

Fall 2023

ILLIANA NEWS

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF NORTHWEST INDIANA



585 Progress Avenue
Munster, Indiana 46321
(219)301-0960
www.federationonline.org



FederationOnline



[jewishfederationnwi](https://www.instagram.com/jewishfederationnwi)



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA



Our Mission



Enriching Jewish life in Northwest Indiana,
in Israel and around the world
through service, programming,
advocacy and fundraising.

At Home

We prioritize local needs
to provide programs for
isolated individuals that
face financial challenges.
We're making a difference.
And you can too.

In Israel

Northwest Indiana has built a
strong Partnership with
communities in the Western
Galilee region. Community
members visit each other to
share ideas about art,
economy environment,
music, and more.

Around the World

We work with global partners to help provide
human services and create connections that
help sustain and offer hope to the Jewish
communities facing hardships.

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&
Mark Sperling

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Samantha Meyer

Programming Coordinator

Lindsay Weiss

Programming Coordinator

Rachel Saller

Administrative Associate

Patti Anderson

JCY Camp Director

Rachel Seiffert

Federation Holiday Office Closures

September 25th

November 23rd

November 24th



Please visit our website for all the most current events &
information coming from The Federation.
www.federationonline.org



SCAN HERE TO



ACCESS OUR WEBSITE!

From Our Executive Director

In my 12 years working in Jewish non-profits I've learned a lot about what it is to live Jewishly. My first lesson was that, even as a Jew, what I thought I knew about living a Jewish life was wrong. As someone who was actively involved in volunteering at Federation and teaching in my local Sunday School, this was a bit of a shock to me, to say the least.

Now, after over a decade of experience, I am only certain of two facts when it comes to living Jewishly.

First, is that there is no marker for living Jewishly. Regardless of affiliation, level of observance, or even what identifies you as a Jew, living Jewishly looks very different for every person.

Second, living Jewishly is difficult no matter what it looks like. For some more than others, but difficult all the same.

For those seeking meaningful peer relationships in a small Jewish community, and those hungry for a place of shared history and culture, that isn't always easy. For the students who have to take time out of the day to explain to their friends why the Holocaust joke is not funny, being Jewish is nowhere near easy. For a Jewish individual in an area where many social services and support agencies are based on Christian foundations, finding help is challenging. For congregations that have to balance a budget to include both prayer books and armed security, providing Jewish spaces can be difficult and overwhelming. Those challenges drive our mission and help define who we are as an organization.

For these individuals Federation makes a difference in being able to openly, and positively engage in Judaism.

Whether it's the over 200 engagement opportunities we've offered in the last year, the kids who received camp or preschool scholarships, or the emergency aid we've provided to 22 households, the impact we made would not be available if not for the generous and ongoing support of our members.

On August 20th we launched our Annual Campaign for 2023. This annual fundraiser is the vital fundraising piece that ensures we can continue to support the Jewish community in Northwest Indiana. Your generous gift makes it possible to continue being a significant part of the creation and enrichment of Jewish lives.

I invite you to check out our Campaign section of the newsletter on page **xxxxx**. When deciding what your donation for this year's campaign will be, I also ask you to consider that unfortunately, our mission isn't always easy, and will continue to be vital as we move into the new year. There will continue to be a need for advocacy and education to combat antisemitism. The cost of food is not going to go down, and the transitions that bring challenges to our lives will continue. Living a Jewish life will continue to be a challenge. But with your support and your generosity, the Federation can work to ensure that members of our community won't have to face that challenge alone.

Emily Benedix

JFNWI Executive Director



The President's Corner

Federation has been hopping the past few months! We hope you have had an opportunity to attend some of the programs that have been happening and will be happening this fall.

Make sure to follow our Facebook page, check our website, and sign up to receive our weekly email blasts to keep updated. We want to make sure our community stays connected.

We are now fully staffed with some excellent hires. Please stop by the office and meet everyone. We're sure you'll agree with us that Our Executive Director, Emily Benedix, has put in place a terrific team!

Thank you to those of you who attended our Lazer Lloyd campaign kickoff last month.

Everyone who attended agreed that it was a blast. Speaking of campaign, please watch for your pledge letter, as they are being sent out now. If you don't receive one, please contact the Federation office at 219-301-0960. You can also make donations online. Your support is truly appreciated.

Our wish for all of our community members is that you have a sweet, healthy, happy, peaceful New Year.

Shana Tova,

Judy Katz
&
Mark Sperling

JFNWI Co-Presidents



SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL JFNWI BOARD MEETING
SUNDAY, DECEMBER, 17, 2023



JFNWI has joined Facebook Groups!



