



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

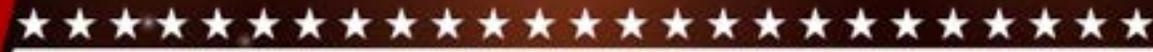
March 2023
Adar/Nissan 5783
thejewishcenter.org

CONNECT TO YOUR COMMUNITY • היה שותף בקהילה

Chag Purim Sameach

Purim Carnival
March 5

Purim in Hollywood
March 6





The Jewish Center

PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

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Shaliach Tzibur
Rabbi Emeritus
Cantor Emeritus
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Director of Congregational Learning
Director of Programming & Engagement
Communications & Social Media Manager
Youth Director & Ritual Assistant
Service Coordinator
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Sharon Diamondstein
Emilie Kovit
Emily Kafas
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The Jewish Center Princeton

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MARCH 2023 ZOOM LINKS

(Please make sure to have the latest version of Zoom.)

Erev Shabbat Services – 6:30 PM

Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613292983>

Meeting ID: 886 1329 2983

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Shabbat morning services – 9:30 AM

Mar 4, 11, 18, 25

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81874292908>

Meeting ID: 818 7429 2908

Dial by your location+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Sunday Morning Minyan – 9:00 AM

March 5, 12, 19, 26

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84765294784>

Meeting ID: 847 6529 4784

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Wednesday Morning Minyan – 7:00 AM

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87871488326>

Meeting ID: 878 7148 8326

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Live Stream our services:

www.thejewishcenter.org.

Click on the button (shown right).

If we are live, just click the play button.

Cameras go live 10-15 minutes before services begin.

www.livestream.com/tjc



Watch
Livestream



PURIM IN HOLLYWOOD 2023

SHOW TIMES FOR MONDAY | 6 MARCH
ONLY AT THE JEWISH CENTER

5:30 PM

**MORDECHAI MADNESS!
GRADES 2 & BELOW*
GRADES 3 - 5***

5:45 PM

**MA'ARIV SERVICE
IN THE MAIN SANCTUARY
- OSCAR WORTHY!**

6 PM

MEGILLAH READING - BOO HAMAN!

7:30 PM - 10 PM

**MORDECHAI MADNESS CONTINUES
FOR KIDS 12 & UNDER**

8 PM

**QUEEN ESTHER'S ACADEMY AWARD
AFTER PARTY IN THE SOCIAL HALL**

*Light dinner will be served at children's programming. Children 3 & under must be with a parent. RSVP required.

**COSTUME PARADE
FOR ALL AGES!**

**THEMED COCKTAILS
& MOCKTAILS!**



**ADMIT
ONE**

 **The Jewish Center**
BRUNSWICK • NEW JERSEY



MESSAGE from the Rabbi

Rabbi Andrea Merow
609.921.0100 ext. 203
RAM@thejewishcenter.org

For many, Purim is a fun holiday that we love to celebrate with children. It is wonderful to see kids dressed up, marching in a costume parade in synagogue, and we love seeing our little Vashti's, Esther's, Mordechai's and even little Haman's that can make us smile. We create carnivals and fun events for the kids. One might leave a Purim celebration thinking that it is just a joyous holiday for kids. While it is fun for kids and adults, the themes of Purim remain present in our Jewish lives. Purim is a reminder that our People have been despised over the generations and have suffered greatly because of this through the past several thousand years. To the ancients and to us, Purim is a glimpse of world where Jews become safe and secure.

The ten chapters of Megillat Esther tell a harrowing tale of how our People were in mortal danger because we were different from the host culture. In the Purim tale, unlikely events conspire to allow unlikely characters to save our People from antisemitism. Mordechai gains information that is important to the King, and thus has access to power to help our people. His niece, Esther, is a marginally affiliated Jew who is put in a position to help save us. The King, in a benevolent move, decides to honor the wishes of his wife and not his advisor. The wish of our enemy is turned on its head and the Jews are safe. If it were only that easy to combat antisemitism.

In a world of rising antisemitism, it is important to celebrate the triumph over hatred of The Jewish People. In this way, Purim is really a holiday for adults. It is a time for us to come together, to hear this ancient story and to celebrate our survival. It is a time to dream about and celebrate the victories over antisemitism. Please join us at The Jewish Center on Monday March 6th to celebrate Purim together in person as a community. Be here as an affirmation of our Jewish values and culture, be here as a way to mark the flourishing of our community, and be here to have fun! After the Megillah Reading, join us for Queen Esther's Academy Award After Party. Come dressed for Hollywood and dancing! All are welcome!

Below, please find a description of the four Mitzvot of Purim, the traditional ways that Purim is celebrated.

-Kirat HaMegillah – It is a mitzvah to hear the entire book of Esther on Purim in the evening and in the morning. This mitzvah allows us to demonstrate the importance

of learning, chanting our sacred texts, and looking at our sacred texts for new insights each year. It is not enough to hear the book once. We are commanded to hear it twice each year, in the evening and the morning. We are the People of the Book.

-Matanot l'Evyonim – We are commanded to give gifts to the poor on Purim. This reminds us that when we have material wealth of any kind, it is our obligation to share it with others. In fact, Proverbs 22 would say that we are stealing from the poor if we do not give them the tzedakah that is due to them.

-Mishloach Manot – It is a mitzvah to give gifts of food to our friends. This reminds us of the sacred nature of community and of how interdependent we are. We need friends or family to live Judaism. Usually, we give at least two small food items.

-Seudat Purim – It is a mitzvah to have a festive meal on Purim day. Okay, each one of our holidays involves festive meals, even on fast days we start and end our fasts together. On this holiday we have a festive meal to remind ourselves that we create community while breaking bread together.

Rabbi Andrea Merow
RAM@thejewishcenter.org

A Note from Rabbi Merow:

Passover Seders are Wednesday and Thursday nights April 5th and 6th. Everyone should have the opportunity to be at Seders, yet not everyone has a local family or a Glatt place for seder. Let Emilie Kovit know if you can be a host or would like to be a guest for one or both Seders, how many, and your level of keeping kosher for Passover. (e.g. do you have a kosher home, do you need to be at a kosher Seder. Is not kosher okay for you?). Please let Emilie know by March 24th so we can help make arrangements with you.

It is a mitzvah, a commandment/Jewish Action, to do Hachnasat Orchim, the welcoming of guests. So if you host, you are fulfilling this important mitzvah! If you are a guest, you are actually helping someone else do a mitzvah!

Save the date: Wednesday morning, April 6th 8:30 am burn your chametz and roast marshmallows with us!



MESSAGE from the President

Alexandra Bar-Cohen
president@thejewishcenter.org

Are you ready to say that “belonging to The Jewish Center will transform your life?”

In preparation for our February board meeting, I asked our board members to show up ready to reflect on the question: are you able to say that belonging to The Jewish Center will transform your life? If not, what else is needed for this to be true?

As background, every board member was given the book “Creating Sacred Communities” by Ron Wolfson,* Each month, in addition to the usual board work, we take a deep dive into important questions like these, with the goal of exploring how TJC can be that transformative, sacred community of which we all want to be a part. Last month, per usual, a robust discussion ensued.

Some were unequivocal: “Yes, TJC has changed my life. In the beginning it can be awkward, but I really like the on-ramping of involvement - one moment leads to the next. The more you come the more you get to know people and feel more comfortable.” The fear that “I don’t know anyone” or I don’t know the customs” is easily allayed when you just show up and when people meet you with a smile and say, “We are so glad to see you.” We all can do these simple actions -show up and welcome people.

Remember, The Jewish Center is not the building, it is not the staff and clergy. The Jewish Center is all of us. In our covenantal community (defined not by what you get for your dues, but rather what you get to do as part of our community) each of us plays a role in making this a transformative place.

If you are not yet ready to say TJC changed my life, what do you need to do? And how can TJC help? What trophic cascades will occur when you do it? What one thing can you do at TJC that will cause a ripple effect of transformation for yourself and others?

