

Passover Issue 2025

ILLIANA NEWS

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF NORTHWEST INDIANA



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DID YOU KNOW?

The Federation now accepts Annual Campaign gifts year round.

Help support your favorite community programs anytime!

Call 219-301-0960 or visit federationonline.org to make your contribution today.



The View from the President's Chair

What a difference a month makes! We've gone from cold and dreary to warm and inviting. As I write this article, it's 41 degrees outside with a cold wind. It seems like just yesterday it was in the 70s with a warm south wind. The last few months have been cold, but thankfully, there is less snow and ice than there was a year ago, when I fell in my driveway and fractured my arm. Spring has arrived (March 20) and I am optimistic that the weather will continue to improve.

In the Middle East, peace has remained fragile, with the war's combat resuming. I was hopeful and a little optimistic that all the hostages, alive or not, would be returned to their families, but at least for now, this isn't to be. The war of words and weapons continues to be in the headlines next to the Russian aggression in Ukraine (the home of my grandfather). I pray that peace comes to both lands before more residents of these countries are killed or wounded in wars that could easily end tomorrow. We must be mindful of the need for security to keep all of us, both in the U.S. and abroad, safe during these challenging times.

Our Cultural and Educational Program Committee (chaired by Carol Culberg) recently presented a wonderful program: Storytelling with Lynn Hazan. Lynn provided an entertaining hour of storytelling that involved everyone present. It was a very engaging program for the Federation. I am looking forward to attending many more with our community.

Passover is an important time in our history as it commemorates the anniversary of our miraculous Exodus from Egyptian slavery. The main observances of this holiday center around a seder, which includes a festive meal, the prohibition on eating chametz and the eating of matzah.

On the 15th day of Nisan in the Hebrew calendar, Jews gather with family and friends in the evening to read from the Haggadah, or the "telling." This reading contains the order of prayers, rituals, readings, and songs for the Passover seder. The Haggadah helps us retell the events of the Exodus, so that each generation may learn and remember this story, which is so central to Jewish life and history.

There are many interesting

upcoming programs at the Federation, including the Yom HaShoah service, scheduled for April 24th at the Federation Building. Rabbis from our congregations will lead this meaningful and important service as they have in the past.

Yom HaShoah is Israel's Holocaust Memorial Day and is recognized by Jewish communities worldwide. In Israel it is marked across the country every year as a national day of remembrance. Yom HaShoah in Israel typically falls in late April or early May and lasts from sundown on one day to sundown the next, according to the Jewish calendar. In 2025, Yom HaShoah in Israel will fall from sundown on April 23rd to sundown on April 24th.

On behalf of my family, the Federation Board, and Staff, I wish you all a Happy Passover!

L'Shalom!



**Mark B. Sperling,
Ed.D.**

President

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THE ILLIANA NEWS

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POLICIES & PROCEDURES

The deadline for Illiana News articles, announcements, photos and advertising is June 6th, 2025 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 Tracie at tracie@federationonline.org.

CORRECTIONS

Please contact the Federation at (219) 301-0960 or tracie@federationonline.org with any errors. We aim for accuracy.

From the Executive Director's Desk

In February of this year, the American Jewish Committee came out with a report on the state of antisemitism in America for 2024. Here are the response from American Jews:

- ◆ Nearly six out of every ten American Jews had altered their behavior out of fear in 2024.
- ◆ 93% recognized that antisemitism is a concern in America.
- ◆ 91% felt an increase in antisemitism in the past five years.
- ◆ 73% report feeling less secure than they did a year ago.

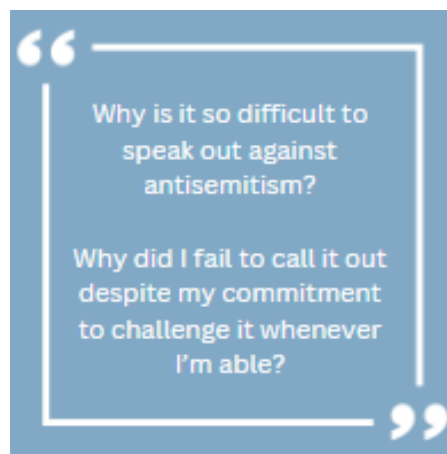
This shouldn't have surprised me as these numbers are in line with the ADL's reporting of antisemitic incidents. But what concerned me significantly was another set of statistics among American Jews that was presented in the AJC report:

- ◆ 50% of American Jews felt that antisemitism was taken less seriously than other forms of hate and bigotry.
- ◆ 78% chose not to report experiencing or witnessing antisemitism, and an additional 8% reported some, but not all, incidents.
- ◆ Of that 86%, the majority didn't report because they didn't think anything would be done (54%), believed it wasn't severe enough to report (44%), were unsure of how to report it (22%), or felt their report wouldn't remain confidential (17%).

How was it possible that even with the Jewish community openly

discussing the rise in antisemitism, so many Jews were reluctant to report it? Was it due to fear, a lack of understanding of the importance, or simply a lack of words to express what we experienced? And what did this massive underreporting mean for the statistics of reported incidents?

Then, I remembered a call I received in January. Although my family is halachically Jewish, my



sister and nephew are practicing Christians. We often seek out each other's advice when considering religious perspectives. When she asked for my input on the statement released by my nephew's school regarding a swastika found on campus, the call became far less routine.

The school's statement was boilerplate, as was my interpretation of their response. I explained that I was concerned that, although they addressed multiple aspects of diversity, nowhere did they mention protecting freedom of religion. My sister wondered if it was the highly secular community they live in, but shared that Jewish parents were upset that it didn't mention antisemitism. I realized that neither did I. Although I knew that was what I meant by

freedom of religion, that's not what my sister heard. In my response, I didn't include the most critical question:

Where was acknowledgment of antisemitism in response to the symbol that is most associated with it?

I began to notice that my discussions about antisemitism were fluid, depending on who I spoke to and the anticipated reaction. Initially, I told myself it was no different than when you avoid specific topics to prevent an awkward conversation with your grandparents. This wasn't about awkwardness, though. It was about advocacy, an identity, and a people.

I also thought about the many times I've tried to explain a concern for antisemitism and its impact on Jewish lives. There were many dismissals by law enforcement and loved ones, casual acquaintances, employees, and even other Jews. Even with confirmed data and personal experience, historical context, and global patterns, asking others to understand where I was coming from was often a stretch.

Then again, for every dismissal, there is a supportive champion. I'm reminded of the outpouring of love to our community after October 7th and the interfaith support that followed the Tree of Life shooting. I also considered a few other data points from AJC:

- ◆ 72% of non-Jewish Americans recognized antisemitism is a problem in the US today
- ◆ 59% recognized the historic increase over the past five years
- ◆ 88% were concerned about that

From the ED Desk

(cont.)

