



## A Year in Review

David Alfonso, JFGR Board Chair



David Alfonso, MD

As I look back on the past year I am proud of all that our Federation, and our community has been able to accomplish. We began the year with our campaign kickoff event featuring Cantor Randy Herman and Cantor David Fair and it was very well attended. We faced some scheduling challenges for our in person events based on the ebbs and flows of Covid. We look forward to being able to be back in person for our community events as well as our board meetings.

One of the most exciting aspects of this last year was that we were able to not only meet, but exceed our goal of raising \$500,000 for our annual campaign. This is an incredible accomplishment for a community of our size and we hope to carry this momentum forward into next year's campaign as well. Thank you to all of you that donated to this campaign, your dollars are critical to carrying out our mission of supporting our West Michigan Jewish Community. Many of the funds stay here and assist with local needs as well as needs overseas. We were also able to raise additional funds specifically designated to the Ukrainian Jews that have suffered during the war.

In addition to an excellent campaign season, we installed the Holocaust Memorial Sculpture Ways to Say Goodbye by Ariel Schlesinger at Meijer Gardens in late June. This historic gift was made possible by the generosity of Linda and Steve Pestka and their respective families. Our board members worked tirelessly to help make this vision a reality. We are proud to be able to display this enduring testament to Holocaust education and hope that it provides a resource to our non-Jewish community to enforce Holocaust remembrance. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our great staff at the Federation, Nicole Katzman, Evan Rossio, Julianna Schrier, and Arad Okanin. They are incredibly dedicated to the success of our organization and work behind the scenes to serve all the needs of our community. They make my job as Board Chairman a pleasure.

Please keep September 15, 2022 at 7pm, open in your calendars as that is the date for our Campaign kickoff 2022 event. I hope all of you have an enjoyable and relaxing summer and I wish you all much health and happiness.

David

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**Our Mission:**

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

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

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Linda Pestka

*Thank you to our community for an amazing Campaign 2021. This year was our most successful campaign yet, raising just over \$509,000 from 340 donors.*

*TODAH RABAH, THANK YOU to Linda Pestka, Campaign Chair and JFGR Board member, for her time and dedication to making Campaign 2021 a great success!*

STAFF: Nicole Katzman, Executive Director, Nicole@JFGR.org ext. 207 | Evan Rossio, Campaign Director, Evan@jfgr.org, ext. 205  
Arad Okanin, Administrative Support & IT Consultant, Arad@JFGR.org ext. 204  
Dafna Kaufman, Film Festival, Dafna@JFGR.org ext. 217 | Julianna Schrier, Community Connector, Julianna@JFGR.org ext. 206

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



**I'd like to support my community and make a gift!**

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## How Can We Relate to Tisha B'Av in our Modern World

Cantor David Fair

August features the holiday of Tisha B'Av. This holiday is known as the saddest day in the Jewish year. It's mainly known as the anniversary of the destruction of both the first and second temples. It is also associated with the expulsion of Jews from both Spain and England. Traditional Jews will have refrained from any type of celebration for the past three weeks, and on this day, observe a fast for 25 hours. Another custom on this day is to gather with one's congregation and chant the book of Eicha (Lamentations), which recounts the intense pain the Jewish people felt when we were exiled from the land of Yisrael.

As a modern Jew, I find myself struggling to find great meaning in this holiday. After all, Jews have returned to the land of Israel and the Jewish people are thriving. I recognize that this is a day of spiritual and timeless pain for our people, but how can I personally relate to this pain? How can I feel it in my kitchen?

The holiday mourns the collective suffering of a people.

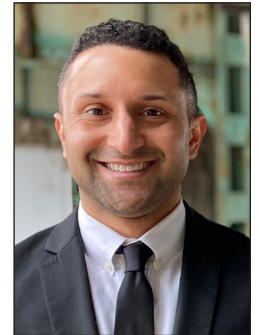
I think of my own people: Black people and how the effects of slavery are still present in our society today. Perhaps we can spend this day considering how difficult it is for our Black siblings to buy a home in a White neighborhood; how challenging it is to be called for a job interview when your name is "Jamal;" how frustrating it is to live in a neighborhood where the city neglects maintenance; or perhaps the most egregious of all, the fear of being gunned down for grocery shopping, or for having a broken taillight.

