



Jewish Federation®  
OF GRAND RAPIDS

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.  
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

The Shofar

I Y A R / S I V A N - 5 7 7 8 — M A Y 2 0 1 8 — W W W . J E W I S H G R A N D R A P I D S . O R G

20th Annual  
JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL OF  
GRAND RAPIDS

April 29 through May 3, 2018

TICKETS ONLY \$6  
ALL FILMS AT 7:30PM  
at Celebration Cinema! North

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

Drawing for Door Prizes

Sunday, April 29  
**ROSENWALD**

Monday, April 30  
**BYE BYE GERMANY**

Tuesday, May 1  
**MUHI: GENERALLY TEMPORARY**

Wednesday, May 2  
**An Average Story (short)  
LAND OF MILK AND FUNNY**

Thursday, May 3  
**Mrs. Schneider (short)  
DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS**

New this year, purchase your tickets at the box office. May be purchased in advance online at  
www.celebrationcinema.com

See page 5 for more details  
Film Festival is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids,  
Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation and private donors.

**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!

**Inside this issue:**

Federation News	1-5
Senior News	2
Jewish Film Festival	6
Community	7-8
United Jewish School	8
Calendar/Congregational	9-10
Endowment	11

**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**

*Chair*  
David Alfonso  
*Vice Chairs*  
Dan Hurwitz  
Judith Joseph  
Greg Kaufman  
Karen Padnos  
Marni Vyn  
*Past Chair*  
Claude Titche III

*Executive Director*

Marisa Reed

**Board of Directors**

Davida Dennen  
Cary Fleischer  
Leigh Rapaport  
Daren Shavell  
Audrey Sundstrom  
Lanny Thodey  
Chad Zagel

**Ex-Officio Members**

Congregation Ahavas Israel  
Rabbi David Krishef  
Ken Strauss, President

Temple Emanuel  
Rabbi Michael Schadick  
Co-Presidents,  
Machelle Hammond,  
Eddie Landman

Chabad House  
of Western Michigan  
Rabbi Yosef Weingarten

**Campaign 2017**

**Goal: \$425,000**

**As of Shofar deadline**

**\$403,376**

**\*from 347**

**donors**



**Lunch Bunch**

**Kitchen 67**

**1977 East Beltline**

**Thursday, May 17**

**11:30am**

**\$10**

**RSVP's a must to (616)942-5553**  
**Rides available by calling Ann**  
**(616)942-5553 x206**

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.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

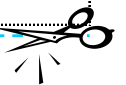
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

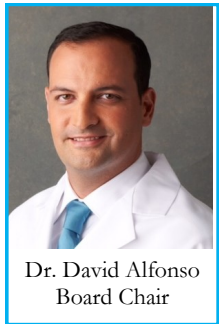
Method of Payment:  Check  Stock (Please Identify)  
Please Charge my:  MasterCard  Visa  
 Discover  American Express

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Security (CVS) code: \_\_\_\_\_



Dear Community Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. I am now approaching the end of my third term as Board Chair for the Federation. I can honestly say that it has been a pleasure to serve our community in this capacity. Over the last three years we have experienced a strong fundraising output, in addition to continued participation from our members. The experience as Chair has been humbling, educational, and gratifying. I have had the fortunate experience to work with a great staff and Board that you all know well. Cathy, Ann, Jennifer and Marisa are truly dedicated to the continued success of our Federation and have made my role that much more enjoyable. I am confident that the next Board Chair will also benefit from their collective experience and dedication. I am proud of all that we have accomplished for our community over the past few years. I am especially excited about the future developments we are working on, including subsidized trips to Israel. There are two opportunities to travel to Israel through the federation, specifically in November of 2018 and January of 2019. These trips are great ways for our community to bond and grow together through the amazing experience of visiting Israel as a group. I would encourage anyone who has an interest, to contact the Federation to learn more about these opportunities.



