

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025

# JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS.



## HIGH HOLIDAY EDITION

INDY'S COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS TO ISRAEL

**PAGE 5-7**

A SPECIAL FAMILY TORAH TRIBUTE

**PAGE 8**

A NIGHT FOR WOMEN WHO LEAD

**PAGE 11**

# IN THIS ISSUE

- 3** Financial Resource Development Mission
- 5-7** Israel and Overseas
- 8** Torah Torah What's Your Story
- 10** Women's Philanthropy
- 12** NEXTGen
- 13** PJ Library
- 14-16** Jewish Family Services
- 17** Jewish Community Relations Council
- 18** Jewish Community Center
- 19** Hooverwood Living
- 20** Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis
- 22** Synagogues

## JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

**CO-PRESIDENTS**  
Miriam Dant & Todd Maurer

**EDITOR**  
Andrea Kruszynski

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
Marc Swatez

**DESIGN/LAYOUT**  
Ryan Short

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Inc.  
6705 Hoover Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260-4120  
Phone: (317) 726-5450 Fax: (317) 205-0307

[www.jewishindianapolis.org](http://www.jewishindianapolis.org)



The mission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis is to promote the vision of a vibrant, engaged, inclusive, and sustainable Jewish community by serving as its central philanthropic, planning, community engagement, and unifying partner.



# JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS.

**Advertise with Jewish Federation News**

Want to promote your name or business to our 5,000 households? The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis now offers advertising! Contact Andrea Kruszynski, Director of Communications and Editor at [akruszynski@jfgi.org](mailto:akruszynski@jfgi.org) for a rate sheet and more information.

## Dear Readers,

I have been thinking a great deal lately about some striking statistics discussing the state of the American Jewish community since The Surge began on October 7, 2023. As we have said before, The Surge is a measurably significant rise in engagement across the Jewish community spanning almost every demographic and category, according to a study conducted by Jewish Federations of North America.



*Marc Swatez*  
**MARC SWATEZ**  
Chief Executive Officer

Still today, nearly two years later, it is believed that 31% of the community is still actively surging. This is especially true for young adults who are seeking local Jewish friends and activities, especially those that are non-political; and mid-lifers (like me) who are seeking meaning, solidarity, and spiritual connections appropriate to our phase in life. And of course there are so many others who have been actively engaged before The Surge – some even for decades.

As you can imagine, the goal of the Jewish Federation is to act swiftly to welcome those who want to engage into our midst. To that end, in addition to our regular programs and services, we are creating new opportunities like Koach, Women's Engagement, and Ignite to open new pathways to get involved.

As this trend study gets deeper into the weeds, it looks at our community's attitudes towards Israel. We at the Federation strongly and unapologetically support the State of Israel and pray every day for the release of our hostages. We are also proud to learn that those who are involved in The Surge are in line with our position, having increased emotional attachment to Jews in Israel by 71%.

This attachment, however positive, is also markedly complex and teaches us that how we talk about Israel can both bring us together and tear us apart. Nearly half (49%) of Jews feel like the American Jewish community does not allow for nuanced conversations about the war. Jews are also divided into thirds on the challenge of how the Jewish community is handling the topic of Israel. One third (34%) feel like our community is not strong and outspoken enough in support of Israel and about another third (39%) feel like the community is too hardline in support.

That there is a lack of consensus inside our community is certainly nothing new or surprising. After all, as the story goes, "two Jews, three synagogues."

**The important thing to remember is that we are still one people with a shared history and the dream of a united future where our children's children's children can stand up proudly and safely declare themselves a Jew.**

As we approach the High Holidays, let us come together in prayer and solidarity, striving for lasting peace. We wish you all a Happy and Sweet New Year.

Disclaimer: This article was written in July 2025 as we approach Day 650 of the war in Israel.

# A Journey of Resilience and Renewal: Indianapolis Leaders Witness the Vibrant Jewish Community of Paris

Rebecca Schalit-Newman, Chief Development Officer of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI), Annual Campaign Co-Chair Sandy Nachlis, and her daughter Elise Nachlis recently returned from a mission that proved as moving as it was urgent.

Representing Indianapolis on the Jewish Federations of North America's annual Financial Resource Development (FRD) Mission for campaign leadership, the delegation experienced firsthand both the challenges and triumphs of Jewish life abroad.

Although the Israel portion of the mission was regrettably canceled due to the recent escalation with Iran, their time in Paris offered a compelling contrast; a city marked by resilience and renewal, but also by profound concern.

Across France, antisemitism is rising at a deeply troubling rate. Speaker after speaker drew stark parallels to the Dreyfus Affair and the Vichy regime to describe the climate of fear gripping Jewish communities. From schools and synagogues to community centers and summer camps, every Jewish space remains under constant security. The threat is serious, and vigilance is unceasing.

Aliyah from France continues to grow steadily. The Indianapolis delegation had the privilege of presenting several families with their Israeli documents just hours before they boarded a flight with 150 fellow new immigrants heading home to Israel.

Yet, amid these challenges, Jewish life in Paris is not merely surviving—it is flourishing. The group was struck by the community's energy and determination. Remarkably, Paris now boasts more kosher restaurants than Tel Aviv, many with Mizrahi music pouring into the streets, creating the feeling of being in the heart of Israel itself. One afternoon, the delegation joined 90 exuberant children at a Jewish day camp supported by The Jewish Agency for Israel. The air rang with song, laughter, learning, and pride. It was a testament to a community that refuses to be defined by fear alone.



Sandy Nachlis, Rebecca Schalit-Newman, and Elise Nachlis at the Grand Synagogue.



Federation fundraising professionals and lay leaders at the Grand Synagogue.

Throughout the mission, the delegation met with inspiring young leaders who shared both their anxieties and their aspirations. Their message was clear: the fight against antisemitism must remain a shared priority, and global Jewish communities must stand in solidarity. As one young woman expressed poignantly, "Antisemitism is not my identity. Judaism is."

Her words captured a conviction that resonated deeply with the Indianapolis leaders. The experience underscored that the Jewish mission is not solely about confronting hate, but also about dreaming, building, and caring. It calls for investment in Jewish education, vibrant community life, and an unbreakable bond with Israel, all interconnected goals bound by a shared purpose.

Returning home, the delegation feels inspired and re-energized as they look ahead to building a strong 2025 Annual Campaign, one that will sustain and strengthen this sacred work locally and around the world.

The mission was made even more meaningful by the presence of Elise Nachlis. She brought fresh energy and insight, offering a younger voice that enriched every conversation. Her participation was a vivid reminder of the importance of engaging the next generation in this essential work.

For all three, the journey to Paris was transformative and a testament to the strength and vitality of a beautiful Jewish community determined to thrive in the face of adversity.

# Indianapolis Jewish Leaders Advocate for Increased Security in D.C.



**Pictured: JFGI Treasurer Larry Turow, JCRC Executive Director David Sklar, Jewish Community Lobbyist Caryl Auslander, JFGI CEO Marc Swatez, and JFGI Co-President Miriam Dant.**