I think of the Ukrainians, who are still suffering from a senseless war. They, too, we're exiled from their land at no fault of their own. When the Jews were historically exiled, many of us stayed in foreign lands, which we now call the Diaspora. How many Ukrainians have found themselves in a foreign land and have made the painful decision that it's easier to stay than return home? Families have been broken up and irrevocably changed. I wouldn't be surprised if Ukrainians have already started creating a rich repertoire of art and music from this period.

I think of the children who wake up, eat their breakfast, put their homework in their book bag, go to school, and are murdered by a madman. How can we go about our daily lives knowing that this will happen again, and knowing that our government is so unwilling to put an end to it?

There are many musical compositions we sing on Tisha B'Av. Popular folk melodies include:

"Al Naharot Bavel (By the Waters of Babylon)," "Eilii Tsiyon," "Hashiveinu," "Vihudah L'olam Teishev."



Cantor David Fair

I also encourage you to examine other powerful musical compositions that may support your reflecting in a meaningful direction during this period. Which songs evoke pain? Some modern pieces include: Sam Glaser's "Eicha," and Elana Arian and Noah Aronson's We Return/Hashiveinu."

For three weeks, the Haftarah that leads to Tisha b'Av are rather mournful. Known as the "Three of Rebuke, as they prepare us for this saddest day of the year. However, the shabbat after Tisha b'Av is called Nachamu. This is the first upswing of hope after such an intense period of mourning. The first words are "Comfort us, comfort us, my people." Nachamu is the first of seven Haftarat, known as the "Seven of Consolation." (These seven culminate in the celebration of "Rosh Hashanah.") Many musicians have been inspired to write on Nachamu, perhaps my favorites being Elana Arian's "Nachamu" and Safam's "Nachamu, Nachamu Ami."

As we approach the month of Av, I invite you to think on how you might relate to our tradition's custom of finding holy and sacred meaning in our sadness and our consolation.

Cantor David Fair  
Cantor@grtemple.org

*Cantor David Fair (he/him) has been serving the Grand Rapids Jewish Community since 2021. A native of Baltimore, Maryland, he graduated with his BA in Theater from the University of Maryland College Park, a Professional Studies and Artist Diploma in Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music. He received a Masters in Sacred Music and was ordained from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City in 2021 (where he wrote his thesis "Tziporah's Children: The Music and Lived Experiences of Black Jewish Americans"). Cantor Fair's first love was as an actor and singer, and he's performed in hundreds of musicals and operas across the country. Cantor Fair is also the Educator of Grand Rapids's United Jewish School, as he was a school teacher before entering Cantorial school. Cantor Fair and his partner Corey are honored to be part of the Grand Rapids Jewish community.*



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## Congregation Ahavas Israel Rosh Hashanah Services

by Ed Miller

Following up on an idea initiated at the end of last year by Religious Life Committee (RLC) member Ed Miller and supported by the Ahavas Israel Board of Trustees early this year, the RLC worked to hire a Shaliach Tzibur (cantor) to lead our upcoming High Holiday services. An RLC subcommittee reviewed 12 candidates' resumes and sound files which lead to Ed Miller and Rabbi Krishef interviewing our top candidate, Rabbi Shlomo Atzil-Zachorow and offering him the position which he accepted in March.



Rabbi Shlomo Atzil-Zachorow

This coming September/October, Rabbi Zachorow will be traveling from his home in Jerusalem, Israel to lead our High Holiday services. Rabbi Zacharow has led High Holiday services as Cantor or Rabbi all over the world and

has been a Lecturer in Rabbinics at the Conservative Yeshiva, Jerusalem since 2003. He graduated from University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia with a B.A., Cum Laude in International Relations in 1990 and received his Rabbinical ordination and M.A. in Jewish Studies from The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, Jerusalem in 2000.



Ed Miller

Rabbi Zacharow has a very warm personality, a great voice, and lots of ruach. We are excited and really looking forward to Rabbi Zacharow and Rabbi Krishef leading Congregation Ahavas Israel for the upcoming High Holidays.

