

Guide *to* Jewish

NASHVILLE

2020



Jewish Federation
& Jewish Foundation
OF NASHVILLE AND MIDDLE TENNESSEE

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Welcome to Nashville!

I am glad to call Nashville my home, and I hope you feel the same way, too. As a warm and welcoming Jewish community, we seek to provide an inclusive experience for newcomers, lifelong Nashvillians, and everyone in between.

With many diverse perspectives reflected in the Nashville and Middle Tennessee Jewish community, we want people to share ideas and approaches which will involve and engage everyone, including interfaith couples and families, LGBTQ individuals and families, and individuals with differing abilities.

Through the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, together with our five Jewish congregations, four agencies, and multiple community organizations, there are countless opportunities for people to connect and feel comfortable as part of our

extended family here.

Our emphasis on outreach and engagement is central to who we are and what we do. I encourage you to reach out to me personally, and I look forward to welcoming you. My direct phone number is (615) 354-1660 and email is eric@jewishnashville.org — plus you can find me online through social media such as Facebook and LinkedIn.



Best wishes,
Eric Stillman



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Editor and Designer

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What Can YOUR Federation do for YOU?



Repairing the World

- Community Relation Committee
- Partnership2Gether Israeli Delegation
- Missions to Israel and Overseas

Financial Literacy Education

- Join the Professional Advisory Council (PAC)
- Attend a PAC Seminar

Social and Business Networking Opportunities

- Women's Philanthropy Group
- Lions of Judah
- Pomegranates
- MENSch Society Men's Philanthropy Group
- Nashville Jewish Entertainment Professionals
- Nashville Jewish Entrepreneur Forum
- Join NowGen Young Professionals Group
- National Young Leadership Cabinet
- B'Nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy

Volunteer Opportunities

- Events
- NowGen Social Action Committee
- Nashville Pride Festival
- Yom Ha'atzmaut Committee
- Welcome Ambassadors
- Inclusion Committee



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Every day, we help Jewish life thrive in Nashville, Israel and in 70 countries around the world through support from our annual campaign and Foundation. We inspire engagement in Jewish life and in assuring a Jewish future. We help vulnerable people. Your generosity makes it all possible.

Our Nashville community

We're the central voluntary organization of the Nashville Jewish community, with a population of at least 11,000 Jews and non-Jews living in 4,700 Jewish households and growing. Through fundraising, planning and community relations efforts, either independently or with other Jewish organizations, we work to pro-mote the general welfare, viability and cohesiveness of the Nashville Jewish community and to ensure the continuity of the Jewish people locally, in Israel and around the world.

Over the years, we've looked to the community leaders and volunteers to direct our activities and plans. Starting with Best Jewish Nashville in 2010, which identified community needs, and following up with a broad-based community study in 2015, our goal is to understand our community and serve its needs. Best Jewish Nashville 2.0 updated the initial assessment of needs and priorities.

Our work centers around five areas:

- convening local Jewish organizations to implement short- and long-term community-building strategies,
- efficient fundraising through a centralized annual campaign,
- funding ongoing and innovative programs that promise to improve Nashville and world Jewry,
- creating endowments to ensure a Jewish future for generations to come, and
- deepening connections between Israel and the Middle Tennessee Jewish community.



In virtually every area of Jewish Federation activity and programming, we're making significant progress. We're reaching out to young adults and families through NowGen programming. There are frequent and varied events for newcomers through our Welcoming Ambassadors program.

The **Community Relations Committee**, through which the Jewish community builds strong and positive relationships with the larger Nashville community, has made significant structural and governance changes in order to expand communal outreach and education efforts on the domestic front and in the area of Israel advocacy and education.

The **LIFE & LEGACY™** program, now in its second year, is an initiative of the Jewish Federation in partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. LIFE & LEGACY™ coordinates and provides financial incentives to help 13 Nashville Jewish agencies, including all five synagogues and many other local community organizations, build firm financial support through a systematic approach to creating their own income-generating endowments. More than 250 people throughout the community have signed over 500 letters of intent pledging to support Jewish Nashville with after-life gifts, and we're helping them learn more about legacies in our **Professional Advisory Committee's** seminars.

The PAC is a group of attorneys, accountants, financial planners, and wealth advisors that provide education to the Jewish community related to wealth transfers to families and for charity.

Our Jewish Federation has emerged as a key leader in our **Partnership2Gether** program, which brings together the Hadera-Eiron region in north central Israel and several Jewish communities in the southeastern United States, including Nashville. Nashvillians are taking national leadership roles with the P2G Joint Steering Committee and on the Jewish Federations of North America's board of trustees.

We thank you for your generosity in partnering with us to create and sustain a vibrant Jewish community. We look forward to continuing our work with you.

Community Relations Committee

The Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee

Leslie Kirby, Chair

Deborah Oleshansky, director of
community relations
(615) 354-1637
deborah@jewishnashville.org

The Community Relations Committee (CRC) is the public affairs arm of the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

CRC's mission remains focused on Israel advocacy, community outreach and social action. As needed, your CRC also deals with incidents of anti-Semitism that

might — either directly or indirectly — affect our community. Last October, the CRC and its Strategic Response subcommittee worked within the Nashville community to help organize a vigil honoring 11 Jewish worshipers on a horrific Shabbat morning at the Tree of Life congregation in Pittsburgh.

The mission of the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee is to advocate for Jewish interests and values, dedicate ourselves to the safety and security of the state of Israel, and foster

constructive relationships within the Jewish community and among people of all faiths and cultures in order to promote a just, democratic and pluralistic American society.

Guided by our Jewish values and our imperative to “repair the world,” this mission includes:

- Promoting Jewish values through community education and engagement;
- Increasing knowledge, understanding, and support for the state of Israel;
- Opposing any climate of anti-Semitism as we work to build positive, respectful interfaith and intercultural relationships; and
- Remaining informed and ready to speak out or support others in our community who may be threatened by injustice.

The CRC has a broad membership that reflects the diversity of the Nashville Jewish community. In a continuing effort to be responsive to the needs of this diverse community and the challenges it faces, the CRC includes at-large members as well as representatives from synagogues and Jewish communal organizations. These representatives serve as liaisons between the CRC and their organizations.

The CRC has presented speakers on Israel as well as on social justice issues in the United States. It participates in activities with interfaith and ethnic groups and social service agencies. It's also involved in issues affecting Jewish students in public and private schools, including textbooks, curriculum, religious accommodation and anti-Semitism. Each spring, CRC hosts the Community Relations Seder, which uses a modified Passover Seder to highlight social action and social justice themes and activities. The event is an opportunity to invite members of the greater Nashville community to join us as we continue to build meaningful and lasting relationships and recommit ourselves to the work of creating a more just community.

To learn more or to join, call Deborah Oleshansky at (615) 354-1637 or by email at Deborah@jewishnashville.org.



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Welcoming Newcomers

Are you new to Nashville? Considering moving to our community? Let's talk! (coffee on us).

The Jewish community in Nashville is an exciting, dynamic and friendly community. Our outreach services will connect you to the community resources you are looking for.

The Jewish Federation works with the local synagogues and other Jewish organizations and agencies to make newcomers feel at home. Our goal is to welcome every newcomer with a letter from the Jewish Federation executive director along with a copy of the Guide to Jewish Nashville and other information about local congregations, agencies and organizations.

Our quarterly newcomers receptions allow those new to Nashville to meet other newcomers and people from our community, to mingle and to get all the information they need about living in Music City. At the reception, Nashville newcomers meet



with volunteers from our community, called Welcoming Ambassadors, who have volunteered to join with the Jewish Federation in reaching out to the newly arrived. Even if you've lived here for a few years, feel free to attend a reception to get better acclimated to Jewish life in Nashville.

In addition to the receptions, we organize small-group dinners throughout the year. Some of the dinners are hosted by our Ambassadors, at their house, and some are at a restaurant. The dinners at the restaurants are self-paid.

To learn more about the receptions, small-group dinners and other newcomers activities, contact outreach@jewishnashville.org or call (615) 354-1696.

And we need you to help us reach every newcomer. If you or someone you know would like a welcome packet or more information about the Welcoming Ambassadors, contact Michal Becker at (615) 354-1696, michal@jewishnashville.org.

the Jewish Observer

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The Observer is the monthly newspaper for the Jewish community of Nashville, published by the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. We cover local stories, updates from local Jewish organizations and news of Jewish interest from around the world.

We strive to be a primary source for community information, both in our print edition and online at jewishobserver-nashville.org.

We welcome submissions from our readers, including articles and digital photos, suggestions for stories or information about upcoming events. Readers also may submit letters to the editor and op-ed columns with a Jewish perspective about current events and trends. Email submissions are preferred; all submissions are subject to review by the editor and/or editorial board before acceptance for publication. Deadline for submissions, including ads, is the 15th of the month before the intended month of publication (Jan. 15 for February issue, for example).

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Jewish Foundation

Being a Jewish philanthropist is for those who believe in the Jewish future. The Jewish Foundation of Nashville, established more than 35 years ago, is the endowment arm of the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. It offers a variety of tax-wise estate planning and charitable giving opportunities to enable donors to meet their individual financial and estate planning needs, realize their philanthropic dreams and create a legacy for our Jewish future. Moreover, the Jewish Foundation provides a major source of funds to support the vital work of the Jewish Federation and the broader community to make Nashville a thriving city for Jewish life.



The Jewish Foundation not only helps connect donors' interests and values to the legacies they wish to create within the Jewish community, it also helps to create a culture of generosity by educating teens on the importance and rewards of giving. And it provides a framework for Nashville's Jewish organizations to create the financial resources that will enable them to continue to provide service in the years ahead.

The Nashville Jewish community, along with many fellow communities across the United States, participates in the LIFE & LEGACY™ program, a four-year effort in which the Jewish Foundation has partnered with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The initiative is aimed at helping local Jewish congregations, schools, agencies and organizations secure endowments while building legacy giving into their philanthropic culture.

Nashville is in its third year of LIFE & LEGACY™ and is making good progress on meeting financial goals. As of Jan. 7, 2020, our 13 participating organizations had obtained over 700 legacy commitments from about 332 donors with an estimated value of \$19,460,000. Over 50 percent of these commitments have been "formalized" or confirmed to the organizational endowments.

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation reports that as of Sept. 30, 2019, in its initial seven years, 63 communities representing 630 organizations have secured almost 26,000 legacy commitments with an estimated value of just under \$1 billion, of which \$100 million has already been placed in organizational endowments.

Other activities of the Jewish Foundation include the B'nai Tzedek program, which educates b'nai mitzvah-age teen donors in taking their first steps in creating donor-advised funds, with support from the Feldman/Hassenfeld Fund for B'nai Tzedek. We have updated The Book of Life display at the Gordon JCC, which recognizes the growing number of donors who have made or have promised to make a permanent endowed gift to benefit a Jewish agency, organization or synagogue.

To learn more about the Jewish Foundation, contact Naomi Limor Sedek, assistant executive director, (615) 354-1642, or naomi@jewishnashville.org.

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The information provided is for informational purposes only and is not intended as legal or tax advice. A professional advisor should be consulted to discuss your options. The Jewish Federation & Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee does not claim to have a specific expertise in a particular area of law, tax planning or estate planning.

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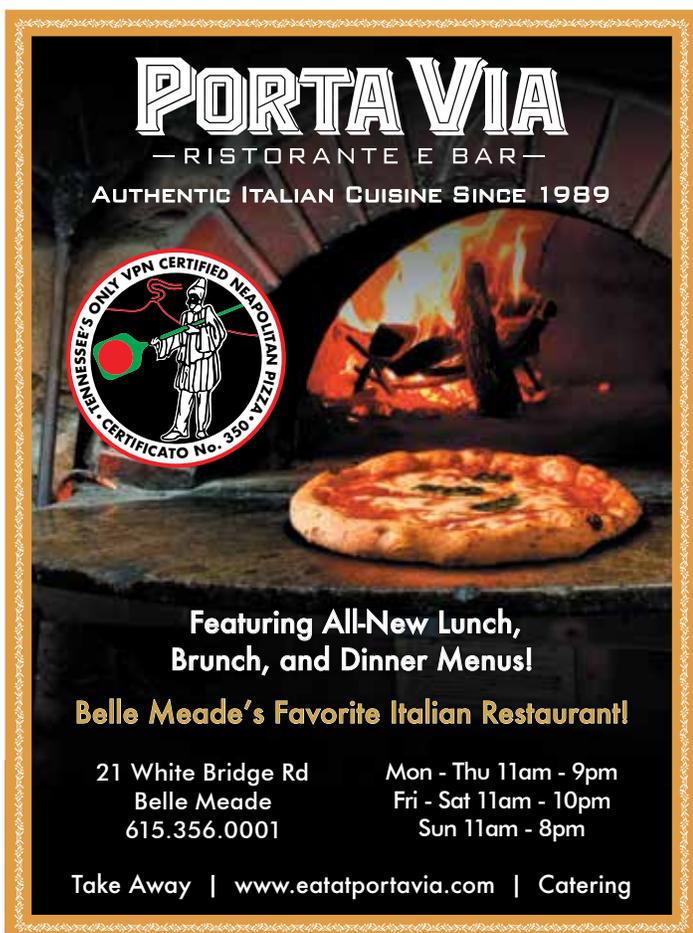
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www.nashvillejcc.org/contact

The Gordon Jewish Community Center is our Jewish community "Living Room." It welcomes all, builds community and provides excellent programs rooted in Jewish values to enrich the mind, body and spirit. In addition to our health, fitness, sports, and aquatics programs, we offer vibrant programming for children, families and adults around Jewish life. You will feel at home, whether you are Jewish, Jew-ish, not sure or not Jewish at all.

Jewish Life

The Gordon JCC offers dynamic and diverse arts, educational and cultural activities for all members of our community. We are the proud home of the **Nashville Jewish Film Festival** and the **Nashville Jewish Book Series**. **J Galleries** presents monthly art shows in our four galleries, along with a monthly reception for featured artists. Each spring, we host **Art on the West Side**, a regional art show featuring local and national artists.

Our events series, **In Conversation**, features talks through a Jewish lens, on the latest trends in the arts, business, science and pop culture and encourages visitors to take a chance and experience something new at our Center. We offer adult classes/groups including mah-jongg, intermediate bridge, oil painting, and book club and adult social activities including Prime Time, Movie Club, Coffee Klatch, and Thank Goodness it's Thursday (TGIT). The J also provides 24-hour, 6-day-a-week transportation assistance for those 65 and older through Shalom Taxi.

Throughout the year, the JCC hosts special events and activities including the Jewish Book Series, Nashville's Jewish Food Festival; the Kosher Nashville Hot Chicken Festival; Under One Roof, a special arts project at Sukkot; and Hanukkah Fest.



Health & Wellness (Fitness, Sports & Aquatics)

Our Fitness Center has everything you expect, and more. We offer a great variety of cardio equipment to get your heart pumping and a full strength circuit, along with free weights, Olympic benches and racks, plate-loaded equipment, dumbbells, barbells, plates and an indoor track. We offer group exercise classes, indoor cycling and fusion studio, yoga and Pilates, personal training and massage.

Sports activities for children and adults include soccer, baseball, basketball, tennis, fencing and racquetball. Adults can play pick-up basketball games weekly – and participate in basketball and softball league play.

