

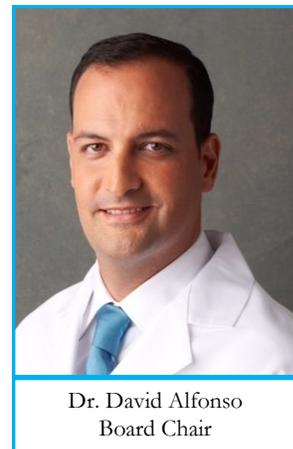


Jewish Federation[®]
OF GRAND RAPIDS

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

Shalom from the Jewish Federation,

As this edition of the *Shofar* comes to print and email we are approaching the end of winter and beginning of spring. This time frame also correlates with the waning few months of our annual campaign. I wanted to take this opportunity to appeal to those of you in our community who haven't donated to the campaign. There is still time to contribute to the Federation and help enhance our impact on the Jewish Community. We receive donations through the end of April to allow for people who haven't been able to make a donation up to this point. At the Federation we allocate all of the money that is raised from our community, and a great deal stays here in Grand Rapids to help sustain and expand our reach to our community members. If you have ever been to one of the many cultural events that we sponsor, you can appreciate the impact we have on helping to bring our community together. We rely on the generosity of our community to provide these services. As the spring approaches, I hope that you will make a personally meaningful gift to your Federation.



Dr. David Alfonso
Board Chair

Recently, you may have seen an email introducing our new executive director Marisa Reed. We are very excited to have her assume her new role and know that she will provide excellent leadership for the Federation. We are working on prioritizing the needs of our community and how we can best meet those needs moving forward. We are also working on organizing a subsidized trip to Israel in the next year or so, and would encourage anyone who has an interest to contact the Federation to become involved in the planning. There are many exciting ideas and projects in the works for our Jewish Community, and I hope that you will increase your time and talent to our forward momentum.

Sincerely,
David R Alfonso

Our Mission

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids unites the local Jewish community to sustain and strengthen Jews locally, in Israel, and around the world.

This mission is accomplished by providing services to the community and through fundraising and allocation efforts.

**Like Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
on Facebook!**

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The Shofar

ADAR/NISSAN 5777 — MARCH 2017 — WWW.JEWISHGRANDRAPIDS.ORG

Jewish Federation of

Grand Rapids

2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.942.5553
616.942.5780 fax
info@jfgr.org
www.jfgr.org

Officers

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David Alfonso
Vice Chairs
Dan Hurwitz
Judith Joseph
Greg Kaufman
Karen Padnos
Marni Vyn
Past Chair
Claude Titcher III
Executive Director
Marisa Reed

Board of Directors

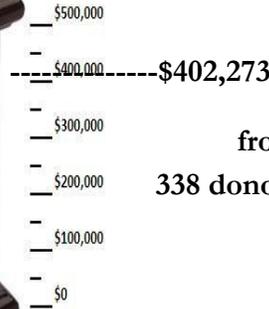
Davida Dennen
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Lanny Thodey
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Rabbi David Krishef
Paula Bojsen, President
Temple Emanuel
Rabbi Michael Schadick
Joshua Wease, President
Chabad House
Of Western Michigan
Rabbi Yosef Weingarten



Campaign 2016



Your donation to JFGR is tax-deductible. Payments can be made by cash, check, credit card or stock.

Pay in full or set up installments.

You can even pay online at www.jewishgrandrapids.org

Any new gift or increase is matched dollar for dollar by a challenge grant

*Total does not include matching grants.

**Matching Grants
Campaign 2016**

The **Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation** has made a dollar-for-dollar matching grant commitment for all new gifts and increases in contributions.

In addition, the **Hy and Greta Berkowitz Foundation** has made a similar matching grant commitment for new gifts and increases in contributions from donors age 45 and under.

Have you ever thought about contributing to, or setting up, a **L'dor Vador Endowment Fund** to help ensure the future of our Jewish community?

Please contact the Federation office at 616-942-5553 or info@jfgr.org to learn more.