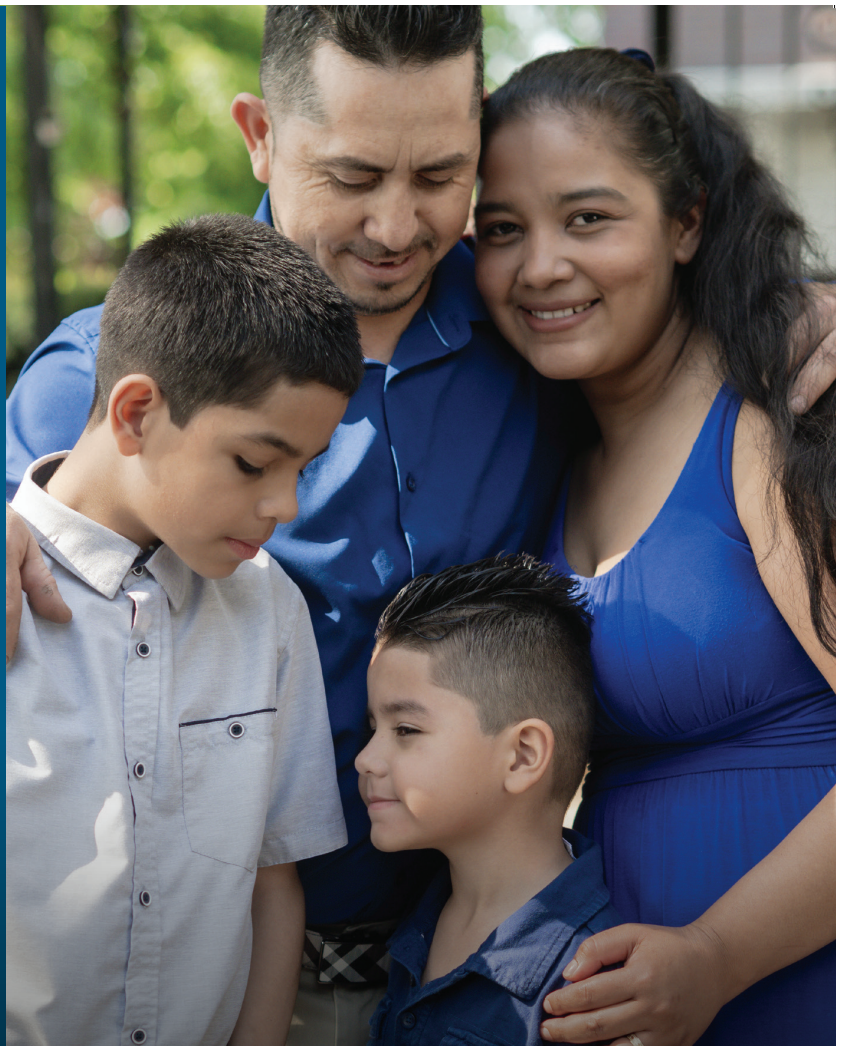
In June, five leaders from the Indianapolis Jewish community traveled to Washington, D.C. for an Emergency Leadership Fly-In to advocate for enhanced security funding. Over the course of two days, the delegation held 10 meetings with members of Indiana's Congressional delegation and their staff, delivering a clear and urgent message: protecting our Jewish community is not just a priority, it is a responsibility.

Their efforts focused on securing increased federal funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which provides vital support for Jewish institutions facing rising threats. Thanks in part to their advocacy, \$94 million in federal funding has already been released to support security needs across the country.

## BEYOND BARRIERS

Barriers to care are not always obvious. Language, nutrition, education, geography and awareness all affect a family's ability to access health care. Thanks in part to community partners, volunteers and donors, these barriers are being overcome. Learn more or join the movement at [EskenaziHealth.edu](http://EskenaziHealth.edu).

# ESKENAZI HEALTH



# Connecting Classrooms and Cultures: Reflections from the Partnership2Gether Education Summit

From June 8–12, educators from around the world gathered in Israel's Western Galilee region for the Partnership2Gether Education Summit, an immersive seminar offering a rare, firsthand look at Israel's education system. Facilitated through the Jewish Agency's International Educators' Seminar, the summit focused on resilience and connection, which are timely themes in the current climate.

Participants engaged in interactive workshops, explored schools across the Matte Asher and Akko regions, and joined cultural tours that highlighted both educational innovation and the strength of Israeli communities. They also dove into social-emotional learning strategies, aiming to support students in navigating today's complex world.

Representing Indianapolis were Michael Voskoboynik and Sarit Linkon, both educators at Hasten Hebrew Academy, and Jeff Linkon, Executive Director of IU Hillel.

Voskoboynik described the experience as "incredible," particularly the visits to four diverse schools. One memorable stop was a school where two-thirds of the students were recent immigrants from Russia and Ukraine. Originally from Ukraine himself, Voskoboynik connected deeply with the students, even conversing with them about their journeys and emotions.

"It was a powerful moment for me," he said. He and Sarit also co-taught an art class during the visit, further enriching the experience.

Each day began with school visits and ended with cultural exploration. Voskoboynik recalled meaningful tours to the Lebanon border and the Druze village of Farqa. He had planned to extend his stay in Israel with a personal trip to the



Dead Sea and Jerusalem, but when the 12-day war with Iran broke out, those plans were interrupted. Stranded temporarily in Ashkelon, he described the experience as "worrisome and scary," though he was spared the worst of the violence.

"I didn't see rockets nearby, but the sirens were enough to feel the fear," he said.

Sarit, an Israeli native, also reflected on the emotional weight of returning during turbulent times.

"It was inspiring to be part of the summit, but also very real," she said. "At night, you're waiting for sirens. Everything is next to the bed; your shoes, your bag; just in case you need to run to a shelter."

Having lived through several wars, Sarit noted that the trauma never gets easier: "Each time, the weapons are more powerful. It stays with you."

Despite the challenges, Sarit highlighted a special project that encapsulated the spirit of the summit. Over the past year, she had collaborated with a teacher at Gvanim School in Israel on a digital art project for third and fourth graders. Before traveling, she and her students created Indiana-shaped magnets. In Israel, the students made Israel-shaped magnets to send back.

"It was a simple exchange," Sarit said, "but it created a meaningful connection between kids who live a world apart."

This year's summit was smaller than usual, with only three other educators from Budapest attending after many international participants canceled due to the security situation. While this created a more intimate atmosphere, it didn't stop meaningful collaborations from forming.

Jeff emphasized a highlight from his time at the summit: deepening the partnership between Indiana University and Western Galilee College.

"We're building real momentum," he said. "We're working on future student exchanges through IU, Birthright Israel, and the Maccabee Task Force."

Jeff also noted a key cultural difference he observed during the conflict: "In America, people want to flee danger. In Israel, people want to be home with their families. That was a powerful reminder of the mindset and resilience of Israelis."

Like Voskoboynik, Jeff's plans were also disrupted by the outbreak of the 12-day war.

Despite these difficulties, the summit highlighted how education, art, and personal connection can bridge even the most complex divides. For the trio, it laid the groundwork for expanding twinning programs between educators and students in Israel and the United States; relationships that are more important now than ever.

# Welcome Gaya, Indianapolis Shlichah

The Jewish Federation is excited to introduce Gaya, who will serve as the Community Shlichah, bringing Israeli culture and connection to the Greater Indianapolis Jewish community.

The Shlichim program is operated by the Jewish Agency for Israel, which sends young men and women around the world to provide a living connection to Israel.

Gaya, 22, is from Mikve, Israel, a small village between Holon and Tel Aviv. She has 4 siblings. She loves dogs and has 3 at home. A fun fact about Gaya is that she has been an aunt since she was 2 years old.

After high school, Gaya immediately entered the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and has been serving in the army for the past 4 years. She was released in August.

During her free time, Gaya loves hiking, Cuban salsa dancing, baking, and reading. In response to her experience since October 7, Gaya said “Serving in the IDF during such complex times has been challenging. However, it was also the most meaningful time to serve. To say it was busy would be an understatement. But I wouldn't choose any other place to be.”

As Gaya steps into her role as Shlichah with the Indianapolis Jewish community, she is eager to learn about the community's needs and aspirations and to collaborate on creative ideas that will make a meaningful impact. She's also excited to meet as many Hoosiers as possible and build lasting connections.

Email [shlichah@jfgi.org](mailto:shlichah@jfgi.org) to connect. Make sure to follow JFGI Indy Shlichah on social media to learn about upcoming programs and events.



## Druze Families Honored with EuroDisney Trip



In a meaningful act of solidarity, the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Greg Maurer, and partner communities from the Partnership2Gether Western Galilee region honored the courage and sacrifice of fallen Druze soldiers by sending their families to EuroDisney. This special initiative brought moments of joy and healing to those who have given so much. Thank you, Greg, for leading this incredible mitzvah.

# Strengthening Community Through Shared Stories and Service



Partnership2Gether Western Galilee's (P2G) Council of Communities (COC) in Louisville convened representatives from all 17 US-based communities, along with partners from Budapest, Hungary, and the Western Galilee in Israel. The gathering successfully fulfilled its core mission to strengthen relationships across the global partnership network.

