

אִי.צ.א.ס.
קולות ה.ק. עדה ישראל



Middletown, Connecticut
April 2026 nisan/iyyar 5786

What Comes Next

Adam Finkelstein
President



As I near the end of my time as our congregation's president, I am both proud of what we've achieved in the last few years, and simultaneously conscious of what needs to come next.

We met our fundraising goals and were finally able to renovate the religious school. We pursued, and were awarded, a significant national grant that allowed us to implement a new security system and reinforce the school with bulletproof glass and steel doors. We've grown our religious school, been able to add a full-time position (and found just the right person, I might add), invested in private security, and been fiscally responsible enough to take on these new expenditures while simultaneously growing our endowment.

These accomplishments are only possible because of the contributions of a wide variety of people. I will have more to say about them next month...

This month, I wanted to share some thoughts about what I view as the board's unfinished business.

First and foremost, we aren't yet done securing our building. The school has been a good start, but the doors and windows in the rest of the building, and particularly on the ground floor, are clear vulnerabilities that need to be replaced as soon as possible. The Nester Center is another project altogether.

Similarly, while our new video security system is state-of-the-art and gives us constant eyes on all parts of the building and perimeter, it now needs to be supplemented by a similarly advanced communication system that keeps

us connected throughout the building.

Speaking of the building, our spiritual home is historic and tells the story of our congregation's history on our walls. History only comes with age though and the cost of maintaining our physical plant seems to grow by the year. There will be significant expenditures in our near future and that require proper planning, first by getting an assessment of our building and then by developing long-term budgets beyond our current annual cycles.

Of course, a building is meaningless without a vibrant congregation inside of it. That requires both meeting the needs of current members and working to attract new ones, which has been a major point of emphasis for the last year. We know that requires robust secular and non-secular offerings. We've come a long way in that charge and welcomed more people in our building this year than any since before covid. Still though, our increased programming will hopefully just be the tip of the iceberg of what's to come in future years.

When we look to what is on the horizon—more security upgrades, building upkeep, and programming—there's a common denominator. It all comes with a cost. That cost can't come out of our endowment though.

I've spoken transparently about our financial system in the past, because I consider it vital that all active participants understand it. Our annual dues and fundraising efforts don't come close to paying our expenses each year, but the budget is balanced by the interest from our endowment. That is a rarity among congregations and made possible by the generosity and foresight of those who came before us.

(President Continued on page 3)

 Adath Israel
Celebrate Jewish Life

SIYYUM

**Morning Minyan &
text study followed
by breakfast**

APRIL 1ST * 7:00 AM

Donations of nonperishable food items and/or personal hygiene products are welcome. Thank you!

(President Continued from page 1)

It is also the basis for how we are able to maintain our position as the most affordable congregation in the state. That's why, each year when we prepare our budgets, we are careful to ensure that we do not touch the principal. Because once we do, the interest we make from it will decrease, creating a gap in our budget that could snowball and threaten our financial sustainability.

So then, how do we continue to build for our future, while maintaining the accounts that yield a substantial amount of our operating budget and keep our congregation affordable to people from all walks of life?

We can, and should, pursue additional grants, move forward with early plans for a legacy fund, and explore new creative fundraisers. Those efforts will certainly help, and allow us to continue on...but maybe not thrive.

There is, however, another path—one that allows us to simultaneously ensure our long-term fiscal sustainability and still make all the necessary investments needed to give our congregation what it needs and deserves. That path is a capital campaign.

This campaign would need to be more ambitious than our last, but the benefit would extend far beyond a renovated school. For many years, nearly every major decision before the board has involved weighing the need to invest in growth against the risk of drawing on the endowment. Now, for the first time in recent memory, we have the chance to achieve both—to strengthen our future while preserving what our predecessors so carefully built.

If we seize this opportunity together, we can ensure that our synagogue remains vibrant and secure for generations—laying the groundwork for our children's children, just as our founders and legacy members did for us.



