



April 30, 2018 marks the end of our 2017-2018 campaign year. At this time our campaign is \$25,000 short of meeting our fundraising goal of \$425,000. We need your help! If you have already contributed to JFGR this year, thank you for your continued support in keeping our community strong. If you want to increase the impact of your donation, ask if your employer has a gift matching program.\*

For those who have not yet contributed, there is still time to give back to your Jewish community by supporting the work of the Federation and our fund recipients, which include:

- United Jewish School – up to \$18,000 per year contribution
- Social services support (such as emergency loans and camp scholarships)
- Community and young adult programming, (e.g. Hanukkah Bowling Party, Purim Carnival, Jewish Cultural Council and Film Festival)
- Hillels in Michigan, (e.g. GVSU, MSU and U of M)
- Temple Emanuel Food Bank
- Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids
- Shir Shalom Choir
- Chabad House of Western Michigan
- Michigan Israel Business Bridge (Michigan Israel Business Accelerator)
- Kaufman Interfaith Institute
- Anti-Defamation League
- Birthright Israel

**Please make your donation today and help us continue to engage our community in meaningful and relevant ways.**

In addition to the close of the campaign, this April also marks the 20th anniversary of our Film Festival. We are very proud to continue our tradition of bringing quality Jewish films to the Grand Rapids community. The committee has been previewing movies and planning special programs. Once again, the Film Festival will be held at Celebration! Cinema North. Details about the Festival are provided on page 5 herein. Don't miss our Film Festival community dinner on May 2nd, a highlight event of our *Israel at 70* series.

To commemorate Israel's 70th birthday, the Federation will host a series of programs to educate, inform and honor this special occasion. The series will include several speakers and performers throughout the next few months. *Continues on page 2*

**Our Mission**

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

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

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

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**Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids**

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

**Officers**

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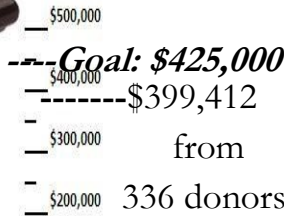
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of Western Michigan  
Rabbi Yosef Weingarten



**Campaign 2017**



Your donation to JFGR is tax deductible. Payments can be made by cash, check, credit card or stock. Pay in full, or set up installments. You can even pay online at [www.jewishgrandrapids.org](http://www.jewishgrandrapids.org) New gifts or increased gifts are eligible to be matched by a challenge grant  
\*Total does not include matching grants.

**Matching Grants Campaign 2017**

The **Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation** has made a matching grant commitment for new gifts and increases in contributions. The **Hy and Greta Berkowitz Foundation** has also made a matching grant commitment for new gifts, and increases in contributions from donors age 49 and under.

Continued from page 1

A calendar of the events can be found on page 9 herein. We hope you can join us for these events, including our exciting Israel at 70 concert by Israeli Singer and "Israeli Idol" (Kokhav Nolad) winner, Ninet Tayeb on May 30th.

As we celebrate and learn together about the Journey of Israel and its modern achievements, we encourage you to personally experience the wonder of Israel with the Federation. We are embarking on our community leadership trip to Israel January 13-20, 2019. Another exciting opportunity is the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project Momentum trip to Israel on November 13-20, 2018, designed for mothers of children at home under the age of 18. This program is run in partnership with JFGR. Please contact our office for details about these exciting upcoming experiences. Limited subsidies are available for eligible applicants.

I look forward to seeing you at our exciting upcoming events and trips!

Best wishes to you and your family for a healthy and happy Passover.

Marisa

\*For more information on matching gift programs, please go to [www.jewishgrandrapids.org](http://www.jewishgrandrapids.org)

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

**ANNUAL CAMPAIGN**



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

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

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

**DONOR'S SIGNATURE**

**Live Generously.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

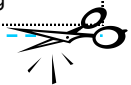
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

JFGR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

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 **Momentum**  
Women's Trip

*Discover the power of Jewish women... starting with you.*

Join women from all over the world for a revitalizing year of self-exploration, unforgettable experiences in Israel, and inspiring Jewish learning.

YOUR YEAR-LONG JOURNEY WITH THE JW RP BEGINS WITH

**8 DAYS IN ISRAEL**

NOVEMBER 13 – 20, 2018

\* Momentum Trips are free for participants excluding airfare. Additional costs for participants include \$75 for tips, a \$99 acceptance fee, and some meals. Participants pay a \$500 deposit, which is fully refundable upon returning from the trip. This trip is designed for women with children at home under the age of 18. The Momentum Year-Long Journey continues with monthly gatherings and Jewish learning.