*Ed Miller, dedicated lifetime member of the Grand Rapids Jewish community. Past President (2 terms) and Board member of congregation Ahavas Israel for over 30 years. Currently serves as chairperson of CAI Cemeteries and the Chevra Kadisha. Ed loves spending time with the love of his life, wife Paula, his adult children and 6 wonderful Grandchildren.*

# Love Jewelry?



## Us Too!



Diamonds



Bridal



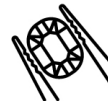
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# SIEGEL

— JEWELERS —



**Women Unite**  
Hiking Group

## Join Us!

### July 11 @ 6pm

Roselle Park. Meet at the community building.  
1010 Grand River Dr NE, Ada, MI 49301.

### July 18 @ 6pm

Provin Trail. 2900 4 Mile Rd NE,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525. Dogs are welcome

### July 25 @ 6pm

Huff Park. 2399 Ball Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

### August 1 @ 6pm

\*Tentative\* East Town "city in the summer" hike.

What to bring: a water bottle and a good pair of sneakers

Please RSVP with Sandi Simms  
Email: [sandi@simmselectronics.com](mailto:sandi@simmselectronics.com)  
or via text: (616) 437-5165



## JFGR Men's Outdoor Group

Get together every Wednesday morning! Meet new people, hang out with old friends, get fresh air and exercise.

Contact Jim Siegel at  
[jims@siegeljewelers.com](mailto:jims@siegeljewelers.com) for time and location of each outing, and for carpool arrangements and questions.



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OF GRAND RAPIDS



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Stephanie's clients know that they are her top priority. She has lived in Ada and East Grand Rapids over the past 27 years and is your local expert willing to share her knowledge and expertise about the Greater Grand Rapids area. Her professionalism, attention to detail, and pride in her work ensures each client receives the height of service. Stephanie prides herself on being efficient, knowledgeable, and responsible while going above and beyond any expectations her clients have. She was selected as one of *Grand Rapids Magazine's* **REAL ESTATE ALL STARS** for 2019 which recognizes the top 5% of real estate agents in the greater Grand Rapids area. Stephanie helps both buyers and sellers achieve their real estate goals and specializes in everything from modest living spaces to luxury homes. Call Stephanie today and let her help you make your real estate goals a reality.



*Site preparation for the sculpture, **Ways to Say Goodbye** by Ariel Schelsinger at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.*

*This sculpture is a gift from the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, made possible by The Pestka Family.*

## Women's Philanthropy: Your place to inspire, help and connect.

### WHO WE ARE

Women philanthropists are the change makers and community shapers of the world. We are sisters and daughters, mothers and friends, compassionate and committed women at every stage of life and career. Federation's Women's Philanthropy engages Jewish women in the fulfilling work of making the world a better place. In every community, we are building and supporting Jewish life for today and for generations to come.

### WOMEN IN ACTION

Through our donations and our hands-on community service, we fight domestic violence, improve women's health and nutrition, provide shelter to vulnerable children, protect at-risk seniors and so much more. During the COVID crisis, **we've helped meet increased needs in our communities.** We support Israel with our dollars and our presence. Federation inspires and empowers women to become leaders and decision-makers. Our collective philanthropy enriches our own lives while improving the lives of others.



We welcome you to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Women's Philanthropy. There's a place for you here, no matter where life and career have taken you. Add your voice to this amazing community of women. Our collective philanthropy is purposeful and effective.

For more information, contact Evan Rossio, Campaign Director at [evan@jfgr.org](mailto:evan@jfgr.org)



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The PJ Library, a program of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids now has 120 children enrolled with 83 families.

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Judith Joseph's great granddaughter, Beverly, playing with her new Torah toy.