The Gordon JCC aquatics program is one of the most robust and sought-after aquatics programs in the city. Our classes and teams are led by highly qualified and trained instructors. We have a magnificent indoor 25-yard saltwater pool and infant/toddler pool, and a world-class Olympic sized outdoor saltwater pool. The outdoor pool includes 50-meter lap swimming lanes, two water slides, and shaded baby pool. We offer swim lessons, swim team, water fitness classes and lifeguard classes.

Children & Families

In addition to a year-round Early Childhood Learning Community and Pre-Kindergarten for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years, the JCC offers Shalom Baby, which provides a community welcome to new babies born in Nashville, and PJ Library, which provides monthly books to children living in Jewish households.

Out-of-school activities include Planet Kid, an after-school program for children in grades K through 6; Camp Davis, one of Nashville's premier summer day camps for children in grades K through 9; and School's Out Days by Camp Davis, out-of-school programs delivered on school holidays and breaks for children in grades K through 6.

Sunday Funday brings families together once a month to spend an afternoon at the Gordon JCC and Kids Night Out provides structured drop-in evening activities for children ages 5 to 12 years so parents can have their own night out.

Our programs for teens include the JCC Maccabi Games, an Olympics-style competition for sports and camaraderie; AZA and BBG, the two local BBYO groups, and BBYO Connect for middle-schoolers.

To participate: Contact Dara Freiberg, membership and development director, (615) 354-1639. Full membership information is at www.nashvillejcc.org/membership/

For adults over 65 at the Gordon JCC

www.nashvillejcc.org/adult

Alex Heller, adult programs director

Alex@nashvillejcc.org

(615) 354-1623

Carrie Mills, cultural arts

carrie@nashvillejcc.org

(615) 354-1699

The Gordon Jewish Community Center's signature programs for seniors include Thank Goodness It's Thursday (TGIT) and Prime Timers. There's also a movie club and a book club. TGIT combines fitness, lunch and a different program every week including guest speakers such as physicians and police officers, plus musicians once per month. Prime Timers meet to brainstorm upcoming activities. We go on day trips and meet for lunch.

Groups meeting regularly

TGIT meets each Thursday at 11:30 a.m. for exercise and a blood pressure check, followed by lunch and a program. Charge is \$3 for JCC members; \$15 for non-members.

Prime Time, for active older adults, meets on the second Monday of each month. Activities have included day and overnight trips, parties, lunches, holiday programs, movie and book clubs, cultural events like the Broadway series at the Tennessee

Performing Arts Center downtown, concerts and opportunities to participate in other community events. Check emails or flyers at the JCC for more information, or contact Alex Heller.

The **movie club** meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Bring your own lunch; we'll provide the popcorn! Free.

The **book club** meets on Fridays once a month. Free - check the JCC website for dates and books (not on a specific schedule).

Check the website for specifics on all of the above programs.

Get there with Shalom Taxi

Shalom Taxi offers a 24-hour, 6-day-a-week transportation assistance program. Criteria for the program include being Jewish or GJCC member, age 65 or older) and residing in Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

To purchase \$5 vouchers contact Carrie Mills at (615) 354-1680 or carrie@nashvillejcc.org.

To participate in senior activities

Contact Alex Heller at (615) 354-1623 or alex@nashvillejcc.org.

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Jewish Family Service of Nashville and Middle Tennessee

801 Percy Warner Boulevard, Suite 103
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 356-4234
Fax: (615) 301-0676

jfsnashville.org
info@jfsnashville.org
f Jewish-Family-Service-of-Nashville-and-Middle-Tennessee-Inc-233398806777505/

Nan Speller, president of board of directors

Pamela Kelner, executive director
(615) 354-1644
pgkelner@jfsnashville.org



Jewish Family Service supports our community – one child, one adult, one family at a time. Our agency has provided social services to the Nashville Jewish community for over 167 years. JFS offers a comprehensive range of social services – including adoption, financial assistance and programs for children and seniors – to people of all incomes, ages and backgrounds.

Since its beginnings in 1853, Jewish Family Service has provided continuity in our ever-changing community. From the birth of a baby to the passing of an elder, enormously complex and challenging issues are met with compassion, professionalism

JFS offers assistance with kosher food boxes

Since 2009, Jewish Family Services has been providing supplemental kosher food to Jewish families and individuals who are struggling financially on a monthly basis.

Kosher food boxes are given on a confidential basis, and contain items that have been approved by a rabbi and a dietician. The boxes can feed an individual or couple for one week, or a family of four for five days.

To apply for the Kosher Food Box Program please contact Toni Jacobsen at (615) 354-1672 or email tljlcsw@aol.com.



Seventh graders from West End Synagogue restock the Kosher Food Boxes

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- Adoption - Domestic & International
- Case Management
- Counseling & Psychotherapy
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Family Life Education
- Support Groups
- Helping Hands Volunteer Program
- Information and Referral
- Kosher Food Boxes
- Hanukkah Gifts for Children
- Jewish Job Network
- School Supplies

(615) 356-4234
www.jfsnashville.org

801 Percy Warner Blvd., Suite 103
Nashville, TN 37205



and sensitivity by our staff and volunteers. People from many backgrounds walk through our doors. Last year alone, JFS served more than 1,700 people.

Among our services, we offer professional, affordable and fully confidential counseling services, provided by licensed clinical social workers. Counseling can address issues such as depression; anxiety; significant transitions such as divorce, job loss or illness; relationship conflicts with friends, spouse or partners; loss and grief; domestic violence; issues of aging and child behavior problems. In addition to individual counseling, we are currently sponsoring two support groups: Caring for the Caregiver and Grief Support.

Helping Hands supports senior citizens and people with

ADOPTION JOURNEYS: A Program of Jewish Family Service

801 Percy Warner Blvd., Suite 103
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 356-4234
Fax: (615) 301-0676

www.jfsnashville.org/services/adoption-journeys/

Toni L. Jacobsen, LCSW, adoption supervisor

Ashley Franklin, LMSW social worker
info@jfsnashville.org

Adoption Journeys has been bringing children and adoptive families together for more than 37 years. Jewish Family Service is a Tennessee-licensed adoption agency that, through its Adoption Journeys program, provides confidential professional services to prospective adoptive parents, adoptees and birthparents without regard to race, religion, marital status or sexual orientation.

Whether a prospective adoptive parent is seeking a child domestically or internationally, independently or through an agency, JFS can provide the required education, preparation, home studies and post-placement services.

We maintain relationships with domestic and international placing agencies across the country, including as partners with two respected international placing agencies, Children's Home Society and Family Services in St. Paul, Minn., and Holt International in Eugene, Ore. We also will work with any licensed international placing agency our clients choose. Our services are available both during the adoption process and also throughout the life of the adoptive family.

JFS does not provide placement services for expectant couples but does offer counseling to enable them to examine the available options in order to make a decision that is in their best interests and that of the child. Such counseling may also be offered to support them through the placement process and with issues of post-placement grief and loss. If the expectant parent decides to make an adoption plan, Jewish Family Service will provide referrals to a list of licensed adoption agencies and attorneys within the Middle Tennessee area.

Jewish prospective adoptive families may be eligible for adoption loans through the Earl Kirshner Free Loan Program. Contact JFS for additional information.

disabilities. Volunteers match their interests and skills with the needs of seniors to create a mutually rewarding experience. Services include friendly visiting, telephone reassurance, transportation to medical appointments and the grocery store, Shabbat observance, holiday gift basket deliveries, and Jewish programming in assisted-living facilities. In addition, Helping Hands matches musicians with people living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia for one-on-one musical visits or art.

The Kosher Food Box Program provides vital assistance to those experiencing financial hardship. The Chanukah Gifts for Children Program provides holiday presents for children who would otherwise go without. Emergency Financial Assistance can help alleviate a temporary financial crisis by helping to pay for basic needs such as rent, utilities and food.

Jewish Family Service offers many family life education programs throughout the year, often in partnership with the Gordon Jewish Community Center, the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, congregations or other community organizations. This year's educational programs included programming around Gender, Sexuality and Identities: creating connected communities for teens, their parents and professionals in the Jewish community.

Fees are charged for some services. Counseling fees may be covered through private health insurance and Medicare. A sliding-scale fee is available for those without insurance or who choose not to use it. JFS also serves as a professional resource, offering consultations and other services to agencies and congregations throughout the community.

Please support Jewish Family Service by volunteering your time, by making a financial contribution and by attending the annual JFS Cheshed Dinner, which will be held on May 14, 2020. Save the date now!



Greg Zagnoev teaches older adults about the power of technology. JFS is launching Cyber-Seniors -- matching volunteers one-on-one with seniors who want to learn how to do more on their own devices.


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www.chabadnashville.com
rabbi@chabadnashville.com
f ChabadNashville

Rabbi Yitzchok Tiechtel
rabbi@chabadnashville.com

Esther Tiechtel, educator and rebbetzin
etiechtel@gmail.com

Congregation Beit Tefilah (CBT), renowned for warmth and friendliness, is a synagogue and center of learning for Jews of all backgrounds, and engenders a feeling of comfort and belonging to all who attend.

Congregation Beit Tefilah offers true Jewish Southern hospitality in a place where everyone feels at home. Our congregation is diverse and is characterized by a culture that is welcoming and non-judgmental. CBT provides a place for our congregants to



Passover at Chabad

grow spiritually and to find a level of commitment with which they feel comfortable.

Whether you're a longtime Nashville resident or a newcomer, CBT welcomes you and offers something for everyone. Come for Shabbat services, lifecycle events, study groups and much more.

More about us

Renowned for warmth and friendliness, Congregation Beit Tefilah offers true Jewish Southern hospitality. Whether you're a longtime Nashville resident or a newcomer, Congregation Beit Tefilah welcomes you and offers something for everyone.

A place to call home

Imagine worshipping in an atmosphere of total acceptance, where you are welcomed and implored to be nonjudgmental of

Mikvah Mei Chaya

For private appointment,
call (615) 480-4225

Mei Chaya is the first mikvah built in Nashville exclusively for the mitzvah of *taharat ha-mishpacha* – family purity. Experience the beauty of this special mitzvah in the privacy of a luxurious mikvah fully equipped with all your spa needs and beautifully appointed to make your visit a pleasurable one.

All materials – from the travertine stone imported from Turkey to the glass tiles, from elegant lighting fixtures to the exquisite furnishings and paintings, from the limestone vanities to the surround-sound audio system – were selected by a team of top interior designers to make it a five-star “mikspah” experience.

Mei Chaya was built with the needs of the local Jewish community in mind. It offers women the opportunity for a



moving, spiritual experience – a spa for both body and soul. The facility boasts a well-appointed reception room, two luxurious preparation rooms and a uniquely designed mikvah that offers both a tranquil and spiritual setting.

Mikvah means “a gathering of natural water.” Unlike an ordinary tub or pool, complex laws and specifications govern construction of a mikvah. The primary uses of a mikvah cover many

elements of Jewish life, but the most significant usage today is by brides and married women practicing *taharat ha-mishpacha* – the Jewish laws of family purity.

The mikvah lies at the heart of the beauty and spirituality of the marital relationship, endowing it with a charming dimension of sanctity and love. For thousands of years, it has been Judaism's secret to harmonious marital living and Jewish survival.

The mikvah is available by appointment only. Please call for an appointment 48 hours in advance.

your neighbors.

Services are traditional and conducted primarily in Hebrew, with select readings in English. Neither the language you use nor your pace is of paramount importance. Our beautiful sanctuary, enveloped in a natural environment, is the perfect setting to feel connected to G-d.



Jewish Mysticism class

Shabbat Shalom

As the sun sets on Friday, everyone streams in for that magical moment of candle lighting when the spirit of Shabbat settles upon Nashville. Congregants lift their voices in song and prayer. Mystical insights from the rabbi bring in a meditative peace. Each second and fourth Friday of the month, a grand T.G.I.S. (Thank G-d It's Shabbat) dinner follows services and is open to the entire community, always at 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat morning brings the reading of the Torah, as the rabbi tells the story of the weekly Torah portion, and guest cantors lead musaf prayers. Children also enjoy the CKids Shabbat morning service, which includes story time, edible crafts and prayer.

Bar and bat mitzvah and other lifecycle events take place in our new ballroom and are tailored to the talents and personality of each child. Community members enjoy a weekly Shabbat buffet lunch following the services, including a cholent and an array of Shabbat delicacies.

Jewish study roundtable

Join us on Shabbat afternoons for the popular Jewish Women's Circle that features discussions on values and ethics led by Rebbetzin Esther Tiechtel. Beit Tefilah also hosts weekly classes that explore the weekly Torah portion and other topics, including Jewish mysticism, and adult Hebrew reading.

Youth programming

At Chabad Hebrew School, children study the Treasures Curriculum, mark the holidays with family workshops and learn to read Hebrew with the nationally acclaimed "Aleph Champ" reading curriculum. Teens enjoy their first foray into kabbalah and their chance to wrap tefillin together.

Chesed and caring

We extend a welcoming hand to guests, giving all visitors a warm welcome and the feeling of being with mishpacha - family. Our "Chicken Soup Squad" brings hot foods to the homebound or ill.

Congregation Beit Tefilah is a place you want to call home. Come and visit and we are sure you'll want to stay.

L'Hitraot!

To Join

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office@congregationmicah.org

 CongregationMicah
 @micahnashville

Also look for us on YouTube, Instagram, and Vimeo

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Hannah Pollok, communications coordinator
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Micah is an everybody-friendly community, where all are welcome. Honoring our communal commitment to God, Torah, Israel, each other, and the world in which we live, our congregation is authentically diverse, unabashedly interfaith-friendly, and unafraid to break the mold. Guided by our mission, Micah infuses the lives of its congregants with a Judaism that is meaningful, relevant, and transformative. Our religious services are musical and participatory, our educational opportunities compelling, and our social gatherings undeniably enjoyable. Promoting the



values of liberal Judaism, our community asks deep questions like what it means to live as Jews in Tennessee.

God

We approach God through the authenticity of our intentions, the prayers of our heart and the ancient rituals of our people. On Shabbat and at other services, we include traditional, contemporary and innovative musical settings of liturgy by our nationally known musical team as well as other local artists, as we relive the ongoing tale of the Jewish people through image and story. Our award-winning sanctuary inspires us by framing its beautiful ark with windows that invite the natural beauty behind us inside. Our 35-acre campus also includes a chapel for more intimate worship, a memorial garden for meditation, classrooms and a cemetery.

Torah

Lifelong learning begins in infancy. Our Tennessee 3-star rated preschool begins at 6 weeks and continues through pre-kindergarten; the curriculum includes Tot Shabbat and time on our natural playscape. Our religious school is known for its creativity in Hebrew instruction, family services, b'nai mitzvah preparation, confirmation classes and beyond. Special programs include the Kids/Teen Choir, music, photography, Jewish history, family education and social action programs. Additional youth enrichment is provided through our flourishing youth groups and Chai Society programs. Micah Midweek allows students to pray, eat and learn together. Our bar/bat mitzvah candidates are tutored exclusively by our clergy. The rabbis weekly teach Torah, schmooze with our seniors and educate from the pulpit. Our Micah Book Club convenes monthly, short courses are offered for adults weekly, and scholars visit seasonally. Together we celebrate the holidays: At Chanukah and Passover, we share a meal as a community, and Purim is an exciting time of skits and a carnival.

