Welcome to 5782 at The Jewish Center
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OCTOBER 2021 ZOOM LINKS
(Please make sure to have the latest version of Zoom.)

**Erev Shabbat Services – 6:30 PM**
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29,
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87291060427
Meeting ID: 872 9106 0427
Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

**Shabbat morning services – 9:30 AM**
October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88269806463
Meeting ID: 882 6980 6463
Dial by your location +1 924 436 2866 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 882 6980 6463

**Sunday Morning Minyan – 9:00 AM**
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83022811888
Meeting ID: 830 2281 1888
Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 830 2281 1888

**Wednesday Morning Minyan – 7:00 AM**
October 6, 13, 20, 27
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87179096253
Meeting ID: 871 7909 6253
Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 871 7909 6253

Live Stream our services:
www.thejewishcenter.org.
Click on the button (shown right).
If we are live, just click the play button.
Cameras go live 10-15 minutes before services begin.
www.livestream.com/tjc
Bless the Pets
Bring your pet and get a blessing for the New Year.

Sunday, October 24
11:45 a.m.

Psst...He’s already inviting his friends....

RSVP required.
info@thejewishcenter.org
MESSAGE from the Rabbi

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

Tishre is a special month in the Jewish calendar because it is filled with wonderful Jewish holidays. In fact, more of the month of Tishre is spent in sacred, holy time than in regular time. This year September coincided with the Hebrew month of Tishrei so now by October we are ready to create a sense of routine Jewish life. September was a time of gathering and of new beginnings. We celebrated the New Year, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Simchat Torah and Shabbat together. We opened religious school in person, and we tried to bring some normalcy back to our lives. Still, we continue to figure out how to navigate the world while dealing with the continued pandemic.

It used to be that people, or clergy, joked that they love the Hebrew month of Heshvan, often called Mar Heshvan, because Shabbatot are the only Jewish holidays in the month. That changed however in the 1980s when Ethiopian Jews were reunited with their brothers and sisters in Israel. It was then that the Jewish world learned about the Ethiopian Jewish holiday of Sigd, which falls on the 29th of the month of Heshvan and celebrates accepting Torah and yearning for the Temple. It commemorates the first time that God and Moses communicated. I am thrilled to have another Jewish holy day, and am also happy that it is at the end of the month.

I hope and pray that in the new month and year, you will come back to TJC to learn with us, to pray with us, and to do social justice with us. I look forward to learning more about you (and to that end I hope that you will come to one of our forthcoming Meet-and-Greets), to my class Judaism On One Foot about the fundamentals of Jewish life, to my Spa for The Soul program and more. Or just reach out and let’s have coffee so that we can get to know each other over the coming year.

Hol Sahmeah – Happy Routine Month – Hope to see you on Shabbat, at other times, or around Prineton!

Rabbi Andrea Merow

Heshvan and Beyond:

RSVP to:
info@thejewishcenter.org by October 29
As I write this, I have just learned that my mother is in end-stage Alzheimer’s. She has lived a long and very productive life, to be sure, but are we ever really prepared for the death of a loved one?

As a cantor, I am called on to walk through loss with many dear congregants. It is an intimate and holy honor, and one of the most meaningful parts of my work. Jewish laws and customs around death are both practical and powerful. They provide a physical and spiritual guide for both the bereaved and for the community, and we can draw on these laws and customs for strength and guidance.

My mother is in a twilight moment, still caught between this world and the next. During this time, I am so grateful to my sisters, to my wife Deborah, to the extraordinary hospice team, and to the entire TJC community, who have been so supportive.

And in my private moments, when I am alone, these words are giving me particular comfort:

\[
\text{Min hameitzar, karati ya, anani vamerchav ya.} \\
\text{Adonai li, lo ira, mah yaâ€™aseh li adam.} \\
\text{Psalm 118:5-6}
\]

\[
\text{In distress I called to Adonai} \\
\text{who answered by setting me free.} \\
\text{Adonai is with me, I shall not fear; what can mortals do to me?} \\
\text{(Siddur Sim Shalom)}
\]

Traditionally, we recite Psalm 118 as part of Hallel. In that context, the words convey a sense of joy and liberation – a sense of having come through the dark times, with God’s help. But these same words are often part of our prayers during times of crisis, when we are still finding our way and resolution seems far away.

I would like to share a beautiful new setting of Min Hameitzar written by Deborah Sachs Mintz, an extraordinary musician and prayer leader, who is a fourth-year rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary. You will also see and hear Rabbi Yosef Goldman (Nancy Lewis’ son-in-law) lending gorgeous harmonies, and our dear friend, Joey Weisenberg, on mandolin.

This recording is bringing me much consolation during a difficult time. Here’s a link to the song: https://tinyurl.com/bmc5mc8r

May we all find both comfort and joy in this music, and in the words of our tradition. And may we continue to support each other, through good times and bad.

Cantor Jeff
MESSAGE from the President
Alexandra Bar-Cohen
president@thejewishcenter.org

In response to the positivity and excitement surrounding "Coming Back Home" to The Jewish Center, the following is my address to the congregation from Kol Nidre. These High Holidays are the first in a long time that I am not with my entire family. My parents are proudly attending over Livestream. Our eldest is beginning service as a lone soldier in the IDF. Our middle son is starting his studies at Kenyon College.

My youngest is that beautiful redhead over there sitting with her abba, Barak, who likes to be referred to as the First Gentleman, by the way. I am grateful for their love and support which has made it possible for me to accept the honor of serving The Jewish Center as your President.

It feels so great to come back home to TJC. And I know a thing or two about homecomings. At age 21 I moved to Berlin, Germany just before the holidays. This was pre-internet, pre-cellphones. I didn't even think about finding a place to worship until Rosh Hashanah was upon me. I had, however, explored the city and stumbled across the Neue Synagogue in the former Jewish Quarter, an ornate building with a gilded dome you could see for miles.

Lucky for me, the sign out front indicated that renovations that had begun after the fall of the Berlin Wall had just been completed.

How wonderful to start the new year in a newly restored house of worship. But when I arrived for services on Erev Rosh Hashana I found myself completely alone.

Construction had ended, but the community had not yet returned. Since then I have successfully attended services in the far flung places we've lived: at the Bogorashov synagogue in Tel Aviv, the Spanish Synagogue in Prague, the Roth Center for Jewish Life at Dartmouth, and my favorite place of all: The Jewish Center of Princeton.

Whether you are here in the sanctuary, or out there in zoomland, it is clear that our community HAS returned. Welcome Home.

Rabbi Merow, you are beginning a new year in your new home. It is wonderful having you as our spiritual leader—and the ruach, kavanah (intention), and connection you bring. Getting to know each other is a journey, not an event and I know we have much to look forward to together, in 5782 and beyond.