Tikkun Olam/Fundraiser

**Redeemable Bottle
& Can Collection**

Save time, aggravation, and the planet while providing funds for important causes by donating your cleaned redeemable bottles and cans.

Please drop your **CLEANED** cans and bottles off in the designated bucket in front of the synagogue office.

Kolot Issue	Deadline
May	04/13
June (Summer)	05/04
September	08/03
October/November	09/07
December	11/09

Office Hours

Monday: 8 am - 1:30 pm
 Tuesday: 8 am - 1:30 pm
 Wednesday: 9 am - 5:30 pm
 Thursday: 8 am - 1:30 pm
 Friday: 8 am - 12 pm

The office is closed weekends, legal holidays, and Jewish holy days.



APRIL 13
at Perk on Main



Join us for breakfast following morning minyan.
Please note: While the great conversation is free,
participants are responsible for what they order.



Community News

*Honor Edmands
Education &
Community Life
Director*

March brought with it laughter, play, and deeply meaningful Purim celebrations. We kicked the month off with Drag Purim, an event that brought together a sold-out crowd for an afternoon of delicious food and a rendition of the Purim story that was at times hilarious, musical, and inspiring. Through song, we learned about Esther's mission to save the Jewish people, and connected it with ways that we can strive to make the world a better place today. From whimsical costumes that were shown off on the runway to paper dolls transformed with creativity, we created a space where everyone was free to be themselves. Thank you to Flaminia and all of the people who helped to make the day possible!

The festivities continued with the Purim Carnival. This year our students worked hard to make hamantaschen, create new signs for Purim games, and set up the room so it was ready to be enjoyed. The children's Megillah Reading included both English reading and Hebrew chanting of chapters of the Purim story, accompanied by a slideshow that visually depicted the events (and told attendees when to BOO Haman!). Then the party really got started! We were thrilled to bring in a couple new games for this year, and the kids had a blast trying them out. We also had a face painter, carnival food, and a costume contest! The costume contest participants ranged from Harry Potter, to mermaids & fairy princesses, to police officers.

Winners were crowned and prizes were claimed, and a great time was had by all. Please visit the "It's News!" page for a full list of those who volunteered for both Drag Purim and the Purim Carnival. I am already looking forward to next year!



Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day Event

**Monday, April 13, 2026
6 to 8pm
Meriden Public Library**

Join us as we honor and remember all of the people that perished during the Holocaust and other genocides.

There will be a candle lighting ceremony, and guest speaker, Troy Paddock Professor of Modern European History at SCSU, will talk about the rise of Fascism and the lead up to the Holocaust.

COMMUNITY EVENT



Happy BIRTHDAY

Richard Neveloff
Joseph Dubin
Daniel Schwartz
Phil Saxe
Lizabeth Whittaker
Lou Saftler
Nancy Schwartz
Sandra Beckman
David Director
Colleen Poliner
Julia Meadow
Sarah Shapiro

Kenneth Teller
Natalie Cheerman
Jack Adler
Richard Kamins
David Horn
Eleanor Fenig Cline
Alyssa Goldstein
Benjamin Ferrari
Carol Shapiro
Stuart Epstein
Timothy Dicks



Sarah & Jonathan Shapiro

NOT SURE WHERE TO PARK?

Adath Israel Parking Lots

Across from Charles IT
150 William St.

Behind the
Nester Center
16 Broad St.

Adath Israel
8 Broad St.



Image credit Google Maps

Park Here

DO NOT
Park Here

*When parking behind the Nester Center be sure to only park in spaces outlined in yellow.

Adath Israel
TORAH STUDY

Weekly on Zoom:

Wednesdays
10:30am-12:00pm
Meeting ID: 837 9879 1910
Passcode: 963942

Thursdays
6:00-7:30pm
Meeting ID: 842 5337 5828
Passcode: 568266

PLEASE NOTE: Passover
Break will be 4/1-4/9

With Rabbi Nelly!

