INDIANAPOLIS September/October 2026

Jewish Community News



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



On the Obligation to Build Together: Time, Talent, Treasure, and Testimony



There is an old Chasidic story about a village rabbi who noticed that his congregation had grown cold toward one another over the years. Old arguments had calcified into permanent walls. Families that once shared Shabbat tables now passed each other in silence. Donations to the community had dwindled, not from poverty, but from indifference born of grievance.

One winter evening, the rabbi gathered the community and placed a single candle in the center of the room. "Who among you," he asked, "would allow your neighbor's candle to go dark because of a quarrel over something said three years ago?" No one answered. "Then why," he continued quietly, "do you allow the flame of our community to dim for the very same reason?" He lit each person's candle from the center flame — and asked them to hold it high, together. The room glowed.

That story lives in my heart as we enter this year's annual campaign for the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis.

Your federation is that center flame. It funds a kosher and non-kosher food pantry and supports Holocaust survivors in the Greater Indianapolis area through Jewish Family Services. It supports social service organizations for Jewish communities in Israel and around the world, engages our young adults with active programming and offers leadership and engagement programs that ensure Jewish life in Indianapolis remains vibrant, rooted and dignified. The work does not pause when our enthusiasm wanes. The need does not diminish because we are tired or distracted or carrying old wounds from a board meeting, a policy disagreement, or a slight — real or perceived — from years past.

I want to speak honestly to those who have stepped back. I understand. I had a grievance, too. Federation life is not without its complications. Institutions can sometimes feel bureaucratic, impersonal, or slow to reflect the values of every member of our diverse community. Your frustrations are legitimate. But I ask you to consider something the rabbi understood that cold evening: the flame does not belong to those who tend it alone. It belongs to all of us. And when you withdraw your hand, someone else's light grows a little dimmer.

The Four Pillars of Partnership

This year, we are asking our community to consider giving not just in one dimension, but across four:

Time — Volunteer your hours. Mentor a young Jewish professional. Serve on a committee. Show up. Your physical presence in this community is irreplaceable.

Talent — Every one of us carries expertise that this federation needs. Lawyers, doctors, educators, accountants, marketers, artists, and builders — your professional gifts, freely offered, multiply our capacity beyond what any dollar alone can achieve.

Treasure — Yes, we are asking for your financial support, and we are asking you to dig deeper than you did last year. If you gave before and stopped, we ask you to return. If you have never given, we ask you to begin. If you have been generous, we ask you to consider whether generosity, like a muscle, can grow stronger still. Every gift — at every level — matters.

Testimony — Perhaps the most underestimated of the four. Tell your story. Tell your children why this community sustained your grandparents. Tell your neighbors what the federation does for those who have no one else. Be a witness to the value of collective Jewish responsibility. Kol Yisrael arevim zeh ba-zeh — all of Israel is responsible for one another. That ancient principle does not fulfill itself. It requires our voices.

A Word on Grievances

Jewish tradition does not ask us to be naive about injury or to pretend that conflicts did not happen. But it does teach, in the wisdom of Pirkei Avot, that the world stands on three things: on truth, on justice, and on peace. Peace — shalom — is not the absence of disagreement. It is the active, ongoing work of choosing community over grievance, presence over withdrawal, and the future over the past.

If something has kept you at a distance, I invite you personally to reach out to me. Let us talk. Let us find a path back to the center flame — together.

The needs of our community are real. The moment is urgent. And the obligation — the sacred mitzvah of tzedakah — does not wait for perfect conditions or perfect relationships. It asks only that we show up, reach deeper, and hold our candles high.

"You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." — Rabbi Tarfon, Pirkei Avot 2:16

With gratitude, with hope, and with my hand extended,

TODD MAURER
Interim CEO, ceo@jfgi.org

When the Plan Changed, the Journey Began

Lori Katz and Alan Atlas' unplanned route revealed powerful connections to history, community, and identity



What began as a straightforward winter itinerary, London to Vienna, on to Israel, and home via Dublin, became something far more profound for Lori Katz and Alan Atlas.

In late February, as they were heading to the airport in London to Vienna, news broke that airspace to Israel was closed. Israel was suddenly out of reach. Instead of canceling, Lori and Alan adjusted, setting out on an unexpected journey through memory, history and identity.

In Vienna, they did what they always do when traveling. They sought out Jewish history. From Italy to Savannah to Athens, their trips are shaped by a search for Jewish communities and heritage.

"Wherever there are Jewish people, you feel welcome," Lori says. "You're introduced, and suddenly you're part of the community."

From Vienna, they drove to Prague, where they spent three days exploring synagogues and visiting Theresienstadt, the former concentration camp and ghetto. Even amid modern life, something felt unchanged.

"The old squares feel frozen in time," Alan says. "Like the 1930s and '40s are still present."
Their next stop, Kraków, was not part of the original plan.

Neither was visiting Auschwitz and Birkenau.

"The opportunity presented itself, and we felt it was important," Lori says.

"It was surreal."

For Alan, Auschwitz was the most emotional part of the trip. Walking through the camps and seeing places like the experiment rooms made the reality impossible to ignore.

"You can read about it," Lori says, "but seeing it is completely different."

In Kraków, they also saw renewal. A visit to the JCC and a tour with its assistant director highlighted the strength of present-day Jewish life.

Budapest offered yet another perspective.

"Budapest surprised me," Alan says. "History isn't hidden. It's right there in the streets."

Over three days, they visited synagogues, including the Kazinczy Street Synagogue, toured the Jewish hospital with Dr. Shemesh, and connected with local Jewish organizations. They also saw firsthand the impact of global Jewish support, including an ambulance funded in part by the Federation.





But it was the public memorials that stayed with them most.

In Liberty Park, everyday objects like a suitcase and satchel reflected wartime loss. Along the Danube, the Shoes on the Danube Bank made a lasting impression on both Lori and Alan. The iron shoes represent those who were executed along the river.

"That was incredibly impactful," she says. "It makes it real in a way you don't expect."

Alan found the open reminders difficult but necessary. "It just brings it right to the surface," he says.

Throughout Budapest, they noticed something else. Jewish identity felt visible and alive.

"It felt like they're making up for the past," Alan says. "Judaism is out in the open."

The trip left a lasting mark.

"Seeing what's left from a once vibrant Jewish Europe, it humbles you," Alan reflects. "It changed me."

They eventually returned to Vienna, then flew to Dublin and home, their Israel plans postponed but not canceled.

"We'll go," Lori says. "Hopefully next year."

Their travels will continue, with a trip to Singapore and Tokyo already planned. And as always, they will look for



Jewish connections along the way.

"Visiting these places keeps our history alive," Alan says.

"It's our story," Lori adds. "And it matters."