Pulling off this year’s High Holidays amid so much uncertainty required extraordinary effort. Todah Rabah to our clergy, office and maintenance staff, lay leadership and volunteers.

There are so many people who played a crucial role that we decided to thank them all in a congregational email rather than trying to do it from the Bimah.

But one group of people I must thank tonight is every one of you. As challenging as it was for those of us planning the High Holidays, they couldn't have happened successfully without the respect, patience, flexibility and kindness with which you showed up. What a way to start the New Year - as a covenantal community - one in which we think less about what we get for our High Holiday ticket, and more about the meaning of coming together.

That said, I know that we aren’t all here tonight. Many of us have personally lost loved ones since the last time we were together. And certainly we have communally lost so much in the passing of Rabbi Adam Feldman, Rabbi David Silverman, Rabbi Bob Goldenberg, Gil Gordon, and many other distinguished and beloved members of our community, Zichronam Livracha.

I know many of us wondered what would it be like to reenter this sacred space without seeing beloved congregants in their usual stations, or hearing Rabbi Feldman remind us that the holidays aren’t early this year - they are right on time. Memorializing those we lost is an important healing step our community will take this year. But we can also honor their memory by taking up where they left off. What can each of us do to carry on their legacy?

Each of us is an important member of our community. Each of us makes a difference.

This past Sunday exemplified the Kehilah/the Community that we are. The grounds were filled with people of all ages learning, singing, davening, and building. It was the first day of Religious School with over 150 students. We built a triumvirate of Sukkahs. We cleared and planted in the Exploratory Trail. We collected bags of groceries for our food drive. And we sounded the shofar from our rooftop.

Our campus was alive with ruach.

I talk a lot about Kehilah, or community, here at TJC. But it’s not just me. When you were asked the question “what do you most love about The Jewish Center” at the meet and greets this summer the most common reply by far was “Community.’ Community is defined as a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. True, we are all Jews, living near each other, and we all belong to TJC. But that is not enough. Community isn’t just about belonging to The Jewish Center. It’s about what we do together that makes belonging matter.

Malta is thriving town in upstate NY. It used to be unremarkable but now it is a mecca for semiconductor and nanotechnology manufacturing. - This feat was achieved by the community's first ever town planner, Heather Atkinson, and her out-of-the-box initiative: She replaced stop signs with roundabouts. And those roundabouts became the smart, sustainable design that facilitated traffic flow and thus literally kept the community moving and growing, attracting investors, people and progress.
Malta and its roundabouts reveal how timely, innovative action can transform an entire community. Heather, my dear childhood friend who died tragically at the age of 38, not long after her roundabouts became reality, epitomized the quote from Hillel in Pirke Avot which speaks to the urgency with which we need to do our good work: “And if not now, when?”

YOU could be the next Heather Atkinson of our community. What is YOUR vision for the future of TJC? What can YOU do to make it happen?

This is not a rhetorical question. For we are in a transformational time at TJC. The pandemic accelerated trends already affecting religious institutions. We have a whole new landscape to navigate in understanding the evolving role that synagogues will play in the lives of their congregants. We know that we cannot return to the way things used to be. But that isn't necessarily a bad thing. There are great opportunities for us ahead as we learn how to thrive in this new world. We can do things as a community that we were never possible before. But we cannot do this without you. I am proud of the board we built this year. We made a concerted effort to combine the experience and wisdom of longtime congregants with those who are serving for the first time ever. 30% of the board is composed of ‘first timers’ - people who decided to step up because they know that NOW is the best of all times to get involved in the shaping of our future.

Hachutzah means outside in Hebrew. When I use it at The Jewish Center I mean outside the building, but also outside of the BOX. Hachutzah is an initiative that grew out of the depths of covid, when our building was closed but our hearts were wide open. The lessons of the pandemic were clear - people could zoom anywhere in the world for Jewish content. The only way for the local shul to survive would be to double down on in-person, local connection.

But with the pandemic keeping us physically apart, how should we begin this ingathering of our virtual exiles - how can we come together again, safely and socially distant on our campus? The answer hit when we had more people outside on our front lawn for the lighting of the chanukkiah than had been inside the sanctuary at the last live Shabbat Service. It was clear how much we wanted to be together. It was cold and dark, there was no place to sit, yet people lingered. It would have been the perfect time to light up a bonfire. And now we can. There are many elements to Hachutzah in the pipeline and on the wish list, but a few that you can see outside now are the Adirondack chairs, a firepit, and the evolving Exploratory Trail.

But the chairs are not just chairs, the firepit is not just a firepit, the trail is not just a trail.

They are Community. Rather, they are how we, together, build community. Each of these elements allows us to do more, to be more, together.

Rabbi Merow and I sat in those chairs with Christopher Morgan, Princeton’s Police Chief, to talk about rising antisemitism and how our two communities can work together against hate and intolerance. The firepit will warm us well into the fall as we enjoy creative programming like Unwind the Week and Cocktails in the Courtyard. The Exploratory Trail doubles as an outdoor minyan space, a place for clubs and classes. Imagine trail markers with rotating exhibits tied to our holidays, Torah study, Jewish and Israel culture. The possibilities for Hachutzah and community are endless.

In the past several months I have witnessed so many wonderful ACTS OF COMMUNITY that speak to who we are and how we want to be as we emerge from this transitional time. Here are just a few:

We are THAT community, the one where the Rabbi jumps out of the spotlight on a recent Friday night service to say the Shema with two little girls in the back of the tent because we are a kehilah, that doesn't just talk about it, but engages with our youth.

We are THAT community, the one that made six rounds of calls to its congregants - because we are a kehilah that keeps watch over its members in the worst of times, but also in the best of times.

We are THAT community, the one that raised funds for a bimah renovation in just six short weeks, because we are a kehilah that wants everyone to have access to the most sacred space in our sanctuary.

We are THAT community, the one in which a highschool junior does the landscape design for our Exploratory Trail and recruits her entire family and many Religious School friends to roll up their sleeves alongside her because we are a kehilah that values intergenerational cooperation.

We are THAT community, the one at which a congregant showed up with his pickup truck and his grandkids to donate and plant shrubs along our trail because we are a kehilah that is generous and giving.

We are THAT community, the one in which a congregant so warmly received a young family that they were inspired to volunteer in our New Family Mentor program in his memory, because we are a kehilah that is genuinely welcoming and pays it forward.

If what I've described to you resonates, if I've described a place that you want to call your spiritual home, then please donate to our Annual Fund. Whatever your point for connection to TJC is, supporting the Annual Fund makes it possible.

