



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

August/September 2026

Av/Elul 5786/Tishrei 5787

thejewishcenter.org

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

Tradition, Joy, Connection



Rooted in Tradition, Lifted by Joy, Strengthened by Connection

High Holidays 5787

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Rabbi 2005-2019	Adam Feldman ²¹
Shaliach Tzibur	Avi Paradise
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Cantor Emeritus	Murray E. Simon
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Director of Congregational Learning	Sharon Diamondstein
Service Coordinator	Rabbi Bob Freedman
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	Gila Levin
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	Allen Porter ²¹
	Roni Garrison & Cynthia Richman
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Princeton, NJ 08540

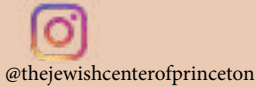
www.thejewishcenter.org

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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



WELCOME BACK FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY PARKING LOT
SEPTEMBER 9 | 4 – 7 PM AT THE JEWISH CENTER

**Great Food.
Great People.
Great Vibes.**

1st Day of Religious School!

Scan here to RSVP for the Festival!





MESSAGE from the Rabbi

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

Preparing Our Hearts

Though Rosh Hashanah, the New Year of 5787, begins in September, the High Holiday period begins on Thursday night, August 13, with the beginning of the Hebrew month of **Elul**. The month of Elul is a time to prepare ourselves for a new start to the New Year by engaging in the meaningful work of *tshuva*, of repentance, and of returning to our best selves.

The rabbis note that the first letters of the words from the verse in Song of Songs, “*Ani l’dodi v’dodi li*”—“I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine” (6:3)—form the Hebrew acronym for Elul. This reminds us that this is a time devoted to strengthening our relationships with God, others, and ourselves. Elul is a time for *Chesbon HaNefesh* (soul-searching); we use the month of Elul to ask questions like, Am I living according to my values? Where have I fallen short, and where have I grown, and how can I do better in the coming year?

Below are a few ways to prepare for the holidays: During the month of Elul, it is a tradition to hear the shofar each morning. You can join our morning minyan on Sundays and Wednesdays to hear the shofar. (Zoom only in the summer). Also, join us on Wednesday, September 9, at a welcome back to shul and school food truck event from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The Shofar will also be sounded then to mark the start of the year!

Studying about *tshuva* is also an Elul custom: Join me at an Elul Lunch and Learn on Shabbat morning after services on August 15th to study text about *tshuva*. If you would like to be part of our davening team on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Elul is the time to prepare. Our team sings with Avi and me and helps the congregation to raise their voices in prayer during the Torah service and Musaf. We are happy to have you learn music with Avi during the month of Elul. Please email him at aparadise@thejewishcenter.org, and he will send you a rehearsal schedule.

Preparing for the holidays is also about figuring out who you will break bread with. If you can host congregants

at a Rosh Hashanah lunch or dinner, or if you would like to be hosted, please email Cynthia at crichman@thejewishcenter.org. Let her know if you are, or if you require a kosher home. But join me for Yom Kippur Break-the-fast at our 3rd annual Break-fast and Dance Party - and we will have the Giants game on a large screen!

We hope and pray that TJC will be very crowded during the High Holidays (and other times), and that we will need greeters and ushers! Being an usher or greeter allows you the opportunity to keep making our shul warm and welcoming. If you find that services are a bit too long for you, give yourself an hour break and serve as a greeter/usher. Contact Joel at jberger@thejewishcenter.org asap to volunteer. We will provide training.

I want to remind you about **three additional special spiritual experiences** during the holidays. Each year, I host a one-hour Alternative Spiritual Prayer Experience on Rosh Hashanah. There is music and meditation, prayer, and study. This is appropriate for someone who wants a different way into spiritual aspects of the day. You can join me if you came in the morning, or if you did not. Invite your dinner guests to join us on September 12, from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM. On Yom Kippur afternoon, Eleni Litt will lead Shema Yoga. I will lead an alternative, contemplative Yizkor Service; you are invited even if you davened Yizkor in the morning.

This year let’s arrive at the New Year spiritually ready. May this month of Elul be a time of reflection and forgiveness.

L’Shanah Tovah Tikateivu—May we all have a good New Year, full of Blessing!

Rabbi Merow

Special Announcement

New TJC Shiva Siddur

I am grateful to announce the publication of a new version of our TJC Shiva Siddur (prayerbook). Rabbi Cantor Bob Freedman created the first version a few decades ago. Over time, it has been updated with minor changes. In the past few years, Rabbi Bob has lovingly worked to fully update the siddur. It has new, contemporary translations, meaningful readings and poetry, and a fresh layout. We are greatly indebted to Rabbi Bob for his skillful work. Thanks also go to Debbi Dunn Solomon for working with Rabbi Bob as an editor, and to Sherry Rosen for reading the manuscript several times. I pray that this siddur will help to bring comfort to the bereaved in our community.

Save the Date | May 6-14, 2027

Mission to Israel with The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and Rabbi Merow from Thursday, May 6 to Friday, May 14. This 8-day mission is over Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut.

Great speakers, volunteer opportunities. Details to follow. If you are interested in learning more, please email crichman@thejewishcenter.org

**Please Note:
Sunday Minyan will be virtual this summer**



MESSAGE from the President

Lew Gantwerk
lg.presidenttjc@gmail.com

Which Jew Am I?

There is a set of cards developed by an Israeli artist* that depicts a character in relation to their Judaism, which is symbolized by the Jewish star. There are over 50 different cards that allow one to pick the card that most aligns with that person's feelings in the moment. In preparing this piece, I've chosen these two images to write about.

Being Jewish over these past three years has become more complicated than I ever could have imagined. I grew up in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn; my grandfather was president of our shul, I went to Hebrew school four days a week and on Sunday mornings, and spent my adolescence at the JCH on Bay Parkway. I was Jewish – never thought much about that part of my identity other than it was just who I was. Barbara and I lived in Israel from 1966 to 1969, were there during the Six-Day War, and could not have been prouder of being Jewish. I was definitely the character smiling about being Jewish. I even agreed to become the President of TJC and still felt so positively about being Jewish!

Then, as you all know, October 7 happened and it seemed to me that by October 10, being Jewish in America, all of a sudden, became increasingly complicated. I must admit that at times I began to feel like the figure burdened by his Jewishness. Conversations with friends often included talking about how Jews in Germany in 1939 must have felt. How did antisemitism here rise so quickly and so viciously? Did I have to take sides? What did it mean to be on the left or on the right? What was I to think about the new Mayor of NY? Did I really disagree with my granddaughter? How much money should we be spending on security at TJC? How do we maintain the Open and Broad tent approach to our synagogue when feelings become so polarized? Why do I find it so disorienting to see a sign on Route 1



advertising "End Jewish Hate"? I do not like feeling like being Jewish is a burden. So, what to do? I talk a lot about The Jewish Center and its role in moving my Jewishness needle from burden to joy. Friday night services restore my faith, my commitment to, and my joy in being Jewish. Being part of a community that celebrates each other's simchas and joyfully helps others through difficult times reinforces a sense of pride in my Jewishness. Kissing the Torah as it makes its rounds through the congregation on Saturday mornings reconnects me with warm and wonderful moments I experienced growing up as well as reminding me that we have been around for a few thousand years and we will continue to be ok.

Maybe I move between the two feelings expressed in the pictures above. But I have to say I am, most of the time, the smiling figure. Perhaps you might use these two figures to talk with your family about each of your responses to the figures. I would love to hear about your experiences in such discussions. You can reach me at lg.presidenttjc@gmail.com

Enjoy what's left of the summer, and as we approach the holidays, I wish you a Shannah Tovah – a healthy, safe and joyful new year.