In The Community

From Jerusalem to Capitol Hill: How One Student Is Engineering Impact



Gary Groudsky's journey has never followed a straight line. Born and raised in Jerusalem, he moved to the United States alone to attend a boarding school in Jacksonville, Fla., initially pursuing competitive swimming. Over time, he shifted his focus toward a career with lasting, tangible impact, which led him to study mechanical engineering at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Drawn by a deep curiosity about how and why systems work, Groudsky found a natural fit in engineering. His analytical mindset now extends beyond technical problem-solving into broader interests like strategy, business development, and relationship-building.

His path, however, has not been easy. By the time he arrived at Rose-Hulman, he had already spent four years living independently in a new country. Combined with the school's rigorous academics and ongoing events in Israel, the experience has been demanding.

"My academic journey has been incredibly challenging," he says. Still, he has persevered by leaning on available resources and maintaining a clear sense of purpose. Rose-Hulman's strong track record of preparing students for success ultimately made it the right choice for him.

Groudsky credits much of his growth to influential mentors, especially a former swimming coach who instilled discipline and work ethic early on. That guidance helped shape both his character and his decision to pursue a demanding field.

While he found direction academically, building Jewish community on campus proved difficult. With limited opportunities at school, he looked beyond it and found a connection through the Jewish Federations of North America's Changemakers program. It is a leadership and professional development program for young Jewish adults (ages 21–27), designed to bridge the gap between school and the professional world while strengthening participants' Jewish identity and community connections.

"I joined because someone believed in me," he says. "Someone saw that I could be part of something bigger."

Through the program, he developed a strong sense of responsibility as a Jewish leader, focused on strengthening his community through advocacy and mentorship. That commitment led him to Washington, D.C., in November 2025, where he met with elected officials on Capitol Hill.

"It was my first real taste of driving national impact," he says. Sharing his experiences and being heard reinforced his sense of purpose and later earned him a community impact award.

He returned to Capitol Hill in May for additional meetings, where he brought a unique perspective as a current college student navigating Jewish identity on campus. That experience strengthened his commitment to advocacy and leadership.

The Changemakers program refined his leadership skills, enhancing his ability to communicate, collaborate, and mobilize others around shared goals. It also reinforced his belief that young leaders play a critical role in shaping the future of the community.

As he looks ahead to graduating in May 2027, Groudsky's goals center on impact and connection. He plans to move to Miami and launch a Moishe House to help build a strong, supportive Jewish community for young adults.

"This is a crucial time when we need strong support networks," he says.

From Jerusalem to the United States to Capitol Hill, Groudsky's journey reflects resilience, purpose, and a commitment to making a difference.



Building Bridges, One Woman at a Time

How Sandy Nachlis is channeling leadership, learning, and legacy through National Women's Philanthropy



When Sandy Nachlis arrived in New York City for the Jewish Federations of North America's National Women's Philanthropy retreat in June, she brought pride, curiosity, and a strong sense of responsibility. Representing Indianapolis among nearly 180 women from across North America, she stepped into a space filled with energy and purpose, and left feeling inspired, connected, and deeply committed to the work ahead.

"It was high energy and incredibly inspirational," Nachlis said. "I was really flattered and honored to represent Indianapolis in this capacity."

Her path began with a nomination from Rebecca Schalit-Newman, JFGI's Deputy Executive Director. Nachlis initially deferred while serving as campaign co-chair but applied the following year and was accepted into a cohort of 32 women in an 8 year leadership program focused on strengthening philanthropic impact.

That cohort quickly became central to her experience. The women span generations, from those raising young children to grandmothers, yet formed a strong bond.

"We're all in different places in our lives, but we really connected," she said. "You learn as much from each other as you do from the speakers."

The retreat blended learning and connection, beginning with an opening session at the Museum of Jewish Heritage and continuing at Temple Emanu-El. Through speakers, breakout sessions, and informal conversations, participants shared ideas and explored what is working across communities.

"There was a big exchange of ideas," Nachlis said. "You see that many communities are doing similar things. We're not reinventing the wheel, but learning how to do it better."

A key takeaway was improving how to approach donor conversations. Sessions emphasized listening and building authentic relationships.

"Learning how to let the other person talk more really changes the dynamic," she said.

The program also included powerful moments, including a speaker who described accompanying members of the Bnei Menashe community from India as they made aliyah.

"That was very eye-opening," Nachlis said.

While the conference lasts only a few days, Nachlis sees it as the beginning of a longer journey. The program includes ongoing meetings, national gatherings, and mentorship, including her connection with a mentor in Columbus.

"It's a lot, but the more you put into it, the more you get out of it, and the more your community benefits," she said.
Outside of the conference, Nachlis, with her daughter, Elise, explored New York's Jewish life, including a visit to the Chabad headquarters in Crown Heights. These experiences added depth to her trip.

For Nachlis, the experience is about bringing new ideas and energy back to Indianapolis. Thoughtful programming helped foster real connection, making a large group feel more personal.

"They really encouraged us to build relationships within our class," she said.

Leaving the retreat, Nachlis feels both energized and aware of the commitment ahead. "The more I do, the greater the reward will be, not just for me but for the Indianapolis community."

Her experience reflects the larger goal of National Women's Philanthropy, creating a ripple effect where individual growth strengthens entire communities.

A Conversation with Rabbi David Barnett, Shaarey Teffila's New Leader



Rabbi David Barnett joined Congregation Shaarey Tefilla in late summer, arriving in Indianapolis after three years leading Congregation Nishmat Am in Plano, Texas. In the conversation that follows, he reflects on what drew him to the community, his career in transitional leadership, and the mentors and musical influences that shaped his approach.

What drew you to Shaarey Tefilla, and what are your first impressions of the congregation and the greater Indianapolis Jewish community?

Due to the completion of my three-year term with Congregation Nishmat Am, I began seeking for another congregation to serve. As soon as I read Shaarey Tefilla's meticulously crafted profile online, I recognized certain familiar patterns that I had seen from my experience in other congregational settings. In particular, I felt the loyalty, the passion, and the dedication of so many of its members toward the goal of maintaining a Conservative synagogue resonating with the best of our Jewish traditions, and yet at the same time perhaps not clearly in sight of how to evolve in the future so as to grow both in its membership and long-term viability. Also, upon learning of the history of the Rabbis who had served them, I immediately recognized the name of Rabbi Arnold Bienstock, whom I have very special personal memories of from my early training days in the pilot Midreshet Yerushalayim program which was held in the Neve Schechter facility where the senior rabbinic students spent a year of study. I remember being inspired and guided by the example of Rabbi Bienstock at the time, and felt that from what I remembered of his energy, his learning, his love of music, and above all his menschlikeit, that the congregation would have a certain feeling in spirit.

