



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

June/July 2026
Sivan/Tamuz/Av 5786
thejewishcenter.org



CONNECT TO YOUR COMMUNITY · היה שותף בקהילה



LEADERSHIP

Rabbi Rabbi 2005-2019 Shaliach Tzibur Rabbi Emeritus Cantor Emeritus Executive Director Director of Congregational Learning Service Coordinator Principals Emeritae	Andrea Merow Adam Feldman ^{z1} Avi Paradise Dr. Dov Peretz Elkins Murray E. Simon Joel Berger Sharon Diamondstein Rabbi Bob Freedman Fran Amir Gila Levin Dr. Shoshana Silberman Allen Porter ^{z1} Roni Garrison & Cynthia Richman Stephanie Berger Nikita Agyei, James Itomo, Marc Sene Charles, Jeremy McKeegan
Counsel Emeritus Executive Office Staff Marketing and Communications Building Services Staff	
President President Elect	Lew Gantwerk Ginger Schnitzer

VICE PRESIDENTS

Admin and Membership Education and Youth Finance Programming Religious Affairs	Edye Kamenir Judy Kutin Bob Levine Ed Simon Jane LeGrange
--	---

TRUSTEES

Len Grossman Diane Guvenis	Dina Shaw Charlene Borsack
-------------------------------	-------------------------------

Recording Secretary

Board Members/Committee Chairs

Lifelong Learning Arts and Culture Finance Israel and Us House Jewish Center Women Long Range Planning Membership Men's Club Religious Affairs Security School, Youth and Family Social Action	Fred Appel Riva Levy and Moshe Margolin Ari Meisel Suzanne Esterman Abbye Cornfield and Michelle Bellows Brad Bailey Beth Glasberg-Katz Louise Sandburg
--	--

435 Nassau Street
Princeton, NJ 08540

www.thejewishcenter.org

info@thejewishcenter.org
(office)

Telephone
609.921.0100 x 200

Fax
609.921.7531

School telephone
609.921.7207



@thejewishcenterofprinceton



@thejewishcenterprinceton



@TheJewishCenter



The Jewish Center Princeton

IN THIS ISSUE

Summer Meet & Greet..... 3
Message from the Rabbi4/5
Message from the President 6
Message from the Executive Director 7
Message from the Dir. of Congregational Learning..... 8
Mazel Tov B'nai Mitzvah 9
Young Family Programming..... 10
Shabbat Katan 10
Summer Splash 11
Life & Legacy..... 12
Shabbat Under The Stars 13
Yizkor Book of Remembrance..... 14
Chavurat Chesed 17
Membership 18
Shema Yoga 18
Israel & Us 19
Shabbat of Appreciation 20
HHD Response Page..... 21
Tisha B'Av 22
Nosh & Drosh 23
Reflections from March of the Living..... 27
Library..... 24
55 Plus..... 25
Always There Photos..... 26
Book Club..... 29
Contributions..... 30
In Memoriam 33
Edible Garden 33
Holidays 34
Food Trucks 35

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



SUMMER MEET AND GREET!

OPEN HOUSE!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

4:30 - 6:30 PM

AT THOMAS SWEET

183 NASSAU ST, PRINCETON, NJ

GRAB A FREE SCOOP OF
ICE CREAM!

LEARN ABOUT OUR
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
FOR THE UPCOMING
YEAR!

TELL US HOW YOUR
SUMMER IS GOING!

MEET THE TJC STAFF!

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY



MESSAGE from the Rabbi

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

Happy 250th!

Growing up in Philadelphia, every Fourth of July felt meaningful. I remember 1976: schools and roads lined with American flags, large gatherings, and public readings of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. That year, Dr. J (Julius Erving, the famed 76er) famously recited the Declaration on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. For my family, these festivities were layered with our awareness that our ancestors had come to America seeking freedom from persecution and the hope of a better life.

As a child, I couldn't fully grasp the tumultuous era we had just lived through. President Ford was in office only because President Nixon resigned following the Watergate scandal. Ford himself became Vice President after Agnew stepped down for criminal activity. All of this followed a decade marked by the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Senator Robert Kennedy, and Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. The Vietnam War, which spanned two decades, had just ended. The 1973 gas crisis strained the economy. And while many Americans enjoyed freedoms, many others still lacked equal opportunity. It was a challenging period for our country, but also a time of celebration.

We celebrated the idea our founders embraced on July 4th, 1776: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." As proud Americans—and as Jews—we strive to uphold and advance the ideals of American democracy. We are fortunate to live in a country that values civic participation and grants us the freedom to practice Judaism openly.

We recognize that antisemitism and political polarization have grown in recent years, here and abroad. There is still work to be done, just as there was 50 years ago. Even so, I remain grateful for the freedoms we enjoy and must continue to protect.

On July 4, 2003, the National Constitution Center was dedicated in Philadelphia. If you haven't visited, I highly recommend it. The event began with a prayer for our country, featuring representatives from many faiths. Each was filmed in a different location in the city, contributing a few lines to a collective prayer of dedication. Every prayer reflected how deeply the First Amendment matters to our communities: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof... "

I was honored to deliver the Jewish community's prayer in front of the "Religious Liberty" statue, donated by B'nai B'rith for America's centennial. Once displayed at the old American Jewish History Museum, the statue was relocated in 2010 to its current site. The final prayer in the montage came from an atheist representative, who echoed the same words and added that our nation guarantees both freedom of religion and freedom from religion, underscoring the importance of the separation of Church and State. For religious minorities, this principle has been essential to our community's ability to thrive. It is our sacred duty to uphold the separation of Church and State while also helping to build a civic society shaped by our Jewish values. Each American brings a unique perspective to the public square, shaped by heritage, faith, and values.

Jewish tradition teaches values like *tikkun olam*—repairing the world—that inspire us to build a more just and compassionate society. Minority communities in the United States, including ours, have benefited from the freedom to practice our faith openly. As Americans and as Jews, we believe each person is created equal, free, and in the image of God, *b'tzelem Elohim*. Our Torah reminds us, "You shall love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." It is our sacred responsibility to care for the stranger, the poor, and the downtrodden.

This year, we celebrate the 250th year of our great country. I think about all of our relatives, and those of

our neighbors, who worked hard to get to this place called the United States. I think of all that truly unites us, and I remind myself that Democracy is often messy and requires work, a sense of civic responsibility, and pluralism. We are blessed to live in this great land, and it requires work from each of us.

I end with the words of *The New Colossus*, by Emma Lazarus. These words, written by a Jewish American woman, greeted each new immigrant to our land and continue to welcome all at the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor.

*"Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand.
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command. The
air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she With
silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled
masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of
your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost
to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

Happy 250th. May we never take the Democracy we live in for granted.

Rabbi Merow



Please Note:

Sunday Minyan will be virtual this summer



MESSAGE from the President

Lew Gantwerk
lg.presidenttjc@gmail.com

During a recent visit with my doctor, our conversation turned to sharing Jewish experiences. He told me the following story. As a young med student, he befriended a fellow student who was clearly Jewish (wearing a Kippah). My doctor, who grew up in a traditional conservative shul was not particularly religious but liked this new friend and was invited to join his new friend at Simchat Torah services. When he got to the shul he was overwhelmed by how many young people were there and how happy and excited they all seemed. My doctor was offered an Aliyah and as he was about to begin the Bracha his friend said - wait -. And he was offered a glass of schnapps right there on the Bimah, and after drinking it, he was told - now pray! When the Torah portion was finished, and before he could recite the second Bracha, he again was stopped - and another glass of schnapps followed - again right on the bimah. As you might imagine, the rest of the service was loud, exciting and the most joyful service he had ever experienced - by far. He had no idea that being Jewish could be so much fun.

Judaism has always held two truths at once: we acknowledge sorrow honestly, and we insist on joy anyway. That insistence may be one of the deepest forms of Jewish resilience.

For a people whose history contains exile, persecution, and loss, Judaism is remarkably joyful. We drink and bless wine before almost every occasion. We sing our prayers rather than merely recite them. We dance with Torah scrolls. We celebrate milestones with food, laughter, argument, and community. Our Rabbi is a total party person!

Today, many of us are anxious and antisemitism has made some feel vulnerable in ways they never expected. In moments like these, it can become easy to define Jewish life primarily as what we must defend.