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA



Our private Facebook Group has been created.

This group allows our staff to share all our upcoming programming/events with consideration for security. Since the group is private, you will need to request to be in the group and all members will be vetted by our staff. It has come to our attention that many of you have been invited to the group and when you click for confirmation, it states "unable to join." If you receive this message, look up our private Facebook Group, "Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana" Group, and click join. You will then be prompted to fill in your affiliation with the group. You can type in community member. Please feel free to invite your friends once you join!

Recent Events with JFNWI's Jewish Community Relations Committee

with **Rosalie Levinson** JCRC, Committee Chair



Rosalie Levison (L), Sarah Van Loon of AJC (C), and Delphine Gamburg Consul General of Israel to the Midwest (R)

On September 10, the new Deputy Consul General of Israel to the Midwest, Dr. Delphine Gamburg, joined AJC's Regional Director, Sarah van Loon, to help us celebrate the third anniversary of the signing of the Abraham Accords. They helped us better understand the importance of the Abraham Accords as a step towards achieving peace in the Middle East. The Jewish community welcomed congregants from the Bethel Church in Crown Point and other churches in the area to have an interfaith discussion about the State of Israel. Representatives of our Congressmen and other civic leaders also attended to show their support.

Post-program surveys suggest that those in attendance learned quite a bit about Jews and antisemitism. Hopefully, knowing what antisemitism is and why it is so dangerous will make local leaders more sensitive to the problem. IUN's School of Public & Environmental Affairs has already contacted me to help them plan annual Holocaust/Antisemitism programming at the University. I will be meeting with them this summer.

On November 5 at 2pm JCRC is partnering with IUNW to screen "Repairing the World," a documentary about Pittsburgh's powerful response to the tragedy at the Tree of Life Synagogue. The film was produced by Not In Our Town (NIOT), a national organization dedicated to confronting all forms of hatred. The founder of the organization and co-producer of the film, Patrice O'Neill, will be joining us to talk about her work.

The venue will be the Bergland Auditorium at IUN. Watch for the flyer for this event and listen to the trailer. Please reserve the date for this important interfaith program!

Save the Date!

UPCOMING EVENT: NIOT



The JCRC is excited to partner with Indiana University Northwest and the nonprofit organization Not In Our Town (NIOT) for the screening of "Repairing the World" and an interfaith discussion at IUN on November 5.

Keep your eyes on our marketing for more information as it becomes available.



Catch Up with JFNWI's Israel Awareness Committee

with **Miriam Marcus** IAC, Committee Chair

Our Committee met recently to discuss programs for the upcoming year.

We will be having two shinshinim (Israeli high school graduates) from the Jewish Agency in Chicago visiting our community for two weekends in the fall: Oct. 27 & Dec. 1. We also hope to have them with us again in the spring. They will be spending time with our NOAR/ATID youth group and at Masa B'Yachad religious school.

We are looking for families with school-age children to provide home hospitality to the shinshinim both of these weekends. Please contact the office and let us know if you would be willing to host them in your home for the weekend. This is a great way to introduce your family to Israeli culture and make a friend for a lifetime!

Several other fall and winter events are in the works. Ideas we are discussing are having a speaker in honor of International Women's Day, and showing an Israeli film followed by a moderated discussion. Three members of our community will be traveling to our partnership region in Israel in November for a special 25th anniversary celebration, reunion with old friends, and a tour of local Western Galilee art and culture. Stay tuned as we plan to share photos and a travelogue.

In the spring we will be providing programming for Yom Hazikaron (Israel Memorial Day) and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day).

We will continue to pass along information on upcoming programs being offered by our Partnership2Gether region in Israel.

Make sure to browse the online archive of recorded past programs. There is something there for every interest! You can find it at <https://www.westerngalilee.org.il/archive>



COMING SOON: P2G BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION - RED SEA SPIES BY RAFFI BERG - DECEMBER 3, 2023 AT 12:00PM CENTRAL TIME.

Watch your email for registration information, which will be available shortly. In the meantime, start reading the book!

The True story that inspired the Netflix film "The Red Sea Diving Resort".

In the early 1980s on a remote part of the Sudanese coast, a new luxury holiday resort opened for business. Catering for divers, it attracted guests from around the world. Little did the holidaymakers know that the staff were undercover spies, working for the Mossad – the Israeli secret service.

Providing a front for covert night-time activities, the holiday village allowed the agents to carry out an operation unlike any seen before. What began with one cryptic message pleading for help, turned into the secret evacuation of thousands of Ethiopian Jews who had been languishing in refugee camps, and the spiriting of them to Israel.