Lew

** David Cards were developed by Jewish educator Yoni Alon and illustrated by Israeli artist Sapir Wiener Aviv as a joint program with the support of the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and AMI. (www.yonialon.com/david-cards)*



MESSAGE from the Executive Director

Joel Berger
609.921.0100 ext. 205
jberger@thejewishcenter.org

Tradition, Joy, Connection

The theme for our High Holidays this year is Tradition, Joy and Connection. Yes, TJC! I always wonder if having a theme has any meaning to people coming to services. Were you sitting there wondering if you should attend this year or not and then the theme showed up and you said, "I have GOT to be there!!" Well, we hope you do join us this year for High Holiday services. It's already been quite a journey.

Our planning for the holidays starts in April when I reach out to the tent company to make sure we reserve our outdoor family tent in the lower parking lot. This year, if you have not paid attention, the holidays fall on Saturday and Sunday, right after Labor Day. That means there will be plenty of weddings so if I don't secure our tent, I risk not having one at all.

After the tent, we start thinking about what offerings we need to get to you to help make our holidays meaningful. JCW Greeting cards. Book of Remembrance. Ticket order forms. And then we take out our master checklist and start going down one by one. Have we arranged for security? Have we gone over the schedule of services? What are we doing the same this year and what are we going to try and do differently. How are our Torah readers and Haftorah readers? It's quite a list which is why we start 6 months ahead of time. So while you are at the beach sipping on Margarita's and Pina Colodas, we are ALL working hard to make sure this year's holidays will be as good, or even better, than previous ones.

But that's just the beginning. We are already on Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah and know when Chanukah in Palmer Square is already taking place!

It's truly a time where we connect with Tradition, having high holiday services with all the meaning we can create and take from them...Joy, seeing friends and family and enjoying familiar melodies that you only hear one time a year and of course...Connection. Seeing the same faces, and new faces and catching up on what has transpired in your lives over the past 12 months. New babies or

the loss of loved ones. Everyone will have a story to tell so find some special time to connect.

On behalf of my family and the entire staff of The Jewish Center, we wish everyone L'Shanah Tovah. A sweet and Happy New Year filled with Tradition, Joy and Connection.

Joel





**MESSAGE from the
Director of Congregational Learning**

Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext. 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Friends,

I can't believe I am already thinking about Rosh Hashanah. I don't mean that in the professional sense—I've been there for months! I mean on a personal level. I have spent a lot of time thinking about my mom and the way we celebrated Rosh Hashanah. I can still smell the chicken soup, the matzah balls, and the jarred gefilte fish simmering on the stove in its jelly. If you know, you know.

Her brisket was always the best. Her lukshen kugel muffins—made with enough chicken fat to keep cardiologists in business for life—would be strategically, or perhaps not so strategically, hidden in the freezer, waiting for me to find them. I would sneak a few and then be genuinely upset when only half the batch remained for the holiday. Why couldn't they simply replenish themselves?

She made a delicious sesame chicken dish. I'm pretty sure it had honey. I'm pretty sure it had tomatoes. I'm pretty sure I may still have the cookbook. Her matzah balls were so dense they could break glass windows. She added horseradish to nearly everything. Her food was always slightly oversalted—PTSD, she called it, from my grandmother's completely unsalted cooking. Her chopped liver was perfect.

For my mom, the food and the family made the holiday. Rosh Hashanah was also a difficult holiday for her. Her father, my grandfather Eric, died during the days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The following year, we hoped my grandmother would fly up to be with us, but then September 11 happened, and I don't think she was able to come.

In the years that followed, my mom still made the meal, and I loved going to her house to help her cook. It was there that one of life's most important lessons became firmly rooted in my mind:

If you want to cook like Mom, you have to cook with Mom.

This year, as I mark my first Rosh Hashanah without her, I will probably have Jason in the kitchen beside me. We will pour a bottle of wine into the dish with the brisket and add some garlic cloves for good measure. We will render chicken fat and make gribenes—the cracklings. We will wash the soup greens and add a little Osem chicken consommé and a small piece of horseradish root.

We will most decidedly not boil jarred gefilte fish in its jelly. We will make the frozen loaf.

We will set the table—her table—with our china, and we will remember her.

This year will be different. Last Rosh Hashanah, I did not know that I would never again be able to call her for advice about the side dishes or ask her to remind me how she made the brisket.

This year, I will make sure that both Eric and Jason spend time in the kitchen with me. These are the moments I want them to remember as they become adults. These are the moments that turn recipes into traditions and traditions into memories. These are the moments that make the holidays special.

I suppose that, for me too, the food and the family make the holiday.

Marc, Eric, Jason and I would like to wish all of you a *Shana Tovah u'Metuka!*

L'Shalom,

Sharon



Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah



Adina Martinez | September 26, 2026

Adina Martinez is a seventh-grade student at Princeton Middle School. She plays field hockey, participates in musical theater and choir, and enjoys baking, reading and skiing with family and friends. Adina loves to dance and has been a member of The Dance Corner competition team for six years, training in lyrical, jazz, ballet, pointe, and acro. This past summer, she attended Camp Walden in the Adirondacks and Teen Travel with Abrams JCC Camp. For her Chesed project, Adina helped organize the annual Hadassah gift-wrapping fundraiser at Quakerbridge Mall, which raised over \$17,000 for cancer research. She would like to thank Rabbi Merrow, Avi Paradise, Ronit Johnson and Gila Levin for their guidance in preparing for her Bat Mitzvah, as well as all her religious school teachers and family for their support over the years.

WHO TO EMAIL IF...

Had a baby, or someone is in the hospital or want to make an appt. with the Rabbi? Cynthia Richman at extension 218 or crichman@thejewishcenter.org	Want to register a child in school or talk about a B'nai Mitzvah date? Sharon Diamondstein at extension 220 or email sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org
Celebrating a milestone or a simcha and want an Aliyah on Shabbat? Nancy Lewis, email her at Nancy.nehama@gmail.com	Have questions about a yahrzeit date, want to make a donation, or questions about your account? Roni Garrison at extension 200 or vgarrison@thejewishcenter.org
Want a flyer made or have a general Gen-Z question? Stephanie Berger at extension 201 or sberger@thejewishcenter.org	Would like to learn more about leading services, or singing at services? Avi Paradise at extension 213 or aparadise@thejewishcenter.org
Do you know someone who would be interested in membership at TJC? Joel Berger at extension 205 or jberger@thejewishcenter.org	Need council or had a death in the family? Rabbi Merow, email her at ram@thejewishcenter.org

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 5787

(TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 11 – Erev Rosh Hashanah

Ma'ariv 6:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting 6:57 p.m.

Saturday, September 12 - First Day

Main Sanctuary Service
Torah Service 8:45 a.m.

Family, Youth, and Teen Programs

Grades 1-6 with families,
In Tent 9:00 a.m.

K and below with families,
Teen Lounge 10:30 a.m.

Grades 7-12 Teen Program,
School Building 11:00 a.m.

Alternative Spiritual Experience
(in the Szanto-Kutin Library) 5-6 p.m.

Candle Lighting 7:53 p.m.

Sunday, September 13 - Second Day

Main Sanctuary Service
Torah Service 8:45 a.m.
9:45 a.m.

Family, Youth, and Teen Programs
Grades 1-6 with families,
In Tent 9:00 a.m.

K and below with families,
Teen Lounge 10:30 a.m.

Grades 7-12 Teen Program,
School Building 11:00 a.m.

Tashlich at Carnegie Lake 5:00 p.m.

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Friday, September 18

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting 6:44 p.m.