Dr. David Alfonso  
Board Chair

One of the rewarding and challenging aspects of being Chair is writing a column in the Shofar each month. I am sure many of you have read my previous letters and although some people may differ from my opinion from time to time, my goal was to be thought provoking and present a diversity of views on numerous topics. A community that has diversity of thought and world views, and can discuss them in a constructive manner is a strong one. I believe we fall into that category. I am proud of our community and I hope all of you appreciate the resources we have, given our small size. In closing, I wanted to impart some words from American author William Arthur Ward, which I feel I have a greater appreciation for as I reflect on my leadership role over the last three years.

- Before you speak - listen.
- Before you pray - believe.
- Before you write - think.
- Before you quit - try.
- Before you die - live.

May our community have continued health, prosperity, and happiness as we move forward.

Sincerely,

David R. Alfonso

## Jewish Business Network Meet Israel Consul for Public Diplomacy, Moran Birman Wednesday, May 2

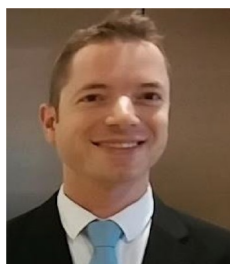
Time: 12:00pm

**Palio Grand Rapids**

545 Michigan Street NE

RSVP to 616-942-5553

Our guest speaker will be Moran Birman, Consul for Public Diplomacy, Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest.



## Olive & the Bitter Herbs

by Charles Busch

A comedic portrait of an over-the-hill actress—a classic New York curmudgeon, at war with the world. Shaken by the sight of a ghost and a series of outrageous coincidences, she learns that it's never too late to change one's life.

GRCC's Spectrum Theater - 160 Fountain NE  
Thurs & Sat. June 14, 16, 21 & 23 @ 8 p.m.  
Sun. June 17 & 24 @ 3 p.m.

Tickets: 616-234-3946 or Online: jtgr.org

**Jewish Theatre**  
GRAND RAPIDS  
presenting quality theatrical productions with Jewish themes that are universal in appeal.



 **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 JWRP 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@jfg.org](mailto:marisa@jfg.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



JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS • COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS  
JANUARY 13-20, 2019

## THE ISRAEL TRIP

From **\$2,789** land only

### INCLUDES

- 6 nights' accommodation at select hotels
- 6 days of touring in a luxury, air-conditioned bus with licensed, English speaking tour educator
- 1 group transfer and assistance to and from the airport
- All site entrance fees and program fees as per itinerary
- Meals: daily breakfast, 2 lunches, and 4 dinners
- Portage at the airport and hotels



**JUST  
GO.**

telling the story  
of Israel and the  
Jewish World.

For more information, please contact Marisa Reed, [marisa@jfg.org](mailto:marisa@jfg.org) tel. 616-942-5553



2121 Celebration Drive NE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525



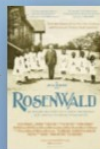
Sponsored by  
 Rosenzweig-Coopersmith  
 Foundation  
 &  
 Private Donors

**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  
 Prior to film: Remarks by Mary Edmond, a Rosenwald school alumnus, with Chana Edmond-Verley

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

**An Average Story**

Comedy Short -17 minutes Hebrew w/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

**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.



Speaker: John Serba, Film Critic, MLive

**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 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.



**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

Drawing for Door Prizes

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 • 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!**

Please join us for the following events:

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.



**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**

## INTERFAITH AND INTERWOVEN

Wednesday mornings 10:00am at Temple Emanuel, 1715 Fulton St. E. Please join women of all ages (and handcraft abilities) from all faith and non-faith



traditions to build friendships while our hands are engaged in creating items for ourselves, our families and/or charitable organizations. Bring knitting/crocheting supplies that you have to use for yourself or to share. We are currently accepting donations of knitting and crocheting

supplies and washable yarn. For more information please contact Deet at [deetnewman@gmail.com](mailto:deetnewman@gmail.com).

## Betzalel Art Group

Thursdays, 2:30pm - 4:00pm  
Ahavas Israel

Have some art fun with any painting or craft you enjoy doing. It's open to everyone.

