



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

April/May 2026
Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5786
thejewishcenter.org

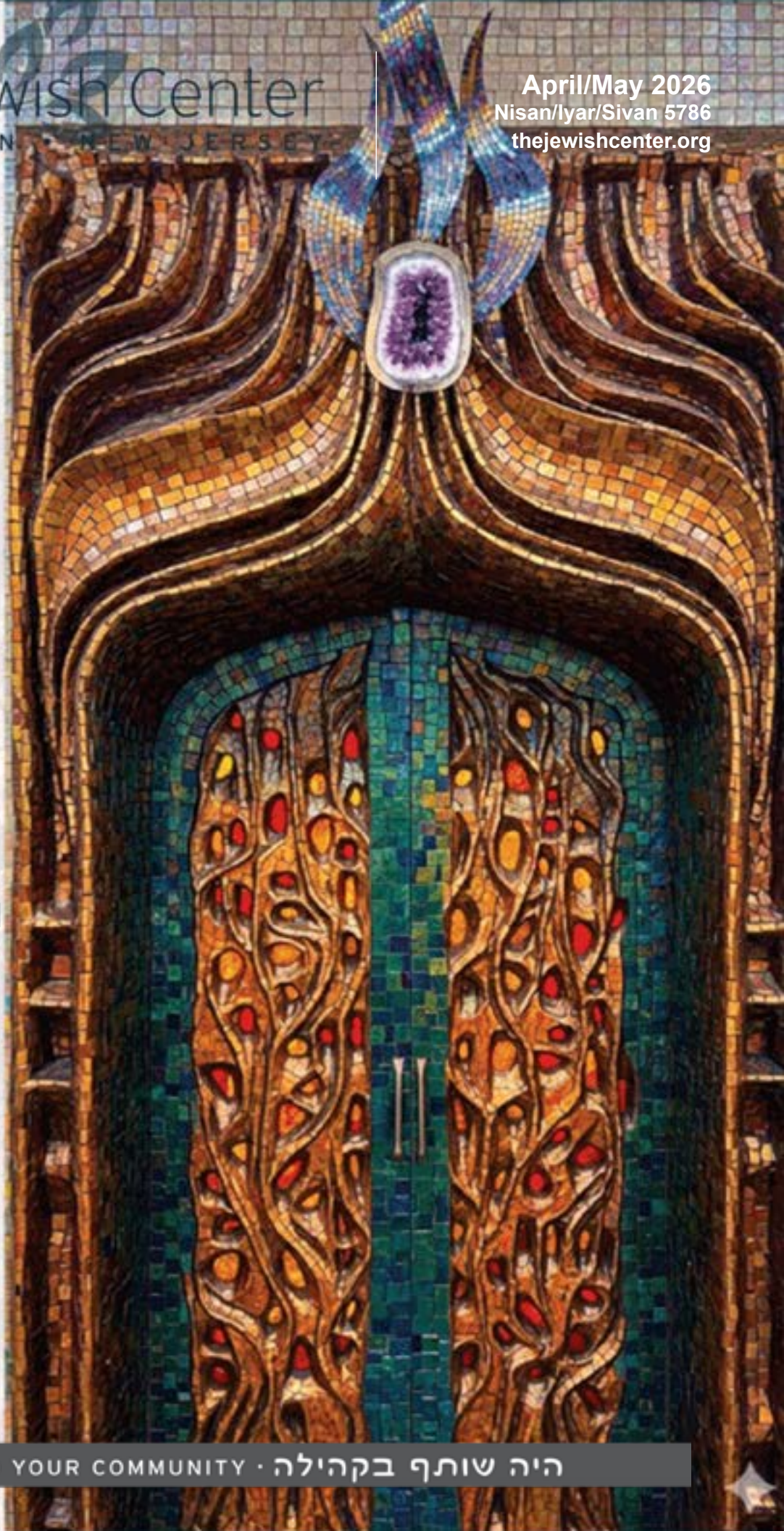
Join Us For
**A Morning
of Gratitude**

**Sunday,
May 17, 2026
10:00 A.M.**

**As we thank our local
Police, Fire, First Aid,
Security Agencies
and Security Guards
Who are...**

*Always There
Keeping Us Safe*

CONNECT TO YOUR COMMUNITY · **היה שותף בקהילה**





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Rabbi 2005-2019
Shaliach Tzibur
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Executive Director
Director of Congregational Learning
Service Coordinator
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@TheJewishCenter



The Jewish Center Princeton

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Vimeo Livestream links

Erev Shabbat:
vimeo.com/event/4775460

Saturday Morning:
vimeo.com/event/4775456

Congregation event:
vimeo.com/event/4775452

Funeral:
vimeo.com/event/4783396



Happy Passover



Open to the
Community!

TJC Passover 2026 Service Schedule

Tuesday - 3/31

Search for Chametz (Bedikat Chametz) in evening

Wednesday - 4/1

9:00 AM Burning Chametz and Bonfire & Roasting Marshmallows
B.Y.O. Chametz
Siyyum for the 1st Born

Wednesday Evening - 4/1

1st Passover Seder

Thursday Morning - 4/2

Morning Service - 10:00 AM
Lunch following services
1st Day of Passover
2nd Night Seder - Evening

Friday - 4/3

Morning Service - 10:00 AM
Lunch following services
2nd Day of Passover

Friday Evening - 4/3

Shabbat with Musicians - 6:00 PM

Tuesday 4/7

Yom Tov (Holiday) begins at sundown

Wednesday Morning 4/8

Morning Service - 9:30 AM
7th Day of Passover
Lunch following services
6 P.M. service followed by dinner and sing-a-long,
RSVP Required

Thursday - 4/9

Morning Service - 9:30 AM
8th Day of Passover
Yizkor Memorial Services
Lunch following services
Passover ends 8:20 P.M.

All services will be livestreamed on Vimeo.

Prayer Book Pages, Yizkor Service and Book of Remembrance can be found on our website at:
thejewishcenter.org/Services-Siddurs



MESSAGE from the Rabbi

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

The Holidays of Spring: Old and New

In the Torah, in parashat Emor, we read about the three pilgrimage festivals. "Speak to the Israelite people and say to them: These are My fixed times, the fixed times of GOD, that you shall proclaim as sacred occasions." The great Hasidic master, Rabbi Levi Yitzchak of Berditchev, writes in *Kedushat Levi* about this: "He notes that we say different blessings when we make Kiddush on Shabbat versus the festivals." On Shabbat, when we make the blessing over the wine, we say "who sanctified us with Mitzvot, " but on holidays we say, "who chose us." Why is there a difference? It is because Shabbat is a set thing each week no matter what. But as for holidays, they only happen based on our ability to intentionally mark them. This is why it says here in the Torah "these are My fixed times... which you shall proclaim them." Don't read "*otam*" (the word in Hebrew for "them") rather read "*atem*" (the word for "you all"). The meaning is that they only become holy by your willingness to do them." (Lekutim 97) The festivals need our participation to actually be and feel festive, even if they were given in the Torah. Sacred days that were added to the Jewish calendar later, even in the last century, clearly need us to proclaim them as sacred and to create ways to mark these new special days as holy time." I think what he is saying, underlying it, is that every person in the world needs a Sabbath, a day of rest. But it is only the Jewish people who commemorate the festivals.

In late summer/early fall, in the weeks leading up to the Jewish month of Tishri, and in the month itself, the Jewish calendar is filled with holidays. We all expect the High Holidays time to be busy. The Hebrew months of Nisan and Iyar, in early spring, are equally full of celebrations and commemorations. This year, the first Seder of Passover is on the night of April 1; our holidays will continue for 50 days until May 21. Please join us for all or some; it is our community that will make these days feel holy.

Less than a week after Passover, we observe *Yom HaShoah*, or *Yom HaZikaron l'Shoah v'l'agevura*, a day to remember the Holocaust and heroism. Some congregants will be in Poland for the March of the Living; if you are here in town, we encourage you to participate in our community memorial activities to honor this important day. On the Shabbat before Yom HaShoah, April 11, I hope you will join us for Saturday morning services, where we will read from our Holocaust Torah. Thanks to a generous, anonymous contribution, we were recently able to have a scribe make this Torah kosher to read from. It is wonderful that we will be able to chant from this Torah for the first time since it has been with us. This Torah has been on loan to us since 1988 from the Westminster Torah Committee in London. It is important that this Torah has been displayed in our building as a memorial to those who were murdered in the Shoah. It will also be important to allow this Torah to do what it was originally intended to do: help People hear God's Torah. Reading from the scroll will now make it a living memorial, and also a promise for our People's future. Children and grandchildren of survivors will be invited for an *aliya*, as will all who contributed back in 1988 to help bring us this Torah.