STAFF:

Executive Director: Marisa Reed, ext. 207, marisa@jfgr.org | Director of Social Service Resources: Ann Berman, ext. 206, ann@jfgr.org | Financial Administrator: Jennifer Stanton, ext. 203, jennifer@jfgr.org | Director of Donor Relations: Cathy Winick, ext. 204, cathy@jfgr.org



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(616) 942-5553
www.jfgr.org

Please cut out this pledge card, fill it in and send it to the Federation office.

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO THE FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN THE SUM OF: \$ _____

DONOR'S SIGNATURE

Method of Payment: Check Stock
Please Charge my: MasterCard Visa
 Discover American Express

Live Generously.

Name _____

Address _____

Please consider a 10% increase

Exp. Date: _____ Card Number _____
CVV _____

Welcome

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids welcomes our new Executive Director Marisa Reed. Marisa and her husband Adam and four children Sophie, Harry, Maya and Noah, are new members of our Jewish Community from New York City. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Hofstra University School of Law. Marisa has a background in Judaic Studies and has a wealth of experience in areas of non-profit advocacy and fundraising. Very early in her career she developed a strong connection to Judaism, reinforced through a volunteer Kibbutzim mission to Israel as well as pursuing educational opportunities at The Jewish Theological Seminary and Hebrew University. We are excited to have her assume her new position and help lead our Federation in its mission to enhance Jewish life in West Michigan.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids



Marisa Reed

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT IT IS ALREADY TIME TO THINK ABOUT SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS!

Do you know a child who plans to attend a Jewish summer camp? They may qualify to apply for a camp scholarship through the David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund. Applications are available on line at www.jewishgrandrapids.org or upon request, and are due by March 15, 2017.

Please contact the Jewish Federation at 616-942-5553 for more information.

Ann Berman

Director of Social Service Resources

Note: All applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Committee and held in the strictest confidence.



Lunch Bunch!

Thursday, March 16 at
Marco's



884 Forest Hills Ave SE

11:30 am

Cost: \$10

RSVP by Tuesday March 14 to Ann at
616-942-5553

or email ann@ifgr.org.

Transportation available by calling our office.

Lunch Bunch

SAVE THESE DATES

In 2017

For Future Lunch Bunches...



- April 20
- May 18
- June 22



Be Part of JFFGR!

Become a Sponsor!

We couldn't do what we do without our donors support.

Help ensure another dazzling year of Jewish and Israel films

Visit us at: www.jewishgrandrapids.org

The 2017 Jewish Film Festival is once again bringing special movies to the Grand Rapids community. The committee has been previewing movies and planning special programs. As in previous years, the Film Festival will be held at Celebration! North Cinemas. Watch for more details about Festival events in our community mailings.

Film Festival is offering special rates through a **Flex Pass** (eight admissions) for **\$36**. Flex Pass ticket holders will have seats reserved until **THIRTY MINUTES** prior to the movie beginning. At that time, tickets will be sold for all seats.

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE EARLY. That means even if you are holding a Flex Pass ticket, seats are not guaranteed later than thirty minutes prior to movie time. **Flex Pass tickets are only available until April 30th.**

The Film Festival also offers members of the community an opportunity to become an individual sponsor of the Jewish

Film Festival. Please read about the benefits of becoming a financial supporter below.

Individual Sponsors Get Great Benefits!

Director: (\$500) Receive two Flex Passes (16 admissions), recognition in all publications, and four admissions to all private receptions, dinners and events.

Producer: (\$250) Receive two Flex Passes (16 admissions), recognition in all publications, and two admissions to all private receptions, dinners and events.

Actor: (\$100) Receive one season punch card (8 admissions) and recognition in the program booklet.

Film Fan: If you would like to financially support the Jewish Film Festival and do not see a sponsorship that interests you, please feel free to send a contribution in any amount to the Federation office. You will be listed in the program booklet.

Yes! I would like to be a Film Festival Sponsor

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

_____ Film Festival Director (\$500)

_____ Film Festival Producer (\$250)

_____ Film Festival Actor (\$100)

_____ Film Festival Fan

_____ Flex Pass (\$36.00)

Mail this form and your check to:
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
 2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506



Sunday, April 30 — Thursday, May 4



April 30 - Sunday

ABULELE Family matinee

96min – Adventure – Hebrew/English Subtitles

Ancient legends warn children about the *Abulele* - enormous, furry and sometimes dangerous monsters who are able to hide among the human race by making themselves invisible except to special children who are in need of a friend. In this heartfelt family film, Adam, a young boy grieving from the loss of his brother, discovers an Abulele living in his building. When Adam realizes that it is not the Abulele, but the humans who are the real monsters, he risks everything to save his friendly giant.