# General Campaign

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Louis & Helen Padnos  
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Jerome P Subar Foundation

## \$10,000-\$24,999

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Marilyn & Norm Leven  
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Foundation  
Susan Samrick

## \$5,000-\$9,999

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Bill Boorstein  
Thomas Fox  
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Claude Titcher

## \$2,500-\$4,999

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Jeanie & Bradley Friedland  
Phyllis & Harvey Gendler  
Kelly & Leo Schlesinger  
Sheryl & Jim Siegel  
Rick & Mary Stevens

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Julia Becker  
Michael Chesman  
Alton Danks  
Peter Dennen  
Peg & Mort Finkelstein  
Cary Fleisher  
Barbara & Mark Gerson  
Daniel Hurwitz  
Joel Krissoff  
Rabbi Albert & Shirley Lewis  
Deborah & Daniel Mankoff  
Alicia & Steve Pestka  
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Marc Silverstein  
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Mirit & Jonathan Subar  
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Wayne Titcher  
Lori & Jay Troger  
Debby & Douglas Wachter  
Kat & Ron Zigel

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Dana Winniman

## \$250-\$499

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### \$10,000+

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Pam Heglund  
Roberta Jacobson  
Judith Joseph  
Marilyn Leven  
Susan Samrick

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Mickie Fox  
Pam Goldberger  
Stephanie Hurwitz  
Mary Kaneti  
Madelon Krissoff  
Barbara Weiss Lucas  
Florence Silverstein

Edith Landman  
Janet Lewis  
Sharon Mah  
Lisabeth Margulus  
Rochelle Najmy  
Amy Ostrow  
Lori Reineke  
Julie Rossio  
Sandra Roth  
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Sherry Singer  
Barbara Wepman  
Michele Young

Cheryl Tully  
Debbie Warsaw  
Diane Wechter  
Sarah Weingarten  
Patricia Weller  
Cathy Winick  
Susan Wolfson

### \$5,000-\$9,999

#### Lion of Judah

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Karen Padnos  
Peg Padnos  
Judith Subar  
Lanny Thodey  
Marilyn Titche  
Sharyl Titche

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Talia Atias  
Marcia Beutner  
Lucy Caldwell  
Tracy Chernka  
Rachel Lutwick Deaner  
Sandra Faulkner  
Julie Gendler  
Karen Sitron Haight  
Sharlena Lovy  
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Mary Schwartz  
Irene St. Louis  
Crystal Tachman

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Cheryl Carrier  
Heather Diertichson  
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Gennadiy Gerster  
Lori Jacobs  
Stacey Levitt  
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Marcia Massey  
Lesley Mayer  
Nina Olevskiy  
Barbara Remes &  
Sandee Reno  
Marian Siegel  
Jean Silbar  
Karen Silverstein  
Nancy Smith  
Ninel Sokolovsky  
Adar Tal  
Robin Turetsky  
Judith Zuppke

### \$1,800-\$4,999

#### Pomegranate

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Stephanie Rashewsky Jesin  
Nicole Katzman  
Dafna Kaufman  
Linda Pestka  
Marisa Reed  
Lisa Rose  
Valerie Shavell  
Sandi Simms  
Marni Vyn

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Christine Golden  
Beverly Kagan  
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*We apologize for any errors, contact [even@jfgr.org](mailto:even@jfgr.org) if you see a mistake, thank you!*

## Thank you to our outstanding Campaign Volunteers!

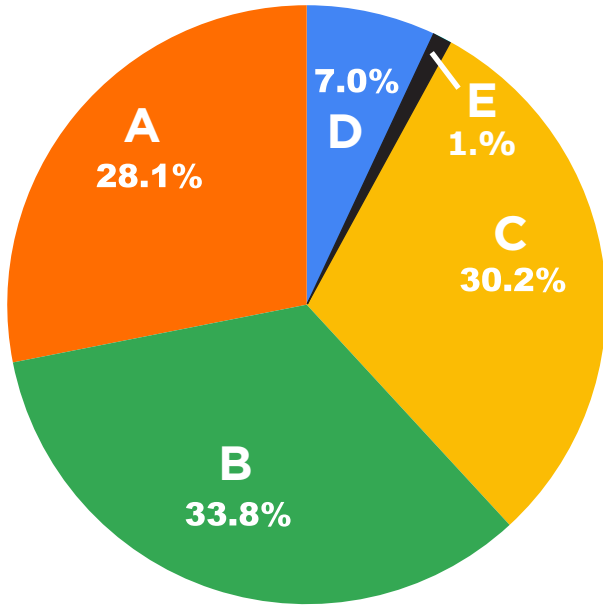
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Marni Vyn  
Erica Wikander  
Michele Young  
Chad Zagel