Indeed, that intuition has proved to be true. Everyone that I've had the pleasure of meeting so far has demonstrated a special feeling of warmth and genuineness that is very welcoming. That is in essence what a community is supposed to be about. As the teaching goes, "the rest is commentary!" Regarding the greater Indianapolis Jewish community, so far I'm very impressed with the degree of Jewish infrastructure already present and developed – the JCC, the Federation, and many of the other programs and venues that I'm looking forward to learning about.

You've become something of a specialist in transitional leadership. What do you look for when you're stepping into a congregation mid-transition, and what have you noticed so far that feels distinct about Shaarey Tefilla?

When beginning to serve as a transitional rabbi in a congregational setting that is itself in a transitional phase, I like to look for what I could envision as potential for dynamic growth and evolution, and simultaneously how my particular skill set could optimally serve the congregation and enable that process. Shaarey Tefilla is a congregation with a lengthy, rich, and bold history. Like most other congregations in a similar phase of evolution, there is a constant need to evaluate that constant tension between tradition and change. Such changes – minor or major, in custom, ritual, or vision for the future – are never automatic or easy. Yet the rewards of going through such efforts can result in immense benefits, both for the synagogue and the community at large on a long-term basis. Upon entering such an endeavor, I usually try to explain and emphasize that the role of a rabbi serving in this capacity is initially making efforts to facilitate discussion, and to guide the leadership and congregation in creating such changes as will most effectively bring about the realization of the goals alluded to above.

You trained as both rabbi and cantor — how does having both roles in one person change the way you lead services?

It is true that I have both trained and served as a rabbi and as a cantor, however, I always make clear that I am only officially ordained as a rabbi, which was from JTS in 1986. Prior to that however, I was indeed blessed by having received some very special vocal training and lessons by Joyce Berger, of the voice faculty of the University of Washington, and in initial cantorial studies by the late Cantor Joseph Frankel, who served as the Cantor of Congregation Herzl-Ner Tamid of Mercer Island, WA, who was originally born in Germany prior to WWII, and survived the war years in England prior to coming to the United States. I was also blessed to have been able to study with the late, and great, Cantor Alan Michelson, who was born in Europe prior to the Holocaust years, and influenced generations of cantorial students on the west coast.

While in my final years of Rabbinical School, I was privileged to be allowed to audit classes in the Cantorial School under the tutelage of Cantor Max Wohlberg and Cantor Charles Davidson. I continue to have great respect for those cantors who are trained and ordained through Cantorial schools. Thanks to my grandparents who paid for years of musical training on violin when I was younger, starting in 4th grade, music has always been a part of my life. I owe my love of vocal singing to my late father, Bernerd Barnett, who I remember singing to me since I was a very young boy, and was blessed with an excellent ear and a sweet and distinctive tenor voice.

In a religious setting, when chanting the liturgy, I attempt to consciously project on two levels at the same time: for those not understanding the Hebrew, I try and project a feeling of the meaning and import of the passage; for those understanding the Hebrew, often the nuance of minor changes in emphasis, volume, embellishment, and other additions can help to create a "perush", or interpretive commentary, on the passage itself. I continue to be both inspired and fascinated by the modal permutations found within Jewish music. Serving in roles as both Rabbi and Cantor in smaller congregations is always somewhat of a challenge and balancing act, and I often will joke that sometimes I have the feeling of "changing hats" from one role to the other, and back again!

What's the most challenging part of walking into a congregation that's experiencing a leadership transition, and what's the most rewarding part?

The most challenging part of walking into such a situation is that one is almost always distinctly aware that one can and should anticipate a full spectrum of emotions that have been/ are being/ or will be experienced by a great many of the congregants and their leadership because of the new situation and the changed dynamics thereof. From my experience the best road to follow is to acknowledge the presence of those emotions and realizations, while constructively engaging both leadership and congregants in the process of creating new paths forward. In the case of a rabbi who is departing, it is never an automatic easy path for either the rabbi or the congregation.
In this situation, I praise and admire the contributions Rabbi Benjamin Sendrow made to the congregation and the community during the time of his tenure. I was deeply moved by his wisdom, eloquence, insight and rabbinic presence on display during his courageous presentations on YouTube. Whether a rabbi has left a congregation due to an untimely passing, retirement, or for any other reason, life for all parties must go on in the most positive and constructive framework possible. The rewards of being able to serve as a transitional rabbi and help and facilitate the congregation to "regain its balance and focus", while simultaneously strengthening the community and helping to envision and plant the seeds for its strong and vibrant future are psychologically immense for such a rabbi when successes are attained.

Is there a teacher, mentor, or moment early in your training that still shapes how you lead today?

I have truly been blessed to have had many special teachers and mentors in my life who have had a lasting and beneficial influence on me. From my youth, I was inspired by my first rabbi, the late and esteemed Rabbi Raphael Levine, of Temple deHirsch, Seattle, WA, who pioneered interfaith religious dialog for decades on local Seattle radio. His successor, Rabbi Earl Starr, continued to have a great and positive influence on me; the music director at the time there, Bonia Shur, who influenced my guitar singing style, eventually became the director of liturgical music at HUC in Cincinnati, Ohio; Rabbi Moshe Pomerantz of Herzl-Ner Tamid, of Mercer Island, played an important and formative role in mentoring me and guiding me in my transition to the Conservative movement; and then, most specially, when I began my religious studies in earnest in the Midreshet Yerushalayim program mentioned above, it coincided with a year that Rabbi Elliott Dorff took as a working Sabbatical in Israel, and he was one of our great teachers. I was able to continue studying some with Rabbi Dorff later on at what was then called The University of Judaism. Rabbi Dorff's brilliance, his openness, his interest and encouragement, both formally and personally to me, were all aspects of the impact he had on my life, probably more than he himself realizes, and for which I remain extremely grateful to this day. In many ways, I try and incorporate aspects of his warm and excellent teaching style into my own courses that I share.

What's a local event, restaurant, attraction or activity that you can't wait to try?

I'm really looking forward to being able to join the JCC and take advantage of swimming, the weight and training gyms, and hopefully even some of their offered classes!

What's a piece of wisdom — Jewish text, a mentor's words, anything — you find yourself returning to again and again?

This is a basic, classic, easy and definite one for me: "Mi Kol M'lamdai Hiskalti", coming from Pirkei Avot, the Ethics of the Fathers, the idea that we can and should learn from not only our teachers, but indeed everyone. I love this saying, and actively, each and every day, strive consciously to apply it with great joy to my life. Whether it be a child speaking a foreign language who in that moment becomes my professor, or an elderly adult having weathered many of the storms and challenges of life, I truly strive to take a sincere interest in everyone's life story, and to learn something from them that I can in turn share and pass on to others!

Congregation Shaarey Tefilla
wishes you a Happy New Year and invites you to join us!

Services will be led by **Rabbi David Barnett,** and **Hazzan Helene Kates** of Charleston, S.C., with separate children's services and childcare available.

Non-Members Welcome! Please call the office at Shaarey Tefilla to make a reservation. Services are free of charge.