- Enjoy empowering Jewish classes led by world-class speakers and Israeli thought-leaders
- Explore spiritual Tsfat, dynamic Tel Aviv, Masada's desert magic, Shabbat in Jerusalem, and many more unique experiences
- Discover how to connect deeper with yourself, your family, and your community

*Free Trip\**  
**APPLY NOW**

For more information, please contact:  
**Marisa Reed** [marisa@jfr.org](mailto:marisa@jfr.org) or call Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids' office number at (616)942-5553

Participants may be eligible for additional subsidies to offset the cost of airfare. Please contact JFGR for more information.

[www.jwrp.org](http://www.jwrp.org) | #ItStartsWithWomen



Working in partnership with:  
**Ministry of Diaspora Affairs**  
Creating a common Jewish future





2018 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> year for the Jewish Film Festival. The Film Festival committee is busy screening films and planning special programming to make sure this year's festival is spectacular!

We hope you will join us when the festival brings our community together for five days of cultural enlightenment and entertainment.

In the meantime, your opportunity for sponsorship is at hand.

Individual Sponsors Get Great Benefits

- Director: \$500** Receive two Flex Passes (16 admissions), four admissions to Film Festival related private receptions, dinners and events, if applicable.
- Producer: \$250** Receive two Flex Passes (16 admissions), recognition in Film Festival brochure, and two admissions to Film Festival related private receptions, dinners and events, if applicable.
- Actor: \$100** Receive one Flex Pass (8 admissions) and recognition in the Film Festival brochure.
- Film Fan:** If you would like to financially support the Jewish Film Festival and do not see a sponsorship that interests you, please feel free to send a contribution in any amount to the Federation office. You will be listed in the program booklet.

Jewish Film Festival Mission Statement

The mission of the Jewish Film Festival of Grand Rapids is to entertain and educate. The festival uses the power of film to challenge conventional perspectives on complex and dynamic issues facing the Jewish people and the community as a whole. It also provides a forum for the Grand Rapids community to dialogue with filmmakers, producers, writers, and expert panelists.

\*\*\*\*\*

***Yes! I would like to be a Film Festival Sponsor***

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Film Festival Director (\$500)

\_\_\_ Film Festival Fan (Please indicate dollar amount)

\_\_\_ Film Festival Producer (\$250)

\_\_\_ Flex Pass (\$36)

\_\_\_ Film Festival Actor (\$100)

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



Sponsored by  
Rosenzweig-Coopersmith  
Foundation  
&  
Private Donors

2121 Celebration Drive NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

**April 29 - Sunday 7:30pm**

## ROSENWALD

Documentary - 95 minutes English

Julius Rosenwald, son of an immigrant peddler, didn't finish high school but rose to become President of Sears, Roebuck & Co. Influenced by the writings of the educator Booker T. Washington, this Jewish philanthropist joined forces with African-American communities during the Jim Crow era to build 5,400 schools in the segregated American South.



Speaker: Aviva Kempner, Filmmaker, via Skype

**April 30 - Monday 7:30pm**

## BYE BYE GERMANY

Comedy/Drama-102 minutes German w/subtitles

An unusual and comic look at the postwar period through the story of an enterprising group of Jews determined to extract reparations from their German countrymen, one well-meaning scheme at a time!



**May 1 - Tuesday 7:30pm**

## MUHI: GENERALLY TEMPORARY

Documentary - 89 minutes Hebrew & Arabic w/subtitles

Muhi is a spirited Gaza boy with disabilities who has been living in an Israeli hospital, the only home he has ever known. He is being treated and raised by those considered enemies, in paradoxical circumstances that transcend identity, religion and the conflict that divides his world.



Speaker: Moran Birman, Consul for Public Diplomacy, Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest

**May 2 - Wednesday 7:30pm**

## An Average Story

Comedy Short - 17 minutes Hebrew/subtitles

An ordinary husband becomes an instant celebrity after being officially designated Israel's most average person in this comedy short.



## LAND OF MILK AND FUNNY

Documentary - 87 minutes English

Part stand-up, part travelogue, this film highlights Avi Liberman's experience taking groups of American comedians, both Jewish and non-Jewish, on tour in Israel. An odyssey of discovery for the comedians and exploration of the universality of humor.