Over four impactful days, the spirit of Jewish peoplehood came to life through meaningful conversations, engaging panels, committee presentations, personal stories, shared meals, and even a Jewish comedy show. This immersive experience deepened connections among participants and laid a strong foundation for continued collaboration and engagement within our local communities.

Following the conclusion of COC, the Indianapolis Jewish community welcomed delegates from the Galilee Medical Center Committee to Indianapolis. Dr. Aya Kagade, Director of the International Affairs Department, and Dr. Khetam Hussein, Deputy Director of the Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya, shared their mission and heroic stories with local Jewish community members through breakfasts and intimate dinners. The duo also took a tour of Ascension St. Vincent Hospital.

Serving more than 650,000 residents in Northern Israel, the Galilee Medical Center stands just six miles from the Lebanese border. In the wake of the October 7th attacks, the hospital made the difficult but necessary decision to move its operations underground—a facility made possible in part by the generous support of donors from Indianapolis. To this day, they continue to work from this underground hospital.

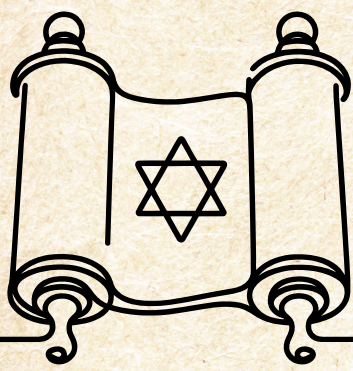
As a member of the Druze community, Dr. Hussein also shared how Israel is extending humanitarian assistance to the Druze population in Syria, particularly in the region of Sweida, highlighting the broader impact of partnership.



## Pardon Our Dust

JFGI is moving to a new database to better serve our community. Be on the lookout in your mail and/or email for details on how to confirm or update any of your information. JFGI appreciates your understanding that during this transition, some communications may look different than they have. Please email any updates to [contact@jfgi.org](mailto:contact@jfgi.org) or scan this QR code to fill out a form. JFGI will follow up with any questions. Thank you.





# Torah Torah What's Your Story

Every Torah scroll carries a legacy — a sacred thread of history, resilience, and identity. These powerful artifacts don't just reside in sanctuaries — they tell stories that shape generations.

## From Heart to Scroll: The Alkobi Family's Spiritual Tribute

With the Jewish High Holidays approaching, a season marked by introspection, renewal, and community, this story about Torahs offers a timely reflection. The Torah, more than a sacred text, serves as a symbol of enduring tradition and shared identity. Whether paraded joyfully during Simchat Torah or read solemnly in synagogue, each scroll carries generations of meaning. This narrative highlights how these ancient texts continue to inspire connection and continuity across Jewish communities today. This story is part one of a Torah Story series.

Yonatan, 15, David, 12.

"She is still a big part of us and always will be," Shirley said of her late mother-in-law. "She was a mother to me, a mentor, Indiana's community grandma, and everyone knew her and admired her."

The Torah was a big part of Susan's life and she felt very connected to the mitzvah of a torah. When Saar's dad, Raphel, passed away in 2013, Susan dedicated a Torah in his memory in Israel, so an honor for the Alkobi family to donate a Torah in Susan's memory is now a meaningful tradition.

"Saar is very involved with the Jewish community and Chabad," Shirley said. "He influences a lot of people in our community and this torah will impact so many people."

To recognize this remembrance and a new chapter for the community, a celebration was held on Jerusalem Day, Yom Yerushalayim, in May. During the Torah dedication, dozens of people walked a mile along 96th Street from the Alkobi family's home in Summerlakes to Chabad. There was a lot of dancing, singing, and music at this incredible gathering. Attendees were extremely cheerful and lively as they followed the Torah along the path.

"It was a truly beautiful event," said Chabad Rabbi Avi Grossbaum.

This was the first time the Alkobi's participated in a Torah dedication, and Shirley says it was very special that she was able to participate in it with her entire family.

Shirley looks forward to watching the torah be used at Chabad, especially in January 2026 when her son David becomes a bar mitzvah.

"He will read from this Torah, and it will feel like he is reading with his grandmother," she said.



# Jewish Federation Announces Inaugural 18 Under 18 Honorees

The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis has officially announced the inaugural cohort of 18 Under 18, recognizing outstanding Jewish youth for their leadership, passion, and impact.

This spring, a call for nominations resulted in over 50 impressive submissions. A diverse selection committee—composed of community members and Jewish communal professionals who work closely with youth—was tasked with choosing this year's honorees. With so many deserving candidates, the process was highly competitive.

To fairly recognize nominees across a broad age range, the committee introduced a new category: Rising Stars, celebrating exceptional younger nominees. Three individuals were selected for this distinction.

All honorees, including the Rising Stars, will be recognized at an awards dinner on Thursday, Nov. 13, and the community is invited to attend. Event registration opens Tuesday, Sept. 30. More information, including a link to RSVP, is available at [bit.ly/18honoree](http://bit.ly/18honoree).

A special feature section highlighting the honorees will appear in the November/December issue of the JFGI magazine. Those interested in placing congratulatory ads in the issue can contact Andrea Kruszynski at [akruszynski@jfgi.org](mailto:akruszynski@jfgi.org) for ad sizes and special rates.



**18**  
UNDER  
*Eighteen*

## Honoree Celebration

5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13  
**Laikin Auditorium**  
6701 Hoover Rd., Indianapolis

Learn more and buy tickets at  
**>>> [bit.ly/18honoree](http://bit.ly/18honoree)**

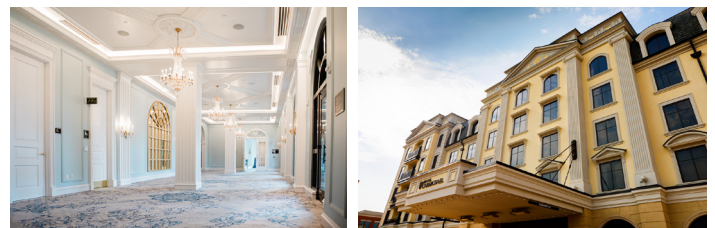
## Maurer Jewish Community Library: Books in Motion



From January through June, 455 books were returned to Indianapolis Public Library branches via the Library's convenient Black Drop Boxes, with Fort Benjamin Harrison, Lawrence, Pike, and Glendale among the most popular drop-off spots.

Home to a unique collection of 10,000 titles for all ages, the Maurer Library remains a beloved resource. Favorites include children's picture books, Holocaust fiction and nonfiction, and Jewish holiday stories that inspire learning and joy across the community.

Located on the historic Max & Mae Simon Jewish Community Campus (former Bureau of Jewish Education), the Library offers browsing from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and delivers requested books to any IndyPL branch. The drop boxes are located at Door #5, the main entrance to the Jewish Community Center, and Door #1.



## ELEVATE YOUR EVENT TO NEW HEIGHTS

Hotel Carmichael, located in the heart of Carmel, specializes in creating unforgettable event experiences. Our versatile event spaces bathed in natural light and featuring a terrace with stunning views of the Palladium, are perfect for weddings, corporate events, and large gatherings. Our dedicated team ensures every detail is flawless, making Hotel Carmichael the premier choice for your next event.

**Contact us to learn more!**  
[sales@hotelcarmichael.com](mailto:sales@hotelcarmichael.com)



AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION  
HOTELS



[HotelCarmichael.com](http://HotelCarmichael.com)  
[@hotelcarmichael](https://www.instagram.com/hotelcarmichael)

# Sunset, Schmoozing, and Sisterhood



Indianapolis Jewish women gathered for a warm and welcoming evening of connection, conversation, and community at the Summer Schmooze, held at Urban Vines Winery & Brewery in Westfield. Against the backdrop of a glowing Indiana sunset, attendees sipped wine, shared stories, and deepened relationships through meaningful moments and lighthearted fun, celebrating the power of women's engagement within the Jewish community.

# INDY WOMEX

## WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY JOURNEY TO MEXICO CITY

**FEB. 1-5, 2026**

Join Women's Philanthropy for a four-night exclusive journey! The trip will explore the dynamic, diverse Jewish community of Mexico City, and the city's historic roots and unique cultural traditions. While connecting with each other and the culture, women will also learn the important philanthropic work being done on the ground by meeting with Jewish Federation supported agencies.