Rosh Hashana:
Friday, September 11
Erev 7:30 PM
Saturday, September 12
Morning 9:00 AM
Youth 10:30 AM
Sunday, September 13
Morning 9:00 AM
Tashlich * 7:00 PM

5787

Yom Kippur:
Sunday, September 20
Erev 7:00 PM
Monday, September 21
Morning 9:00 AM
Youth 10:30 AM
Afternoon 5:00 PM
Evening 6:45 PM

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

3085 W. 116th Street, Carmel, IN 46032
Email: Office@ShaareyTefilla.org Phone: (317) 733-2196

Council of Communities 2026: A Gathering of Purpose, Partnership and Peoplehood

At a time when the Jewish world faces unprecedented challenges, and when connection across continents feels more important than ever, more than 70 leaders, professionals, and volunteers from Israel, Budapest and 17 U.S. communities gathered in Indianapolis for Partnership2Gether's (P2G) annual Council of Communities (COC). What unfolded was far more than a conference. It was a reunion, a strategic planning session, a celebration of shared purpose and a powerful reminder of what makes the Partnership unique.



Hosted by the Federation, COC 2026 brought together representatives from across the Partnership network to reflect on the past year, explore emerging challenges and opportunities and help shape the future of the Partnership. The agenda included discussions on Zionism, education, medical partnerships, leadership development, community engagement and plans for the Partnership's upcoming 30th anniversary celebrations. Participants also reviewed and prioritized proposed programs and budgets for 2027, ensuring that future initiatives remain aligned with the Partnership's mission of strengthening Jewish peoplehood through meaningful relationships and shared experiences.

Yet as meaningful as the formal sessions were, many attendees agreed that the heart of the conference lived in the moments between them. Meals shared around tables, conversations in the hotel lobby, spontaneous singing sessions and evenings spent together created opportunities for authentic connection. One gathering around a bonfire hosted by Megan Maurer, U.S. Chair of the Partnership, and her husband, Greg, became emblematic of the conference itself: people from different countries, backgrounds and generations coming together as one extended community.

The Indianapolis community embraced its guests with warmth and generosity, providing a firsthand experience of "Hoosier Hospitality." Behind the scenes, countless volunteers, professional staff, lay leaders and host families worked to ensure every detail was thoughtfully planned. Participants repeatedly expressed gratitude for the hospitality they received and for the effort invested in creating an experience that felt both productive and deeply personal. Special recognition was given to Indianapolis Partnership Committee Co-Chairs Lauren Suriel and Yanive Shmoel, as well as Israel and Overseas Manager Blake Kaplan, whose leadership brought the gathering to life.

Throughout the conference, discussions ranged from supporting Israel during a difficult period to combating antisemitism, developing future leadership, strengthening educational initiatives and expanding opportunities for meaningful engagement among young adults. There was a shared understanding that P2G must continue evolving while remaining firmly rooted in its core mission: building relationships that transcend geography and create a sense of collective responsibility among Jewish communities worldwide.





For many attendees, the most powerful takeaway was the reminder that the Partnership's greatest asset is not a particular program or budget line, it is the people themselves. First-time participants described discovering the "magic" of the Partnership and feeling immediately welcomed into the family. Veteran leaders spoke about the inspiration they felt from reconnecting with colleagues and friends who have been building these bridges for decades. Israeli participants shared how deeply meaningful it was to experience the support, solidarity and genuine care of their North American and Hungarian partners during a challenging period for Israel.

As plans move forward for the Partnership's 30th anniversary celebration in 2027, the Council of Communities served as an important milestone. It provided an opportunity to honor three decades of shared achievements while imagining what the next generation of the Partnership might look like. The conversations that began in Indianapolis will help shape future programs, strengthen existing initiatives and continue building the living bridge that connects the Western Galilee, Budapest and communities across the United States.

Ultimately, COC 2026 reaffirmed a simple but powerful truth: Partnership2Gether is not just a program. It is a relationship. It is a commitment to mutual responsibility. And it is a reminder that, no matter where we live, we are stronger when we face challenges, celebrate successes and build the future together.



Pardon Our Dust

Throughout 2026, JFGI transitioned to a new database, affectionately known as BAGEL, to improve communications and better serve the community. During this transition, some community members' information such as name preferences, contact information and contact preferences may not have transferred properly.

If you have received any communications incorrectly or would like to confirm your preferences, please reach out to contact@jfgi.org and a team member will follow up to make any corrections.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis

Building Resilience in the Western Galilee

The Center for Mental Resilience at Western Galilee College is transforming the way northern Israel addresses trauma, stress and community preparedness. Mental wellness for residents in the Western Galilee region became a leading concern immediately following the October 7th Hamas attack and the resulting actions by Hezbollah at the border and through continuous displacement due to subsequent wars. Made possible through a lead gift from the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, the center officially opened on June 24, 2026, after a two and a half-year journey of planning, fundraising and construction.

The center combines evidence-based mental health care with cutting-edge technology, including virtual reality therapy, biometric monitoring and AI-supported clinical tools. Its mission is to help civilians, students, first responders and security personnel build resilience and recover more effectively from trauma.

During its first year, the center expects to serve approximately 2,000 participants while refining its programs and measuring outcomes. Initial services will focus on resilience training and prevention, with plans to expand into specialized PTSD treatment and clinical care in the future.





Designed around a sustainable financial model, the center plans to be self-sufficient while reinvesting any surplus into expanded services. As demand grows, additional partnerships and philanthropic support could help broaden access to trauma-informed care for vulnerable populations across the region.

More than a new facility, the Center for Mental Resilience represents a long-term investment in healing, preparedness and hope for Western Galilee communities facing ongoing challenges.

Young Adult Shabbaton in Louisville



Young adults from partnership communities across the U.S., Israel, and Budapest gathered in Louisville for an uplifting Shabbaton focused on connection, collaboration, and strengthening global ties.

For the Israeli participants, it offered a rare respite from tensions near the Lebanese border. Their presence reflected remarkable resilience, and their singing, dancing, and joy brought powerful energy and meaning to the entire group.

Men's Engagement Hits the Lanes





Jewish men of all ages came together at Bowling & Brotherhood for an evening of bowling, camaraderie, and connection. Building on the momentum of a successful bourbon gathering, the event offered a relaxed atmosphere to meet new people, strengthen friendships, and enjoy a memorable night at the lanes.

Turn Your Year-End Giving into Lasting Community Impact

As you begin planning your year-end philanthropy, know that JFGI offers several potential tax-advantageous ways to make a meaningful gift, including a multi-year Annual Campaign gift, establishing or contributing to an existing endowment, or setting up a Donor-Advised Fund. JFGI is proud to support and partner with members of the community in achieving their philanthropic goals and sustaining Jewish Indianapolis.