Member Resources

The following resources are available to members:

- 2025-26 Member Directory
- 2025-26 Life of the Congregation & Synagogue Leadership
- By-Laws of the Congregation
- Chevra Kadisha Rules & Regulations

Please contact the office to receive your copy.



EARLY RISERS MINYAN

**KIDDUSH
BREAKFAST
FOLLOWING
SERVICE**

APRIL 15TH * 7:00 AM

Donations of nonperishable food items and/or personal hygiene products are welcome. Thank you!

David Director is Honored

On February 28th, David Director was named Champion of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Connecticut at the organization's 60th Anniversary gala. David's father, Arthur, was a founder and the inaugural treasurer of the organization. The evening was a memorable celebration of 60 years of one-to-one mentoring and the organization's life-changing impact through its work to empower local youth. The event raised over \$395,000. Congratulations to David and the Director family!



Photo credit: Pamela Einarsen

Pictured above: David Director & his wife, Carol.



Phishing Awareness: Avoid Taking the Bait

Every month or so it seems, scammers send out emails pretending to be from Rabbi Nelly or a member of the Board. Below are some tips on how to avoid getting snagged by one of these phishing expeditions.

Common warning signs of phishing include:

- Unfamiliar greeting or tone
- Unsolicited messages
- Grammar and spelling errors
- Sense of urgency
- Suspicious links or attachments
- Requests for personal information
- Inconsistencies in email addresses, links, etc.
- Unusual requests
- Alerts that you've won something

Please remember: **No one from Adatah Israel will ever ask you for personal information or financial assistance via an email.** If you have *any* question, do not respond to the email. Contact the person it claims to be from via a trusted method. **DO NOT** use any email, website, or phone number included in the suspicious message. If it is spam, please report it to your email provider.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

If you or anyone you know is ill or in need of support, please contact Rabbi Nelly at rabbi@adathisraelct.org or 860-346-4077.

HONOR THOSE SPECIAL EVENTS IN YOUR LIFE WITH A PLAQUE ON THE

SIMCHA MENORAH

Whether celebrating a wedding, birth, b'nei mitzvah, "special" birthday, or anniversary, share your joy with our synagogue community – **FOREVER**.

Only \$136.00 – A gift that endures

Please contact the office to order.

**SHABBAT
L'CHOL ADAT**

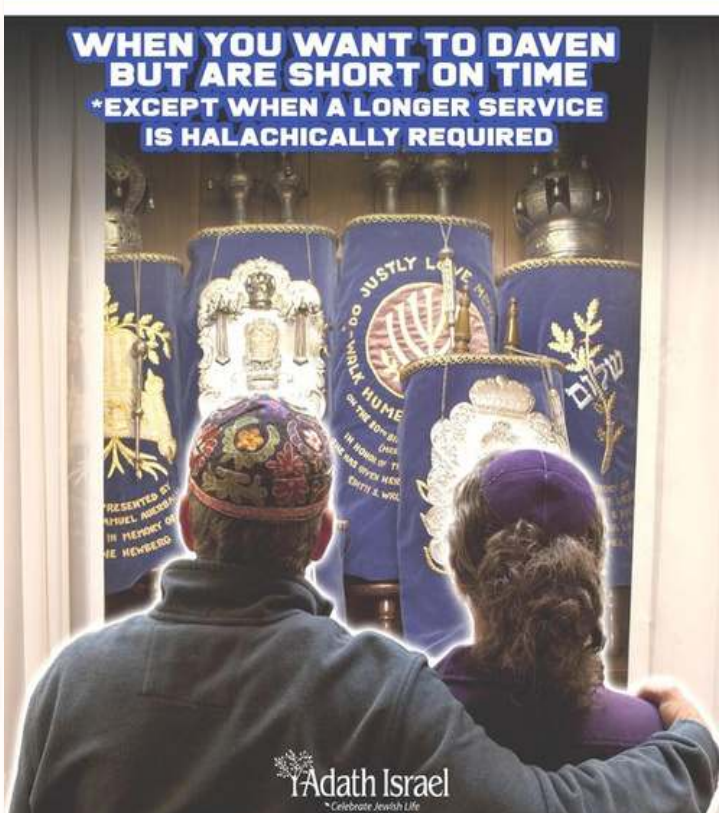
for the whole community!