Co-sponsored by United Jewish School

April 30 - Sunday

DOUGH

94min – Comedy – English

Curmudgeon widower Nat Dayan clings to his way of life as a kosher bakery shop owner in London's East End. Understaffed, Nat reluctantly enlists the help of teenager Avyash, who has a secret side gig selling marijuana to help his immigrant mother make ends meet. When Avyash accidentally drops his stash into the mixing dough, the challah starts flying off the shelves and an unlikely friendship forms between the old Jewish baker and his young Muslim apprentice. *Dough* is a warmhearted and humorous story about overcoming prejudice and finding redemption in unexpected places.



Dessert Reception to follow

May 1 - Monday

MY HERO BROTHER

77min – Documentary – Hebrew/English Subtitles

A group of remarkable young people with Down syndrome embark on a demanding trek through the India Himalayas, accompanied by their "normal" brothers and sisters. Unresolved conflicts and the complexities of growing up with a Down syndrome child in the family come to surface, while a heart-warming and special closeness develops among the siblings as they deal with formidable physical and emotional challenges. Through the eye of the camera, we catch a glimpse into the internal world of those with Down syndrome, and are led on our own journey of discovery and admiration as their inspiring natural qualities begin to emerge.



Guest Speaker from Down Syndrome Association

1:30pm

May 2 - Tuesday

FANNY'S JOURNEY

94min – Drama (based on true story) – French/English Subtitles

Bristling with suspense and moving in equal measure, *Fanny's Journey* tells the true story of exceptional bravery and survival against all odds. This beautiful, perfect, feel-good movie follows a group of children fleeing Nazi-occupied France as they learn about independence, and the value of friendship in the midst of tumultuous circumstances.



7:30pm

May 3 - Wednesday

ROCK IN THE RED ZONE

87min – Documentary – English/Hebrew Subtitles

Rock in the Red Zone is a personal view from the ground on the frontlines of an endless war, and a powerful exploration into the lives and art of musicians struggling to create in a conflict zone. Filmmaker Laura Bialis encounters a creative community that captivates her, leads her to love and changes the course of her life. *Rock in the Red Zone* demonstrates the power of artistic creation to transcend even the most challenging circumstances. It also reminds us that sometimes in the least expected places, we can find magic.



Screening will be followed by Q&A session and a live musical performance by featured musician Avi Vaknin.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FESTIVAL DINNER
IN THE WAVE ROOM** catered by Sheshco

May 4 - Thursday

HARMONIA

97min – Drama – Hebrew/English Subtitles

A contemporary variation of the biblical story of Abraham, Sarah, Hagar and Isaac. Sarah, a harpist with the Jerusalem Philharmonic Orchestra is married to its conductor Abraham. When Hagar, a young Palestinian horn player, joins the orchestra, the thin balance in their family is shaken. *Harmonia* uncovers the metaphoric emotional roots of the ancient conflict between two people living in Jerusalem, now seeking harmony through a dramatic encounter between Western and Eastern music.



7:30pm

FAMILY FUN SKATING PARTY

For All Ages

Join Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids community for ice skating fun, or just watch the skaters from the warmth of the observation room overlooking the rink.

Complimentary refreshments



Sunday, March 26th

1:00pm to 3:00pm

Patterson Ice Arena

2550 Patterson Ave SE

(between Burton and 28th Street)

Special welcome to PJ Library Families

RSVP to Cathy:616-942-5553 or email
Cathy@jfg.org

Support from Ravitz Foundation

Hadassah Book Club

"After Winter Break" Meeting is:

When: Wednesday, March 15th

Time: 6:00pm

Location: 3403 Burton Ridge SE Apt B

Please RSVP to Sue 616-949-3505

We will discuss books to read.

Here are a few suggestions:

A Man Called Ove by Frederick Backman

The Muralist by B.A. Shapiro

West with the Night by Beryl Markham

Circling the Sun by Paula McLain

Also bring possible choices for future discussion

Looking forward to seeing all of you.