Contact Brian Hoffman at bhoffman@jfgi.org for more information about year-end giving options that may be right for you.

It Starts With Us

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis







ELEVATE YOUR EVENT TO NEW HEIGHTS

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

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www.jewishindianapolis.org/what-we-do/nextgen @jfginextgen @jfginextgen

NEXTGen Brings a Tropical Twist to Shabbat





Nearly 40 young Jewish adults came together for one of the largest NEXTGen Shabbat celebrations in Indianapolis. The summer evening featured swimming, tropical cocktails, delicious food, and meaningful connections.

NEXTGen Pickleball and Trivia Nights





Regular social gatherings, including pickleball and trivia nights, have helped young adults make friends, build relationships, and become more connected to the Jewish community.





Cider, Conversation, and Community Shine at Summer Schmooze



Indianapolis Jewish women gathered for a warm and welcoming evening of connection, conversation, and community at the Summer Schmooze, held at Urban Apples in Westfield. Attendees sipped cider, shared stories, and deepened relationships through meaningful moments and lighthearted fun, celebrating the power of women's engagement within the Jewish community.



BEYOND BARRIERS

Barriers to health care aren't always apparent. Depression and mental illness can impact every aspect of an individual's life and the lives of those around them. Fortunately for Donnisha, she found the courage to challenge the stigma around mental illness that many face, and her journey is now inspiring others.

ESKENAZI HEALTH

EskenaziHealth.edu

Jewish Family Services

www.jewishindianapolis.org/social-services @indyJFS @indyJFS

Jewish Family Services' Inaugural Annual Meeting

JFS proudly hosted its inaugural Annual Meeting, bringing together community members, partners, and supporters under the theme "Serving Community Together."

The event introduced the new JFS Advisory Board and celebrated key programs including Emergency Funds, the Hamsa Fund, Birthday Club, Thrive, Kavod, Therapy Services, and Popsie's Pantry, each reflecting JFS's commitment to service and the vital role of community supporters and volunteers.

Program speakers included Shayna Gordon Cohen (Advisory Board Chair), Marlo Katz (Advisory Board Member), Rachel Katz (Executive Director), Julie Sondhelm (Clinical Director), Debra Pelletiere-Blatt (Advisory Board Member), Brandon Blatt, Abby Boris, Lindsay Williams, Braca Cantor, Katherine Schwartz, Ilene Smith, and Todd Maurer (JFGI CEO).


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1. Over 75 people attended the JFS Annual Meeting.

2. Abby Boris and Lindsay Williams, Co-Chairs of the Birthday Club Program

3. Sue Popp and Gary Moss

4. JFS Advisory Board (left to right): Shayna Gordon Cohen, Julie Sondhelm, Rachel Katz, Marlo Katz, Katy Cantor, Matt Burnett, and Debra Pelletiere-Blatt.

5. Ilene Smith, Popsie's Pantry Volunteer

6. Katherine and Jason Schwartz with children Ben and Sophie

More Than a Game: Mahj with Meaning

JFS hosted its first Mahjong fundraiser, bringing the community together to support critical services. Through gameplay, and the generosity of silent auction donors and bidders, $7,500 was raised to sustain essential programs.

The event was made possible by a dedicated planning committee, including Brooke Kanner, Cynthia Yosha Snyder, Diana Kogan, Diane Abrams, Emily Dock, Emily Dolgin, Haley Katz, Leslie Tobe, Polly Beeson, and Shayna Cohen, whose leadership helped turn a fun afternoon into meaningful impact. Thanks to the generosity of Lori and Elliott Schankerman, the event was completely cost-free, allowing every dollar raised to directly support the agency.


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1. 80 Mahjong players gathered to support JFS.

2. Joanie Waldman, Lori Katz, Lori Schankerman, and Leslie Katz

3. Olivia Benson, Rachel Gershman, Ilissa Berz, and Stacy Isaacs

4. Silent Auction

5. Friends playing mahjong to support JFS.

6. Emily Dock, Brooke Kanner, Shayna Gordon, Haley Katz, and Diana Kogan

Kids Turn Free Time into Food for Families



Left to right: Sloan Goodman, Tori Beeson, Ramsey Blake, and Hailey Gregory. Not pictured: Lyla Dodyk and helper, Quincy Katz

A group of incoming 6th graders took the time to create a meaningful service project, raising $1,000 to support Popsie's Pantry. They shopped at local grocery stores and volunteered their time to stock the shelves, doubling the pantry's weekly inventory and helping ensure families have access to essential food and hygiene items.

Therapy Services Now Offered at Jewish Family Services for Older Adults

Jewish Family Services offers compassionate, confidential therapy with clinicians who specialize in working with older adults.

Our licensed therapists can help with:

- Anxiety, depression, and life transitions
- Grief and loss
- Caregiver stress and aging-related challenges
- Trauma care
- Enhancing well-being and life satisfaction

We accept Medicare and many insurance plans, with private pay options also available. For more information or to schedule, contact Julie Sondhelm at 317 536 1476.

Jewish Family Services

Celebrate the Season Older Adult Lunch

12 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29

Domont Auditorium
6705 Hoover Road

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

Enjoy a kosher meat lunch and activities!

Seats are limited - RSVPs are required to attend.

RSVP by Sept. 15 to Sally Catlin at (317) 536-1475 or scatlin@jfgi.org.

Hosted by Jewish Family Services and Hooverwood Living.

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis · Jewish Family Services

The 22nd Annual

ADOPT A FAMILY

A community-wide program that helps local Jewish families and older adults during Chanukah.

1-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov 15
JCC Laikin Auditorium

Drive by option available at Celebration Plaza (JCC Campus near Door 3).

Join us for Community Day!

Gift-wrapping & Community Service Projects

Wrapped gifts may also be dropped off directly at JFS prior to Chanukah.

Registration and more information:
www.jewishindianapolis.org/adoptafamily

Contact Rachel Katz at rkatz@jfgi.org with questions.

Need some support this Chanukah? JFS is here to help!
Contact Julie Sondhelm at (317) 535-1476 or jsondhelm@jfgi.org

Jewish Family Services · Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis

RUN 4 THEIR MEMORY

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF OCTOBER 7

Join us for a meaningful evening of remembrance and community as we honor the lives lost on October 7. The event will begin with a brief memorial program, followed by a 1-mile remembrance walk and a 3-mile commemorative run. Attendees are also invited to engage with wellness stations and activities designed to foster reflection, healing, and connection.

6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7
Max & Mae Simon Jewish Community Campus

Ticket Cost $10 and Includes:
T-shirt • Bib • Snacks & Pizza

Register at
bit.ly/4theirmemory

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis · Jewish Family Services · JCRC Jewish Community Relations Council Indianapolis, Pursuing a Just Society & Secure Jewish Future · Hooverwood Living, Caring, for generations℠ · Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

PJ Library

PJ Library
jewishindianapolis.org/programs/pj-library
@pjlibrarygreaterindianapolis · @PjLibraryGreaterIndianapolis

Families Gather for PJ Pool Party



PJ families make a splash at the Sid and Lois Eskenazi Water Park.