Saturday, May 2nd
9:30 am
 Tot Shabbat
11:30 am

Adath Israel
*Celebrate Jewish Life

EXPRESS MINYAN
 EVERY WEDNESDAY 8:00AM*

**WHEN YOU WANT TO DAVEN
 BUT ARE SHORT ON TIME
 *EXCEPT WHEN A LONGER SERVICE
 IS HALACHICALLY REQUIRED**



Adath Israel
*Celebrate Jewish Life

Matzah Fund



TODAH RABBAH! THANK YOU!

The Matzah Fund Committee would like to express its grateful thanks to all who generously contributed to our yearly Matzah Fund, helping families in our community fulfill the mitzvot of Passover.

FRIENDS OF YIDDISH



*Zoom Group that meets monthly on Sunday mornings
 10:30am-12:00pm*

Next Meeting:
 April 12

Zoom info:
 Meeting ID: 908 489 3632
 Passcode: Yiddish

What We Offer

- Hear Yiddish stories & music
- Learn words & phrases
- Schmooze
- Prior Yiddish knowledge helpful but not required!

JOIN US! Contact Larry Rosenberg at
 lrosenberg@transoncol.com or 475-559-8407

Adath Israel
*Celebrate Jewish Life

Jewish Camp/Israel Trip Scholarships

The Congregation is blessed with two scholarship funds which provide support for children of members in good standing wishing to send their children to Jewish summer camps or to experience Israel.

Applications for the Maxine Thumim Camp Scholarship and the Dr. Arthur & Gladys Weiss Scholarship are available from the Synagogue office.

Completed applications should be returned to the office by April 15, 2026.

ADATH ISRAEL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee of Adath Israel is pleased to announce that the Application Forms and Rules and Regulation Guidelines for the Annual Adath Israel Post Secondary School Scholarships are available from the synagogue office.

Students who are seniors in high school through graduate school, and whose family meets the membership requirements, are encouraged to apply.

All questions concerning the application process should be directed to **Fred Zierler**, Committee Chair at (203) 631-9567 or via email, fzierler@gmail.com.

Completed applications should be returned to the synagogue office by May 8, 2026.

Scholarship Update from Nathan Shapiro

As I reflect on the completion of my first year at The Ohio State University, I am so grateful for the continued support of the Adath Israel community. This year has been very challenging because of the academic transition from high school to college level work. The Adath Israel scholarship has played a major role in allowing me to focus entirely on school, and the activities I have been a part of.

My engineering coursework this year pushed me to learn new things I had no clue existed. One of my most rewarding challenges was the opportunity to program and develop my own video game from the ground up, an assignment that really polished my coding skills. The game aims to assist in the teaching of simple math equations to students with limited resources by matching equations and answers in a fun way. I also spent a significant portion of my time learning Computer-Aided Design (CAD), using OnShape and SolidWorks to create precise, functional parts that represent the kind of work I hope to do in my professional career.

Beyond the classroom, I have dedicated myself to the "Design, Build, Fly" (DBF) team at Ohio State. My research has focused specifically on the aerodynamics of low aspect ratio wings, as we are putting together a remote controlled bush plane that will be raced in competition. This hands on focus outside of the classroom has been super educational.

The scholarship I received from Adath Israel contributed to my success by providing me with peace of mind. Engineering is an incredibly challenging field, and the financial relief your gift provided allowed me to focus my energy into my research and leadership roles without the constant distraction of financial stress. Knowing that my community back home is invested in my future has been a constant source of motivation. Thank you for your generosity and for being a part of my journey as a Buckeye!

Nathan Shapiro



Apr/May - 2026

Mazel Tots

Community Event!