Saturday, September 19

Shabbat Service 9:30 a.m.

KOL NIDRE

Sunday, September 20

Main Sanctuary Service
Candle Lighting 6:30 p.m.
6:41 p.m.

YOM KIPPUR

Monday, September 21

Main Sanctuary Service
Torah Service followed by Yizkor 9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.

Family, Youth, and Teen Programs

Grades 1-6 with families,
In Tent 9:00 a.m.

K and below with families,
Teen Lounge 10:30 a.m.

Grades 7-12 Teen Program,
School Building 11:00 a.m.

Afternoon & Evening Services
Shema Yoga 2:00 p.m.

Alternative Yizkor
and Healing Experience 2:45 p.m.

Yom Kippur Forum 3:45 p.m.

Mincha 4:45 p.m.

Neilah 6:00 p.m.

Havdalah, Shofar and Conclusion 7:38 p.m.

Everyone is invited to bring your own shofar and
join the final shofar blast

Tunes and Touchdowns: A Break the Fast Celebration
7:45 p.m. - RSVP Required



High Holy Days 5787

Jewish Center Women

New Year's Greeting Card

**PLEASE JOIN US IN WISHING OUR CONGREGANTS AND STAFF A
SHANAH TOVAH THIS YEAR.**

**With a \$36 contribution, your name will be included on a
beautiful New Year's card that will be mailed to all members of
The Jewish Center prior to the holidays.**

Questions? info@thejewishcenter.org

**Please complete the form by Aug. 25, 2026 with \$36 credit card or
check payable to The Jewish Center.**

Mail form to: The Jewish Center, Attn: JCW
435 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

Clearly Print Name(s) as you would like them to appear on the card:

I am enclosing ____ credit card ____ check payable to TJC

Credit Card# _____ Exp. Date _____

CVV _____

Join The Sound Collective by Avi Paradise

Congregational Group Prayer and Song
Leaders for the High Holiday services

Tuesdays 7:30-8:30
August 25
September 1
September 8
September 15

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.

RSVP via Shulcloud!



ONE MONTH OUT - ELUL LEARNING

A HIGH HOLIDAY
LUNCH & LEARN WITH RABBI MEROW

LEARN (OR RE-LEARN) MEANINGS OF OUR
HIGH HOLY DAY PRAYERS & TRADITIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 - FOLLOWING SERVICES
IN THE SZANTO-KUTIN LIBRARY

NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE OR HEBREW NEEDED.
THIS CLASS IS AN INTRO OR REFRESHER
CLASS - ALL INVITED
PRE-REGISTRATION APPRECIATED.

RSVP ON SHULCLOUD BY 8/10/26

 OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!

Save the Date



5787

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
8:30 P.M.
AT ADATH ISRAEL CONGREGATION
1958 LAWRENCEVILLE RD B.
LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ 08648



COMMEMORATE A LOVED ONE
YIZKOR BOOK OF REMBRANCE 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 REMBRANCE 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.



Lulav and Etrog 5787

ORDER FORM

Deadline: **September 15**

BUY A LULAV AND ETROG FOR SUKKOT

“...and you shall take the fruit of goodly trees...
and rejoice before the Lord your God.”

Two important symbols of Sukkot are the lulav and etrog. We recite the blessing over them each day of the holiday as an expression of gratitude for God’s bounty, and we carry them in procession around the synagogue during each morning service. Rabbi Merow strongly encourages members of the congregation to purchase their own lulav and etrog set to be displayed in their sukkah or at home and to be brought to the synagogue to participate in the processions (hakafot). While they last for only a short time, their presence is felt beyond the festival. We hope that many of you will continue to participate in this tradition. Sets can be ordered through The Jewish Center office.

**Pick-up Wednesday, September 23 & Thursday, September 24 from 9am - 5pm
or Friday, September 25 from 9am - 12pm**

Tear off below and send/bring to TJC Office - 435 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

Full Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Please reserve _____ set(s) of lulavim and etrogim at \$54 each. Enclosed is my check, made out to The Jewish Center in the amount of \$_____. Or, you may choose to pay by Visa / MasterCard / Amex (Circle one):

Name on credit card: _____ Card Number: _____

Exp. Date _____ CVV: _____

**Please send to The Jewish Center office by September 15 (Erev Sukkot is September 25).
For more information, contact Roni Garrison at The Jewish Center office, 609-921-0100 x 200 or
vgarrison@thejewishcenter.org**

Wear White from Night to Night

Wear White on Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur

Wearing all white elevates us and signals this is a special time. On Yom Kippur, it is traditional to wear white. Notice that prayer leaders wear white on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur—some wear a traditional kittle, others simple white clothing. Some say this reminds us of our mortality; others, that it reflects our equality before God. Aesthetically, when the congregation becomes a sea of white—like the Torah dressed in white—the space feels transformed.

Therefore, we want to invite you,
and even encourage you, to wear simple white clothing or a kittle to shul on Yom Kippur.

 The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

Shabbat Under the Stars in the Sukkah

September 25

Services - 6:00 PM
Dinner - 7:00 PM
CHICKEN DINNER

Beverages provided by The Jewish Center
Bring a side dish or dessert! Bring a friend!

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

Stay after dinner for Chess! All levels welcome

RSVP by 9/18/26




HEAR THE SOUND OF THE SHOFAR!

“HEAR THE TONES FROM YOUR PHONES!”

If you or someone you know would like to hear the Shofar blasts, but can't make it to TJC or live out of town, our wonderful Robin Wallock will connect with you to hear the Shofar blown over the phone.

Please reach out to Robin at 609-462-2340, 609-924-0330, or robinwallock@verizon.net

Don't miss out on this great opportunity if you are not able to attend in person.




WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Like to schmooze? Love to help?

Be an usher or greeter on the High Holidays!
Everyone is invited to help greet members and guests, help hand out prayer books, and be a friendly face!

Scan the QR codes to Sign Up!

USHER 

GREETER 




SHIRA B'TZIBUR

You do not need to know Hebrew to enjoy!

Thursday, October 1
3:00 - 5:00 P.M.
At The Jewish Center

Open to the community

Join us for a Hebrew sing-along in the Sukkah!

Questions? Email info@thejewishcenter.org



Send a Rosh Hashanah College Box



MADE WITH LOVE AND BEST WISHES FOR A SWEET NEW YEAR BY THE JEWISH CENTER.
ONE ENTRY PER STUDENT.

PLEASE INCLUDE THE COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS FOR MAILING A PACKAGE TO YOUR STUDENT, WITH WHATEVER INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.

DEADLINE TO ORDER: 9/1/2026
SCAN THE QR CODE TO FILL OUT THE FORM

Pizza In The Hut

SAVE THE DATE!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 | 5:30 P.M.

PIZZA SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED

IN THE SUKKAH

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY



Yizkor

5787

Yom Kippur - September 21, 2026
Shemini Atzeret- October 3, 2026
Passover - April 29, 2027
Shavuot - June 12, 2027

TOUCHDOWN & BOOGIE

BAGEL BOWL



**TUNES AND TOUCHDOWNS!
A BREAK THE FAST CELEBRATION!**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	AFTER HAVDALAH ABOUT 7:45 PM
COST: \$36 ADULTS \$12 FOR KIDS UNDER 12	THE JEWISH CENTER 435 NASSAU STREET PRINCETON, NJ 08540

BAGELS, REFRESHMENTS, LIVE MUSIC FROM DJ RAM AND DJ AVI, AND THE GIANTS VS. RAMS GAME—WHAT BETTER WAY TO BREAK THE FAST?

YOU MUST REGISTER BY 9/16 VIA SHULCLOUD BY TO GUARANTEE FOOD!