And 90% recognized that antisemitism affects society as a whole and everyone is responsible for combating it.

Why is it so difficult to speak out against antisemitism when the data shows that we have the support of the non-Jewish community? Why had I, as a Jewish professional of over 12 years, filtered myself? Why did I fail to call it out despite my commitment to challenge it whenever I'm able?

The only answer I have is that it's complicated to explain. How does one unravel the exact mix of knowledge, experience, trauma, and joy that teaches you to understand that what you are seeing is wrong? Which is why it's also okay if we are reluctant to report incidents. And why it's acceptable to feel a struggle when discussing antisemitism, even within our community. It's also okay to push back against the dismissal we may receive. It's okay to step out of our comfort zones to share our experiences, both positive and negative.

I encourage you to remember that we are a people built on the tradition of shared history married with unique experiences. Whether you have an orange on your Seder plate or wave green onions at your family while singing "Dayenu" in just a few days, we will be joining the Pesach Seder. We'll celebrate and remember as if we were there. And G-d willing, we will continue to unite and find strength to challenge antisemitism, embrace our non-Jewish allies, and live Jewish lives without fear.

**The complete AJC State of Antisemitism in America Report for 2024 can be found at [ajc.org/antisemitismreport2024](https://www.ajc.org/antisemitismreport2024).*

Staffing Update at the JFNWI

Our Federation family has recently experienced some growth and change. Our previous Marketing and Communications Associate, Samantha Meyer, has left the Federation to pursue a dream opportunity at DePaul University. Though we will miss her dearly, we are all excited to see her embark on new adventures and challenges and looking forward to seeing her at community events. Thank you so much, Sam, for all your hard work and contributions during your time with us!

Fortunately, we have some happy reunions to soften this loss. I know you will all be as happy as I am to welcome our administrative associate and JCS Coordinator, Patti Andersen, back to the Federation after her 6-week medical leave. Patti's surgery was a success. Though Patti stresses how thankful she is for all the staff support during her absence, we all know that no one could fill her chair but her. Be sure to stop by the Federation and welcome her back: she can't wait to see everyone.

If you do stop by, you may notice another familiar face in

the back corner. Tracie Martin, who stepped away from the marketing position in 2023 due to family issues, has returned to the role part-time. Tracie will continue Sam's work on emails, social media, program promotion, and *Illiana* production. She's delighted to return to the Federation and says it's like she never left. We couldn't agree more!

Finally, I'm excited to announce that we have added a new member to the team. Chris Sarafin will be serving as a part time administrative assistant, helping the entire team with projects. A member of Temple Israel of Valparaiso, Chris has deep roots in the NWI Jewish Community that make him the perfect addition to our staff. Look for him to start the second week of April.

Please join me in wishing Sam the best and welcoming Tracie and Chris.



Emily Benedix

Executive Director

emily@federationonline.org

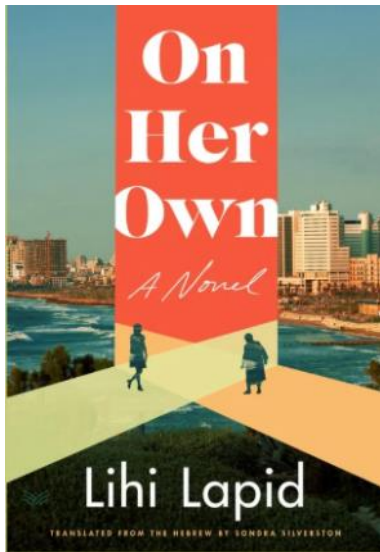


Experienced Antisemitism? We're Here for You.

If you have witnessed or been a victim of antisemitism, the Federation can help. Reach out anytime to Executive Director Emily Benedix at emily@federationonline.org or call our office at 219-301-0960. **Your report will be confidential**, and in the absence of an active threat to the community, any actions taken will *only happen with your consent*.

Committee Update: Jewish Cultural & Education Committee

It's been an enjoyable winter of connection, learning, and sharing at the Federation.



Book Club

The JCEC book club just wrapped a fascinating selection, a fictionalized account of avante-garde adventurer and feminist icon, Peggy Guggenheim. We are now enjoying *On Her Own*

by Lihi Lapid. Join us Monday, April 28 to discuss this touching tale of found family in Israel. Books are available for borrowing through the Federation office.



Storyteller Lynn Hazan

Lynn shared her unique stories to help everyone connect with their own Jewish experience. Thank you to everyone who joined us and participated in the fun!



Storytelling with Lynn Hazan

Upcoming programming

We're currently exploring more offerings, including one or two films this summer. Stay tuned!

Events

On March 2, we were thrilled to welcome acclaimed live storyteller Lynn Hazan to our community for a successful Sunday Program.



Carol Culberg

JCEC Chair

Committee Update: Jewish Community Relations Committee

In January, with Vicky Odegaard's enormous assistance, JCRC put together a Holocaust Resource Guide that was sent out to over 60 high school principals on the eve of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Guide consisted of films about the Holocaust suitable for various age groups, detailed information about how to arrange visits to the Holocaust Museum in Skokie, and a Holocaust Speakers Bureau of talented volunteers able to talk to students about the Holocaust.

Save the Date

On Sunday, September 7 at 2pm JCRC will sponsor Comedy For Peace. Founded by a Jewish Israeli, the group features Jewish, Muslim and Christian comedians who seek to bring us together



with laughs and serious discussion. Valparaiso University has agreed to co-sponsor the event, which will take place in the VU Union. Thanks so much to everyone working to make this major interfaith event happen in

2025. We hope you will plan to attend. Stay tuned for more details and RSVP information.



Rosalie Levinson

JCRC Chair

Committee Update: *Israel Awareness Committee*

Planning is underway for two upcoming events chaired by the Israel Awareness Committee: our annual Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut programs, taking place in late April and early May.

Our Yom HaZikaron program, commemorating Israel's "Memorial Day" will be held on Wednesday evening, April 30th beginning at 7pm. Please join with us, together as a community, as we remember and mourn all of Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terror whose lives were sacrificed.

Then, plan to join us for Israeli Breakfast and engaging discussion on Sunday morning May 4th beginning at 10am, to

celebrate Israel's Independence Day, Yom Ha'Atzmaut. We will be joined by a delegation of three Israelis visiting from our Partnership region in the Western Galilee, who will share with us moving stories of both community and personal challenges they have faced during the last 18 months. We will conclude the program by dedicating a memorial tree on Federation property in honor of the victims of October 7th.

We're also pleased to join with other Federation committees to once again bring a Yom HaShoah event to the Federation. This year, we plan to honor the experience of second-generation

Holocaust survivors with a candle-lighting ceremony and the opportunity to share their parents' stories live at the event. We hope to conclude the event with a full record of community Holocaust survivors, ensuring these tales aren't lost to the next generation. If you'd like your family recognized, please contact Marilyn Hirsch at marilynhirsch3@gmail.com.