But Judaism was never meant to be lived only defensively; our tradition calls us toward joy! This spring, we have celebrated so many joyful events - B'nai Mitzvot for so many of our children, including twins, baby namings, Ufrufs, Shabbat services with our wonderful musicians, Shabbatot L'Kulanu, community dinners, Cocktails in the Corridor, kiddush lunches, and many other events. We come to synagogue smiling, greeting our friends warmly, acknowledging our security guards with genuine appreciation, and knowing that the time spent here will be spiritually lifting and communally joyful. The Talmud teaches, "Who is rich? One who rejoices in what they have." (Pirkei Avot 4:1) There is also a distinctly Jewish form of joy that comes from continuity. Every time we light Shabbat candles, teach a child a blessing, attend services, or support our congregation, we become links in a chain thousands of years old. I hope that you can immerse yourselves in Jewish Joy by celebrating in the joy of community, the joy of learning, the joy of tradition, the joy of helping others, and the joy of knowing that we belong to one another. Have a great - and joyful - summer!

Lew

Thank you to the 2025-2026 Officers who have completed their roles on the Board of Directors. Welcome to the New 2026-2027 Board members. We welcome you to our Joyful journey!



MESSAGE from the Executive Director

Joel Berger
609.921.0100 ext. 205
jberger@thejewishcenter.org

A Leap of Faith

I hope you heard about the amazing experiences the 26 participants had during the March of the Living. There were 18 members of The Jewish Center joined by 8 wonderful participants from around the country. We all came as friends but left as family.

Our journey took us through Krakow, Auschwitz, Birkenau, Lublin, Warsaw, Majdanek, Tykocin, Treblinka, and so much more. Each location with unbelievable stories of horror and also of resistance and faith. We learned about survivors and the righteous among us who saved so many.

We met people from around the globe and even heard a special blowing of the shofar.

The last morning, when we were together as a group one final time, I was overcome by emotion at what we had seen and heard, but shared with the group my utmost thanks for taking a Leap of Faith. Believing in me that this trip was very hard but very doable. I could not describe all that would happen, but we will look back at this amazing experience for the rest of our lives.

And so it began. Fifteen months ago, I had the idea of putting together this trip. I was in touch with the amazing Monise Neumann from the International March of the Living and we talked about what steps we needed to take. I reached out to an old friend and camp counselor, Jack Rosenbaum, and said if I was going, he had to be our tour educator. He said yes and went on his 20th March. I now have two under my belt.

We had our initial meeting back in September, and these 18 TJC members took that Leap of Faith. Going on a trip that

was indescribable but meaningful. I could only promise a different experience for all of them, but they all said yes, they were in. And then there we were in Krakow, on Monday morning, April 13, beginning our adventure.

I want to thank the following members of TJC who took that Leap of Faith, and participated on the March of the Living:

Kathy Ales and Richard Levine
Renee and Ted Altman
Fran and Assaf Amir
Beatrice and Michael Bloom
Joanne Fishbane
Evy and Lenny Grossman
Heidi Josph and Dave Saltzman

Joan Levin
Lori and Ed Simon
Suzanne Tepper and Steve Hudis

And our new family members:

Cheryl Kalter-Schloss
Dr. Judy Gastwirth Masone
Jordana and Jake Renick
Mary Shewatz
Dana Sless
Rita Vanlierop
Linda Weber

Thank you to all of the participants for taking the Leap of Faith with me. Many will share their experiences at different times, and some might choose to not share at all. That's fine as well. It's a lot to process for everyone but they made a choice to go and that is the most important message of all.

We are all now witnesses.

Joel





MESSAGE from the Director of Congregational Learning

Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext. 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Friends,

I am writing this on Lag Ba'Omer, the 33rd day in Sefirat HaOmer (The Counting of the Omer). We are commanded in the Torah to count 49 days between Pesach and Shavuot. During this time, we engage in learning and reflection. One of my favorite texts, Pirkei Avot—the Teachings of our Ancestors—is traditionally studied during these weeks. Each week, we focus on a chapter and consider how its lessons can guide our lives. Every Sunday morning throughout the school year, our students started their days in the sanctuary with community building and tefilah. After Pesach, we added counting the Omer and learning from Pirkei Avot to our mornings.

Here are some of the teachings we discussed: Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi taught: What is the right path a person should choose? One that brings honor to the person who walks it—and earns the respect of others. (Pirkei Avot 2:1)

Akavia ben Mahalalel says: “Think about three things — know where you came from, where you are going, and to whom you will answer.” (Pirkei Avot 3:1)

Ben Azzai taught: Run to do even the smallest mitzvah as you would a great one, and be mindful to avoid choices that lead you off course. For one mitzvah leads to another mitzvah, just as one misstep can lead to another. (Pirkei Avot 4:2)

Our tradition teaches: Any disagreement that is for the sake of Heaven will, in the end, endure; but one that is not for the sake of Heaven will not endure. The debates of Hillel and Shammai are remembered as sacred, while the conflict of Korach and his followers is not. (Pirkei Avot 5:19)

One who learns from another one chapter, or one Jewish law, or one verse, or one word, or even one letter, is obligated to treat them with honor. (Pirkei Avot 6:3) Each week, students raised their hands to share: how they make thoughtful choices, why our traditions matter, examples of one good deed leading to another, what disagreements are worth having, and how to show honor to those who teach them—both in and beyond the classroom.

The Jewish Center Princeton

I love ending the school year with Pirkei Avot. The text is rich with guidance for everyday life. Do any of these teachings resonate with you? Do you have a favorite—or one you would add? I would love to hear.

I can't believe that my eighth year at TJC is behind me. As I head into the summer, I am once again holding onto the advice Rabbi Bennet Miller—my rabbi when I taught religious school at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple in New Brunswick—shared with me at the end of each school year: take a walk on a beautiful day, read a book, and make a new friend.

Have a wonderful and safe summer!

SAVE THE DATE! Religious School Starts on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026!

L'Shalom,

Sharon

Fun & Exciting Drop-Off Sunday Programs 2026-2027

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: \$178
Community Members: \$357
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: \$917
Please call for community rates

Open to the Community!
For more information, contact Cynthia Richman, 609 921 7207 x218
or crichman@thejewishcenter.org



Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah



ZACHARY ROGOL

JUNE 6, 2026

Zachary is a 7th Grader at Crossroads North Middle School in South Brunswick. Zachary is an avid trumpet player, playing with his school's Wind Symphony and is a soloist with the Jazz Band. In addition, Zachary sings with his school's 7th/8th grade choir and the Vocal Ensemble. Outside of school, Zachary loves performing in shows and takes dance lessons. In his spare time, Zachary loves to read, learn about engineering, and build with Legos. Having organized neighborhood food drives benefitting the South Brunswick Food Pantry since he was 8, Zachary chose to volunteer hours working at the Food Pantry for his Chesed project. Zachary would like to thank Nancy Lewis, Rabbi Merow, and Avi Paradise, and his parents for helping him prepare for his Bar Mitzvah.

EVELYN KALB

JUNE 13, 2026 - MINCHA

Evelyn Kalb is a 7th grade student at Princeton Middle School. She enjoys swimming, baking chocolate cake, and going for ice cream and other treats with friends. She also enjoys playing video games with her brother. For her Chesed project, Evelyn made cards for seniors and helped pack food at JFCS.



SUSAN ULLMAN

JUNE 20, 2026

Susan is a rising 7th grader at the Waldorf School of Princeton. She loves to dance, and currently competes at the national level as a student at the Marie Moore School of Irish Dance. Susan also loves reading, baking, and going to the beach.

For Susan's Chesed project, she organized and ran a donation drive for the Mercer County Wildlife Center, collecting and delivering supplies to help injured, ill, and displaced animals. Susan would like to thank Avi Paradise, Rabbi Merow, Ronit Rackowski, and Gila Levin, who all helped her prepare for this special day. She would also like to give a special thank you to her friends and family, especially her Mom and Dad, because without their support, none of this would have ever been possible.

JOIN THE JEWISH CENTER FOR

SHABBAT KATAN

<u>2026 DATES</u>	<u>2027 DATES</u>
SEPTEMBER 26	JANUARY 9 JANUARY 30
OCTOBER 24	FEBRUARY 20 FEBRUARY 27
NOVEMBER 14 NOVEMBER 21	MARCH 13 MARCH 20
DECEMBER 5 DECEMBER 19	APRIL 3 APRIL 24
	MAY 1 MAY 15

Add these dates to your calendar!