Israel

Micah offers trips to Israel for teens, families and adults. We seek to make connections both locally and with Jewish communities throughout the world. We advocate on behalf of the State while also encouraging her to live up to Judaism's highest values.

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Congregation Sherith Israel

Orthodox

3600 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 292-6614
www.sherithisrael.com

Evan Rittenberg, president
(615) 292-6614

Rabbi Saul Strosberg
(615) 292-6614, ext. 23
rabbisaul@sherithisrael.com

Cantor George Lieberman
(615) 292-6614, ext. 26

Janet Harris, office
(615) 292-6614, ext. 21,
office@sherithisrael.com

Mikvah information: office@sherithisrael.com

Congregation Sherith Israel is a century-old Orthodox synagogue with a rich history. We welcome every soul to our community: those who are Shomer Shabbat and those who are not; those who can read Torah or lead a class and those just learning the Hebrew alphabet; first-generation Americans and lifelong Nashvillians; young families, seniors and every age group in between.

More about us

Congregation Sherith Israel is a diverse congregation, yet we are all committed to our Shul family, the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Our well-attended services are meaningful, warm



Our open-orthodox congregation is more than just members of a community. It is a family bound by love, mutual respect, and lives committed to the teachings of the Torah. Traditional, but innovative, we are deeply committed to strengthening the bonds of understanding amongst different movements within the Jewish community. Come experience a Sherith Israel Shabbat, holiday celebration, concert or social event, and join our Shul family (no experience required).

CONGREGATION SHERITH ISRAEL

Vibrant, Meaningful Services · Daily Minyan · Eruv · Women's Tefilah · Mikveh · Sisterhood
Community Seders · Weekly Community Shabbat Dinner · Free Live Concerts · Adult & Youth Education
Social, Religious & Educational Events · Social Action Engagement · Strong, Diverse Community

Rabbi Saul Strosberg · Cantor George Lieberman
3600 West End Avenue · Nashville, TN 37205 · 615-292-6614 · www.sherithisrael.com

and welcoming, with inspiring words of Torah, beautiful singing and a feeling of community. We offer extensive



Sunday Macabees sessions for young families

programming, including education for youth and adults alike, social events, an active Sisterhood and community service.

Shabbat at Sherith Israel begins with a beautiful Kabbalat Shabbat in the heart of Music City. All are then welcome to join in a festive Shabbat dinner in Abraham and Sarah's Tent. Shabbat day services are filled with joy, song and active participation as well as special programming for younger children. Following services, we join together as a community at our catered Kiddush luncheon, catching up with old friends and making new friends. There are classes both before Shacharit and after the Kiddush luncheon.

The calendar is full of community celebrations of Jewish holidays, starting with a Rosh Hashanah luncheon and tashlich, Yom Kippur break-the-fast after a day of truly inspiring prayer, Shabbat in the Sukkah and a community Simchat Torah dinner, Chanukah menorah lighting and party, Purim Se'udah, Passover Seders, and Shavuot learning. In addition, we join together to commemorate national days of service and holidays, including Martin Luther King Day.

Youth Programs

Our growing team of Jewish educators offers dynamic programming for kids 6 weeks and up on Shabbat and throughout the week.

Adult Education

Every year the Shul offers a variety of educational programs and ongoing classes. Please see the website for the latest information.

Events

Our calendar includes scholars in residence and other special speakers, concerts featuring our talented congregants and distinguished guests, and outings to concerts or plays. We also commit time to community service, such as Room at the Inn, Habitat for Humanity and other programs.

We invite you to join us for Shabbat services, meet our community at Kiddush luncheon, and become part of the Sherith Israel family.

To join

Membership application available at www.sherithisrael.com.



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Mitzie Russell, office manager and executive assistant to the
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Mitzie@templenashville.org

Mark Shepard, facility manager
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mark@templenashville.org



The Temple was established in 1851 as the Vine Street Temple. In 1873, we became a founding member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, now the Union for Reform Judaism. Our mission is to nurture and cultivate a caring, inclusive, educated and vibrant Reform Jewish congregation through the four primary functions of synagogue life: House of Learning (Beit Midrash), House of Worship (Beit Tefilah), House of Community (Beit Knesset), and House of Social Justice (Beit Tikkun Olam). In fulfilling these integrated functions, The Temple strives to foster an environment where our members create and participate in the shared experiences of learning, living and growing as Jews.

The Top 10 things people are saying about The Temple:

Welcoming and inclusive: We have a diverse membership, from singles to married and same-sex couples, interfaith and intercultural families, newcomers and natives, families with children, mid-lifers and senior adults. Our members live all over greater Nashville.

Embracing: We honor and cherish all of our members and families no matter what their background – Jewish and non-Jewish, traditional and interfaith. For those seeking to learn more about Judaism, “Conversion Conversations” provides opportunities for deeper understanding and connection.

Approachable: Clergy and staff are available and accessible to meet your lifecycle and pastoral needs. Our clergy participate actively in the life of our larger Jewish and Nashville community.

Joyous: Shabbat worship and holiday celebrations are filled with music, warmth, creativity and joy. Our preschool and religious school hallways are filled with the laughter of children.

Innovative: We offer relevant, current and intentional programs, including:

- Interfaith/collaborations such as Thanksgiving concert, Habitat for Humanity, clergy dialogues and social justice initiatives;
- Temple Town Hall and Scholar Series featuring rabbinic, national and community experts and leaders;
- Social justice initiatives focused on advocacy for criminal justice reform, immigrant issues and LGBTQ rights
- Vibrant musical programming including the Temple Mazel Tones youth choir, Temple Volunteer Band, Musicians in Residence, collaboration with local Jewish musicians and Mitzvah concerts; and
- Fun, engaging monthly programming for young adults and families with young children.

Jewish Nashville's Volunteer Portal
jewishnashville.galaxydigital.com

We Have a Bright Future & We Invite You to Become a Part of Our Temple Family



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The Temple | 5015 Harding Pike | Nashville, TN 37205

Evolving: We strive to improve on our successes year to year. We find opportunities to try new approaches and programs to meet the needs and desires of our growing and evolving congregation, including our wellness initiative, lay-led study groups and programs to connect people throughout our city.

Enriching: We offer dozens of opportunities to learn and grow Jewishly throughout the year with our weekly Lunch with the Rabbi, Shabbat morning Torah study and Women's Torah Study, family and parent education programs on Sundays, and scholars-in-residence series.

Connecting: We work hard to connect our members to one another through our programs all year, including Next Dor (social events for young adults and couples ages 22-40), creative and meaningful Passover Seders for all, W.E.L.L (Women Engaged in Living and Learning), JACS (a support group for addictive behaviors) and Caring Connection (congregants helping other congregants at times of joy and sorrow).

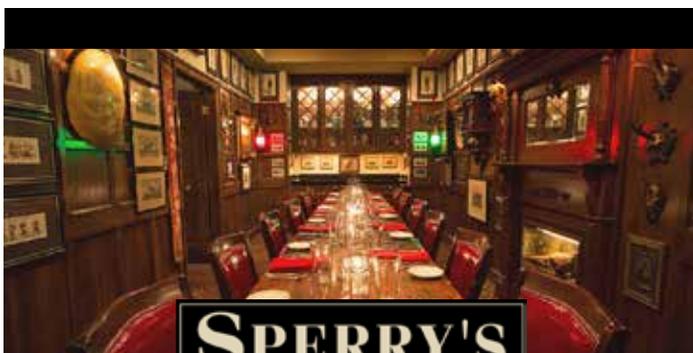
Committed to community: Our congregation continues to expand and deepen our commitment to making our Nashville community a better place in so many ways: the Boulevard Bolt, Room in the Inn, monthly collections of food and other needed supplies, social action and social justice initiatives, interfaith programming and connections with other local congregations.

Proud: We kvell with pride for our:

- Preschool, with its top-rated, full-time, innovative and stimulating curriculum with dynamic and caring teachers.
- Religious school and its emphasis on learning in the context of community through fun, creative, relevant, engaging and meaningful experiences for our students and families.
- Our strong and rich tradition as the heart of Reform Judaism in Nashville since 1851.

To participate

Don't just take other people's word for it. Come experience The Temple for yourself! Our doors are always open. Give us a call, check out our website, stop by and visit us. Find a Jewish home here at The Temple.



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Rabbi Joshua Kullock
rabbi@westendsyn.org

Cantor Sarah Levine
Cantorlevine@westendsyn.org

Marcia Stewart, executive director
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Sharon Paz, director of lifelong learning
spaz@westendsyn.org

Linda Sisselman, membership coordinator
linda@westendsyn.org

Miriam Halachmi z"l, Education Director 1979-2011

Karen Weil, board president
Kcweil10@gmail.com



West End Synagogue is Nashville's traditional, egalitarian congregation. Our diverse community is united by the shared values of Torah (learning), avodah (prayer) and gemilut chasadim (kindness). Together, we strive to imbue ancient rituals with modern meaning.

Torah

Torah is our element and lifelong education is integral to the West End experience. Our Beit Miriam Religious School, led by Sharon Paz, enriches the lives of our children and teaches them Hebrew and Jewish values and rituals. We are proud to have so many students spend summers at Camp Ramah Darom in Georgia, where they are fully immersed in Jewish life and community.

We offer ongoing opportunities for adults to study Torah in a broader sense, learning the weekly Torah portion, Talmud, Jewish mysticism and Bible on a weekly or monthly basis. We also host the special Learn and Lunch series for seniors. Guest scholars from Nashville and beyond teach us through our Pray, Eat, Learn series and our annual scholar-in-residence program. You can join dozens of students of all backgrounds for Introduction to Judaism, taught by Rabbi Joshua Kullock on Sundays from January to May.

Avodah

Morning and evening minyans bring us together in prayer every day of the year. Minyanners provide comfort for mourners who come to say Kaddish and offer blessings for families celebrating life-cycle events. Bagels and coffee fill our bellies after the morning minyan has fed our souls.



West End Synagogue

A center for Jewish community life, inspiration and celebration

Worship • Education • Service

Award-Winning Religious School
Children's Services
Family Programs
Youth Groups
Camp Ramah
Torah Study

Adult Education
Social Action
Seniors' Activities
Men's Club
Sisterhood

Joshua Kullock, Rabbi
Sarah Levine, Cantor
Marcia Stewart, Executive Director
Sharon Paz, Director of Lifelong Learning
Linda Sisselman, Membership Coordinator
Miriam Halachmi z"l, Education Director 1979-2011



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3810 West End Avenue
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/WestEndSyn



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Shabbat is the highlight of the week. We usher in Shabbat together on Friday evening, filling the chapel with soulful melodies. After services we often have potluck meals organized by congregants. Shabbat morning services are led both by our clergy and lay leaders of all ages, and Rabbi Joshua engages us with enlightening sermons. Families and children come together for bi-monthly children and youth services. Kiddush lunch is our weekly opportunity to eat, schmooze, and sing together.

Gemilut Chasadim (Social Action)

We partner with many Nashville organizations to serve those in need. Through Room in the Inn, we house and feed homeless men each Monday evening from November through January. With the Martha O'Bryan Center and Second Harvest, we stock a food pantry and deliver meals on wheels. Each year, we fill a Mitzvah Crib for families in need. We also care for one another - visiting the sick and providing food for members of our community in times in need through our We Care Committee.

We invite you to join our synagogue family. Come visit us any time.

West End Synagogue Sisterhood

Sisterhoodwestendsynagogue@gmail.com

West End Sisterhood's projects and activities touch every member of the synagogue as well as the Conservative Movement's national programs. Founded in 1903, the Sisterhood is affiliated with the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. In conjunction with this international group, our annual Torah Fund campaign helps educate Conservative clergy and lay lead-

ers at two seminaries in the United States, one in Israel and the one attended by our own Rabbi Joshua Kullock, Seminario Rabbinico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Our members span a wide range of interests, ages and backgrounds, all joining together to create a warm, friendly environment for our synagogue. Sisterhood supports or funds:

- Free one-year membership to new female synagogue members.
- New member social events.
- Walking group on Nashville's greenways.
- Transportation to conventions for Kadima (middle school) and United Synagogue Youth (high school) members.
- USY young leader attendance at the annual leadership retreat.
- Scholarships to Camp Ramah Darom and other Jewish camps.
- Holiday gift packages for college students.
- Discounted babysitting on the high holidays.
- Kosher challahs every Thursday and Friday of the school year, to enhance your Shabbat meals.
- Thistle Farms, by collecting and donating new women's undergarments and hygiene products.

Proceeds from the annual sale of Purim bags (Mishloach Manot) provide enhanced religious school programming, a first-day-of-school brunch for parents and pizza in the Sukkah.

We foster our personal Jewish education and spiritual growth through lectures, a book club and participation in Sisterhood Shabbat.



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To become a part of the Beit Miriam family, contact Sharon Paz, Director of Lifelong Learning, at (615) 269-4592 ext. 17 or spaz@westendsyn.org



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2020 B'nai Mitzvah

Congregation Beit Tefilah Chabad

Binah Mia Keha Olsen June 12
Avi Ezra Shuman Oct. 17

Congregation Micah

Evan Hauser Feb. 22
Jacob Frohsin March 7
Hannah Frohsin March 7
Patricia Frohsin March 7
Sophia Kimball April 18
Hayden Tiger Aug. 1
Sophia Bain Oct. 3
Rachel Duben Oct. 10
Leo Rappoport Oct. 24
Rose Collins Nov. 7
Laura Fonseca Nov. 14

Sherith Israel

Shmu Hanai Feb. 15
Ilana Hanai Feb. 15
Judah Horn March 14
Izzy Marie Beverly May 16
Rebecca Roberts Aug. 8
Ben Poster Aug. 22

The Temple — Ohabai Sholom

Nicholas Spigel Jan. 25
Gavin Berman Feb. 29
Joshua Magoon March 21
Kasey Hill March 28
Liana Lewis April 4
Michael Dattilo April 18
Jake Dorfman May 2
Henry Ruben Aug. 8
Noah Dowell Aug. 29
Jackson Green Sept. 5
Georgia Kraemer Sept. 12
Avery de Riesthal Oct. 3
Benjamin Beckman Oct. 10
Alex Abramson Oct. 24
Amari Schneider Oct. 31
Taylor Gordon Nov. 7
Evie Hollis Nov. 14
Eliza Mann Dec. 5

West End Synagogue

Izzy Rose Jan. 18
Spencer Gribben March 21
Joey Eagle May 16
Luis Eagle May 16
Ariela Lowen May 23
Mia Marcus Hawkersmith Aug. 29
Zoe Marcus Hawkersmith Aug. 29
Noam Friedman Sept. 5
Micah Epstein Oct. 17
Seth Ferguson Dec. 12
Ellison Abromowitz Dec. 31
Etai Bauer Jan. 2, 2021
Emmie Wolf Dubin Jan. 9

Jewish Schools/Preschools

Akiva School

809 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 356-1880
Fax: (615) 356-1850

www.akivanashville.net

Larry Hyatt, Board President

Daniella Pressner, Head of School
dpressner@akivanashville.net
(615) 356-1880

Julie Fortune, Director of Admissions and Outreach
jfortune@akivanashville.net
(615) 356-1880

Located on the Gordon Jewish Community Campus, Akiva School is a high performing, K-6 academic institution and a leader among Jewish Day schools in the South. Akiva's mission is to pursue excellence, foster critical inquiry and inspire informed Jewish living. Akiva is proud of its diversity, with a student body that is rich with multiple nationalities, and a range of socioeconomic, racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds, and serves a range of learning styles. Akiva graduates are consistently accepted into the most selective private middle and high-schools, as well as the magnet options. They are recognized as leaders in both character and academic achievement, and are known for their deep sense of self, their curiosity and wonder, a strong work ethic, and their commitment to the communities in which they take part.