Join us at The Jewish Center for **FAMILY HIGH HOLIDAYS 5787**

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 - Saturday, September 12

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 - Sunday, September 13

Yom Kippur - Monday, September 21

9:00 A.M. | Grades 1-6 with families in Tent

10:30 A.M. | K and below with families in Teen Lounge

11:00 A.M. | Grades 7-12 in School Building

Additional Programs

Tashlich
at Carnegie Lake
Sunday,
September 13
5:00 P.M.

Neilah
Monday, September 21
6:00 p.m.
in Sanctuary, followed
by Havdalah, glow sticks,
and Shofar blowing

Kol Nidre
Sunday, September 20
6:30 p.m.
in Sanctuary followed by
Children's Service
in the Beit Midrash
for grades K-6

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

APRIL 16 -
GRADES 10-12

RSVP VIA SHULCLOUD!

NEED CHILDCARE FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS?

We're here to help!

If you need childcare during High Holiday services, scan the QR code to let us know when you'll need childcare.

Childcare Hours
Rosh Hashanah
Saturday, September 12th 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday, September 13th 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Kol Nidre
Sunday, September 20th 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Yom Kippur
Monday, September 21st 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Please complete the form by scanning the QR code so we can plan accordingly.

Questions? Contact Cynthia,
crichman@thejewishcenter.org

JOIN US FOR SIMCHAT TORAH NIGHT

DAVENING, DINNER, & DANCING

SAVE THE DATE:
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026
6 P.M.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR SERVICES AND DANCING

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

YOUNG FAMILY PROGRAMS

AT THE JEWISH CENTER
SUNDAYS 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

2026-2027 DATES:

- 10/4/2026 - SIMCHAT TORAH
- 11/22/2026 - HARVEST & GRATITUDE
- 12/13/2026 - CHANUKAH LIGHTS & LATKES
- 1/17/2027 - TU B'SHEVAT GROW TOGETHER
- 2/6/2027 - PAJAMAS, PIZZA & HAVDALAH
- 3/14/2027 - PURIM PIE - PALOOZA
- 4/11/2027 - PASSOVER PLAYTIMES
- 5/2/2027 - CELEBRATE ISRAEL

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

*DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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

Thursday, August 13
~4:30 Make Your Own Sundae

Wednesday, August 19
8:00 a.m. Bagels at the Bus

**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

**JOIN THE JEWISH CENTER FOR
SHABBAT KATAN**

2026 DATES	2027 DATES
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
INVITES STUDENTS IN
GRADES 2 TO 5 TO

JR. CONGREGATION

Upcoming Dates
September 19
October 10

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

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE & IRISE

**AUGUST
BACK TO
SCHOOL
SUPPLY DRIVE**

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WOULD BE
MOST APPRECIATED:

- BACKPACKS
- NOTEBOOKS
- BINDERS AND PAPER
- BLUE AND BLACK PENS
- SCISSORS
- HIGHLIGHTERS
- RULERS
- POST ITS
- GLUE STICKS AND LIQUID GLUE
- DRY ERASE MARKERS
- PENCIL SHARPENERS
- PENCILS
- COLORED PENCILS/CRAYONS
- FOLDERS
- ERASERS

COLLECTION BIN WILL BE AVAILABLE IN
THE LOBBY AT THE JEWISH CENTER
TUES-THURS 9-5
FRIDAY 9-3
FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

LIFE & LEGACY



Many years ago, I decided to be a Life and Legacy donor, partially because Debbie (my wife) was on the TJC committee but mostly because I strongly believe that I have an obligation to financially support those institutions I hold dear. The Jewish Center is one of those institutions and I want it to be around for many generations to come. However, giving upon my demise did not seem to be the right way to give this support, particularly because I hope to be around for a long time.

While doing some research on legacy gifts, I learned that having my Life and Legacy donation now, come directly from my annual Required Minimum Distribution, conferred tax advantages to me while allowing the synagogue to benefit from investing the funds and reaping the interest and growth that would result over time. As I would have to take the money anyway, and prefer not pay taxes unnecessarily, donating from my RMD (which reduced the taxable amount of my

RMD) seemed like a major win for everyone. Sweet, as my grandchildren would say.

Donating directly from the annual RMD is not for everyone. For Debbie and I, though, it was a good strategy as we have sufficient cash flow from other investments to meet our needs. In addition, we can see the good it does with our own eyes while we are living. Again, sweet!

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

GURSHA

SCAN TO RSVP!
MUST RSVP BY 10/5

THE JEWISH CENTER
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

THE BOOK CAN BE PURCHASED ON AMAZON, AND IF YOU BRING A COPY TO THE DINNER, THE AUTHOR WILL BE HAPPY TO SIGN IT.

LIFELONG LEARNING AT TJC

2026-2027: ANTISEMITISM IN AMERICA: YESTERDAY AND TODAY

A Book Talk with NYU Historian Lila Corwin Berman

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026 | 7 P.M.
AT THE JEWISH CENTER

WHO IS AMERICAN?
Belonging and the Question of Jewish Citizenship
LILA CORWIN BERMAN

In *Who Is American?*, historian Lila Corwin Berman challenges the common assumption that Jewish immigrants quickly gained full citizenship and equal rights upon arriving in the United States. Through legal cases and historical debates, she explores how American law repeatedly grappled with whether Jews were considered a race, a religion, a nationality, or some combination of these identities—and how those definitions shaped their rights and sense of belonging. The book offers a timely look at who gets to be considered fully American.

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

Open to the community!

RSVP via Shulcloud or scan the QR Code!



LIBRARY

COLLECTION UPDATE

We're continuing to add new books to the collection. These new 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:

The Last Dekrepitzer by Howard Langer

Howard Langer's inventive novel, *The Last Dekrepitzer*, imagines what would happen if the last remaining survivor of a Hasidic sect found his way to the pre-Civil Rights American South and took on a new identity as a blues musician named Sam Lightup. In doing so, the novel explores subjects like race, the legacy of the Holocaust, music, and God. NATIONAL JEWISH BOOK AWARD WINNER

When we See you Again by Rachel Goldberg-Polin
On the morning of October 7th, 2023, Rachel Goldberg-Polin's beloved twenty-three-year-old son, Hersh, was stolen from a music festival billed as a celebration of unity and love—and, in that moment, her life was forever separated into The Before and The After. A searing portrait of a mother's grief and strength in the wake of unthinkable tragedy.

Returning: A Search for Home Across Three Centuries by Nicholas Lemann

Journalist and New Yorker writer, Nicholas Lemann writes a historical family memoir chronicling the journey of his German-Jewish ancestors from the Rhine Valley to the Louisiana sugar plantations. Lehman details their assimilation and pursuit of belonging within the elite society of New Orleans. He then traces his evolution at mid-life to becoming a more observant Jew.



Playmakers: The Jewish Entrepreneurs Who Created the Toy Industry in America by Michael Kimmel
The untold story of the first-generation Jewish American toymakers who literally manufactured "the century of the child."

The Red House by Mary Morris
A mystery that toggles between contemporary New Jersey and Mussolini's Italy during World War II. The novel explores hidden Jewish identity, history and the lasting impact of family secrets.

Bookplates

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

Donations help us buy new books for the library. 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.



+ 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 September 2026

September 17: Professor Derek Penslar is an historian with interests in the relationship between modern Israel and diaspora Jewish societies, global nationalist movements, European colonialism, and post-colonial states. He is the William Lee Frost Professor of Jewish History and the Director of the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University and recently co-chaired Harvard's Presidential Task Force on Combatting Antisemitism and Anti-Israeli Bias, whose report was released in April 2025 (it can be found at <https://www.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/FINAL-Harvard-ASAIB-Report-5.7.25.pdf>). Dr. Penslar's books include *Israel in History: The Origins of the State of Israel: A Documentary History* (with Eran Kaplan, 2011), *Zionism: An Emotional State* (2023), and he is also working on a global history of the 1948

Palestine War titled *The War for Palestine, 1947-1949: A Global History*.