Please also join us on Yom HaShoah, Wednesday, April 15, at 6:30 PM for a short memorial followed by an author talk with Steven Meed, author of *On Both Sides of the Wall: A Resistance Fighter's Firsthand Account of the Warsaw Ghetto*.

Just a week later, we will commemorate *Yom HaZikaron* and *Yom HaAtzmaut*: Israel Memorial Day, then Israel's Independence Day. Please look for flyers after Passover for the multiple ways these will be marked in Mercer County.

On Thursday night, May 21, many around us will be getting ready for Memorial Day weekend. In the Jewish world, and at TJC, we will celebrate Shavuot



fifty days after the second night of Passover. On Shavuot, we celebrate Moses and the Jewish People receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai, the first fruits of the season and thus our connection to the Land of Israel. The holiday falls at the time when an ancient harvest festival would have been held in the Land of Israel.

Shavuot is the second of the three Pilgrimage festivals; each is mentioned in the Torah, is connected to the Land, and was once celebrated by making a pilgrimage to the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. If you have never been to Jerusalem during one of the pilgrimage festivals, I urge you to plan a trip next year for either Shavuot, Sukkot, or Passover. Each one is so special in Israel. On Sukkot you see all kinds of Sukkot all over the community, and outside of restaurants. On Passover you see many making their pots kosher for Passover in large vats of boiling water. Also, many restaurants serve kosher for Passover food. I will never forget the two times that I was able to spend Shavuot in Israel. Once, I was at Kibbutz Ketura, where I was able to see how an agricultural community celebrated. In addition to Torah learning, prayer and dairy food, the Kibbutz celebrated the first fruits of each work area of the Kibbutz. A different year, in Jerusalem, I learned at a Tikkun and then before sunrise walked with friends to the Egalitarian part of the Kotel. You could see streams

of people, dressed in white, all walking towards the Old City. At synagogue services the bima was decorated with flowers. If you need to choose only one of festivals to be in Israel, go for Shavuot.

But if you are here and not in Israel at Shavuot, join us at TJC. It is a tradition to create a Tikkun Leyl Shavuot, to gather on the first evening of Shavuot and to learn Torah, in its fullest sense, as a community. Some stay up all night to do so. In addition to services and dinner, our featured speaker will be Professor Martha Himmelfarb from Princeton University. The holiday begins Thursday night, with services Friday and Saturday mornings.

Rabbi Merow

HAVURAH MINYAN

Havurah Minyan
Study Sessions on
4/11/2026
5/9/2026



MESSAGE from the President

Lew Gantwerk
lg.presidenttjc@gmail.com

In 1966 my wife Barbara and I had been married for a year and decided that we wanted an adventure – something that would give us an opportunity to grow beyond our Brooklyn lives. We sort of stumbled onto a Jewish Agency program recruiting young professionals to go to Israel for 3 years. We were too naïve to realize that it was a program to encourage people to make *aliya* – we thought of it as sort of a Jewish Peace Corps. Until we got there and were greeted by a representative of the Jewish Agency at Lud Airport who said – “Welcome New Immigrants!” We turned around to see who he was talking to – it was us!

We spent 6 months at an ulpan in Netanya, got jobs, rented a house, made friends and loved being in Israel. Then it was late in May, 1967. Our friends were being called back to their IDF positions, there were fewer and fewer people on the streets, we were told to have only one 10-watt bulb in our house, the headlights on our car were painted black and we dug shelters under our house. On June 5, 1967 we were on our way to work and the sirens went off – a squadron of Mirage Jet fighter planes flew right overhead and we were at war. We spent the next week going into our shelter, feeling the bombs going off on the Jordanian hills and praying for our soldiers to be safe and victorious.

About a week after the war ended a friend of ours, a major in the IDF was taking a group of his officers on a tour of the “captured territories” and asked if I’d like to go with them! I’m attaching a photo of The Kotel I took on that trip.

I am writing this as Israel and the United States are
The Jewish Center Princeton



Above: The Shelter dug under our house - June 1967

Below: The Kotel, June 1967



entering week two of their war with Iran and I can’t help thinking of our time in Israel and particularly the time of that war. Our grandson Isaac, who many of you know, lives in Jerusalem and is also going in and out of the shelter in his building and is also praying for the IDF soldiers to be safe and victorious. I wonder how many generations will continue to have to go in and out of their shelters and pray for the safety of our soldiers. Isaac recently wrote (I’ve paraphrased) “I am writing from great faith in Israel’s ability to win. I am happy and thankful for all the successes and every blow the enemy takes, and I hope we see more great successes. But I do appeal to the security apparatus. Keep your eyes open. Cast doubt. Double-check and triple check. “Let not the one who girds on his sword boast like one who puts it away [I Kings 20:11]. Watch over us. We are praying for your success. We are relying on you. And thank you.”

I am very aware of the range of opinions and feelings in our congregation about all that has happened since October 7th and I recognize and respect that there are ways in which seemingly

opposite truths can exist at the same time. I also believe that we all pray for the safety of our soldiers and for peace in Israel and in this world that we all share. I hope that by the time you read this, hostilities in the Middle East will have ceased, and that we are all breathing more easily.



MESSAGE from the Executive Director

Joel Berger
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jberger@thejewishcenter.org

The March Goes On

As I write this, war continues in the Middle East, jeopardizing our Israel component of the March of the Living. Our plans are to still go to Poland and hopefully, by the time we leave, things will be better in Israel for us to travel there.

Here are some of the highlights of our Poland part of the trip. Sites will include:

- JCC Krakow
- Krakow Ghetto
- Auschwitz to Birkenau on the March
- Lodz Cemetery
- Umslagplatz
- Majadanek
- Warsaw Ghetto
- Polin Museum
- Tykocin
- Treblinka

We are anxious and excited about taking part in the adventure and hope to share our experiences upon our return. There will be 30 of us in our group including 18 members of The Jewish Center and 12 other participants who are joining our group. We will keep you posted as to when we will share our experiences.

The Actual March of the Living will take place on Yom Hashoa, Tuesday, April 14. You can go to the March of the Living website at www.motl.org and you can watch the ceremonies live on that website. Not sure if you will pick us out of the crowd of 8,000 but we hope you can join us virtually for this amazing experience and program.

On behalf of Gloria, Stephanie, Lauren and myself, we want to wish everyone a Zisen Pesach. Go easy on the matzah as we all know how that will end up.

Joel

Group Photo from Joel's 1996 March of the Living trip in front of the Kotel





MESSAGE from the Director of Congregational Learning

Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext. 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Friends,

I can't believe I am writing my final article of the school year! Somewhere between September and today, I blinked—and suddenly I'm reflecting on the year behind us while also looking ahead to the one to come.

One of the highlights for me was growing *Shabbat L'Kulanu* - Shabbat for All Of Us. What started two years ago as a program for Religious School students to come to *shul* (synagogue) on Shabbat became a community-wide celebration of learning and exploration!

This year, with the help of an amazing committee, we explored the character traits of *hakarot hatov* (recognizing the good), *ometz lev* (strength of the heart), *zrizut* (enthusiasm) and *tikvah* (hope). We met a very grateful turkey who helped us understand what it means to recognize the good, were visited by special guests who shared stories about *ometz lev*, watched our third graders sing with *zrizut* as they got their *siddurim* (prayer books), and learned how to build "hope muscles," as we explored *tikvah* (hope!)

These *middot* don't always come easily. Sometimes it is hard to recognize the good when we feel stuck in a difficult place. Showing strength of the heart—courage—is not always simple when standing up for what is right. On a cloudy Monday morning, *zrizut* may not come naturally. And when we find ourselves in a narrow place, *tikvah* may feel hard to reach. And we learned that hope is not passive. In Jewish life, hope is something we practice. Our tradition reminds us again and again that even from narrow places, it is possible to move

forward. What we discovered this year is that each of these traits can be strengthened within us. We can turn to our sacred texts—and even to examples from modern culture—for inspiration. We can rely on our community to support us through difficult moments. And perhaps most importantly, we can practice. Learning about these traits is not limited to classroom learning. These ideas require practice in our daily lives. They lay the stones on our pathway of Jewish living.

As I look and see the end of the school year on the horizon, I find so much *hakarot hatov* over the past year. I am grateful for all the learning that took place in our space. I am so grateful to be part of a community where we can bring these *middot* to life!