The rigorous curricula in both General and Judaic Studies challenge students to analyze, investigate, question, and to take risks. Classes include but are not limited to: mathematics, language arts, science, social studies, mindfulness, Hebrew language, Jewish Studies, music, swimming, art, S.T.E.A.M. and physical education. Akiva students are consistently praised for their ability to articulate their own thoughts as well as listen to and learn from their peers' opinions. Over 30 percent of Akiva students score in the 90th percentile and above on nationally recognized assessments, and almost all graduating 6th graders obtain their top choice school for 7th grade. Many students graduate Akiva fluent in Hebrew and are able to seamlessly analyze and understand high-level texts in both Hebrew and English. The Akiva education is hands on, experiential, and is S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, the Arts and mathematics) focused. In fact, Akiva is one of the only elementary schools in the state of Tennessee that holds S.T.E.A.M. certification.

At Akiva, students learn in an environment that promotes a love of learning, an appreciation of our shared experience, and a pride in one's growing and changing identity. Students learn



about the world's problems and then engage in empathy based design-thinking to design solutions to impact our world.

There are a wide-variety of conveniences, including: a daily hot lunch program, transportation, and after-school offerings with a focus on S.T.E.A.M. learning, sports and the Arts.

We take pride in the diversity of our student body and respect each family's decisions regarding religious observance. Our goal is that all families, regardless of religious or synagogue affiliation, feel welcome at Akiva.

Smaller class sizes are maintained to provide a nurturing atmosphere that meets individual students' needs. Akiva is dedicated to hiring the brightest talent in Nashville and teachers are consistently engaged in quality professional development and participate in the national conversation in education.

Akiva is accredited by Cognia (formerly AdvancED and SACS, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.)

For more information, please contact Julie Fortune, Director of Admissions and Outreach at (615) 356-1880 or go to www.akivanashville.net/akiva-admissions/request-information/

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Jewish Middle School (JMS) Nashville

809 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205

www.jmsnashville.org
info@jmsnashville.org

Alene Arnold, administrator
alene@jmsnashville.org

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The Gordon JCC Early Childhood Learning Center

801 Percy Warner Blvd.
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(615) 354-1640
Fax: (615) 353-2659

West End Synagogue Location
3810 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Brittany Montoya, director
Brittany@nashvillejcc.org

Renee Geltzer, assistant director
Renee@nashvillejcc.org

Bobbie Worthington, West End director
bobbie@nashvillejcc.org



At the Gordon Jewish Community Center's Early Childhood Learning Community (ECLC), sounds of fun, laughter and learning echo through the halls. Open to children from ages 6 weeks through pre-K, the ECLC embraces families of all backgrounds and cultivates a connection with Jewish values and traditions. This secure and nurturing environment ensures that we maintain our three-star rating from the Tennessee Department of Human Services. The ECLC offers year-round scheduling to meet family needs.

Last year, we added a second location, at West End Synagogue, also for ages 6 weeks to pre-K, with full-day options.

Reggio Emilia philosophy

With practices rooted in research, our teachers work collaboratively to nurture the gifts of each child, encourage a questioning mind, spark creativity, and foster independence. Every classroom offers age-appropriate progressive academics, enriched by specialists in music, physical education and swimming.

The ECLC is a Reggio Emilia-inspired school with great attention given to the look and feel of the classroom. Environment is considered the "third teacher," so teachers carefully organize spaces to encourage children to engage in activity and discover. Children's work, plants and collections made at outings are displayed at the eye levels of both children and adults. The Reggio Emilia approach integrates nature into the curriculum so that children learn to appreciate the physical and structural environment.

The ECLC curriculum uses the Tennessee Early Learning Development Standards to guide lesson plans. In the pre-K classroom, a STEAM-infused curriculum called Connect 4 Learning helps prepare your pre-K child through several academic domains as well as a heavy influence of social-emotional learning resulting in a better transition and greater success for kindergarten.

The curriculum also includes Discover CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Children's Health). CATCH uses stories with puppets and activities that resonate with preschoolers to provide an environment where physical activity, health education, gardening and healthy eating behaviors are valued and taught. Little ones are motivated to walk, run, jump, dance, and move their whole bodies while playing and having fun.

Jewish roots

Jewish culture, traditions and language are central to our program and are included in every classroom. Jewish holidays are explored and celebrated. Every Friday, our preschoolers welcome Shabbat with song and dance during Rockin' Shabbat celebrations. On Mondays they come together in small groups for Havdalah to say "good bye" to Shabbat and "hello" to a new week.

The ECLC takes full advantage of its location on the JCC campus. There is plenty of space to explore and play on our age-appropriate modern playgrounds, in our gymnasium, in the indoor and outdoor swimming pools and throughout the beautiful campus. Children may also participate in after-school enrichment activities such as tennis, soccer, dance and swim lessons.

To enroll

Call us at (615) 354-1640 or email us to arrange a tour.



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(615) 942-5162

www.MicahChildrensAcademy.org

Theresa LePore, director
tlepore@micahchildrensacademy.org

Tapping into the natural curiosity of preschoolers, the Micah Children's Academy is a place where students enjoy playing and learning in a secure and nurturing environment. This Tennessee three-star-rated preschool opened in 2010 at Congregation Micah and provides a warm, nurturing place where students develop and grow emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. We offer a custom curriculum centered on monthly schoolwide themes based on Jewish values. These themes are then translated into age-appropriate activities and experiences. For example, the schoolwide unit Hakarat Hatov is scheduled during November so students concentrate their learning on thankfulness for our families and community. Students sing, learn prayers and read books to supplement their activities.

Students (depending on age) receive a weekly music class, a nature class, yoga and/or go-ga, a weekly Spanish immersion class, drama class, and a celebration service welcoming Shabbat led by our rabbis and our cantorial soloist every Friday.

Students spend outside time enjoying our natural play scape – an environment that helps develop large motor skills, fosters creativity and provides a classroom for the weekly nature class. A large stage encourages acting and dance with items from our "dress-up center." Miniature huts inspire pretend activities, a Plexiglas art wall allows budding artists to create pictures of their world, and a drum and xylophone inspire musical talents. Our planting garden is a spot where students can experience how food is grown, tended, harvested and eaten.

Theresa LePore, director of the Academy, has an extensive background in special education as well as early childhood education. She is committed to developing a team of teachers, activities and experiences that are high quality and guaranteed to provide students the concepts needed for success. In addition,



a strong parent board open to all families is valued and plays an important role in defining quality preschool education. Our hope is that Jewish families will find the right blend of learning and spiritual growth at the Micah Children's Academy. We welcome new families with open arms.

For the most up-to-date information, please call the office at (615) 942-5162 or check our website at www.MicahChildrensAcademy.org. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Revere Jewish Montessori Preschool

95 Bellevue Road
Nashville, TN 37221
(615) 646-5750

www.jewishmontessoripreschool.com
jewishmontessoripreschoolinfo@gmail.com

The Revere Jewish Montessori Preschool, Tennessee's only Jewish Montessori preschool, is a great place for children ages 18 months to 6 years to grow and learn. Our stimulating environment encourages confidence, exploration and promotes physical, emotional and social development. Your children will experience a classic Judaic foundation in a Montessori setting.

Our philosophy

"The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn."

– Dr. Maria Montessori

Intrinsic to Jewish educational heritage is an understanding that children learn at a young age. Putting them in a caring and nurturing environment, providing guidance and love, ensures that they can become aware of their potential and the good they bring to our world. At the Revere Jewish Montessori Preschool, children are given freedom with responsibility; their learning and achievements become their own. They value their peers;



	 <p>Teaching children how to love in all languages!</p>
<p>7:00 am—6:00 pm Enrichment activities: Judaica Spanish Immersion Music Yoga Nature</p>	<p>Serving children 6 weeks to 5 years of age 2001 Old Hickory Boulevard Brentwood, TN 615.942.5162</p>



Children of the Revere Montessori Preschool learn about fire safety with a visit by the local fire department

their class is a community with each one contributing; their faces light up as they practice kindness and respect for one another.

Whole-child experience

Montessori learning in a supportive, Jewish environment is a whole-child experience. As children's minds absorb new concepts, their hands perfect the skills, their hearts feel secure and they learn through song and joy the Jewish values of the Torah and our heritage. The beautiful, aesthetically pleasing materials help them explore the world and learn building blocks of math and language. They refine their senses as they experience all their learning in a sensory way. The practical life area prepares them for the skills they need in daily life. The geography and culture area open the window for them to the world we are a part of. Science helps them gather information and observe and learn how nature functions. Our art curriculum helps them express their individuality and share their impressions through different media. Through it all are woven the customs and beauty of the Jewish holidays and the rich traditions from around the year.

At the Revere Jewish Montessori Preschool, children can learn at their own pace. They come to it with an open heart and are given time to learn, understand, and make it their own. Like our nature-themed logo, we give our little ones a space to grow and to let them experience the soothing rain and the warm sunshine, teach them the Aleph-Bet and the ABCs and watch as they bud and blossom, each their own flower in a beautiful garden.

Learn more: To learn about our open houses, or to arrange for a tour of our preschool, and to register your child, please call our office at (615) 646-5750.

The Temple Preschool

5015 Harding Pike
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 356-8009
preschool@templenashville.org

Corye E. Nelson, director
(615) 356-8009
corye@templenashville.org

Paula Kay, office manager
(615) 356-8009
preschool@templenashville.org

Candice Stern, curriculum director
(615) 356-8009
pedagogista@templenashville.org

The Temple Preschool serves children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. Children may attend two, three or five days a week. Our school day is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We offer optional extended mornings (starting at 7:30) and extended afternoons (ending at 5:30). A healthy snack is provided in the morning and afternoons. Lunch is brought from home. Organic milk is provided by the school.

The Temple Preschool is intentional when considering the following in order to support children's social-emotional, cognitive and physical development:

View of the Child/Role of the Teacher:

We view children as competent, curious and complex mem-



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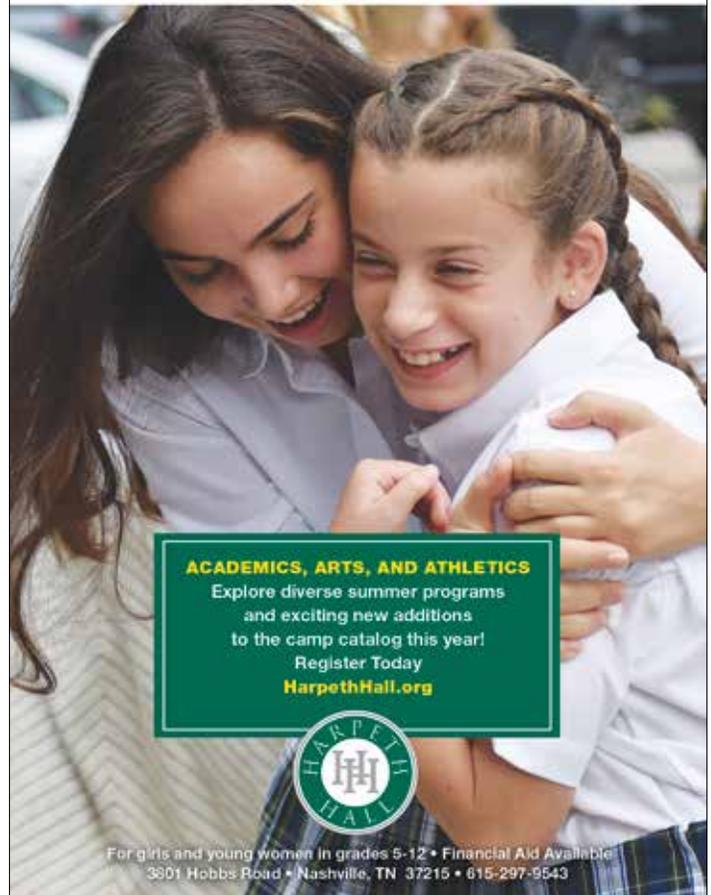
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bers of our community. We view the role of teacher as a co-researcher who helps the child pursue genuine interests, realize his/her own potential and grow in all developmental domains. Our teachers are facilitators in children's interactions and problem-solving, encouraging children to think through their actions, consider multiple options and communicate their feelings respectfully and responsibly.

Role of the Environment:

Along with parents and teachers, the classroom environment is a resource for teaching young children. Each of our classrooms is carefully designed to support curiosity and the potential for deeper explorations and learning. We select natural, open-ended and authentic objects that encourage dynamic, hands-on learning.

Educators:

We have a wide range of experience, degrees and specialized certifications represented among our teaching staff, including Masters Degrees in early childhood education, Social work, and Nursing (to name a few). We are pleased to have a teaching staff that brings longevity, experience, expertise, diversity and a

dedication to viewing the child as competent members of our community. Our teachers receive a minimum of 18 hours of continuing education each year with a focus on the Emergent Curriculum, Working in the Reggio Way, and Social and Emotional Development.

Enrichment:

We offer a variety of enrichment opportunities, including yoga, health and fitness, music and exploratory art in our two studios. We often invite special guests into our program to support specific investigations and celebrations.

Our connection to The Temple is considered among our most meaningful assets. The rabbi, the cantor and our Curriculum Director work with children within the classrooms, and they are also an important part of our weekly tradition of welcoming Shabbat.

To participate:

Please contact the preschool office to set up a guided tour of our program. A registration form and fee of \$75 is required to register for enrollment and/or waiting-list placement.

Members of The Temple and siblings of currently enrolled children receive priority registration.

Registration for prospective enrollees occurs year-round. Registration for currently enrolled children takes place in December. Enrollment notification takes place in February.

Scholarships are available for families in need of financial aid, funded through the generosity of Temple funds, donations, and the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

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Skylar Haas
Regional Director, CSR, BBYO
skylar@nashvillejcc.org
(615) 354-1659
www.nashvillejcc.org/bbyo



Engaging over 100 Jewish teens year-round, BBYO in Nashville is a place Jewish teens from throughout Middle Tennessee have called home for more than 50 years. BBYO is the nation's leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement, aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences. With a network of hundreds of chapters across North America and in 42 countries around the world, BBYO reaches over 80,000 teens annually and serves as the Jewish community's largest and most valuable platform for delivering fun, meaningful and affordable experiences that inspire a lasting connection to the Jewish people.

The Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA) and the B'nai B'rith Girls (BBG) are a fraternity and sorority for Jewish teens. Since our founding in 1924, we have been member led. Our priorities and programs reflect the interests and issues that matter most to us. Our pursuits are as diverse as our participants. AZA and BBG welcome Jewish teens of all backgrounds, denominational affiliation, gender, sexual orientations, and socio-economic statuses as well as those with a range of intellectual, emotional and physical abilities.