We hope to see you at all these events this spring! See page 29 for more details and to RSVP.



Miriam Marcus
IAC Chair

Committee Update: *Campaign*

It's hard to believe that another Annual Campaign has finished up. I am happy to report that the 2024 Jewish Federation Annual Campaign has raised \$319,047 to help fund the Federation staff, JCS community service endeavors such as our food pantry and payment assistance, Federation events such as Israel Solidarity Day, Community Picnic, and Federation programs such as Friends of Federation, PJ Library, NOAR/ATID, JCY Camp and our newest group, J-Connect. A special "Thank You" to the 299 donors that helped make this possible. We truly appreciate you!

During the 2024 Campaign we also reached out to our local vendors and business partners. We received generous donations from these community partners: Bams (Federation Credit Card Processor), Allegiant Fire Systems, Peoples Bank, First Merchants Bank, Gateway Business Systems, and Morgan Stanley Investments. We are

hoping to grow this list in our 2025 Campaign. If you know of a business that would like to contribute, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Vicky Odegaard at 219-301-0960.

This year's campaign was lower than last year due to several factors. First, I am happy to report that 70 community members supplemented their Federation gifts by donating to the Israel Relief Campaign. This project raised \$16,010 in aid that went directly to Israel to help those in need. The second factor that affected this year's campaign was the fundraising for the Partnership Western Galilee Campaign. This campaign raised \$30,000 to help our P2G partnership region supply a mobile bomb shelter and children's educational and resilience programming. A special "Todah Rabah" to our donors, you make these wonderful accomplishments possible.

Now it's time to start looking towards our 2025 Annual Campaign! It's not too early to make a donation. Make a contribution online at federationonline.org or call 219-301-0960 to pay by phone.

We are always looking for donors, volunteers or suggestions for 2025 Campaign. Please reach out to Judy Katz at judykatz@gmail.com or Vicky Odegaard at vicky@federationonline.org.

We look forward to speaking with you soon and adding your talents to the campaign.

May everyone have a safe and Happy Passover.



Judy Katz
Campaign Chair

Community Programming: *Grief Relief Spotlight*

It's a chilly Tuesday afternoon, but that would never stop any of the people who are heading into the Federation library. Some grab a tea or a coffee, someone else gathers a few snacks for the coffee tables as they make their way to their favorite comfortable armchair. Amy* picks up the day's inspirational flyer: "I could use to make my own sunshine today."

Everyone knows to leave space for Sue* who's running a little late: she's just finished a visit to her mother in the hospital, though she's herself just getting over a hip surgery.

"There's just no one else to do it," Sue says as she settles into her chair. She doesn't have to say anything else, though she could if she wanted to. She knows everyone in the circle will understand this struggle. It's just one of the many issues people who lose their partner face.

This is why the JFNWI Grief Relief group is such an important community resource. Because, as current group leader Carol Culberg puts it:

"Nobody understands grief until you've been there. Everyone in this group gets loss."

Founded by former JFNWI JCS Director Susan Tepperman, the JCS Grief Relief group maintains a proud tradition of offering support and connection to anyone who has experienced loss. Carol, who took over leadership two years ago, has maintained the group's proud tradition of openness to all ages, genders, ethnicities, and religions. "Grief doesn't care where you live or worship," says Carol. "Living with loss is something that touches everyone."



Fun and inspirational posters serve as discussion kick-offs for each meeting and give the members something to take home and reflect over during the week.



But for such a universal experience, grief can be surprisingly isolating. "One thing we all share is aloneness," says Carol. Amy agrees: "When you lose your spouse, you lose your social life. You have to start all over again."



For many group members, the Grief Relief group is one of their first steps into making those new connections. And once made, these friendships are lasting: the majority of the original group members are still active.

"Where else could I cry and laugh and lose it?" says Beth*, one of the newest members. "This group is a gift."

It's one of the aspects of the group that members most appreciate. "Good times, hard times. I can bring my problems to the circle and I know they will stay here, with people who know exactly how I feel."

For the members, this makes all the difference: "It's uplifting to be able to speak freely, knowing that someone can tell you 'I've been there,'" says Beth. "Grief Relief is the perfect name for the group. Being here takes the edges off my grief. That makes everything just a little bit easier."

And for Carol, maintaining this kind of safe space is what it's all about. "It's okay to be crazy here," says Carol. "It's okay to let go of our emotions. Sometimes we can solve the problems, sometimes we can't. But we're here for each other either way."

Grief Relief meets at the Federation at 1pm every Tuesday. For more information or to join the group, contact the Federation at patti@federationonline.org.

*Names and personal details of group members changed for privacy.

Community Programming: *Friends of Federation*

The Friends of the Federation started off 2025 in song: the group enjoyed the acoustic strummings of NWI Native Andre Detti in January, as well as a lively SINGO session (singing + bingo: what's not to like?). February featured a performance of the Arthur Murray Dancers. Then, in March, Care with Love visited the Federation with games, lunch, and self-care tips. Later in the month, programming

hit the road with a lunch banquet and performance at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts. Everyone enjoyed the Federation's Passover Seder with Rabbi Zalmanov. And of course, no Monday or Wednesday would be the same without Coffee & Connections. Spring is just around the corner, and we're setting up some lovely adventures. Stay tuned!



Enjoying a musical performance by Andre Detti



Below: This year's Passover Seder luncheon was conducted by Rabbi Zalmanov (left)





is ready for a summer to remember!

JCY's Summer 2025 season has certainly started off with a bang! As I begin my 19th summer at JCY, I reflect on previous years of pre-camp registration. In years past, it took us months to fill our available spots for campers. Some years, we never filled up at all. Last spring, you can imagine my surprise when we filled up in eight days. I couldn't believe it! I expected a similar timeline for this year's registration.

I could barely pick my jaw up off the floor when, on the snowy, non-summer-like morning of March 1, we filled up within two hours.

JCY Day Camp has long been regarded as a premier summer camp in Northwest Indiana, but this year, we are proud to be at



the very top of everyone's summer camp list. Not only is JCY the place to be for campers, though. It's also the best place for high-school and college-age young adults to find a summer job: 95% of last year's staff is ready to come back to JCY for another jam-packed summer.

This year is sure to be unlike any other! On the docket for this season are old favorites like trips to Lincoln Park Zoo and Zig-E's Funland, as well as our annual Fishing Trip at Oak Ridge Prairie. Campers will also enjoy new activities like U-pick at Johnson's Farm and a cotton candy truck. We've also taken parent feedback into account and are adding another trip to Munster Pool and a buttered pasta option for lunch.