I can't wait to see what next year will bring.

I would like to thank my partners on the school committee and the Shabbat L'Kulanu committee for truly making this year one of the best yet. And since the best really is yet to come, please reach out to me with your ideas - let's make next year even bigger!

L'Shalom,

Sharon

Gave The Date!



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

invites you to join us for

A Morning of Gratitude

As we thank our local
Police, Fire, First Aid,
Security Agencies
and Security Guards
Who are...

**ALWAYS THERE
KEEPING US SAFE**

Brunch

Sunday, May 17, 2026

10:00 A.M.

At The Jewish Center.

Proceeds from this event will support the
local agency non-profits and security
initiatives of The Jewish Center.

Honoring



Followed by the
2026 Annual Meeting
at 12:00 p.m.





Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah



HANNAH BELLOWS

APRIL 18

Hannah Bellows is a seventh grader at the Princeton Charter School. She moved to Princeton and became a member of TJC in 2014. She has enjoyed swimming on the X-Cel swim team for the past three years, and is a two-time swimmer in the Maccabi Games, where she earned nine medals, including four gold! When not in the pool, Hannah also loves biking, hiking, baking, and traveling with her family. For Hannah's Chesed Project, she organized an online fundraiser for Lev LaLev, an organization in Israel that supports orphaned and disadvantaged girls. To start raising money, she was a mother's helper and donated her earnings. Hannah would like to thank Avi Paradise, Rabbi Merow, Nancy Lewis, Doug Berkowitz, and everyone else who helped her prepare to become a bat-mitzvah.

JUDD ALBERTS

APRIL 25, 2026

Judd Alberts is an eighth grader at Princeton Middle School. He serves as a madrich at The Jewish Center, where he enjoys volunteering with younger students. Judd participates in taekwondo and Boy Scouts, enjoys singing, and is active in USY.

Judd would like to thank Rabbi Merow, Sharon Diamondstein, Avi Paradise, Cynthia Richman, Nancy Lewis, and Sam Schwartz for their guidance and support in preparing for his bar mitzvah. He also thanks his parents and Grandma Elyce for their love and encouragement.



EVELYN ALBERTS

APRIL 25, 2026

Evelyn Alberts is an eighth grader at Princeton Middle School. She enjoys dance and yoga and recently performed in Frozen Jr. Evelyn looks forward to celebrating this milestone surrounded by family and friends and thanks her parents and Grandma Elyce for their love and support.



LUCAS EMANUEL MEISEL

MAY 2, 2026

Lucas Emanuel Meisel is a student at Princeton Charter School and a member of The Jewish Center of Princeton. He loves playing soccer and spending time in the kitchen cooking, always curious to learn new skills and take on new challenges.

For his chesed project, Lucas partnered with the Jewish Center's House Committee to help care for and improve the synagogue's shared spaces. He contributed to hands-on projects including work on the gaga pit, garden walkway, and ongoing maintenance throughout the building, as well as helping with updates connected to the new apartment. Through this work, Lucas learned the importance of responsibility, teamwork, and giving back to his community.

Lucas would like to thank his parents and siblings — Ben, Sebastien, Chloe, and Isabel — for their love, patience, and encouragement as he prepared for his bar mitzvah.



Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah



SEBASTIAN GABRIEL MEISEL

MAY 2, 2026

Sebastien Gabriel Meisel is a student at Princeton Charter School and an active member of The Jewish Center of Princeton. He enjoys a wide range of creative and hands-on pursuits, including playing soccer and trumpet, crocheting, flamenco dancing, building things, and participating in robotics.

For his chesed project, Sebastien worked with the Jewish Center's House Committee on several projects to support and improve the physical space of the synagogue. His efforts included helping build the new gaga pit, redoing the garden walkway, assisting with maintenance projects throughout the building, and contributing to work on the new apartment. Sebastien found meaning in giving his time and energy to strengthen the community space that has meant so

much to him. Sebastien is deeply grateful to his parents and siblings — Ben, Lucas, Chloe, and Isabel — for their constant love, encouragement, and support throughout his bar mitzvah journey.

LILA KAUFMAN

MAY 16, 2026

Lila is a seventh grader at Princeton Middle School. Born in Los Angeles, she moved to New Jersey in third grade and has been a student at TJC Religious School since fourth grade. She plays soccer for PSA Princeton and for her middle school. Lila also plays basketball on her school team and in the recreation department program. Her extracurriculars include Mandarin and student council. If Lila isn't playing sports or doing homework, you can guarantee she is out having a great time with her friends.

Her volunteer work began in 5th grade when, as a school "passion project", she raised funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. She continued her volunteer work through Interfaith RISE serving as a tutor and mentor for a 3rd grade student from Afghanistan. For her Chesed project, Lila will continue volunteering to help others.

Lila would like to thank her family, Rabbi Merow, Avi Paradise, Ronit Rackowski, Sharon Diamondstein, Nancy Lewis, and all of her religious school teachers for helping her prepare for her Bat Mitzvah.



TOBY JACOB KATZ

MAY 30, 2026

Toby is a 7th grade student at The Cranbury School and has been a part of The Jewish Center community since 2021. He enjoys playing soccer and baseball, as well as art and theater. His favorite place to be is at the beach swimming, surfing, or walking through town. For Toby's Chesed project, he customized shin guards and goalie gloves at the Sunburst Soccer Tournament to raise money for BPAN research, a rare degenerative disease afflicting a friend. He would like to thank Henry Butcher, Luke Butcher, Christina Ftikas, Lukas Ftikas, Logan Matthews, and Henry O'Brien for their help with the fundraiser. He would also like to thank Nancy Lewis, Avi Paradise,

Rabbi Merow, Doug Berkowitz and all of his Hebrew School teachers for their help with his Bar Mitzvah journey.

♪ **THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE MATZAH BUSINESS** ♪

**BROADWAY
SING-A-LONG
&
PASSEOVER DINNER**
(8TH NIGHT OF PASSEOVER)

BRING YOUR
OWN KOSHER
FOR PASSEOVER
WINE

**SETTING:
THE JEWISH CENTER
PRINCETON, NJ
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026
6:00 P.M.**

ACT 1:

**SERVICE FOLLOWED BY A
BROADWAY-INSPIRED PASSEOVER DINNER: SONGS,
STORYTELLING, AND CELEBRATION AT THE TABLE.**

INTERMISSION

**ACT 2:
DESSERTS, DRINKS AND ENCORES!**



\$45 FOR ADULTS | \$30 FOR KIDS

**TAKE CENTER STAGE AT OUR
BROADWAY PASSEOVER DINNER**

**RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY! SCAN THE QR CODE OR REGISTER VIA
SHULCLOUD!**





The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

A FUN Start to Passover

WEDNESDAY MORNING BEFORE PASSOVER

APRIL 1

9:00 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.

Open to the Community

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

ROAST MARSHMALLOWS!
over the burning chametz. Why?
Because it's fun!
We've got the marshmallows!

Questions? Email
info@thejewishcenter.org

**SING
PASSOVER
SONGS!!**

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 **March 27, 2026**.

I (We) hereby authorize Rabbi Andrea Merow to sell my (our) *chametz* for Passover 5786. Tuesday, March 31 at 9:00 am – Thursday, April 9 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.

JOIN TJC FOR
2025-2026

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SHABBAT DINNERS

6:00 P.M. | OPEN TO ALL GRADES AND FAMILIES
STARTS WITH SERVICES AT 6PM. SHABBAT MEAL TO FOLLOW
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

APRIL 24, 2026!

RSVP VIA SHULCLOUD!

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

TJC TOT SPOT!

2025-2026

Meetup at the Porch Room at The Jewish Center School
457 Nassau St.
10 A.M. - 11 A.M.

Dates

4/19/26

5/3/26

For parents/caregivers and their children, infant to 3 years. Open to the community.

RSVP required. Questions? Email Ronit Johnson: rjohnson@thejewishcenter.org

These dates will be followed by Young Family Programs at 11 A.M.

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

YOUNG FAMILY PROGRAMS

AT THE JEWISH CENTER
SUNDAYS 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

2026 DATES:

4/19 - YOM HA'ATZMAUT

5/3 - LAG BA'OMER

FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES 1 AND BELOW AND THEIR CAREGIVERS
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT CRICHMAN@THEJEWISHCENTER.ORG

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION!!!

Now Enrolling For The 2026-27 School Year!

Get a jump start on next year!
Religious School Registration is open!!!

Lock in this year's rates before they go up!