September 24: James Demetriades is the CEO of Penn Medicine Princeton. He joined the organization 18 years ago. In his previous role as Chief Operating Officer for Princeton Health, he led the overall system planning and execution process to become part of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. He provided administrative oversight of clinical areas including surgical services, lab and radiology, as well as ancillary and support services and the comprehensive work done throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Topic: AI potential to transform medicine.



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:
 - o The Head of IT at Princeton University discussing the future of AI and its impact on investing
 - o 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!



The Israel and Us
Committee presents

Mission in Captivity

with Guest Speaker,
Dr. Shoshan Haran

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026
7 P.M. AT THE JEWISH CENTER**

Shoshan was kidnapped from her house during the October 7th massacre along with her daughter Adi, her young grandchildren Naveh and Yahel, her sister-in-law Sharon, and Sharon's daughter Noam. Her son-in-law, Tal Shoham, was also kidnapped and held separately. Her husband Avshalom, her sister Lilach, her husband Eviatar, and her caregiver Paul were all murdered. Shoshan was released 50 days later in the first hostage deal. Her Israeli publisher describes the memoir as "a story of physical and psychological survival, with death lurking at every moment and in every place, and of determination to look directly at pure evil, revealed through long conversations with the captors."

DR. SHOSHAN HARAN



MISSION IN CAPTIVITY

ONE WOMAN'S STRUGGLE TO
SURVIVE AND SAVE HER FAMILY IN GAZA

Shoshan is the founder and president of Fair Planet, a global NGO, whose mission is to help farmers in Africa exit the cycle of hunger and poverty. The harrowing ordeal she experienced in captivity reaffirmed her resilience and unwavering dedication to humanitarian causes and to helping other hostages around the world. She is a co-founder of ReHome, which helps rehabilitate survivors of the Oct. 7th attacks, and a member of the advisory body of Hostage Aid, an organization fighting for the release of hostages worldwide.

Please RSVP via Shulcloud or scan this QR code!



JOIN JCW AND THE LIFELONG
LEARNING COMMITTEE ON A
PRIVATE TOUR OF



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

Join us for a special guided tour highlighting works by Jewish artists, as well as art, objects, and artifacts connected to Jewish history, culture, and tradition.

The tour will be led by The Jewish Center's own Linda Meisel, a Princeton University Art Museum docent, who will share fascinating stories and insights throughout the afternoon.



Meet at the beautiful new Princeton University Art Museum
located in the heart of the historic campus along McCosh
Walk between Elm Drive and Chapel Drive.



SAVE THE DATE FOR A
SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER!
COST IS FREE BUT SPACE IS LIMITED!



HIGH HOLY DAYS 5787

FOOD DRIVE



HAPPILY ACCEPTING:

- ★ **LOCAL SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS**
- ★ **CANNED GOODS**
- ★ **NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS**

SHOPPING LIST:

Please check that your food is kosher and not expired

Cereal - both hot and cold
Granola bars
Canned tuna, salmon or chicken
Canned low fructose fruit
Canned low sodium vegetables
Peanut butter
Jelly/Jam
Beans, canned or dried
Apple sauce

Tomato sauce & canned tomatoes
Shelf stable milk
Pasta, Rice
100% fruit juice
Herbs & spices
Maseca Corn
Masa Flour
Olive oil
Vegetable oil

CONTAINERS MUST BE PAPER OR PLASTIC (NO GLASS)

PROCEEDS WILL BE SPLIT BETWEEN
ARM IN ARM & JFCS KOSHER FOOD PANTRY

PLEASE BRING ALL DONATIONS
BETWEEN ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR DAY AFTER
(TUESDAY, SEPT 22ND) 10 A.M. TO 1 P.M.
TO HELP PACK AND SORT

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE CONTACT ARLENE OPATUT AT
AMJOPATUT@AOL.COM



A New Year of Chavurat Chesed Begins With You

As we prepare to welcome the High Holy Days, we enter a season that invites us to reflect not only on who we are, but on how we show up for one another. The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur remind us that repairing the world begins with strengthening the relationships closest to us. They call us to notice when there is a need for a helping hand, a friendly voice, a homemade meal, or simply the reassurance that someone cares.

At The Jewish Center, this spirit comes to life through **Chavurat Chesed**—our community of members who put compassion into action.

Over the past year, we have witnessed the extraordinary impact of ordinary acts of loving kindness. Volunteers have delivered meals to families during illness and recovery as well as when new babies joined the congregation. They visited members who were feeling isolated, supported mourners during shiva, and reached out during life's challenging moments. Each act, no matter how small, reminded someone that as members, we are here for them.

As we begin a new year, we invite every member of our congregation to consider becoming part of this sacred work.

You don't need a special skill or a great deal of time. Sometimes a single phone call, an hour spent visiting someone, delivering a homemade meal, or helping coordinate support can make all the difference. Whether you volunteer once a year or once a month, your kindness becomes part of the warm hearted, caring network that defines our synagogue community.

At the same time, we want to offer another invitation—one that can be even more difficult.

If you or someone in your family could benefit from a meal, a visit, or support during illness, recovery, bereavement, or another challenging time, please let us know. Accepting help is not a burden to others; it is a gift that allows fellow congregants to fulfill the mitzvah of chesed. Jewish tradition teaches that communities are

strengthened not only by those who give, but also by those who allow others the privilege of giving.

As the Talmud teaches, *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh*—all of Israel is responsible for one another. This timeless teaching reminds us that caring for one another is not simply an act of generosity; it is one of our shared responsibilities as a Jewish community.

This High Holy Day season, we invite you to ask yourself two simple questions:

Can I help?

Could I use some help?

Whether your answer is one or both, there is a place for you within the scope of Chavurat Chesed. May this New Year be one in which we continue to build a community where no one celebrates alone, no one grieves alone, and no one faces life's challenges alone.

L'Shanah Tovah.

May we all be inscribed for a year filled with health, peace, compassion, and countless opportunities to bring **chesed**, acts of loving kindness into the lives of others.

Warmly,

Martha Friedman and Pam Zaifman

Here is how to reach us!
Please email us at
Chavuratchesed@thejewishcenter.org!

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

We REMEMBER

HONORING LIVES LOST & HEROES AMONG US.

25 YEARS

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

Please, give blood +

BLOOD DRIVE

@ The Jewish Center
Thursday, August 13

12:30 - 6:30 PM

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/blooddriveaug13>

This blood drive is being organized by The Jewish Center
For more information, contact Lynne Ross,
Chair: lploss@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.

What Do We Mean by "RSVP on ShulCloud"?

You've probably seen us say "RSVP on ShulCloud" and wondered what that means. Good news-it's quick and easy!

Here's how to register:

1. Visit thejewishcenter.org. (If you already log into ShulCloud, you're one step ahead!)
2. On our website, click the green rectangle that says "To Register for Programs."
3. This will open our ShulCloud Calendar, where all of our upcoming events and programs are listed.
4. Find the event you'd like to attend. For example, if you're registering for Rabbi Merow's class on August 15, simply change the calendar to August, click on August 15, select the class, and complete your registration.

That's it! Easy peasy!

Registering through ShulCloud helps us keep track of attendance, communicate any updates, and ensure we're prepared for everyone joining us. We appreciate you taking a minute to RSVP!

JOIN US!

