do not need technical experience to participate. Perhaps you are wondering how AI might help with a brick-wall problem. Maybe you want to make sense of a handwritten document, organize notes, or find better ways to tell your family's story. Or perhaps you simply want to understand what all the excitement is about. The AI SIG is designed for beginners and experienced users alike.

Participants will have opportunities to share ideas, compare experiences, and bring real research challenges to the discussion. The goal is not to present AI as a replacement for careful genealogical work, but to explore how it can support researchers while keeping accuracy, privacy, and good source evaluation in view.

Join us for the first session and help shape this new community of genealogists learning how to work with AI.

Wednesday, October 21 | 6:30–7:30 p.m. | Virtual

Registration: [ACPL Genealogy Center event page](#)
[Zoom registration](#)



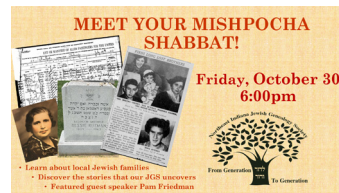
You're probably reading this at the beginning of October 2026. You might be sitting on your couch or at your desk and it'll be just around the conclusion of the Jewish festival of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. We're finally winding down after a marathon, of holidays, one after the next: Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and then Simchat Torah. Now what?

Where do we go from here?

Back in the Shtetl, before Amazon and Walmart, once a year the local shop owners, each from their own town or village, would all descend upon the big city in the region to replenish their supply of goods to bring back to their shops so they'd have what they needed to sell for the year ahead. They would hang around at the big fair for a few weeks, buying some of this and some of that, ensuring their livelihood until next year's fair. At the end of those weeks, they'd pack up the new goods and haul it back to town and get back to the daily grind of selling their newly acquired products.

SAMPLE A TASTE OF JEWISH FAMILY HISTORY ON SHABBAT

Everyone has a story! Come discover how those stories connect us *l'dor v'dor*—from generation to generation.



Join us on Friday, October 30 at 6 pm for Shabbat services as we celebrate Family History Month and help the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society (NEIJS) kick off its new year of programming with a special Meet Your Mishpocha evening.

Temple member and NEIJS Vice President Pamela Friedman will share a few of her favorite genealogy discoveries and reflect on how exploring our ancestors' lives helps preserve memories, strengthen our sense of identity, and carry their stories *l'dor v'dor*.

Following services, everyone is invited to an Oneg Shabbat hosted by NEIJS. Enjoy refreshments, meet fellow family history enthusiasts, ask questions, and learn how you can begin uncovering your own family's history.



The month of Tishrei is filled with holidays, days of awe and days of joy. We spent hours in synagogue praying and we gathered with our family and friends around festive dinners. We spend the month gathering inspiration and a spiritual boost. We crowned Hashem as King for a new year and we achieved forgiveness on the day of atonement. We remembered G-d's love and protection of the Jews wandering through the desert by sitting in our sukkahs and finally we rejoiced with the Torah, celebrating the completion and restarting of the annual cycle of Torah reading.

During this time, we packed our bags with goods and products, pearls of inspiration and renewed spiritual energy. Now we are ready to march on into the new year ahead, armed with new strength to fulfill our missions. Let's get out there and conquer the world with light, one moment at a time, one Mitzvah at a time.

Lechayim!

Rabbi Levi Danow

WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY

Lion of Judah



History and usage

The Biblical Judah (in Hebrew: Yehuda) is the original name of the Tribe of Judah, which is traditionally symbolized by a lion. In Genesis, the patriarch Jacob ("Israel") gave that symbol to his tribe when he referred to his son Judah as a Gur Aryeh, a "Young Lion" (Genesis 49:9) when blessing him. In Jewish naming tradition, the Hebrew name and the substitute name are often combined as a pair, as in this case. The Lion of Judah was used as a Jewish symbol for many years, and as Jerusalem was the capital of the Kingdom of Judah, in 1950 it was included in the Emblem of Jerusalem.

Who They Are:

Dynamic, philanthropic Jewish women who create social justice, aid the vulnerable, preserve human dignity and build Jewish identity. 17,500 women around the world are proud Lions of Judah, donating at least \$5,000 to Federation every year.

Pomegranate Pin

An ancient symbol found carved into the lintels of the earliest synagogues, the pomegranate has carried with it the concepts of Judaism for generations.

The Pomegranate pin was introduced as a way to inspire giving from women of all stations. Three decades after its inception, more than 7,000 pins have been distributed across North America.



It represents the best of what Federation does – bringing together like-minded donors to do a world of good.

To qualify, women must donate \$1,800 or more to the Federation's Annual Campaign.

Where Can You Get Challah, Kosher, or Vegan Items in Fort Wayne?