Guided Growth Baby and Me

A professionally facilitated program supporting early development, connection, and confident parenting for caregivers and babies (0-18 months)



Join us at TJC for a four-part developmental series designed to nurture your baby's social, emotional, and cognitive growth while strengthening the parent-child relationship during the first year and beyond.

Led by Melissa Dewees, Psy.D., early childhood professional. Each session blends developmental insight, practical strategies, and meaningful discussion in a warm, welcoming space. Whether you're a first-time parent or growing your family, you'll find encouragement, connection, and supportive conversation throughout the series.

Program Dates

March 24

12:30-2:00 pm | Building Connection

April 21

12:30-2:00 pm | Social Development and Building a Relationship with your Child

May 19

9:30-11:00 am | Understanding Developmental Stages (0-18 months)


June 23

9:30-11:00 am | Introducing Routines Without Rigidity

Open to the community | \$18 for TJC Members | \$36 for Community Participants

Questions? Email crichman@thejewishcenter.org

Scan the QR code or RSUP via Shulcloud

 The Jewish Center | 435 Nassau Street Princeton, NJ 08540



HERSHEY PARK

USY GOES TO HERSHEY PARK
OPEN TO ALL 7TH - 12TH GRADERS

Hosted by: The Jewish Center of Princeton USY, Mercer County USY (Adath Israel & Beth El East Windsor), Congregation Beth Chaim Youth, Koneseth Israel Youth
Sponsored by: 2024 USY LEAP GRANT

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026
7:30AM-9:00PM

Come together and end the year with a sweet trip together. Spend the day with your friends enjoying the park, water park and of course chocolate world.

Cost includes: Admission to both parks, transportation from The Jewish Center of Princeton and Koneseth Israel in Elkins Park, PA., & bus snacks
Participants are responsible for spending money including lunch.

Please note that registrations will be accepted until we fill the bus. Once the bus is full, a waitlist will be created. If there is enough interest for a second bus, registration will re-open and there will be an additional charge for the second bus.

Registration fees are non-refundable after May 17, 2024

Early Bird: \$45 **Regular: \$50** **Last Call: \$55**

Register by Feb 13, 2026 Register by April 30, 2025 Register by May 17, 2026

<https://forms.gle/zrDHTxJMG0BGLK529>

USY Sharon Diamondstein | SDiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org 609-621-9106 ext. 228

THE JEWISH CENTER INVITES STUDENTS IN GRADES 2 TO 5 TO

JR. CONGREGATION

April 11
May 9
June 13

Saturdays from 10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.
Bet Midrash
Lead by Ronit Johnson
Parents and Caregivers are welcome!

THE JEWISH CENTER PRESENTS

SHABBAT KATAN

Saturday mornings from
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
in the Teen Lounge

Open to children in Grade 1
and under
WITH their caregivers

New Dates Added!

UPCOMING DATES
APRIL 11
MAY 9

Email erichman@thejewishcenter.org for more information

The Jewish Center
425 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540
609-921-0200 | www.thejewishcenter.org

Fun & Exciting Drop-Off Sunday Programs 2025-2026

Ages 3-5

Holidays ☆ Shabbat ☆ Bible Stories ☆ Alef-Bet ☆ Music
Rituals ☆ Art ☆ Song ☆ Games ☆ Snack

Your children will make new friends and learn through play & hands on activities.

Ganon: 3-4 year old Drop Off Program

One Sunday per month:
9:00 am - 11:55 am
The Jewish Center Members: 8178
Community Members: 8357
8 classes throughout the year

Gan Katan: 4-5 year old Drop Off Program

Sundays Weekly:
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
September - May
The Jewish Center Members: 8917
Please call for community rates

Open to the Community!

For more information, contact Cynthia Richman, 609-921-7207 x218
or erichman@thejewishcenter.org

The Religious School at
The Jewish Center | 425 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540
609-921-0200 | www.thejewishcenter.org

SHAVUOT

Save the Date!

Shavuot Night 5786 – Receive Torah at TJC!
Thursday Night, May 21

Learning, Prayer, Dinner, Celebration
Featured Teacher: Professor Martha Himmelfarb,
Professor Emeritus of Religion, Princeton University



Shavuot Service Schedule
Join us for Friday Services on May 22 at 9:30 AM.
We invite you back on Saturday, May 23 at 9:30 AM
for services including Yizkor.



Stay tuned for an RSVP link, which will be
shared in the coming weeks.



Chesed Day



March 8, 2026 Acts of Loving Kindness in honor of MLK Day at The Jewish Center

Join us for Chesed Day

In honor of MLK Weekend, join us for acts of service that strengthen our community and repair the world together

SUNDAY

- **Breakfast | 9 A.M.**
- **Tikkun Olam Festival | 9:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.**
 - With each donation, you'll receive a Band-Aid to place on a local charity display.
- **Blood Drive**
- **Blanket Making** – We will be cutting fringe around a rectangular piece of fleece fabric and then knotting the fringe together. There is no sewing involved. These will be lap blankets. We will be donating them to a nursing home facility for the residents.
- **Soup Packet Assembly** – Package dried soup ingredients for easy meals
- **Personal Care & Hygiene Kits** – Assemble hygiene kits for the Rescue Mission
- **Seed Packet Assembly** – Package seeds and help the environment
- **Cleaning the Cornerstone Church Kitchen** (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)
 - Off-site at the Methodist Church, limit 10 people

Join us for one activity or stay for many—together, we repair the world.

Sign up with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/chesed2026>

Open to the community!



The TJC Meal Train: One Way To Show Up for Each Other

Chavurat Chesed -- our community's group dedicated to caring for one another during life cycle moments and times of need -- has been quietly expanding its work at TJC. Alongside friendly visits and shiva support, another initiative is the Meal Train: a simple, coordinated way to make sure that fellow community members don't have to think about dinner when life has other demands on their attention.

The occasions vary. A new baby. A recovery. A loss. A stretch that's just harder than usual. Whatever the moment, the offer is the same: a meal delivered by someone in your community who wants to help.

Over the past year, we've organized Meal Trains for new babies, illness, and injury. Without exception, recipients have been genuinely moved that someone in this community took the time to do this for them. It's a small gesture that has a big impact.

Many of us want to contribute to our community but we aren't always sure how. The Meal Train answers that question in the most concrete way possible: someone needs a meal, you can provide one, and we'll help make the connection. And there's no ongoing commitment. You can even order the meal if that works better for you.

Jewish tradition teaches that acts of loving kindness, *gemilut chasadim*, are not just for the benefit of the recipient. The one who gives is changed by the giving. There's a reason we say that performing a mitzvah is its own reward.

The Meal Train gives you a chance to experience this.

The initiative runs through the Meal Train platform, which makes the logistics straightforward. Recipients share their preferences -- dietary needs, delivery dates, how many people to feed -- and volunteer cooks sign up for dates that work for them. Delivery can be a brief hello at the door or a quiet drop-off, whatever feels right. All requests are coordinated through the Rabbi's office.

Note that sometimes we're not able to make a match due to the busy schedules of members of our community. And that's why we're always looking for more cooks!

Get Involved

To volunteer as a cook: Contact Zvia (zvia248@gmail.com) or Judy (judyleopold@yahoo.com) to join the list. One meal is plenty.

To request meals please email chavuratchesed@thejewishcenter.org

MEMBERSHIP

COMMITTEE NEWS

What makes all the gatherings at The Jewish Center truly special is the warm sense of community and inclusivity that welcomes everyone! An example of this was Purim: This year was an absolute explosion of joy and laughter, where everyone — from toddlers to grandparents — embraced Frankie (in the) Valleys of Zootopia in the spirit of fun and frivolity. Highlighted by a costume contest, TWO Megillah readings with real crowd participation, the thunderous racket of groggers, dinner, a dance party and then a Purim Carnival!

We'd love for many more to come experience Jewish traditions with us — it's the perfect way to connect, celebrate and discover the vibrant heart of our congregation.

Services not your 'thing'? There are so many activities and interest groups — photography, pickleball, chess,

kayaking, book clubs, Jewish learning, gardening, yoga and more — that you can join.

Soon you'll be able to add your interests to your profile in our online member directory and find like-minded congregants in the directory as well! So if you're interested in any of these or have others to suggest, let us know!

Speaking of suggestions, if you know someone or have family or friends in need of a Jewish community, or are looking for a comfortable space with welcoming faces, please remind them about TJC. They can contact us or Joel Berger and we are always happy to reach out.