Written in collaboration with operatives involved in the mission, endorsed as the definitive account and including an afterword from the then Mossad director, this is the complete, never-before-heard, gripping tale of a top-secret and often hazardous operation.



JFNWI Member Receives Hoosier Jewish Legends Award

with **Judy Katz**, JFNWI Co-President



Trent Pendley after receiving the Hoosier Legends Award.

We are so proud of our JFNWI Community member, Trent Pendley, who received a well-deserved Hoosier Jewish Legends Award/Recognition at the August celebration of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society held at the Indianapolis Jewish Community Center. Trent and four other individuals who have made meaningful impacts on Indiana Jewish and Philanthropic causes were recognized.

Our Federation's Board Co-President, Judy Katz, accompanied Trent and said these words about him, as she introduced him,

"It gives me great pleasure to present this Hoosier Jewish Legend award to Trent Pendley.

Trent is widely known in the Northwest Indiana Jewish community for his passion and expertise in uncovering our area's Jewish history. For several years he has been in the process of researching those buried at our local Jewish cemeteries.

He also knows much of the history of all of our area congregations. He has written a novel, *Toys in the Closet*, which weaves in tales about the history of many Jewish families in Northwest Indiana.

He has helped the Indiana Jewish Historical Society in documenting for archives purposes any photos and publications that he can uncover.

Trent enjoys talking and sharing his research with local Jewish groups.

Trent helped encourage Congressman Frank Mrvan to read a proclamation in honor of IJHS 50th Anniversary on the House Floor this past spring.

I can express personal appreciation of Trent in that he is continually teaching our family about its ancestors, especially those who first came to the United States and originally settled in Crown Point which later became our hometown.

He's everyone's "go to" person to help research and answer questions we have about Northwest Indiana Jewish history. Whenever someone has a question about anything related to Jewish History in our area, we say "Ask Trent"!

Campaign Kick-Off Recap

with **Samantha Meyer**, Marketing Associate

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Campaign Kick-off on August 20, 2023. It was an amazing event! From the delicious food, the exuberant entertainment by Lazer Lloyd, to the extraordinary decorations, JFNWI's 2023 Campaign proved to be a perfect lighthearted event to start our Annual Campaign. Amid the celebration of our round-up kick-off, we have to remember the heart of the event, the fundraising. Our evening was a wonderful start to our Campaign, but it's only the beginning.

The Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana not only acts as a facilitator of events/programming for the local Jewish community, but we also serve as a safe haven for those in need. Last year's campaign was vital in supporting our community by providing:

- **Awarding scholarships to assist 12 campers with Jewish overnight camp, 2 with JCY Camp, and 3 students with tuition for K'Ton Ton.**
- **Our services to fight food insecurity were accessed over 100 times, including the food pantry, meal deliveries, and lunch program subsidies.**
- **Assisting 22 Jewish households with emergency financial assistance for housing, utilities, and medical needs.**
- **And so much more!**

When deciding on your campaign gift this year, we invite you to "Round-Up" by Chai to support Jewish life in Northwest Indiana by supporting our programs and services. An increase in increments of \$18 will help ensure our community can continue to be where our community connects in Jewish lives.



JFNWI members socialize at Campaign Kick-Off. Rosalie Levinson (L), Marlyn Kaplan (R)



Si (L) and Myrna Sarowitz (R) have fun at the photo booth with the Western props.



Amazing caterer, Debbie Herszberg sets the final touches before the buffet begins.



Judy Doherty (L), John Doherty (C), and Elyahu Herszberg (R) get into the theme with cowboy hats at Kick-Off.



Lazer Lloyd joyfully sings western and Israeli songs to entertain JFNWI guests at this year's Campaign Kick-Off event.

CATCH UP WITH *Adult Friendship Club*



AFC members eat stuffed cabbage and listen to 50s and 60s music.



Members of AFC at Julia Child Lunch & Show.

Are you free on Wednesday afternoons? Come socialize, eat a delicious lunch with fellow community members, and enjoy unique entertainment at Adult Friendship Club. The rest of the year is filled with new and exciting programs. If you're interested, please call the office at 219-301-0960 to become a member or learn more.

WHAT'S NEW WITH *Prime Timers*



Prime Timers visit County Line Orchard for a day filled with fun.



PT members see bison at Broken Wagon Bison Ranch.

Are you an adventurous senior and excited to explore local gems? Join JFNWI's Prime Timers crew! Our next trip is November 1st to the Illinois Holocaust Museum with lunch at The Jewish Deli. For more details, please see the flyer on page 9. If you're interested, please call the office at 219-301-0960 to become a member or learn more.