One recent new member, Becca Mauer, brought a love of art to TJC. She agreed to join the Lobby Art Gallery Curation Committee and not only do we now have her fascinating Caracas Collection on our walls (a percentage of sales will go to TJC) but she gave a fascinating talk at our last Cocktails in the Corridor about the five artists represented to a packed crowd of members and unaffiliated who were brought in by the advertisement in the local papers. Many attendees stayed for Friday night dinner and the Shabbat Under the Stars Congregational Dinner. She shared her talent with us, connecting with congregants and non-congregants alike, and in doing so, transformed our experience (and our walls).

What are your gifts, and how can you use them to enhance The Jewish Center community?

Here’s a trophic cascade opportunity for us all: Sign up to be a Friday night or Shabbat morning greeter. The shifts are short, the lobby coffee bar is hopping, and the opportunity to have a transformative experience by engaging with others is high.

Friday night form:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4CAFA822ABFE3-friday>
Shabbat morning

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4CAFA822ABFE3-shabbat>

No matter how you engage, we are glad you are here.

See you in Old Hollywood Shushan!

Alexandra
Alexandra Bar-Cohen
President@thejewishcenter.org



MESSAGE from the Executive Director

Joel Berger
609.921.0100 ext. 205
jberger@thejewishcenter.org

Please let us know!

A few weeks ago, one of our members of over 50 years, came by and told us his wife passed away. **In OCTOBER!** We were all shocked that none of us here at TJC knew. Rabbi Merow spent time with him and our staff all reached out and shared condolences. He appreciated our support, and we sent out a notice to our congregants.

We are still not sure why we did not know. Maybe the family did not know to call the synagogue? Maybe everyone assumed someone else would tell us? We missed it and we felt bad about it.

One of our guiding principles these past few years is living in a covenantal way. Being able to go the extra mile to make a congregant feel like their membership to The Jewish Center means something. Not just seeing you 3 times a year on the holidays. Sharing good times and bad. We want to know what is happening in your lives so we can be a part of it.

We love the good news you share in Mazal Tov Mondays. Over 3 years and going strong. We get submissions every week and everyone is respectful in not sharing information about someone else. We love it when it comes directly from you so we can share it with our community.

But we also want the difficult news. We are a caring staff and want to be able to help when times are not as good. Reaching out when you lose a loved one. Making sure a hospital visit takes place when needed. Or just making a phone call to see if we can help. Our wonderful Chavurat Chesed committee does a lot of that work. But we can't do it if we don't know.

So please tell us what is happening in your lives. Let us be another support vehicle when you need us. You can always email me directly at jberger@thejewishcenter.org. You can email our general email inbox at info@thejewishcenter.org. Or you can email Rabbi Merow for more private matters at ram@thejewishcenter.org. Of course, you can always give us a call at 609.921.0100.

Please let us know. Please let us be a part of what is going on in your lives so we can try and help make a difference. A synagogue membership is more than just paying dues. It's the value of being part of a warm and caring community that looks after each other.

Wishing everyone a Chag Purim Sameach. We hope you join us for our Hollywood Purim and please come up to us and say hello!

Joel

March 2023
7:00 pm
EC Meeting: 3/9
Board Meeting: 3/23



MESSAGE from the Director of Congregational Learning

Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext. 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Friends,

I write this to you today filled with pride. Just this past weekend, our third graders stood up on the bimah and received their sid-durim (prayer books). I beamed with pride as each child got up, told us what they loved about Jewish holidays, and received their newest gifts. The pride continued on Sunday morning as they arrived at religious school, prayer books in hand, ready to learn. This is some of the magic that takes place in our classrooms as told by some of our teachers:

“Over the many years I have been a Jewish Educator, I have taught every grade from pre-K to high school. I’ve enjoyed teaching Jewish history, rituals, holidays and culture on all levels. I love when the students ask questions. It tells me they are listening, thinking and digesting the information I have presented. Recently, when I explained the Hebrew calendar to my Gan/Gan Katan class, one of the children asked “how did the Hebrew months get their names?” I had to admit I didn’t know, but would find out and let her know. I did, and I thanked her for helping me to learn! Being a teacher truly means being a “student!” - Ellen Pristach (Gan Katan)

“This year, I particularly love teaching The Jewish American Experience which covers the history of Jews in America beginning in New Amsterdam 1654. My favorite lesson was about the Jewish American patriot Chaim Solomon, a member of the Sons of Liberty, who risked life and fortune multiple times to help win the American Revolution. I was showing a video about Solomon and was going to stop it because I thought the class might be getting bored, when they very excitedly called out, “Don’t stop, this is really interesting, why haven’t we ever heard about this before?” - Carol Alpert (7th Grade)

“I love to teach Sacred Text! My favorite lesson this year was with the Bet students, when we learned about how God created the world. With the help of my amazing madrichim, the class created a mural showing what God created on each day of creation based on the text. We hung it outside the classroom and the parents have loved looking at it when they drop their students off.” - Ronit Johnson (2nd and 4th Grade)

“I love to work with my students on sacred Jewish texts, teaching them how to ask questions about and engage in conversation with the millennia-old texts of our people. This past November, we got to practice these skills by sharing about our Thanksgiving breaks and then applying our question techniques to one another’s stories!” - Avi Chesler (6th Grade)

“I love teaching Bible stories: As a child I could not wait for my

next lesson. I was so curious. I see the same curiosity in my students’ eyes. My passion is telling stories. It allows my students to experience different worlds, countries, and traditions. My favorite lesson is teaching about the siddur and kavana. I could see and feel the pride in my students’ words, the sincere feeling of their heart and the excitement of receiving their own siddur prayer books.” - Ronit Rackowski (3rd Grade)

“I love to teach Jewish stories and connecting them to Jewish practice. I find that students connect to ritualized Judaism when they can personally relate to it through stories or games. One of my favorite lessons this year was teaching the creation story and how it connects to our practice of Shabbat!” - Davi Frank (5th Grade)

I hope you enjoyed this glimpse into our school. Please let me know if you’re on campus during school hours! I’d love to give you a tour and let you see the magic with your own eyes!

L’Shalom,

Sharon



Explore the weekly Torah portions
with Sharon Diamondstein

Every Friday
at 9:30 a.m.

Questions? Contact Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext. 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Fun FOR Foodies
A SERIES TO ENJOY AND EXPLORE CULINARY CREATIONS

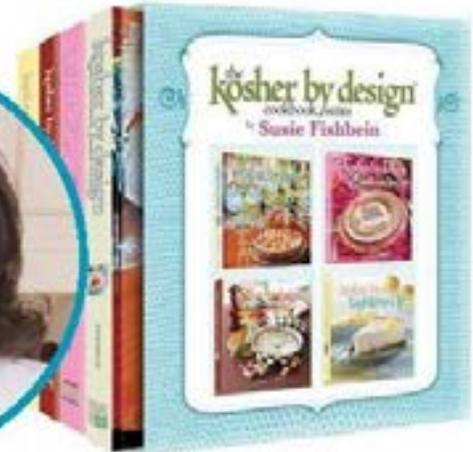


Passover Cooking Demonstration

with **Susie Fishbein**, Author of the *Kosher by Design* cookbook series

Tuesday, March 14 • 6:30 pm

Join us for a cooking demonstration and tasting with Susie Fishbein, author of the *Kosher by Design* cookbook series, as she creates a Passover-themed dinner. Susie's books will be available for sale and will make great gifts for you or the cooks in your life.



Register by March 6th.
Space is limited.

Open to the Community!

Jewish Center Members: **\$36** Community Participants: **\$54**

For more info, contact The Jewish Center office at (609) 921-0100 or info@thejewishcenter.org

TRI-COLOR MATZOH BALL SOUP
MELENZANE SCARPONCINO (EGGPLANT APPETIZER)
CHICKEN LOLLIPOPS OVER SPAGHETTI SQUASH WITH SHAWARMA DIPPING SAUCE
BERRIES

Register online at
bit.ly/3WQbRBX

or scan the QR code



The Jewish Center

435 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540
609.921.0100 • www.thejewishcenter.org

The Jewish Center is a non-profit organization. Our policy is not to deny membership or education to any person based on financial need.



Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah



Gabriel Mikhno

March 4

Gabriel is an 8th grade student at the French American School of Princeton and is trilingual in Russian, French, and English. For the past eight years, he has studied piano at The New School for Music Study while participating in The Royal Conservatory of Music Certificate Program - reaching Level 6. A highlight has been the honor of performing at Carnegie Hall. Concurrently, he has studied ballet at the Princeton Dance and Theater Studio performing in the last three productions of the Princeton Youth Ballet, notably as wolf in The Nutcracker.

Gabriel loves theater and film-making. He relentlessly lobbied his parents to send him to summer camp for performing arts where he pursues both his artistic interests and the joy of missing his family. He enjoys swim practice, skiing, scootering, photography, and drawing animal portraits he gives as presents. He helps his parents by cooking and reading French books to his little brother.

For his Chessed project, Gabriel grew vegetables at The Jewish Center garden, donating crop through the Jewish Family and Children's Services food pantry program. Gabriel and his parents are very grateful to Louise Sandburg and Wilma Solomon for their guidance and tutelage in the arts of gardening and giving, the kind and patient teachers at the religious school, and everyone who helped prepare for his Bar Mitzvah ceremony including his tutors Gila Levin and Cilla Karetnick, Sharon Diamondstein, Avi Paradise and Rabbi Andrea Merow.

Bryce Johnson

March 18

Bryce Johnson is a seventh-grade honor roll student at Lawrence Middle School. Bryce spends his free time training for and competing in World Ninja League competitions. Bryce is a six-time WNL Regional Championship qualifier and four-time World Championship qualifier. Bryce also enjoys video games, working out, riding roller coasters, and hanging out with friends. For his Chessed project, Bryce volunteered over 30 hours at Centercourt Ninja Lawrence coaching preschool and beginner level classes, testing and demonstrating obstacles, and as an obstacle resetter for competitions. Bryce also partnered with Neighborhood Ninjas to promote awareness around Ninja Youth Access, Development & Safety as well as their Partners in Prevention training program. Bryce would like to express his gratitude to his friends and family for their support, and also extends a special "thank you" to Rabbi Merow, Avi, Sharon, Gila, Jonathon, and Ari for their help.



Beckett Dickler

March 25

Beckett is in the 7th grade at Princeton Day School. He spends his summers with his cousins at Camp Wayne in Pennsylvania where he loves rock climbing and being outdoors. In his free time, Beckett likes to read and play soccer with his PFC soccer team. Beckett also loves a good game night with his parents and sister, Phoebe.

Otherwise, you can often find him engrossed in a good book or, if it's a Sunday, eating a meatball parmesan hero at D'Angelo's in town. Beckett loves Italian food! For his Chessed project, Beckett cooked and delivered lasagnas to families in need with Lasagna Love, a nonprofit connecting neighbors through homemade meal delivery. Beckett would like to thank his parents and sister as well as Rabbi Merow, Avi, Gila, Sharon and all his religious school teachers for their support and guidance in helping him prepare for this day, and a special shout out to his dog, Frankie!

MEMBERSHIP



Mazal Tov...On Your Great News!

Email your news to us: mazaltov@thejewishcenter.org

To Josie Rae Sirotkin, great grandchild of Fran Zeitler and Fred Edelman and granddaughter of Barbara Leah Zeitler, who celebrated her 2nd birthday in NYC with family and friends. There was lots of singing, dancing and sweets.

To Ruth Schulman on her special birthday.

To Mike and Judy Leopold on their birthdays.

To Sam and Irene Goldfarb on their birthdays and anniversary.

To Barbara Zeitler, daughter of Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman, who celebrated a special birthday with family and friends.

To Barbara and Lew Gantwerk who celebrated their 58th anniversary on January 23, 1965.

To Joel and Gloria Berger on their 25th wedding anniversary.

To Michael Bloom on the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

To Art and Linda Meisel on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Andrew, at The Conservative Synagogue in Westport, CT. Andrew's proud parents are Rachel and Micah Meisel.

To Jen and Jeremy Black, who are proud to announce that Talia Black will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall of 2023.

To Martha and Marty Rossman's daughter-in-law, Jae Jennifer Rossman, Ph.D. (wife of Corey Rossman), who earned her doctorate in Library & Information Science from Simmons University in December 2022. Dr. Rossman is the Fellowship Program Director at Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University.

To Andrew Bennett, son of Audrey Egger and stepson of David Egger, who has just been made CEO of Vontier EV Charging.

To Polly Strauss, who has won an Equity Award from Princeton University's Department of Astrophysical Sciences for creating a positive environment in her work with students.

To Dr. Joan Goldstein, who is taping her next TV30 show with author and former British fighter pilot Richard Moody. His book, *Flying Through Life; From Fighter Pilot to Peace Activist*, shares the story of his transformation to Quakerism in the fight for peace. The TV show appears on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m.

To Eleni Litt, who has two pieces at the West Windsor Arts Council art show titled "Art Against Racism, Manifesting Beloved Community." In her brief remarks at the opening reception, she shared how the Hebrew bible inspired the pieces.

To Avi Paradise for a wonderful Bar Mitzvah experience.

To The Adult Education Committee for sponsoring Shua Kisilevitz's presentation "Changing Perspectives on Cult & Religion in Judah, a view from Tel Moza."

The Jewish Center is the place to be in Princeton and Mercer County! Tell your friends and let's grow our synagogue together. Contact the office for more information or email us at ekovit@thejewishcenter.org

WELCOME

NEW MEMBER

Edward and Jessica Deutsch
Adam Kapor and Sofia Moroni &
Vera and Noah
Ari and Anna Meisel
Steven and Judy Richman
Esther Schor
Ron and Larura Sucher

MATZAH, MERLOT, & R-MEROW!



Join Rabbi Merow for a class on how to make a Great Seder!
A Passover Experience

**Tuesday, March 28
7:00 PM
at TJC**

Register at bit.ly/PesachM323

*Wine tasting for Passover
How to Make your Seder Better
Light desserts and refreshments*

The Jewish Center

Sponsored by the Men's Club and Jewish Center Women

MARCH MADNESS VIEWING PARTY

FEATURING A Q&A WITH MERCER COUNTY COLLEGE BASKETBALL COACH HOWARD LEVY

DRINKS AND SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED



Sponsored by Men's Club & JCW

Register to join at bit.ly/TJCball

SUN, MAR 19 12:30 PM

The Jewish Center

The Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund's 34th Annual Memorial Lecture will be held at The Jewish Center on Sunday, April 30th at 3 p.m.

Speaker will be Bishop William Barber II, head of the Poor People's Campaign and Repairers of the Breach, and recently appointed Professor at Yale University's Divinity School, and Director of its new Center for Public Theology and Public Policy.

SAVE THE DATE

For Kids K and below!
Bring your friends! All are welcome!

Shabbat Katan

This spirited service is designed for preschool-aged children and their families. Led by music teacher Susan Sacks and parents, this interactive Shabbat experience includes stories, prayers, songs, and a brief Torah reading. Ages: K and below.

Open to the community!

March 11
11:00 am
Youth Lounge



Questions? Call Sharon at (609) 921-7207 or email her at SDiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

TJC Youth Programming

— ***Nitzanim Scavenger Hunt*** | **Sun, 10 AM-11 AM**

Mar 12 You are invited to join your 3rd & 4th grade friends for a scavenger hunt throughout the downtown Princeton area. Details for drop off and pick up will be given upon RSVP.

— ***Kadima Scavenger Hunt*** | **Sun, 11 AM-12 PM**

Mar 12 You are invited to join your 5th through 7th grade friends for a scavenger hunt throughout the downtown Princeton area. Details for drop off and pick up will be given upon RSVP.

— ***JCUSY Scavenger Hunt*** | **Sun, 1 PM-2 PM**

Mar 12 You are invited to join your 8th through 12th grade friends for a scavenger hunt throughout the downtown Princeton area. Details for drop off and pick up will be given upon RSVP.