We are as always your "BOOK ENDS."

Sue Remes 616-949-3505

Flory Silverstein 616-949-5766



Looking for Mahjongg players!

Fridays 1:00pm-4:00pm.

This a casual game, but somewhat competitive. Players do not have to commit to every week. For more information.

Contact Arlene Siegel
at 616-446-8547



Now infant through age 12!
**Thank you to the Ravitz Foundation and
Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation**

WHAT?

PJ Library® in Grand Rapids offers the gift of free, high quality Jewish books and music each month to children ages 6 months through 12 years all across North America.

WHY?

Our books celebrate important aspects of Jewish culture, values, and tradition, and become cherished stories.

HOW?

Signing up is easy! To sign up for PJ Library, visit

www.pjlibrary.org

PJ Library in Grand Rapids is a gift from Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in partnership with Ravitz Foundation, Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

**A GIFT for
JEWISH CHILDREN**
and their families.



PJ Library
Grand Rapids

www.pjlibrary.org

Three Events you don't want to miss!

March 3rd - 5th
Scholar-in-Residence
Weekend



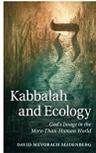
Rabbi David Mevorach Seidenberg

Rabbi Seidenberg is the author of *Kabbalah and Ecology: God's Image in the More-Than-Human World* (Cambridge, 2015) and the creator of neohasid.org. He teaches text, music/dance, ecology, and the environment. He is one of the world's foremost scholars on Judaism and ecology. Rabbi Seidenberg's teaching empowers learners to become creators of Judaism through deep study and communion with texts and tradition. He brings not only expertise in science and texts, but also engagement with spirit, embodiment, and ritual. His personal practice includes a focus on the "shamanic" dimension of rituals and religious practices like Shabbat and Sukkot.

Friday night, 6:00pm, Temple Emanuel. Enjoy a Tsfat Shabbat experience, merging a typical Reform service with niggunim, melodies, some teaching, and maybe even some dancing!

Shabbat morning, Ahavas Israel. Following the service and a light lunch, Rabbi Seidenberg will speak about Kabbalah and the Exuberance of Life.

Sunday morning, Temple Emanuel. Following bagels (beginning at 10:00), Rabbi Seidenberg will speak about The Embodied Earth and sign his book, which will be available for sale.



Holocaust Survivor to Speaker

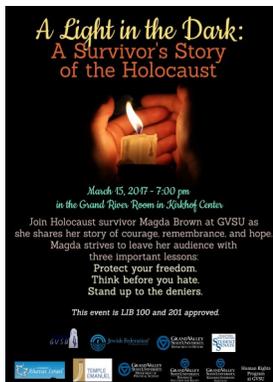
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017
7:00PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Kirkhof Center, 1 Campus Dr. Allendale, MI
RM 2250 GRAND RIVER ROOM

Hillel at GVSU is hosting speaker Magda Brown for a program titled *Light in the Dark: A Survivor's Story of the Holocaust*.

This event is FREE and all are invited to attend.

This event is co-sponsored by The Henry Pestka Charitable Fund and Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.



Community
Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 12
12:30pm to 2:30pm

At Temple Emanuel

After Sunday School.

There will be a Pizza lunch! Snacks!

Hamentaschen!

Carnival games for all ages!

Purim crafts!

A costume parade!

Support from
Ravitz
Foundation



Parshat Mishpatim and HEBREW FREE LOAN

In The Torah portion, *Parshat Mishpatim*, we are taught about the mitzvah of showing sensitivity to the poor by lending money without charging interest. In our community, Hebrew Free Loan's mission has been to lend money without interest to Michigan's Jews in need. In fact, Hebrew Free Loan was founded in 1895 in Detroit as "G'milith Chasudim", the "Acts of Loving Kindness," to help newcomers carve out a niche for themselves and become part of the American Dream.