We made a conscious decision this year not to send out our usual glossy Annual Fund brochure because we want to truly live our Jewish values, among them Ba’al Tashchit, do not destroy, and we recognize that as beautiful as they are, they invariably end up going straight to the landfill.

In the next several weeks we will be making calls to talk with you about why your Annual Fund support is so crucial this year.

I look forward to speaking with many of you - and thanking you for your commitment to our community in this transformative year.

But most of all, remember, this beautiful community doesn't happen on its own.

What would it look like, if every day at TJC were as alive with ruach as it was this past Sunday?

We need you to make this a reality.

Come join us, let’s build our community together.

Gmar chatimah Tova
May you be inscribed in the Book of Life

Alexandra Bar-Cohen
Now that we have survived the holidays, it’s time to look forward to the rest of the year. Schools have started. Football season is underway. Baseball season is winding down. The weather will start changing soon and hopefully, we will have an easier winter, unlike last year. No more plagues, cicadas, weather issues or anything else that keeps coming onto our Princeton playing field.

This year, Gloria and I have 2 Seniors in school. Not sure how that timing worked out but I can figure that out without your help. Four years ago, I started stressing out, convinced that both the graduations would fall on the same day but... good news, they will not. Let me tell you a little more about our seniors.

Stephanie is a Senior graduating from Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, this December with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree (BFA) in Musical Theater. Stephanie is also President of Studio Box, a comedy improv group that performs to over 500 students two Friday nights a month. She was chosen into the group as a freshman and has risen to the top of the organization. A few former students of that group perform or work at 2nd city in Chicago. Stephanie loves to perform and has been in multiple plays and acted in a variety of dramas as well. She has worked in the admission department as well giving tours of campus. Her love for theater transcends everything else and has become a wonderful cook enjoying her air fryer on many occasions. Her hope is to get connected to a theater group, national tour or even perform in Hamilton. All connections are welcome! I can’t wait to see her walk down the aisle in December and begin her career in theater. I am already crying just writing this.

Lauren is a Senior at Miami Arts Charter in the Wynwood section of Miami. Lauren is also hoping to pursue a career in Musical theater and is heavily involved in her college application process. Lauren is in the top jazz vocal group, has been chosen as this year’s student conductor, is President of chorus, in National Honor Society, performs with Hazamir, the International Teen Choir and for the 4th year in a row, has been chosen as a Teen Ambassador at the Broward Center for the Performing arts. She just auditioned for the Florida All-State chorus as well. I am so happy she takes after her mother! Lauren is a wonderful student, great sister and friend and is looking forward to going away to college next year. I have offered a few choices in New Jersey for her consideration. All connections are welcome here as well! I also can’t wait to see her walk down the aisle in May at her graduation. I will need to save as many tears as possible this year.

It’s quite a journey that they, and all your children, have been on. Pandemic. Virtual School. Friends online only. I am truly amazed at the resiliency of our daughters who also add to that, having a dad who is working out of town. I can’t write enough in this article, or as large as the Internet is, as to how much love and admiration I have for my wife who is dealing with things on the ground in Florida every day. She continues to amaze me with her energy and love for our daughters. I am truly looking forward to the day she can come and live up here in NJ with me as both of our daughters move onto their next phase in life.

Two Seniors. That is what the rest of this year will be about for me and my family. But with two graduations coming up, it should be everything a parent has hoped and wished for.

Wishing you and your families all the success possible this year and beyond.

Joel
Dear Congregants:

Earlier today, I met Sharon and her family. They put me into a cardboard box with some fruit and vegetation. (I know you've read about eating through one apple, two pears and some pie, but I can assure you that that is NOT what I did...) I will say, however, when the kids visited the Sukkah Village and were treated to ice cream by the Rabbi, I *did* get some of that. When Sharon left for the evening, I snuck into the school building and took over her computer. I wanted the opportunity to express my gratitude and thanks to The Jewish Center community. I am a Wooly Bear caterpillar and have been hanging around the Jewish Center during the High Holy Day season. I learned a lot by watching all of you, and wanted to share my observations.

My first observation was togetherness. There were so many of you in tents, singing, laughing, praying together. It was great to see such a beautiful community. I learned a few new words from all of your together time - I learned *Shana Tova* and *Mo'adim l'Simcha*. *Shana Tova* means "Happy New Year," and "Mo'adim l'Simcha" translates into "May your times be happy." These are great greetings, and I think the latter should be said year around...but I'm just a caterpillar.

My second observation was joy. From under my shrubs, I was able to see so many people smiling. There was happiness everywhere. There was joy under the tents, there was joy under the huts that were built - I think they were called *sukkot*. There was joy as everyone sang something the Rabbi called Hallel, and then later that day, a bunch of kids got together and sang MORE Hallel! It was such a pleasure to hear.

My third observation was learning. There was a school here on each Sunday in September. The kids were running around, making projects, playing games, learning Hebrew, and making new friends. I overheard several families introducing themselves as being new to the area. I noticed that people in this community are very welcoming of others, and it really warmed my fuzzy little heart.

I learned that The Jewish Center is a really special place, and mainly because each of you make it so. Each of you brings a special part of yourself to this community, and while there are many differences between each of you, you all come together and find togetherness and joy. And in that togetherness and joy, you learn and grow.

I can't wait to see what happens when I come out of hibernation, and I can't possibly think of a better place to grow into a tiger moth.

*Mo'adim l'Simcha*,

Harry

---

**LOOK WHAT JUST HAPPENED!**

The results of are some of our kids' planting with Wilma Solomon in our TJC Garden!

Our Chesed students have planted potatoes which might be ready in time for lakes! They want to continue beyond this season which is very gratifying.

Looking forward to Chesed and Sulam students who will join next season!
We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support The Jewish Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through their generous contributions:

**HIGH HOLIDAY FLOWERS FUND**
In memory of
Matthew Shavel, Gloria Shavel, Marrye Shavel Hudis, Rabbi Adam Feldman
from the Shavel Family

GENERAL FUND
from the Garber Family

In honor of
Eve Coulson and Nelson Obus on the marriage of their son Eli to Emily
from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman, Helaine and Hanan Isaacs
Roslyn and David Vanderbilt on the birth of their first grandchild, Hannah Rose
from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
Rabbi Bob Friedman, who officiated at the naming ceremony for Hannah Rose Shapiro
from David and Roslyn Vanderbilt
Ginny Mason and Bobby Willig on the birth of their newest granddaughter
from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
Khaled Ahmed on the birth of his daughter
from Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman
All the staff at The Jewish Center for their extraordinary efforts during the pandemic
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