— ***Nitzanim Goes Bowling*** | **Sun, 2 PM-3:30 PM**

Mar 19 You are invited to join your 3rd & 4th grade friends for an afternoon of bowling at Slocum's Bowling Center in Ewing, NJ.

— ***Kadima Goes Bowling*** | **Sun, 2:30 PM-4 PM**

Mar 19 You are invited to join your 5th through 7th grade friends for an afternoon of bowling at Slocum's Bowling Center in Ewing, NJ.

— ***JCUSY Goes Bowling*** | **Sun, 3 PM-4:30 PM**

Mar 19 You are invited to join your 8th through 12th grade friends for an afternoon of bowling at Slocum's Bowling Center in Ewing, NJ.

RSVPs are required to Youth Director Ethan Weg at eweg@thejewishcenter.org

TJC WELCOMES

EDWARD AND JESSICA
DEUTSCH

ADAM KAPOR AND
SOFIA MORONI

ARI AND ANNA MEISEL

STEVEN AND JUDY
RICHMAN

ESTHER SCHOR

RON AND LAURA
SUCHER

DO YOU WANT TO
HELP INTEGRATE
ONE OF THESE NEW
FAMILIES INTO OUR
COMMUNITY?

YOU CAN BECOME A NEW
MEMBER SPONSOR
TODAY!

CONTACT EMILIE KOVIT AT
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NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

AN INTERVIEW WITH
SARAH GOLDSTEIN



Background: Sarah Goldstein is from North Jersey and moved down here to go to TCNJ where she got her master's in special education and her BS in iStem with a specialization in technology. She loved the area so got a job here! Sarah grew up going to temple all the time with her mom, who is a rabbi, and going to Hebrew school. She also went to Surprise Lake Camp (a Jewish summer camp in upstate NY) from the ages of 3-16. She is currently a teacher in the area and teaches honors robotics, principles of engineering, graphics engineering, woodshop, and computers for middle school and high school. She loves going on walks in her complex, doing hot yoga, reading, cooking, baking, kayaking, and woodworking.

We interviewed Sarah to find out more:

TJC: How did you decide to join TJC?

Sarah: After living here for over a year, I wanted to start to find my Jewish identity. To do that, I wanted to find a temple. I went to a few temples and TJC just felt most welcoming. Everyone was SO nice and I enjoyed my time here.

TJC: What is your favorite Jewish Holiday?

Sarah: I love Purim. I was born on Purim. I love everyone being so happy and hanging out with others.

TJC: What has been your favorite TJC event so far?

Sarah: I love the Shabbat dinners once a month. I get to meet new people and catch up with others. I really enjoy my time.

TJC: What are looking forward to at TJC?

Shira: I am looking forward to meeting more people and putting down roots. I feel comfortable at TJC and can't wait to see where things go!

Synagogue Spotlight



“They tell me I’m 100% Ashkenazi Jewish,” shares Rysia de Ravel, referring to the results of her 23 and Me and Ancestry tests. “My religion is my identity. It’s who I am in my DNA.”

Having been a resident of Poland, France, Canada and the United States, her Judaism has been her one constant identity. Born in Warsaw, Poland in 1946, Rysia de Ravel is the daughter of two Holocaust survivors. Her parents met in Ukraine, where they’d



both fled to escape the German invasion of the Warsaw Ghetto. After years of hardship, her mother dreamed of returning to Warsaw to give birth to Rysia, surrounded by family. Only when she returned after the war, she’d learned they’d all perished in the Holocaust.

Like many Jews of their time, Rysia’s parents yearned to leave Poland, but the Communist government wouldn’t allow it. Rysia’s uncle, who also survived, was then living in Paris. He was hiding his Jewish identity, working a high-ranking post for the Polish government. If they promised to keep their relationship and his identity a secret, he would help move them there too. So, they moved when Rysia was one, the two families living vastly different lives in a new city.

“They lived as diplomats and had a limo and we lived in the slums. I had to share an outhouse in Paris with 14 families,” she recalls.

Despite the situation, Rysia speaks of her primitive years with fondness. Spending her days in Parisian daycare while her father and mother both worked difficult jobs. After four years on waitlists for entry into both the United States and Canada, both came through. Having gained some knowledge of the French language, they chose Montreal, Canada as their new home in 1951. It was the SS Nelly that would bring Rysia and her parents across the ocean for the next stage of their Jewish refugee lives.

Though living in Montreal was wonderful, the family feared another Holocaust could come at any time. So, despite being surrounded by people from a similar situation, their religious identity remained a secret.

“Everyone was a survivor of the Holocaust and everyone spoke Polish and was Jewish,” Rysia shares. “All the people we hung out with were openly and proud to be Jewish, but I wasn’t allowed to tell anybody.”

Having first attended public school, then spending years at Trafalgar School for Girls where Christian learning was compulsory, it was easy to pass as a non-Jew. Though the Holocaust, having affected her parents so much, was still something discussed daily in their home. At age 14, her parents joined a synagogue for the first time. She went back to public school and soon religion found its way back into her life in a positive way.

“In youth group, in reform synagogue, you were part of something American that was bigger. I became part of the youth group NEFTY,” says Rysia. “Headquarters were in Boston and the smartest kids you met were going to Harvard. You’d visit Boston for meetings and you’d learn about Joan Baez and Pete Seeger and be part of singalongs and learn American folk songs and it was thrilling. I found my niche and I was excited.”

Her college experience at McGill University wasn’t all she’d dreamed of, so she dropped out after two years. After working for a while, she agreed to go back to school, and took off to Paris for a year to study art history.



The studying took a backseat to having fun, but she met a guy who would follow her back to Montreal and later become her husband.

In Montreal, Rysia worked as the head librarian at a top law firm in Canada and caught sight of the opportunities that her future could hold. She eventually married her Parisian beau as well. He, a member of the French aristocracy, was not Jewish. And so it was agreed, Rysia would become Countess of Ravel and Baroness of Esclapon, in exchange, they would raise a Jewish family.

“We did the Jewish and aristocratic thing each 100%,” she explains. “He wanted me to be proud of the titles and I wanted to make sure everyone knew we were a Jewish family.”

Harvard, in an area which had become so attractive to Rysia during her youth group years, is where her husband would go for a 2nd law degree in 1969. She took this opportunity to finish college, enrolled at Tufts and earned her BA at age 25. The two also had a son, Alexandre, and then moved to New York City. It was there Rysia could see her marriage disintegrating and sought to further her dreams of learning and success. At 35 years old she went back to Boston, this time attending Harvard Business School. This propelled her to a job in Washington DC where she learned about telecommunications working on the AT&T

breakup. She wanted to move back to the New York area, and real estate matters led them out to greater Princeton.

“We came to Lawrenceville, my son joined Princeton Day School, we joined The Jewish Center (just after Alexandre’s Bar Mitzvah in DC) and I started a company. I ran it for 30 years – Deracom Conference Call services,” Rysia details.



Creating her own success, she also sought to expand her horizons and got involved in real estate, starting DeraVentures, Inc. holding company and DeraProperties, LLC as well. With personal professional success, her Judaism and Jewish philanthropy remained a top priority. She has sat on several national boards as well as local involvement with UJA Federation and

the American Jewish Committee.

“I’m more passionate than ever about Jewish causes. My Jewish niche is in giving back to Jews and helping Jews around the world,” she explains. “I feel good in my skin when I go around the world and meet Jews who need help. I understand how I can make a difference.”



Today Rysia continues Jewish philanthropy while figuring out her next act. She splits living between New York City and Princeton, where her mother, soon 100 years old, also spends a lot of time. Her son is now living in Texas.

Synagogue Spotlight is a joint project by TJC members and journalists Lisa Jacknow and Michele Alperin. Each month they take turns writing about fellow congregants to help us learn more about one another. This article was written by Lisa, who lives in Princeton with her husband Bret and their two sons, Gabriel and Cooper. She is Founding Editor/Writer of the monthly online magazine PrincetonPerspectives.com.

Are you interested in taking a leadership role in TJC services?