<b>Total Funds Available for Allocation</b>		
Total Regular Campaign	\$479,000	
Matching Grant - Padnos Foundation	\$25,000	
Matching Grant - Hy & Greta Berokwitz Foundation	\$6,000	
Interest	\$400	
Loan Repayments	\$2,700	
Available for Re-allocation	\$38,887	
General Endowment Fund	\$21,014	
Art Fund	\$12,719	
Weiner Fund	\$3,061	
Woman of Valor	\$2,219	
		<b>\$591,000</b>
<b>Allocations For Local Organizations</b>		
Youth Programming	\$2,500	
United Jewish School	\$18,000	
Chabad of West Michigan	\$7,000	
Jewish Theatre of Grand Rapids	\$7,500	
Shirt Shalom Choir	\$3,574	
Temple Emanuel Food Bank	\$180	
Interfaith Dialogue	\$2,500	
Sacred Grounds	\$200	
		<b>\$41,454</b>
<b>Allocations for National Organizations</b>		
Anti-Defamation League (ADL)	\$2,500	
HIAS	\$1,000	
GVSU Hillel	\$1,000	
MSU Hillel	\$500	
U of M Hillel	\$500	
GVSU AEP	\$180	
		<b>\$5,680</b>
<b>Allocations for International Organizations</b>		
Partnership2Gether (JFNA)	\$4,000	
Directed Ukraine Aid	\$9,000	
Sister City Reserve (P2G)	\$15,345	
Overseas Need Assessment (ONAD)	\$150,000	
		<b>\$178,345</b>
<b>JFGR Programming and Services</b>		
Family Services	\$83,500	
YAD	\$1,000	
Community Programming	\$105,000	
Security	\$10,000	
		<b>\$199,500</b>
<b>JFGR Operational Expenses</b>		
Administration and Campaign	\$47,125	
Social Services Administration	\$30,500	
JFNA Fair Share	\$16,196	
Uncollected Pledges	\$20,000	
Bank and Bankcard Charges	\$3,000	
FICA & Medicare	\$16,000	
Rent	\$16,250	
FedWeb	\$1,950	
Missions and Leadership Development	\$5,000	
L'Dor Vador Community Endowment	\$10,000	
Total		<b>\$166,021</b>
<b>Total Allocations and Expenses</b>		<b>\$591,000</b>



- A) Operational: Administration and Campaign, Social Services Administration, JFNA Fair Share, Uncollected Pledges, Bank/Bankcard Charges, FICA and Medicare, Rent, FedWeb, Missions and Leadership Development, L'Dor Vador Community Endowment.
- B) Programming & Services: Family Services, YAD, Community Programs, Leadership Development.
- C) Local: United Jewish School, Chabad of West Michigan, Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids, Shir Shalom Choir, Temple Emanuel Food Bank, Interfaith Dialogue, Sacred Grounds.
- D) National: Anti-Defamation League ADL, Birthright Israel (JFNA), HIAS, GVSU Hillel, MSU Hillel, U of M Hillel, GVSU AEP.
- E) International: Partnership2gether (JFNA), Overseas Need Assessment (ONAD).

**We gratefully acknowledge our L'Dor Vador Funds, totaling over \$9.5 million as of Tuesday, May 31, 2022**

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

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

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## Financial Focus

# What Investors Can – and Can't – Control

By Chad Zagel, CFP®, AAMS®, JFGR Board Member



Chad Zagel JFGR  
Board Member

As an investor, you can easily feel frustrated to see short-term drops in your investment statements. But while you cannot control the market, you may find it helpful to review the factors you can control.

Many forces affect the financial markets, including geopolitical events, corporate profits and interest rate movements – forces beyond the control of most individual investors.