Harry Cummins on his special birthday
from Doris and Herman Gluck

In memory of
Gil Gordon
Dr. Rabbi Robert Goldenberg
from Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman, David and Donna Gabai
Ruben Souroujon d'Alcala
from David and Alison Politziner, Linda and Art Meisel, Bernie and Judi Fleitman, Helaine and Hanan Isaacs, Theodore Holzsager
from Lawrence and Lisa Kramer
Naomi Wahrman
from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs, Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman, Jeremy and Jen Black, Dana and Peter Langerman, Jose Mattiella, Marc and Marcie Citron, Stacy Cheifetz Marino
from Ina and Linda Cheifetz, Lois Ruth Seidler
from Donna and David Gabai, Elaine Merkowitz
from Jeremy and Jen Black

**ADULT EDUCATION FUND**
In honor of
Dee Silver on her special birthday
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Moshe and Judith Margolin, Steven Sheriff and Michele Alperin, Dr. Rabbi Robert Goldenberg
Ruben Souroujon d'Alcala
from Steven Sheriff and Michele Alperin, Bernie and Judi Fleitman, Ellie Schweber, Jeremy and Jen Black
Dr. Rabbi Robert Goldenberg
from Myra Weiner, David and Roslyn Vanderbilt
Elaine Yaffe
from Deborah Yaffe and Alastair Bellany
Bunny Bloom
from Jeremy and Jen Black

ANNUAL FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Louise Sandburg and Peter Smith, Stephen Sirkin, Lewis and Lynn Coopersmith, Maryann Yarin, Ruben Souroujon d’Alcala
from Ken Neidorf, Rabbi Adam Feldman
from Adam and Michal Scheer

ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
In honor of
Eve Coulson and Nelson Obus on the marriage of their son Eli
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Rick and Donna Rosenberg on their 30th Anniversary
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Lynne Ross on her special birthday
from Bernie and Judi Fleitman
Heidi Joseph on her special birthday
from Bernie and Judi Fleitman
In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Kate Avitto, Naomi and Michael Goldin
Ruben Souroujon d’Alcala
from Flora Cowen, Katherine Pease, Myra Weiner, Linda and Michael Grenis, Rick and Polly Strauss, Jeremy and Jen Black, J. Burke
Amy Zacks’ Aunt Jenn
from Linda and Art Meisel

BIMAH ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT
In memory of
Rabbi David Wolf Silverman
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Gil Gordon
from Ellie Schweber

CANTOR’S MUSIC FUND
In honor of
Cantor Jeff
from Adrienne and Richard Friedman, Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

In memory of
Naomi Wahrman
from Janet Rubin

FRAN AMIR COMMUNITY SERVICE TRIP FUND
In honor of
Barbara and Joe Schwartz on their 25th Anniversary
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

In memory of
Anthony Ullman
from Gladys Ullman

IRVING N. RABINOWITZ CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FUND
In honor of
Sandie Rabinowitz on her 90th birthday
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

ISRAELI AFFAIRS FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Howard Levy and Riva Jaffe-Levy

THE JEWISH CENTER REFUGEE FUND
from Ruth Holmes
from Linda B. Benson

In honor of
David and Alison Politziner’s special anniversary
from Linda and Art Meisel
Sally Steinberg-Brent and Dan Brent on the birth of their granddaughter Nava Brent Tescher
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Joanne Fishbane on the birth of her grandson Rhys Justice Romero
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Louise Sandburg and Peter Smith, Kathy Ales and Richard Levine
Dr. Rabbi Robert Goldenberg
from Louise Sandburg and Peter Smith
Naomi Wahrman
from Melissa Hager and Curtis Johnson

JEWSIH CENTER WOMEN FUND
In memory of
Gladys C. Weisberger
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Myra Weiner, Steven and Florence Kahn, Lewis and Barbara Gantwerk, Amy and Eran Zacks, Evy and Lenny Grossman, Adam and Michal Scheer

MARCHAND ESPIR FAMILY HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Michelle and Cary Dinitz-Sklar

PRAYERBOOK FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Simon and Melissa Pankove, Eliot and Marsha Freeman

RABBI ADAM FELDMAN MEMORIAL FUND
In honor of
Judi and Bernie Fleitman as Congregants of the Year
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Talia Feldman on her college graduation
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg

In memory of
Gil Gordon
from Scott and Charlene Borsack, Sheila Marrero, Naomi K. Eisenberger, Jeff and Robin Persky
Elaine Yaffe
from Deborah Yaffe and Alastair Bellany
Rabbi Adam Feldman
from Samantha Surrey
Marc Surrey and Freida Weiss
from Samantha Surrey

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In honor of
Rabbi Andrea Merow
from Mark and Gail Saifer, Rick and Polly Strauss, Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Randy Brett on his leadership as TJC President
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Maryann Yarin on her service to TJC
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg
from Wilma Solomon and David Goldberg
Rabbi Andrea Merow for leading uplifting and inspiring High Holiday Services
from Naomi Richman Neumann and Jerry Neumann
Rabbi Andrea Merow for your teaching and spiritual guidance
from Norma Pinkelstein
In memory of
Gil Gordon
  from Jose Matiella
Dr. Irwin Litt
  from Barbara Litt
Robert S. Kravitz, Esq.
  from Barbara Litt
Rabbi David Wolf Silverman
  from Joel Deitz and Barbara Berko,
  Bernard and Barbara Abramson,
  Naomi and Michael Goldin
Naomi Wahrman
  from Myra Weiner, Naomi Richman
  Neumann and Jerry Neumann
Sheldon Friedman
  from The Friedman Family

RABBI TUCKER LIFE CYCLE FUND
In memory of
Rabbi David Wolf Silverman
  from Leslie Gerwin and Bruce Leslie,
  Maryann Yarin
Alfred DeGiacomo
  from Wilma Solomon and
  David Goldberg
Elaine Yaffe
  from Deborah Yaffe and
  Alastair Bellany

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS FUND
In honor of
Nancy Lewis on her special birthday
  from Bernie and Judi Fleitman

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
In honor of
Ginny Mason and Bobby Willig on the
birth of their granddaughter, Banks
Benedict Willig
  from Linda Meisel
Roslyn and David Vanderbilt on the birth
of their granddaughter Hannah Rose
  from Wilma Solomon and
  David Goldberg

In memory of
Dr. David Kligman
  from Raquel Shechtel
Gil Gordon
  from Raquel Shechtel

SAPOFF ART PURCHASE & RESTORATION FUND
In memory of
Lillian Kaye
  from Daniel Brent and Sally
  Steinberg-Brent, Chavurah Aviv,
  Bernie and Judi Fleitman

SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
  from Debbie Orel and Craig Provorny
  Stanley Siegle
  from Rita Swirsky
Rabbi David Wolf Silverman
  from Jan and Lois Safer