**Do you want to...
Have an *aliyah*?
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**If you do, please get in touch with our Ritual Assistant
Ethan Weg, at
eweg@thejewishcenter.org**

Chess
At The Jewish Center

**Friday
March 17**

Once a month after Shabbat Under the Stars dinners!

 The Jewish Center
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

THE GREAT DEBATES OF JEWISH HISTORY

SESSION IV

RELIGION AND RACE: JUDAISM CONFRONTS THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Rabbi Dr. David Starr

Thursday, March 2, 2023

at 6:15 PM

We will focus on the post World War II American rabbinate as it confronted the great challenge of social change in American life. Principally we look at the civil rights issue, that is the struggle for racial equality. That struggle had a sectional dimension to it: What began as a struggle against Jim Crow in the American South by the mid-late 1960s had become a national struggle, extending to the Northeast and to the Midwest. Those struggles often times took place in large urban areas like Chicago and Detroit which also contained significant Jewish communities.

This session will consider the ways in which rabbis and their communities and their religious denominations struggled with philosophical and practical questions about the relationship between Judaism and American social life.



David Starr is a Research Associate of the Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry, Brandeis University. He teaches at Hult International Business School. He served as Scholar in Residence for Israel Education & Programs at Gann Academy, the pluralistic Jewish high school in greater Boston. He was the founding Dean of Me'ah and Vice President at Hebrew College. He lectures on topics related to history and religion. David is currently writing a biography of Solomon Schechter, and a study of adult education and its impact on religious life. He holds a doctorate in history from Columbia and rabbinic ordination from JTS.

Register at [bitely/3CSaD1d](https://bit.ly/3CSaD1d)

THE GREAT DEBATES OF JEWISH HISTORY

SESSION V

THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARGUMENT ABOUT ISRAEL

Dr. Dov Waxman, UCLA

Thursday, March 30, 2023

at 7:00 PM

More than ever before, American Jews are arguing about Israel and debating what it means to be pro-Israel—whether one can be a supporter of Israel and criticize its governments. Growing numbers of American Jews are becoming more critical in their attitudes toward Israel and most now believe that supporting Israel no longer necessarily means supporting its government’s policies. Consequently, the pro-Israel consensus that once united American Jews is eroding, and Israel is becoming a source of division rather than unity for American Jewry. In this talk, Dov Waxman discusses the current American Jewish conflict over Israel--why it is happening, what its consequences are, and what we should do about it.



Dov Waxman is the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation Chair of Israel Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and the director of the UCLA Y&S Nazarian Center for Israel Studies. He received his Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from Johns Hopkins University, and a B.A. from Oxford University. He is the author of four books: *The Pursuit of Peace* (2006), *Israel’s Palestinians: The Conflict With* (2011), *Trouble Within the Tribe: The American Jewish Conflict over Israel* (2016), and *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford University Press, 2019). His writing has also been published in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Atlantic*.

Must have attended two of the previous four sessions in order to attend.

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MARCH 26

AT THE JEWISH CENTER

**CHOCOLATE SEDER
FOR ALL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS
DURING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL HOURS**

**SUPER SEDER STORY FOR YOUNG FAMILIES
FROM 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**

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Shabbat Under the Stars

March 17

Services - 6:30 PM
Dinner - 7:30 PM



POTLUCK DINNER

Fish entree and beverages provided by
The Jewish Center



Bring a dish! Bring a friend! Bring Kosher wine!

Please RSVP via ShulCloud & let us know what
dish you are sharing

Stay after dinner for Chess! All levels welcome

Want to host? Contact Emilie Kovit at ekovit@thejewishcenter.org
or call 609.921.0100 x 209



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			12:00 PM Talmud Study
<p>5</p> <p>9:00 AM Religious School 11:00 AM Purim Carnival</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Taanit Esther Erev Purim</p> <p>5:30 PM Mordechai Madness (Young Family & Youth) 5:45 PM Ma'ariv Service 6:00 PM Megillah Reading 7:30 PM Mordechai Madness Continues 8:00 PM Purim Party!</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Purim</p> <p>12:00 PM Bridge Club</p>	<p>Shushan Purim</p> <p>12:00 PM Talmud Study</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:00 PM Bridge Club 6:30 PM Susie Fishbein Passover Cooking Demonstration</p>	<p>12:00 PM Talmud Study 7:00 PM The Mitzvah</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00 AM Religious School 11:00 AM B'nai Mitzvah Trope Class 12:30 PM NCAA Basketball Tournament Watch Party</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM The Mitzvah Initiative 7:30 PM Book Club</p>	<p>12:00 PM Talmud Study 7:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 AM Religious School 12:00 PM Madrichim Meeting 12:30 PM Young Family Program 2:00 PM Women's Retreat</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM Wine Tasting Passover Workshop</p>	<p>12:00 PM Talmud Study</p>

ADAR-NISSAN 5783

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Study Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 AM 55 Plus 6:15 PM Great Debates 4: Religion and Race</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:34 PM Candle Lighting 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Tetzaveh Parshat Zachor</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Mihkno 4:00 PM Shabbat Meditation 6:43 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Study Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 PM EC Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 AM Kiddush Krew Prep 5:42 PM Candle Lighting 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Ki Tisa Parshat Parah</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 10:00 AM Havurah Minyan 10:00 AM Kiddush Krew 10:30 AM Shabbat School 11:00 AM Shabbat Katan 12:30 PM Lunch and Learn with Myra Weiner 6:51 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Study Group Initiative</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 AM Nosh and Drosh 10:00 AM 55 Plus 8:15 PM Great Minds Salon with Andrea Gaynor</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:30 PM Religious School Dinner 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:49 PM Candle Lighting 7:30 PM Shabbat Under the Stars</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Vayakhel-Pekudel Shabbat Mevarchim Parshat Hachodesh</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah for Bryce Johnson 4:00 PM Shabbat Meditation 7:58 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Study Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh Nisan 7:00 PM Board Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:57 PM Candle Lighting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Vayikra</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Beckett Dickler 10:00 AM Havurah Minyan 8:06 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Study Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00 AM 55 Plus 7:00 PM Great Debates 5: The American Jewish Argument About Israel</p>	<p>31</p> <p>5:15 PM Cocktails in the Courtyard 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:04 PM Candle Lighting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">All communications are via email. If you are NOT on our email list, please email us at info@thejewishcenter.org</p>



New Name, Expanded Mission: Lifelong Learning 2022-2023

With the advent of the re-organization of adult learning at TJC, the Adult Education Committee transitioned into the Lifelong Learning Committee. The transition was not merely a name change.

Last year, we started the process of self-examination. What was right, but, more importantly, what needed improvement.

Some things have not changed. We still strive to bring in a variety of presenters from across the country and Israel who are experts in their respective fields within Judaic Studies and on the global Jewish community. We try to create a program mix that features a wide variety of topics designed to give our audience new insights and understanding into various aspects of Judaism, both past and present. We provide our fellow congregants with an opportunity to learn from and interact with both scholars and authors.

This year, our presenters included an up-and-coming archeologist from the Israeli Department of Antiquities, an expert on Pirkei Avot, the former 2nd in command at the Jewish Agency for Israel, a professor of Pastoral Education, a Bible scholar, and the author of “God is Here: Reimagining the Devine”.

We continued our focus on Jewish Communities Around the Globe with a program on the Abayudaya - Jewish community of Uganda.

This year, we initiated programs on Sunday mornings to foster intergenerational learning.

Last year, we initiated the re-introducing of Israel-oriented programming with a presentation tracing the development of modern Hebrew given by a professor of Hebrew language from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. This year, congregants learned about an archeological dig site outside of Jerusalem – Tel Motza

- from a Ph.D. candidate from Tel Aviv University who co-directs the excavation.

The 2022/23 program year concluded with a conversation between our congregant Professor Leora Batnitzky of Princeton University and Fordham University’s Professor Ayala Fader. Their topic: Jewish Doubt.

To further our goal of expanding our audience to include parents of Religious School students, we invited a representative of that cohort to join the Committee.