**Learn more and register at [bit.ly/womensjourney26](https://bit.ly/womensjourney26)**

Contact Rebecca Schalit-Newman at  
[rschalitnewman@jfgi.org](mailto:rschalitnewman@jfgi.org) for more information.



The Women's Philanthropy Journey to Mexico City requires a minimum household gift of \$1,800 or more (Pomegranate Level and above) to the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis' 2025 Annual Campaign.



**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE  
WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY SIGNATURE EVENT**

**FEATURING**

**Tovah Feldshuh**

**CELEBRATED ACTRESS, SINGER & PLAYWRIGHT**

Women's Philanthropy presents an evening with Tovah Feldshuh, celebrated actress, singer and playwright, moderated by Naomi Ruchim, Emmy Award winning Journalist & TV Anchor.

Come together for this women's-only evening celebrating the impact of Jewish women in the community and beyond.

**6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27, 2025**

**The Club at Holliday Farms**

3950 Club Ridge Estates Dr., Zionsville

**Ticket cost is \$90**

Dinner and drinks will be served.

Please RSVP by Oct. 9  
at [bit.ly/tovahindy](https://bit.ly/tovahindy).

A minimum 2025 Annual Campaign commitment of \$360 is required for reoccurring donors to attend this event. A minimum 2025 Annual Campaign commitment of \$180 is required for first time donors. A minimum 2025 Annual Campaign commitment of \$180 is required for young women age 35 and younger.

Dietary Laws observed



## A Splashy Shabbat



Nearly 50 young Jewish adults came together for one of the largest NEXTGen Shabbat celebrations in Indianapolis. The summer evening featured swimming, tropical cocktails, and delicious food, creating what many attendees described as one of their most memorable Jewish experiences in the city.

## NEXTGen Hits the Ballpark



NEXTGen community members, both longtime locals and new faces, came together in July for Jewish Community Night at the Indianapolis Indians game. A summer evening of baseball, camaraderie, and community spirit. Go Indians!

## Cheers to Summer: NEXTGen on Tap



NEXTGeners gathered at Half Liter Brewing to beat the summer heat with a round of free drinks, lively conversation, and the chance to connect with friends old and new.

*Save The Date*

# LIGHT IT P

NEXTGen's Annual Chanukah Party!

*8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13*





## Families Gather at JCC Water Park to Support Backpack Attack



PJ Library families beat the heat at the JCC Eskenazi Water Park while giving back to the community. Attendees brought school supplies for Jewish Family Services' Backpack Attack, helping local students start the school year prepared.

## Sweet Connections for the New Year at Stuckey Farms

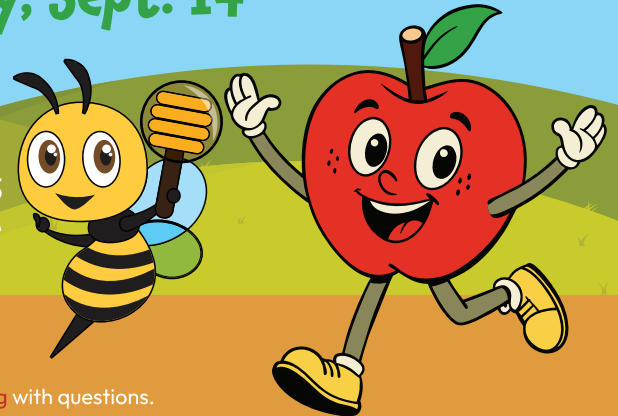
Join PJ Library for a Rosh Hashanah Apple Picking Event!

**1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14**

Register at [bit.ly/pjsweet](http://bit.ly/pjsweet)

**Cost is \$36 per family**

Ticket includes a ¼ peck Upick apples, 1 Upick Zinnias (3 stems), 1 ride on the Stuckey Express, and access to the apple orchard, Adventure Acres and pumpkin patch.



## YOU ARE PART OF INDIANA HISTORY!



Digitizing history for future generations



Indiana Jewish history podcast



Exciting new publications

FOR OVER 50 YEARS, THE **INDIANA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY** HAS BEEN PRESERVING, PROTECTING, AND SHARING THE INCREDIBLE STORIES OF JEWISH LIFE ACROSS THE HOOSIER STATE.



JOIN HERE!

**LEARN MORE AT [WWW.IJHS.ORG](http://WWW.IJHS.ORG)**



# Jewish Family Services

[www.jewishindianapolis.org/social-services](http://www.jewishindianapolis.org/social-services)



## Thrive Social Gatherings



Practicing balance and movement through Tai Chi.



A beautiful day spent exploring nature and connecting at Holliday Park Nature Center.



A night of theater at CIVIC! Thrive participants had a fabulous time enjoying Legally Blonde and each other's company.

Join JFS Thrive! Programs are designed for active older adults. RSVP required to attend. Contact Sally at [scatlin@jfgi.org](mailto:scatlin@jfgi.org) or (317) 536-1475 to join the Thrive email list, to get more information, and to RSVP for programs. Visit [jewishindianapolis.org/thrive](http://jewishindianapolis.org/thrive) to learn more about Thrive.



The Jewish Federation and Jewish Family Services are grateful to Kroot Summer Intern Abbie Cadkin, a recent Butler University graduate, for her meaningful contributions this summer. Abbie divided her time between the Federation and Jewish Family Services, supporting writing projects, assisting with programs for older adults and Holocaust survivors, and lending a hand at Popsie's Pantry.

Abbie shared, "I had the wonderful opportunity of working with both JFS and JFGI. While working with JFS, I learned how deeply they care for the community. I admire how Rachel, Julie, Sally, Chay, and Boris go to great lengths to ensure everyone's needs are met. Working with the JFGI, I saw how great of a team they are. They were always communicative, creative, and hard-working. Everyone I worked with was so welcoming. I am so grateful for this opportunity and look forward to using my newly acquired skills in my future studies."

Best of luck to Abbie as she begins school to earn a master's degree in social work!

## Rabbis Turn Playoff Spirit into Pantry Support



Rabbi Brett Krichiver, Rabbi Roxanne Shapiro, and Cantor Aviva Marer of IHC; Rabbi Rick Jacobs, President of the URJ; and Rabbi Justin Kerber of Congregation Beth Shalom show their team spirit in Pacers gear.

During the NBA playoffs, local rabbis— Rabbi Justin Kerber of Congregation Beth Shalom and Rabbi Brett Krichiver of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation—joined in a friendly wager with rabbinic colleagues in Oklahoma City. Each side picked a charity of choice, with donations going to the opposing team's nonprofit.

Although the Pacers didn't win the series, local clergy's chosen organization, Popsie's Pantry, received over \$500 in generous donations from Oklahoma Rabbis and fans. One donor shared, "Congrats, Pacers, on an amazing season. And prayers for healing to Haliburton."

Good sportsmanship, playful rivalry, and generosity across state lines!

## Celebrate the Season Older Adult Lunch

12 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30

**Domont Auditorium**  
6705 Hoover Road

Welcoming all to join in celebrating the Jewish High Holidays- a time for reflection and renewal.

Enjoy a kosher lunch and activities!

Seats are limited - RSVPs are required to attend.

RSVP by Sept. 16 to Sally Catlin at (317) 536-1475 or [scatlin@jfgi.org](mailto:scatlin@jfgi.org).

Hosted by Jewish Family Services and Hooverwood Living



Popsie's Pantry receives over 100 bags filled with top needed food items from the Porch Indy collection!

PORCH Communities is a national, all-volunteer, grassroots hunger relief organization. To find out if your neighborhood participates in PORCH-Indy or to start a PORCH-Indy neighborhood collection, please contact Dina Lissoos ([dliissoos@comcast.net](mailto:dliissoos@comcast.net)) or Sara Weinberger ([Sara.e.weinberger@gmail.com](mailto:Sara.e.weinberger@gmail.com)).



The Hamsa Fund  
Education and Life Enrichment Grants  
for Jewish Youth and Young Adults

SAVE THE DATE

## Hamsa Parlor Meeting

Join us on the evening of October 22 to learn about the Hamsa Fund and how you can help provide meaningful educational and enrichment opportunities for Jewish youth in our community.