Last year, parents were so excited about our challah braiding activity during which campers braided and decorated challah dough and brought it home to be

baked with their families as an at-home project. This summer, we're more than ready to bring this rich piece of Jewish culture back to our community.

In fact, this is what JCY is really all about: community. **JCY is a household name among Munster parents.** We're recognized when we're on field trips wearing our camp shirts. We consistently receive messages from parents throughout the year confirming the fact that JCY is constantly at the forefront of their children's minds. And we're exceedingly proud to bring the connection and wholesomeness of JCY Day Camp to this great community by welcoming Northwest Indiana's residents through the doors of JFNWI. Get ready for a summer to remember!



Rachel Sieffert

JCY Day Camp Director

Community Programming: Young Leadership



Hanging out at Byway Brewing Company at Jews and Brews



J-Connect successfully hosted Packing with a Purpose on March 25, 2025, where volunteers came together to assemble 30 care bags for Haven House NWI Women's Shelter. Thanks to generous donations and dedicated community support, we provided essential supplies to women in need while strengthening the spirit of service within our expanding volunteer network.

As J-Connect grows, we're excited to offer opportunities for both 20-30s and 40-50s groups, as well as events open to all. Our next volunteer event will welcome anyone between 20-50,

fostering even greater community engagement. In the future, we'll continue to host both inclusive and specific gatherings for our 20-30s and 40-50s groups, ensuring meaningful opportunities for everyone who wants to give back.

A special thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered—your generosity and effort truly made a difference! We can't wait to continue making an impact together!



SAVE THE DATE:
Our next Jews and Brews will be 7pm April 10 at the Wild Rose Brewery

RSVP to Rachel at rachelfront@federationonline.org or WhatsApp



Rachel Front

Programming Coordinator

Keeping up with



K'Ton Ton



We started the new year with our monthly mitzvah, a toy drive for Lurie Children's Hospital. We collected over 100 toys for children and their families during long stays at the hospital. We were so proud of how excited all the kids were to pick out the toys and bring them to school to help others.



The children had an absolute blast making Hamentashen to eat during our Purim party. Rolling, cutting, filling and shaping Haman's hat: sticky fingers and smiles all around! We had a carnival with games, crafts and dance party to end the day. The students brought in items to share to create our own K'Ton Ton Mischloach Manot!

One of our students making the perfect Hamentashen treat.



The Purim parade was a delight for all

And last but not least, we hosted another fun family night here at K'Ton Ton! Magician Nate the Great stopped by to show us a few tricks and entertain the kids (and adults!)

Nate the Great and a K'Ton Ton student



We're so proud of the spirit of generosity in our K'Ton Ton family!



Bailey Hoffman

K'Ton Ton Director
bailey@federationonline.org

What's going on with



Our first event for Noar & PJ Our Way in 2025 included pizza, popcorn, and a showing of 13: The Musical. The popcorn bar was a hit and of course everyone enjoyed watching the movie about the trials and tribulations of a 12-year-old navigating his upcoming bar mitzvah, his parents' divorce, and being the new kid from New York in Indiana.



The PJ Library and Noar crew enjoying a primo popcorn bar and movie.

Atid and Noar youth groups had an amazing turnout for a potluck Shabbat event at the Hensleys' house! There were about 30 people who attended including kids and adults. We all enjoyed the company and the delicious appetizers and desserts. We are looking forward to more events like these.



Thank you so much to the Hensley family for hosting such a fun evening.



Are you a Host with the Absolute Most?

Noar/Atid needs YOU!

We're looking for a few good people to host events and give our teens and youth a fun, safe space to enjoy being Jewish!

Ready to have a blast making a difference in our community? Contact Rachel Saller at rachel@federationonline.org



Rachel Saller
Programming Coordinator
rachel@federationonline.org

PJ Library®

PJ OUR WAY®

PJ Library & PJ Our Way have had a great start to 2025! We celebrated Tu B'Shevat by getting together with Masa B'Yachad's 1st-3rd grade class. We made our own little plants out of chia seeds and enjoyed a fun sing-along with Rabbi Gindlin. There was also a delicious brunch in Valparaiso and the kids played out in the snow. For Purim, we had a fun time making our own hamantaschen at Chabad and even had time for a story. We are looking forward to the warmer weather. It's time to get outside for some fun.



Thank you to Rabbi and Chanie Zalmanov for hosting a lovely brunch and hamantasch bakeoff for Purim.



Thank you Rabbi Grindlin for the first sing along of 2025! Here's to many more. :)

Calling all Grandparents of Littles!



New Grandparents Group!

Are you a grandparent of a child 5 and under? Join the Federation's brand-new Grandparents Group.

Who *doesn't* need a little help keeping up with those tiny balls of energy? Get the kids out of the house and off screens and spend some time with other grandparents and smalls at the Federation or local parks. Commiserate while you enjoy these wonderful, precious years with Federation friends.

Ready to have some fun and connection? Contact Rachel Saller at rachel@federationonline.org.



Rachel Saller

Programming Coordinator
rachel@federationonline.org



Are you a business owner?

Want to put your brand in front of Jewish families across NWI?

The Federation is thrilled to announce PJ Library is now accepting corporate sponsors. This beloved program provides Jewish children throughout the Region with a free Jewish-themed book every month for a full year. As a corporate sponsor, you could enjoy:

- Branded placement on each monthly book mailer.
- Acknowledgement in our news magazine, the *Illiana*.
- Major event podium and program acknowledgements
- Eblast access to our K'Ton Ton preschool families.

To learn more, email Rachel Saller at rachel@federationonline.org

Chabad of Northwest Indiana

Rabbi Eliezer Zalmanov

Freedom, Peace, and the Jewish Way

Let's talk a little about what the holiday of Passover represents and how we observe it; specifically, the focal point of the holiday—the Seder.

The Passover Seder is much more than a family dinner or a night of storytelling—it's a chance to connect with the miracles that shaped who we are. On this night, we don't just remember that we left Egypt; we relive it by telling the story in detail, focusing on the incredible ways G-d saved us and gave us freedom. This isn't just a history lesson—it's something personal and relevant to our lives today.

The Torah tells us: "Remember this day when you went out of Egypt." The great Jewish scholar Maimonides says that this command is similar to the mitzvah to remember Shabbat: "Remember the Shabbat day to sanctify it." At first, this might seem like a strange comparison—what does Shabbat have to do with leaving Egypt? But the connection teaches us something important.

Remembering Shabbat isn't just a quick thought or a "mental note." It changes how we live—on Shabbat, we stop working, we rest, and we make the day special. Similarly, remembering the Exodus at the Seder isn't about briefly acknowledging it. It's about actively telling the story, diving into the details, and making it come alive.