Cocktails in the Corridor

Friday, August 28, 2026
5:00 P.M.
Before Shabbat Services

Drinks, Snacks and Schmoozing!

Sponsored by Deborah Marinsky and Frank DiGiacomo, in appreciation of the many kindnesses and support we have received.

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 • NEW JERSEY

Open to the community!

A Week of Sukkot

5787

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

SHABBAT CELEBRATION
Friday, September 25
6:00 p.m. - Shabbat Services
7:00 p.m. - Shabbat Under the Stars
Chicken dinner provided by TJC
Welcome our new & returning members.
RSVP on ShulCloud*

PIZZA IN THE HUT
Wednesday, September 30
5:30 p.m.
Topic: TBD
RSVP on ShulCloud*

SHEMINI ATZERET SERVICES WITH YIZKOR
Saturday, October 3
9:30 a.m. - Services & Yizkor
Kiddush lunch following services.

BREAKFAST WITH RABBI MEROW
Saturday & Sunday, September 26-27
9:00 a.m.
In Rabbi Merow's sukkah at TJC.

SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICES
Saturday, October 3
6:00 p.m. - Davening, Dinner & Dancing
Gimel Siddur Presentation

SUKKOT SERVICES - DAY 1
Saturday, September 26
9:30 a.m.
Kiddush lunch in the sukkah following services.

SIMCHAT TORAH MORNING SERVICES
Sunday, October 4
10:00 a.m. - Services & School Shul
Kiddush lunch following services.

SUKKOT SERVICES - DAY 2
Sunday, September 27
9:30 a.m. - Services & School Shul
Kiddush lunch in the sukkah following services.

Lulav and Etrog Pick-up
Wednesday, Sept 23 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 24 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 25 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.



Edible Garden at The Jewish Center



Take a walk out back to the TJC Garden—it's a shady, breezy oasis even in this heat! Everyone is welcome to visit and enjoy the garden. No sign-up is needed to stop by. We have a dedicated Garden Crew growing fresh produce for Jewish Family and Children's Services and the Cornerstone Community Kitchen.

If you'd like to help maintain the garden, please consider joining the Garden Crew—the sign-up link is below.

And watch for the date of our garden potluck!



Order food for your Rosh Hashanah Table!

Our friends at Fred and Murry's are offering packaged Rosh Hashanah meals for your high holidays.

2026 ROSH HASHANAH ORDERS PICKUP AT JEWISH CENTER OF PRINCETON

CELEBRATING 55 YEARS
FRED & MURRY'S
GOURMET KOSHER DELICATESSEN

CALL FRED & MURRY'S TO PLACE YOUR ORDER • (732) 462-3343

BE SURE TO MENTION JEWISH CENTER OF PRINCETON WHEN PLACING YOUR ORDER

PICKUPS WILL BE ON SEPT. 11 FROM 9AM-12PM
VISIT WWW.FREDANDMURRYSDELICATESSEN.COM FOR FULL HOLIDAY MENU

SAVE THE TRIP TO FREEHOLD
FREE & CONVENIENT PICKUPS

ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

Order by Wednesday, September 9.

Pick up at The Jewish Center on Friday, September 11 from 9:00 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Delivery can also be made to your home for an extra fee or you can arrange to pickup from the store in Freehold.

Scan the QR code for the menu.

To place an order, call 732-462-3343

Membership News

Sharing good news for and about our incredible members

The new year brings hope, a fresh perspective, and new ways to connect with our community. We have much to be thankful for as we jump into 5787: our incredible clergy and staff, our members who have been with us for years, and, of course, the new faces we have welcomed into our community over the past several months!

Inspired by *Town Topics*, we recently posed a question to some of our newer members, so that we can all get better acquainted with one another.

“What are you most looking forward to in 5787?”

We are most excited for Miles to start Hebrew School at The Jewish Center! Meeting other Jews genuinely makes me so happy, and I was not fortunate enough while growing up to belong to a shul with kids my age, so I'm happy we have this community for our kids.

– Tova & Evan Katims & family

We are most looking forward to joining a vibrant Jewish community and spending more quality time together as a family.

– Mike, Anna, Ari & Sy Friedman

We are looking forward to getting settled into our new home and new community here in Princeton in 5787! We can't wait to get to know you all this year!

– Veronica & Jared Middleman & family

I have two primary hopes. Personally, I am looking forward to my oldest daughter passing and succeeding on the New Jersey bar exam. More broadly, I hope for Israel to reach a fitting peace agreement and for other global conflicts to come to an end.

– Martine George

*First and foremost, getting to know all of you! As recent Princeton Junction transplants, we're big believers in community and lifting our neighbors up. Beyond the everyday joy (and chaos!) of raising our boys—Simon (almost 6) and Noah (almost 2)—we both work full-time in the tech industry. But we make sure to keep busy with our off-screen passions, too! Hannah recently performed in a local production of *Seussical the Musical* and is always hunting for her next stage gig. Meanwhile, Zack moonlights as an animation and comic book writer—he's got an ongoing series with *Dark Horse Comics* and a few top-secret projects up his sleeve (which he will totally spill the beans about if you ask him in person). We can't wait to meet everyone!*

– Hannah Barudin & Zack Rosenberg & family

We welcome the following new members to TJC:

Rabbi Abigail Weber, Dr. Diana Tamir & family
Veronica & Jared Middleman & family
Hannah Barudin, Zack Rosenberg & family
Audrey & Alan Strauss
Viviane Soares Mendes

Barry Fulmer
Betsy & Gary Silverman
Anna Schuettge, Michael Friedman & family
Harlan Tenenbaum
Dr. Martine George
Deborah & Philip Nord

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD....MEMBERS: One of the things the Membership Committee is looking forward to in 5787 is expanding our committee. If you're interested in joining us in welcoming new members and continuing to engage our entire community, please email Edye @ ekamenir@gmail.com.

Tashlich, Bubbles and a Pocketful of Mitzvot

Sunday, September 13, 2026
5:00 p.m.
Carnegie Lake - North End

Cast away the past, and look ahead to the new year!

Celebrate Rosh Hashana at a fun, family-friendly Tashlich service where you can choose your own Mitzvot for 5787!

Bring Your Own Bread -
We will bring the bubbles!



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



Tradition, Joy, Connection



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High Holiday Preregistration Forms



MEMBER



NON MEMBER/ASSOCIATE

Shabbat with Musicians

Let the music lead you
Save these dates!

<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
September 4	January 1
September 18	January 15
October 2	February 5
October 16	February 19
November 6	March 5
November 20	March 19
December 4	April 2
December 18	April 16
	May 7
	May 21
	June 4
	June 18



6:00 P.M. Service

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

TJC wishes you a

HAPPY LABOR DAY

September 7, 2026



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 Donna and David Gabai

In honor of

Ira and Linda Cheifetz on their granddaughter Taylor's graduation from the University of Miami
from Lew and Barbara Gantwerk
our Aliyah on May 23rd
from Donna and David Gabai
Ellen Pristach being named the Gil Gordon Congregant of the Year
from Judy and Mike Leopold
Arlene and Henry Opatut on the birth of their grandson, Brodie Eben Opatut
from Judy and Mike Leopold
Amy Becker and Jeff Mattes on the birth of their grandson, Jonah Greenberg
from Judy and Mike Leopold
The marriage of our daughter Lottie Appel to Michael Baker
from Marilyn Besner and Fred Appel

In memory of

Ruth Rosen and Lillian Greene
from Marilyn and Joe Rosen
Seymour Rosenbaum
from Suellen Wexler
Anna Wilson
from Marilyn Zagorin
Rita Feigeles
from Sharon Shylit
Joel Tenenbaum
from Donna and David Gabai
Glenn Zaidel
from Rebecca Prenner