The Hamsa Fund provides education and life enrichment grants to Jewish youth and young adults, helping to reduce financial barriers to meaningful opportunities.

Contact Rebecca Schalit-Newman at [rschalitnewman@jfgi.org](mailto:rschalitnewman@jfgi.org) with interest in attending and to learn more.



Save The Date

# ADOPT-A-FAMILY

## Community Day Sunday, Dec. 7

Adopt-a-Family is an annual community-wide program that helps Jewish households in the Indianapolis area during the Chanukah holiday. Wrapped gifts may also be dropped off directly at JFS prior to Community Day.

Contact Rachel Katz at [rkatz@jfgi.org](mailto:rkatz@jfgi.org) with questions.

Need some support this Chanukah? JFS is here to help!

Contact Julie Sondhelm at  
(317) 535-1476 or [jsondhelm@jfgi.org](mailto:jsondhelm@jfgi.org)





# Canstruction

## Benefiting Popsie's Pantry



Experience a one-of-a-kind structure built primarily from canned goods and pantry items—part of a community-wide initiative to spotlight food insecurity and the many challenges that both contribute to it and result from it. Through creative design, community wide programs, and local partnerships, Canstruction invites us to reflect, engage, and take action together.

## Events

### Family-Friendly Open House

3-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7

JCC Laikin Auditorium

Gather the whole family to explore the giant Canstruction display and join us in celebrating Popsie's Pantry!

- Unveiling of the Canstruction build
- Fun activities for all ages
- Service activity to benefit Popsie's Pantry

### Community Panel Night

7-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15

JCC Laikin Auditorium

Hear from local experts about the far-reaching impacts of food insecurity across generations and the complex challenges that both contribute to and stem from it.

- Panelists include:
  - Fred Glass, CEO of Gleaners
  - Braca Cantor MD, Geriatrician at Community Health
- Opportunity to honor and thank the volunteers of Popsie's Pantry



Contact Rachel Katz at [rkatz@jfgi.org](mailto:rkatz@jfgi.org) or (317) 259-6817 with questions.

## When Antisemitism Enters the Classroom

The Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) recognizes the unique challenges Jewish families face when raising children and engaging with schools during a time of heightened antisemitism. Over the past several months, JCRC has developed several strategies, tools, and initiatives to help parents feel informed, supported, and empowered to advocate for their children in educational spaces.

As part of these efforts, on Aug. 19, JCRC hosted Empowered Parents: Jewish Advocacy in Educational Spaces, a community conversation featuring Lindsey Mintz, AJC's Director of Training and Education. The session addressed the alarming rise in antisemitism within schools and the increasing need for families to engage effectively with educators—and with their own children—around these challenges. Mintz offered critical insights into the current manifestations of antisemitism, including anti-Zionism, and provided concrete strategies for building relationships with school leaders and supporting students as they navigate difficult and often isolating situations.

The Empowered Parents event also marked the launch of new JCRC initiatives:

- The JCRC Parent Support Handbook, a comprehensive guide offering tools for identifying antisemitism, supporting students in the aftermath of an incident, and navigating reporting and advocacy processes with schools.
- School Engagement Leaders Network, a new leadership program designed for parent leaders in each individual school community to be the first points of contact with their school administrators and other Jewish parents.

These resources are now available in one central location on the JCRC website, making it easier than ever for families to access the support they need, when they need it most.

Together, these tools and training opportunities reflect JCRC's deep commitment to proactive, informed engagement—and to standing with families as they work to ensure safe, inclusive, and respectful learning environments for every Jewish student.

Visit <https://indyjrc.org/> for more information.

### *Congregation Shaarey Tefilla wishes you a Happy New Year and invites you to join us this year!*

We have services led by **Hazzan Helene Kates** of Atlanta, GA, with separate children's services and childcare available. For non-members there is a small fee which is 100% applied to membership dues if you join by the end of November.

If you are experiencing a financial situation and cannot pay, the fee can be reduced or waived, please contact our office. We look forward to you joining us!



**Rosh Hashana:**

**Monday, September 22**  
 Erev 7:00 PM  
**Tuesday, September 23**  
 Morning 9:00 AM  
 Youth 10:30 AM  
 Tashlikh 6:00 PM\*  
**Wednesday, September 24**  
 Morning 9:00 AM



**Yom Kippur:**

**Wednesday, October 1**  
 Erev 7:00 PM  
**Thursday, October 2:**  
 Morning 9:00 AM  
 Youth 10:30 AM  
 Afternoon 5:45 PM

\* Tashlikh service is at West Park across from University High School with evening services immediately following.



3085 W. 116<sup>th</sup> Street, Carmel, IN 46032  
 Email: [Office@ShaareyTefilla.org](mailto:Office@ShaareyTefilla.org) Phone: (317) 733-2196



## L'SHANA TOVA! JOIN US AT IHC FOR HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786

Register for services at [ihcindy.org/highholydays](http://ihcindy.org/highholydays)



Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC) is an inclusive, Reform-Jewish community where all congregants matter, are inspired to action through Jewish values, and experience Judaism in a meaningful way.

6501 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis | 317-255-6647



## Camp JCC Celebrates Israel Day



Camp JCC marked Israel Day with a celebration of Israeli culture, welcoming guest leaders from local Jewish agencies. Campers enjoyed falafel, Israeli salad, and even floated in a “Dead Sea”-themed pool experience.



Current and former J staff had a great evening at Jewish Community Night with the Indianapolis Indians in early July.



The J proudly welcomed award-winning sports journalist Christine Brennan in July for a book signing of *On Her Game: Caitlin Clark and the Revolution in Women's Sports*.



While the High Holidays bring opportunities for meaning, connection and community, it can also be a challenging time.

If you would benefit from support this holiday season, consider reaching out to JFS at (317) 536-1476 to speak with Julie Sondhelm, Clinical Director.



# Hooverwood Living

www.hooverwood.org



@hooverwoodliving



@hooverwoodliving

**HOOVERWOOD LIVING**  
Caring, for generations™

*Start Volunteering Today!*

get started here!  
Scan the QR code to start volunteering with Hooverwood!

Looking for a meaningful way to give back? At Hooverwood Living, volunteers play a vital role in creating a warm, engaging environment for our residents. Whether you're assisting with activities, offering companionship, or sharing a special skill, your time makes a lasting impact.



Hooverwood residents have been enjoying visits from PT Kirn, who brings thoughtful intention, movement, and mindfulness into each sound bath session. During her most recent visit, Kirn led a powerful experience focused on the breath, inviting everyone to release tension and send healing energy outward to others. The room was filled with connection, calm, and kindness!

**HOOVERWOOD LIVING**

*Silver Support Group:*  
A Safe Space for Older Adults

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH AT 4:00 PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH AT 4:00 PM

Held on the 3rd Thursday of every month

Real Talk. Real Connection. Real Support. Aging isn't always easy, but you don't have to go through it alone. Silver Support is a monthly gathering where older adults come together to share, listen, and explore the everyday realities of growing older; memory, grief, health, relationships, and everything in between. There's no agenda and no judgment, just an open, welcoming space for honest conversation and connection. RSVP to Bonnie Glass at [bglass@hooverwood.org](mailto:bglass@hooverwood.org).

**3rd Annual Golf Classic**  
WOODLAND COUNTRY CLUB OF CARMEL

*Thank you!*

*fore the residents!*



Thank you to everyone who participated in Hooverwood Living's 3rd Annual Golf Classic at Woodland Country Club on Aug. 25. The event was a tremendous success, and Hooverwood is grateful for the support of this incredible community. Funds from the outing directly provide state-of-the-art care and meaningful programming for Hooverwood residents and the broader community.



Residents have been having an absolute blast on their regular outings to Woodland Bowl. With the support of amazing volunteers and the activity team, they've been hitting the lanes, scoring strikes, and soaking up the joy of a fun afternoon out. It's been all about good friends, great company, and a little friendly competition.



Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis

# Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis

www.hhai.org



@hastenhebrewacademy



@hhaistars

## HHA Welcomes Emily Schankerman as New Director of Giving Tree Early Learning



Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis is excited to welcome Emily Schankerman as the new Director of Giving Tree Early Learning for the 2025–26 school year.

Emily earned a Master of Science Degree in Education from the University of Washington and brings extensive experience in Jewish early childhood education, particularly in programs inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach. Her work is grounded in Jewish values and guided by a deep passion for connecting young children to the natural world fostering curiosity, resilience, and wonder from their earliest years.

A proud product of the Indianapolis Jewish community herself, Emily is thrilled to return home and give back to the community that shaped her.

In addition to her classroom experience, Emily has mentored educators, led collaborative teaching teams, and developed nurturing, thoughtful learning environments. Her leadership promises to build on the strengths of Giving Tree while guiding it toward continued growth.

## HHA Takes the International Tech Stage —Again!



In June, Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis proudly presented at ISTE Live 25, the world's largest educational technology conference, held this year in San Antonio and attended by over 17,000 educators from around the globe.

This marked HHA's ninth time presenting at ISTE—a remarkable achievement for any school, and especially impressive for a school of our size. This year's presentation featured the youngest-ever student presenters: a team of three rising 5th graders, who represented HHA with confidence, creativity, and deep knowledge of educational technology.

The students joined Mr. Voskoboynik at the Innovation Arcade to support his Exploration Lab presentation about creating, animating and coding 3D avatars. Equipped with iPads and laptops, the students guided adult educators through interactive demonstrations of how they use cutting-edge tools—AI, animation, coding, and voice generation in real classroom projects.

The students hosted a popular poster session, called “Creating Interactive Books with AR, VR and AI App Smashing” showcasing how they use tech to enhance digital books with 3D avatars and immersive storytelling, guiding attendees in creating their own interactive mini-books.

As rising 5th grader Eli Maurer shared, “Over the two days, we presented the interactive books we created and taught educators how to make their own avatars. I was nervous, and Mr. V made sure we were very prepared. I know that our year of preparation paid off and that it will help my presentation skills in the future... My favorite part was helping other teachers create their own avatars, and I loved the look on their faces when they were revealed.”

HHA is proud of its students' poise, technical fluency, and passion for learning. HHA continues to show that even the smallest schools can have a global impact—especially when innovation and imagination come together.

## Save the Date!

The 2nd Annual HHA Kosher Pickleball Tournament returns on Sunday, Nov. 16, at Pickle on Penn in Carmel! It will be from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and will be a fun-filled day of friendly competition, community spirit, and meaningful impact, all in support of Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis. All skill levels welcome! You can play for \$54 or spectate for free! Join us!

Scan the QR code for details and sponsorship opportunities.



# HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

## Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

**HHD TICKET ORDERING DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10.** All High Holy Day programs and services require a ticket. Contact Bonnie at [bcraig@bez613.org](mailto:bcraig@bez613.org) for more information.

**SELICHOT SERVICE: 8 P.M. SATURDAY, SEPT. 13.** Joint Services with Beth El-Zedeck. Please join for a combined Selichot service with Rabbis Brett Krichiver and Hal Schevitz, and Cantors Melissa Cohen and Aviva Marer. Reflective Selichot services will follow the discussion beginning at 9 p.m. Services will be held at Congregation Beth El-Zedeck.

**EREV ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE: 6 P.M. MONDAY, SEPT. 22.**

**ROSH HASHANAH: TUESDAY, SEPT. 23.9:30 A.M.-12:45 P.M. MORNING SERVICE**

- 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Youth Service (babysitting available)
- 5:45-6 p.m. Evening Tashlikh followed by evening service

**ROSH HASHANA DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24**

- 9:30-11:30 a.m. Morning Service
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. Family Service
- 11:30 a.m. Tashlikh and Ice Cream Truck

**KOL NIDRE: 6:30-9 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1**

**YOM KIPPUR: 6:30-9 P.M. THURSDAY, OCT. 2**

- 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Morning Service / Yizkor
- 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Youth Service (babysitting available)
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Family Service
- 2-3 p.m. Afternoon Service
- 5-6:15 p.m. Afternoon Conversation
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. Neilah

**SIMCHAT TORAH FAMILY PIZZA DINNER AND CELEBRATION: 5:30-7:30 P.M. MONDAY, OCT. 13 AT BEZ.** Attend a fun and delicious Simchat Torah Pizza Party with hot, cheesy pizza, a meaningful service, and dance with the Cantor, Rabbi and beautiful Torot. Then, come back together for a special dessert. RSVP to [ralder@bez613.org](mailto:ralder@bez613.org).

**SHEMINI ATZERET SERVICE AND YIZKOR: 10-11:30 A.M. TUESDAY, OCT. 14 AT BEZ.**

## Congregation Beth Shalom

**EREV ROSH HASHANAH: 7:30 P.M. MONDAY, SEPT. 22 AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL**

**ROSH HASHANAH: TUESDAY, SEPT. 23 AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL:**

- 9 a.m. Young Family Rosh Hashanah Service
- 10:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
- 4:30 p.m. Tashlich Service + Picnic at Cool Creek Park

**Shabbat Shuvah at Temple**

- 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 26
- 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27

**EREV YOM KIPPUR/KOL NIDRE SERVICE: 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1 AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL**

**YOM KIPPUR: THURSDAY, OCT. 2. AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL**

- 9 a.m. Young Family Service
- 10:30 a.m. Yom Kippur Morning Service
- 3 p.m. Afternoon Discussion
- 4 p.m. Yom Kippur Afternoon Services
- 5 p.m. Yizkor followed by Ne'ilah Service

## Congregation B'nai Torah

**ROSH HASHANAH: TUESDAY, SEPT. 23 AND WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24:**

- 8:30 a.m. Shacharit (Morning Services)
- 7:05 p.m. Mincha (Evening Services)

**YOM KIPPUR:**

- Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre: 7:26 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1
- 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 2 Shacharit (Morning Services)

**SUKKOT: TUESDAY, OCT. 7 AND WEDNESDAY OCT. 8**

- 9 a.m. Shacharit (Morning Services)
- 6:55 p.m. Mincha (Evening Services)

**SHEMINI ATZERET SERVICES: TUESDAY, OCT. 14**

**SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICES : 8:45 A.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15**

## Chabad Lubavitch of Indiana

Visit [www.chabadindiana.org](http://www.chabadindiana.org) for high holiday service information.

## Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

**PRE-ROSH HASHANAH EVENT: THURSDAY, SEPT. 18 FOR ALL JEWISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN.**

Visit [www.etzchaimindy.org](http://www.etzchaimindy.org) for high holiday service information.

## Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation

You must register in advance to attend services at IHC or the Rosh Hashanah Day Retreat at GUCI. You will find both forms to register at [indianapolishebrewcongregation.shulcloud.com](http://indianapolishebrewcongregation.shulcloud.com). Call the IHC Office during business hours at (317) 255-6647 with questions or if you need assistance with the registration form. Please consider a minimum donation of \$36 per guest per service. High Holiday services that take place at IHC are on the website [ihcindy.org/streaming](http://ihcindy.org/streaming). IHC also offers main High Holiday Services on WICR 88.7-FM.

Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rosh Hashanah Morning, Kol Nidre, Yom Kippur Morning, and Yizkor service will be broadcasted.

**EREV ROSH HASHANAH TRADITIONAL SERVICE: 7:30 P.M. MONDAY, SEPT. 22.**

**ROSH HASHANAH RETREAT: 9 A.M. – 4 P.M. TUESDAY, SEPT. 23 AT GOLDMAN UNION CAMP INSTITUTE (GUCI):**

- Rosh Hashanah Tot Service: 9 a.m.

for families with young children, from preschool to kindergarten.

- Rosh Hashanah Family Service: 9:45 a.m. Service designed for school-aged children and their families.
- Rosh Hashanah Traditional Service: 11:30 a.m.