Speaker: Avi Liberman, Executive Producer, via Skype

**Wednesday, May 2  
6:00 PM**

## FILM FESTIVAL DINNER

## ISRAEL @ 70!

**Middle Eastern Fare  
in the Wave Room  
Catered by Sheshco**

Cost: \$10.00

RSVP to the Jewish Federation at  
(616) 942-5553 or [info@jfgr.org](mailto:info@jfgr.org)

**May 3 - Thursday 7:30pm**

## Mrs. Schneider

Documentary Short - 11 minutes English

His Jewish neighbor's haunting past is revealed to a young boy in this poignant short.



Speaker: Rev. Robert Sirico, President, Acton Institute

## DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS

Documentary - 53 minutes English

With a Chinese restaurant as a backdrop, this offbeat, irreverent musical documentary tells the story of how a generation of Jewish songwriters found Christmas to be the perfect holiday in which to imagine, and believe in, a better world for at least one day a year.



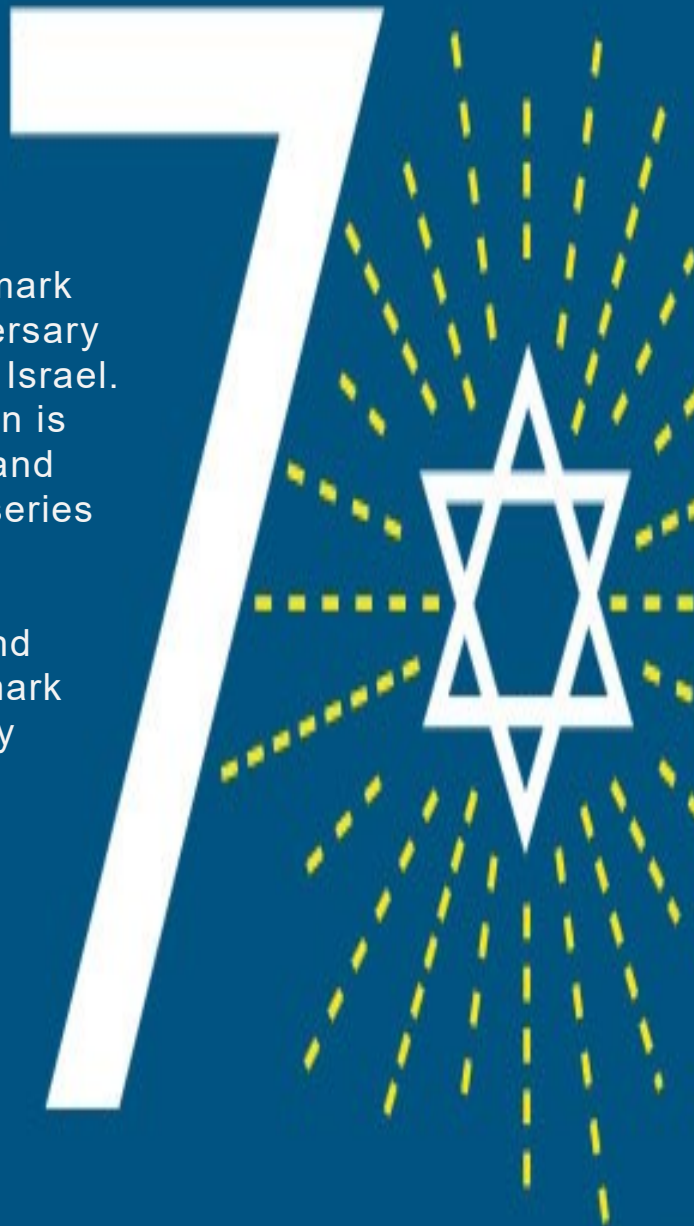
**ADMISSION IS \$6.00 PER FILM. INDIVIDUAL TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE AT CELEBRATIONCINEMA.COM OR AT THE BOX OFFICE. FLEX PASS TICKETS FOR 8 ADMISSIONS ARE \$36.00 EACH, AND ARE AVAILABLE AT JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS 2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, 49506 • (616) 942-5553 • [info@jfgr.org](mailto:info@jfgr.org) • [www.jewishgrandrapids.org](http://www.jewishgrandrapids.org)**

Despite our best intentions and efforts, sometimes arrangements go awry. If necessary, we reserve the right to change or cancel movies or locations.

# ISRAEL AT SEVENTY

**Come together to  
celebrate Israel at 70!**

This May will mark the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State of Israel. The Federation is proud to host and co-sponsor a series of programs, speakers, entertainers and educators to mark this celebratory event.