In Nashville we have two chapters, Music City BBG (for those who self-identify as female) and Athens of the South AZA (for those who self-identify as male). Nashville is part of CSR, a region within BBYO's global movement that brings together teens from throughout Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. "Being in this region makes me feel like I am a part of a larger southern Jewish community," a BBYO teen says.

Throughout the year there are several regional opportunities for teens from around our many communities to come together and create life-long memories and friends. Events such as Turkey Bowl bring the AZA chapters across the region together for a weekend of football and brotherhood, as well as our regional conventions - Fall Con, New Member Weekend and RC.

BBYO is THE place to be for Jewish teens throughout the south. In Nashville, we are fortunate enough to have an incredibly supportive community that sees the importance in Jewish continuity, teen programming and building the leaders of our future - a community that shares the same values as BBYO and one that is deeply rooted in the history of AZA and BBG.

Want to know more? Don't hesitate to reach out or visit our website, bbyo.org

Get Connected

801 Percy Warner Blvd., Suite 102
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 356.3242 x820

www.jewishnashville.org/get-connected

Deborah Oleshansky
deborah@jewishnashville.org



Would you like to "Get Connected" to other Jewish teenagers from the Nashville and Middle Tennessee area through a fun and exciting trip to Israel? Imagine seeing the sun rise over Masada, floating in the Dead Sea, participating in an archaeological dig, and dancing in the streets of Jerusalem on Shabbat... with your best friends!

Get Connected is designed to provide Nashville's 10th- and 11th-grade students with a deeper sense of their Judaism and a greater connection to their peers in the Nashville community, to Israel and its people. The two-week summer trip to Israel is highly subsidized by the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

"The views, people and food were amazing. Israel is one of my favorite places out there. In some ways it feels like home.

— Sydney

Research indicates that teens benefit greatly through achieving Get Connected's goals of connecting more deeply with Judaism, with Israel and Israeli teens and Jewish peers at home. The program enables teens to live a meaningful Jewish life with





affinity to the Jewish community. We welcome Jews from all denominations, backgrounds, and levels of observance.

There are three main components to the program, including the trip itself.

The first part provides students with the introductory tools to understand the experience they will have in Israel. These educational sessions, kallot, help the students to understand the geography, history, culture, and language of Israel. These classes begin during the school year (once a month, January through May). In the process, the teens transform from being merely future travel partners to becoming a close-knit community of friends, connecting socially with each other and their chaperones so that they are better prepared for their amazing journey.

The second and most meaningful part of Get Connected is the transformative and awe-inspiring two-week trip to Israel during the month of June. Teens connect not only with the land of Israel through an exciting, spiritually enriching, and in-depth tour, but also with Israeli teens and their families through the hospitality of home stays for a few days during the trip.

“Being teenagers, we bond over music, food, hanging out with friends, and of course Judaism. It’s amazing to see people living in the place we both fight for in different ways... It’s crazy that the people we met would be going to the army while we were preparing for college, both enabling us to fight for our beliefs. It was an eye-opening experience that I would recommend to anyone.”

– Jordan

The third part of the program is the opportunity to host some of the same Israeli teens when they visit Nashville. These visits reinforce the important connections made in Israel and create relationships that last a lifetime.

Over the past 11 years, Get Connected has brought more than 200 Nashville-area students to Israel. This is a highly subsidized trip offered through the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, with additional scholarship opportunities available. If you’d like to learn more about this fabulous adventure, please contact us!

“The Get Connected trip was such an amazing experience. It challenged me spiritually and pushed my comfort zone. I was able to learn about my culture and make friends to last a lifetime!”

– Kaitlyn

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CHAI & MiTY Middle MiTY

Congregation Micah
2001 Old Hickory Boulevard
Brentwood, TN 37027
(615) 377-9799

Julie Greenberg, Congregation Micah education director
jgreenberg@congregationmicah.org

For high school students

CHAI Society, Congregation Micah's high school program, brings teens together for social, spiritual and educational activities and includes membership in Micah Temple Youth (MiTY), part of the National Federation of Temple Youth. CHAI Society meets on Wednesday nights with Rabbi Flip Rice and Education Director Julie Greenberg. MiTY Advisor Sam Herb is a local musician and NFTY alumnus from Jacksonville, Fla.

Together with guest speakers, teens explore texts and topics anchored in Jewish tradition and reflecting modern themes. Through both CHAI Society and MiTY, students enjoy social and spiritual activities, including attending and hosting national and regional NFTY kallah. Locally, members develop social action projects, host lock-ins, and hold fundraisers such as the Purim Carnival to support travel and tzedakah efforts. Teens also enjoy immersive Jewish journeys to New York City, Washington, Montgomery and Israel.

For middle school students

Middle MiTY is Micah's youth group for those in grades 6 to 8, with activities centering on worship, social action and team-building.

Under the guidance of sponsor Rebekah Zeitlin, these students' tzedakah contributions benefit the Ronald McDonald House, where they also volunteer by making meals for resident families and collecting aluminum pull tabs. Chanukah on Wheels with Henry S. Jacobs Camp and the annual Rockin' Lock-In hosted by local songwriters and musicians are two of many highlights.

To participate: Call the Micah office or contact Education Director Julie Greenberg for details and come see what the fun's about.



Chai and MiTY

TOaSTY

The Temple — Ohabai Sholom
5015 Harding Pike
Nashville, TN 37205

Rabbi Michael Shulman, director of education and next generation programming
(615) 352-7620, ext. 233
rabbishulman@templenashville.org

The Temple Ohabai Sholom Temple Youth is our high school youth group for 8th-12th graders. Whether you are interested in social events, social action projects, or religious and educational events, TOaSTY has something that will interest you. If you are interested in getting more involved in any of these programs for high schoolers, NFTY trips to Israel, Regional Kallah, or our local TOaSTY events please contact Rabbi Shulman.

MTUSY/Kadima Middle Tennessee United Synagogue Youth

West End Synagogue
3810 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 269-4592

www.westendsyn.org/community/usy-and-kadima
hanegevusy.org

mtnusy@gmail.com

[f groups/54855516356/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/54855516356/)

Jake Bengelsdorf, president
Rosalie Shays, adviser
Helen Crowley, Youth Commission co-chair
Debby Wiston, Youth Commission co-chair

MTUSY is the local chapter of United Synagogue Youth, the official youth organization of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. It provides a comfortable social and educational environment for Jewish teens in Nashville, the Southeast region, the United States and throughout the world. USY strives to build meaningful relationships between its members.

More about us

MTUSY, West End Synagogue's chapter of USY, is open to all Jewish youth in the grades 9 to 12. MTUSY falls under HaNegev region, which includes chapters in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida and Mississippi. HaNegev is divided into three sub-regions; MTUSY is in the Ein Gedi sub region, which includes every state in the region but Florida.

MTUSY participates in local, sub-re-

gional, regional and national events including conventions, leadership training and Shabbatons with sister chapters. MTUSY plans a wide variety of local events such as Friday night dinners, Shabbat services for USY, social action projects such as Room in the Inn and activities like laser tag, swimming, baking hamantashen, leading services, movies, Ein-Gedi sub-regional conventions, HaNegev conventions, and Yom Universal in Florida.

United Synagogue also has a youth group called Kadima, which offers social, cultural and religious events for those in grades 6 to 8. There are also regional conventions and events for this age group.

How to join

If you are interested in learning more about USY or Kadima, please visit www.hanegevusy.org. You can also contact West End Synagogue at (615) 269-4592 or obtain registration forms at www.westendsyn.org/community/usy-and-kadima/

What's Happening?
 Check the Jewish Community Calendar
 Go to www.jewishnashville.org
 and click on "Calendar"

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NowGen Nashville

801 Percy Warner Blvd. Suite 102
Nashville, TN 37205

nowgennashville.org

 NowGen Nashville

Contact: Carolyn Hecklin-Hyatt

(615) 354-1650

carolynh@jewishnashville.org



NowGen Nashville is a Jewish group for young professionals ages 22-40.

The Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, in partnership with the area's Jewish community and organizations, has helped establish NowGen Nashville so these young professionals can enhance their engagement in the community. With a wide variety of social, networking, philanthropic, educational, and professional development events, we are dedicated to helping make Nashville a meaningful place for you.

Events include the Purim Masquerade, Happy Hours, Cocktails and Conversations, LEADS – a leadership development initiative, Potluck Shabbats, Rosh Bash, Hanukkah Parties, Jewish Baby University and occasional family programming.

We are dedicated to supporting the Jewish community both here in Nashville in Israel, and around the world. It is our turn, it is our time. Join us as we look to lead the way.

Call or email Carolyn Hecklin-Hyatt at (615) 354-1650, carolynh@jewishnashville.org, to participate.

Rohr Chabad House at Vanderbilt

111 23rd Ave North
Nashville TN 37203
(615) 686-3905
vanderbiltchabad.org
f chabadvanderbilt

Rabbi Shlomo Rothstein, rabbi and co-director
(615) 686-3905
rabbi@chabadvanderbilt.com

Nechama Rothstein, co-director

Rabbi Gavriel Isenberg, assistant rabbi and general manager of
Aryeh's Kitchen
(520) 425-6411

The Rohr Chabad House at Vanderbilt University connects with Jewish students, creates Jewish community at Vanderbilt, provides a meaningful and authentic Jewish experience on campus and is a warm, accepting home away from home for all college students.

The college years are a unique time, four intense years away from home during which young adults experience a new sense of freedom and stress, new ideas and opportunities, fear of the future and becoming an adult, and everything that growing up entails. It is also the time when people forge their identities and make decisions that will impact their lives in a significant manner.

The Rohr Chabad House is a Jewish rock in the storm of life



and there for students in all ways to help them grow and develop as human beings and as Jews.

The first thing you will notice upon entering the Chabad House is the feeling of home and acceptance. Students from all sorts of Jewish backgrounds are celebrating together like family. The ideas shared are uplifting and thought-provoking and you can't miss the joy that fills the air.

We work to create a healthy Jewish environment at Vanderbilt in which Jewish students are excited to identify and act like Jews and where non-Jewish students appreciate and respect their

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Our signature offerings are weekly Shabbat dinners, Mega Rosh Hashanah and Passover Seder on Alumni Lawn, Birthright trips to Israel, the Sinai Scholars Society and other Jewish classes, and on-campus engagement events and talks that reach the broader Vanderbilt community. We offer a Rabbi and Rebbetzin on call at all times for students and spend much time meeting, counseling, and studying Torah with them.

To participate: Check the website for times of classes and events. Drop by, or email Nechama Rothstein at nechama@chabadvanderbilt.com

Vanderbilt Hillel

Schulman Center for Jewish Life
2421 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37212
(615) 322-8376

www.vuhillel.org

Hillel@vanderbilt.edu

[f](https://www.facebook.com/vanderbilt.hillel) vanderbilt.hillel

[@VandyHillel](https://twitter.com/VandyHillel)

[@VandyHillel](https://www.instagram.com/VandyHillel)

Bob Nemer, Board president

Professional staff, below, can be reached with main phone number above

Ari Dubin, executive director
ari.dubin@vanderbilt.edu

Brian Small, assistant director
brian.j.small@vanderbilt.edu

Emily Kahn-Perry, Ezra Fellow, Jewish education specialist
emily.kahn-perry@vanderbilt.edu

Veronica Grady, Springboard Innovation Fellow
veronica.l.grady@vanderbilt.edu

Sara Seidman, Escoll Family Jewish Agency Israel Fellow to Hillel
sara.seidman@vanderbilt.edu

Debby Wiston, director of operations
debby.wiston@vanderbilt.edu

Valerie Landa, accountant
valerie.landa@vanderbilt.edu

Vanderbilt Hillel is the center of Jewish life at Vanderbilt, serving the religious, social, and educational needs of the undergraduate and graduate Jewish student communities. Vanderbilt Hillel prides itself on offering Jewish college students different



Anchor Down at Masada

ways to express their Jewishness through creative holiday programs and cultural events.

Established in 2002, Vanderbilt Hillel is a student-centered Jewish organization on the Vanderbilt University campus that caters to the over 1000 Jewish students at Vanderbilt University and Jewish students engaged in institutions of higher education all over the Middle Tennessee region. Vanderbilt Hillel is based within the Schulman Center for Jewish Life, conveniently located in the heart of the Vanderbilt University campus, and the home of the popular Grin's Kosher Vegetarian restaurant.

Part of the Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life movement, Vanderbilt Hillel is a national leader in empowering students to create micro-communities to explore their interests through a Jewish lens and with their peers. Hillel's micro-communities include Russian-speaking Jewish students, Challah for Hunger, Senior Leadership Initiative (SLI), etc.

Vanderbilt Hillel's committed staff engages hundreds of students each year through religious and social programming, meaningful conversations about Israel, and impactful local and international community service. Hillel provides an annual Birthright trip, alternative service trips, and other immersion experiences for students to connect with Jewish communities around the world.

How to participate: Membership is not required for students interested in participating in Vanderbilt Hillel events. All are welcome.

Vanderbilt Hillel offers student-led and focused religious services for Shabbat and holidays during Vanderbilt's academic year. Shabbat services start at 5:30 p.m. weekly. Shabbat dinner is served at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Community members should contact Vanderbilt Hillel, via the contact information provided, for more information about Hillel programming. Vanderbilt Hillel offers financial assistance for students to participate in programs, immersive trips, etc. through the generous support of parents, alumni, the Jewish Federation, and community supporters.

What's Happening?

Check the Jewish Community Calendar

Go to www.jewishnashville.org
and click on "Calendar"

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www.jewishnashville.org/welcome-to-nashville

Cultural, Service and Social Organizations

B'nai B'rith Maimonides Lodge #46

Steven Remer, president
go4mets56@aol.com
(615) 356-2383

Founded in the fall of 1863 during the Civil War, B'nai B'rith Maimonides Lodge #46 is the oldest chartered Jewish organization in Nashville. For more than 150 years, it has maintained an out-standing record of brotherhood and benevolence.

Aiding the visually impaired

The lodge has committed to assisting the visually impaired children of Nashville and the surrounding area since 1971. It continues to support visually impaired children by sponsoring the annual Braille Challenge and the Academic Challenge at the Tennessee School for the Blind.

The lodge also works with Jewish Family Services to help meet the many needs of our local visually impaired seniors with products that will enhance their lives. The lodge has established a scholarship that it has awarded for the past four years to help a visually impaired student from Nashville pay for continuing educational needs.

Community outreach

As part of its community outreach, the lodge also assists Jewish Family Service with its Chanukah program for Jewish families in our community. The lodge sponsors brunches throughout the year that feature interesting speakers. Traditionally, the lodge holds four events and four business meetings annually. We have participated in the communitywide celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) and Global Day of Jewish Learning.

The Maimonides Lodge #46 is very proud of its commitment to the mission of B'nai B'rith, which is recognized as a vital voice in promoting Jewish unity and continuity, supporting the State of Israel, advocating on behalf of senior citizens and providing humanitarian aid and disaster relief. There are many opportunities to work with B'nai B'rith, through its website www.bnaibrith.org. The lodge continues to research and apply methods to recruit and retain membership to meet today's busy lifestyles.

B'nai B'rith Social Unit

Gayle Lipp, president
gaylelipp@gmail.com

Marilyn Krick, programming vice-president
krick1374@gmail.com

Our B'nai B'rith unit is a social group for empty nesters and those who are about to become empty nesters who are interested in a social connection as well as community involvement.