SOCIAL ACTION FUND
In honor of
The marriage of Eli Obus to Emily DiSalle
  from Shoshana Silberman
Joyce and Clive Usiskin on their 66th
Anniversary
  from Wilma Solomon and
  David Goldberg
Linda Oppenheim on her work for Racial
Equity
  from Wilma Solomon and
  David Goldberg
Arlene Opatut on her special birthday
  from Bernie and Judi Fleitman
Joel Berger for his continuing helpfulness
  from Naomi and Michael Goldin

In memory of
Gil Gordon
  from Joan Levin, Shoshana Silberman,
  Irene Goldfarb, Sally Weisman, Joel and
  Beverly Mishkin, Cynthia and Jake Sage,
  Jan and Lois Safer

Elaine Yaffe
  from Eve Niedergang and Andy Weiss,
  Melissa Hager and Curtis Johnson
Naomi Wahrman
  from Linda and Art Meisel, Sudi
  Solomon and Marty Rosen

SOCIAL ACTION – HOUSING FUND
from Princeton United Methodist Church

TORAH REPAIR FUND
In memory of
Gil Gordon
  from Karen Shoemaker
Rabbi David Wolf Silverman
  from Lewis and Barbara Gantwerk

YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS FUND
In honor of
Alexandra Bar-Cohen on becoming TJC
President
  from Wilma Solomon and
  David Goldberg
Joan Levin on the bar Mitzvah of her
grandson Ben
  from Wilma Solomon and
  David Goldberg
Roslyn and David Vanderbilt on the birth
of their granddaughter Hannah Rose
  from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs
Ginny Mason and Bobby Willig on the
birth of their granddaughter Banks
Benedict
  from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs

In Memoriam:
We extend our deepest sympathy in remembering:

Barry David Weiss, father of Brian Weiss
Lillian Kay, sister of Meyer Sapoff
Lois Ruth Seidler, sister of Constance Marks
Naomi Wahrman, mother of Tirza Wahrman
Sheldon Friedman
KABBALAT
SHABBAT
KATAN

Please join us for Kabbalat Shabbat Katan and greet Shabbat with young families from TJC! We will sing songs, tell stories, and make new friends! Ages: K and below.

Open to the community!

OCTOBER 15
5:45 PM

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

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

Open to the community!

October 23
11:00 am

We want to hear all about it!

SHARE Your Simchas With Us!

INFO

GIVE AN EVERLASTING GIFT
Personalize a
BRICK PAVER
on our
“TJC community walkway”

Perfect for birthdays, anniversaries, b’ni mitzvah, and special occasions—

A special way to forever commemorate a loved one.

- Small brick (7.5 x 15) - $250
  four lines of text, up to 20 characters/line
- Medium brick (15 x 15) - $500
  six lines of text, up to 20 characters/line
- Large brick (15 x 22) - $750
  six lines of text, up to 30 characters/line

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

SHARE
Your Simchas With Us!

INFO
JUDAISM ON ONE FOOT

Introduction course to Judaism
lead by Rabbi Andrea Merow.
Tuesdays
7:00 p.m.

Join Rabbi Merow for this refresher Intro to Judaism course. Each class is self-contained so come to one, or all. We’ll learn in several week blocks throughout the year! Bring friends!

First three sessions:
October 12
Beginnings & Covenants
RSVP by October 11

October 19
Cliff Notes to The Bible
RSVP by October 18

October 26
Shabbat - a palace in time!
RSVP by October 25

Topics for the rest of the year include:
• Diversity of The Jewish People
• Holidays
• Intro to Ideas in Jewish Prayer
• The Holy One
• Images of God in Judaism
• We Are the People of the Book
• What is the Talmud?
• A Gastronomic People: The Why and What of Keeping Kosher
• Poetry/Philosophy and the stories of our people
• Our Connections to Israel
And more!

RSVP: info@thejewishcenter.org
Gil Gordon, A Real Mensch

Reprinted from the Jewish Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks JT Newsletter

Gil Gordon’s friends marvel at his ability to always be around when people need him—whether that means adjusting the sound system at the Jewish Center or putting in a new light bulb for a senior citizen. But despite appearances he doesn’t see volunteering as primarily a do-gooder effort, but more as an opportunity for personal growth.

He likens himself to James Garner on the “Rockford Files,” a TV detective whose wallet carried cards to represent all the different roles he might need to play. “In each of those scenarios he became a slightly different person, based on the context,” Gordon said. “For me, all these different [roles] have brought out different parts of me and allowed me to engage with different people on different issues—and that’s what makes it interesting.”

The specific projects he has taken on have been more happenstance than planned. Because he is adept at fixing things, a friend suggested helping seniors through JFCS’s Secure@Home program. “It is amazing how much difference a small repair or change makes in the life of a senior,” he said. “You can’t imagine how much difference it makes to a senior to have a light working in a stairway that would otherwise be risky walking down at night in the dark.”

“These were my first engagements, and from there, it just started growing,” Gordon said.

Eventually he became president of the Jewish Center, where, he said, “I grew a lot in the course of the two years.” And it was a leapfrog to serving the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism at the district level and now as a national board member.

Gordon’s fix-it ability also brought him to Habitat for Humanity, where he helped rehab houses in East Trenton. “The more I got into it and saw how the group worked, the more I got involved in some leadership roles,” he said.

Beyond the hands-on work, Gordon learned a lot about community development—“what the community was like, who was living there, what the consequences of an inadequate housing supply were, and how motivated the residents were to be part of the solution.”

At the Princeton Cornerstone Community Kitchen, Gordon helped free meals, with real silverware and china dishware, to 75 to 100 people on Wednesday nights at the United Methodist Church. “We’re not solving food insecurity problems in Princeton singlehandedly,” he said, “but I know for certain that this was an anchor point for their week, both socially and nutritionally.”

Also a board member, Gordon happened to learn that a dearth of feminine hygiene products was causing girls and women locally to miss school and work. He proposed an initiative that his fellow board members accepted, laying the way for a collection of more than 80,000 items distributed to area agencies.

When Gordon advises people on volunteering, he shares his own experience: “If it isn’t rewarding and interesting to you, it almost doesn’t make a difference how much good you are doing,” he tells them. Volunteering purely out of a sense of obligation or duty, where you are not growing and learning, he likens to “a job that doesn’t excite you … as opposed to something you look forward to.”

With four grandchildren close by, Gordon now has a rule that he will not take on a new volunteer role unless he drops an existing one. “Otherwise, you can’t do justice to the organizations you are trying to serve,” he said.