Please join us for the following events:

**April 11: Edwin Black-*Israel & International Law***

**April 17: Micah Halpern-*Behind the Headlines: Middle East & Israel Politics***

**May 1: Documentary Film and speaker: Moran Birman, Consul for Public Diplomacy, Consulate General of Israel to the Mid-West**

**May 2: Lunch with Moran Birman, Consul for Public Diplomacy, Consulate General of Israel to the Mid-West**

**May 2: Israel at 70 Celebration Dinner and Film Festival showing of *Land of Milk & Funny***

**May 30: Concert with Israeli Idol winner, Ninet Tayeb**

Cultural Council of  
The Jewish Federation  
of Grand Rapids

Presents

# Micah Halpern - Behind the Headlines: Middle East & Israeli Politics



Micah is a frequent Middle East analyst on network television and radio. Author of *The Micah Report*, a daily blog offering informed insight into foreign and domestic affairs, Halpern divides his time between Israel and New York City.

**Tuesday  
April 17, 2018  
7:30pm**

**Ahavas Israel  
2727 Michigan NE  
Grand Rapids, MI**

**\$15 for adults  
\$5 for college students  
(children free)**

**MORE INFORMATION:  
Contact [info@jfgor.org](mailto:info@jfgor.org)  
or  
(616) 942-5553  
Light refreshments**

Support from Rosenzweig-Coopersmith  
Foundation  
and  
private donors



# Israel and International Law : The Historical Underpinnings Edwin Black

NYT Bestselling author of IBM and the Holocaust &

Financing the Flames

**GRIPPING.** A wonderful ability to turn historical events, obscure to most Western readers, into a gripping story ... The standard of scholarship is excellent. *Middle East Quarterly*

*Winner:* International Human Rights Award, Moral Compass Award, Justice for All Award, Moral Courage Award, Drum Major for Justice Award, Battle Creek DLA Human Rights Citation, and a Special Michigan Legislative Human Rights Tribute

**April 11, 2018 | 7:30PM**  
**Temple Emanuel 1715 East Fulton**  
This is a free event

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, Flint Jewish Federation, Israeli-American Council, StandWithUs, EMET, American Assn of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, and Scholars for Peace in the Middle East

Made Possible by a Generous Grant from the Ravitz Foundation.





Beit Sefer B'yahad / United Jewish School

1715 East Fulton Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Hasia Monselise School Director 616-459-5976 [UJShasiamonselise@gmail.com](mailto:UJShasiamonselise@gmail.com) [www.unitedjewishschool.org](http://www.unitedjewishschool.org)  
[hmonselise@gmail.com](mailto:hmonselise@gmail.com) or [www.hasiamonselise@gmail.com](http://www.hasiamonselise@gmail.com)

## Middah for April

# שְׁמִירַת הַגּוּף

*Shmirat ha-guf* means "guarding the body". In the Torah we are told: "Take care of yourself, and guard your soul diligently".



Our bodies are holy, and how we use them is a sacred choice. *Shmirat ha-guf* is not just about working out; it is also about not putting anything into our bodies that could be harmful. We need to eat healthy foods, drink water, wear seat belts, bike helmets and protective sports gear, read and do our homework. We need to keep ourselves safe, healthy, smart and strong.



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

- April 2 No School Passover - Spring Break
- April 4 No School - Midweek Hebrew
- April 8 No School - Spring Break
- April 22 Yom Ha'atzmaut /Israel 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

**The Passover season is here, and Jews all over around the world are busy preparing. It's a holiday that connects us all to each other as one people, just as we were when we left Egypt together.**

**Happy Passover  
Hasia**

**Be on the lookout for EXCITING programming happening at UJS on April 22 in honor of Yom Ha'atzmaut/Israel 70th Independence Day!**

## Community/Senior

### Hadassah Book Club

Thank You to Diane Broomberg for hosting our November Book Club gathering!

We will be taking a winter break and returning on April 11th, 2018.

See you all in the Spring!!