Friendship, togetherness and support are what our B'nai B'rith chapter is all about, now as well as when we started.

In the early 1990s, Nashville saw an influx of Jewish empty nesters from all across the country. Most came for business reasons, and had moved around enough to know how important it is to become connected to the Jewish community. Because many of these couples came here with no family, a Chavurah was established where friendships flourished and a support group was created.

The group soon decided to affiliate with a Jewish organization, and a new chapter of B'nai B'rith International was established. We decided to organize differently from most existing chapters, so we were founded as a social group for active adults, with the continuing emphasis on support and friendship. Since



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our inception, we have served as a model for other B'nai B'rith chapters that also strive to promote friendship, social awareness and camaraderie while conforming to the values of Judaism and B'nai B'rith.

Our unit has grown from fewer than 30 members to almost 90. Through the years, we've been engaged in a number of community service projects. These include an annual book drive among our members to provide books to Book'em, which serves underprivileged children; an annual drive to support specific needs of Jewish Family Service; and delivering Meals on Wheels on Christmas Day.

In addition, we plan monthly social, educational or cultural events such as theater outings, lectures on Jewish as well as secular topics, Shabbat dinners, or simple gatherings where we come together as a group just to enjoy each other's company.

We have worked hard to ensure our "togetherness" continues to nurture new and long-lasting friendships with the knowledge that in times of need, we are surrounded by people we can count on for help and support.

We welcome new members to our chapter, whether they are new to Nashville or long-term residents. Contact Marilyn Krick, membership vice president, at krick1374@gmail.com or Gayle Lipp, president, at gaylelipp@gmail.com for further information and to obtain a membership application form.

East Side Tribe Nashville

Eastsidetribe.org

[f groups/eastsidetribenashville](https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastsidetribenashville)
eastsidetribenashville@gmail.com

East Side Tribe is a grassroots social and spiritual community fueled by Jewish values and rooted in East Nashville. We are a welcoming environment for anyone interested in learning about and participating in Jewish life, regardless of background or faith. As a community, we organize monthly potluck Shabbat dinners, family-friendly holiday events, and engaging but accessible Torah study sessions called "Wandering Scholars."



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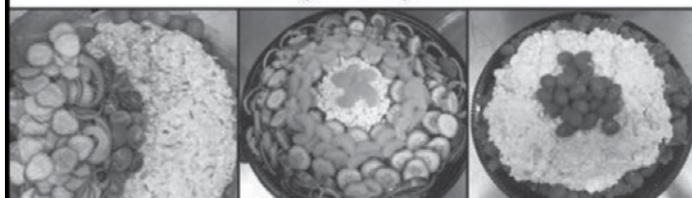
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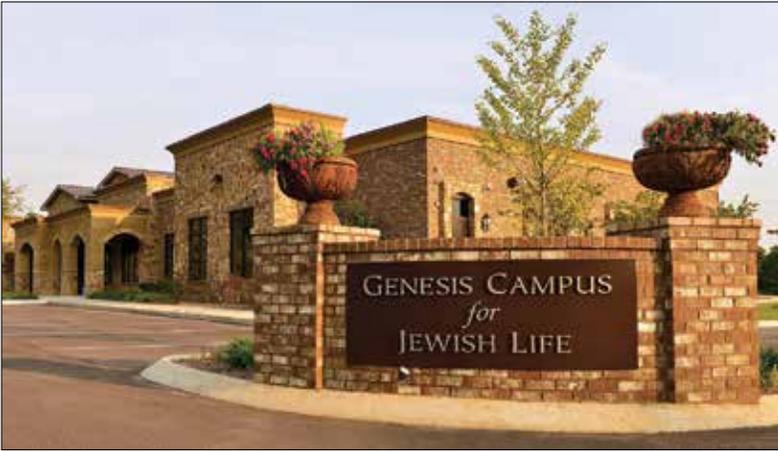
ESS & FRESS CATERING

Ess & Fress is a kosher and kosher-style catering company, offering delicious Jewish cuisine in Nashville. Owned by Dvora Davidson and co-operated by her and her mother Goldie Morris (formerly of *Goldie's Deli*), **Ess & Fress** combines over 30 years of professional restaurant experience to offer both traditional Jewish style dishes and other specialties according to your liking. We focus on preparing food for all of the holidays and are available for private parties, weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs — basically, simchas of all types.

Additionally, if you are in need of kosher products, whether it be meat, cheese, fish or other grocery items that are hard to come by in Nashville, we can help! If you are in the market for finding a case of shredded cheese or you just need one or two whole chickens, **Ess & Fress** is now distributing kosher items large and small.

For more information, like our Facebook page @essandfress, find us on Instagram @essandfresscatering and also be sure to check *The Observer* regularly for ads and seasonal offerings.

Contact Dvora by emailing essandfresscatering@gmail.com



Genesis Campus for Jewish Life

Chabad of Nashville
95 Bellevue Road
Nashville, TN 37221
(615) 646-5750

www.chabadnashville.com
f chabadnashville
chabadnashville@gmail.com

Tommy Bernard, president

Rabbi Yitzchok and Esther Tiechtel, executive directors

The Genesis Campus for Jewish Life offers a welcoming space where Jews come together to embark on spiritual journeys, renew their commitment to Judaism or simply enjoy the holidays and traditions. It is a place to nourish your mind, body and soul, spiritually. All are welcome regardless of affiliation, perspectives on Judaism or levels of observance. Looking for a connection, for meaning in the everyday, for joy in our tradition? Chabad of Nashville has what you're seeking.

Our campus

Chabad of Nashville is situated on the Genesis Campus for Jewish Life, on a nine-acre natural landscape in Bellevue. The center uplifts you with its Jerusalem-like entrance, sanctuary with soaring windows, oak library for Torah study, magnificent ballroom with outdoor patio for life-cycle and communal events, two Shabbat guest suites, state-of-the-art Montessori preschool, child-friendly classrooms for summer camp and Hebrew school, two commercial kosher banquet kitchens (one dairy, one meat), meditation courtyard, hip youth lounge and spa-like mikvah, the MikSpa. It's a true lighthouse of Judaism.

Programs for everyone

Chabad offers a host of services that reflect the work and wisdom of the Rebbe, who taught us to teach and care for everyone, for every individual is important and brings a special light to this world.

Chabad publishes Nashville's Jewish art calendar which includes a programming guide for many of the events and lectures taking place through the year.

Holidays are always celebrated with a unique, creative twist. They include the Shofar Factory, Family SukkahFest, Purim celebrations and the Model Matzah Bakery. We ignite Jewish pride with the lighting of public Chanukah menorahs at the state capitol and around Nashville, and host community Passover seders.

Educational programs include the Jewish Learning Institute, Lunch N' Learn sessions for businesspeople, guest lectures, Rosh Chodesh Society women's group, the Mega Challah Bake, and Torah To Go, tailored to various levels of study and interest in Judaism.

Chabad of Nashville also runs a most fun and nurturing summer day camp for youth, Camp Gan Israel, where children experience warm and loving moments that they cherish for a lifetime.

There's also Shabbat-To-Go, Glatt Kosher take-out Shabbat meals by order, and Shabbat bed and breakfast getaway suites - the "ChallahDay Inn" - that include lodging and delicious Shabbat meals. Call our office about these services.

Chabad also publishes a weekly e-magazine, "eTorah" (sign up to receive it at rabbi@chabadnashville.com), and has an active Facebook page, where you can find upcoming events. Chabad also has a most comprehensive website with all the answers to every-thing Jewish, at www.chabadnashville.com. Chabad also assists Jewish prison inmates and families in the military services.

To participate

Call, e-mail, join a program, and become a link to the future. We look forward to seeing you soon. At Chabad of Nashville, our motto is "Judaism Done Joyfully."

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Join Us!

Merle Born, Chapter President
Nashville@Hadassah.org
Facebook: Hadassah Nashville



Hadassah Nashville

The local chapter of the
Women's Zionist Organization
of America

www.Hadassah.org/nashville

nashville@hadassah.org

 Nashville.Hadassah

Merle Born, president
merleborn@gmail.com
(615) 414-5505

Deana Goldstein, operational vice president
DeanaEGoldstein@gmail.com
(615) 438-5225

Hadassah Nashville is a dynamic group of women who share a passion for social action, helping others and supporting the State of Israel. This multigenerational group also focuses on women's health issues, education and just getting together to have a good time. Our Nashville chapter includes more than 650 women and over 150 male associates, and we offer many programming and volunteer opportunities. We endeavor to combine programming that is informative and inspirational, encouraging members to contribute to Hadassah's mission.

Some of our favorite programs over the years have included:

- Multigenerational hamantaschen bake
- Movie and mimosas



Honoree Ingrid Mayer, M.D. flanked by co-chairs Erin Coleman and Sara Hanai at Hadassah's Best Strokes Gala Fundraiser

- Sukkot progressive dinner
- Hadassah Shabbat
- Annual donor event

Hadassah's history goes back to Feb. 14, 1912, when seven women led by Henrietta Szold organized the first meeting of what was then called The Daughters of Zion. Today Hadassah has more than 300,000 members in the United States alone.

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Our affiliate, Hadassah Associates, began in 1967 to involve men in supporting Hadassah's initiatives.

Hadassah's fundraising efforts support the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel, a world leader in medical research and in fostering peace through the power of healing. In 2005, Hadassah Medical Organization was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. It treats all patients regardless of race, religion or nationality.

Other Hadassah initiatives include Youth Aliyah, which provides services to immigrant and at-risk children in Israel, and Young Judaea, which runs camps and youth programs in the United States and the well-attended Year Course in Israel.

In addition to supporting causes in Israel, Hadassah promotes equality and advocates for women's issues here in the United States. Included on Hadassah's domestic advocacy agenda are gender equity in medical research (GEM), ending human trafficking, securing women's reproductive rights, and sensible gun safety legislation.

To Join

Call or e-mail us if you would like to attend any of our events. And please let us know if you are new to our community so we can offer you a ride and an introduction to our fun, friendly group.

Jewish Murfreesboro

 [groups/JewishMurfreesboro](https://www.facebook.com/groups/JewishMurfreesboro)

An outreach effort of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, Jewish Murfreesboro is a locally-organized group where Jews living in Rutherford County can get together, communicate, organize programs and grow community. The first program was a Chanukah party held in December 2019.

Jewish Nolensville

 [groups/1631363896988819/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1631363896988819/)

Established in late 2019, the group, an outreach effort of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, began with a Chanukah party at Nolensville Town Hall. The group is for Jewish families and individuals in Nolensville to celebrate events and socialize.

Nashville Israeli Folk Dancers

On Vanderbilt and Gordon Jewish Community Center campuses

Sharon Morrow
(615) 491-0840

morrow7141@comcast.net

 [Nashville Israeli Folk Dancing](https://www.facebook.com/NashvilleIsraeliFolkDancing)

The Nashville Israeli Folk Dance Group was started in 1993 by a small group of amateur folk dance enthusiasts. The dance group has flourished with weekly dance sessions, courses for beginners, workshops with renowned instructors from Israel, community outreach, parties and performances. In Nashville, Israeli dancing means great music and exercise among the friendliest people in town!

Regular Dance Sessions

Thursday evenings at the Ben Schulman Center, 2421 Vanderbilt Place on the Vanderbilt campus, 7 to 9 p.m. Beginners/easy dancing in the first hour; intermediate/advanced dancing in the second hour.

(There is parking in the lot next to the Center – marked reserved. Sharon Morrow has passes. Come in via the back patio doors. There is also parking in the lot just past the gym. Also, street parking along Garland, which is the street to the left past the gym.)

Wednesday evenings at the Gordon Jewish Community Center, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Beginners/easy dancing in the first half hour; intermediate/advanced dancing in the next hour and a half.

Friday mornings at Akiva School, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Intermediate /advanced session only.

Please contact us if you would like to be on our mailing list to receive notices of upcoming events, including special beginners courses and dance workshops, or if you have any questions about our group.

Nashville Jewish Film Festival

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www.nashvillejewishff.org

 [nashvillejewishfilmfestival](https://www.facebook.com/nashvillejewishfilmfestival)
fran@nashvillejcc.org

Volunteer co-chairs: Jamie Brook, Laurie Eskind, Jackie Roth Karr, Cindy Moskowitz, Loretta Saff

Managing director: Fran Brumlik
fran@nashvillejcc.org

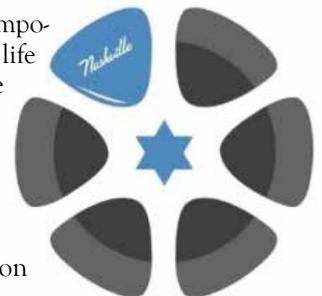
Marketing director: Kurt Meyer

Each year, NJFF shows 15 contemporary films that reflect upon Jewish life in Nashville, the U.S., Israel and the world in an effort to build bridges of understanding in our community. Plans are under way for the 2020 Nashville Jewish Film Festival, set for Oct. 13 to Nov. 5.

NJFF is a program of the Gordon Jewish Community Center.

This year will be its 20th year of creating a forum for the wider Middle Tennessee community to understand the complexity of issues surrounding Jewish life in contemporary society. Following a busy and successful 2019 season, the plan is to show 20 films during the 2020 festival, to mark that anniversary.

There was a large increase in sponsors, advertisers and audience in 2019. The 2019 season was varied, and films ranged from the Opening Night feature, "Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles" to "The Keeper," the story of a German soldier and prisoner of war who became a soccer icon with the help of the village rabbi.



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“King Bibi: The Life and Performances of Benjamin Netanyahu” was controversial and timely. Other films shed light on the founding of the Jewish community of Oporto in Portugal, and the suspenseful story of Rescue Bus 300.

The films chosen each year demonstrate the breadth and depth of Jewish cultural, religious, historical, and social life in the modern era. Along with special guests, panels and opening and closing night events, screenings take place in the fall at a variety of locations throughout the area.

Each year NJFF presents the annual Kathryn H. Gutow Student Film Competition. Originating in 2005 and named in memory of the co-founder of the festival, the competition features thematically Jewish films made by students from campuses around the world. The student filmmakers are eligible for a \$1,000 cash prize made possible by the Kathryn H. Gutow Fund for Jewish Arts and Culture and Creative Artists Agency. Student film competition finalists are screened during the NJFF. The winning film is then screened the following year during the annual Nashville Film Festival.

How to participate

Contact Fran Brumlik to submit a student film, volunteer or become a sponsor.



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National Council of Jewish Women, Nashville Section

801 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205
nashvillencjw@gmail.com

Tara Lerner Axelroth and Rachel Eisenstein Hauber,
co-presidents

Erin Coleman and La Quita Martin,
vice presidents of advocacy

Andrea Bernstein and Katie Wayne,
vice presidents of projects

Amy Pearl, Sarah Rubin and Jennie Zagnoev,
vice presidents of programming

Felicia Abramson and Andrea Falik,
vice presidents of membership

Carolyn Hyatt and Jennifer Lefkovitz, secretaries
Amy Katz and Amy Smith, treasurers

The Nashville section of the National Council of Jewish Women is a volunteer organization inspired by Jewish values. We strive to ensure individual rights and freedoms for all through a program of research, education, advocacy, and community service to improve the quality of life for women, children and families.