Please bring your own art or craft supplies, as they are not provided.

For further information  
Contact

Pat Weller: 616-453-2954 or  
[patandfred@tds.net](mailto:patandfred@tds.net)





THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.  
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

Support from  
Donna G. Boorstein  
Memorial Fund  
and Ravitz Foundation

As part of Jewish Federation of  
Grand Rapids:

*Israel at 70 Series*  
**Israel Idol Winner**  
**Israeli singer/songwriter**  
**Ninet Tayeb**

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

7:00pm

**East Grand Rapids Performing Arts Center**

2211 Lake Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Admission: \$20 adults, \$10 students

To purchase tickets or for more information go to [www.jewishgrandrapids.org](http://www.jewishgrandrapids.org).

*"Ninet Tayeb is an Israeli singer whose rock star vibes come through both in the studio and her stage show. She has a real stadium presence."* – NPR

## Community



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)  
[honselise@gmail.com](mailto:honselise@gmail.com) or [www.hasiamonselise@gmail.com](http://www.hasiamonselise@gmail.com)

Thanks so much to all our wonderful teachers and staff at UJS for a great year! We bid farewell to the following teachers and thank them for all their dedication to UJS: Linda Zizos, Allison Lucas, Abigail Billington, Nicole and Jordan Newman.

Please say thank you to our great security team this year, Brian Nix and Pat Johnson.

They have been at the UJS door every single Sunday of school this year. Always smiling and welcoming to all. Please say thanks when you see them.

Thank you Maria Reza Aviles our custodian for cleaning and taking care of the school during all year!

I would like to thank everyone that helped us make the school events to a big success.

Thank you also to Congregation Ahavas Israel, Temple Emanuel and Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids. Without their spiritual and financial support our school would not be such a great success!

**May 13 last day of  
school: Maccabi Games.**



**UJS Opening Day:  
September 16, 2018**

**UJS Graduating Senior:  
Sarah Krishef will attend  
Grand Valley State University**

## What's Happening Jewish Grand Rapids

### April/May 2018 Calendar of Events

29	<b>Jewish FF - Rosenwald 7:30pm</b> <b>Speakers Mary Edmond and Aviva Kempner</b>
30	<b>Jewish FF - Bye Bye Germany 7:30pm</b> <b>Speaker John Serba</b>
1	<b>Jewish FF - Muhi: Generally Temporary</b> <b>7:30pm</b> <b>speaker Moran Birman, Israel Consulate</b> <b>Office</b>
2	<b>JBN Lunch with guest speaker</b> <b>Moran Birman 12:00pm at Palio GR</b>  <b>Jewish FF dinner 6:00pm</b>  <b>Land of Milk and Funny 7:30pm</b> <b>And short film An Average Story</b> <b>Speaker Avi Liberman</b>
3	<b>Jewish FF - Dreaming of a Jewish Christmas</b> <b>And short film Mrs. Schneider 7:30pm</b> <b>Speaker Rev. Robert Sirico</b>  Lag B'omer Bonfire & BBQ at Chabad 5:00pm
4	Kabbalat Shabbat at Ahavas 6:00pm
6	International Day of Halakhic Study 7:00pm
13	Last Day of UJS: Maccabi games
17	CTeen Junior -4:00pm
19	Tot Shabbat at Ahavas Israel 11:00am
20	CTeen Shavout celebration 12:45pm
27	CTeen 1:00pm
29	Chabad Kids Club 4:30pm
30	<b>Israel Idol Winner - Ninet Tayeb 7:00pm</b> <b>an Israel at 70 Series Event</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.

## Chabad House

### 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 **Six Wednesday Evenings: 7:30 - 9:00pm Began on 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 [Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com](mailto:Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com)

### Lag B'omer Bonfire & BBQ

**THURSDAY MAY 3RD | 5:00pm** at Chabad House

Join us for a Lag B'omer Celebration.