PJ and HHAI Summer Foam Party



PJ Library joined Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis for an afternoon of summer fun, featuring music, dancing, and plenty of foam-filled excitement for the kids.

Join PJ Library for a Rosh Hashanah Apple Picking Event!

1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6

Cost is $36 per family

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

JFS invites participants to bring a jar of honey to donate to Popsie's Pantry and help share the sweetness of Rosh Hashanah with families and older adults in our community.

Contact Robbie Alder at ralder@jfgi.org with questions.

Sweet Connections for the New Year at Stuckey Farms

Register at **bit.ly/pjsweet26**



PJ Library · Alan & Linda Cohen family foundation · Camp Livingston · Congregation Beth Shalom

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL INDIANAPOLIS JCRC PURSUING A JUST SOCIETY & SECURE JEWISH FUTURE

Jewish Community Relations Council

https://indyjcrc.org/about-us/ @IndyJCRC @indy_jcrc

A Strategic Shift: Building Stronger Partnerships to Prevent Antisemitism



Education has been one of the most effective tools for combating prejudice. While responding to incidents of antisemitism remains paramount, lasting progress depends on the work that happens long before an incident occurs. It begins with relationships, education, and a shared understanding of what antisemitism is, how it affects Jewish students, and how schools can respond effectively.

This belief has led JCRC to strategically shift how we are approaching education work. Our goal is to move beyond incident response to investment in proactive partnerships with K-12 schools and higher education institutions across Indiana. The creation of our new Director of Education and Antisemitism Prevention reflects that commitment.
A role like this requires someone who understands both the education landscape and student life. We are fortunate to have found that person in Marti Wein.

Originally from South Florida, Marti earned a B.A. in Human Communications with a minor in Diversity and Social Inequality from the University of Central Florida. While serving as a Resident Assistant, she discovered her passion for supporting students and fostering communities where everyone feels a sense of belonging. She later earned a Master of Science in Education with a concentration in Higher Education and Student Affairs from Indiana University.

Most recently, Marti spent three years as Assistant Director of Residence Life at Butler University, where she also served on Butler's Jewish Affairs Working Group, advocating for Jewish students and staff. Those experiences reinforced her commitment to serving the Jewish community and inspired her to dedicate her career to this work.

As Director of Education and Antisemitism Prevention, Marti is beginning to build deeper relationships with educators and administrators to serve as a trusted resource for schools seeking guidance, training, and support to strengthen their understanding of Jewish identity and antisemitism. She is also actively strengthening and enhancing JCRC's existing Parent Support Initiative programs.

With another school year underway, we encourage students, parents, educators, and community members to report incidents of antisemitism or anti-Jewish bias in educational settings. Early communication allows JCRC to provide support, connect schools with resources, identify patterns, and work collaboratively with school leaders to address concerns before they become larger issues.

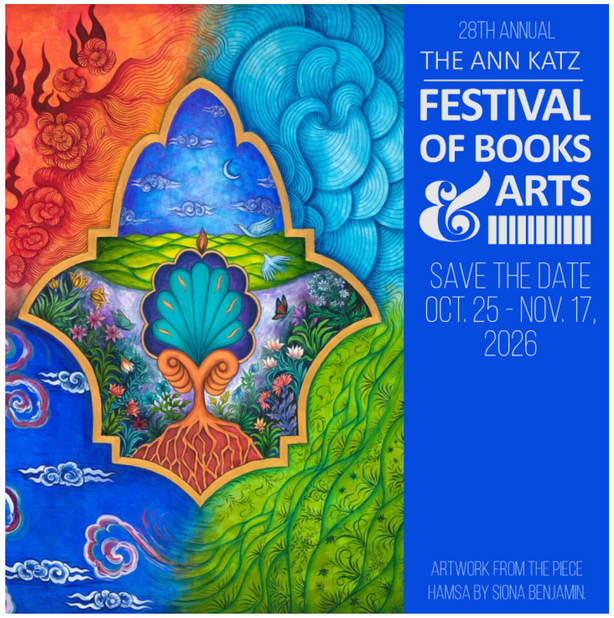
Whether you are reporting an incident, seeking guidance, or looking for education resources, JCRC is here to help. Together, we can continue building school communities where every Jewish student feels safe, supported, and able to thrive.

Scan the QR code to report a school-based incident to the JCRC through our partners at Stop Hate in Schools or email Marti Wein at **mwein@indyjcrc.org**.



Jewish Community Center

https://jccindy.org @JCCindianapolis @jccindianapolis



Lip Sync Tradition



Camp JCC continued a beloved tradition with its annual Leon Mordoh Lip Sync, where campers showcased their talents, built confidence, and celebrated more than 20 years of unforgettable performances.

Schvitz & Splash 5K



This summer, the JCC hosted its Schvitz & Splash 5K, bringing community members of all ages and abilities together for a scenic race and a post-race celebration at the Sid and Lois Eskenazi Water Park.



Annual Member & Staff Art Exhibit





The JCC celebrated the 11th Annual Member & Staff Art Exhibit, where the creativity of our vibrant and diverse community inspired connection, conversation, and appreciation through art.

Hooverwood Living

www.hooverwood.org @hooverwoodliving @hooverwoodliving





Community members, supporters, and leadership gathered this summer for the Annual Meeting, celebrating another successful year at Hooverwood Living. The evening recognized outgoing Board Chair Janie Maurer for her dedicated leadership and welcomed Cindi Koplow as the new Board Chair. Patricia Parham was honored as Manager of the Year, while Mathias Adama received the Employee of the Year award. With a fantastic turnout and much to celebrate, everyone left excited for the year ahead.





Hooverwood Living was proud to officially celebrate the grand reopening of The Pavilion, its newly renovated Memory Care neighborhood. Community members, families, and guests gathered to tour the beautiful new space and celebrate this exciting milestone. As Hooverwood begins this new chapter, The Pavilion is ready to welcome residents in a thoughtfully designed environment that promotes dignity, comfort, and connection. To schedule a tour, call or stop by to experience The Pavilion firsthand.





The residents here at Hooverwood and Kraft Commons enjoyed a home run of a summer afternoon when Rowdie, the beloved mascot of the Indianapolis Indians, stopped by for a special visit. Residents gathered for a festive cookout, great conversation, and plenty of smiles as they welcomed their furry guest. It was a fun-filled day of food, laughter, and community.



The 4th Annual Golf Classic at Woodland Country Club was another tremendous success, bringing together sponsors, golfers, volunteers, and supporters for a great day on the course—all for the residents. Whether participating as a sponsor, attending the event, or cheering from afar, every contribution helped make the outing a success. Thank you to everyone who made this year's Golf Classic possible, and here's to another great event next year!