NOAR is a youth group for students in grades 9-12
ATID is a youth group for grades 6-8



Noar + Atid members play laser tag for their back to school event.



Noar + Atid members, along with PJ Library enjoy a beautiful hiking day at the Dunes.



Friday, October 27th 6pm
Shabbat Dinner with Shinshinim

We are looking forward to Shabbat dinner with Shinshinim, as well as our upcoming annual raking leaves event later this fall.



PJ Library sends free Jewish children's books to families across the world every month.



PJ Library kids have a blast hiking the Dunes.



PJ Library kids eat popsicles and have story time at the park.

Get excited for our next outing for PJ Library at Scheeringa Farms on October 17, 2023, at 4 pm. If you are interested in joining our PJ Library family at JFNWI, visit www.pjlibrary.org.



Prime Timers Go to the Illinois Holocaust Museum and



Wednesday, November 1, 2023

- Listen to Abe & Ida Cooper Survivor Stories in a 3D Hologram Experience
- Bus departs the Federation at **8:30am**
- Estimated return time is **3pm**
- RSVP by October 18, 2023 by calling the Federation at 219-301-0960.

\$50/member \$60/nonmember

Cost includes coach bus, docent-guided tour, hologram experience and boxed lunch



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

CULTURE COMMITTEE PRESENTS



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**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 29TH
AT 11:30AM**

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COME OUT FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
LAUGHS AT THE FEDERATION!

\$25 PER TICKET
INCLUDES A COMEDY SHOW AND A
DAIRY BRUNCH

CALL THE OFFICE AT 219-301-0960 OR PURCHASE
YOUR TICKETS ONLINE AT
FEDERATIONONLINE.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS

Support Earthquake Victims in Morocco



OUR HEARTS ARE WITH THE PEOPLE OF MOROCCO AS THE STRONGEST EARTHQUAKE IN
OVER A DECADE HAS DEVASTATED THE COUNTRY.

YOU CAN HELP JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING
ASSISTANCE TO THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FROM THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AND BEYOND.
PLEASE JOIN US IN HELPING VICTIMS AT JFEDS.ORG/MOROCCORELIEF.



JFNWI

PRESENTS

**ZUMBA
WORKSHOP**

- All levels are welcome and encouraged
- Call the office at 219-301-0960 to sign up.
- Cost is \$5 per class



6 weeks from Oct. 13-Nov. 17 on Fridays



1:30-2:30 pm



585 Progress Ave, Munster, IN 46321



HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH CONGREGATION BETH-ISRAEL

We've entered the busiest time of the Jewish year, and at CBI we do so wholeheartedly. We resumed Hebrew and Sunday School. What a pleasure I had, leading the first assembly, to discuss with the students what it means for them to pray and connect with God; how important it is to set aside time every day to be mindful of the gift of life, and health, and sustenance and the many blessings God bestows upon us; how important is to remember we didn't earn all of these gifts, so, for them we should be grateful, and make good decisions to embrace our purpose. Wow! They came up with such wisdom in just one session! I love these kids!!

We resumed our guitar classes. Our group is intergenerational and loves to play guitar, and building a Jewish repertoire. It's so much fun! Do you want to join us?

The weekly class on the Torah portion of the week will resume after the High Holidays. I'm happy to say that there are more congregants interested so I'm expecting a larger class. Do you want to learn Torah?

We will be producing a Cantorial Concert on November 12 from 4 to 6pm.

Mark your calendars! It will be a memorable show. We'll be singing favorite love songs of all times. I can't wait!!

We all know there is an increase in antisemitic hate. We know it is a product of ignorance of what Judaism is about, and it's only based on stereotypes of us. To tackle this issue, once a month, we will host a spiritual leader from a different religion to teach us what their religion is about. It will be an opportunity to learn and teach about our religion and build loving relationships with our neighbors based on the knowledge of one another's faith. We will launch the "Defying Stereotypes Series" on October 19 at 7 p.m. at CBI, with Pastor Becky Sundquist from First Christian Church in Highland. This is open to the community, so, Please RSVP!

My son Danny and I wish you a happy and meaningful new year, filled with compassion and blessings,

Shana Tovah!!

Rabbi Cantor Mariana Gindlin

Congregation Beth Israel

JFNWI's High Holiday Food Pantry

Our community food pantry has gotten a new look. Members in need of food assistance will have access to gift cards for local grocers to allow for the purchase fresh products that more specifically meet their needs. This is a reminder that we no longer accept donations of non-perishables and hygiene products.