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

Open to children ages 5 and under
WITH their caregivers

The Jewish Center
Princeton, NJ

YOUNG FAMILY PROGRAMS

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

2026-2027 DATES:

- 10/4/2026
- 11/22/2026
- 12/13/2026
- 1/17/2027
- 2/6/2027 - PJ HAVDALAH (SAT. NIGHT)
- 3/14/2027
- 4/11/2027
- 5/2/2027

FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES 1 AND BELOW AND THEIR CAREGIVERS
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT CRIC@MANATHEJEWISHCENTER.ORG

*DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THE JEWISH CENTER
INVITES STUDENTS IN
GRADES 2 TO 5 TO

JR. CONGREGATION

2026-2027 Dates

- September 19
- October 10
- November 14
- December 19
- January 29
- February 20
- March 13
- April 24
- May 8
- June 12

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

JOIN TJC FOR
2026-2027

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SHABBAT DINNERS

OPEN TO ALL GRADES AND FAMILIES
STARTS WITH SERVICES AT 6PM. SHABBAT MEAL TO FOLLOW

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- OCT 16
- JAN 29
- MARCH 5
- MAY 7-12
- GRADES 10-12

RSVP VIA SHULCLOUD!



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

Open to the community

TJC Summer Splash

AFTER CAMP ACTIVITIES

Don't go to the JCC camp? No problem! Come on over to join us for any and all events! RSVP to sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Summer 2026

at The Jewish Center
435 Nassau Street
Princeton, NJ

Monday, June 29

8:00 a.m. A "sweet" kick off for Camp!

Wednesday, July 8

8:00 a.m. Bagels at the Bus

Thursday, July 16

~4:30 p.m. Braiding Challah

Thursday, July 30

~ 4:30 p.m. Dance Party

Thursday, August 13

~4:30 Make Your Own Sundae

Wednesday, August 19

8:00 a.m. Bagels at the Bus

LIFE & LEGACY

Dear Congregants,

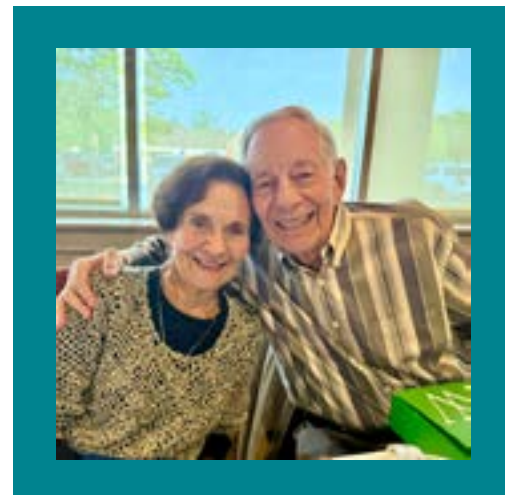
In the next few newsletters, we will be sharing different ways members of our Jewish Center Community have chosen to Leave a Legacy gift. In this newsletter, long time congregants Marsha and Eliot Freeman will share their story about leaving a Legacy gift through a Donor Advised Fund. Whether your Donor Advised Fund is with the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Mercer, or another Community Foundation or financial institution, the principles remain the same; it is an excellent way to make a Legacy donation.

Life & Legacy
Marsha and Eliot Freeman

The synagogue has always held a special place in our lives, beginning with our marriage in 1962 at Congregation Emanu-El in Philadelphia.

When we moved to Princeton in 1972, the first thing we did was join The Jewish Center. When the Life & Legacy program was announced, it took us a nano-second to know that we would be a part of this program. Why? We learned early in our lives that prior generations had provided for our ability to belong to a synagogue, to practice our Judaism with our community. We knew it was our responsibility to do the same for the generations going forward. We have honored all life cycle events at TJC – b'not mitzvah of our daughters, marriage of our daughter, baby naming of our granddaughter, our 60th anniversary and the deaths of our parents. We want the next generations to be able to do the same.

When we thought about how to leave a Legacy gift to The Jewish Center, we decided to open a Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Mercer. We established the Freeman Family Fund and with the professional investment management of the Foundation, the assets have grown. When the time arrives in the future, when our legacy donation will be realized, the money will move seamlessly from the Freeman Family Fund to the Jewish Center of Princeton Legacy Fund. This simple and effective way to provide a Legacy gift to The Jewish Center is exactly what we wanted!



Contact Linda Meisel at lfmeisel@hotmail.com to find out how you can leave a legacy gift.



COMMEMORATE A LOVED ONE
YIZKOR BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE 5787

Every year TJC produces an annual Yizkor Book of Remembrance. This booklet is used at services four times during the year when Yizkor is recited, beginning with Yom Kippur. To commemorate a loved one in this booklet, please list their name(s) below and return the bottom portion, together with a check or credit card payment of \$32 per name (through September 1 only). After September 1, the price increases to \$38 per name.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING:

The TJC Book of Remembrance is prepared **solely from your responses** – the **FINAL** deadline to order is September 15.

If you would like to be notified of future yahrzeit dates and you currently are not receiving this information, please include the full English date, time of death, and relationship when you return your form.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Roni Garrison at The Jewish Center office, (609) 921-0100 Ext. 200 or e-mail at info@thejewishcenter.org.



5787 YIZKOR BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE ORDER FORM

Final Deadline, September 15

Return Form to TJC – 435 Nassau St., Princeton, NJ 08540 Attn: Roni Garrison

Name: _____

Address: _____

Donation: \$32 Per Name THROUGH September 1 only – AFTERWARDS \$38 per name. Use the form below.

___ My donation of \$ _____ is enclosed by check payable to The Jewish Center.

___ Please charge my credit card (MC/VISA/AMEX) for my donation of \$ _____.

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Signature _____ CVV _____

(Your name as Donor as you would like it to appear in the Book of Remembrance)

I wish to honor the memory of the following: (PLEASE PRINT FULL NAMES IN ENGLISH)

If a past TJC congregant, please place an asterisk * next to the name

If same listing as last year, check here

1.	7.
2.	8.
3.	9.
4.	10.
5.	11.
6.	12.

Tradition, Joy, Connection



Rooted in Tradition, Lifted by Joy, Strengthened by Connection

High Holiday Preregistration Forms



MEMBER



NON MEMBER/ASSOCIATE



**A THANK YOU TO THE JEWISH CENTER FOR NAMING A SPECIAL FUND IN MEMORY OF
MY BELOVED WIFE ^{z"l}, MAXINE ELKINS**

Rabbi Emeritus Dov Peretz Elkins

Dear Friends,

I wish to thank Rabbi Merow, President Lew Gantwerk, and the lay leadership of The Jewish Center for naming a special Fund in memory of my beloved wife, Maxine Elkins ^{z"l}, “The Maxine Elkins Israel Artists Fund.”

Maxine would be so thrilled to know of this kind and thoughtful gesture to perpetuate the values she believed in and lived by. Some of these values come to mind:

- She taught about the importance of Israel and Zionism to young children in TJC Religious School for over a decade, with love, passion and deep commitment. To this day, twenty years later, parents of her former students remember the powerful impression she made on her students – which has had an unending impact on their lives.
- When tourism to Israel diminished because of periods of terrorism, Maxine was told by many talented artists in Israel that they were considering closing their shops. She immediately promised the artists that she would make sure that they did not close their stores. She founded ISRAELI CRAFTS, through which she invested her own funds, bought a significant number of handmade items of Israeli artistic items, and brought them to the US, and sold them throughout the East Coast. She received several letters from the artists informing her that they were able to pay their monthly rent after receiving her checks.
- Maxine’s unparalleled devotion and appreciation for the brave, courageous soldiers of the IDF were manifest in many ways. Among the most notable examples were two: Every time she passed an Israeli soldier on the street, she would say to him/her, “Thank you for what you do for our country.” Second, when sitting in a café with friends, and one or more Israeli soldiers entered, she hastened to the cashier and insisted on paying the bill for one (sometimes several) soldiers.
- Every other summer, Maxine and I would lead a two-week pilgrimage to Israel with several dozen members of TJC. Maxine not only helped design the itinerary – to have maximum emotional and intellectual impact on the participants, but during the fortnight in Eretz Yisrael, she would make sure to have meaningful conversations with each one to enforce the notion of how important Zionism and Israel are to Jewish survival. Following many of the pilgrimages, several participants reported that they deepened their commitment to

Jewish ritual observance, and some even, because of her influence, became, part of the top lay leadership of TJC.