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

High Holy Days at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck: Reserved Seating: $118 Per Person Tickets Required for Entry into the Building | www.BEZ613.org/HHD

Selihot @ IHC: Saturday, Sept. 5. Dessert Reception and Film Screening with our friends at IHC (6501 N. Meridian St.) from 7-9 p.m. Join us for a special evening with members and clergy from both IHC and Beth El-Zedeck. There will be a special screening of Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema followed by a combined Selihot service from 9-10 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah: Friday, Sept. 11 from 6-7 pm. Open Seating (Ticket Required)

Rosh Hashanah Day One Saturday, Sept. 12
- Morning Service: 9:30 a.m. -12:45 p.m. Reserved Seating (ticket required)
- Youth Services: 9:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Evening Service: 6-7 p.m. Open Seating (ticket required)

Rosh Hashanah Day Two Sunday, Sept. 13
- Morning Service: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Family Service: 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Tashlikh with Ice Cream Truck: 11:45 a.m

Kol Nidre Service: Sunday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. Reserved Seating (ticket required)

Yom Kippur: Monday, Sept. 21
- Morning / Yizkor / Martyrology: 9:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Reserved Seating (ticket required)
- Youth Services: 9:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Family Service: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Afternoon Service: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Afternoon Conversation: 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. Open Seating (ticket required)
- Neilah: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Open Seating (ticket required)

Sukkot Shabbat and Festival Service: Friday, Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. followed by dinner in the Sukkah.

Sukkot Festival Service: Saturday, Sept. 26 at 10 a.m.

Sukkah Hops: Saturday, Sept. 26 - Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.

Simhat Torah: Friday, Oct. 2
- Family Pizza Dinner: 5:30 p.m.
- Shabbat Service and Dancing with the Torah: 6 p.m.
- Dessert: 7 p.m.

Sh'mini Atzeret: Saturday, Oct. 3. Service / Yizkor followed by lunch at 10 a.m.

Call 317-253-3441 or email jhodes@bez613.org to RSVP for these events. Visit https://bez613.org/ or @CongregationBEZ on Facebook for more information.

Congregation Beth Shalom

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

Sunday, Sept. 6 | 12:30 p.m. Join CBS and PJ Library for a Rosh Hashanah Apple Picking Event at Stuckey's Farm and Apple Orchard, 19975 Hamilton Boone Rd., Sheridan, IN. Register at bit.ly/pjsweet26. Cost is $36 per family. Ticket includes a ¼ peck Upick apples, 1 Upick Zinnias (3 stems), 1 ride on the Stuckey Express, and access to the apple orchard, Adventure Acres and pumpkin patch. Contact Robbie Alder at ralder@jfgi.org with questions.

Sunday, Sept. 27 | 3 p.m. The CBS Book Club and the Torah Study group will meet jointly to discuss Geraldine Brooks' novel The Secret Chord, which is a fictionalized retelling of I & II Samuel through the eyes of the prophet Natan. Meeting will take place at the CBS Sukkah.

Sunday, Sept. 6 & Sunday, Oct. 4 | 1:30 p.m. Feeling Crafty? The CBS crafting/stitching group will meet the first Sunday of each month. Call Diane Graul at 402-250-3009 or Sarah Stuckey at 317-213-1818 to confirm each month's location.

Regular CBS worship services are held every Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. at Temple. Worship services are both in person and virtual. Zoom links and access codes are available to everyone through the CBS website. We warmly invite and welcome all to participate with us, whether in person or through Zoom.

Congregation B'nai Torah

Erev Rosh Hashanah – Friday, Sept. 11
- Shacharis: 6:30 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:40 p.m.
- Candle Lighting: 7:41 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah – First Day (Shabbos, Sept. 12)
- Shacharis: 8:30 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:25 p.m.
- Candle Lighting (from an existing flame): After 8:47 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah – Second Day (Sunday, Sept. 13)
Shacharis: 8:30 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:25 p.m.
- Maariv: 9:30 p.m.
- Yom Tov Ends: 8:46 p.m.

Tzom Gedaliah – Monday, Sept. 14
- Fast Begins: 6:03 a.m.
- Shacharis: 6:20 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:20 p.m.
- Fast Ends: 8:28 p.m.

Aseres Yemei Teshuvah Tuesday, Sept. 15
- Selichos: 6:30 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:40 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 16: Shacharis at 6:30 a.m

Thursday, Sept. 17: Shacharis at 6:20 a.m.

Friday, Sept. 18: Mincha and Candle Lighting at 7:30 p.m.

Shabbos, Sept. 19
- Mincha: 7:15 p.m.
- Maariv: 9:00 p.m.
- Shabbos Ends: 8:36 p.m.

Erev Yom Kippur – Sunday, Sept. 20
- Selichos: 8:15 a.m.
- Shacharis: 8:30 a.m.
- Mincha: 4:00 p.m.
- Candle Lighting: 7:26 p.m.
- Fast Begins: 7:40 p.m.
- Sunset: 7:44 p.m.

Yom Kippur – Monday, Sept. 21
- Shacharis: 9:15 a.m.
- Yizkor (approx.): 11:30 a.m.
- Mincha: 6:00 p.m.
- Fast Ends: 8:53 p.m.

Between Yom Kippur and Sukkos
Tuesday, Sept. 22
- Shacharis: 7:00 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:25 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 23:
- Shacharis: 7:00 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:25 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 24
- Shacharis: 6:50 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:25 p.m.

Erev Sukkos – Friday, Sept. 25
- Shacharis: 7:00 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:20 p.m.
- Candle Lighting: 7:18 p.m.

Sukkos – First Day (Shabbos, Sept. 26)
- Shacharis: 9:00 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:05 p.m.
- Maariv: 8:10 p.m.
- Candle Lighting (prepared flame): After 8:24 p.m.

Sukkos – Second Day (Sunday, Sept. 27)
- Shacharis: 9:00 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:10 p.m.
- Maariv: 8:10 p.m.
- Yom Tov Ends: 8:23 p.m.

Chol HaMoed Sukkos
Monday, Sept. 28
- Shacharis: 6:50 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 29
- Shacharis: 6:50 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 30
- Shacharis: 6:50 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 1
- Shacharis: 6:50 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:15 p.m.

Hoshana Rabbah – Friday, Oct. 2
- Shacharis: 6:50 a.m.
- Mincha: 7:05 p.m.
- Candle Lighting: 7:07 p.m.

Shemini Atzeres – Shabbos, Oct. 3
Shacharis: 9 a.m.
- Yizkor (approx.): 10:45 a.m.
- Mincha: 6:55 p.m.
- Maariv: 8 p.m.
- Candle Lighting (existing flame): After 8:13 p.m.