And while you may know that they have provided thousands of interest-free loans to Jews across Michigan, you may be surprised in the various types of loans that the agency gives. They help with dental and medical expenses, with women to get out of domestic violence situations, with kids who want to go to camp, with the high cost of adoptions and in-vitro fertilizations, with home remodeling, and with academic programs overseas. Hebrew Free Loan also helps small businesses to launch and expand, offers help with living expenses, used cars and auto repairs, and with modest Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and wedding celebrations. Hebrew Free Loan's William Davidson Jewish College Loan Program provides significant, interest-free loan dollars that are renewable each year to Jewish college and graduate students across Michigan. And HFL's Marvin I. Danto Small Business Loan Program can provide up to a \$100,000 interest-free loan for a 51% Jewish owned business in Michigan.

At Hebrew Free Loan, every person is met with understanding, respect, dignity, confidentiality and the agency's sincere desire to help fellow Jews in times of need. In the spirit of MISHPATIM, **if you or anyone you know may need Hebrew Free Loan, please call 248-723-8184 or e-mail the agency at info@hfldetroit.org, and the staff will be ready to help.**

Thank you and Shabbat Shalom.

What's Happening Jewish Grand Rapids

March 2017 Calendar of Events

3	Scholar in Residence at Temple Emanuel 6:00pm
4	Scholar in Residence at Ahavas Israel following services
5	Scholar in Residence at Temple Emanuel 10:00am
6	Jewish Women Circle 7:30pm
7	Kids Club at Chabad House 4:30pm to 6:30pm
11	Purim Party at Chabad at 8:00pm
12	Community Purim Carnival at Temple Emanuel 12:30pm to 2:30pm Purim Dinner at Chabad at 5:30pm
15	Holocaust Speaker at GVSU 7:00pm
19	Your Opinion Matters at Temple Emanuel 10:00am
23	CTeen Jr at Chabad 4:00pm to 6:00pm
26	PJ Library Skating Party 1:00pm to 3:00pm
28	Interfaith Community Seder at Temple Emanuel 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Editor's Note – 'What's Happening' includes Jewish programming open to *all* members of our West Michigan Jewish community, whether offered by Federation, one of our congregations, cultural organizations or others. More information about these events can be found in *The Shofar*, on the Federation website, or from other Jewish organizations.



United Jewish School
ujspamrush@gmail.com
www.unitedjewishschool.org

School closings: Please tune in to WZZM 13 and WOOD TV 8 for UJS closings. It will be listed as United Jewish School. You may also check their websites.

Calendar:

- March 5 Marc Rossio
- March 12 Purim/UJS Open House
- March 19 Service for grades 3-6
- March 26 All school Passover Seder/Marc Rossio
Confirmation begins

Chabad House

JLI—"The Dilemma"

Modern Dilemmas. Talmudic Debates.

Your Solutions.

Please join us for a remarkable six-week course from the Rohr Jewish Learning.

To register today, visit myJLI.com

Six Wednesday Evenings 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. | Began February 1st 2017

At the Chabad House 2615 Michigan St. NE Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506

Fee \$99 (textbook included)

\$180 Sponsor

For more Info or to register, please contact Rabbi Mordechai at 269.903.2770 or

Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com

Jewish Woman's Circle

MONDAY, MARCH 6th

Savory Hamantashen

Try your hand at making these delectable hamantashen with creative fillings.

Rediscover the story of Purim and the woman who made it all happen.

Hostess: Paula Miller 41 Pond Ridge Dr NE

Chair: Marni Vyn

Programs Begins 7:30 P.M. | Fee \$10 Friend: \$18

Sponsor: \$54

For more Info or to RSVP contact Nechamy at 616.828.2340 or Nechamy8@gmail.com

Chabad Kids Club - Mini Chefs

TUESDAY, MARCH 7th | 4:30-6:30pm

Hamantashen

Experience the joy of Kosher Cooking!

Uncover the story of Esther and her life in the king's palace as we bake delicious chocolate dipped Hamantashen.

Mini Chefs is a unique culinary experience that gives your children the opportunity to cook, bake and decorate fabulous Jewish themed foods and take home their own handmade creations

For Jewish Boys & Girls ages 5-11

\$10 per session (includes light dinner)

For more information or to RSVP Contact Rivka at 616.206.9654

The Purim Party

Saturday, March 11th 2017 | 8:00pm

Come dressed in your most original costume, hear the Megillah and enjoy some Purim treats!

Fun for the Whole Family!!