In any case, it's important to focus on the things you *can* control, such as these:

- *Your ability to define your goals* – One area in which you have total control is your ability to define your goals. Like most people, you probably have short-term goals – such as saving for a new car or a dream vacation – and long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. Once you identify your goals and estimate how much they will cost, you can create an investment strategy to help achieve them. Over time, some of your personal circumstances will likely change, so you'll want to review your time horizon and risk tolerance on a regular basis, adjusting your strategy when appropriate. And the same is true for your goals – they may evolve over time, requiring new responses from you in how you invest.
- *Your response to market downturns* – When the market drops and the value of your investments declines, you might be tempted to take immediate action in an effort to stop the losses. This is understandable – after all, your investment results can have a big impact on your future. However,

acting hastily could work against you – for example, you could sell investments that still have solid fundamentals and are still appropriate for your needs. If you can avoid decisions based on short-term events, you may help yourself in the long run.

- *Your commitment to investing* – The financial markets are almost always in flux, and their movements are hard to predict. If you can continue investing in all markets – good, bad or sideways – you will likely make much better progress toward your goals than if you periodically were to take a “time out.” Many people head to the investment sidelines when the market tumbles, only to miss out on the beginnings of the next rally. And by steadily investing, you will increase the number of shares you own in your investments – and the larger your ownership stake, the greater your opportunities for building wealth.
- *Your portfolio's level of diversification* – While diversification itself can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help greatly reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. Just how you diversify your investments depends on several factors, but the general principle of maintaining a diversified portfolio should govern your approach to investing. It's a good idea to periodically review your portfolio to ensure it's still properly diversified.

The world will always be filled with unpredictable, uncontrollable events, and many of them will affect the financial markets to one degree or another. But within your own investment world, you always have a great deal of control – and with it, you have the power to keep moving toward all your important financial objectives.

*Chad Zagel, CFP®, AAMS®, is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, a University of Michigan graduate, and in his free time, Chad enjoys spending time with his family and volunteering.*

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC



Jewish Federation  
OF GRAND RAPIDS

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE  
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

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- ◆ Educate Children and Foster Jewish Identity
- ◆ Promote a Just Society Through Social Action
- ◆ Provide Jewish Arts & Cultural Programming
- ◆ Offer Aid and Education Overseas

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<https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org/> or call 616-942-5553 to make your gift



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JULY 29

## Firelight Friday

After services, spend time with other Jews in their 20s, 30s, and 40s.

We'll play games, talk Judaism, eat food, and roast marshmallows.

Contact Shelby at 616-914-7728 or [shelby.denhof@gmail.com](mailto:shelby.denhof@gmail.com) to RSVP

**6 PM at Temple Emanuel**  
**~7:30 PM at Hailie & Josh's House**  
SE Side of GR, RSVP for Address



Bring a side to share, something to drink, and a folding chair!



## Volunteers Needed!

**Interested in Joining us?**

Email [Julianna@ifgr.org](mailto:Julianna@ifgr.org)  
Or call (616) 942-5553 ext. 206

**Looking forward to your help!**



**We Need Help With:**

- Driving community members to appointments.
- Delivering items to those in need.
- Assisting with in-person programs.

**VOLUNTEERS**  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
SIGN UP TODAY!



# Shakshuka

By Evan Rossio, Campaign Director, JFGR



Evan Rossio

Shakshuka is a classic North African/Middle Eastern dish that can be eaten for breakfast lunch or dinner. Brought to Israel by Jewish immigrants from Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, and Libya, shakshuka is becoming increasingly popular here in the United States. Shakshuka is a one-pan dish made with eggs and tomatoes that is hearty, affordable and easy to make. Make sure you use your favorite bread to mop up the sauce!

## Shakshuka



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 3 T extra virgin olive oil   | 2 t sweet paprika   |
| 1 small onion, diced   | (1 t sweet paprika in oil – optional)                                       |
| 4 cloves of garlic, diced or pressed                               | 1 t black pepper  |
| 1 T tomato paste   | ¼ t cumin   |
| 2 cups canned crushed tomatoes,<br>or 10 sweet ripe diced tomatoes | 1 t sugar   |
| 6 large eggs   | 1 t salt  |
| 1½ t harissa or ½ t chili flakes                                   | a little more cumin and coarse sea<br>salt/kosher salt to top each egg yolk |
| ½ c water  | Parsley for garnish   |

Use a large and wide saucepan. Sauté onions in olive oil on medium heat for about 5 minutes. Add garlic, harissa (or chili flakes), and tomato paste and cook for 5 minutes. Add tomatoes, sugar, salt, sweet paprika, paprika in oil, black pepper and cumin. Add water, cook and stir on medium heat for about 10 minutes. Add eggs one by one, revealing the bottom of the pan each time. Cook covered for 7 minutes on low heat until the egg whites set. Uncover and add salt and cumin on each yolk. Cook for an additional 5 minutes on low heat to get the eggs just the way you like them. Add chopped fresh parsley on top. Serve with your favorite bread.