Celebrate Jewish Pride and Unity!

Fun for the whole family!

For more Info call 616-957-0770

### Celebrate Shavuot

Come hear the 10 Commandments and enjoy a delicious dairy Kiddush and Ice Cream Party!

**SUNDAY, MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> | 12:45pm** at the Chabad House.

### CTeen Junior ~ Shavuot

**THURSDAY, MAY 17<sup>th</sup> • 4:00-6:00pm**

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

### CTeen Grand Rapids

**SUNDAY, MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> • 12:45pm ~**

**Shavuot** - Come hear the 10 Commandments and enjoy a delicious dairy Kiddush and Ice Cream Party!

**SUNDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> • 1:00-3:00pm ~**

**Airtime adventure** with our CTeen Family!

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

Part of the Fastest Growing Teen Network in the World!

### Chabad Kids Club

**TUESDAY, MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> • 4:30 - 6:00pm**

Shabbat in an Hour – Learn How to cook up a storm of traditional Shabbat foods and leave with samples to share with your family!

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 & CTeen Junior

Jewish teens and their families are cordially invited to

**The CTeen End of the Year Banquet**

As we celebrate the past and build our future. An evening of tribute to our graduating teens, and a warm welcome to our new teens joining.

Join us on **MONDAY, JUNE 18TH**

7:30pm at the Chabad House

RSVP to Rivka @616-206-9654

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

## *Chabad House continued*

### **Gan Israel Day Camp**

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!!

Sign your child up for A Jewish summer experience of a lifetime!

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

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

**DATES: JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 13<sup>TH</sup> 2018 | 9:00am - 3:30pm**

**Kiddy Camp:** Ages 3-5 | **Main Division:** Ages 6-10 |

**Pre - Teen Division:** Ages 11-12

To registration or for more info, please contact Rivka at 616-206-9654 or email us at [campganisraelgr@gmail.com](mailto:campganisraelgr@gmail.com)

### **Gan Yiladim Preschool - Kindergarten**

Registration is now open for the fall of 2018! Our children learn the "specialness" of being Jewish. Through stories and discussions, the precious legacy of their uniqueness as Jews is transmitted. Gan Yiladim School takes the best of both worlds – secular and Judaic – and blends them into a program that is at once rich, fulfilling, and stimulating environment. For children ages 2-6.

For more information about our program, please feel free to contact us at 616-957-0770

## *Ahavas Israel*

### **Kabbalat Shabbat, Friday evening, May 4, 6:00pm**

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

### **International Day of Halakhic Study**

Sunday, May 6, 7:00pm, home of Ken and Allyson Strauss, [1839 Lake Drive SE](#). Join Ahavas Israel in an **International Day of Halakhic Study**, a movement-wide day on which Conservative/Masorti congregations, communities, and schools will come together to study a specific teshuvah (responsa) of the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Conservative movement. Our focus this year will be on the rapidly developing realm of genetic engineering. What do halakhic norms and values teach about the remaking of life? We will study a teshuvah entitled "[Halakhic Perspectives on Genetically Modified Organisms](#)" by **Rabbi Daniel Nevins**.

Contact Rabbi Krishef for more information.

### **Tot Shabbat/Young Junior Congregation**

Bring your children to the upcoming Tot Shabbat/Junior Congregation service in honor of the upcoming Shavuot holiday on May 19, 11:00am. RSVP to Marni Vyn at [marnivyn@gmail.com](mailto:marnivyn@gmail.com) or 616-774-8644 to let her know that you are coming so she knows how to prepare.

## *Ahavas Israel continued*

### **The Festival of Shavuot - Saturday evening, May 19 - Tuesday, May 21**

Please join us for our 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Tikkun Leil Shavuot study session on Saturday evening, May 19. Instead of our normal potluck dinner, we'd like to invite you to contribute a potluck teaching, topic of your choice. Please contact Rabbi Krishef to let him know what you would like to contribute. You are of course welcome to participate as a learner, even if you would prefer not to teach.