34th Annual Purim Celebration Dinner

The Chabad House of Western Michigan invites the entire Jewish community to the Purim Day | **Sunday, March 12th 2017** At The Chabad House 2615

Michigan St N.E. Lchaim - Live Music Entertainment

Come join us for a festive, fun and joyous evening.

Hors d'oeuvres: 5:30pm | Megillah Reading:

5:45pm | Dinner: 6:15pm Donation \$36 per person | for more info or to RSVP call 616-957-0770

Cteen Junior

Date: MARCH 23RD | 4:00pm-6:00pm

Topic: Passover 2.0

Activity: Make Matzah Ball soup

Giving back: Pack Matzah for someone that is in the hospital.

For Jewish Boys & Girls Grades 6th- 8th

Enrich your own Jewish pride while giving back to the community

Cteen Grand Rapids

SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH | 1:00-3:00pm

Cteen Day- "Passover JEWperdy" Lets enjoy a Chocolate Seder while playing a grand game of Jewperdy!

For more information or to RSVP for CTeen or CTeen Junior, Contact Rivka at 616.206.9654

Gan Israel Day Camp

A Jewish summer experience of a lifetime!

Camp Gan Israel is designed to make your child's summer vacation fun, stimulating and entertaining!

The Camp Gan Israel experience is a unique combination of Jewish pride and fun!

Dates: **June 26th - July 14th 2017**

Kiddy Camp: Ages 3-5, **9:00am - 3:30pm**

Main Division: Ages 6-10, **9:00am - 3:30pm**

Pre - Teen Division: Ages 11-12, **9:00am - 3:30pm**

Tuition fees cover all activities, snacks, and trips.

3 week session: \$550

Per week: \$200 for registration or for more info

please contact Rivka at (616)206.9654 or email us at campganisraelgr@gmail.com

*Congregation Ahavas Israel***March 3-5, 2017, Scholar in Residence**

Rabbi David Mevorach Seidenberg.

Rabbi Seidenberg is the author of *Kabbalah and Ecology: God's Image in the More-Than-Human World* (Cambridge, 2015) and the creator of neohasid.org. He teaches text, music/dance, ecology, and the environment. He is one of the world's foremost scholars on Judaism and ecology.

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Sunday morning, Temple Emanuel. Following bagels (beginning at 10:00), he'll speak about *The Embodied Earth* and sign his book, which will be available for sale.

Save the Date:

Limmud Michigan 2017: A Day of Jewish Learning Sunday, March 19th, 2017, 10am to 5pm, at the beautiful new Student Center at Wayne State University. Transportation, convenient parking and a kosher lunch & snacks will be in ample supply!

Limmud Michigan is a volunteer run festival and celebration of Jewish thought, culture, learning, teaching and fun! Dedicated to the Jewish experience and exploration in all its variety, Limmud is committed to harnessing the energy of people from across the Jewish community.

Limmud Michigan is:

- Pluralistic
- Focused on choice (there were approximately 50 presentations at last year's event)
- All volunteer (including all of the presenters)
- Diverse geographically, with participation from throughout Michigan

Contact Rabbi Krishef for more information, 949-2840 or Rabbi@ahavasisraelgr.org.

Torah Study Shabbat, March 11**Abbreviated Shabbat service, 2nd Shabbat of each month**

Please join us for a shortened Shabbat service preceded by Torah study on the 2nd Shabbat of each month. The next Torah study Shabbat services will be on March 11 and April 8.

The schedule is:

9:30 a.m. Torah study

10:30 a.m. Service

11:55 a.m. (approximately) Kiddush

Tot Shabbat/Young Junior Congregation, Saturday, March 11

Tot Shabbat/Junior Congregation meets on the second Shabbat of each month, coinciding with the Torah study Shabbat abbreviated service, at 10:30 a.m. Please let Marni Vyn know that you are coming marnivyn@gmail.com. Next month, mark your calendar for Saturday, April 8.

Celebrate Purim!**Saturday night, March 11, 8:00 p.m.**

The Religious Life committee celebrates Purim with food and drink following the megillah reading. Come one, come all - this is a celebration for young children and older adults alike! Also that evening will be **OUR ANNUAL PURIMSPEIL**, written by Diane Baum..