Recipe adapted from [www.afooda.co](http://www.afooda.co)

*Thank you to the Grand Rapids community members who have  
contributed to the Ukraine Relief Crisis.*

Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation  
Bobbie Moneda Platte

Ronald Zagel  
Bradley Friedland

June 1-30, 2022

If you would like to make a donation to the Ukraine crisis visit the Jewish Federation of  
Grand Rapids at [www.https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org](https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org)  
**100% of your donation will go to help our Jewish family in Ukraine**



## CHABAD OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

### CHABAD OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

WEBSITE: [WWW.CHABADWM.COM](http://WWW.CHABADWM.COM) | FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:

@CHABADWM | PHONE: 616-957-0770 |

EMAIL: [CHABADWESTERNMICHIGAN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CHABADWESTERNMICHIGAN@GMAIL.COM)

All events are subject to change. Please stay safe and reach out if there is anything we can do for you.

**CHECK FACEBOOK @CHABADWM FOR VIRTUAL ZOOM LINKS AND PASSWORDS OR TEXT RIVKA AT 616.206.9654!**

### WEEKLY VIRTUAL TORAH & TEA

For the connection we all need right now.

A Torah Study for ladies with Nechamy.

**MONDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 8:00PM**

Meeting ID: 966 6623 3600 Password: jwc

### VIRTUAL TORAH CLASSES

**TUESDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 7:30PM**

For more Info or for zoom information, please contact

Rabbi Mordechai at 269.903.2770 or [Rabbihaller@](mailto:Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com)

[chabadwestmichigan.com](http://chabadwestmichigan.com)

### GAN YILADIM PRESCHOOL – KINDERGARTEN

Gan Yiladim is a licensed preschool for Jewish children ages 2-5 open to the entire Jewish community, regardless of background or affiliation.

Gan Yiladim has been serving the Grand Rapids and nearby Jewish communities, offering a joyful and enriching educational experience to our students while fostering a love for their Jewish heritage.

We take the best of both worlds – secular and Judaic – and blend them into a program that is at once rich, fulfilling, and stimulating.

The Gan believes in nurturing children with the SPICES of life - focusing on their Social, Physical, Intellectual, Creative, Emotional and Spiritual development.

Our students are given tools to find expression in art, music, dance and drama. Through teamwork and friendship-building, the children learn skills for life as they explore and play in a loving and nurturing environment, guided by experienced and dedicated staff.

For more information or to schedule a tour call Sarah at 616.375.9404



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### AHAVAS ISRAEL'S BOOK GROUP NEWS:

Our next book will be **The Choice: A Novel of Love, Faith and the Talmud, by Maggie Anton**

Wednesday, August 10, 7:00 (by zoom)

**The Author will be joining our book discussion group by zoom to answer questions about the book)**

Maggie Anton's latest book, *The Choice*, masterfully interweaves and explores love and faith through historical events, Jewish traditions and history, and the Talmud. Anton has reimagined the main characters from Chaim Potok's *The Chosen*, added strong female characters and voices, which were non-existent previously, and placed them years later into mid-1950s Brooklyn. The reader is gifted with love stories as well as a story of the love of learning.

<https://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/book/the-choice-a-novel-of-love-faith-and-talmud>

If you buy the ebook, you can get a discount off the Amazon price at <https://payhip.com/b/XBOmh>. If you want a signed copy of the print version, please let Rabbi Krishef know at [Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org](mailto:Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org) or 616-949-2840, and he can get it directly from the author. If it makes more sense for you to buy it on your own, it is available at Amazon or your favorite bookseller.