“I wouldn’t have traded these last 10 or 15 years for anything. [Volunteer opportunities] happened one after the other, but every one of them helped me, grew me, exposed me to different issues and different people, and gave me an opportunity to do a little bit of good.”
Mazel Tov to our B’nai Mitzvah

**Jonah Rotman • October 2, 2021**

Jonah is looking forward to being called to the Torah for his Bar Mitzvah on Oct 2nd. Jonah is currently in 8th grade at Montgomery Upper Middle School. He enjoys playing baseball on the Montgomery travel team and hockey on the travel team at ProSkate. He also enjoys spending time with family and friends, snowboarding, and fishing. For his chesed project, Jonah volunteered at Gigi’s playhouse in Hillsborough. Jonah sends his thanks to everyone at TJC who has helped him to prepare for his Bar Mitzvah.

**Alex Frank • October 9, 2021**

Alex is an eighth grader at Montgomery Upper Middle School. He enjoys a wide variety of activities, especially soccer, basketball, baseball, golf and hiking. When he is not competing or enjoying the outdoors, he likes spending time listening to music and socializing with friends. Alex is very excited for his Bar Mitzvah in October. He is grateful to his older sister Erin, whose Bat Mitzvah was in February 2018, for her guidance and editing support. That said, he still prefers to spend time with his other sister, Mochi, a two-year-old cockapoo. Alex would like to thank his TJC teachers and staff for their support and encouragement.

**Mason Neufeld • October 16, 2021**

Mason is an 8th grader at Montgomery Upper Middle School and attended The Jewish Center Nursery school from the ages of 3-5. He enjoys playing baseball and basketball. Mason participated in volunteering at the Princeton Nursery School as part of his Chesed project. Mason lives with his parents Leah and Shawn and his 17 year old brother Adam. He is following in his Dad and older brother's footsteps by becoming a bar mitzvah at TJC. Mason would like to thank his religious school teachers, Sharon Diamonstein, Nancy Lewis, Cantor Jeff and Rabbi Merow for preparing him for his Bar Mitzvah and, Rabbi Feldman of blessed memory, for his influence in Mason’s religious studies.

**Ethan Shlossberg • October 30, 2021**

Ethan is a truly unique spirit! He equally loves both math and reading, and does both at lightning speed! He is most at home in a library, he was the camp librarian two years in a row at his sleep away camp. He also loves to code, and spends many hours learning different languages. He is a 2nd degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and a member of Princeton Boychoir and local Boy Scout troop. He also enjoys travelling, he is going to Peru in the spring of 2022, and hiking and especially talking with his younger sister, Emma, and friends about YouTube and video games. He has a rye sense of humor and likes to read the New Yorker occasionally, especially the comics! We are very proud of you Ethan!
Mazel Tov...On Your Great News!

To Eve Coulson and Nelson Obus on the recent marriage of their son Eli Obus to Emily DiSalle
To Roslyn and David Vanderbilt on the arrival of their first grandchild Hannah Rose Shapiro
To Ginny Mason and Bobby Willig on the birth of their 7th granddaughter, Banks Benedict Willig
To Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman who are delighted to announce the marriage of their grandson Ben Edelman to Jenny Kauffman and to Sherry Edelman Meyer and Gerard Meyer for their nephew Ben's marriage to Jenny Kauffman
To Ed Flax & Dee Silver who celebrated their 57th Wedding Anniversary on September 6th
To Allyson Maron, daughter of Debbie Orel and stepdaughter of Craig Provorny on her engagement to Jason Kessler
To Harry Cummins on his special birthday
To Dee Silver on her special birthday
To Lynne Ross on her special birthday
To Heidi Joseph on her special birthday
To Arlene Opatut on her special birthday
To Rick and Donna Rosenberg on their 30th Anniversary

To Barbara and Joe Schwartz on their 25th Anniversary
To David and Alison Politziner’s special anniversary
To Joyce and Clive Usiskin on their 66th Anniversary
To Linda Oppenheim on her work for Racial Equity
To Maryann Yarin on her service to TJC
To Lori & Ed Simon who after a long journey across the Country this Summer and a month-long adventure through Alaska, are settling into their new home for the next 2 years in San Rafael, California
To Martha Friedman who has become the president of the Princeton Adult School
To Rabbi Andrea Merow for leading uplifting and inspiring High Holiday Services
To Rabbi Andrea Merow for your teaching and spiritual guidance
To all the staff at The Jewish Center for their extraordinary efforts during the pandemic

As of 9/17/21

MEMBERSHIP

The Jewish Center is the place to be in Princeton and Mercer County!
Tell your friends and let’s grow our synagogue together.

Contact the office for more information or email us at info@thejewishcenter.org
All communications are via email. If you are NOT on our email list, please email us at info@thejewishcenter.org

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**October 2021**

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Tzedek, tzedek tirdof is a command, 'Justice, justice, you will pursue.' The mission of The Jewish Center's Social Action Committee is to provide specific and substantive ways to fulfill justice and do the work of tikkun olam. Committee members bring their passion, knowledge, and engagement with the community-at-large to The Jewish Center, leading food and blood drives, workshops to examine racism, a thriving garden, supporting affordable housing in the community, volunteering at the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and the Cornerstone Community Kitchen, helping to resettle refugees, and working to make TJC more sustainable. For more info, email Jenny and Dana at socialaction@thejewish-center.org.

Bible BaBoker
Saturdays | 8:45 a.m.

Bible BaBoker is a diverse community and carries on the Jewish tradition of Torah study in an open and respectful atmosphere. We strive for discussions based on reading Torah, other Jewish texts, and additional relevant resources from ancient to modern sources. Participants with a variety of backgrounds and beliefs deepen our understanding of Judaism, share insights and opinions, extract and develop wisdom, and consider our purpose in life, ethical principles to live by, and ways to be better human beings.

Prior Torah knowledge or background is not necessary and new participants are always welcome. Study with us each week or whenever you can make it! We look forward to learning together.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87570201257pwd=SncvMTMvNkJOQkIcGWWJrdDBFMlp2dz09
To be added to the BBB mailing list or for questions, contact Michael Goldin at mmgold18@yahoo.com.
Mindful Prayer / Meditation Mincha

led by Ruth Goldston

October 2, 16, 30 • 4:00 p.m. • Via Zoom

The Shabbat afternoon service, Mincha, is a wonderful time to slow down and savor your prayer experience. We use mindfulness meditation techniques to focus on words, texts and ideas associated with both the service and next week’s Torah reading. In so doing, you will have the opportunity to discover the richness of silence, and to deepen your appreciation of the many layers of meaning in the liturgy. You will leave feeling relaxed, refreshed and centered as you start the new week.

Even if you’ve never tried mindfulness or meditation before (or if you’ve tried and you think you’ve “failed”), you are welcome to join us.

Open to the Community!