If you would like to contribute a dessert, please contact Marisa ([MarisaRBK@gmail.com](mailto:MarisaRBK@gmail.com) or 616-459-4627) and let her know what you would like to bring. **Please make arrangements to drop off all desserts at the home or at the synagogue prior to Shabbat.**

Schedule:

7:30 - 9:45pm - Study session

9:45 - 10:30pm candle lighting, ma'ariv, and dessert

10:30 - ? Study sessions

Shavuot Yom Tov services - Sunday and Monday, May 20 and 21, 9:30am.

Wednesday - Torah Reading - "The 10 Commandments"

Thursday - Service includes the Yizkor Memorial service.

### **Ahavas Israel reading group**

Our first meeting will be Monday, June 11 at the synagogue from 6:30pm to approximately 8:00pm.

The book we have chosen is *The Secret Book of Kings: a novel* by Yochi Brandes.

"This volume, by biblical scholar Yochi Brandes, is a riveting novel based on the textual sources about the experiences of David and Solomon. It's lessons are also relevant for our turbulent times" Elie Wiesel, #1 New York Times and internationally best-selling author of *Night*.

Subsequent dates will be Monday, October

10 and Monday, February 11 at the same times.

Future book titles under consideration are *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks and *Walking Lions* by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen. These are tentative suggestions - the book group participants will make the final choice.

Please contact Leah Sauer if you are interested.

616-805-3778, [Leahsauer@live.com](mailto:Leahsauer@live.com).

## *Temple Emanuel*

### **Your Opinion Matters & Brunch**

Each month Chef and Moderator Jim Siegel serves a hot meal and a hot topic. For Sunday May 20th at 10:00am, the topic is: What are limits society should go to, to accommodate minorities? (Jews, Muslims, Blacks, Gays & Lesbians, Immigrants)? Where is the line between accommodating a group and changing the fabric of our society? Brunch and debates are free of charge, but Jim does need to know how many places to set at the table. RSVP to Jim at [jims@siegeljewelers.com](mailto:jims@siegeljewelers.com).

# 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

*Thank you for supporting the  
Grand Rapids Jewish Community*

In memory of Michele Potter  
from Phyllis Horowitz

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

**Homewatch  
CareGivers®**

**Life is better**  
when everyone feels connected,  
engaged, and appreciated

- Background checked caregivers
- Live person on-call 24/7
- Specialized training for caregivers
- Quality assurance visits to assess evolving care needs



Start home care today.  
[hwcg.com/grand-rapids](http://hwcg.com/grand-rapids)  
Call 975-1980!

## ADVERTISING IN THE SHOFAR

The Shofar is delivered to nearly  
700 subscribers, 12 times a year.

Space is limited.

Place your ad today!

Advertising Rates:

SIZE:	SIX ISSUES:	TWELVE ISSUES:
3.5" X 4"	\$900	\$1440
3.5" X 2"	\$600	\$960
2.5" X 1.7"	\$450	\$720

Access is also available online at  
[Jewishgrandrapids.org](http://Jewishgrandrapids.org). Send all inquiries and  
advertising files to [marisa@jfg.org](mailto:marisa@jfg.org)

## 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:  
 Send card to City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ 2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

## The Shofar

A monthly publication issued 12 times a year.

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

Send article text to: [Ann@jfgr.org](mailto:Ann@jfgr.org)

Phone: 616.942.5553

Fax: 616.942.5780

[www.jewishgrandrapids.org](http://www.jewishgrandrapids.org)

Email: [info@jfgr.org](mailto:info@jfgr.org)

**Next Issue's Information Deadline:  
May 15, 2018**

We're on  
Facebook!



Jewish Federation®  
OF GRAND RAPIDS

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



## ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC

**Sunday, June 10, 2018**

**Rain or Shine**

**Ahavas Israel, 2727 Michigan NE**

**2pm - 5pm**

**Carnival games, Michigan Blood Bus, picnic foods and fun for  
all ages.**