Visit our website to find out ways to donate for the High Holidays!



HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH TEMPLE BEIT SHALOM

As we start this new year together you will hopefully notice a new, unfamiliar name amidst the ranks of the Northwest Indiana congregations, Temple Beit Shalom. I wanted to take this opportunity to (re-)introduce our congregation, telling you a bit about who we are as this unified (or as we like to say, “married”) old-new congregation.

As is hopefully clear to all, the name Beit Shalom is an amalgamation of the names of our legacy congregations. While the name is new, it grows from the seeds of each original name. Beth-El is source of the “Beit” part of the name and Anshe Sholom, source of the second part, “Shalom.” Now you may look at our name with confusion asking, “Why Beit Shalom? If we wanted to honor our past, why isn’t it Temple Beth Sholom.” The choice of those two words communicates our relationship to the past. The choice of language communicates our relationship to the present day as well as our vision for the future. By using the modern Hebrew Beit Shalom, we convey our close connections to contemporary Hebrew, to contemporary trends in the Jewish world, and to Israel. We see all of these three not just as vital forces in the here and now, but also guiding our way to a vibrant future.

Each word that makes up our new name is filled with meaning. The first part, “beit” (Hebrew for home), is an expression of how we want our community to be. At home you can let your hair down and just be yourself. You are accepted and embraced for who you are. Whether you come in the depths of sorrow or the heights of joy, you know that you will be welcomed with open arms, because it’s your home. In difficult times you will find people at home to help heal your wounds. In the best of times, you will find people there to celebrate your victories and accomplishments.

The second word, shalom, means peace. Most of the time we hear the word “peace” and immediately the utopian, unattainable ideas of the lion lying down with the lamb or an end to war come to mind. We forget that the concept of peace is a multifaceted one with many meanings. In the case of our name, Beit Shalom, think of inner peace – the deep quiet that keeps the chaotic, noisy demands of daily life at bay. The calm that lets us reflect on our lives and even find answers to life’s big questions. The centered, grounded feeling that lets us reach out to others, to forge profound connections.

As we take our first steps as Temple Beit Shalom, we appreciate our place in this vibrant Illiana Jewish community. We value the support, spoken and unspoken, that we have received from the community, members of other congregations, and professional staff too. In this upcoming year, we look forward to giving all that we can, in any way that we can, to strengthen this community. We welcome the opportunity to help sustain this incredible home for Illiana Jewish life, where we are all seen and valued for who we are and what we bring.

A blessing inspired by our new name: let our Jewish homes – our Jewish spaces and our Jewish programs – help us to find peace while we are in each other’s midst and to feel peaceful when we leave and go back out into the wider, secular world. Wishing you a happy and sweet new year!

Rabbi Isaacs
Temple Beit Shalom



HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH CHABAB OF NWI

WHY DO WE EAT APPLES ON ROSH HASHANNAH?

When you think of Rosh Hashanah, what do you think of first? For many of us it may be dipping an apple in honey. But what is the reason for doing that? The basic explanation is because we want to have a sweet new year. But why specifically an apple and not any other sweet fruit? Here are four explanations

based on the deeper understanding of what this fruit represents:

1) When the Torah describes our patriarch Jacob entering his father Issac's tent to receive a blessing, he was complemented by his father, who said: "Behold, the smell of my son is as that of a field, which was blessed by G-d." The Talmud explains that the smell of the holy Garden of Eden entered the tent along with Jacob and it had the fragrance of apple trees. Thus, the kabbalists started referring to the Garden of Eden as the "Holy Apple Orchard" in their teachings.

On Rosh Hashanah we pray that we too should receive such blessings, just like Jacob.

2) The Talmud compares the Jewish people to an apple tree. Just like an apple tree grows its fruit before the leaves, when the Jewish people received the Torah from G-d, they declared "We will do" before "We will hear," implying that we aren't in it for the reward, but we are doing it just because G-d instructed us to.

Just like the apple, which starts to bud before the leaves are grown, our ancestors expressed their love to G-d and their willingness to serve Him, before even knowing what He would command or what they would get out of it. As we eat the apple, we are asking G-d to treat us in a similar way, granting us our wants and needs before we even make a request.

3) After food that is not grain based or made from any of the seven fruits of Israel, we recite a blessing called "Borei Nefashot." The wording of the blessing, "Blessed are You... Creator of many living beings and their needs" is referring to our basic needs such as bread and water. The next part of the blessing, "For all the things that You have created with which to sustain the soul of every living being," is explained by Talmud commentators as being a reference to things besides our basic needs "such as apples and the like."