Nationally, NCJW takes a progressive stance on issues such as child welfare, women's rights and reproductive freedom. The Nashville section is pleased to support advocacy efforts such as NCJW's Reproductive Justice Campaign, which educates and empowers individuals to advocate for women's universal access to contraceptive information and health services.

Locally, NCJW's 490 members are involved and volunteer in service to the community in a number of ways. Some of the local projects the Nashville section currently supports are:

- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates program for children)
- Jewish Family Service Kosher Food Box, which provides food for local Jewish families
- JFS Passover Box, which provides Passover supplies for local Jewish families who also receive Kosher Food boxes
- PG-13 Players, combining peer education and theater to help young people deal with teen issues
- Reach for Survivorship, a program for children and adults with cancer at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt and the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center
- Renewal House, Nashville's first, largest, and most comprehensive long-term recovery community for women with addictions and their children
- Scholarship Loan Program, providing no-interest loans for undergraduate and graduate students
- Senior Friends, which delivers traditional Rosh Hashanah food items to seniors
- Snack Box Program for children attending the Sexual Abuse Clinic
- Vanderbilt Hillel Shabbat dinners

Political Organizations

AIPAC – The American Israel Public Affairs Committee

Southeast Regional Office

PO Box 468122
Atlanta, GA 31146
www.aipac.org
(770) 541-7610
sereg@aipac.org

Local contacts

Arthur Perlen
aperlen@centenretail.com

Fred Zimmerman
fredz@foursquared.com

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee is a bipartisan organization of U.S. citizens committed solely to strengthening, protecting and promoting the U.S.-Israel relationship in ways that enhance the security of the United States and Israel.

AIPAC urges all members of Congress to support Israel through foreign aid, government partnerships, joint anti-terrorism efforts, and the promotion of peace through a negotiated two-state solution – a Jewish state of Israel living alongside a demilitarized Palestinian state.

A registered domestic lobby supported by private contributions, AIPAC does not receive direction or financial assistance from Israel, any national organization or any foreign group. AIPAC is not a political action committee. It does not rate, endorse or contribute to candidates.

Nashville is part of AIPAC's Southeast Regional Office, which serves nine Southern states. Members of Nashville's Jewish community participate in the organization and its annual policy conference. AIPAC also sponsors educational events here.

J Street Nashville

P.O. Box 58525
Nashville, TN 37205
www.jstreet.org/nashville

Shayna Abrams
hapshepsute@gmail.com

J Street Nashville is the local chapter of J Street, the national political home for pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans. The organization gives political voice to mainstream American Jews and other supporters of Israel who believe that a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is essential to Israel's survival as the national home of the Jewish people and a vibrant democracy.

J Street's mission is twofold: first, to support American diplomatic leadership in helping to achieve a two-state solution be-

tween Israel and the Palestinians, as well as a broader regional peace; second, to ensure open discussion of Israel and the Middle East in national politics and the American Jewish community.

J Street Nashville, part of the J Street Educational Foundation, offers a variety of educational activities and opportunities. Such events include nationally and internationally recognized speakers, and smaller group presentations on various topics, relating to American Jewish concerns regarding Israel and the Middle East.

Nashville Jewish Social Justice Roundtable

Irwin Venick and Avi Poster
www.jsjrnashville.org
jsjrnashville@gmail.com

The Nashville Jewish Social Justice Roundtable is an independent, non-partisan Jewish voice for progressive views on social justice issues including poverty, affordable housing, education, mass incarceration, employment and voting rights primarily focused on local and state concerns.

Formed in 2016 and open to all members of the Jewish community, the NJSJR stands on the Jewish moral values of mishpat (justice for all); tzedakah (social justice); gemilut hesedim (acts of loving kindness) and rahamim (compassion for those in need). Our mission is to advocate in support of solutions to problems that will advance the principles of democratic pluralism, religious freedom and economic justice.

When appropriate, NJSJR takes positions on specific social justice issues and encourages its members to advocate for those positions by contacting civic leaders and others via email and telephone, being sure to let them know that the opinion expressed is from this Nashville Jewish organization. At other times, NJSJR will join with groups in the broader Nashville community to strengthen advocacy for social justice issues. NJSJR also sponsors membership meetings to educate its members and the larger Jewish community about timely concerns. Over time NJSJR plans to affiliate with national Jewish social justice organizations to better educate its members and the greater Nashville Jewish community on national issues of specific local and state concern.

As NJSJR is primarily concerned about local and state social justice issues, it does not address issues involving Israel or the Middle East.

Anyone interested in joining the Nashville Jewish Social Justice Roundtable can sign up at <http://jsjrnashville.org>. To learn more about NJSJR contact Irwin Venick (irwin.venick@gmail.com) or Avi Poster (aviposter4@gmail.com) or (615) 414-2396.

National Conference on Jewish Affairs

P.O. Box 210981
Nashville, TN 37221
f NashvilleNCJA

Michael Dobrin, Michael Hershey, Daniel Bregman, Harvey Eisen, Alan Koufer, Jill Melody, Tomer Minuskin
michael.dobrin@comcast.net

The National Conference on Jewish Affairs supports the rights and safety of the Jewish people in America, Israel and around the world by providing strong Jewish leadership to respond to and counter the growing, orchestrated demonizing of Israel, Jewry and America. An umbrella organization uniting active Jewish leaders and groups across America, NCJA was formed to give voice to those who want to express support for and act on behalf of justice for Jews, Israel and Zionism.

NCJA asserts the right of the Jewish people to the land of Israel based on history, religion and international law. We demand an end to the funding of the culture of hate, which sabotages the development of a true and lasting peace in the Middle East. NCJA works with Americans who share our commitment to defend our country and our people, recognizing that a strong America means a strong Israel and that an America proud of its liberty is a strong example to the world.

NCJA supports Jewish students on campus, focusing on defending the rights of students and faculty to study, pursue research, articulate arguments and learn in an open intellectual, environment, free of physical and intellectual intimidation.

NCJA works for the security of the United States and to protect the U.S. Constitution and to restore the pride and moral confidence of those Jews proud of their Jewish-American heritage.

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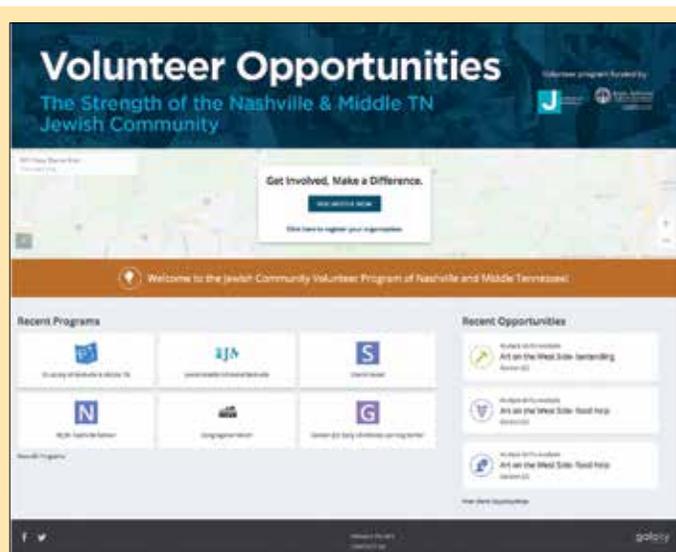
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www.JewishObserverNashville.com



Want to help the community?

Check for volunteer opportunities at the online portal

Want to help the community, but not sure where to go and what to do?

Last March, the Gordon Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee debuted the Nashville and Middle Tennessee Jewish Community Volunteer Program, a unified website listing volunteer opportunities in the community.

Through jewishnashville.galaxydigital.com, a state-of-the-art website, community members can find a wide range of volunteer opportunities available within the Jewish community, and other opportunities in the greater Nashville community. Some opportunities are for a day, some are monthly or recurring opportunities, some are for individuals while others are geared toward group volunteering.

The website isn't just Federation or JCC volunteer opportunities, but for the whole community. That way, rather than have a few small groups recruiting volunteers, it can be done community-wide, working together to have a greater impact.

It also allows all of the organizations to enhance their exposure to new people, gaining more volunteers.

The website is linked from a portal on each congregational or agency website, opening up all community opportunities to those who are interested.

A search can be made on opportunities at a specific agency, or in the entire community. Those using the site can also track their volunteer hours.

In some cases, the listings state how many volunteer positions are open for a particular activity. Some are for a particular season, such as Camp Davis assistants, while others are ongoing, such as driving seniors or being Welcoming Ambassadors.

Volunteers can log in, create a volunteer profile, and select opportunities based on individual interests and schedule.

Educational Resources

Annette Levy Ratkin Jewish Community Archives

801 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 354-1655
Fax: (615) 352-0056

www.jewishnashville.org/resources/annette-levy-ratkin-archives Lynn Fleischer, archive associate
archives@jewishnashville.org

Since 1979, the Annette Levy Ratkin Archives has collected the records of the families, businesses and institutions of the Jewish communities of Middle Tennessee, many having origins in the mid-19th century. Housed in the Gordon Jewish Community Center, the archives includes the records of such local organizations as the Nashville section of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Hadassah, Woodmont Country Club, B'nai B'rith, the Jewish Community Council (which later became the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee), the congregations, Jewish Family Service, and more.

The archives also houses microfilm, hard and digital copies of The Jewish Observer of Nashville, which began publication in 1935, and its predecessor, The YMHA News, first published in 1915. An oral history audiotape collection, sponsored by NCJW, documents the memories of older adults who grew up in Nashville. It also has a collection of reminiscences by NCJW past presidents. A DVD oral history collection, contains the experiences of Holocaust refugees, survivors and liberators. Tombstones dated before 1900 in the Jewish cemeteries of Nashville have been photographed, preserving their inscriptions.

All documents and photographs are stored in acid-free folders and boxes, and are available to researchers from the Jewish and secular community under supervision of the archives staff.

"A Caring Community, the History of the Jews of Nashville," is a DVD presentation produced by the archives, tracing the development of the Nashville Jewish community from 1851 to date. It can be purchased from the archives in DVD format for \$10 plus postage.

The archives recently acquired the exhibit "Bagels & Barbeque, the Jewish Experience in Tennessee," an exhibit prepared with the Tennessee State Museum and other Tennessee Jewish Federations for the 2007 General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities (now the Jewish Federations of North America).

The mission of the archives is to preserve the records of the Jews of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. Please consider donating your family's papers as a legacy.



Gordon Jewish Community Center Library

801 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 356-7170, ext. 1679
Fax: (615) 353-2659

The Gordon JCC Library has a spacious look and is used for reading and meeting. Arrangements to use the room for a meeting are made through Marilyn Rubin, (615) 354-1679, in the JCC office. If you use the room for reading purposes, you can find childrens/juvenile books, fiction, biographies, history or cookbooks, along with books about Jewish practice and holidays, the Holocaust, Israel, and many other topics related to Jewish life and religion. The library has special collections of large-print books and yizkor books compiled by survivors of East European shtetls. The collections can be located by using the patron computer station in the library.

Materials may be borrowed for two weeks and renewed by phone. A video or DVD checkout must be arranged in advance by contacting the staff. The library is usually open whenever the JCC main building is open.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Nashville

Roy Hiller, president
nashvillejgs@gmail.com

Established in late 2018, the group meets at the Gordon JCC and is open to anyone interested in learning more about Jewish genealogy and tracing family histories. The group is a chapter of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies.

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Nashville Holocaust Memorial

801 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205

www.nashvilleholocaustmemorial.org

Felicia Anchor, chair, Nashville Holocaust Memorial Committee

In 2006 the Nashville survivor community and their descendants, with the support of many generous donors, created the Holocaust Memorial and Educational Site on the grounds of the Gordon Jewish Community Center to honor the Jewish victims of this monumental tragedy and inspire future generations to live by the principle: “Never again to us or anyone.”

Designed by architect Manuel Zeitlin, the interactive memorial provides an educational opportunity to learn about the Holocaust through the distinctive history of Nashville survivors and their families.

The site includes memorial walls inscribed with the names and personal information of loved ones, an eternal flame and a symbolic sculpture of the “Book of the Jewish People,” inspired by Holocaust survivor Irvin Limor and created by his son, Alex. The creation and fundraising effort was led by Felicia Anchor.

The secluded wooded site has proven to be well suited for personal reflection. It is open to the public and accessible during the hours when the Gordon JCC is open.

A self-guided tour is available through a series of information stations describing the memorial area as well as a printed guide.

Donations to the memorial upkeep and educational efforts are appreciated and can be made through the website or mailed to the Gordon Jewish Community Center’s Holocaust Memorial Fund at the address above.

PJ Library

801 Percy Warner Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205
(954) 850-7305

www.nashvillejcc.org/pj-library/

pjlibrary.org

pjourway.org

[f PJLibraryNashvilleMiddleTennessee](https://www.facebook.com/PJLibraryNashvilleMiddleTennessee)

Jon Kniss, coordinator

PJLibrary@nashvillejcc.org

The PJ Library is not a physical library but rather a program where Jewish children ages 6 months to 8 years can receive high-quality Jewish children’s books and music each month for free. An affiliated program, PJ Our Way, offers children ages 9-11 the opportunity of choosing their own Jewish books each month, with 420 Nashville children currently enrolled. The affiliated programs are made possible by a partnership between the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. Additional partners include Akiva School, the Gordon Jewish Community Center, Micah Children’s Academy, The Temple Preschool and West End Synagogue.

Books, activities for kids, families

Knowing that families read together at bedtime, the program’s founder, Harold Grinspoon, reasoned, “Why not make those moments Jewish moments?” By providing families with high-quality Jewish children’s books, PJ Library helps families explore the timeless core values of Judaism. To date, more than 5 million books have been mailed to children in more than 200 communities around the world.

With all of our partners, PJ Library is able to provide children not only with books but also with Jewish-themed monthly programs.

Some of our programs include:

- Apple picking on a farm for Rosh Hashanah
- Making projects out of real clay
- Peace, Love, Havdalah
- Library Pete Story Time for the Birthday of the Trees
- Learning about Jewish sports heroes at a Nashville Predators game

We are always looking for new ideas for programs, so please share any ideas you have.

To sign up

Follow the link at www.nashvillejcc.org/pj-library/



Learn More

about the Jewish Federation of
Nashville and Middle Tennessee

at www.jewishnashville.org



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Larry Leibowitz, chair
Devora Fish, director of education
Alyssa Trachtman, director of operations

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” – George Santayana

One of the oldest and most recognized organizations of its kind in the United States, the Tennessee Holocaust Commission was formed in 1984 to commemorate the Holocaust and educate the public. We provide seminars, educational resources, workshops, traveling exhibits and commemorations to school systems and communities statewide.