**ROSH HASHANAH SECOND DAY: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24:**

- 9 a.m. Shofar Blowing in the IHC parking lot
- 12:30 p.m. Shofar Blowing at Shapiro's South parking lot, 808 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis
- 5:30 p.m. Shofar Blowing & Tashlich in Carmel

**KEVER AVOT: 2 P.M. SUNDAY, SEPT. 28 AT BOTH IHC NORTH AND SOUTH CEMETERIES.**

**EREV YOM KIPPUR ALTERNATIVE KOL NIDRE EXPERIENCE: 5:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1.**

**EREV YOM KIPPUR TRADITIONAL KOL NIDRE SERVICE: 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1.**

**YOM KIPPUR MEDITATIVE, MUSICAL SERVICE: 9 A.M. THURSDAY, OCT. 2 AT GOLDMAN UNION CAMP INSTITUTE (GUCI):**

- Yom Kippur Tot Service: 9 a.m. for families with young children, from preschool to kindergarten, in person or on livestream.
- Yom Kippur Family Service 9:45 a.m. for school-aged children and their families, in person or on livestream.
- Yom Kippur Traditional Service: 11:30 a.m., in person, livestream or on the radio.
- Yom Kippur Healing Service: 1:30 p.m. in person, livestream or on the radio.
- Yom Kippur Sessions: 2:30 p.m., in person or on livestream.
- Yizkor Service: 4 p.m., in person, livestream or on the radio.
- Yom Kippur Ne'ilah/Havdalah: 5 p.m., in person or on livestream.
- Sukkot Family Festival: 6-8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6 at BEZ. RSVP to [ralder@bez613.org](mailto:ralder@bez613.org).
- Sukkot Festival Service: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7 at BEZ.
- Sukkot Shabbat: 6:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10. This is a "Blue Jeans Shabbat." Following services, the IHC circles will be featured, promoting those that already exist and encouraging the formation of new ones.

**SUKKOT FESTIVAL SERVICE WITH YIZKOR: 10:30 A.M. MONDAY, OCT. 13.**

**EREV SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION: 5:30 P.M. MONDAY, OCT. 13.** There will be singing, dancing, and rejoice with the Torah with music featuring our 65th Street Klezmerim.

Visit [ihcindy.org/highholidays](http://ihcindy.org/highholidays) for easy access to services and experiences.

## Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

Visit <https://shaareytefilla.org/> for High Holiday services with times.

## Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

**MEN'S CLUB BOURBON TASTING: 7-8:30 P.M. SATURDAY, SEPT. 6.** Join for an evening of great bourbon and even better company! The BEZ Men's Club invites you to a guided bourbon tasting featuring a curated selection of premium spirits. Enjoy good conversation, light bites, and a relaxed night with friends. This is a 21+ event.

**MAHJ MONDAY: 1-4 P.M. SEPT. 8 AND 29, OCT. 6 AND 20 AT BEZ.** All experience levels are welcome! Mahjong is a tile-based game played in Asia for over 300 years and by American Jews since the 1920s. It is easy to learn but challenging to master. Sisterhood supplies the games—you bring your game card. No card? They will have extras! The suggested donation is \$3 per day. RSVP to Sue at [illinicane@verizon.net](mailto:illinicane@verizon.net).

**PARENT TODDLER HAVURAH: 9:45 A.M. SUNDAY SEPT. 7 AT BEZ.** Join the Parent-Toddler Havurah, led by Maria Simon! Families with children ages 2-5 will enjoy a fun morning filled with songs, stories, crafts, and snacks—all while exploring Jewish life and learning together.

**COCKTAIL JUDAISM: 7-9 P.M. MONDAY, SEPT. 8 AT PRIVATE HOME.** It's an evening of good drinks and great conversation with Rabbi Hal and others. They will explore a thought-provoking topic (to be announced soon) in a relaxed, social setting. For more information, contact Robbie at [radler@bez613.org](mailto:radler@bez613.org).

**MEN'S CLUB HAPPY HOUR: 5-7:30 P.M. THURSDAY, SEPT. 18 AT BIG LUG.** Fellas, unwind and join Men's Club at Big Lug on 86th Street! Enjoy this colorful brewery with weekly changing taps & American eats and leave your cares behind and join for a night of camaraderie, relaxation, and a whole lot of fun. Don't forget to leave the kids at home for this 21+ event! RSVP to Conor Larkin at [Thomas.conor.larkin@gmail.com](mailto:Thomas.conor.larkin@gmail.com).

**SUKKAH HOP: 6-7:30 P.M. OCT. 8-12.**

**JUDAISM 101 WITH RABBI HAL: 7:30-9 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15, 22, 28, NOV. 5, 12, 19, AND DEC. 3, 10, AND 17.** Discover the foundations of Jewish life and tradition in Judaism 101, a nine-part class led by the Rabbi. Explore key practices, beliefs, and values in an engaging and welcoming setting. Perfect for anyone looking to learn, refresh, or deepen their understanding

of Judaism.

**ADULT HEBREW WITH DINA DAVID: SUNDAY, OCT. 19 AND 26, NOV. 2, 9, 16, 23, AND DEC. 7 AND 14.** Learn to read, understand, and connect with Hebrew in a supportive, engaging environment. This adult Hebrew class is perfect for beginners or anyone looking to refresh their skills.

**ROSH HODESH: EVERLASTING DRIED FLOWER FALL CENTERPIECES: 7-8:30 P.M. THURSDAY, OCT. 23 AT BEZ.** Ladies 21+, join the October Rosh Hodesh gathering. Make beautiful, dried flower centerpieces for fall, a perfect way to welcome the new month and the season. Alex Segal will guide this creative, hands-on activity. Come and enjoy a relaxed evening with friends.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MULTI-FAITH BUILD: FRIDAY, OCT. 31.** Come together with friends from a variety of local faith communities to improve the lives of neighbors and participate in a Habitat for Humanity build. Be sure to wear warm clothing and comfortable, closed-toe shoes. Contact Robbie Alder at [ralder@bez613.org](mailto:ralder@bez613.org) with questions.

Visit <https://bez613.org/> or [@CongregationBEZ](https://www.facebook.com/CongregationBEZ) on Facebook for more information.

## Congregation Beth Shalom

Congregation Beth Shalom is located at 3085 West 116th Street, Carmel, Indiana 46032 ("Temple"). The CBS mailing address is 4000 W. 106th St, Ste 125-118, Carmel, IN 46032.

**REGULAR CBS SHABBAT SERVICES: 6:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY EVENING IN THE TEMPLE CHAPEL.** Worship services are both in person and virtual. Zoom links and access codes are available to everyone through the CBS website. You are invited and welcome to participate, whether in person or through Zoom.

**TORAH STUDY, 9:30-10:30 A.M. EVERY SATURDAY MORNING IN THE TEMPLE LIBRARY.** It immediately precedes any Saturday morning service.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 12:**

- 6:30-7 p.m. Shabbat Service
- 7:15-8 p.m. Selichot Communal Prayers for Divine Forgiveness. This quiet, meditative reflection moves into the Days of Awe. Selichot service will be followed by a dessert oneg.

Visit [www.bethshalomindy.org](http://www.bethshalomindy.org) for up-to-date information and details on how to participate in any of CBS' events. See the "Home" page or the "Calendar" tab under the header "What's Happening."

## Congregation B'nai Torah

Weekly Classes

**DAF YOMI: 6:15 A.M. AND 7:45 A.M. ON SUNDAYS.**

**LUNCH & LEARN: NOON ON MONDAYS.** Rabbi Hasten is teaching the book of Shmuel.

**HALACHA CLASS:** between Mincha & Maariv, Sunday through Thursday.

**CHOVOT HALEVAVOT:** Mondays after Maariv.

**TEHILLIM FOR WOMEN: 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY IN THE LIBRARY.**

**MEN'S MISHMAR: 7:30 P.M. THURSDAY NIGHTS,** an hour before Mincha. Learn with a chavrusa or join a class.

**SHABBAT MORNING CLASS FOR 5TH GRADERS & YOUNGER:** approximately 30 minutes before kiddush.

**RAMBAN ON THE PARSHAH:** After kiddush on Shabbat mornings.

**PARSHAT SHAVUA:** An hour before Mincha on Shabbat Seudah Shlishit Class. Rabbi Teitelbaum will be speaking.

Visit [btorahindy.org](http://btorahindy.org), email [office@btorah.org](mailto:office@btorah.org) or call (317) 253-5253 ext. 1 for more information.