Meeting date.....April 11th, 2018

Time.....4:00pm

Where.....Sue Remes home

3403 Burton Ridge SE Apt. B

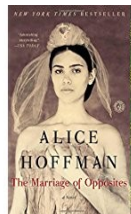
RSVP to .....Sue (616)949-3505

Book to read.....*The Marriage of Opposites*

By Alice Hoffman

Find your books at the Library or Schuler at their 28th Street store. Looking forward to see you in the Spring time. We are always your loyal Book Ends,

Sue Remes & Flory Silverstein



### Yom HaShoah Event

Lunch Bunch joins Jewish Business Network

**Thursday, April 12**

**Time: 12:00pm**

**Palio Grand Rapids, 545 Michigan Street NE**

RSVP to 616-942-5553

Cost: \$10.00

**Special Author Event: *Becoming a Jew in Post-World War II Germany* with Author Annette Gendler**

***Jumping Over Shadows: A Memoir* by Annette Gendler**

Annette Gendler will discuss her book *Jumping Over Shadows* and lead a discussion of Judaism and Zionism in Post-World War II Germany. Annette Gendler's memoir *Jumping Over Shadows* pulls readers into the drama of World War II with its family tale of an ill-fated marriage between a Jewish man, Guido, and his Christian wife, Resi; interwoven is the equally gripping contemporary love story of Gendler—Resi's great-niece—her German Jewish boyfriend and eventual husband, and her conversion to Judaism. Ms. Gendler will be joining us and sharing her very personal and fascinating story. Books will be available for purchase along with book signing.

There is ample free parking adjacent. If you use the parking ramp bring in your ticket for validation at the restaurant.



## What's Happening Jewish Grand Rapids

### April 2018 Calendar of Events

1	First Day of Pesach
2	NO UJS - Spring Break
4	NO Midweek UJS - Spring break
6	Kabbalat Shabbat at Ahavas Israel 6:00pm
7	Pesach ends 9:00pm
8	NO UJS - Spring Break
10	Kindertransport Exhibit begins at Temple Emanuel during regular office hours
11	<b>Edwin Black at Temple Emanuel 7:30pm</b> <b>JFGR Playgroup at Temple Emanuel 11:00am</b>
12	<b>Yom HaShoah Lunch Bunch and Jewish Business Network Palio 12:00pm with guest speaker, Author Annette Gendler</b>
15	Kindertransport Community Reception At Temple Emanuel 10:00am
16	Jewish Woman's Circle 7:30pm Beit Midrash Dinner at Ahavas Israel 5:30pm
17	<b>Cultural Council - Micah Halpern 7:30pm at Ahavas Israel</b>
18	<b>JFGR Playgroup at Temple Emanuel 11:00am</b>
22	Yom Ha'atamaut Programs during UJS hours CTeen at Chabad 1:00pm CTeen Jr. at Chabad 4:00pm
24	Chabad Kids Club at Chabad 4:30pm
25	<b>JFGR Playgroup at Temple Emanuel 11:00am</b> JLI Classes begin at Chabad 7:30pm
28	Torah Study Shabbat at Ahavas Israel 9:30am
29	<b>FILM FESTIVAL BEGINS</b> <b>Film: Rosenwald 7:30pm</b>
30	<b>Film : Bye Bye Germany 7:30pm</b>

**Bold** represents a Jewish Federation sponsored event.

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

## Temple Emanuel

### KinderTransport Exhibit

*In the months between the November 9, 1938 Night of Broken Glass (Kristallnacht) in Germany, when a thousand synagogues and Jewish owned businesses were burned or desecrated, and the beginning of World War II, a rescue operation known as the Kindertransport brought 10,000 unaccompanied children from Germany and Austria to safety in Great Britain.*

Most of the children, but not all, were Jews. Most of the parents who sent them to safety perished in the Holocaust.

*The Kindertransport Association has created a traveling exhibit of 17 panels featuring this story. Temple Emanuel is hosting this exhibition beginning on Tuesday, April 10 through Sunday, April 22. The exhibit will be open to the public from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on April 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, and 20<sup>th</sup>. It will also be open to the public on April 15 and 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. A special reception will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup>.*

Funding for the exhibit comes from the Joseph and Mary Stevens Holocaust Education Fund at Temple Emanuel.

**We invite the entire Jewish community to come and see the exhibit.**

### Your Opinion Matters & Brunch

On Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM, Chef and Moderator Jim Siegel will ask attendees to listen to his rant about the "greatest evil"—The Press. At the end of his rant, he would like you to either support him or point out the errors of his views. Please contact Jim Siegel at [jims@siegeljewelers.com](mailto:jims@siegeljewelers.com) to reserve your spot. This program is free of charge, but, as always, Jim does need to know how many meals to prepare.

### Yizkor: 4 Times Each Year

We offer prayers for our beloved departed 4 times a year, on Yom Kippur, on Sukkot, at the end of Passover, and on Shavuot. Our Yizkor prayers will be woven into our Shabbat Service on Friday, April 6. This is the last day of Passover for those who observe 7 days.