The commission creates awareness of the Holocaust to fight prejudice and to encourage tolerance and understanding among all people. Our efforts include:

- Educator programs
- Teacher workshops and fellowships
- Customized classroom resources
- Loaned literature
- Educational outreach
- Trips to the U.S. Holocaust Museum
- Trips to primary Holocaust sites in Europe
- Belz-Lipman Holocaust Educator of the Year Award
- Adult workshops
- Speakers bureau
- Annual Days of Remembrance commemorations
- “Living On” multimedia exhibition featuring Tennessee survivors and liberators
- Traveling exhibits

Vanderbilt University Judaica Collection

Vanderbilt University Divinity Library
419 21st Ave. S.
Nashville, TN 37240-0007
(615) 343-2865
Fax: (615) 343-2918
divref@vanderbilt.edu

Vanderbilt’s renowned Harry and Mary Zimmerman Judaica Collection is not limited to university students and faculty. The librarians want Nashville’s Jewish community to know that anyone who wishes to use this extensive collection of religious books, research material and Yiddish and Hebrew literature is welcome to do so. The Judaica collection, one of the largest in the South, includes works by Franz Rosenzweig, Gershom Scholem and Martin Buber. There are also 1,600 Yiddish and Hebrew books, many of them poetry and literature. Much of the collection was acquired in 1991 when Vanderbilt purchased

Nahum Glatzer’s library of 7,000 items, thanks to a substantial donation from Raymond Zimmerman.

The Judaica collection is located in the Divinity Library, on the second floor of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library. To use the Judaica material, anyone in the Jewish community may apply for a library card at the circulation desk of the Divinity Library. Books may be borrowed for 28 days.

Vanderbilt University Program in Jewish Studies

Buttrick Hall 140
PMB357790
390 24th Ave South
Nashville, TN 37240
(615) 322-5029

jewishstudies@vanderbilt.edu
<https://as.vanderbilt.edu/jewishstudies/>

Jewish Studies is an academic program at the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University that provides students with a wide array of approaches to Jewish experiences, and asks larger questions about cultural and religious identity, minority experience, and diasporic community. The program hosts an annual lecture series that brings in important scholars speaking on diverse topics to Vanderbilt’s campus. All events are free and open to the public. Please visit our website for a schedule of events, or send us an email if you would like to be placed on our mailing list.

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Jewish Nashville



As the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, I want our Jewish community to be a big tent that is open and inclusive. Recognizing that our greatest resource is the people who make up our Jewish community, I think it is important that we reach out and engage the broadest cross-section possible throughout Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

I want to help all the members of our Jewish community see themselves as part of our extended family. The goal is not to make everyone think, look, or act the same. Rather, the goal is to help everyone feel a part of our people, acting together from shared common values.

This spread is a special welcome for all the LGBTQ individuals and families in our community. I hope you find this LGBTQ Guide to Jewish Nashville and Middle Tennessee helpful.

Our embrace is meant to be broad and inclusive. Simply put, everyone counts. We are stronger together, and we are more vibrant from our diversity when we welcome all the members of our community.

Best wishes,

Eric Stillman

Executive Director

Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee

Akiva School is a community K-6th school that is committed to maintaining a diverse population with regards to its socio-economic, denominational, and cultural composition. We strive to foster a love of learning that supports our children's social, emotional, spiritual and intellectual growth. It is founded on helping children deepen their curiosity, morality, perseverance, communication, collaboration, and creativity. As the only Jewish Day School in a 200-mile radius, ensuring that every family feels included and welcomed is at the heart of who we are and what we do.



BBYO strives to welcome all Jewish teens, regardless of background, denominational affiliation, gender, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status, including those with a range of intellectual, emotional and physical abilities.

BBYO has a licensed social worker on staff as a full-time Director of Inclusion to oversee the inclusive programming and services being offered. Their job is to work with the regional staff throughout the year to ensure that they can provide inclusive experiences. We provide teens with a one-on-one aide when necessary at conventions, provide accessible transportation, secure appropriate rooming, and more.

Congregation Micah offers creative and diverse ways to celebrate Jewish life using the rich beliefs and practices of modern Reform Judaism as its foundation. We have adopted the words of Micah (6:8), the Biblical prophet and civil rights advocate, as our congregation's message of equality and welcome for all: "Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God."

Micah is a place where everyone – families, singles, interfaith couples, and the LGBTQ+ community – all feel comfortable exploring Jewish life. Our congregation warmly opens its doors to all for weddings, life-cycle events and services. Seeking justice and practicing mercy, we humbly invite you to come laugh, eat, sing, pray and learn with us.

The **Gordon JCC** is at the center of Jewish life in Nashville. Our community center is built on Jewish values and delivers Jewish cultural content and programs. At the Gordon JCC, we don't assume that everyone is the same; and so, we try to meet our members "where they are." We serve a wide range of individuals and families. We are among one of the first centers of our type in the region to include same-sex couples and families as members and warmly welcome those families in our pre-school and after-school programs. We have a diverse staff, including LGBTQ+ in various positions across the J, including leadership roles.

We offer a range of welcoming programs, including Under One Roof, an experimental art exhibition that involves diverse organizations across Nashville to produce artwork based on themes such as "Welcoming the Stranger" and "Reflection, Remembrance, Resilience" and celebrates the Jewish fall harvest, Sukkot. Our center helps sustain a community where people, across all backgrounds and generations, can learn, play and connect.

Hadassah Nashville supports hospitals and youth villages in Israel and has strong advocacy efforts in the U.S. Our top four focus areas are: health, medical research, support of Is-

rael and social justice. Hadassah strongly opposes all efforts – whether through legislation, referendum or constitutional amendment – that would selectively limit or deny civil rights to LGBTQ Americans.

Jewish Family Service has been providing adoption services to the LGBTQ community in Nashville and Middle Tennessee since 2002. Over the past 17 years, there are 49 children who have been originally adopted and 105 second-parent adoptions which have been finalized in the LGBTQ community through JFS.

The agency is well known for our welcoming stance toward LGBTQ adoptive individuals and couples. We don't look at a prospective adoptive individual or couple as gay or straight, we look at them as a potential loving and supportive forever family for a child.

JFS Counseling: Our social workers are LGBTQ affirming, knowledgeable and sensitive to the needs of LGBTQ individuals. We accept private health insurance and Medicare. Sliding-fee scale based on the client's ability to pay may also be available.

The **Jewish Federation of Nashville** is the central voluntary communal organization of the Jewish community. Through its fundraising and community relations efforts, either independently or in partnership with other Jewish organizations, the Federation works to promote the general welfare, viability and cohesiveness of the Jewish community of Nashville and Middle Tennessee and to ensure the continuity of the Jewish people, locally in Israel and around the world.

We believe in b'tzelem Elohim, the idea that we are ALL created in the image of G-d, and tikkun olam, the idea that each of us bears an individual responsibility to make the world a better place. We are Jewish Nashville, and we welcome ALL with pride!

National Council of Jewish Women is inspired by Jewish values through working to improve the quality of life for women, children and families. NCJW takes a progressive stance on issues such as women's rights and child welfare. NCJW Nashville Section's 490 members are involved and volunteer in service to the community in a number of ways. The Nashville section is a proud supporter of the LGBTQ community and is excited to participate in this year's Nashville Pride.

At **Sherith Israel**, our mission is to live lives with meaning by bridging the divide between the traditions which we inherited and the world which we encounter and to enable the Jewish way of life to thrive as we embrace Am Yisrael with open arms.

Our mission is to be an open community to our fellow Jews and all people, by welcoming all who enter our doors without judgment, bringing the beauty of the Torah into the lives of whoever is interested through learning programs and sharing our most uplifting as well as our most difficult moments.

Our mission concludes with passion. We have to love

what we do, love what we stand for, believe deeply that all we do is for God, for the Torah, and for the Jewish people.

The Temple is a welcoming and Inclusive congregation: we have a diverse membership from singles to married and same-sex couples, interfaith and intercultural families, newcomers and natives, families with children, midlifers and senior adults. We honor and cherish all of our members and families no matter what their background – Jewish or non-Jewish, traditional or interfaith. We work hard to connect our members to one another through our programs such as 'Next Dor' for young adults and couples ages 22 to 40, Passover Seders around the city including the LGBTQ Community, W.E.L.L. (Women Engaged in Living and Learning), JACS (a support group for addictive behaviors), and much more.

Our congregation continues to deepen and expand our commitment to making our city a better place for all people. The Boulevard Bolt, Room in the Inn, our booth at Pride, social action initiatives & drives, interfaith programs and leading community conversations on issues of immigration, criminal justice and transgender rights, all help make our community stronger. Our clergy and staff are available and accessible to meet your lifecycle and pastoral needs in both times of joy and celebration and times of difficulty and hardship.

Vanderbilt Hillel is proud to be an open and accepting organization that happily welcomes students of all genders, sexualities and identities to experience Jewish campus life. Hillel regularly offers egalitarian religious services, diverse social programming, and a variety of social justice opportunities for the 1000 Jewish undergraduates at Vanderbilt University. Recognized as an outstanding community partner by The K.C. Potter Center / Office of LGBTQI Life, Hillel regularly hosts LGBTQI Shabbats that feature engaging dinner conversations between student participants.

West End Synagogue is committed to blending tradition and change as we welcome families of all ages and backgrounds. As part of the Conservative Movement, our congregation offers a full range of Shabbat and holiday services as well as the only egalitarian daily minyan (mornings and evenings) in town to provide for the spiritual needs of the entire Jewish Community of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. We are dedicated to promoting both family and community through Limud (study), Tefillah (study) and Tzedakah (acts of justice and loving kindness). Come and visit us. Our doors are always open!



KOSHER in Nashville



Salmon from Nashville Kosher Take Out

There are many options for keeping kosher in Nashville, including kosher restaurants, kosher caterers and fresh kosher foods at local groceries. The following information has been compiled from the websites of Nashville's congregations and the website of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. Be sure to check with your congregation and friends; new kosher options continue to become available in Music City and this listing reflected the best information available when the Guide was being prepared.

Groceries

Fresh kosher meat and/or poultry is available at **Trader Joe's**, Green Hills (kosher poultry, including fresh turkeys at Thanksgiving); **Whole Foods**, near Trader Joe's in Green Hills (fresh kosher chicken and ground turkey); and the **Kroger** location on Harding Road in Belle Meade

(fresh kosher chicken and meat).

Trader Joe's also carries fresh kosher challah. Many regular Trader Joe's items carry kosher certification.

Whole Foods Green Hills offers kosher-certified cheeses and fresh challah. Many regular Whole Food items carry kosher certification, including pareve chocolate chips.

The Belle Meade Kroger carries kosher cheese and dairy products and a large line of specialty kosher goods.

Other local groceries and big-box stores also have kosher sections or offer kosher foods for specific holidays. Check each store for selection and certifications. These include:

Costco, 6670 Charlotte Pike, Nashville, (615) 354-5100: Kosher-for-Passover prepared foods and cheeses.

Publix - Various locations in Nashville
Sprouts - Bellevue and Franklin/Cool Springs

Walmart - 7044 Charlotte Pike, Nashville 37209, (615) 352-4129

Kosher meat and food services

Griller's Pride

www.grillerspride.com

Based in Atlanta, Griller's Pride has an extensive array of frozen kosher meat, chicken, and prepared foods and delivers to Nashville approximately every five to six weeks. Overnight special delivery can also be arranged. Griller's Pride also offers extensive Kosher-for-Passover items in season.

Grow and Behold

www.growandbehold.com

This New Jersey-based service offers premium kosher beef, veal, lamb, poultry and cheeses. There is a Buying Club in Nashville that receives delivery approximately every six weeks.

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Restaurants

Grins Vegetarian Café

Schulman Center for Jewish Life on
Vanderbilt Campus
2421 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville 37212
(615) 322-8571
www.bongojava.com/grins/

Grins is the Kosher vegetarian (vegan and dairy) cafe located at Vanderbilt Hill, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. It is open during Vanderbilt's academic year and free parking is available. Grins is regularly recognized as one of the best vegetarian restaurants in Nashville. Certified by Nashville Kashrut Commission.

AVO

3 City Blvd., #200
Nashville 37209
(615) 329-2377
www.eatavo.com

AVO is a kosher vegan restaurant located in midtown. Open weekdays and Sundays for brunch. Many items available for delivery via the Door Dash app. NKC. Parve.

Aryeh's Kitchen

213 24th Avenue South
Nashville 37212
(615) 455-0542
<http://aryehs.com/>

Kosher fleishig food truck on the Vanderbilt campus featuring a variety of sandwiches. Open Mondays through Thursdays; closed during Vanderbilt school breaks; hours posted on the web site above. Managed by Rabbi Gavriel Isenberg, assistant rabbi and director of graduate student programming at Chabad Vanderbilt. Aryeh's is now on the Vanderbilt meal plan.

Baked Goods

Panima Bakery

Offers pareve and Pas Yisrael challahs and muffins prepared under Rabbi Saul Strosberg's supervision at the Akiva School and are available at Akiva, the Jewish Community Center, Produce Place and, of course, Sherith Israel. Twenty percent of Panima's revenues are donated to Akiva School. For more information, contact Erika Shuman, erikashuman@comcast.net.

Nothing Bundt Cakes

21 White Bridge Rd., Suite 111B
Nashville 37205
(615) 354-6300
www.nothingbundtcakes.com

Kosher dairy bundt cakes. NKC.

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

408 Thompson Lane
Nashville 37211
(615) 254-5966

<https://www.krispykreme.com/location/nashville-thompson-ln>

This particular shop is certified Kosher by NKC each year from Dec. 1 to Jan. 1.

Kosher Wines & Liquors

Kosher wines are available at many local liquor stores, most notably:

Belle Meade Wine & Spirits (Belle Meade, next to Kroger)

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The Wine Chap (Belle Meade, next to Publix)
 Red (Bellevue)
 Grand Cru (Sylvan Park)
 The Wine Shoppe at Green Hills (Grace's Plaza)
 Grocery store sources include Trader Joe's, Green Hills; and the Belle Meade Kroger.

Vendors/Manufacturers

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ringues, meals and sauce are not under supervision, nor are pastas packaged with a seasoning package.

Leon's Candy

Leonscandy.com

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Franklin Juice Company

www.franklinjuice.com

Certified by NKC.

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Caters Shabbat dinners and Passover meals for Vanderbilt Hillel, and caters events out of the Sherith Israel kitchens

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Nashville Kosher Take Out

Chabad of Nashville

95 Bellevue Rd.

(615) 646-5750

Nashvillekosherstakeout.com

Provides kosher meals, packaged with the kosher traveler in mind. Prepared under the supervision of Rabbi Yitzchok Tiechtel at Chabad of Nashville. Entrees are prepared using ingredients that are Glatt kosher, Chalav Yisrael and Bishul Yisrael. Meals are double-wrapped in foil so they can be reheated in any hotel oven, and are designed for freezing and reheating. Menus include breakfast/brunch and lunch/dinner. Orders should be made at least 48 hours in advance, and can be picked up at Chabad or sent by Uber or Lyft to a local hotel. With a week's notice, menus of \$750 or more can be personalized.

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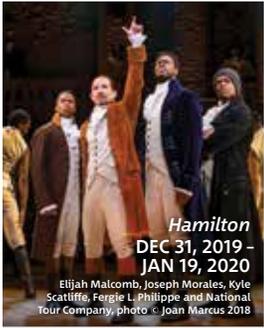
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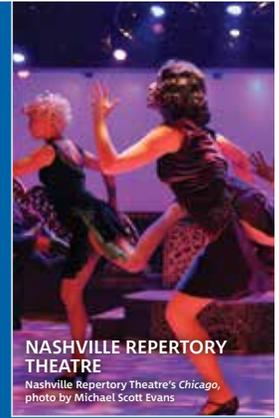


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