Simchas Torah – Sunday, Oct. 4
- Shacharis: 8:45 a.m.
- Mincha: 7 p.m.
- Maariv: 8 p.m.
- Yom Tov Ends: 8:12 p.m.

Week After Simchas Torah (Monday, Oct. 5 – Thursday, Oct. 8) Mincha/Maariv: 7 p.m.

Erev Shabbos Bereishis – Friday, Oct. 9
- Mincha: 6:55 p.m.
- Candle Lighting: 6:56 p.m.

Shabbos Bereishis – Saturday, Oct. 10
- Shacharis: 9 a.m.
- Mincha: 6:40 p.m.
- Maariv: 7:50 p.m.
- Shabbos Ends: 8:02 p.m.

Visit btorahindy.org, email office@btorah.org or call (317) 253-5253 ext. 1 for more information.

Chabad Lubavitch of Indiana

Visit www.chabadindiana.org for High Holiday Service information.

Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

Please join us for Weekday Shaharit (Morning) Services
- Mondays & Thursdays | 7:15 a.m. — Shacharit (8:30 a.m. on holidays)
- Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays | 7:30 a.m. – Shacharit (8:30 a.m. on holidays)
- Saturdays | 9 a.m. — Shabbat Shacharit Service
- Sundays | 9 a.m. — Shacharit Service at Chabad (unless otherwise noted)

Evening Shabbat Services | Times vary weekly - check the website calendar.

Minha & Kabbalat Shabbat will resume in the Fall.

Shabbat Minha on Saturday Afternoons

Join Etz Chaim for a full schedule of holiday services:
Sept. 12-13 - Rosh Hashana Days 1 & 2
Sept. 21 - Yom Kippur
Sept. 26 - Oct. 4 - Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah

Subscribe for holiday details and check their website calendar frequently for updates on services and more.
Anyada Buena i Dulse!

Classes with Rabbi Daniel Askenazi
Shabbat Class | 1 p.m. – Learn about a variety of halacha, holidays, and topics that arise in discussions.

TNT (Tuesday Night Torah) | 8:15 p.m. - Join the Rabbi for an in-depth, lively discussion on the parasha of the week.
Questions? Contact Rabbi Askenazi: rabbi@etzchaimindy.org

Sept. 6 | 6 p.m. - Tishrei Treasures 5786: Join us for a joyful evening celebrating the beauty, traditions, and sweetness of the Tishrei holidays together! Families, children, and friends are all invited to an unforgettable community gathering filled with connection, spirit, and festive fun. Discover the "Treasures of Tishrei" and begin the new year with joy and inspiration! Please RSVP: office@etzchaimindy.org

Subscribe to receive emails or visit www.etzchaimindy.org for up-to-date information. Connect with them on Facebook @EtzChaimIndy and @EtzChaimtheSisterhood. Contact (317) 251-6220, office@etzchaimindy.org, or sisterhood@etzchaimindy.org.

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation

Kabbalat Shabbat: Fridays | 6:15 p.m. Join IHC for our weekly service bringing the peace of Shabbat into our homes. You can watch live at ihcindy.org/streaming.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study: Saturdays | 9 a.m. IHC clergy guides the group through the Torah, chapter by chapter, text seeking understanding of the teaching for the time and discussing its message for today. Unless otherwise noted, you can attend in person or online. No prior knowledge is necessary, and all are welcome. PLEASE NOTE: Registration for new attendees is now required to attend Torah Study online. Please email Clergy.Office@ihcindy.org by 3 p.m. on Friday to receive the Zoom lin.

Selichot: Saturday, Sept. 5 | 7 p.m. Joint Selichot Services with Beth El-Zedeck and special screening of Shalom Bollywood (Program at 7 p.m., Service at 9 p.m.). More information at ihcindy.org/highholydays.

Rosh HaShanah: Saturday, Sept. 12 Join us for Erev Rosh HaShanah (Friday at 7:30 p.m.), Tot (9 a.m.), Family (9:30 a.m.), and Traditional services (11:45 a.m.). More information at ihcindy.org/highholydays.

Yom Kippur: Monday, Sept. 21. Kol Nidre service takes place on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. Yom Kippur services continue on Monday, Sept. 21 and include Tot (9 a.m.), Family (9:30 a.m.), Traditional services (11:45 a.m.), and Yizkor (4 p.m.). More information at ihcindy.org/highholydays.

Sukkot Celebration Concert with Dan Nichols: Tuesday, Sept. 29 | 7 p.m. – more information at ihcindy.org/highholydays

IHC Sisterhood's Gift Shop Hours: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Fridays; You can also make a special appointment to shop by emailing ihcsisterhoodgiftshop1@gmail.com.

Events
Euchre Circle: Monday, Oct. 12 and 26 at 10 a.m.| Thursday, Sept. 24 and Oct. 22 at 6 p.m. All levels of play are welcome to come and have some fun, meet new people, and compete for a prize. Email Circle Leader Melanie Gottlieb at mlgott9675@gmail.com with any questions.

Mahjongg Mavens: Fridays | 10 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. Grab your tile set and play a game (or ten) with the other IHC Mahjongg mavens. This addictive game of skill, strategy, and luck is a great way to spend time with other IHC enthusiasts on a Friday. Contact Amy Isaacs with any questions.

Mitzvah Stitchers: Sundays | 10 a.m. Mitzvah Stitchers is a corps of men and women who knit, crochet, quilt, and sew. Together, we fashion a stronger community, helping others as well as each other. Sunday morning is for stitching, kvetching, and making beautiful items to help others. We love to teach beginners, so no experience is necessary! Check our website for location information. For more information, to get on the email distribution list and receive scheduling information and Zoom links, contact Cantor Janice Roger.

Visit ihcindy.org or @IHCIndy on Facebook for services, classes, and programs, and more information.

Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

Erev Rosh Hashanah – Sept. 11 7:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah – Sept. 12
- 9:00 a.m.
- Youth: 10:30 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah – September 13
- 9 a.m.
- Tashlich: 7 p.m. at West Park
-

Erev Yom Kippur – Sept. 20 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur – Sept. 21
- 9:00 a.m.
- Youth: 10:30 a.m.
- 5:00 p.m.
- 6:45 p.m.

Visit shaareytefilla.org for more information.

The 2026 Legacy Community Celebration

Your Story, *Our Future*

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis

Life & Legacy ASSURE JEWISH TOMORROWS

Featuring

Alison Lebovitz



Emmy-nominated television host, author, and nonprofit leader whose inspiring storytelling connects communities, empowers changemakers, and demonstrates how every person can make a difference.

6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026

Laikin Auditorium

Max & Mae Simon Jewish Community Campus

RSVP Required. Formal invitation to follow.

Contact Brian Hoffman at **bhoffman@jfgi.org** with questions.

Dietary Laws Observed.