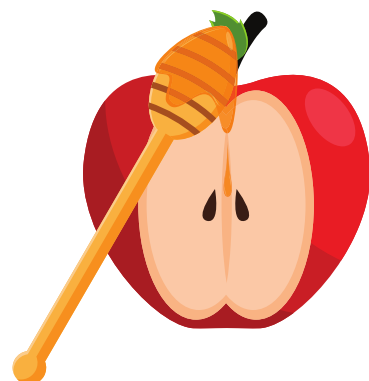
Because apples are given as an example of things that we don't necessarily need but might want, we eat them on Rosh Hashanah, as if to ask for not only what we need in the coming year, but also some extras.

4) The apple, unlike some other fruits, has a nice appearance, taste and smell. The three of these qualities correspond to the three main categories of blessings that we pray to G-d to give us: children, good health, and a stable livelihood.

May we be blessed with all of the above, and much more. Have a good, healthy, and extra sweet year!

Leba Zalmanov, age 11

Chabad of Northwest Indiana



HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH TEMPLE ISRAEL VALPARAISO

SUKKOT – THE HOLIDAY OF LESS IS MORE.

The Torah tells us to dwell in a sukkah for 7 days, in order to commemorate the 40-year journey in the desert. During that time the people of Israel lived in temporary and fragile structures like a sukkah.

We are also commanded to be happy during this holiday, which is not just an agricultural, but also a historical holiday.

What does it mean to us today?

Do we really need to live in a sukkah in order to remember the holiday?

The sukkah is a reminder that we don't need to have a lot of possessions in order to be happy; during Sukkot, we leave our big, comfortable homes and spend most of our time in a small, simple, and temporary hut - the joy of Sukkot gives us the valuable gift of knowing how to be happy even with less.

But what if we just don't feel happy, or things don't go our way?

The Torah's view is that happiness is an attitude that doesn't depend on any outside circumstances. The simplicity of the Sukkah reminds us that we can find happiness and fulfillment in a straw hut in the middle of the desert.

We can actually teach ourselves to be happy, and it's worth it, for joy is a valuable tool for living that can energize us, help us get along better with others, and bring us closer to our goals.

Sukkot is the time to develop joy by understanding that sometimes, less is more.

Wishing you all a happy and meaningful holiday.



HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH SINAI TEMPLE

HIGH HOLY DAYS SERVICES SCHEDULE IS HERE!

Our Shabbat services continue to be led twice a month by Rabbi Frederick Reeves, with the other two or three services conducted by our Lay leaders. Every Service is filled with lots of wonderful music and songs. Shabbat morning study with Rabbi takes place on the Saturdays following the Friday evening Service he conducts here. All services and Shabbat morning classes are held at the Temple and also streamed on Zoom.

Wishing all of you Shana Tova
Umetukah from everyone at Sinai
Temple!



S'lichot	Saturday, September 9, 2023 Refreshments, Havdalah Service to begin at 7:30 pm, in the Community Room followed by S'lichot Service in our Sanctuary
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Friday, September 15, 2023 Service begins at 7:30 pm
Rosh Hashanah Tashlich	Saturday, September 16, 2023 Service begins at 10:00 am 1:00 pm at Washington Park Beach – Bring a Sack lunch
Kever Avot	Sunday, September 24, 2023 Sinai Temple Cemetery - 11:00 am
Kol Nidre	Sunday, September 24, 2023 Service begins at 7:30 pm
Yom Kippur	Monday, September 25, 2023 Service begins at 10:00 am Afternoon services: Mincha, Yizkor, Ne'ilah begin at 3:30 pm

HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH TEMPLE ISRAEL MILLER



Temple Israel
HIGH HOLIDAYS 2023/5784

EREV ROSH HASHANAH
Friday, September 15 @ 7 pm

ROSH HASHANAH
Saturday, September 16 @ 10 am
Tashlich to follow

KEVER AVOT (Service at the cemetery)
Sunday, September 24 @ 10 am

KOL NIDRE
Sunday, September 24 @ 7 pm

YOM KIPPUR
Monday, September 25 @ 10 am & 4 pm

YIZKOR
Monday, September 25 @ 5 pm

NE'ILAH
Monday, September 25 @ 5:30 pm
Break-the-Fast to follow

Would you like to participate in one or more services?
There are various ways to be a part of the holiday including
reading an English or Hebrew passage, raising the Torah, or
learning the Torah blessings.
Please contact Temple Israel if you'd like to volunteer.