Ruth Goldston is a long-time congregant, as well as a psychologist in private practice in Princeton. She has used meditation and mindfulness techniques successfully with her clients for many years, and has drawn on them to create meaningful prayer experiences for participants in TJC’s Havurah Minyan.

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

The Jewish Center is a non-profit organization whose policy is to not deny membership or education to any person based on financial need.
Mazel Tov to... TJC's Inaugural

Youth Programming Board

Our community is equally ecstatic & proud to have these great teens leading the way for the next generation of Jewish adults!

Zoe Nuland
Outreach Coordinator

Jake Richter
Israel Engagement Coordinator

Luna Bar-Cohen
Social Action & Tikkun Olam Coordinator

Sam Winn
Programming Committee

Jamin Nuland
Programming Committee
The Jewish Center is home to a treasure trove of people. In our new column, Synagogue Spotlight, we will highlight one member or couple each month, giving us insight into the wonderful lives of some of our members. This month, we’re sharing all about Sandi Rabinowitz!

To say that Sandie Rabinowitz is multifaceted is an underestimation if we look at her experiences as a volunteer, her various jobs at nonprofits, wife, and mother. But Sandie says that Judaism was always part of her life. She attended Hebrew school five days a week, spent a year in Yiddish school, collected money for Palestine, and had an Orthodox bat mitzvah Friday night, which meant giving a talk to the congregation.

As a teen Sandie became frum (very observant) under the influence of the Hashomer Hatzair youth movement, where “we used to eat, live, and breathe Zionism and Judaism.” Besides weekly meetings, she and her friends solicited donations for Israel at stage doors of theaters and on the subway, where they made speeches while holding an Israeli flag. She was also camper, first-aid counselor, arts and crafts director, and cook at the movement’s Camp Moshava.

Two weeks past her 21st birthday, Sandie married Irv Rabinowitz, a graduate student in astrophysics at Princeton University. Irv developed a serious interest in computing and subsequently took a job at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and Sandie worked as a proofreader and then research associate at the Educational Testing Service.

In the mid-fifties the Rabinowitzes joined the Jewish Center. “It was small and very friendly,” Sandie says. Early on at TJC she volunteered in the library and taught Hebrew reading to adults.

In 1960 Sandie and Irv moved to Glenview Drive in West Windsor, a neighborhood set up for integration: two-thirds white and one-third black. This neighborhood is now multicultural. For her children, Sandie says, “It was a wonderful childhood; all 30 children of all ages played together and never noticed the color of anybody’s skin, literally.” Since April 2020, weather permitting, they meet weekly out of doors for a happy hour.

In 1963, Irv was invited to set up the first computer center in the city of Kanpur, India, and Sandie and their six-year-old daughter Sarah went along. “It was quite an adventure, and it had a permanent impact on my life. … I learned that people are basically the same wherever you live. It doesn’t matter whether your culture is different, how you dress or what you eat, you will find people who share your values, who are idealistic and ethical,” Sandie says. Their daughter Rachel joined their family while they were in India.

Having served as president of Junior Hadassah in Queens before she married, Sandie got very involved in the Princeton chapter and served as its president from 1971 to 1973.

To raise money for Hadassah, Sandie used one of the skills she picked up in India: she made an Indian lunch for women and men. Upon tasting her two chutneys, someone suggested she start a chutney business, and she did. “I went as far as I could without redoing my kitchen,” she recalls.

In August 1976, the year their daughter Sarah was coincidentally doing a junior year abroad in Israel, Irv was offered a one-year appointment teaching at the Technion in English. Sandie recalls the trip fondly except for the delivery of their sea shipment when the driver refused to carry it. They were in India.

When the Rabinowitzes returned home in 1977, Sandie became vice chair of the United Jewish Federation. “I loved it and was good at fundraising and people,” she says. “I was concerned that we were not recruiting people who gave under $200, so I started the telethon.”

In 1978, based on her experience as Hadassah president, Sandie was offered the job of administrator at The Jewish Center. Her work ranged from straightening out the prayer books to counseling members on bar mitzvah and supervising the secretary and custodian and so forth. “I’m very diligent, and I left meticulous notes on everything: we are reinventing the wheel all the time. I think I got the place in working order. One of my big accomplishments was prorating vacation pay for part-timers.” She moved on in 1982.

In 1986, when Sarah and Arnie were in Israel for two years, Sarah asked Irv to take a sabbatical and come to Israel for another year, which they did. Sandie attended a class at Haifa University in Yiddish literature, took a 7 a.m. art class in the Hadar, and was part of a unique book group. And this time their Haifa apartment was on the ground floor!

As congregants, Sandie and Irv always went to adult education classes, and for 10 years after he died, she was a Friday night and Sunday morning regular. Then she moved to Saturday morning and only attended Friday night when Cantor Jeff Warschauer did something special. And she is part of the Lunch Crew that prepares the Shabbat congregational lunch.

Under the chaplaincy of Rabbi David Silverman, Sandie started visiting Jewish patients, sometimes having long conversations with them. “I felt like I had to give back to the hospital where I nearly died. I loved it, and I miss it,” she says. “Now the pandemic has changed our lives. Thank goodness for Zoom.”

Synagogue Spotlight is a joint project by TJC members and journalists Lisa Jacknow and Michele Alperin. Each month they will take turns writing about fellow congregants to help us learn more about one another. This article was written by Michele.

Lisa lives in Princeton with her husband Bret and their two sons, Gabriel and Cooper. She is Founding Editor/Writer of the monthly online magazine Princeton Perspectives. Michele lives in Princeton with her husband, Steven Shepherd and has written for NJ Jewish News, US1, and Community News Service. Her son, Jacob, and his wife, Bina, live in Rockville, MD, with their children, Nava, Hannah, and Noam. Her daughter, Aliza, lives in the Manayunk neighborhood of Philadelphia.
Save the Date

Rabbi Andrea Merow
INSTALLATION WEEKEND
MARCH 25-27, 2022

info@thejewishcenter.org
609.921.0100
JCW greatly appreciates the number of congregants who made a contribution to the New Years card project for 5782. Your generosity allows New Years cards to be sent to the entire congregation. If you were in a position to participate this year we thank you and if this opportunity came at an inconvenient time or slipped by you, no worries, your support will be just as meaningful in the future.

We would like to acknowledge the following people who helped prepare the New Years cards for mailing: Honey Rosenberg, Roberta Sternthal, Ray Kaufman, Lisa Jacknow, Leslie Schwartz, Rachael Cooper and Cynthia Neufeld, as well as, Roni Garrison and Joel Berger.

They say it takes a village and it's very true because all of you were the village that brought this project to fruition. Many thanks to you all!