Please welcome our new members:

Boris Hanin & Amanda Hecker
Robert & Randi Gelbard
Erica Reiner & John Williams
Orit Kendal

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

let's do
LUNCH

Let's Do Lunch is sponsored by The Jess and Marion Epstein Fund

85+ Senior Lunch Group

April 15, 2026

"The Food is Awful...and Such Small Portions: Jewish Humor as Serious Business" with guest speaker, Dr. Dana Liebmann

12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Wednesdays At The Jewish Center - Java Nagila Cafe

All are welcome! Rides Available Upon Request

If you have an idea for a program or guest speaker, email us at info@thejewishcenter.org

Looking to sponsor a Let's Do Lunch? Email jberger@thejewishcenter.org



Israel & Us

My Connection to Israel

I first went to Israel in the early 1970s on a winter break study program in my junior year of college. I heard a talk about the Hebrew University and was convinced I would like to finish my BA there. When I got back home, I called the US office and told them of my intention. A few days later, I had an hour and a half interview. The next morning, I was offered a full scholarship.

From the beginning, I was always seen as “the American guy”. That stuck with me during my studies, later in the IDF, and during the entire time I lived there.

I met my soon-to-be wife Judy when I was helping the students from the US clear Customs in the parking lot of the dorms. Judy came up to me and said she was also from New Jersey. With my usual charm, I asked her “So what?” Despite that far-from-romantic beginning, we ended up falling in love and we went back to the States to be married.

We returned to Israel—or should I say to the Hebrew University—a year later. Judy began her MA, and I established the Office of Student Activities at the School for Overseas students based on a proposal I crafted with the help of some of my professors at Columbia University’s Teachers College.

I spent a decade at the Rothberg School, and Judy completed her MA and was a practicing psychologist.

When I first went to Israel to study there, I participated in an orientation the morning of the group flight. I can remember the speaker saying you really can’t fully integrate into Israeli society until you’ve served in the army.

All military age citizens had to get permission from the IDF to leave the country. I went to get the form needed with our eldest child sitting on my shoulders. Lo and behold, I was asked to take a physical on the spot.

I was first assigned to Civil Defense and later, with the help of the IDF Spokesman in Jerusalem, to the Education Division. My reserve duty was relatively easy. I gave lectures (in my far-from-fluent Hebrew) on bases throughout the country.

Then the first war in Lebanon happened.

While Judy and the kids stayed in the States, I became an Education Officer. I only went there for only 2 weeks, but I had a real taste of war. I made my mark by teaching the soldiers on the small base to make Chinese food to take their minds off the fact that we escaped death the night before when a Katusha rocket hit outside our tent but failed to explode.

The family moved back to New Jersey so Judy could do her doctorate at Rutgers, and I worked for Israeli universities and later was the first VP for Education of Birthright Israel in New York City.

My time in Israel has had a profound impact on me. When I think about Israel now, I go back to a theme I often spoke about when I was lecturing in the IDF: there is a big difference between the People of Israel and the Government of Israel.



Moshe Margolin

Shabbat Under the Stars

Spring Edition!

May 1

Services with Musicians - 6:00 PM
Dinner - 7:00 PM

Fish Dinner and Beverages graciously provided by The Jewish Center
Guests are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert for 6-8 people,
and to invite friends to join this special evening.

Please RSVP via [ShulCloud](#) or email info@thejewishcenter.org & let us know what dish you are sharing.

Open to the community!

RSVP by 4/24/2026

Stay after dinner for Chesed! All levels welcome




The Jewish Center
Princeton, NJ 08540

Yizkor

5786

Passover - April 9, 2026
Shavuot - May 23, 2026



Life & Legacy

ASSURE JEWISH TOMORROWS

JOIN US!

Cocktails in the Corridor

Friday, May 1, 2026
5:00 P.M.
Before Shabbat Services

Drinks, Snacks and Schmoozing!

honoring our Life and Legacy Promise Makers

If you would like to sponsor a Cocktails in the Corridor for a special occasion, please contact the TJC office or email us at info@thejewishcenter.org

The Jewish Center
Princeton, NJ 08540

See You At Sinai

A Experiential Journey to Mount Sinai



Save the Date
Thursday, May 21
Details to Follow...


Programming for Young Families and
Children in Grades 2-7

APRIL 14, 2026

YOM HASHOAH

HOLOCAUST
REMEMBRANCE
DAY

We honor the memory of the millions lost and
reaffirm our commitment to never forget.



Yom HaZikaron

Israel Memorial Day

5786

April 21, 2026




Yom Yerushalayim

May 15, 2026




Yom Ha'atzmaut

ISRAEL

Independence Day

April 22, 2026



THE JEWISH CENTER INVITES YOU TO OUR

YOM HASHO'A PROGRAM

featuring **Steven Meed**,
author of "On Both Sides of the Wall:
A Resistance Fighter's Firsthand Account of the
Warsaw Ghetto"

The essential new edition of one of the earliest eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust and the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, *On Both Sides of the Wall*, which recounts one woman's harrowing experiences as a courier for the Jewish underground, is a testament to the ordinary men and women who mustered the courage to resist—despite the odds—in defense of human freedom and dignity.

With exclusive new photographs and material.

Introduction by Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor, author, and Nobel laureate

Foreword by Samuel D. Kassow, Holocaust historian and author of *Who Will Write Our History?*

Afterword by Judy Baralion, New York Times bestselling author of *The Light of Days*



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Books available
for purchase

RSVP via
Shulcloud



Dear Congregants,

We are deeply grateful to congregants who have in the past few months agreed to or are considering becoming Legacy Promise Makers. We are excited to note that The Jewish Center will soon have 100 Promise Makers as participants in the Life & Legacy Program. We have included the chart below to help congregants think about their Legacy promise. Please feel free contact us with any questions.

Naomi Richman Neumann and Linda Meisel

LIFE & LEGACY GIVING OPTIONS

Ways to Assure Jewish Tomorrows

Choose the giving option to fulfill your LIFE & LEGACY Promise that works best for you, your family, and your estate.

TYPE OF LEGACY GIFT	HOW IT WORKS	YOUR GOAL
BEQUEST	Designate one of our partners as the beneficiary of an amount or percentage of your estate by will, trust, or other instrument.	Maintain control of your assets during your lifetime. Preserve the ability to make modifications to your gift.
DONOR ADVISED FUND (DAF)	Establish a DAF at JCFGM and designate an L&L partner as the beneficiary of assets from your DAF after your lifetime.	This option does not require professional advisors. You can recommend grants from your DAF to charities during your lifetime.
IRA/RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS	Name one or more L&L partners as beneficiaries of your retirement account. Dollars pass to charity income tax free.	Defer your legacy gift until after your lifetime. Preserve the ability to make modifications to your gift.
LIFE INSURANCE	Purchase a new policy (or transfer an existing one) and name one or more L&L partners as an owner and/or beneficiary.	Make a future gift of a specific amount with reduced current cash outlay to support a larger after lifetime gift.
TODAY GIFT	Use cash, check, credit card, transfer of securities or RMA from your IRA to support an L&L endowment fund today.	Make a today gift to support tomorrow, and enjoy watching the assets grow during your lifetime.
ISRAEL BONDS	Contact the Israel Bonds office to purchase a bond in the name of a favorite charitable organization or to redeem mature bonds.	Make a today gift to support tomorrow, and enjoy watching the assets grow during your lifetime.



JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER MERCER

Life & Legacy ASSURE JEWISH TOMORROWS

This information is not intended as legal or tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor regarding legacy giving. For more information, contact us at 609-240-9511 or info@foundationjewish.org.

Please note: We inadvertently left off the following Promise Makers from last newsletter list
Martin and Judith Schwartz
Ginger and Jay Schnitzer

*This chart is a guide to legacy giving. For specific information regarding estate and tax planning contact a qualified professional



**Everyone's Invited!
Join TJC Men's Club**

**Special Congregational Shabbat
May 9, 2026
9:30 A.M.**

Join us for this unique Shabbat service led by members of our congregation.

Enjoy classic prayer tunes during this meaningful and uplifting Shabbat morning.

Stay for a very special Meat Kiddish with comfort food favorites for all to enjoy!