TEMPLEISRAELMILLER@GMAIL.COM | (219) 938-5232



Temple Israel Sisterhood invites you to our annual

BREAK-THE-FAST

Monday, September 25, after Ne'ilah Services

To participate, please contribute one dish to share
OR \$9 per individual/\$18 per family.

Sisterhood will supply:
Bagels, cream cheese, lox, capers, sliced tomato, red onion, and cucumber.

Menu items you can contribute:
Tuna, Egg or Green salad, fresh fruit, veggies and dip, Kugel, or dessert.

Everyone at Temple Israel Miller wishes you a happy and sweet new year. If you are interested in upcoming events and programs at Temple Israel Miller, visit our website at www.templeisraelmiller.org.



Give us a call.

JCS is here to help! Many know us for providing a variety of monetary social services, such as help with rent and utilities, groceries, meals to shut-ins or homebound seniors, and assistance with medical bills and services. JCS also helps with the social side of life such as grief counseling, and senior wellbeing checkups. If you have a question, JCS may be able to help. This year, we have helped several seniors with identifying fraud, filling out paperwork for Medicaid and Medicare, and finding resources to get transportation to medical appointments. Call today at 219-301-0960.

ROSH HASHANAH RECIPE IDEA:

Apple and Honey Rice Kugel



INGREDIENTS

4 Tbsp. unsalted butter,
melted, plus room-
temperature butter for pan
3 large eggs
1/4 cup sugar
1 Tbsp. vanilla bean paste or
extract
1/2 tsp. Morton kosher salt
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 cup honey, plus more for
brushing
2 cups (packed) cooled cooked
long-grain white rice (such as
Carolina Gold or basmati)
1/2 cup golden raisins or
chopped dried apricots
1/2 cup of apple butter
Flaky sea salt

DIRECTIONS

1. Place rack in the middle of oven; preheat to 350. Generously grease a shallow 1 1/2-qt. baking dish with **room-temperature butter**. Whisk together **4 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted, 3 large eggs, 1/4 cup of sugar, 1 Tbsp. vanilla bean paste or extract, 1/2 tsp. Morton kosher salt, 1 tsp. ground cinnamon, and 1/4 cup honey** in a large bowl until smooth. Using a rubber spatula, mix in **2 cups (packed) cooled cooked long-grain white rice** and **1/2 cup of golden raisins or chopped dried apricots**, breaking up any clumps of rice, until well combined.
2. Scrape mixture into prepared baking dish and shake dish gently to evenly distribute. Dollop apple butter over (about 6 dollops), then swirl in with a butter knife (don't overmix or swirls will disappear).
3. Bake kugel until puffed and browned on top but still slightly in the center, 35-45 minutes. Let it cool 5 minutes, then brush with more **honey** and sprinkle with **flaky sea salt**.

ROSH HASHANAH RECIPE IDEA:

Chocolate Date-Caramel Cups



INGREDIENTS

3/4 cup chopped raw
nuts (such as pecans
and/or walnuts)
1/4 cup unsweetened
coconut flakes
2 Tbsp. raw sesame
seeds
1 cup pitted Medjool
dates (about 6.5 oz)
3/4 tsp. Morton kosher
salt
6 oz. bittersweet
chocolate (about 1 cup),
chopped
1 tsp. virgin coconut oil
Flaky sea salt

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 300. Arrange 12 standard muffin liners on a rimmed baking sheet or large plate.
2. Spread **nuts**, **coconut**, and **sesame seeds** in an even layer on a small rimmed baking sheet and toast, stirring once or twice, until nuts are darkened and fragrant and coconut is starting to brown, about 10 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, place dates in a medium heatproof bowl. Pour boiling water over to cover dates and let soak 10 minutes. Drain dates, reserving soaking liquid.
4. Transfer dates and 2 Tbsp. soaking liquid to a food processor. Add **kosher salt** and pulse, scraping down bowl occasionally, until smooth and creamy, with no large pieces of dates remaining. Be patient: It will take about 3-5 minutes. If you are having trouble getting the dates to break down, add more soaking liquid 1 tsp. at a time. You should have about 1/2 cup date caramel.
5. Melt **chocolate** and **coconut oil** in a heatproof bowl in the microwave in 20-second increments, stirring in between, until smooth and glossy, about 1 minute total. Pour about 1 1/2 tsp. melted chocolate into each liner (no need to be exact, you just want a thin layer). Top with small scoop of nut mixture, pressing to spread out the chocolate a bit (you want every nut to be in contact with chocolate so it won't fall off). Using 2 spoons, dollop about 1 Tbsp. date caramel into each, pressing to gently spread down and around. Top each cup with 1 tsp. melted chocolate, using the back of a spoon to spread it around and cover as much caramel and bare nuts as possible. Sprinkle with remaining nut mixture and **sea salt**.
6. Chill until chocolate is firm, about 1 hour.