Sunday, March 12

9:30 a.m. — morning Purim service with Megillah reading-

*Temple Emanuel***March 18th the Temple Social Action Committee will host Dance Into Spring,**

a dance for young adults in the Grand Rapids area who face mental and physical challenges. Light appetizers will be served. Dressy casual attire, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM. RSVP to Sarah at the Temple office by calling [\(616\) 459-5976](tel:6164595976) extension #20, or by emailing sarah@grtemple.org. For admission, please bring a donation of (3) canned goods to the Temple Emanuel food bank which serves the greater Grand Rapids community.

March 19th at 10:00 AM is the next Your Opinion Matters & Brunch.

Join moderator and chef Jim Siegel for a hot meal and some hot topics. *Your Opinion Matters* is meant to be controversial. Topics are picked so that everyone gets to hear both sides of an issue instead of only hearing echoes of their own opinions. The topic for March 19th is: We inherited from God a physical world (air, water, earth, rivers, weather, etc.) and a living world (plants, animals & most importantly man). Explain to me why almost many believe that we need to honor and preserve one and not the other? RSVP to the Temple Office 459-5976 or to Jim Siegel at Jims@siegeljewelers.com.

Interfaith Community Teaching Seder at Temple on**Tuesday, March 28th 7 PM to 9 PM.**

Join us as we welcome members of the Grand Rapids interfaith community who are interested in learning about the Passover Seder. Tickets are \$18 per adult and \$10 for children 12 and under. All are welcome to attend and learn about religious aspects and family traditions during this service. We invite the members of the Jewish community to tell their non-Jewish friends and neighbors about this program. In addition to an individual Seder plate, a traditional Passover meal will be served. Reservations are required by Friday, March 24! RSVP to the Temple office 459-5976 or Cat@grtemple.org. Space is limited, so reserve early!

Endowment

Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$10 or more to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in honor or in memory of members of our community. We then will acknowledge that donation with a card to that individual or family. This is a wonderful way to send your good wishes and be able to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah.

Please be sure to indicate what the occasion is and who is to receive the card. Please specify which of the following funds you would like your donation to be credited to:

Woman of Valor Fund To honor the women in our lives who have made a difference personally, locally or nationally.

Federation General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund To help ensure the continued work of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids for now and the future.

Julian and Judith Joseph Fund To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.

David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund To provide scholarships to Jewish sleep away camps and experiences.

Chuck and Maxine Shapiro Fund To help ensure long-term aid to Israel and Jews around the world.

Louis and Louise Weiner Fund To help ensure local programming for seniors in the Grand Rapids Jewish Community.

Jerry and Judy Subar Fund To help ensure funding for overseas Jewish communities' needs.

Leven Family Fund To establish and provide Jewish facilities, and support for cooperative programming among the congregations that support Jewish education for our youth.

Sam and Jane Kravitz Social Services Fund To support Jewish social services in Grand Rapids.

Donna G. Boorstein Memorial Fund To help ensure funding for Jewish arts, culture and history in Greater Grand Rapids

Lois and Sheldon Kahn Health Help Fund To support health services for Jewish community members not covered by other financial resources

Thank you for supporting the Grand Rapids Jewish Community

Federation General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund

In honor of Ann Berman

From Margit Sarne

Woman of Valor Endowment Fund

In honor of the wedding anniversary of

Cathy Winick & Martin Hillard

From Diane Ginsburg



Betzalel Art Group
Thursdays, 2:30pm - 4:00pm
Ahavas Israel
Have some art fun with any painting or craft you enjoy doing. It's open to everyone. Please bring your own art or craft supplies, as they are not provided. For further information contact Pat Weller: 616-453-2954 or patandfred@tds.net



JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name _____ Fund (pick from list) _____
Donor Address _____ In honor of _____
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Send card to: Name _____ Notes: _____
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Send card to City/St/Zip _____ **2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506**

The Shofar

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506-1240

Send article text to: Ann@jfgr.org

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Next Issue's Information Deadline:

March 15, 2017



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heck inside for all the events happenings in Grand Rapids!

Scholars-in-Residence Weekend

Purim Carnival

Holocaust Speaker

Family Skating Party

Film Festival information

And all the events at the local synagogues!