All year long, we mention the Exodus in our prayers, such as in the Shema. So, what's different about the Seder night? The difference is in the way we

engage with the story. On a regular day, it's enough to give the Exodus a quick mention. But on Passover, we're meant to sit down and really tell the story—what happened, how it happened, and why it matters.

This is like the difference between glancing at an old photo and sitting down with your family to tell the full story behind it. On Seder night, we take time to explore the details, ask questions, and truly appreciate the miracles.

“Remembering the Exodus at the Seder isn't about briefly acknowledging it. It's about actively telling the story, diving into the details, and making it come alive.”

When we think about the Exodus, we often focus on what we left behind—slavery. But there's more to freedom than just breaking free from chains. The Exodus didn't just free us from Pharaoh; it transformed us into something new.

Imagine someone quits a terrible job with an awful boss. Sure, they're no longer stuck in that situation—but does that mean they're truly free? True freedom is about having a sense of purpose, direction, and the ability to live a meaningful life.

That's what the Exodus gave us. G-d didn't just take us out of Egypt and leave us to figure things out on our own. He

elevated us to a new level, giving us a mission and a way of life that lifted us above the struggles of the past.

The Seder reminds us that freedom isn't just about what we don't have—like no longer being slaves—but about what we do have. It's about living with purpose, connection, and gratitude. The story of the Exodus isn't just ancient history. It's about how we can find freedom in our own lives today—freedom from habits or situations that hold us back, and the ability to live the lives we're meant to live.

And yes, this is relevant at any time throughout the year, because it gives us hope for the future. Just like G-d performed incredible miracles during the Exodus, we believe that even greater wonders will happen when the ultimate redemption arrives. It's a reminder that life is moving toward something beautiful—a world of peace, freedom, and rest for everyone.



Temple Beit Shalom

Rabbi Gidon Isaacs

Good ol' matzah, simple, straightforward. Our ancestors were in such a hurry to leave Egypt that they didn't have time to let bread rise and voila! – we get matzah. Except, when is our beautiful tradition ever so simple and straightforward? To quote our own tradition, found in the Talmud, "we eat matzah in order to give many responses to questions at the seder."

This is no joke. In the Torah it is called lechem 'oni. The bread of 'oni, a Hebrew word with many possible meanings. One fanciful explanation for this name, found in the Talmud, is that 'oni comes from the Hebrew word meaning to respond. Matzah is referred to as lechem 'oni because it is bread that answers questions.

What they are getting at, is that we use it to teach all sorts of

“ If we can feel gratitude for our ancient liberation, then we might also see moments of change in our own past as moments of liberation. ”

lessons about the holiday. While that answer is certainly more playful than serious, it captures something very true about matzah: it's deceptively complex. The more we appreciate that complexity the more meaning we will find in the holiday.

Back to this word, 'oni – one explanation is that it means poverty. Matzah was not some

one-time fluke, a result of poor baking skills. It was the daily bread of the slaves. Regular, "proper" bread that has risen would've been too rich. Israelite slaves were relegated to "pauper's bread," dry, flat, crackly, crumbly matzah.

If we have material comfort or status, the matzah is meant to remind us of our humble roots. On the other hand, if we find ourselves struggling to make ends meet just as our ancestors did, there is hope in the future for liberation. Liberation in the form of greater financial security.

Another way to understand 'oni, stems from the word's meaning of "affliction" or "persecution." This matzah, which the Israelites were forced to eat instead of bread, was just one more form of persecution. As such, it reminds us of all the ways, great and small, in which our ancestors were persecuted as slaves. In remembering their privation, their lack of freedom, we are encouraged to open our hearts to others in our backyard and across the globe who are persecuted. We are commanded to stand up for the rights of others and to fight injustice anywhere it may be found.

Finally, there is that simple, straightforward explanation: we eat matzah to remember what a hurry we were in to be liberated from Egypt. But why do we need to remember that? To what end?

Not so simple and straightforward after all! There are as many answers to this question, as there are ways to explain the word 'oni.

In the spirit of both simplicity and the joy of the holiday, I'll give just one possible reason. Gratitude. Remembering how fortunate we were to be liberated from Egypt opens our hearts to the spirit of gratitude.

Once we are in that mindset, we can find reasons for gratitude all around. If we can feel gratitude for our ancient liberation, then we might also see moments of change in our own past as moments of liberation. In so doing we can see our life in a new light, feeling fortunate for the many acts of liberation on our life's path and feeling grateful for each and every one.

Wishing you a meaningful, sweet, and joyous Passover!



Temple Israel Valparaiso

Rabbi Shoshana Feferman

Dear Community Members,

Six months after Yom Kippur we are commanded once again to do soul searching.

On Passover we are told to remove Chametz (leaven) from our homes for the duration of the holiday. However, the real question is what is so bad about having yeast or bread during Passover? What does it really symbolize?

In the Talmud Chametz alludes to "Yetzer Hara," or the evil inclination that is inside each and every one of us – the evil that prevents us from doing God's will and creating spiritually meaningful and fulfilling lives.

Yeast represents the person's ego, so getting rid of Chametz not only means cleaning and searching the entire house it also helps us to cleanse our hearts and souls.

Removing Chametz teaches us that eating Matzot will lead us to fulfilling Mitzvot, which will bring the blessings that Passover has



Sisterhood breakfast

to offer (by the way - Matzot and Mitzvot have the same letters in Hebrew and the same numerical value).

According to TORCH, an Orthodox commentary, the seven days of Passover represent a full cycle of life. As there are seven days in a week, the number seven

represents the full span of the natural world. The concept of removing Chametz from our homes for seven days of Passover is really a message for all of us to try and remain Chametz-free for the duration of our lives.

Now is a time for soul searching and examining our way of life.

Sunday School Purim Party with the Shinshinim



Temple Israel Valparaiso (cont)



Temple member Alexis Coberg at the Kotel during her Birthright trip in December.

Are we humble enough to appreciate all the good that God bestows upon us? Do we follow God's commandments in order to become better people? Or do we think that all that we have is merely the fruit of our labor and that we're so full of ourselves

that we don't leave room for God to dwell in us?

On this holiday of Passover, a time of our freedom from slavery, let us hope that we'll be free to explore opportunities to get closer to God and stay away from any evil inclination, from the Chametz that is in us!

This Passover we hope that the on-going war with Hamas, Hezbollah and Iran, the terror sponsor country, will be over and all the hostages – dead or alive will finally be home.

We pray also that our soldiers will be able to celebrate Passover with their families, without the fear of needing to run back to their bases.

The Passover Haggada says: "Next year in Jerusalem" – we should add: Next year celebrating the holiday at home free, and enjoying peaceful time with families and friends.

Bob and I wish you all a happy and meaningful holiday.

The three to six year olds working on their alef bet



Teacher Bob Feferman working with his class on a lesson of archaeology and finding religious artifacts in Israel.