TRADER JOE'S®

4110 W. Jefferson Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
260-432-5828
www.traderjoes.com



6306 W Jefferson Blvd
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
260-459-9691
www.thefreshmarket.com



7605 Coldwater Rd Suite A
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
260-489-8686
lovingcafefw.com



2021 Broadway
Fort Wayne, IN
260-420-5565
georgesinternationalmarket.com



1612 Sherman Blvd
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
260-424-8812
www.3riversfood.coop

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 coursework in order to qualify for reimbursement.

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY



BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

Family membership is defined as a minimum gift of \$108.00 to the most recent Federation Annual Campaign, which runs from November through March.

If you have any questions, please call Michael Theise at (260) 456-0400 or contact him at director@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? 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 Michael Theise at director@fwjf.org or (260) 456-0400.

GIFT GIVING MADE EASY



Setting up your own philanthropic legacy is easier than you might think. Through the Jewish Federation, you can establish a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) with no setup costs or administrative fees. This personal charitable fund allows you to make tax-deductible contributions, invest the assets for potential growth, and recommend grants to your favorite charities over time. Whether you're interested in supporting Jewish causes or any other charitable organizations, a DAF offers a simple, flexible way to organize your giving while potentially reducing your tax burden. The Federation's staff will handle all administrative details, allowing you to focus on the joy of giving.

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.



In observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day, our office will be closed on Monday, October 12.

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@fwjf.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.



The Audrey & Joe Gerson Free Loan 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.

We are here to help!



Wellspring provides essential necessities of clothing, food, and personal hygiene items. In addition, Wellspring offers after-school and summer programs for youth, as well as programming for older adults and adults with disabilities. Call today at 260-422-6618 or visit our website www.wellspringinterfaith.org to learn more. All services are free of charge and no referral or voucher is needed. We are here to serve all who need our help.

FUNDS AND DONATIONS

ENDOWMENT

- **Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund**
- **Baum/Goldenberg Scholarship**
- **Emergency Cash Assistance Fund**
- **Holocaust Education Fund**
- **Jewish Experience Fund**
- **JNF - Plant a Tree in Israel**
- **Prejudice Reduction Elimination Fund**
- **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 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.

WE MAKE
A LIVING
BY WHAT WE GET,
BUT WE MAKE
A LIFE BY
WHAT WE GIVE.

winston churchill

DONATIONS

General Operations

- A donation was received from **Larry Mastbaum & Marni Blomquist** in honor of **Cookie & Leonard Mastbaum**
- A donation was received from **Sarah Renner** in memory of **Dolly Parton** and **Juan Antonio Martinez IV**

Holocaust Education Fund

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

JNF - Plant a Tree in Israel

- Donations were received from **Juan Suarez**

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 Federation's work on behalf of 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!

Scan QR code to donate



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

October 1 – Lucky Turtle/Lucky Moose
622 E. Dupont Road

October 15 – Zianos
5907 Covington Road

November 5 – Club Room at The Clyde
1806 Bluffton Road

November 19 – Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern
2886 E. Dupont Road

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

2026 - 2027 Board of Directors
Officers:

President: Ben Eisbart
Vice President: Bob Walters
Secretary: Lee Pomerantz
Treasurer: Jaki Schreier
Executive Director: Michael Theise

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Maureen Grinsfelder
Scott Salon
Eric Schreier
Ellen Tom
Aliza Tourkow
Josh Wallet
Mimi Zelman

Rabbi Meir Bargerion

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office@fwjf.org

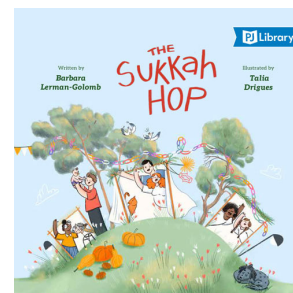
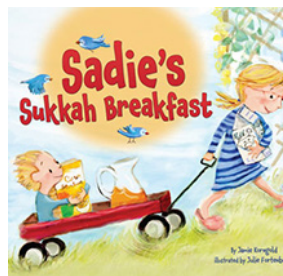
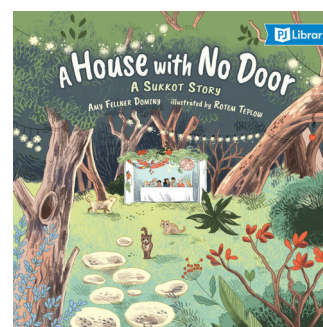
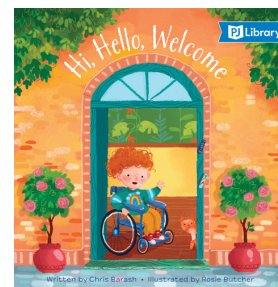
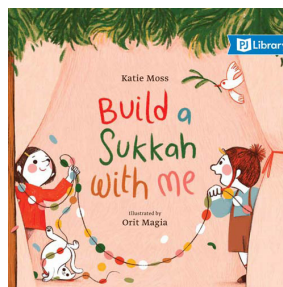
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne
5200 Old Mill Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

(260) 456-0400 phone
(260) 456-0500 fax
www.fwjf.org



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.



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.