Interested in participating?
Email Ed Simon at
edsimon609@gmail.com

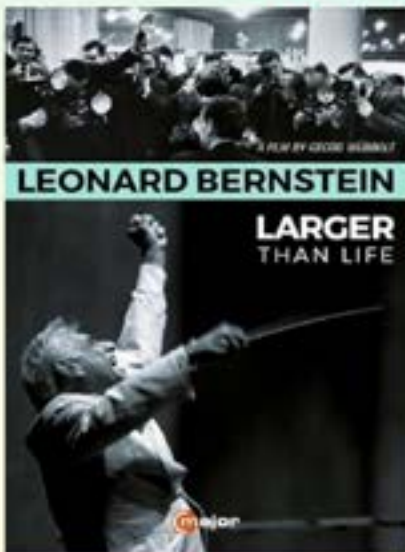




TJC FILM FEST

Upcoming Movie:
Wednesday, May 13

Leonard Bernstein: Larger Than Life



Leonard Bernstein: Larger Than Life is a documentary exploring the influential 20th-century composer, conductor, and educator. It highlights his role as an American musical ambassador, featuring interviews with his children, musicians like Gustavo Dudamel, and archival footage to showcase his career, including *West Side Story* and *Young People's Concerts*.

Showing will be 1-3 P.M.
Walk-Ins Welcome
Open to the Community
Free to TJC members; \$5 for non-members.



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY



Scan the QR code or email info@thejewishcenter.org

TIRED OF THINKING ABOUT WHAT TO COOK FOR SHABBAT DINNER?
WOULDN'T YOU LOVE TO HAVE IT DELIVERED TO YOU LOCALLY?

WE'VE GOT THE ANSWER

PREPARED SHABBAT DINNERS

The Jewish Center, in partnership with Fred and Murry's Kosher Delicatessen, is offering prepared Shabbat Dinners, delivered FREE to The Jewish Center every Friday.

Just order by Wednesday and you will have a prepared Shabbat dinner every week you order.

 DINNER FOR 2 IS \$36.00
DINNER FOR 4 IS \$72.00

See the details below for all the items that come with your order.

Why not make life easier for yourself? Pick up will be Fridays between 10 AM and 2PM.

Call Fred and Murry's today!
(732) 462-3343



DOES YOUR COMPANY PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS FOR DONATIONS?

??

IS THE JEWISH CENTER LISTED AS ONE OF THOSE NON-PROFITS?

If you are looking to increase your support for TJC, please inquire if your company has a matching funds program. A few congregants take advantage of this. Why not you?

If you need more information, please contact Joel Berger at jberger@thejewishcenter.org



The Jewish Center invites you to

KLEZMER JAM

Open to the community!

6 WEDNESDAY
MAY in The Jewish Center Lobby
7:30 P.M.

Join Anna Meisel and Marilyn Tal for a klezmer play-along at TJC! All instruments and all levels are welcome. If you're advanced, help lead. If you can only play one note, play that note. Klezmer is music of celebration, so let's celebrate! We look forward to you joining us for a fun, stress-free musical event.

Scores will be provided at the jam; if you'd like them in advance, email Marilyn at marilynmarkstal@gmail.com. Bring a music stand if you have one



The Sounds of SHABBAT

Live music on Shabbat! All are welcome

6:00 P.M. Service

Dates:
Friday, April 3
Friday, April 17
Friday, May 1
Friday, May 15

Join our Professional and Congregational musicians for our Friday night services!



 The Jewish Center
PRINCETON - NEW JERSEY
www.thejewishcenter.org

FUN HOLIDAYS TO CELEBRATE

APRIL 2026

MAY 2026

  	  
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HAPPY Lag Ba'Omer



MAY 5, 2026



MEMORIAL DAY

Remember & Honor
May 25, 2026

FROM THE JEWISH CENTER

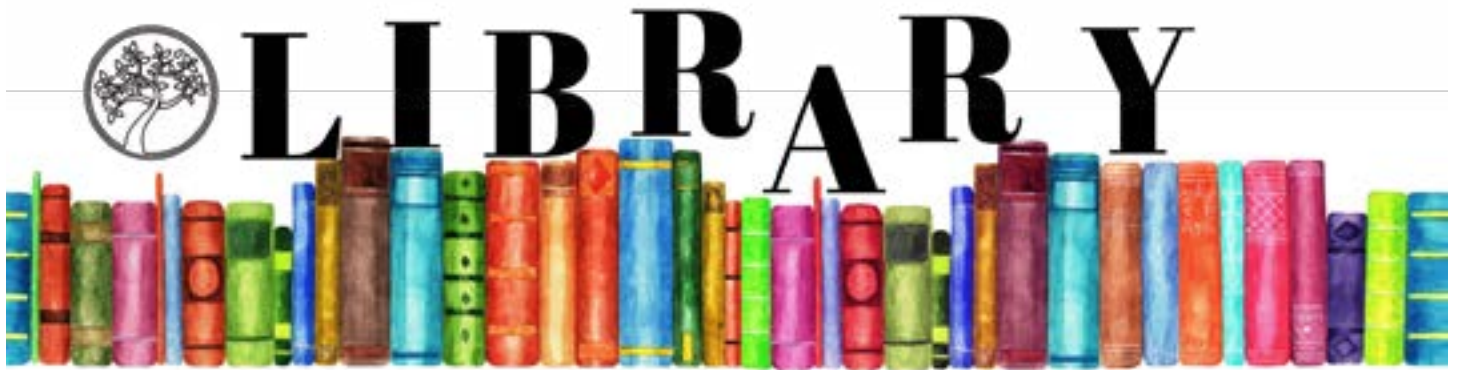


To all the amazing mothers in our congregation,

Happy Mothers Day

May 10, 2026

From
The Jewish Center



We're continuing to add new books to the collection. These books along with books purchased in the last year can be found on the New Acquisitions shelf to the right as you enter the library.

Recent additions include:

Allegra Goodman's *Not About Us* is a new fiction offering from this popular author. Goodman's books including *The Family Moskowitz*, *Cookbook Collector*, and *Katerskill Falls* are already in the library. Take a look at our Fiction section for these novels.

Happy New Years, by Ranen Omer-Sherman. The author is an Israeli expat living in the US. Her novel is a series of letters written by complex character Leah Zuckerman over a span of fifty years. Originally written in Hebrew, the book was recently translated into English.

Where We Keep the Light by Josh Shapiro, Governor of Pennsylvania. Shapiro's story of public service and personal faith.

Antisemitism, an American Tradition by Pamela Nadell is the 2026 winner of The Jewish Books Council's Jewish Studies Award.

EXHIBITIONS

There is a new exhibition on the Life and Work of author Lore Segal (1928-2024) at the Leo Baeck Institute in New York and will run through April 15. In 1985, *The New York Times* declared that Segal had "come closer than anyone to writing the Great American Novel" with *Her First American*, an exploration of the intersection of race and Holocaust history. You can find *Her First American*, on our New Acquisitions shelf.

NEW BOOKPLATES

We encourage you to think of the library when honoring or remembering a friend or loved one.

Each book bought by your donation will display a newly designed bookplate recognizing the donor and honoree.

Looking forward to seeing you in the Library.

Deborah Marinsky and Roslyn Vanderbilt

Library Committee Co-chairs



+ UPDATE

During the academic year, the 55 Plus Club of Princeton presents two lectures per month at The Jewish Center, usually on the first and third Thursdays of the month, at ten a.m. These events are open to everyone free of charge, with a \$5 donation suggested. They are in-person and also available live via a Zoom feed at <https://princeton55plus.org>, unless indicated otherwise.

55 PLUS was organized in 1986 as a non-profit non-sectarian club and welcomes all attendees, regardless of gender, age, race, or religious affiliation.

The all volunteer organization finds interesting speakers, manages the finances, outreach, and support information technology. If you would like to help, please contact our head volunteer coordinator, Sanjay Sehgal (sehgal@iname.com).

55 PLUS speakers for April and May 2026

April 16: Gadi Dechter, Vice President for Communications and Government Affairs, Princeton University

Topic: *"Higher Education, Free Speech, and the Intersection of University Life with Public Policy and Government Relations"*

April 30: Jorge Schement, Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Communication Policy at Rutgers University, Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Communication Policy at Rutgers University

Topic: *"Demographic Snapshots of New Jersey in a Changing Century"*

May 7: Tom Griffiths, Henry R. Luce Professor of Information Technology, Consciousness, and Culture in the Departments of Psychology and Computer Science at Princeton University; Director of the AI Lab

Topic: *"Mapping the complexity of artificial intelligence using the tools of cognitive science"*

May 21: Barry Singer, local historian, author, and speaker about Princeton and the American Revolutionary War and long time volunteer with the Historical Society of Princeton

Topic: *"Princeton and the American Revolution: The 10 Crucial Days"*

55+
PRINCETON
PIKERS
INVESTMENT
CLUB

Interested in stock market investing?
At the Princeton Pikers, our goal is simple: earn while you learn! Whether you're a seasoned investor or just starting out, our friendly, supportive environment is the perfect place to enhance your investment skills and knowledge.