- Finally, her passion for Israel was instrumental, in many cases, in the decision to make Aliyah to Israel, including our own in September 2015.

In brief, the naming of the Maxine Elkins Israeli Artists Fund is a worthy tribute to one of the most committed and passionate daughters of our people.



Chavurat Chesed: A Year in Review

This spring marks the one-year anniversary of the re-launch of The Jewish Center's long-standing Chavurat Chesed group. Over the past year, this effort has helped strengthen what matters most—showing up for one another in moments of need, celebration, and everyday connection.

As we reflect on this milestone, we're proud of what we've built together as a community, for our community.

What We Built Together

In its first year, Chavurat Chesed established a strong foundation to support members of TJC in meaningful and responsive ways. Key accomplishments include:

- Defining core areas of impact—Friendly Visits, Shivah Care, and Meal Trains—and empowering dedicated leaders to guide each one
- Developing a clear plan to coordinate and deliver support when it's needed most
- Refreshing our communications, visual identity, and outreach to increase awareness among both volunteers and recipients
- Building partnerships across TJC to engage all parts of our community in this shared work

What We Delivered

Through these efforts, Chavurat Chesed has supported community members in a wide range of ways over the past year.



A Different Way to Measure Impact

Numbers and milestones tell part of the story—but they don't fully capture what drives this work. As Martha Friedman and Pam Zaifman, the leaders behind Chavurat Chesed's re-launch, have emphasized, the true impact lies in something deeper. Pam recently shared a teaching from the Talmud: "Greater is one who causes others to do good than one who does good himself."

This idea speaks to the power of a ripple effect: when we enable and inspire others to act, the impact grows far beyond any single act of kindness. It becomes part of the fabric of the community itself.

While this kind of "multiplier effect" can't be easily measured, we see its influence all around us. At least 125 TJCers have participated in giving or receiving support through Chavurat Chesed—each act helping to build a more caring, connected, and proactive community.



Gratitude and an Invitation

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has been part of this effort—whether by offering support or receiving it. Each interaction strengthens the bonds that make our community so special.

As we look to the year ahead, we invite you to join us in continuing this work. Chavurat Chesed offers many ways to get involved, from providing a meal or making a friendly call to supporting members during life cycle moments and times of need. Even a small act can be a meaningful mitzvah, just as the act of asking for help can be a mitzvah, too.

For more information, please email us at chavuratchesed@thejewishcenter.org

MEMBERSHIP

COMMITTEE NEWS

Great Jewish communities don't just happen; they are built by people like You! Really!! And your friends!

At TJC, You are part of what makes us great! Together, we create a warm, vibrant home for Jewish life: Take our myriad - spiritual, intellectual and creative - programming, or Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?, or Sunday morning Mah Jongg that sometimes has musical accompaniment. Each of these jewels began as someone's spark then wove its way into the fabric of our shul, adorning our Jewish life.

We invite every member (of every age!) to take a moment to let us know your favorite aspect of Jewish life at TJC, then help us by strengthening it and sharing it with others.

Hope to see you at this year's Summer Ice Cream

Social at Thomas Sweet by welcoming newcomers and greeting familiar faces with warmth!!

Let's continue to build and strengthen our congregational community, together.

We welcome the following new members to TJC:

Jared & Briana Pollack
Susan Honigman & Steven Dennis
Tova & Evan Katims



Shema Yoga with Eleni Litt **at The Jewish Center**

Open to the Community!

Weekly on Fridays 10:00 - 11:00 am

Shema Yoga, developed by Eleni Litt, infuses the practice of yoga with a Jewish sensibility. Shema Yoga enhances balance, strength, and flexibility with multiple options for all movements and poses. You're encouraged to enter the practice in a way that is comfortable for you.

Eleni is a longtime member of The Jewish Center & a 200 hr. RYT (Registered Yoga Teacher) with Yoga Alliance. She has advanced training with a focus on chair yoga, with Kripalu's Rudy Peirce: <https://www.gentle-yogis.com/>

Contact Eleni with questions: ezlitt@gmail.com



Israel & Us

The summer of 1971—it would be the first of many journeys to Israel. Our parents had wisely sent us to a Hebrew speaking camp (Massad) in central Pennsylvania the summer before.

For our trip of six weeks, the five of us would stay in my great-Aunt's modest apartment in Netanya. I still remember the address—arba-im v'arbah (44) Shderot Benyamin (Benjamin Street). It was a magical summer. I was an awkward fourteen-year old, growing up in suburban Long Island. Did the boys in my high school class even know I existed? In the modest neighborhood where Aunt Clara lived, they did. With our Israeli teen friends, my younger brother and I hung out at night and practiced our Hebrew with our new friends. Our friends were full of questions. They knew we were from New York and pictured us fighting off marauding thieves...."Is New York safe? Can you be out at night?" We would buy ice cream which would melt almost as soon as we bought it and spend evenings enjoying the gentle ocean breezes. We would sing Beatles songs to each other: "Hello, hello, I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello."



Over the decades, I would return to Israel many times—as a young woman on a Jewish Federation trip, on a visit to an Israeli boyfriend (whom I met in New Jersey), and on visits with Warren and our daughters. I can still feel the ocean breezes from my aunt's apartment, and hear the sounds of our summer friends singing Beatles songs.

Tirza Wahrman
May 2026



Zamru Led Service
Join us at The Jewish Center for
a Zamru led service!

Fridays, 6:30 p.m.

June 26, 2026

See you there!

The Sounds of SHABBAT

Live music on Shabbat! All are welcome

6:00 P.M. Service

Dates:
Friday, June 5
Friday, June 19

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




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



Shabbat of Appreciation

Friday, June 5

5:00 PM
Cocktails in the Corridor in honor of our volunteers

6:00 PM
Friday Night Services with Musicians plus presentation of Gil Gordon Congregant of the Year

7:00 PM
Dessert following services
Everyone is invited to join us for Shabbat of Appreciation





FALL & HIGH HOLIDAY DATES

CUT THIS PAGE OUT AND PUT IT ON YOUR FRIDGE

AUGUST

8 / 4 / 2026 - National Night Out

8 / 19 / 2026 - Blood Drive

SEPTEMBER

9 / 4 / 2026 - Slichot

9 / 9 / 2026 - School Begins and Welcome Back Food Truck Fest

9 / 11 / 2026 - Erev Rosh Hashanah & the 25th Anniversary of 9 / 11

9 / 12 / 2026 - Rosh Hashanah Day 1

9 / 13 / 2026 - Rosh Hashanah Day 2

9 / 20 / 2026 - Kol Nidre

9 / 21 / 2026 - Yom Kippur

9 / 25 / 2026 - Shabbat Under the Stars in the Sukkah

9 / 26 / 2026 - Sukkot Day 1

9 / 27 / 2026 - Sukkot Day 2

9 / 30 / 2026 - Pizza in the Hut

OCTOBER





10 / 3 / 2026 - Shemini Atzeret (Morning) Simchat Torah at Night

10 / 4 / 2026 - Simchat Torah

10 / 10 / 2026 - Torah Dedication

10 / 15 / 2026 - Jewish Center Women Ethiopian Dinner

TISHA B'AV

 Beth Yisroel Synagogue
 BETH CHAIM
 The Jewish Center of Princeton
 Adath Israel


WEDNESDAY, JULY 22
8:00 PM

**MA'ARIV SERVICE
FOLLOWED BY THE
READING OF EICHA**

THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS

AT THE JEWISH CENTER
435 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NJ 08540

SPONSORED BY THE BOARD OF RABBIS



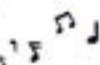
TISHA B'AV

WHAT IS TISHA B'AV?
LITERALLY, "THE 9TH DAY OF THE HEBREW MONTH OF AV" MARKS THE ANNIVERSARY OF MAJOR DISASTERS IN JEWISH HISTORY. THE FIRST IS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FIRST TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM, AND THE BABYLONIAN EXILE FROM THE LAND OF ISRAEL IN 586 B.C.E., AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE 2ND TEMPLE IN 70 C.E. LATER TRAGEDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY ARE ALSO MEMORIALIZED ON THIS DAY. OUR ANCIENT RABBIS ATTRIBUTE SOME OF THESE TRAGEDIES TO SINAT HINAM (SENSELESS INTERNAL HATE).