Do ahead: Date caramel can be made 3 weeks ahead, Store in an airtight container and keep chilled.

What's New at



K'Ton Ton with Bailey Hoffman

Our K'Ton Ton school year is off to a fantastic start! It's always fitting to me that the beginning of school and the High Holy Days coincide, as they are both a time of new beginnings. We are excited to see all of our returning families and love getting to know our new family members. We welcomed three new assistants this year: Miss Audrey, Miss Julia, and Miss Sam. We are happy to be back with our K'Ton Ton kids and equally as ready to usher in a joyous!



When we celebrate the High Holidays with young children, it's always about the sensory experiences of the holidays. The smell of challah, the sticky honey with sweet apples, and the sound of the shofar.



K'Ton Ton makes holiday cards.



K'Ton Ton does apple stamping to get into the Rosh Hashanah spirit.

A story time and sing-along with Rabbi Isaacs helped K'Ton Ton kiddos get ready for Rosh Hashanah!



Rabbi Isaacs blowing a shofar after a song.



Rabbi Isaacs reads a Rosh Hashanah story to the kids.

Fun ways to celebrate Rosh Hashanah with the little ones!

Sing a song while you dip apples in honey!

(To the tune of "Oh My Darling")
Dip the apple, in the honey
Make a bracha, loud and clear
L'shana Tova U'metuka
Have a happy, sweet new year!

Fun with Pomegranate seeds!

Count the pomegranate seeds as they try them for a snack.

Also, you can make pomegranate seed "mosaic" pictures or shape outlines before eating!

Honey Sensory bags

You will need plastic baggies, honey, duct tape, and food coloring.

1. Fill double Ziploc bags with honey, then tape the top of the bag.
2. Kids can mush the honey around to draw, write or squish!

TRIBUTES, MAZEL TOVS & MORE

Annual Campaign Fund

In memory of David Katz
Anonymous

*In honor of Larry Weiss 96th
Birthday*
Richard and Judy Katz

In memory of Beverly Gross
Richard and Judy Katz

Barbara Waxman Fund

*In honor of Barry Levin for a
speedy recovery*
Richard & Barbara Waxman

In honor of Jodi Hoffman
Staff & Board of Directors

Chuck Elias Fund

In honor of Sherry Conway
Helene Elias

In honor of Father Gene Baker
Helene Elias

*In memory of Sue Feldman's
mom*
Helene Elias

In memory of Beverly Gross
Helene Elias

General Fund

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Richard and Barbara
Waxman

JCS Fund

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Michael and Anne Oberman

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Jean Tolchinsky

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Dan and Linda Dunn

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Sandi Sherman

JNWI Food Pantry

In memory of Lee Goodman
Barry Weiss

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Tamas and Beth Kutas

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Judy Gordon

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Jack and Andrea Lieser

*Tribute to Joann and Bill
Braman*

Joseph and Maureen Solan

In memory of Beverly Gross
Jack and Andrea Lieser

JFNWI Programming

In memory of Shelia Wolinsky
Lisa Rooth

Mazel Tov

Congratulations to Carol Culberg and
family on the new grandbaby!

*Do you have a life event or
achievement you wish to share?*
Give us a call at 219-301-0960.

In Memory of

Steven A. Fistel,

husband of Rebecca Fistel of 54 years; father to,
Maryn (Brett) Robinson; and grandfather to
Lylah and Oren Robinson.

Steven A. Fistel, age 80 of Michigan City, IN,
passed away on Wednesday, August 16, 2023.

Steve was a member of Sinai Temple, Chairman
of the Supper Club, was involved with the
Spaghetti Bingo dinner, along with countless
other activities.

May Steve's Memory be a Blessing.

ILLIANA NEWS

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Corrections

Please contact The Federation at (219) 301-0960 or samantha@federationonline.org with any errors found in The Illiana News. We aim for accuracy.

Policies & Procedures

The deadline for Illiana News articles, announcements, photos & advertising is December 6th, 2023 for the next issue. Articles must contain a byline that will be printed. Articles may be edited for length and are selected at the discretion of the editor. Submit articles via email to Samantha at samantha@federationonline.org.

Stay up to date with us through our weekly e-mails & information on the Federation website. The next issue of The Illiana will cover November and December of 2023. Happy Holidays and many blessings to our Northwest Indiana Jewish Community!

Until next time Shalom & Shana Tova!

-Samantha Meyer



The Jewish Federation

OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

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