What We Offer:

- Insightful discussions on investment strategies
 - Expert guest speakers, including:
 - The Head of IT at Princeton University discussing the future of AI and its impact on investing
 - A representative from the Federal Reserve of Philadelphia sharing insights on the current economy
 - Opportunities for friendship and camaraderie
 - A chance to share experiences and tips
- Don't miss out on this chance to grow your wealth and wisdom together!

Join us and make your money work for you!
For more information, contact Bob at robert.levine19@gmail.com. Use the subject line: Pikers. See you there!

Every second Thursday at TJC at 9:30 am
February 12, 2026 & March 12, 2026



LIFELONG LEARNING
AT TJC

LIFELONG LEARNING AT TJC

2025-2026 JUDAISM, SEXUALITY, AND GENDER

Join us for a screening of "The Maintenance Artist"

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

SCREENING WILL BEGIN AT 7 P.M.

AT PRINCETON GARDEN THEATRE

The film director is the Emmy Award-nominated Toby Perl Freilich and her new documentary is entitled "The Maintenance Artist," tracing the career of an American Jewish woman artist named Mierle Laderman Ukeles, who, in the 1970s, became an artist-in-residence with the New York City Sanitation Department.

Pricing:

\$8.50 for Garden Theatre Members

\$11.50 for Seniors over 62

\$13.75 for General public

SCAN TO RSVP or visit
The Garden Theatre
website to purchase
tickets.



Lifelong Learning programs are
made possible by donations to
the Adult Education Fund.



Open to the
community!



GUESS WHO'S  COMING TO
SHABBAS?

**Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas is returning
to TJC on**

May 8th!


**If you're one of the 150 or so TJC-ers who has already participated or if
you haven't yet had the pleasure, you're warmly invited!**

**Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas is a special evening for creating
connections within the TJC community, meeting new friends and
celebrating Shabbat**

Enjoy being a Shabbat guest or hosting congregants in your home

Bring the kids, come alone, or bring a significant other or friend

Prior experience hosting or attending Shabbat dinner is not required


Register by Monday, April 27th

Register to be a Guest: <https://tinyurl.com/may26guest>

Register to be a Host: <https://tinyurl.com/may26host>

Guest Form



Host Form





Book Club

Tuesdays, April 21 and May 19

7:30 p.m.

via Zoom.

It's spring! Are you planning seders? Dreaming of matzo balls?

Tuesday, April 21, at 7:30 pm we'll meet via Zoom to discuss:
***The Sequel* by Jean Hanff Korelitz**

"In 2021, Jean Hanff Korelitz's novel *The Plot* earned exactly the kind of acclaim the characters in her book — aspiring writers — yearned for: It became a best seller, was hailed as "insanely readable" by Stephen King and is being adapted into a limited series starring Mahershala Ali. Now Korelitz has given "*The Plot*" a sequel, called just that: "*The Sequel*." Cleverly meta, the title fits the sardonic mood that infuses the two books." (New York Times)



Tuesday, May 19, at 7:30 pm, we'll meet via Zoom to discuss:
***In My Father's Court* by Isaac Bashevis Singer**

"A part of his remembrance recalls the development of his own mind and sensibility. Although he lived in slums and was poor, he makes nothing traumatic out of the fact. He remembers rather the warmth and security of his home, the fascination of the court cases, the rumble of distant conflicts and new notions, the poignant and immediate world of nature, in an unexpected view of the sky or the presence of a green leaf attached to an apple. It was a world that was crumbling, that was ruined in World War I, obliterated in World War II. This memoir brings it to life again, not as a museum piece but with its people and its life intact." (New York Times)



If you have a Princeton Public Library card, you can borrow these books. The library has multiple copies.



COMING UP NEXT!

June 16 - *When Women Ran Fifth Avenue* by Julie Satow (Rescheduled)

July 21- Our Annual Potluck Book Swap at a gracious member's home

August 18 - *The Whalebone Theatre* by Joanna Quinn



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



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

Barbara and Lew Gantwerk on their Anniversary

*from Judy and Mike Leopold,
Alison and David Politziner*

Heidi Joseph and Dave Saltzman on their Anniversary

*from Judy and Mike Leopold,
Alison and David Politziner*

Barbara and Lew Gantwerk on their special wedding anniversary

from Myra Weiner

Sally Steinberg-Brent and Dan Brent on the birth of Adira Brent Tescher to Lily Brent and Jonathan Tescher

from Marcie and Marc Citron

Renee Altman on the 50th Anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah

from Alison and David Politziner

Talia Lavid becoming a Bat Mitzvah

from Alison and David Politziner

In memory of

Larry Cohen

from Richard and Sheryl Feinstein

Dr. Jan Safer

*from Richard and Sheryl Feinstein,
David and Joan Rosenfeld*

Max Siegel

from Beth Belzer

Alex Fiegler

from Sharon Shylit

Nesim Guvenis

from Metin and Diane Guvenis

Peter O. Bodnar

from Lara Winn

Dr. Michael Bernstein

from Lisa and Mark Tobias

Arlene Silverman

*from Seva and Peter Kramer,
Naomi Richman Neumann and
Jerry Neumann, Sheryl and Richard
Feinstein*

Brett Turk

from Suellen Wexler

Zsuzsanna Ozsvath

from Donna and David Gabai

Martha Mohr

from Marilyn Zagorin

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

from Ruth and Philip Holmes

In honor of

Ray Barson on his milestone birthday

from Shoshana Silberman

In memory of

Myra Sokol

*from Debbie Freedman and Avi
Paradise*

Buzz Sachs

from Allan and Diane Richman

ANNUAL FUND

In honor of

Laura and Menachem Sucher on the birth of their first grandchild

from Ron Schneider

In memory of

Herbert Michael Lipschutz, MD

from Cole Silberman

Dr. Jan Safer

*from Adrienne and Richard
Friedman*

Dr. Michael Bernstein

*from Dina Shaw, Steve Rappaport,
Stacey Bialow*

Arlene Silverman

from Bob and Judy Levine

ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

In honor of

Heidi Joseph and Dave Saltzman on their special wedding anniversary

from Myra Weiner

In memory of

Nesim (Niso) Guvenis

*from Gail Gendler and Mitchell
Gladstein*

Dolores Jacobs Diamond

*from Avi Paradise and Debbie
Freedman*

Naomi Luzon

from Sher Leiman

Sylvia Leiman

from Sher Leiman

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

In honor of

Renee Altman on the 50th Anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah

*from Lew and Barbara Gantwerk,
Carol and Bob Schwartz*

Avi Paradise and your love and dedication in preparing Talia for her Bat-Mitzvah and turning the Lavid households into yeshivas with your torah chanting echoing throughout.

Thank you for your flexibility and support to the extended family as well.

from Gal Lavid and Jenny Zide

ISRAELI AFFAIRS FUND

In honor of

Talia Lavid becoming a Bat Mitzvah

*from Myra Weiner, Laura Sucher,
Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred
Edelman, Sally Steinberg-Brent
and Dan Brent*

Talia Lavid becoming a Bat Mitzvah – you really are a sabra!

from Gal Lavid and Jenny Zide

In memory of

Margaret Berger

from Jeanne Leiman

Lena Saffer

from The Sucher Family

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from Joan Levin

In memory of

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from Myra Weiner

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from Joan Levin

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from Phil Kirstein

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from Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman

Paula Heller
from Joan Levin

In memory of

Esther and Murray Siegel
from Joan Levin and Family

RABBI MEROW'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

from Tom Will

In honor of

Rabbi Merow – 5 More Years! We are very glad you are here

from Joel and Max Orland

Rabbi Merow and her caring way
from Allan and Diane Richman

Talia Lavid becoming a Bat Mitzvah
from Lew and Barbara Gantwerk

Rabbi Merow and your genuine love in preparing Talia for her Bat-Mitzvah (and bending over backwards to accomodate her Chai maintenance family)!

from Gal Lavid and Jenny Zide

Heidi Joseph and Dave Saltzman on their 40th Anniversary

from Carol and Bob Schwartz

Avi Paradise and his speedy recovery. We miss you on Shabbat

from Allan and Diane Richman

Machatzit HaShekel

from Olga Tchikindas and family and friends

Bobbi Freedman on her 75th birthday
from Martin and Phyllis Steel

In memory of

Dolores Jacobs Diamond
from Donna and David Gabai

Phyllis Afran
from Norma Saks, Cyndi and Ric Kleinbart, Donna and David Gabai, Barbara Curran, Abbye and Joshua Cornfield