### PRAY-GATHER-LEARN-EAT!

Enjoy a light Shabbat lunch following services in the Social Hall or on the back patio alongside the pollinator garden. Contact Rabbi Krishef if you are able to help him prepare the lunch, either on Thursday evening or Friday, [Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org](mailto:Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org) or 616-949-2840. Mark the following dates on your calendar - details to follow:

Saturday, June 25

Saturday, July 16

Saturday, August 20

### EAT-SCHMOOZE!

Rabbi Krishef is cooking dinner for you once a month on the Monday evenings listed below. You are cordially invited to join for dinner and light Jewish conversation and learning, at 6:00. Menu to be announced in the weekly eVoice. Want to help cook? Contact Rabbi Krishef and let him know. RSVP by the Friday before each dinner, [Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org](mailto:Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org) or (616)-949-2840.

• Monday, July 11, 6:00

• Monday, August 15, 6:00

### BE A MITZVAH-COOK!

We're gathering on July 10 (time to be determined) to prepare meals to freeze and deliver to people or families in need, who have been ill, have had a child, have experienced a loss, etc. Contact Rabbi Krishef to be a part of the mitzvah crew, [Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org](mailto:Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org) or 616-949-2840.



TEMPLE  
EMANUEL

Temple Emanuel was founded in 1857. We are proud members of the Union for Reform Judaism. We invite those seeking a liberal Jewish community, that welcomes all, to join us for services this summer.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**

Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM

**FRIDAY, JULY 8**

Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM

**FRIDAY, JULY 15**

Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM

July birthdays and anniversaries will be celebrated.

**SUNDAY, JULY 17**

Your Opinion Matters at 10:00 AM. Discussion and breakfast. For more information: [jims@siegeljewelers.com](mailto:jims@siegeljewelers.com).

**FRIDAY, JULY 22**

Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM

**FRIDAY, JULY 29**

Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM

Firelight Friday 7:30 PM event for Jewish young adults. For more information: [shelby@grtemple.org](mailto:shelby@grtemple.org).

Our well used and many years old Temple sukkah suffered irreparable damage last fall in a wind and rain storm. We are seeking a donor or donors who would be willing to underwrite the cost of a new sukkah for the front lawn of Temple. Anyone interested is asked to contact Rabbi Schadick at [Rabbi@grtemple.org](mailto:Rabbi@grtemple.org)

## Do You Need a Ride?

**Doctors appointment, grocery store or pharmacy?  
Let us take you where you want to go.**

Contact Julianna Schrier, Community Connector at **616.942.5553 x206** or [Julianna@JFGR.org](mailto:Julianna@JFGR.org) to schedule your ride. All rides need 24 hour advance notice. Hours of service: 8am to 8pm

Thank you to the generosity of the Ravitz Foundation for this service to the Grand Rapids Jewish community.



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## Thank you for supporting the Grand Rapids Jewish Community

- JFGR General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund
- Julian and Judith Joseph Endowment Fund
- Louis & Louise Weiner Fund
- Jerry & Judy Subar Endowment Fund
- Charles and Maxine Shapiro Endowment Fund
- Woman of Valor Endowment Fund
- Leven Family Endowment Fund
- David & Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund
- Lois and Sheldon Kahn Health Help Fund
- Donna G. Boorstein Memorial Fund
- Sam and Jane Kravitz Social Services Fund
- Fox Family Fund
- The Finkelstein Brothers Fund
- Henry Pestka Memorial Fund

Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$10 or more to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in honor or in memory of members of our community.

We then will acknowledge that donation with a card to that individual or family. This is a wonderful way to send your good wishes and be able to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah.

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

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

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

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**Henry Pestka Holocaust Memorial Fund** To make certain that the Holocaust is an essential part of the human story forever through educational programs and events that teach awareness, compassion and to ensure these inhumane acts against humanity never happen again.

*Make a tribute gift to  
Thank, Honor, Memorialize  
friends and loved ones.*

### JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fund (pick from list) \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Address \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Send card to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Send card to address \_\_\_\_\_

Send your donation and this form to:

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# HENRY PESTKA ENDOWMENT FUND

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## The Shofar

A monthly publication issued 12 times a year.

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

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