HOW DO WE OBSERVE?
TISHA B'AV IS A FULL FAST DAY, WHICH IS A FAST FROM SUNDOWN TO NIGHTFALL THE NEXT DAY. AT THE NIGHT SERVICE, WE SIT ON THE FLOOR OR ON LOW STOOLS AND DO OTHER ELEMENTS OF MOURNING. THE BIBLICAL BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS (EICHA) IS CHANTED IN A MOURNFUL TUNE, AND WE READ POETRY ABOUT DESTRUCTION AND INTERNAL STRIFE. DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THESE TOPICS ALSO OCCUR ON THIS DAY. TALIT AND TEFILIN ARE NOT WORN AT THE MORNING SERVICE AS A SIGN OF OUR MOURNING; THEY ARE WORN AT THE AFTERNOON SERVICE. SOME PEOPLE IN THE STATE OF ISRAEL END THEIR FAST AFTER THE AFTERNOON SERVICE AS A NOD TO THE REALITY OF HAVING A MODERN SOVEREIGN STATE.

TJC WILL HOST THE OTHER MERCER COUNTY SHULS FOR AN EVENING SERVICE ON JULY 22 AT 8 PM. JOIN US FOR THIS MEANINGFUL SERVICE.

Shabbat with Musicians

Let the music lead you! 
Save these dates!

2026
September 4
September 18
October 2
October 16
November 6
November 20
December 4
December 18

2027
January 1
January 15
February 5
February 19
March 5
March 19
April 2
April 16
May 7
May 21
June 4
June 18



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



שבת לכולנו
Shabbat L'Kulanu
Shabbat for All Of Us
Intergenerational Prayer, Learning, and Lunching

2026-2027 Dates!

November 14, 2026
February 20, 2026
April 24, 2026

Questions? Email sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Open to the community!





Please join us for our meeting in
June:
 with speaker **Ellen Pristach**

Topic: The Jewish Melting Pot - A Cultural Mosaic

Join us for A presentation on the exquisite cultural diversity of the Jewish people.

Join Us!

Open to the community!

**Thurs, June 18
 9:30-11 A.M.
 on Zoom**

Zoom link will be sent from
Cynthia Richman at TJC

JEWISH CENTER WOMEN PRESENTS AN EVENING OF

The Jewish Ethiopian Experience

Thursday, October 15, 2026
 6:00 PM
 THE JEWISH CENTER

Dinner and discovery with guest
Beejhy Barhany who will talk about Jewish
 Ethiopian food, culture and history



SAVE THE DATE!

The Jewish Center
 PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY



LIBRARY

NEW ACQUISITIONS

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:

Sons and Daughters: A Novel by Chaim Grade (Author), Rose Waldman (Translator from the Yiddish) Originally serialized in the 1960s and 1970s in New York-based Yiddish newspapers, *Sons and Daughters* is a precious glimpse of a way of life that is no longer—the rich Yiddish culture of Poland and Lithuania that the Holocaust would eradicate. Named Best Historical Fiction Book of 2025 by The New York Times

Mahjong: A Chinese Game and the Making of Modern American Culture by Aneelise Heinz. This mass-produced game crossed the Pacific, creating waves of popularity over the twentieth century.

The Silver Candlesticks: A Novel of the Spanish Inquisition by Linda Chavez The story of a young woman who learns her family is Jewish just as the Spanish Inquisition grips Sevilla.

How to Read a Talmudic Story by Jeffrey Rubenstein presents a clear, accessible method for reading, studying, analyzing, and appreciating the rich and engaging stories found in the Talmud and works of midrash.

Exhibitions

Jews Are Magic: Occult Practices from Palmistry to Professional Psychics

Opening May 26, 2026

At the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, in the Center for Jewish History in New York City.

Although unsanctioned, magical elements have remained integral to Jewish folk culture. Rituals, incantations, and occult objects addressed the immediate concerns of daily life—illness, infertility, and unseen dangers believed to shape human fate. Pre-modern Jewish communities inhabited a world understood to be filled with invisible beings, where demons, angels, dybbuks, and the evil eye were active forces, and where the boundaries between the natural and supernatural were porous. Sacred Hebrew names were believed to hold power; amulets, inscriptions, and prayers could compel or ward off supernatural forces. As a result, acts of devotion could also function as protection, and objects like mezuzahs and charms operated simultaneously as religious artifacts and magical tools, reflecting a world in which religion, superstition, and everyday practice were deeply intertwined.

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).

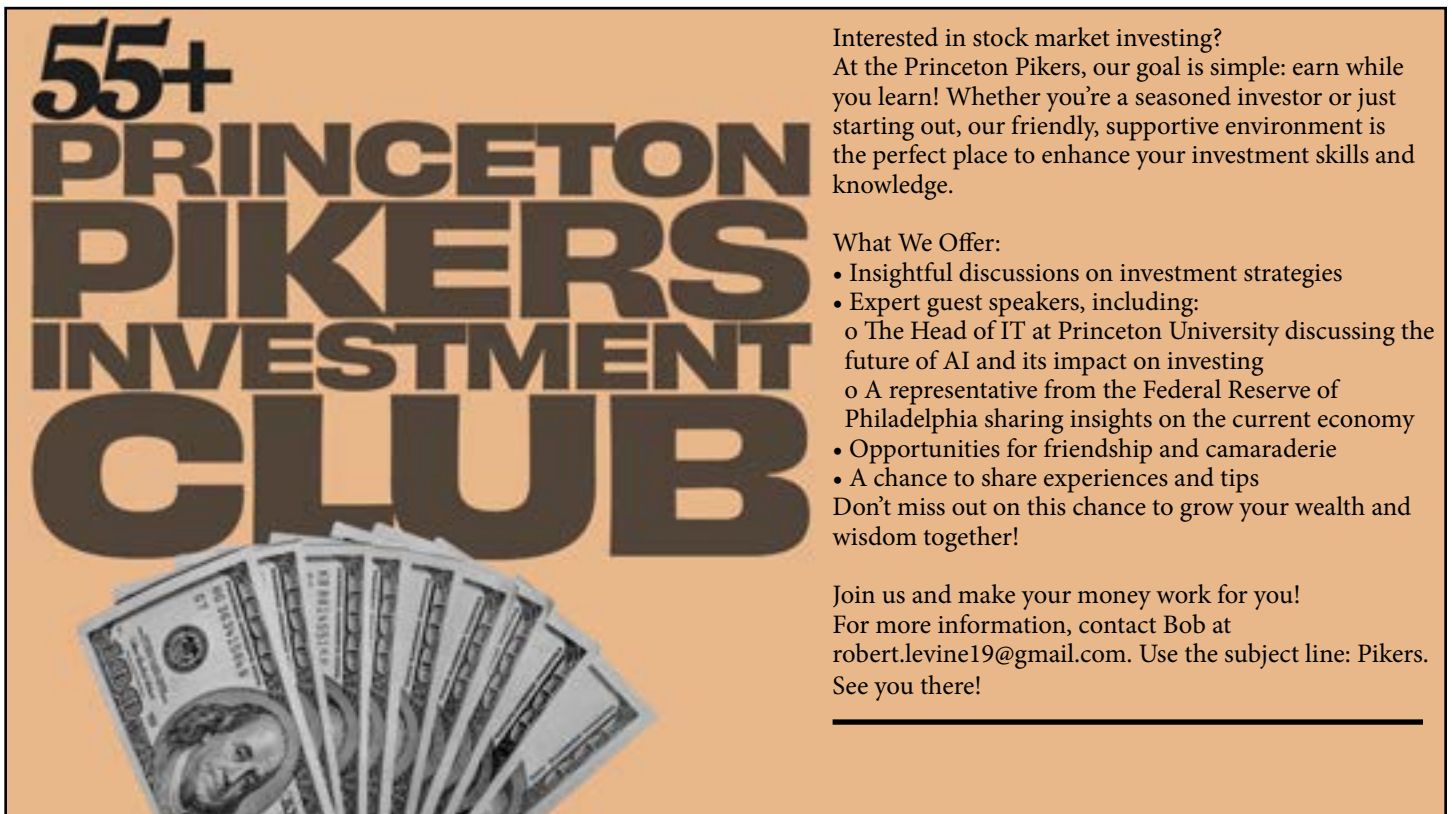
55 PLUS speakers for June 2026

June 4: Bill Fernekes, long time history teacher and author of *The Oryx Holocaust Sourcebook* (Greenwood Press, 2002), *The Human Rights Imperative in Teacher Education* co-edited with Gloria T. Alter (Rowlan and Littlefield, 2022) and most recently, *Clifford Case and the Challenge of Liberal Republicanism* (Lexington Books, 2023).