## Chabad Lubavitch of Indiana

Chabad Center for Jewish Life Weekly Services – 10 a.m. Shabbat Services every Saturday; 9 a.m. Sunday Services every Sunday. Visit [www.chabadindiana.org](http://www.chabadindiana.org) or [@chabadindiana](https://www.facebook.com/chabadindiana) on Facebook for upcoming events, classes and programs.

## Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

**SHACHARIT: 7:15 A.M. MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS (8:30 A.M. ON HOLIDAYS) 7:30 A.M. TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS (8:30 a.m. on holidays)**

**SHABBAT SHACHARIT SERVICE: 9 A.M. SATURDAYS**

**SHACHARIT SERVICE AT CHABAD**

**(UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): 9 A.M. SUNDAYS**

**CLASSES WITH RABBI DANIEL ASKENAZI: 1 P.M. SHABBAT CLASS.** After the Oneg, learn about a variety of halacha, holidays, and topics that arise in discussions.

**TNT (TUESDAY NIGHT TORAH): 8:15 P.M. TUESDAYS.** Join for an in-depth, lively discussion on the parasha of the week.

**WOMEN'S CLASSES WITH RUBISSA RAJEL ASKENAZI: MONDAYS, SEPT. 5 AND 15.** "60 Minutes of Feminine Insight and Reality."

Contact Rabbi Daniel Askenazi at [Rabbi@etzchaimindy.org](mailto:Rabbi@etzchaimindy.org) with questions about classes. Visit [www.etzchaimindy.org/calendar](http://www.etzchaimindy.org/calendar) for more information.

### Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation

**KABBALAT SHABBAT: 6:15 P.M. FRIDAYS.** Join IHC for the weekly service bringing the peace of Shabbat into homes. You can watch live at [ihcindy.org/streaming](http://ihcindy.org/streaming).

**SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY: 9 A.M. SATURDAYS.** IHC clergy guides the group through the Torah, chapter by chapter, text seeking understanding of the teaching for the time and discussing its message for today. Unless otherwise noted, you can attend in person or online. No prior knowledge is necessary and all are welcome. Registration for new attendees is now required to attend Torah Study online. Email [BethMH@ihcindy.org](mailto:BethMH@ihcindy.org) by 3 p.m. each Friday to receive the Zoom link.

**IHC SISTERHOOD'S GIFT SHOP HOURS: 10 A.M. – 2 P.M. TUESDAYS - FRIDAYS; 5:15 – 6:15 P.M. FRIDAYS; 9:45 A.M. – 12 P.M. SUNDAYS** when the Jewish Learning Program is in session. You can also make a special appointment to shop by emailing [ihcsisterhoodgiftshop1@gmail.com](mailto:ihcsisterhoodgiftshop1@gmail.com).

**INTERFAITH PARENTING: FIND YOUR PLACE: 10–11 A.M. SUNDAY, SEPT. 7.** Join this opportunity for interfaith parents to gather for open discussions and to share their experiences in a safe space.

**JEWISH BOOK CLUB: 12 – 1:30 P.M. SEPT. 9 AND OCT. 14.** The Jewish Book Club is a great way for book lovers to enjoy getting to know each other through lively discussion about great books with Jewish and literary value. Selections are mostly fiction, occasional biography/memoir or historical non-

fiction. The book clubs meets on Zoom and occasionally in person.

**SISTERS IN THE SUKKAH: 6 P.M. MONDAY, OCT. 6.** All women of IHC are invited to attend one of Sisterhood's most beloved events of the year. You can find more details on this event at [ihcindy.org/sisters-in-the-sukkah](http://ihcindy.org/sisters-in-the-sukkah).

**EUCHRE CIRCLE: 6 P.M. THURSDAY, OCT. 23.** All levels of play are welcome to come and have some fun, meet new people, and compete for a prize. Email Circle Leader Melanie Gottlieb at [mlgott9675@gmail.com](mailto:mlgott9675@gmail.com) with questions. This circle also meets at 10 a.m. Mondays, Sept. 8 and Oct. 27.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: 6 P.M. THURSDAY, OCT. 30.** Join Cantor Aviva Marer and Clinical Psychologist Tami Krichiver in a warm, confidential environment to comfort one another, share your pain, reflect on loss, or simply observe, and listen.

**MAHJONGG MAVENS: 10 A.M. OR 2:30 P.M. FRIDAYS.** Grab your tile set and play a game (or 10) with the other IHC Mahjongg mavens. This addictive game of skill, strategy, and luck is a great way to spend time with other IHC enthusiasts on a Friday. Contact Amy Isaacs with questions.

Visit [ihcindy.org](http://ihcindy.org) or [@IHCIndy](https://www.facebook.com/IHCIndy) on Facebook for links to all Zoom services, classes and programs and for more information.

### Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

**FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICES: 6:30 P.M.**

- First Friday of the month: Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service
- Fourth Friday of the month: Fourth Friday Forum guest speaker series

**SATURDAY SHABBAT SERVICES: 9:30 A.M.**

**NOSH & DRASH: FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH (SEPT. 6 & OCT. 4) AFTER SERVICES.**

**WEEKDAY MINYAN: 6:30 P.M. MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS.**

**BOOK STUDY WITH RABBI SENDROW: 7 P.M. ON MONDAYS VIA ZOOM.**

**TORAH STUDY GROUP LED BY RABBI SENDROW: 11 A.M. WEDNESDAYS.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** will be held each weekend not in conflict with the High Holidays.

Visit [www.shaareytefilla.org](http://www.shaareytefilla.org) for more

information.

### Temple Beth El Muncie

**KABBALAT SHABBAT: 7:30 P.M. SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE.**

**TORAH STUDY GROUP: 10 A.M. SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE.**

Visit [templebethelmuncie.org](http://templebethelmuncie.org) and their weekly emails for more information on classes and programs. Connect with Temple Beth El [@TempleBethEl](https://www.facebook.com/TempleBethEl) on Facebook, (765) 702-7731 or email [contact@templebethelmuncie.org](mailto:contact@templebethelmuncie.org).



ROSH  
HASHANAH  
שנה טובה

As we welcome a new year filled with hope and renewal, we are deeply grateful for your continued support of the Indianapolis Jewish community. Your generosity helps sustain vital programs, strengthen connections, and uplift lives.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful, healthy, and sweet New Year.

L'Shana Tovah U'Metukah

 Jewish Federation  
of Greater Indianapolis

Visit  
[www.jewishindianapolis.org/highholidays](http://www.jewishindianapolis.org/highholidays)  
for more information on the Jewish high holidays and a complete service schedule.

# Marking October 7



## Greater Indianapolis Jewish community **October 7 Anniversary Commemoration**

Honor Oct. 7 victims, stand with Israel, and call for our hostages' return. Then watch October 8, a documentary on rising antisemitism since the Hamas attack, followed by a panel discussion.

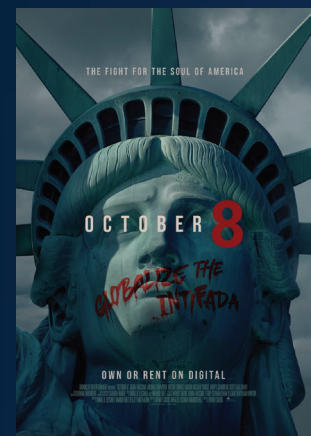
5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16

Indiana State Museum's Dean and Barbara White Auditorium

Register at [bit.ly/markingoct7](https://bit.ly/markingoct7)

Contact Andrea Kruszynski at [akruszynski@jfgi.org](mailto:akruszynski@jfgi.org) with questions.

Sponsored by



Jewish Federation  
of Greater Indianapolis



CONGREGATION  
BETH EL  
ZEDECK



CONGREGATION  
BETH SHALOM



EITZ CHAIM  
SEPHARDIC  
CONGREGATION



Hasten Hebrew Academy  
of Indianapolis



INDIANAPOLIS  
HEBREW CONGREGATION



Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

StandWithUs

M I D W E S T