Lauren and Claude

NOSH & DROSH was very fortunate to have Ellen Pristach facilitate Part 2 of her presentation “Creating Memories... Holocaust Art and Poetry.” The artwork and prose that Ellen shared were extremely moving. Ellen, you make a difference every time you are our guest facilitator and we appreciate the time and commitment you make to bringing NOSH & DROSH such meaningful programming.

We are excited about the upcoming NOSH & DROSH meetings and hope that you will join us on November 18th, the perfect date, for Rabbi Merow to start the new year as our guest facilitator. Please rsvp so that you will receive the zoom link with which to log on to the meeting.

If we don't “see” you on zoom this month hopefully you will be able to participate at another time.

With gratitude for you all,

Lauren and Claude

NOSH AND DROSH is a monthly program featuring guest facilitators and supported by Jewish Center Women (JCW). We hope that you will be able to join us often. Please save these upcoming dates for NOSH & DROSH:

October 21- Rabbi Merow is our facilitator

November 18

December 16
October 19: Evy Grossman’s *Hidden in Berlin: A Holocaust Memoir*

Evy Grossman (long-time TJC congregant) has graciously agreed to share slides and lead a discussion about her book *Hidden in Berlin*. In the heart of Berlin, my father survived the Holocaust by hiding in a small room for 27 months. In the suburbs of Berlin, my mother survived by working as a maid for a family who entertained Nazis; this same family protected her with food, shelter and false identity papers. *Hidden in Berlin*, a Holocaust Memoir, is their story.

Lilo was just a teenager when the Nazis took away her mother and father in September 1942. She never saw them again. A year later, she received another painful blow when her brother Hans was taken too. She was now alone at 19 years old in a dangerous and brutal world. Until she heard one familiar voice that called her name, and saved her life. Meanwhile, her boyfriend Ernst was hiding in a small room with his parents, doing all he could to ensure their survival, even when violent explosions and the possibility of exposure threatened to take their lives. They remained hidden for 27 months, but sadly it was only Ernst and his mother who emerged from the shelter after the war. Ernst and Lilo eventually marry, re-locate to America, create a new life, and have a daughter who is the author of this book. This deeply saddening yet touching memoir is not only about the horrific Nazi regime and how it affected both Lilo and Ernst but it is also a memoir to recognize and thank the heroic people who put themselves in danger to save their lives. Without them, we wouldn't have the opportunity to read their important story.

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

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

*COMING SOON!*

**November 16** -- *Florence Adler Swims Forever* by Rachel Beanland
**December 21** -- *Cousins and Strangers* by Leah Hager Cohen
**January 18** -- *Akin* by Emma Donoghue
TJC College Connection

- Do you have a child heading to college?
- Would you love them to receive a Chanukah box from TJC?
- Email us their name, mailing address and email address and we will take it from there.
- Email to info@thejewishcenter.org and put College Box in the Subject line
**Intercongregational Program on Affordable Housing**

October 3rd, 5pm, sign-up

New Jersey is one of the most residentially segregated states in the nation. Local experts will discuss how this came about and why affordable housing is an important and court-mandated solution to this inequity. For additional details, click here for *Town Topics* article.

To receive a Zoom link for this program, email linda.oppenheim@gmail.com.

Speakers include:

**Carl Bisgaier** lead counsel in the first two New Jersey Supreme Court Mount Laurel cases and is a real estate and affordable housing attorney

**Douglas Massey** Princeton University sociologist and lead author of *Climbing Mount Laurel: The Struggle for Affordable Housing and Social Mobility in an American Suburb*

**Dietra Chamberlain** resident of Ethel R. Lawrence Homes in Mount Laurel since December 2004. The Ethel Lawrence Homes are named for the Mount Laurel activist who organized a 1969 petition to the Mount Laurel zoning board to permit the development of affordable garden apartments and was a plaintiff in both cases, but died in 1994, six years before the first units were completed.

**Peter Buchsbaum** moderator, is a retired New Jersey Superior Court judge, of counsel to Lanza and Lanza in Flemington, and court master in six Mount Laurel cases where he “advises the court on the appropriateness of a proposed affordable plan, advises towns, and helps settle cases.” He is a Har Sinai congregant.
This month we want to introduce you to a fabulous family that recently moved to Pennington and joined TJC – the Boxers. Kim and Bill joined TJC in September with their blended family of five children: Julia, Dylan, Benjamin, Bella, and Alex. Bill is a physician that recently started his own practice out of his home and does house calls, while Kim is working on her doctorate of psychology.

**TJC**: How did you decide to join TJC?

**Bill & Kim**: We were moving from Westchester, New York, and wanted a Conservative temple. We wanted a place with a thriving youth program. We wanted to make sure our kids would be in class with other kids and to be a part of the Jewish community. We researched synagogues and it factored into our decision to move to Pennington.

**TJC**: What is your family's favorite Jewish holiday?

**Bill & Kim**: Chanukah! We love Chanukah! We usually have a party. We have a tradition to try jelly donuts from different places each night. We try to explore the area to find the best jelly donut. Passover is also really special. We have a lot of our own little traditions. We have candy plagues that help the kids learn the different plagues. Dayenu is also a family favorite. We do a Sephardic tradition. We throw little pieces of scallions. When whole vegetables start flying that is when we cut the song off.

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

**Bill & Kim**: We enjoyed the youth carnival. It was the first in-person event that we had a chance to speak to other families. The kids could talk to other kids and parents could talk to other parents.

**TJC**: Is there something you are looking forward to?

**Kim**: I am excited for our kids to go to in-person religious school.

**Bill**: I am excited for the family to get back into the Jewish culture. With Zoom it has been hard to get everyone excited.

**Bill & Kim**: We are excited to have Rabbi Merow come and put up the mezuzah.
We own what we are willing to share. That is tzedakah; charity as justice.

- Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

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Questions? Please contact Executive Director Joel Berger at jberger@thejewishcenter.org or at 609.921.0100 ext. 205.

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Havurah Minyan:
Havurah Minyan will be meeting via Zoom on these days:
October 9
October 23
For more information, contact neillitt@outlook.com

Talmud Study
Wednesdays 12:15 pm
We discuss selections from the Talmud (in English translation).
Newcomers welcome.
Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83931037869?pwd=Wmo1OVhrYU1oQitxaG5YdGtiSG0xZz09
Meeting ID: 839 3103 7869
Passcode: 643177

TJC Religious School sponsors a Mitzvah Project
We are looking for gently used Fall and Winter clothing for Adults and Children and new underwear and socks for adults and children--and gently used small appliances coffee makers, microwave ovens, and toaster ovens.

Please separate the clothing by size in bags/boxes and label size
No hangers please! Thank you in advance for your support!

Clothing Drop off will be Sunday, October 24, 9:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

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