Topic: "When Bipartisanship Mattered: Clifford Case and the U.S. Senate, 1955-79"

June 18: Steve Knowlton, Librarian for History and African American Studies at Princeton University,

Topic: "Leni Lenape History and Culture"



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!



Always There
Photo Recap



Reflections on March of the Living 2026

In April Suzanne and I, along with a group of congregants from The Jewish Center and a few other individuals who traveled with us, went on a trip to Poland, starting in Krakow and ending in Warsaw. To acknowledge that it was a life changing event would be a gross understatement! With the guidance of our Executive Director Joel Berger and our amazing guide, Jack Rosenbaum, we joined the March of the Living and visited numerous sites in Poland.

Auschwitz and The March of the Living

I'm not sure that anything that I had seen or read or understood prepared me for entering Auschwitz. Due to security concerns, and where the buses parked, we did not enter the camp through the front gate "ARBEIT MACHT FREI". After touring some of the camp and barracks, we had lunch on a little rise right next to a barbed wire fence, what an emotional contrast. After lunch, we joined some 7,000 other individuals for the march from Auschwitz to Birkenau. As we were marching towards the gate I could hear in the distance the sound of the shofar. I think nothing of it and keep walking. As we get closer, some of our group are nudging me to go up. I decline, but then I see Ed Simon up on a platform waving to me and gesturing for me to come up. So, I say to myself, what the heck! I get up on the platform and Ed says to the gentleman with the shofar "you mind if my guy gives it a try?"

I take the shofar, take a deep breath and "Tekiah, Shevarim Teruah, Tekiah Gedolah". I return the shofar and rejoin the group. I know that many people had acknowledged me, but I was lost in the moment and didn't hear anything. We then continued the march leaving Auschwitz through the main gate. A few minutes later, I was texting my daughter and I stopped for a minute and thought, "where was I and what was I doing?" For a minute I couldn't breathe. I started to think about what Monise Neumann, one of the national directors for MOTL, had told us at the very beginning of the trip. We were the voice for those who could not speak for themselves. Tekiah: a long, loud, clear blast that calls people to attention. Shevarim: three broken, sighing sounds that signify breaking down and repentance. Tekiah Gedolah: a great or extra-long final blast used to conclude a set, signifying hope and redemption. So, for me, the sound of the shofar is the voice of six million souls!

NEVER AGAIN IS NOW!!!!!!!





Book Club

Tuesdays, June 16 and July 21

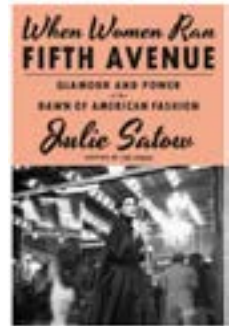
7:30 p.m.

via Zoom.



On Tuesday, June 16, we'll meet at a member's home at 6:00 pm for our annual Potluck Dinner and Book Swap. To RSVP, and for more details email: louisesandburg@gmail.com

On Tuesday, July 21 at 7:30 pm we'll meet via Zoom to discuss: *When Women Ran Fifth Avenue* by Julie Satow



"Julie Satow has written a group biography of the department-store doyennes who ran the show — and these places in their heyday really were a form of theater...She nimbly braids together the stories of Hortense Odlum of Bonwit, which moved locations but basically disappeared by 2000; Geraldine Stutz of Henri Bendel, shuttered since 2019; and Dorothy Shaver of Lord & Taylor, which after slow decline was delivered a definitive death blow by the pandemic...Each might not have sustained a biography of her own... Considered in aggregate, they are a force. You can imagine them milling around the great perfume counter in the sky." (New York Times)

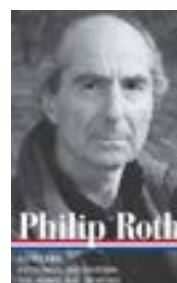
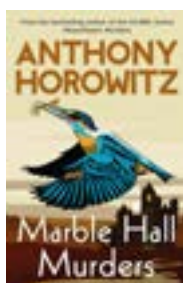
For future planning, save these dates and read these books:

COMING UP NEXT!

August 18 - *The Whalebone Theatre* by Joanna Quinn

September 15 - *Marble Hall Murders* by Anthony Horowitz

October 20 - *Nemesis* by Philip Roth



All are welcome to join our Book Club Discussions. Please contact Louise Sandburg for more info: louisesandburg@gmail.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

*from Toby Tuckman
from Joseph Mandelbaum and his
Bristol Myers Squibb matching gift*

In honor of

Joel Berger on the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah

from Martha Friedman and Harold Heft

Marcie and Marc Citron on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Tucker Citron

from Marilyn and Howard Zagorin

The creation of the Szanto-Kutin Memorial Library

from Judy and Sandy Kutin

Advah and Joshua Zinder on the birth of their grandson, Aurelian Jack Zinder

from Judy and Sandy Kutin

Marcia Ellis on her acceptance to JTS

from Judy and Mike Leopold

Hannah Bellows becoming a Bat Mitzvah

from Beth and Michael Belzer

Eleni Litt with appreciation

from Donna and David Gabai

Joel Berger's fearless leadership in creating a path for congregants to participate in the 2026 March of the Living (MOTL) with thousands of people from around the world

from Richard Levine and Kathy Ales

Lauren Berger's Magna Cum Laude graduation from Baldwin Wallace University

from Marcie and Marc Citron

Lauren Berger – for all of her accomplishments

from Lew and Barbara Gantwerk

Seth, Nancy and Rabbi Merow for making me feel welcomed

from William H. Garber

In memory of

Aurelia Blau

from Leslie Blau

Benjamin Robert Mohr

from Marilyn Zagorin

The Jewish Center Princeton

Tziona Silverman

from Esther Schor, Alison and David Politziner, Judy and Mike Leopold, Rabbi Morton Levine

Rosalind Spielsinger

from Linda and Ira Cheifetz

Solomon Wexler and Anne Rosenbaum

from Suellen Wexler

David and Sydel Fishman

from Seth Fishman

Baruch Israel

from Olga Barsky

Ludmila Pearl Rozenberg

from Olga Barsky

Vladislav Barsky

from Olga Barsky

Dr. Mark David Atkin

from Marilyn and Howard Zagorin, Judy and Mike Leopold, Carol and Mark Pollard

Tziona Silverman

from Donna and David Gabai

Shirley E. Neumann

from Donna and David Gabai, Sofia Parish, Polly and Rick Strauss,

Paula and Steven Heller, Seva

and Peter Kramer, Denise and

Craig Feder, John Bottigheimer

and Eve Ostriker, Jen and Jeremy

Black, Rebecca and Josh Sarett,

Marcie and Marc Citron, Marcy and

Jonathan Samet, Barry Ableman

and Linda Rosenberg, Judy and

Mike Leopold, Carol and Mark

Pollard, Michael and Beatrice

Bloom, Ellen Arian, Lauren and Art

Blick

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In honor of

Michael Goldin for his long, excellent leadership of Bible BaBoker

from Myra Weiner

Rabbi Bob Freedman for his wonderful class on Psalms

from Myra Weiner

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

*from Moshe and Judy Margolin,
Vicki Horowitz*

Shirley E. Neumann

from Sher and Jeanne Leiman

ANNUAL FUND

In honor of

Ira and Estelle Meltzer on the marriage of their granddaughter Taylor to Brandon Garber on April 25, 2026

from Allan and Diane Richman

In memory of

Shirley E. Neumann

*from Richard and Sheryl Feinstein,
Brad and Cathy Bailey, Justin and
Sydney Will*

ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

In honor of

Naomi Reich

from Michael Reich

In memory of

Hyman Coopersmith

from Lewis and Lynn Coopersmith

Dr. Mark David Atkin

from Sher and Jeanne Leiman

Shirley E. Neumann

from Cindy Sussman

Reeva Isaacs

from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

In honor of

Avi Paradise for helping Hannah prepare for her Bat Mitzvah

from Michelle and Aaron Bellows

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Tziona's Rosh Chodesh Group "Sisters"; Shoshana Silberman, Fran Edelman, Nedda Pollack, Myra Weiner, Eve Coulson, Sally Steinberg-Brent, Ruth Schulman, Michele Alperin, Linda Milstein, Martha Friedman, Judy Diamond