The 2022/23 Lifelong Learning Committee members were:

Fred Appel, Lynn Coopersmith, Sharon Diamondstein ex officio, Judi Fleitman, Emilie Kovit ex officio, Jane LeGrange, Neil Litt, Moshe Margolin Chair, Rabbi Andrea Merow ex officio, Mik Rosenthal, Lynne Ross ex officio, Elon Shore (Representing RS Parents), Shoshana Silberman and Tirza Wahrman.

They continued their commitment to bringing the very best in adult learning to TJC.

Looking ahead to next year, we would like to expand the Lifelong Learning Committee even further. Those interested should contact Moshe Margolin, the current chair of the Committee (momargolin@gmail.com).

*Submitted by:
Moshe Margolin, Chair Lifelong Learning Committee*

IN COMMEMORATION OF YOM HASHOAH
THE JEWISH CENTER PRESENTS

... DOCUMENTARY FILM ...
COMPLICIT

A FILM ABOUT THE VOYAGE OF THE SS ST. LOUIS

**Featuring a discussion with
Director Robert Krakow and
SS St. Louis survivors
Sonja Geismar & Eva Wiener**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
FILM SCREENING - 7:00 P.M.
DISCUSSION - 8:00 P.M.
AT THE JEWISH CENTER
435 NASSAU ST., PRINCETON, NJ

Refreshments will be served

Register at bit.ly/StLouisDoc

This program is being made possible through a gift from the
Marchand Espir Family Holocaust Education Fund.
Donations can be made to the fund through The Jewish Center
at bit.ly/3XLPSwH

The Mitzvah Initiative



MITZVAH, MEANING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15
TUESDAY, MARCH 21
VIA ZOOM



Join us for a Text based class about the
idea of mitzvah:
Commandment? Good deed? Jewish action? All
of the above?



● A guided course of study for adults from
The Jewish Theological Seminary,
taught by Rabbi Andrea Merow

No knowledge of Hebrew needed. All texts
provided.

This course will continue throughout the year.

SIGN UP AT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/MITZVAHINITIATIVE](https://bit.ly/mitzvahinitiative)



Shabbat L'Kulanu: Shabbat for All

SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday, March 11



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY



JOIN US!

Cocktails in the Courtyard



March 31st

5:15 pm

Before Shabbat Services

Hosted by Alison Politziner in honor of
David Politziner's special birthday.

Drinks, Snacks and Schmoozing!

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY



Shabbat Meditation

Led by **Ruth Goldston**

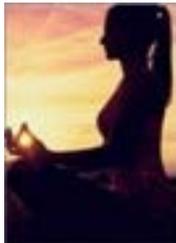
March 4 & 18 4:00 p.m.
In TJC Beit Midrash

Shabbat is a time for rest and renewal. Our busy lives make it hard to slow down, not just physically, but mentally as well. Join us as we use mindfulness meditation techniques to savor our moment-to-moment experiences, and to connect with our Jewish souls in the richness of silence in each other's company. The Jewish calendar, the liturgy, or the parshah will provide the focus for our practice. You will leave relaxed, refreshed, and centered as you enter the next week.

Appropriate for beginners as well as more experienced mindfulness practitioners. And if you've tried mindfulness or meditation before, and think you've "failed," you are especially welcome to join us.

Open to the Community!

Ruth Goldston is a long-time congregant, as well as a psychologist in private practice in Princeton. She has been leading Shabbat Meditation (aka Meditation Mincha) for the past 6 years at TJC. She has used mindfulness techniques successfully with her clients for many years, and has drawn on them to create meaningful prayer experiences in TJC's Havurah Minyan.



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Contact the office for more information:
info@thejewishcenter.org



Join us: March 16 at 9:30 am
Guest Facilitator: Avi Paradise

“A Lay Person’s Journey to Leadership in Jewish Musical and Prayer Experience”

Greetings from Jewish Center Women!

We may have been quiet these last few months, but that doesn’t mean we aren’t busy behind the scenes. Nosh and Drosh continues to amaze and delight; if you have not zoomed, give it a go! You will not be disappointed. The Debbi(e)s are putting together a Women’s Retreat! It is an intimate get together on Sunday March 26. The details are coming, but it promises to be a meaningful, uplifting, and FUN time.

Speaking of fun, JCW and the Men’s Club are partnering again, this time with WINE! March 28 is a wine tasting event to get you ready for Passover or any other Spring entertaining.

Also keep your eye open for a special JCW partnership with HiTOPs. HiTOPs is a local, non-profit organization that provides inclusive and youth-informed sex education and LGBTQ+ support for young people throughout Princeton and the New Jersey. JCW is inviting HiTOPs educators to offer congregants an introduction to SOGIE: sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. We will unpack the construct of gender and how to be affirming and welcoming to people of all identities. Expect a frank, open, judgement free discussion.

JCW Women’s Retreat

**MARCH 26 - 2PM
AT JOHNSON
EDUCATION CENTER AT
D&R GREENWAY**

**JOIN JCW FOR AN INTIMATE,
MEANINGFUL, FUN GET TOGETHER IN
NATURE.**

DETAILS TO COME!

Sale of Chametz

Sale of Chametz: In preparing for Passover, it is customary to sell your *chametz* (products leaven - made from wheat, spelt, barley, oats, rye, & their derivatives). Jewish law prohibits Jews from using or even possessing any *chametz* during *Pesach*. To ensure compliance with this law, we clean our homes and, just to make sure, we transfer title on any remaining *chametz* to a non-Jew. This *chametz* becomes the property of the non-Jew for the duration of *Pesach* and should be set aside in a place where it will not be disturbed or seen during the holiday. This sale can include the sale of your pet and their *chametz* pet food. The rabbi will serve as your agent for this transaction. If you would like to sell your *chametz*, please complete the form below and return it to the Synagogue no later than **Tuesday, April 4th at noon.**

I (We) hereby authorize Rabbi Andrea Merow to sell my (our) *chametz* for Passover 5783. Wednesday, April 5th, 9:30 am – Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 8:30 p.m.

Name (s) (please include pet names)

Complete Addresses

 Zip

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Please estimate the value of the chametz that you are selling: \$ _____

PLEASE NOTE some contribute to *Tzedakah, Maot Hittin* – a fund for those in need, when selling your *chametz*. Rabbi Merow will contribute to agencies that combat food insecurities from your donations.



CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support The Jewish Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through their generous contributions:

GENERAL FUND

In honor of

Tal Mayblum on his Bar Mitzvah
from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
Michael Bloom on the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah

from Alison and David Politziner
Linda and Art Meisel on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Andrew
from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman, Judy and Mike Leopold

Polly Strauss receiving an Equity Award from Princeton University's Department of Astrophysical Sciences for creating a positive environment in her work with students

from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
Jen and Jeremy Black on Talia's acceptance to the University of Michigan

from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
Joel and Gloria Berger on their 25th wedding anniversary

from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
Mike and Judy Leopold on their birthdays
from Alison and David Politziner
Rachel and Micah Meisel on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Andrew
from Judy and Mike Leopold

In memory of

Sylvia Swarts Dobkin Feldman
from Richard and Sheryl Feinstein, Judy Brill Levine

Harold Veldt
from Gaby Schreiber

Alex Fiegler
from Sharon Shylit

Elliot Saul
from Joe and Barbara Schwartz, Marc and Marcie Citron

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In honor of

The Adult Education Committee for sponsoring Shua Kisilevitz's presentation "Changing Perspectives on Cult & Religion in Judah, a view from Tel Moza"
from Joe and Sam Schwartz

Marsha and Harvey Novick on the marriage of Jonathan and Eliran
from Alison and David Politziner
Ned Wingreen for your years of service
from Rachele Simon

In memory of

Mel Silberman
from Shoshana Silberman
Elliot Saul
from Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman

ANNUAL FUND

In honor of

Avi Paradise for a wonderful Bar Mitzvah experience for Jacob
from Jacob, Jason, Rafaela and Maya Rogart

ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

In memory of

Anita Benarde
from Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman
Elliot Saul
from Sher and Jeanne Leiman