Shinshin Uri reading in Hebrew the Prayer for the Soldiers at Sunday Morning Shacharit.

Sinai Temple

Rabbi Fred Reeves

Sinai Temple Shabbat Services begin every Friday at 7pm CT, September – June, 6pm CT July and August. Rabbi Fred Reeves leads our Shabbat Service twice a month, in prayer and music and thought-provoking Torah commentaries. Our dedicated lay leaders fill in on the 2-3 Fridays when Rabbi is not here. Rabbi's Torah study takes place on Saturday mornings at 10am following the Friday nights he is here to conduct our Shabbat service. These classes are engaging and educational and open to all interested in learning and widening their horizons. There will be no Shabbat service on April 11th.

We enjoyed a Sisterhood program, on March 30, with Rabbi Shoshana Kaminsky on the subject of "Parallel Lives." She spoke about her career as a Reform Rabbi as she researches the life of her grandfather, Rabbi Joseph Utschen, who was born to a Chasidic family but became a reform rabbi.

Events coming up at Sinai Temple:


Our Passover Community Seder is

scheduled for the first night of Pesach, April 12, at 5:30pm. Cost is \$25.00 for members; Children 5-12 - \$15.00; under 5 - free; \$30.00 to non-members; Payable to Sinai Temple Sisterhood.

A tour/talk at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City, sponsored by our sisterhood on the subject of "Ordinary Wonders," will take place on April 22, 11am CT. It's a guided tour, with Curator Whitney Bradshaw, learning about the artists and their inspiration. RSVP to Sheila Stein: Ushstein@aol.com.

Sisterhood Shabbat is scheduled for Friday, May 2, at 7:00 pm CT.

We had a great Sisterhood program learning about Rabbi Kaminsky's "Parallel Lives"



Rabbi Shoshana Kaminsky never met her grandfather, who died more than two years before she was born. However, their two careers are startlingly similar. Rabbi Kaminsky is researching the life of her grandfather, who was born into a Hassidic family but became a Reform rabbi. She's also reflecting on her own career, which has brought her to four continents.

Ordinary Wonders

GALLERY TALK

Tuesday, April 22
11:00 AM Central

Join LCA's knowledgeable curator, Whitney Bradshaw, as she takes you through all of the works in the "Ordinary Wonders" exhibition! Learn about the spectacular art works, the artists, Jessica Labette and Cecil McDonald, Jr., and their inspiration. You can even ask questions and join in on the lively discussion.

RSVP to Sheila Stein at
Ushstein@aol.com

LUBEZNIK Center for the Arts
101 W. 2nd Street • Michigan City, IN 46360



Members of Sisterhood will conduct this special service.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

APRIL
12—Community Seder, 5:30pm CT
22—Lubeznik Center Tour, 11am CT
Shabbat Services: every Friday at 7pm CT

MAY
2—Sisterhood Shabbat, 7pm CT
Shabbat Services: every Friday at 7pm CT

Congregation Beth Israel

Rabbi Cantor Mariana Gindlin

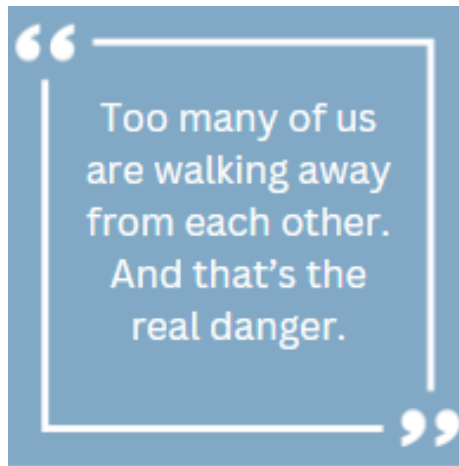
Every spring, Jewish families gather around the Seder table with familiar symbols before them: matzah, wine, bitter herbs, the Haggadah. On its surface, Passover is about freedom—liberation from slavery in Egypt. But if we look just a bit closer, the story is also about something just as vital, and perhaps even more needed today: the birth of a community. A shared destiny.

Before the Exodus, the Israelites were a collection of individuals enslaved under Egyptian rule. They had no real identity beyond their suffering. But on the eve of liberation, they were given their first collective task—not to run, but to gather. They were told to share a meal, to mark their doorposts, to follow instructions as one. Freedom didn't begin with a march—it began with a meal, with a sense of shared purpose.

It's no coincidence that the rituals we still perform—reclining together, singing together, debating the meaning of freedom—are all done in the presence of others. The Seder doesn't just retell a story; it recreates a bond. We're instructed to include everyone: the hungry, the wise, the simple, even the silent. Everyone belongs at the table. And that's not just a quaint tradition. It's a radical act of unity.

Passover feels especially urgent this year. We're living through a time of deep division—politically, culturally, even within our own Jewish communities. Here in America, the public square has become more polarized than any of us would like to admit. We don't just disagree with one another—we don't even know how to talk to each other

anymore. Civil discourse has become a relic. Social media rewards outrage more than understanding. And in too many cases, our Jewish identity is being pulled through a partisan filter. We see it in conversations around race, justice, antisemitism, and especially in how we talk—or don't talk—about Israel.



Since October 7, when Hamas launched its brutal attack on Israeli civilians, many Jews in the Diaspora have felt shaken—by the violence, by the grief, and by the deafening silence that followed from people they once considered allies. On campuses, in professional spaces, and even within Jewish institutions, there's a sense that it has suddenly become controversial to grieve for our own people.

At the same time, some in our community feel conflicted, unsure how to reconcile support for Israel with concern for human life on both sides. And what's tragic is not the diversity of opinion—Jewish tradition has always embraced debate—it's the fact that we've stopped talking to one another. Too many of us are walking away from each other. And that's the real danger.

The Hebrew word for Egypt—Mitzrayim—means "narrow places." And every generation, we're commanded to see ourselves as though we, too, were brought out of those narrow spaces. Today's Mitzrayim is not external oppression. It's internal fracture. It's the temptation to isolate, to divide, to cancel, to give up on each other. Passover reminds us that freedom isn't just about escaping tyranny—it's more about choosing to walk together in the wilderness, even when it's uncomfortable. The Israelites didn't become a nation the day they crossed the sea. They became a nation the moment they chose to stay together despite their fears. They argued, yes, but they moved forward as one.

At this year's Seder, we have a chance to repair what's been fraying. We can set an extra seat for someone we haven't seen in a while. We can listen a little more generously to someone who thinks differently. We can remember that disagreement doesn't mean disloyalty—and that staying connected doesn't mean compromising our values. We don't have to be the same. But we do have to stay in the tent.