Zsuzsanna Ozsvath

from Avi Paradise and Debbie Freedman

Tziona Silverman

from Ruth and Philip Holmes, Dee Silver and Ed Flax, Mr. and Mrs. Prager, Rhona Porter

Eddie and Freda Friedlander

from Sandy Bishins

Ann Blair

from Lewis and Lynn Coopersmith

IRVING N. RABINOWITZ CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FUND

In honor of

Sandie Rabinowitz on her 95th birthday

from Fran Zeiler Edelman and Fred Edelman

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Sandie Rabinowitz

ISRAEL & US FUND

from Nelson Obus

In memory of

Shirley E. Neumann

from Laura and Ron Sucher, Michael and Lori Feldstein, Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

Phyllis Schneider

from Laura and Ron Sucher

THE JEWISH CENTER REFUGEE FUND

from Anonymous from Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton from Anonymous from Anonymous

In honor of

The Refugee Resettlement Committee for the wonderful work they do

from Cheyanne Boyd

Louise Sandburg and Peter Smith

from Ruth Schulman

Mom and Nanny, Alison Politziner

from Sammy Politziner and Family

Alison Politziner on her birthday

from Sarah Cheslock

Sally Steinberg-Brent and Dan Brent

on the birth of Adira Brent Tescher

to Lily Brent and Jonathan Tescher

from Fran Zeitler Edelman and

Fred Edelman

In memory of

Fred Sheinberg

from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

Shirley Sheinberg

from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

Hattie Erdreich

from Phil Kirstein

JEWISH CENTER WOMEN FUND

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Ellen Gordon

Kiddush Community

from Rabbi Bob Freedman

from Jerry Seid

In memory of

Margaret Krausz Becker

from Amy Becker-Mattes and

Jeffrey Mattes

SZANTO-KUTIN LIBRARY FUND

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Deborah Marinsky, Joanne Fishbane

Steven Orszag

from Reba Orszag

LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of

Our Aliya on the 8th day of Passover

from Eliot and Marsha Freeman

Life & Legacy Promise Makers

May 1st Cocktails in the Corridor

from Vicky Bergman

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Marsha and Eliot Freeman, Herb and Carol Horowitz, Linda and Art Meisel

Sidney Meisel

from Art and Linda Meisel

Shirley E. Neumann

from Judy and Marty Schwartz, Ed Flax and Dee Silver, Beth Englezos, Steven and Florence Kahn, Marsha and Eliot Freeman, Linda and Art Meisel

Dr. Mark David Atkin

from Steven and Florence Kahn, Marsha and Eliot Freeman, Linda and Art Meisel

Gertrude Freeman

from Eliot and Marsha Freeman

MARCHAND ESPIR FAMILY HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

In honor of

Robert Schwartz on his 75th birthday

from Alan and Ellen Levine

In memory of

Shirley E. Neumann

from Philip Driscoll

Gertrude Coopersmith

from Lewis and Lynn Coopersmith

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Judi and Bernie Fleitman, Sarah Ganz, Arthur Lehrhaupt

RABBI MEROW'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

from Sher Leiman

from Anonymous

In honor of

Sam Schwartz

from Rabbi David Kessel and Rona Schwartz



CONTRIBUTIONS

Rabbi Merow
*from Naomi Richman Neumann
and Jerry Neumann*

In memory of

Daniel Milstein

from Reba Orszag

Herbert Michael Lipschutz

*from Martha Friedman and Harold
Heft*

Tziona Silverman

*from Ron Schnur and Sandy
Sussman, Richard Levine and
Kathy Ales, Lyn and Michael Paul,
Bob Zimmerman*

from Allan and Diane Richman

Lola Heller

from Ronald and Barbara Berg

Shirley E. Neumann

*from Sandy Bishins, Ronald and
Barbara Berg, Justin and Sydney
Will*

Dr. Ronald Portman and Harry
Portman

from The Portman Family

Abraham H. Carchman

from Philip Carchman

**RABBI TUCKER LIFE CYCLE
FUND**

In honor of

Rabbi Bob Freedman's Wonderful
Course on the Psalms

from Mark Goldfus

Hannah Bellows becoming a Bat
Mitzvah

from Sara Gordon

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

*from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs, my
parents, Irwin and Lenore Gordon
from Sara Gordon*

Shirley E. Neumann

*from Lisa Tobias, Edye and David
Kamenir*

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS FUND

In honor of

Hannah Bellows becoming a Bat
Mitzvah

from Judy and Steven Richman

Rabbi Merow for helping Hannah
prepare for her Bat Mitzvah
from Michelle and Aaron Bellows

In memory of

Shirley E. Neumann

*from Sandie Rabinowitz, Joan
Levin, Judi and Bernie Fleitman,
Norma Saks, Mindy and Corey
Langer, Lew and Barbara
Gantwerk, Robin and Jeffrey
Persky*

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

*from Jane Kleiner and her Bristol
Myers Squibb matching gift*

In memory of

Sylvia Tziona Silverman

*from Sally Steinberg-Brent and Dan
Brent*

SECURITY FUND

from Anonymous

SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND

In honor of

Diane Richman on the 70th
Anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah
anniversary

from Sofia Parish

Hannah and Mia's wonderful naming
ceremony on February 28

from Olivia and Josh Harringmeyer

Diane Richman's 70th Bat Mitzvah
Anniversary

from Allan and Diane Richman

Barbara Schwartz in honor of her
birthday and for Joe reading Torah

from Joe and Barbara Schwartz

In memory of

Joseph Bergman

from Vicky Bergman

Ascher Goldstein

from Bruce Goldstein

Susan Bergman Hackett

from Vicky Bergman

Tillye Klaben

from Norma and Phil Papier

Tziona Silverman

from Norma and Phil Papier

Jan Safer

from Norma and Phil Papier

Shirley E. Neumann

*from Judy and Sandy Kutin,
Abbye and Josh Cornfield, Joe
and Barbara Schwartz, David and
Nadivah Greenberg*

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In honor of

Michele Alperin and Steven Sheriff
from Ruth Schulman

Elaine and Toby Robison

from Ruth Schulman

Judge Philip Carchman

*from Richard Kitts and the
Greenbriar at Whittingham Civic
Club*

Mark Merkowitz for your work on
behalf of the Jewish Community and in
recognition of your retirement. Mazel
Tov!

from Norma Saks

In memory of

Tziona Silverman

from Diane Kletz

Shirley E. Neumann

*from Linda Oppenheim and Bob
Karp, Brenda and Avraham Zlatin*

Robert Kaplan

from Ruth and Philip Holmes

**SOCIAL ACTION – CHAVURAT
CHESED FUND**

In memory of

Shirley E. Neumann

from Myra Weiner

TORAH REPAIR FUND

In memory of

Phyllis Afran

*from Avi Paradise and Debbie
Freedman*

Tziona Silverman

from Joe and Barbara Schwartz

**YOUTH AND FAMILY
PROGRAMS FUND**

In memory of

Richard Gorden

*from Avi Paradise and Debbie
Freedman*

*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:

Tziona Z. (Sylvia) Silverman,
longtime congregant

Shirley E. Neumann,
Mother of Jerry (Naomi Richman) Neumann

Dr. Mark David Atkin,
Husband of Lorraine Atkin

Robert Kaplan,
Father of Debbie and
Grandfather of Adam Kaplan

Glenn Zaidel,
Brother of Elissa (Daniel) Brito

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=SncvMTMvNkJOQkIGWWJrdDBFMlp2dz09>

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



Edible Garden at The Jewish Center



The modern proverb, "Time flies, but in the garden time stands still," seems an apt one. Energy blooms in our TJC garden. That same energy grows within us through the pause such a space provides—a chance to trade the frantic pace of the week for a shared moment of peace, a sense of shalom. With the sun on your face, your smile will widen. We all benefit from interactions in nature, whether for ten minutes just sitting and enjoying the garden view, or volunteering. You can take part in these ways:

- Plant seeds or seedlings
- Water the plants.
- Deliver the "fruits" of these vines to Jewish Family & Children's Services or The United Methodist Cornerstone Kitchen
- Harvest vegetables or herbs.