IRVING N. RABINOWITZ

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FUND

In memory of

My beloved husband, Irv
from Sandie Rabinowitz

ISRAELI AFFAIRS FUND

In memory of

Elliot Saul
from Michael and Lori Feldstein

THE JEWISH CENTER REFUGEE FUND

from Barbara Beckley
from Nancy Ford
from John Wallmark and Mary DeCicco

In honor of

Linda and Art Meisel on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Andrew
*from Alison and David Politziner**

In memory of

Hymie Schreiber
from Steffie Gittleman
Stan Rand
from Donna and Rick Rosenberg
Elliot Saul
from Linda and Art Meisel, Judy and Mike Leopold

MARCHAND ESPIR FAMILY HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

In memory of

Dr. David M. Smith
from Sy Marchand

RABBI MEROW'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

from Michael and Lori Feldstein

In honor of

The Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Max Rogart
from Jason Rogart and Rafaela Dancygier

In memory of

Elliot Saul
from Alison and David Politziner, Reba Orszag

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In memory of

Selma Fisher
from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs
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from Sara Gordon

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Rabbi Bob Freedman
from the Family of Rena and Albert Klein

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In honor of

Seth Fishman on his retirement
from Anna, Becca and Laura
Michael Bloom on the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah
from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

SILVER CIRCLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of

Samuel Goldfarb on his birthday
from Ruth Koizim, David Goldfarb
Samuel and Irene Goldfarb on their anniversary
from Ruth Koizim, Judy Goldfarb
Irene Goldfarb on her birthday
from David Goldfarb
Sam and Irene Goldfarb on their birthdays and anniversary
from Sally Goldfarb and Joseph Straus

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In honor of

Linda and Art Meisel on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Andrew
from Harriet Kass and Alan Medvin

**This gift is from a Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Mercer.*

In Memoriam:
*We extend our deepest sympathy
in remembering:*

Anita Benarde,
wife of Dr. Melvin Benarde

Elliot Saul,
brother of Judi (Bernie) Fleitman

Rebecca F. Notterman,
mother of Abby (Frank) Notterman

MENS CLUB



***Watch your email
inbox for
upcoming dates!***

HOW DO I FIND THE JEWISH CENTER DIRECTORY?

- Log into ShulCloud
- Go to "My Account"
- Scroll down to the third category on that page, "My Communications and Directory Options" and then click on Member Directory.



MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg Workshop
Wednesday, March 22
7:00 p.m.
at The Jewish Center

Workshop for new players
led by Judi Fleitman
& live game for all.

All levels welcome!



Questions? Email judykutin@gmail.com or
yehuditfleit@gmail.com for more info

Bible BaBoker Saturdays | 8:45 a.m.

Bible BaBoker is a diverse community and carries on the Jewish tradition of Torah study in an open and respectful atmosphere. We strive for discussions based on reading Torah, other Jewish texts, and additional relevant resources from ancient to modern sources. Participants with a variety of backgrounds and beliefs deepen our understanding of Judaism, share insights and opinions, extract and develop wisdom, and consider our purpose in life, ethical principles to live by, and ways to be better human beings. Prior Torah knowledge or background is not necessary and new participants are always welcome. Study with us each week or whenever you can make it! We look forward to learning together.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87570201257pwd=SncvMTM-vNkJOQklGWWJrdDBFMlp2dz09>

To be added to the BBB mailing list or for questions,
contact Michael Goldin at mmgold18@yahoo.com.

The Jewish Center's

GREAT
MINDS
SALON

Thursday, March 16
8:15 PM

Andrea Gaynor, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
and Geriatric Care Manager at
JFCS

*Seven Important
Documents for Seniors*

THE JEWISH CENTER'S "GREAT MINDS" SALON IS A SPEAKER SERIES FASHIONED AFTER THE 1900'S ERA PARIS SALON HOSTED BY JEWISH AUTHOR GERTRUDE STEIN (PICTURED ABOVE), WHICH REGULARLY BROUGHT TOGETHER THE BRIGHTEST ARTISTS AND THINKERS OF THAT ERA TO DISCUSS THEIR LATEST WORK.

There will be a discussion about seven important documents that pertain to seniors and planning. It's an important conversation to have with the senior, their adult children, or whomever will be handling their affairs.

Care manager at JFCS, where she has worked for 25 years. She works with seniors in the community, helping them to remain independent and safe. She also has a private practice focusing on older adults.



8:15 p.m. Via Zoom - OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

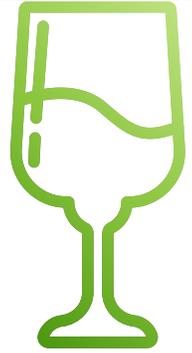
PROGRAM WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM. PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH SHULCLOUD AT
WWW.THEJEWISHCENTER.ORG A Zoom link will be sent to all registrants prior to the event.



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Kiddush Community



Kiddush Community is a way to build more connections between congregants and eat good food. It involves re-imagining how we organize Kiddush luncheons.

This re-imagining of the Kiddush Luncheon BUILDS our community by:

1. Adding a source of Alternative revenue
2. Increasing participate in Shabbat: services or social
3. Allowing us to celebrate more simchot together

- Macher \$1000
- Supporter \$540
- Contributor \$360
- Friend \$180

Each week multiple congregants can mark simchot at TJC by donating towards the kiddush luncheon. The spread stays the same (with some options for upper levels or additional donations).



TJC Hike
Led by Ed Simon
Sunday, April 16



Join us!

Sourland Mountains Preserve
421 East Mountain Road
Hillsborough Township

Meet at the Trailbend Map Stanchion located off the right side of the parking lot.
Dogs are permitted on leash.

Large Nature Preserve with well groomed trails and interesting rock formations.
Trail hiking is rated moderate as it has an elevation gain of 500+ feet.

Roundtrip hike of approximately 3 miles with an option to extend up to 5-1/2 miles roundtrip for those desiring. Wear hiking boots or sturdy sneakers.
Hiking Poles are always recommended to make hiking easier.
Bring Water, energy snacks are suggested.

Portable Toilets are available in the Preserve's parking lot.



Israel & Us

“Ridin’ on the City of New Orleans, Illinois Central, Monday morning rails... 16 cars and 16 restless riders, three conductors, 25 sacks of mail.” I’m Sharon Diamondstein, the Director of Congregational Learning here at The Jewish Center. I grew up in the 80s with a musician father who instilled a love of both Israeli and bluegrass/folk music in me. I often woke up to “Good morning, America, how are ya?” With gratitude and thanks to Steve Goodman’s writing and the singing of Arlo Guthrie and Willie Nelson, that same song woke my kids up when they were younger (because, well, we love sticking our own earworms in our children’s heads!) Natural curiosity led to me pulling up maps of Amtrak routes so they could see how the trains wove their way across the United States.

Now, however, they are switching tracks and languages, as they discovered a NEW version, *Shalom Lach Eretz Nehederet*, Hello Beautiful Country. The melody is the same, but the words are all in Hebrew. Ilan Goldhirsh took that song and brought us on a tour of Israel. “The blue waters of *Kineret* / And the matching sky above / And the familiar feeling of home / Flows like electricity within my veins./ The mountains of the Galil, and Shomron / The orchards in the Sharon,/ And children in the garden of a *moshava*; / The Carmel and the sea, / Each one separately, and all of them, / Always wink to me, saying “Welcome!”

There are many versions of this song, but today I would like to think about two. One by Yehoram Gaon, and the other by Shaigets. The former, the original recording, is more well-known and has a very different feel - more Arlo Guthrie-ish. The latter is a more modern reflection of today’s youth. This song has become a fast favorite in my car on rides to and from The Jewish Center and is the song I would imagine in my head as I land in Israel on April 1.

I smile each time I hear *Shalom Lach Eretz Nehederet*, thinking of the food, the friends, and family, and the fun we will have as Eric and Jason experience Israel for the first time.

There are so many songs in Israel that reference different geographical locations - songs about *Yerushalayim*, songs about the *Kinneret*, songs about different cities. Somehow, this one captures all the places, feelings, and experiences I am dusting off in my head, and most likely the song that brings us home... because, as the song says, it’s good to roam, but even better to return.