Let's not allow the modern Mitzrayim—fear, division, ideology—to keep us apart. Let's remind ourselves that community is not only a nice idea; community is the very condition of our freedom. This year, may our matzah be crisp, our wine sweet, and our tables full—yes, of food, but also of courage, curiosity, and a renewed sense of shared purpose. Because freedom may start with a miracle, but it's sustained by people who choose to keep walking together.

Temple Israel Miller

Rabbi Diane Tracht

At the Passover seder, we lift the matzah and say: "Let all who are hungry come and eat; let all who are in need come and share our Passover."

Our community takes this invitation to heart. Whether you're hungry for connection, meaning, tradition—or just a good bowl of matzo ball soup—there's a place for you at our table. Come for Passover, or come for shabbat; you're always welcome.

May this season of liberation bring sweetness, strength, and a sense of belonging.

Chag sameach!

UPCOMING EVENT

Passover Seder
Saturday, April 12
6pm CT



SISTERHOOD TEA

A CELEBRATION OF THE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Friday, May 9, @ 2pm
Temple Israel Social Hall

Join Sisterhood as we welcome Rabbi Diane Tracht to lead a fascinating discussion about the women of the bible. Please RSVP to templeisraelmiller@gmail.com by May 7.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL SISTERHOOD'S

2025 PENNY HARVEST

Saturday, April 26, from 2 - 4 pm

ARMAN'S RESTAURANT
5875 Melton Rd., Gary, IN 46403

Donate at least \$18 and get a FREE hot dog or grilled cheese, fries, and a drink from Arman's! Drive up to place your order and enjoy either to-go or at the restaurant.



Can't make it? Contact templeisraelmiller@gmail.com or 219-938-5232 and we'll pick up your donation.

Change, bills, credit cards, and checks accepted.



Cost: \$40
Includes canvas, paints, snacks and drinks.

Sisterhood's Spring 2025 Nosh & Paint Party

Thursday, May 1, from 6 - 8 pm

Temple Israel Social Hall
601 N. Montgomery St. | Gary, IN 46403

Join Deb Weiss and your friends from Sisterhood to create your own spring floral-themed painting!

Please RSVP by Monday, April 28 to Kelly Farkas at (219) 670-1043 | kelf60@hotmail.com

Passover Noodles

Yes, it's possible!



Photo by Micha Siva, courtesy PJ Library



By Micah Siva
(reprinted courtesy PJ Library)

PASSOVER-FRIENDLY EGG NOODLES

Serves 4

Ingredients:

- 4 large eggs
- 4 tablespoons potato starch*
- ½ cup water
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- Oil, for cooking

Potato starch is often available right next to the matzah meal and other Passover staples in the kosher section.

Preparation:

1. In a large bowl, whisk the eggs.
2. In a medium bowl, combine potato starch, water, and salt until smooth.
3. Add the potato starch mixture to the eggs and whisk to combine.
4. Heat oil in a nonstick pan over medium heat.
5. Add ¼ cup of the egg mixture and swirl to coat the pan.
6. When the top is set, (about two minutes), carefully flip to cook the other side for about 30 seconds.
7. Set aside to cool, and repeat with remaining batter.
8. When all the batter is cooked, roll up into crepes and then slice into noodles.

If your kid is like mine, noodles are a staple in your dinner rotation, and just because it's Passover doesn't mean you have to take them off the menu. I like to make protein-packed, egg-based "noodles" for the holiday. I throw them into soup, top them with tomato sauce, and even serve them with shredded cheese and butter. Using these noodles is a great way to get extra protein into your child's diet, no matter what time of the year it is.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Micah Siva (@noshwithmicah) is an award-winning cookbook author, trained chef, registered dietitian, and food photographer, specializing in modern Jewish cuisine. After graduating from the Natural Gourmet Institute of Health & Culinary Arts, she pursued a career in nutrition and later worked for global brands, media outlets, and publications in food media. She shares Jewish-inspired, plant-forward recipes through her blog, Nosh with Micah. Micah lives in the Chicago area with her young son, Ari, husband, and dog Buckwheat.



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Want to get going on your next annual gift? Try our new monthly giving program!

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To get started, call us at 219.301.0960 or email Vicky Odegaard at vicky@federationonline.org

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 Jewish communities facing hardships.

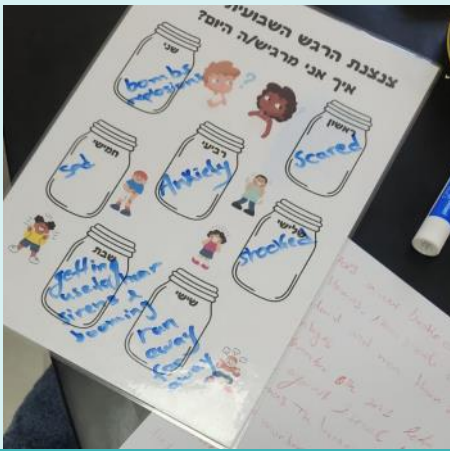
Partnership2Gether: Israeli Bomb Shelter Donation

The JFNWI is thrilled to announce the successful completion of a fundraising campaign in support of the Israeli communities our P2G group supports in the Western Galilee. Our

contributions focused on security and education initiatives, enabling the purchase of a portable bomb shelter and the creation of resilience programming for

children who visit shelters. Our gift was key in making these resources possible, and we are grateful to our donors to their support and commitment.

Below and middle right: Children's resilience programming helps alleviate some of the trauma of shelter visits.



This portable bomb shelter gives the community access to additional safe spaces



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We Remember: *Yom HaShoah & Yom HaZikaron*



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

YOM HASHOAH

APRIL 24, 2025 | 6:30PM



NEVER FORGET

Featuring a candle-lighting ceremony and testimony from community second generation Holocaust survivors.

585 PROGRESS AVE, MUNSTER, IN

RSVP BY 4/17 AT 219-301-0960 OR
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יום הזְכָרוֹן YOM HAZIKARON



**WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 30TH AT 7 PM**

An evening to honor the soldiers who gave their lives in defense of the State of Israel and fallen civilian victims of terrorism.

Location:
585 Progress Ave,
Munster, IN

The ceremony will include sensitive content.

Please RSVP by 4/23/25 at
219-301-0960 or
tinyurl.com/2e4s5yuj



ARE YOU A SECOND GENERATION HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR?

The Federations Needs Your Family's Story

For Yom HaShoah this year, the Federation will be honoring community members whose parents survived the Holocaust. Participants will light a candle and/or share their parent's experiences during the ceremony.

To participate in the ceremony or add your family's story to the community record, please contact Marilyn Hirsch by email at marilynirsch3@gmail.com.

We Remember: *Yom Ha'Atzmaut/Israel Solidarity Day*

Meet our Partnership delegation

Golan Rosenberg



Lives in Kibbutz Yehiam, where he was born and raised. For the past 8 years Golan has been the

director of the Matte Asher Community Center which serves 32 Kibbutzim and villages - Jewish and Arab. Golan is very involved with P2G as the Community Engagement Co-Chair and is leading the successful program 'First Home in the Homeland' which absorbs Ukrainian and Russian immigrants and refugees in his Kibbutz Yehiam and in the larger community of the Matte Asher Regional Council.