It is customary to light a yahrzeit candle on the evening of April 5, just as the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Passover begins.

*Chabad House*

**Jewish Woman's Circle**

*Inside the Kosher Bakery*

MONDAY, APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> 2018 | 7:30pm

Enjoy a hands on baking workshop and learn how to make delicious Rugalach from scratch.

Explore the spiritual meaning of food in our lives.

At the Chabad House ~ Chair: Jackie Dennen

For more Info or to RSVP contact Nechamy, at 616-828-2340 or [Nechamy8@gmail.com](mailto:Nechamy8@gmail.com)

**CTeen Grand Rapids**

SUNDAY, APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup> • 1:00-3:00pm

CTeen Day - **Loaves of Love** - Do a Mitzvah, and braid Challah for a senior in town!

**The place for ALL Jewish high school teens!**

Part of the Fastest Growing Teen Network in the World!

**CTeen Junior**

SUNDAY, APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup> • 4:00-6:00pm

Enrich your Jewish Pride & Explore Essential Milestones within the Jewish Lifecycle while giving back to the Community.

#vintagetouch #oldage #lookingback #holocaust #SpreadGood #neverforget #GivingBack

**Chabad Kids Club**

TUESDAY, APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> • 4:30 - 6:00pm

Lag B'Omer – Friends Forever – Bring a friend-

Create a pillow with all your friends' handprints of love. Play an awesome friendship game and learn about friendship with a Jewish twist!

Chabad kids club is a place for Jewish children to have a great time, be proud of their Judaism & make a difference!

For Jewish girls & boys ages 5-11

**CTeen Midwest Shabbaton in Grand Rapids!!**

FRIDAY & SATURDY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> & 28<sup>TH</sup>

Join us for a CTeen Shabbaton at the Chabad House!

We will be welcoming teens from Skokie Cteen and other Midwest CTeen chapters to spend a fun and exciting Shabbat together here in Grand Rapids!!

For more information or to RSVP for CTeen, CTeen Junior & Kids Club, please contact Rivka at 616-206-9654

**JLI - "What is it?"**

**Rethinking Everything We Know About Our Universe**

Join us for a remarkable six-week course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute.

To register today, visit [myJLI.com](http://myJLI.com)

**Six Wednesday Evenings: 7:30 - 9:00pm**

**Begins Wednesday, April 25th, 2018**

At the Chabad House

Fee: \$99 (textbook included) | \$180 Sponsor

For more Info or to register, please contact Rabbi Mordechai at 269-903-2770 or

*Ahavas Israel*

**.Kabbalat Shabbat, Friday evening, April 6, 6:00 pm**

Join us for a monthly Kabbalat Shabbat service on the first Shabbat of each month at 6:00 p.m.

**Torah Study Shabbat and Abbreviated Shabbat service - April 28**

**Please join us for a Torah Study Shabbat/ Abbreviated Shabbat service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Shabbat of the month.** The schedule is:

9:30 a.m. Torah study

10:30 a.m. Service

11:55 a.m. (approximately) Kiddush

**Beit Midrash Dinner**

The next Beit Midrash\* dinner will be on **Monday, April 16.** Part social, part learning, Rabbi Krishef

invites you to drop by the synagogue beginning at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and a bit of Torah. After

dinner, if you wish, hang around and continue studying some Torah for a while. Grab some books from the library - Torah, commentaries, Midrash, Mishnah, Talmud, Zohar or anything that strikes your fancy - and dive in.

There is no charge (donations to defray the cost will be gratefully accepted), but RSVP's are required ([Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org](mailto:Rabbi@AhavasIsraelGR.org) or 616-949-2840) so he can prepare enough food.

\*A Beit Midrash is a "House of Study." Along with Beit Tefillah, House of Prayer, and Beit Keneset, House of Meeting, it is one of the three primary functions of a synagogue - study, prayer, and social activities.

**Ahavas Israel Reading Group**

Interested in joining a book group? The first meeting will be in **June**; then **October** and **February**.

Contact Leah Sauer (616-805-3778) for more

information or to have input on the book titles. One possibility: **The Secret Book of Kings: A Novel**, by Yochi Brandes "This volume, by Biblical scholar Yochi Brandes, is a riveting novel based on textual sources about the experiences of David and Solomon. Its lessons are also relevant for our turbulent time."

—Elie Wiesel, #1 *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author of *Night*.

# Endowment

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

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

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

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

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

**David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund** To provide scholarships to Jewish sleepaway camps and experiences.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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