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In honor of

Ted Altman on the 70th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah
from Myra Weiner

ANNUAL FUND

from Richard B. Johnson

In memory of

Willy Eisner
from Stephanie Blau

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

In honor of

Avi Paradise for helping Zachary prepare for his Bar Mitzvah
from Lisa and Marc Rogol and Ellen Gordon

In memory of

Glenn Zaidel
from Avi Paradise and Debbie Freedman
Howard R. Safir
from Francine Safir

IRVING N. RABINOWITZ CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FUND

In honor of

Sandie Rabinowitz on her 95th birthday
from Ruth Schulman

ISRAEL & US FUND

In memory of

Mollie Schneider
from Laura Sucher

THE JEWISH CENTER REFUGEE FUND

from Anonymous
from Michele Ochsner
from Cheyanne Boyd
from Anonymous
from Irene Rodgers

In honor of

Peter Smith and Louise Sandburg for their work with refugees
from Ruth Schulman
Zachary Rogol becoming a Bar Mitzvah
from Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman

In memory of

Philip Kirstein
from Phil Kirstein
Ruth Turim
from Frances Zeitler-Edelman

LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of

Life & Legacy Promise Makers May 1st Cocktails in the Corridor
from Beth Englezos
Evy Grossman and Eliot Freeman receiving the Champions of Legacy Award
from Irene Goldfarb
Zachary Rogol becoming a Bar Mitzvah
from Linda and Art Meisel
Norma Saks on granddaughter Mia Saks high school graduation
from Linda and Art Meisel
Joan Levin on the graduation of her grandson Ben
from Linda and Art Meisel
Joan Levin on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson Max
from Linda and Art Meisel
Phil and JoAnn Carchman on the release of Jenny's new thriller on Amazon Prime
from Marsha and Eliot Freeman
Naomi Reich on her art exhibit at TJC
from Marsha and Eliot Freeman
Ellen Pristach being named the Gil Gordon Congregant of the Year
from Marsha and Eliot Freeman

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of

Louis Berger
from Jeanne Leiman

RABBI ADAM FELDMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of

Zachary Rogol becoming a Bar Mitzvah
from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

In memory of

David Spielsinger
from Ira and Linda Cheifetz

RABBI MEROW'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

from Rabbi Rachel Kobrin and Jeff Ward
from Linda Oppenheim and Bob Karp

In honor of

Rabbi Merow for helping Zachary prepare for his Bar Mitzvah
from Lisa and Marc Rogol and Ellen Gordon

Laura Zwanziger and Jacob Schwartz on Zoey's baby naming

from Alison and David Politziner

Judy and Marty Schwartz on their grandson Isaac Wiley Schwartz receiving his diploma from Berklee College of Music

from Robin and Alan Wallack

Evy Grossman and Eliot Freeman receiving the Life & Legacy Champions of Legacy Award
from Robin and Alan Wallack

The baby naming of my granddaughter, Rosie Vaidya
from Jill Ray

Ted Altman and Renee Altman on Ted's second Bar Mitzvah Shabbat!
from Elisheva Sperber and Peter Ozsvath

Don and Karen Polakoff on their 50th wedding anniversary
from Ricky Shechtel

Monica Blum on the publication of her book "Inviting the Spirit of Play to Transform Trauma: Healing for All Ages"

from Barry Ableman and Linda Rosenberg

In memory of

Rose Fabian and David Fabian
from Anne and Stephen Math
Joanne Bishins
from Sandy Bishins
Irving Kaplan
from Diane Richman

Seymour Friedman, Dorothy Friedman, Adrienne Goldfarb, Dan Goldfarb
from Paula Friedman and Jeffrey Gross
Esther Leopold
from Mike and Judy Leopold
Our fathers, Nathan Fabian and Melvin Math
from Anne and Stephen Math

RABBI TUCKER LIFE CYCLE FUND

from Steven and Sara Just with gratitude
from David Goldfarb

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of

Ellen Pristach being named the Gil Gordon Congregant of the Year
from Alison and David Politziner, Myra Weiner

SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND

In honor of

Ted Altman's second Bar Mitzvah
from Carol and Bob Schwartz
Evelyn Kalb on her Bat Mitzvah
from Sarah Barkow and Joshua Kalb
The baby naming of my granddaughter, Rosie Vaidya
from Jill Ray

Cathy Bailey's milestone birthday!
from Suzanne Esterman and John McKeegan

Ellen Pristach being named the Gil Gordon Congregant of the Year
from Abbye and Joshua Cornfield
Steve Solomon and Debbi Dunn Solomon on the anniversary of Sarah and Debbi's Bat Mitzvahs
from Steve Solomon and Debbi Dunn Solomon
Arlene and Henry Opatut celebrating their new role as grandparents
from Lynne Ross

In memory of

Elaine Hope Antebi
from Barbara and Joe Schwartz

John J. Besterman
from Vicky Bergman
Estelle and Irving Bach, Anne and Gerald Freedman, Bertha Kaplan
from Bobbi and Barry Freedman
Marion Besterman
from Vicky Bergman

SILVER CIRCLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of

Harvey Koizim
from The Koizim Family

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In honor of

Arlene and Henry Opatut on the birth of their grandson, Brodie Eben Opatut
from Myra Weiner

In memory of

Shirley Neumann
from Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman
Gladys C. Weisberger
from Judy and Mike Leopold

SOCIAL ACTION – CHAVURAT CHESED FUND

In honor of

Ted Altman on the 70th anniversary of your Bar Mitzvah
from Pam Zaifman

SZANTO-KUTIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND

In honor of

Marilyn Besner and Fred Appel on the marriage of their daughter Lottie to Michael Baker
from Roslyn and David Vanderbilt

YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS FUND

In honor of

Joan Levin on the graduation of her grandson Ben
from Helene Buckwald

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



Book Club

Tuesdays, August 18 & September 15

7:30 p.m. **via Zoom.**

Tuesday, August 18, at 7:30 pm
The Whalebone Theatre by Joanna Quinn

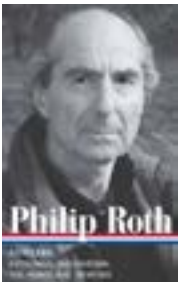
“The Whalebone Theatre,” a generous slab of historical fiction cut from the same crumbling stone as Evelyn Waugh’s “Brideshead Revisited” and Elizabeth Jane Howard’s “The Cazalet Chronicles,” is a big hit in England. Centered on imperiled aristocracy during the well-trod period of 1919-45, it’s also been compared (inevitably, and to Quinn’s dismay) to “Downton Abbey,” Chilcombe being almost a character in its own right....Quinn is an energetic narrative seamstress. Into her giant tapestry she stitches in letters, lists, scrapbook entries, dramatic dialogue... and the occasional piece of concrete poetry. All of this is lovely and unforced. *(New York Times)*

Tuesday, September 15, at 7:30 pm
Marble Hall Murders by Anthony Horowitz

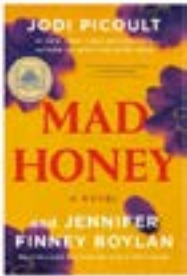
“Horowitz’s diabolically clever *Marble Hall Murders* begins as Susan Ryeland, a British book editor, starts reading the newest installment in a crime series featuring a Poirot-like detective named Atticus Pünd. The book looks promising — the plot is enticing, the writing sharp, the detective as canny as ever. But Susan soon realizes that what she’s reading isn’t “just a cheerful murder mystery bringing back a much-loved character,” as she puts it, but rather a “bubbling cauldron” of hatred, infidelity, greed and murder drawn from the troubled past of the writer, Eliot Crace. That’s only the beginning of Horowitz’s multilevel romp, which serves up an elegant plot while lampooning writers, publishers, murderers, rich people and golden-age mystery stories.” *(New York Times)*

COMING UP NEXT!