Meital Beham



From Kibbutz Matzuva for the last 13 years.

Married to Gidi, mother of three: Ilay (16), Yahav

(14) and Saar(12). Meital volunteers in different roles at the Kibbutz, Graduate of culinary studies.

Served as Evacuee Community Manager on behalf of the Regional Council of Matte Asher at 3 different communities simultaneously for the majority of the war's duration, while being evacuated herself since October 8th alongside her husband, kids and 2 dogs.



THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL | **Partnership2Gether GLOBAL NETWORK** | **The Jewish Federation OF NORTHWEST INDIANA**

YOM HA'ATZMAUT / ISRAEL SOLIDARITY DAY 2025

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025 | 10 AM
585 PROGRESS AVE
MUNSTER, IN

\$5 per person
\$20 per family

Join us for an authentic Israeli breakfast and engaging discussion to celebrate Israel's Independence Day.

We will be joined by a delegation of three Israelis visiting from our Partnership region in the Western Galilee, who will share with us moving stories of both community and personal challenges they have faced during the last 18 months.

We will conclude the program by dedicating a memorial tree in honor of the victims of October 7th.

RSVP by 04/28/25
219-301-0960 or tinyurl.com/yz435m3c



Shimon Buskila



Father of Jordan Buskila, who was murdered at the NOVA party on October 7. He just went to dance with his friends, and they never came back! Shimon is married to Merav Buskila and together they are members of Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk with their three children: Liad, Sapir, and Jordan, Z"l. His wife's great-grandparents were one of the founders of their Kibbutz, and Shimon's three are fifth generation of the kibbutz family. Shimon works as the VP of Marketing at the Kibbutz factory, which manufactures board packaging. Before that he worked in the agriculture sector in the Kibbutz for about 17 years.



The Jewish Federation OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

OFFICE CLOSED

JFNWI PROGRAMMING

K'TON TON

SINAI TEMPLE

TEMPLE BEIT SHALOM

JEWISH HOLIDAYS

TEMPLE ISRAEL MILLER

CBI

CHABAD OF NWI

TEMPLE ISRAEL VALPO

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 1pm: Grief Relief	2 12pm: FOF Passover Seder Lunch	3 9:30am: K'Ton Ton Field Trip	4 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	5
6 12pm: Andy Sharmat-Nate the Great Program	7 1pm: Coffee & Connections 7pm: Zoom Book Discussion w/Rabbi	8 1pm: Grief Relief Sisterhood Meeting	9 1pm: Coffee & Connections	10 7pm: J-Connect Jews & Brews	11 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	12 Passover Eve
13 Passover (Day 1)	14 NO SCHOOL Passover (Day 2)	15 K'Ton Ton Pictures 1pm: Grief Relief Passover (Day 3)	16 4:30pm: PJ Library Passover Event Passover (Day 4)	17 Passover (Day 5)	18 NO SCHOOL Passover (Day 6)	19 Passover (Day 7)
20 Passover (Day 8)	21 1pm: Coffee & Connections 7pm: Zoom Book Discussion w/Rabbi	22 1pm: Grief Relief	23 12pm: FOF Out to Lunch (Chiros)	24 Yom HaShoah 6:30pm: Yom HaShoah Gathering	25 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	26
27	28 1pm: Coffee & Connections 7pm: Book Club 7pm: Zoom Book Discussion w/Rabbi	29 1pm: Grief Relief	30 Yom HaZikaron 1pm: Coffee & Connections Openhouse 7pm: Yom HaZikaron Gathering			

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Yom Ha'Atzmaut	2 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	3
4 10am: Israel Solidarity Day	5 1pm: Coffee & Connections 7pm: Zoom Book Discussion w/Rabbi	6 1pm: Grief Relief	7 1pm: Coffee & Connections	8 10am: FOF Outing— Tulip Tyme	9 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	10
11 Mother's Day	12 1pm: Coffee & Connections 7pm: Zoom Book Discussion w/Rabbi	13 1pm: Grief Relief	14 1pm: Coffee & Connections	15	16 9am: Family picnic 1pm: Torah Class 6pm: Lag B'Omer Bonfire Lag BaOmer	17 Tory Halpern's Bat Mitzvah
18 3pm: Pre-K Graduation	19 1pm: Coffee & Connections 7pm: Zoom Book Discussion w/Rabbi	20 1pm: Grief Relief	21 12pm: FOF Lunch out (Location TBD) 7pm: Board Meeting	22	23 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27 1pm: Grief Relief	28 1pm: Coffee & Connections	29 10am: FOF Outing— Jacob Henry Mansion	30 11am: Chair Yoga 1pm: Torah Class	31



CALL THE OFFICE AT
219-301-0960 FOR ANY EVENT
RSVPS OR INQUIRIES.

FRIENDS OF THE
**TULIP
TYME**
Festival

THURSDAY, MAY 8 2025
10am | \$16.19 per person

Harvest Tyme Family Farm
17904 Grant St, Lowell, IN 46356
Meet by 10am at the farm

RSVP by 05/01 to 219.301.0960 or tinyurl.com/hcuyp6bp

FRIENDS
of Federation

LUCILLE BALL PORTRAYAL
AT JACOB HENRY MANSION
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025

COST:
MEMBER \$70
NONMEMBER \$80

In the 1950's, actress and comedienne Lucille Ball captured the hearts of television viewers across the nation, while her production company brought new innovations off screen. You won't want to miss this portrayal by historian Leslie Goddard.

PROGRAM ITENARY

- **9:30am:** Bus departure for Jacob Henry Mansion
- **11am:** Arrive at Jacob Henry Mansion
- **11-11:20am:** Self-guided tour of Jacob Henry Mansion
- **11:30am:** Lunch is served
- **1pm:** Living History Portrayal begins
- **1:30pm:** Bus leaves for the Federation
- **4:30pm:** Arrive back at the Federation

MENU: Fresh Tossed Garden Salad, Warm Rolls, Whipped Butter, Entree, Dessert, Coffee or Tea, Apricot Chicken, Wild Rice, and Chef's Choice of Vegetable and a Cash Bar

RSVP and payment due by 5/23/25. Call the office at 219-301-0960 or RSVP via emailed newsletters (Federation Weekly or FOF).



2025

YOM HASHOAH
THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH | 6:30 PM

YOM HAZIKARON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH | 7 PM

ISRAEL SOLIDARITY DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 4TH | 10 AM



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA
585 Progress Ave. | Munster, Ind. 46321
219-301-0960

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Happy
Passover