Feel free to scan the two QR codes below for links to the songs!



Shaigets version



Yehoram Gaon version

Do you have an Israeli song you would like to share?
Contact Edna Bryn-Noiman at edna.bryn@gmail.com



Book Club

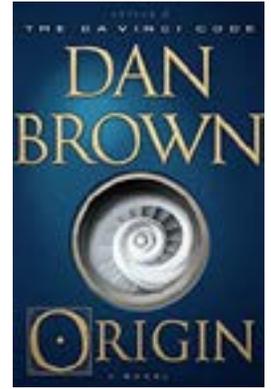
Tuesday, March 21

7:30 p.m.

via Zoom.*

March 21 – *Origin* by Dan Brown

In “Origin,” the brash futurist Edmond Kirsch comes up with a theory so bold, so daring that, as he modestly thinks to himself in Brown’s beloved italics, “It will not shake your foundations. It will shatter them.” Kirsch is of course addressing *The World*, because that’s the scale on which Brown writes. (New York Times)

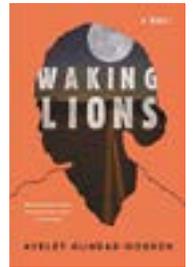


For future planning, save these dates and read these books:

April 25 – *Mr. Perfect on Paper* by Jean Meltzer

May 16 – *Run You Down* by Julia Dahl

June 20 – *Waking Lions* by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen



All are welcome to join our Book Club Discussions.
Please contact Louise Sandburg for more information: louise@sandsmith.com

Havurah Minyan
March 11 & 25
10:00 a.m.

The Havurah Minyan will meet every second and fourth Shabbat of the month.

Contact Neil Litt (neillitt@outlook.com) closer to the date to inquire whether these will be hybrid services or Zoom only.

The Zoom link remains the same:

Meeting ID = 861 4274 5562;

Passcode: = 311195.

Talmud Study Group

Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.

Available via Zoom

The Talmud Study Group continues via Zoom every Wednesday at 12:00. The Zoom link remains the same: Meeting ID = 839 3103 7869; Passcode = 643177.

A FUN Start to Passover

WEDNESDAY MORNING BEFORE
PASSOVER
APRIL 5
9AM-9:45AM
SHORT SIYUM

Celebrate the completion of a book of study...so if you are a First Born you do not have to fast today!

SALE OF CHAMETZ

Watch Rabbi Merow sell our chametz
(Don't forget to fill out your chametz sale form)

BURN YOUR CHAMETZ

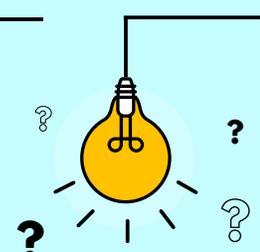
Bring chametz from your home to burn
(that you collected the night before!)

ROAST MARSHMALLOWS!

over the burning chametz. Why? Because it's fun!
Bring a stick! We've got the marshmallows!

SING PASSOVER SONGS!!

Register at bit.ly/SaleofChametz2023 so we know to expect you

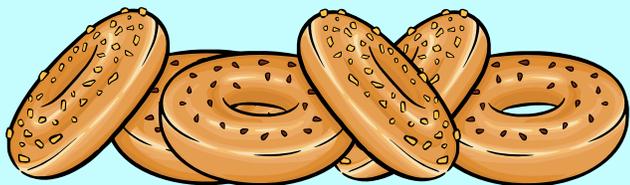


LUNCH & LEARN

WITH MYRA WEINER

MARCH 11

AFTER SERVICES DURING KIDDUSH
LUNCH IN THE SOCIAL HALL



BLOOD DRIVE

MAY 10

1PM-7PM AT TJC



Save the Date

Tuesday, April 11

7th Night
Passover Dinner
after Services



Jewish Themed Civil Rights Trip

Sunday, November 5 - Tuesday, November 7



Join TJC friends for a 3-day Civil Rights trip to important sites of the Civil Rights Movement in Georgia and Alabama.

25-50 people - \$995 per person

20-24 people - \$1130 per person

The prices above include all meals, ground transportation, hotels, admission and programming costs. Does not cover airfare, Monday dinner, and driver's tip.

For more info & to confirm interest
Please email tjctrip@thejewishcenter.org



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Email Rabbi Merow at
RAM@thejewishcenter.org
to let us know.

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occasion to
celebrate?

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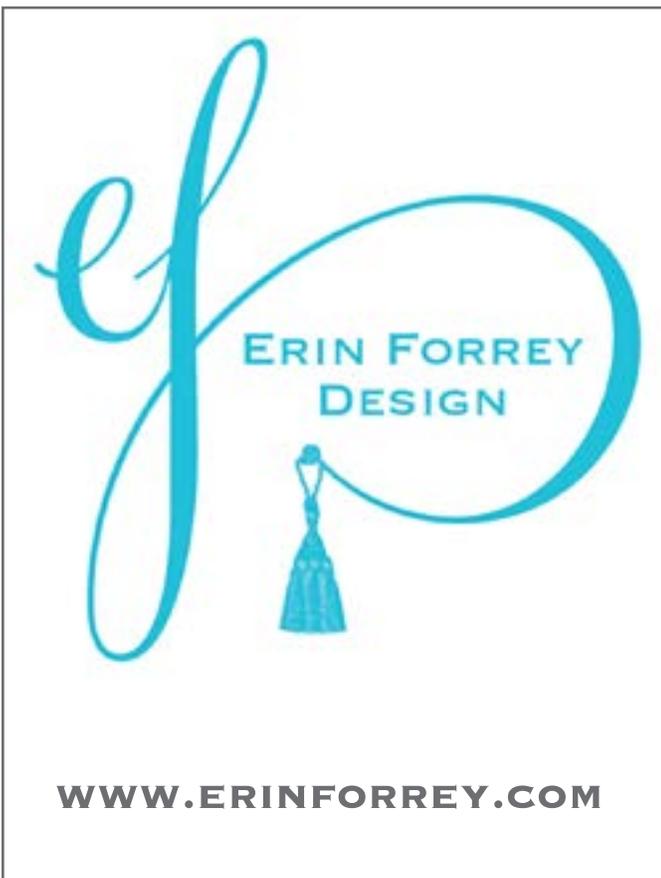
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Your name(s) as you would like it to appear in newsletter: _____

Donor's Address: _____

Occasion: In memory of: In honor of: Name(s) as you would like it to appear in newsletter: _____

Send donation acknowledgement to: _____

(A beautiful new tribute card will be sent for contributions of \$18 or more. A listing will be posted as you would like it to appear in the newsletter for any donated amount.)

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please indicate your choice below and mail this form and a check to The Jewish Center, 435 Nassau St., Princeton, NJ 08540. If you are interested in planned giving opportunities, please call The Jewish Center office, 609-921-0100 ext. 200.

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- Adult Library
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- Arts & Cultural Affairs
- Fran Amir Community Service Trip Fund
- Hachutzah Exploratory Trail Fund
- Hazzan's Music Fund
- Irving N. Rabinowitz Conversational Hebrew Fund
- Israeli Affairs Fund
- Jess & Marion Epstein Lunch & Learn Fund
- The Jewish Center Refugee Fund
- Jewish Center Women
- LASHIR
- Life and Legacy Endowment Fund
- Marchand Espir Family Holocaust Education Fund
- Men's Club
- Neimark Senior Mitzvah Fund
- New Siddur (\$36) New Chumash (\$75) New Machzor (\$36)
- Rabbi Merow's Discretionary Fund
- Rabbi Feldman Memorial Fund
- Rabbi Tucker Life Cycle Fund
- Religious Affairs Fund
- Religious School Fund
- Sapoff Art Purchase & Restoration Fund
- The Schnitzer Family Shekel Fund for Adventures in Israel
- Shabbat Luncheon Fund
- Silver Circle Scholarship Fund
- Social Action
- Social Action - Housing Fund
- Steven Levine Special Education Fund
- Tchelet Tzitzit Fund

- Torah Repair Fund
- Youth and Family Programs

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- Memorial Plaque \$350
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