October 20 – *Nemesis* by Philip Roth
November 17 – *In the Time of our History* by Susanne Pari
December 15 – *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult



The Jewish Center Princeton



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





THE ANNUAL FUND 5787 GIVING LEVELS

<i>Me'orot</i>	Luminaries	\$54,000
<i>Chalutzim</i>	Pioneers	\$36,000
<i>Kochavim</i>	Stars	\$18,000 & above
<i>Manhigim</i>	Leaders	\$10,000 & above
<i>Giborim</i>	Heroes	\$5,400 & above
<i>Amudim</i>	Pillars	\$3,600 & above
<i>Shomrim</i>	Guardians	\$1,800 & above
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<i>Shoafim</i>	Aspirers	\$36

I/We want to contribute to The Jewish Center's 5787 Annual Fund.

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Enclosed is my/ our gift:

☐ \$54,000 ☐ \$36,000 ☐ \$18,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$5,400 ☐ \$3,600 ☐ \$1,800
☐ \$900 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$180 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$72 ☐ \$54 ☐ \$36
Other: _____

☐ I wish my gift to be anonymous

☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex
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Please make checks payable to: The Jewish Center

Account Number _____
Exp. Date ____ / ____ CW _____
Signature _____

☐ I/We want to make a gift of stock or mutual funds. Please have someone contact us.

☐ I/we want to make a gift with an IRA Charitable Roller (the donor must be at least age 70 ½ at the time of transfer and the funds must pass directly from the donor's IRA custodian to TJC)
Please have someone contact us with specific instructions.

☐ I/We are interested in including The Jewish Center in my/our estate planning.

☐ Please have someone contact us about setting up a Life and Legacy gift.

Thank you in advance for your philanthropy.
Questions? Please contact Executive Director Joel Berger at jberger@thejewishcenter.org
or at 609.921.0100 ext. 205.

Kiddush Community



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

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

- Adding a source of alternative revenue
- Increasing participation in Shabbat: services or social
- Allowing us to celebrate more *simchot* together

Show your support:

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

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

Did you know TJC has a hearing-impaired system in our Sanctuary?

The next time you visit, look for the card below and connect via your Bluetooth!

Wi-fi Network: TJCoP
Password: Tjc435457 [note only the first letter is capitalized]

2. Download the Listen EVERYWHERE app from Listen Technologies Corporation. It's available on both the Apple App Store and Android/Google Play stores.

3. After you've downloaded the app, you'll have an icon on your phone that looks like this:



4. Click it and it will open the app. The app will perform a quick venue scan to find the available audio channels (you need to do this at TJC when the PA system is turned on).

5. The app will display a Welcome screen and may play a Welcome video. You can skip this by tapping the 'Skip Ad' button at the top right of the screen.

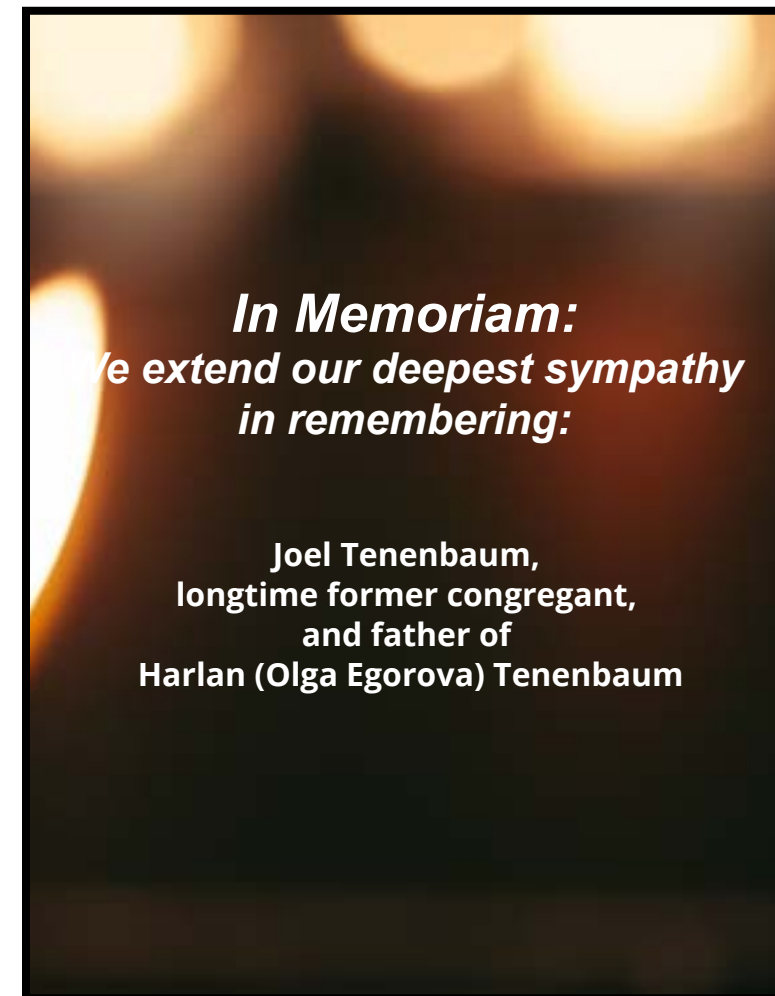
6. It will then show the audio channel. Tap the channel and the sound should come through the app.

7. From there, however you integrate audio with your hearing aid, you should be able to adjust volume and choose your preferred equalization curve via your hearing aid app.

.....♥.....

Do you have a Simcha or happy occasion to celebrate?

Email us at mazaltov@thejewishcenter.org so we can celebrate with you!



In Memoriam:
We extend our deepest sympathy in remembering:

Joel Tenenbaum,
longtime former congregant,
and father of
Harlan (Olga Egorova) Tenenbaum

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/87570201257?pwd=SncvMTMvNkJOQklGWjJrdDBFMlp2dz09>

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



Shema Yoga with Eleni Litt
at The Jewish Center

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.

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

She is currently in advanced training with other Jewish Yogis as part of Julie Emden's Embodied Jewish Learning Network <https://embodiedjewishlearning.org/>

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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TALMUD STUDY GROUP

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

No previous experience necessary.
For more information, email Neil Litt at neillitt@outlook.com.

Meeting ID: 839 8013 7869
Password: 643177

Robin L. Wallack
Broker Associate

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AT TJC!

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Judy Eulin

(609) 921-0332

princetonbridgegame@gmail.com

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Now collecting for August-September 2026.

Please do not bring in older receipts.

Receipts with discounts cannot be accepted.

Thank you!

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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.

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- ☐ Adult Education Fund
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- ☐ Chavurat Chesed Fund
- ☐ General Fund
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- ☐ Hazzan's Music Fund
- ☐ Irving N. Rabinowitz Conversational Hebrew Fund
- ☐ Israel and Us Fund
- ☐ Jess Epstein Lunch & Learn Fund
- ☐ Jewish Center Refugee Fund
- ☐ Jewish Center Women
- ☐ 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
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- ☐ Rabbi Tucker Life Cycle Fund
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- ☐ Sapoff Art Purchase & Restoration Fund
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- ☐ Shabbat Luncheon Fund
- ☐ Silver Circle Scholarship Fund
- ☐ Social Action Fund
- ☐ Szanto-Kutin Library
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- ☐ Youth and Family Programs

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

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