A child stopping to dig just one plant into the soil at their spiritual community space may long remember that moment, perhaps visiting this garden with pride on the way to a Friday night service. The same is true for all us kids at heart. Find this garden behind a wood fence near the parking lot and rear lobby entrance. Co-Chair Wilma Solomon can be reached at wsolomon84@gmail.com. Please gladden your heart by volunteering whenever your schedule allows—whether it's thirty minutes once or a weekly routine. Our goal is connection and participation in a cause that provides fresh produce to those in need. Whatever you decide, we'd love to grow our community to include you. Since time stands still in our garden, all time given is equally appreciated. May this TJC Garden be a space where your spirit can bloom along with our plants and fellow members.



FUN HOLIDAYS TO CELEBRATE

JUNE 2026

JULY 2026

6/5/2026
NATIONAL DONUT DAY



7/1/2026
INTERNATIONAL JOKE DAY



6/11/2026
NATIONAL CORN ON THE COB DAY



7/8/2026
BLUEBERRY DAY



6/26/2026
TAKE YOUR DOG TO WORK DAY



7/19/2026
NATIONAL ICE CREAM DAY







BLOOD DRIVE

**@ The Jewish Center
Wednesday,
August 19**

12:30 - 6:30 PM

Register at: bit.ly/45KpcIT

This blood drive is being organized by The Jewish Center
For more information, contact Lynne Ross,
Chair: lpross@yahoo.com
For medical or travel related questions
call 800-933-2566

**Open to the
community!**

The Jewish Center | 435 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo. If you have a medical related question visit nybc.org/eligibility or call 800.688.0900

New York Blood Center draws and provides blood to hospitals and patients in the greater New York metropolitan area including to Princeton Penn Medicine and RWJ hospitals and beyond. Donors must be between 17 and 76 years of age. Donors who are 16 can donate with a blood center parental consent form. Donors over the age of 76 need a doctor's note unless one is already on file. Most medications will not keep you from donating. People who take blood pressure medication or who have diabetes can donate. Travel restrictions have changed and people who have lived in Europe during certain periods of time can now donate.




TO ALL THE WONDERFUL FATHERS IN OUR CONGREGATION

Happy FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 21, 2026

DAD is the biggest ABBA fan

The Hebrew word for 'dad' is... aba 

250TH ANNIVERSARY

HAPPY 4th OF JULY

INDEPENDENCE DAY

FROM THE JEWISH CENTER



SAVE THE DATE!

WELCOME BACK FOOD TRUCK

FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 | **PARKING LOT AT THE JEWISH CENTER**

Great Food.
Great People.
Great Vibes.

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.

photography by *Jen Davis*
609-439-2525
photographybyjendavis@gmail.com
<https://photographybyjendavis.com>



Proudly photographing TJC families for over 15 years

Photography for every
stage & milestone including:

Families:

Maternity
Newborn
Family Portraits

Corporate:

Headshots
VIDEO: B-roll,
Testimonials
Website/Social Content

Events:

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs!
Parties
Anniversaries

SERVING BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER - ALL DAY



SCAN THIS CODE




OPEN DAILY 7 AM - LAST SEATING 9 PM - pancakes.com

TALMUD STUDY GROUP

Every Wednesday at noon via Zoom:
Talmud study in translation.

No previous experience necessary.
For more information, email Neil Lit
at neilit@outlook.com.

Meeting ID: 839 8013 7869
Password: 643177



Robin L. Wallack


Broker Associate

C: 609.462.2340 O: 609.924.1600
robin.wallack@foxroach.com
robinwallack.com

Thinking of Buying or Selling?


Real estate is a process and I am with you every step of the way. For me, real estate is deeply rooted in relationships. Even after you close on your house, you can always call me for advice, for help, for information.

EXPERIENCE GETS RESULTS



**FOX & ROACH,
REALTORS®**

Princeton Office | 253 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC 

From a Fortune™ 100 CEO to the HQ for Your Top Dog

WE INSURE THEM.



As part of one of the nation's largest property and casualty insurance brokers, CBIZ Borden Periman combines national resources with local, personalized service. Licensed in 50 states, we work tirelessly to insure what's important to you.

CBIZ BORDEN PERIMAN **PERSONAL INSURANCE SERVICES:**
Home | Auto | Valuables

Kathy Vik, Personal Risk Advisor
609.493.7972 | Kathy.Vik@cbizBP.com | CBIZ.com/BordenPeriman



BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED AND GROW!

I will donate \$180 in honor of each of my TJC clients who buy or sell a home this year. The donation will be made to the fund of their choice.



Contact me to schedule a FREE confidential consultation
Office: 609-921-1900 | Cell: 609-577-2989 | info@BeatriceBloom.com | BeatriceBloom.com 

Robert Platzman, D.O.



Board Certified in Internal Medicine
Board Certified and Fellowship
Trained in Geriatric Medicine

- Caring for Adults and Elderly
- New Patients Welcomed
- Emergency Visits Accommodated
- Medicare, Aetna, Horizon, United Healthcare and Most Other Insurances Accepted

601 Ewing Street, Suite C-7 Princeton, NJ 08540 Tel: (609) 921-8766

Affiliated with The University Medical Center at Princeton
"Delivering Quality Healthcare with Compassion"

No. 091A

ADVERTISE WITH US!

Please support our advertisers.

If you'd like to advertise in our full-color bulletin, printed six times a year, please contact our TJC office at (609) 921-0100 or info@thejewishcenter.org

Would you like...

BILL'S BRIDGE CLUB AT TJC!

Tuesday Duplicate Bridge Games at The Jewish Center

435 Nassau St
Princeton, NJ

\$20 per pair collected at the door

Refreshments Provided

Beginner/Intermediate Separate Section Attendance Permitting

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

Need help finding a partner? Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

Thank you for supporting our bridge club.

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

The Jewish Center



WATERCOLOR PORTRAITS

JENNY LOWHAR

305.726.8494

JENNYLOWHAR@GMAIL.COM



Receipts

Thank you for bringing your McCaffrey's receipts to TJC! We appreciate you thinking of us whenever you shop.

Now collecting for June-July 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

Be assured
when our family is called to serve yours.

What was true for Orland's more than 50 years ago when it was started by our father and grandfather remains true for us today...

**Our task is chosen.
Our commitment is strong.
It is our family's honor to take care of yours.**

AT-HOME CONSULTATIONS | SERVING ALL COMMUNITIES

Joel E. Orland, Senior Director | NJ License No. 3091
Max J. Orland, Director | NJ License. 5064

ORLAND'S
EWING MEMORIAL CHAPEL

1534 Pennington Road
Trenton, NJ 08618
609.583.1400
OrlandsMemorialChapel.com

Member of KAVOD:
Independent Jewish Funeral Chapels

Classical Caterers
Fine Kosher and Glatt Kosher Catering

*Our Service Will Delight...
The Settings Will Dazzle...
Our Cuisine Will Surpass...
Your Every Expectation.*

Congregation B'nai Tikvah
1001 Finnegan's Lane
North Brunswick • NJ 08902
732.297.6444
www.classicalcaterers.com



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

435 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 172
Princeton, NJ

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

TIME VALUE

Contributions

The Jewish Center is grateful for the many donations that you give both in honor of joyous occasions and in memory of beloved family and friends. To make the logistics easier and the gifting choices clearer, a donor form is printed on the back of each monthly newsletter. Donor forms are also available in the Main Office. We thank you for the generosity that goes into each of these donations!

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.

Funds

- General Fund
- Bimah Accessibility Project
- Adult Education Fund
- Annual Fund
- Apartment Construction Fund
- Arts & Cultural Affairs
- Hachutzah Exploratory Trail Fund
- Hazzan's Music Fund
- Irving N. Rabinowitz Conversational Hebrew Fund
- Israel and Us Fund
- Jess & Marion Epstein Lunch & Learn Fund
- The Jewish Center Refugee Fund
- Jewish Center Women
- Szanto-Kutin Library
- Life and Legacy Endowment Fund
- Marchand Espir Family Holocaust Education Fund
- Maxine Elkins Israel Artist Fund
- Men's Club
- 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
- Chavurat Chesed Fund
- Steven Levine Special Education Fund
- Tchelet Tzitzit Fund
- Torah Repair Fund
- Youth and Family Programs

Plaques and Remembrances

- Memorial Plaque \$350
- Tree of Life Leaf \$216 (to commemorate a simcha)

Kiddush Community

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

Brick Pavers

- Small - \$250
- Medium - \$500
- Large - \$750

Scan code to donate via phone or tablet.



***Now you can donate through our website.
Go to www.thejewishcenter.org
and follow the instructions!**