Dr. Michael Bernstein
from Cynthia and Tom Richman, Lana and Elliot Sambol

Lawrence Berger
from Paget Berger

Nettie Bach, Morris Bach and Beatrice Sinclair
from Bobbi and Barry Freedman

RABBI TUCKER LIFE CYCLE FUND

from Ellen Kavee and Stephen Nadler

In honor of

Heidi Joseph and Dave Saltzman on their Anniversary
from Beth Bacall

In memory of

Zsuzsanna Ozsvath
from Beth Bacall

Phyllis Afran
from Sidell and Ken Geller

Meir Argaman
from Avi Argaman

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS FUND**In honor of**

Renee Altman on the 50th anniversary of your Bat Mitzvah and reading Torah and HafTorah

from Myra Weiner

Mindy and Corey Langer on the birth of their granddaughter, Esther Rubina
from Joan Levin

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

*from Norbert Elsner and Karen Pravda
 from Samuel Schwartz*

In honor of

Marcie and Marc Citron on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Tucker Citron
from Sher and Jeanne Leiman

In memory of

Michele Caren Franck
from Avi Paradise and Debbie Freedman, Cynthia and Tom Richman, Tracey Weingarten

Zsuzsanna Ozsvath
from Marci Meixler and Alan Braun

Richard Gorden
from Cynthia and Tom Richman

Stuart Gothelf
from Ricky Shechtel

Hank Bishins
from Sandy Bishins



CONTRIBUTIONS

SECURITY FUND

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In honor of

Dr. Corey Langer

from Joan Rosen Bloch

Talia Lavid becoming a Bat Mitzvah
*from Sheryl and Richard Feinstein,
Joe and Barbara Schwartz, Robin
and Alan Wallack*

Dr. Corey Langer's brilliant and
compassionate care for Barbara and
Mimi

from Barbara and Sonny Weinstein

Eleni Litt on her artwork showings
from Robin and Alan Wallack

Sally Steinberg-Brent and Dan Brent
on the birth of Adira Brent Tescher
from Robin and Alan Wallack

Harriet Kass and Alan Medvin on the
Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Elliott

David Medvin

from Robin and Alan Wallack

Diane Richman on the joyous
occasion of her 70th Bat Mitzvah
anniversary

from Beth Bacall

In memory of

Dick Bergman on his 2nd yahrzeit

from Vicky Bergman

Susan Heymsfeld

from Joel Heymsfeld

Phyllis Afran

from Robin and Alan Wallack

Joel Mendelson

from Judy and Steve Richman

SILVER CIRCLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of

Irene Goldfarb on her special birthday

from David Goldfarb

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of

Dr. Jan Safer

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Jeffrey Mattes*

Dr. Michael Bernstein

from Jeanette Timmons

TORAH REPAIR FUND

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YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS FUND

In memory of

Nesim (Niso) Guvenis

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*This gift is from a Donor Advised
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**Shema Yoga
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Weekly on

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Shema Yoga, developed by Eleni Litt, infuses the practice of yoga with a Jewish sensibility. Options are provided for all poses, and you are invited to enter the practice in a way that is most comfortable for you.

Eleni is a longtime member of The Jewish Center and a 200-hr. RYT (Registered Yoga Teacher) with Yoga Alliance. She has advanced training (focusing on chair yoga) with Kripalu teacher Rudy Peirce: <https://www.gentle-yogis.com/> Contact Eleni with your questions: ezlitt@gmail.com

In Memoriam:
We extend our deepest sympathy
in remembering:

**Dr. Michael Bernstein,
Husband of Carrie Bernstein**

**Richard Gorden,
Father of Darren (Jen Freedman) Gorden**

**Phyllis Afran,
Mother of Bruce (Joyce) Afran**

**Arlene Silverman,
Mother of Carly (Michael Feinstein) Silverman**

**Zsuzsanna Ozsvath,
Mother of Peter (Elisheva Sperber) Ozsvath**

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/87570201257p-wd=SncvMTMvNkJOQkIGWWJrdDBFMIp2dz09>

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

Join The Sound Collective by Avi Paradise

**Congregational Group Prayer and Song Leaders
for the High Holiday services will begin preparing
in May and June**

SAVE THE DATE!

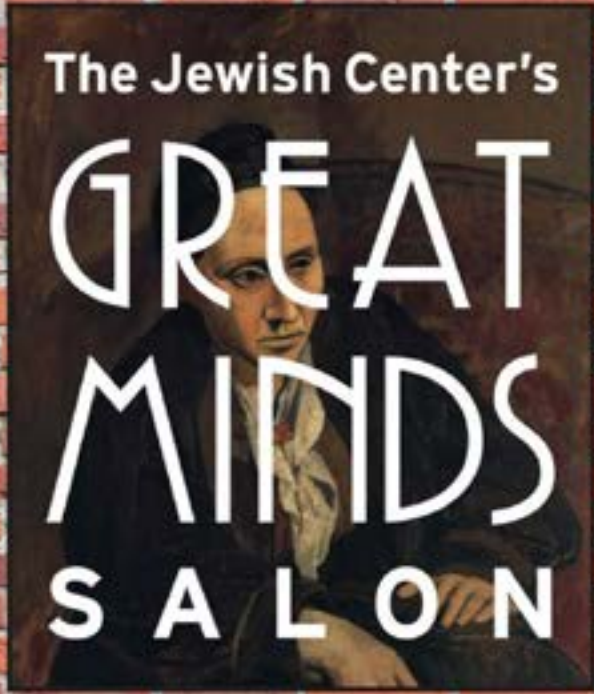
Wednesdays 7:30-8:30: May 13, 20, 27. June 3, 10, 17, Sept 2, 16

Last year's leaders reported it being "Fun!" "Inspiring!" "So rewarding and moving!" "A privilege to sing with everyone."

Music will be provided this year, along with recordings and full English transliteration for everything.

Please come out for as much or as little as you'd like. Help us bring more meaning to the davening, song, and communal energy of our Tefillah, our prayers.





**Thursday, May 28
8:00 P.M.**

**“The Quest for
Nuclear Fusion as an
Economical Energy
Source” with
Professor of
Astrophysical
Sciences,
Nathaniel Fisch**

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.

Nat Fisch is Professor of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University. He served for many years as Director of the Program in Plasma Physics at Princeton University and as the Associate Director for Academic Affairs at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. In 2025, he was recognized with the (Princeton) President's Award for Distinguished Teaching. He is married to Dr. Tobe Fisch. Nat and Tobe have resided in Princeton since 1989, where they raised three sons.



**8:00-9:00 In Person at The Jewish Center
Open to the community**

**Please register via Shulcloud or email
info@thejewishcenter.org to RSVP**

Annual
**MEETING OF THE
CONGREGATION**

SUNDAY, MAY 17 | 12 P.M.
FOLLOWING "ALWAYS THERE" FUNDRAISER

D'VAR TORAH BY RABBI MEROW
OPENING REMARKS AND HIGHLIGHTS
APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 BUDGET
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND
ELECTION OF 2026-2027 OFFICERS



**Please join us for our meeting in April:
with speakers Donna D'Anna, Liz Cohen
and Louise Sandburg**

**Topic: Responding to the Moment: Jewish Values and Actions.
Our Jewish values compel us to welcome the stranger, for once
we were strangers--as we are reminded at our seders.**

Join us to learn more about advocacy work being done in our community to support our neighbors and repair the broken immigration system.

Join Us!

**Open to the
community!**

**Donna D'Anna from TJC's
Interfaith Refugee Resettlement
Committee and Liz Cohen from
Temple Beth El's (Hillsborough)
Tikkun Olam Coalition**

**Thurs, April 16
9:30-11 A.M.
on Zoom**

Zoom link will be sent from
Cynthia Richman at TJC

LET US KNOW!

Do you know someone
who is ill or in the
hospital?

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

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at neilit@outlook.com.

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Password: 643177



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435 Nassau St
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Interested in learning Bridge? Beginner classes will be offered in the fall. Watch your email for details.

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Bill & Stephanie Miller
billsbridge@gmail.com (908) 872-7927





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Now collecting for April -May 2026.

Please do not bring in older receipts.

Receipts with discounts cannot be accepted.

Thank you!

Would you like to sort? We are looking for volunteers to help sort receipts. Contact Roni at vgarrison@thejewishcenter.org

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when our family is called to serve yours.

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- Macher \$1000

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