Tot Shabbat 5/2
11:30am

Classes

- ▶ 4/5, 4/12, and 4/19 - NO CLASS
- ▶ 4/26 - "Trip" to Israel
- ▶ 5/3 - Lag Ba'omer Celebration
- ▶ 5/10 - NO CLASS
- ▶ 5/17 - Tzedakah Boxes
- ▶ 5/24 - NO CLASS
- ▶ 5/31 - Alef Bet Wrap Up (Last Day)



Location: Central Middletown, CT 06457
www.adathisraelct.org
 Contact: 860-346-4709, mazeltotsadath@gmail.com



Scholarship Update from Jake DeFrancesco

Dear Temple Adath Israel,

My name is Jake DeFrancesco, and I am a fourth-year medical student at the University of Connecticut pursuing a career in cardiothoracic surgery. This past September I applied for surgical residency, the next major milestone in medical training. The Jewish value of Tikkun Olam has been a constant source of motivation throughout this journey, and I would not have reached this point without the support of my Jewish community.

The Temple Scholarship has supported me at many pivotal moments along the way. As a freshman pre-med student, I used the scholarship to complete an advanced EMT course and obtain my EMT license. That experience gave me my first meaningful exposure to clinical medicine and also opened my eyes to how social inequities shape health outcomes. It ultimately inspired me to pursue a Master's in Public Policy so that I could better understand and address the systemic drivers of health disparities. This educational detour was also supported by the Temple Scholarship.

Throughout medical school, the scholarship continued to play an important role. Many professional opportunities require students to cover costs out of pocket. With the Temple's support, I was able to present my public health research at conferences in San Francisco, Minneapolis, and Toronto. This past summer, it enabled me to complete visiting rotations in Pediatric Surgery at Columbia and Cardiothoracic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. These experiences were invaluable in preparing for residency and would not have been possible without the Temple's support.

Because of the Temple Scholarship, I have been able to pursue these opportunities and continue working toward a career dedicated to improving patients' lives. The examples I've shared only capture a portion of the impact this support has had. I am deeply grateful for the generosity and encouragement of the Temple Adath Israel congregation. Match Day is only a few weeks away, when I will learn where I will begin residency training. As I open that envelope and take the next step toward becoming a surgeon, I will be thinking of the community that helped make this journey possible.

With sincere gratitude,
Jake DeFrancesco

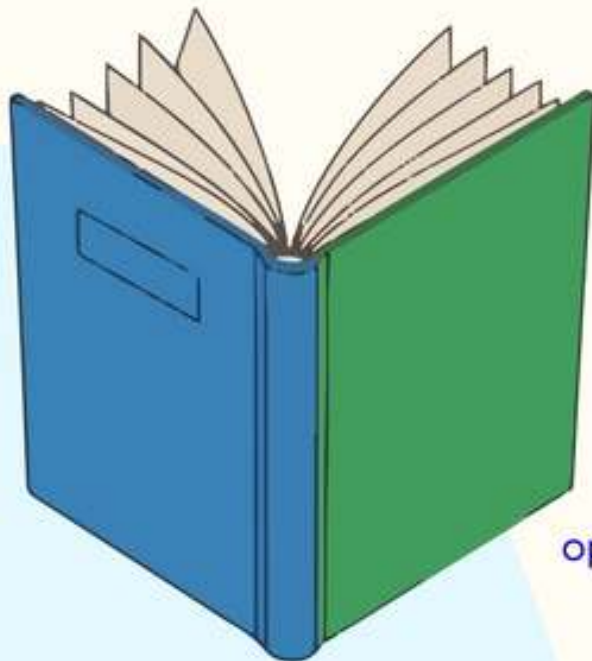
More Purim Carnival Photos!





Join us!
New members welcome

BOOK CLUB



APRIL 28TH
7:00 PM

*In-person at the Nester
Center & on Zoom*

Adath Israel Book Club is free & open to anyone who desires great discussions about fascinating books on Jewish topics

Zoom Info:

Meeting ID: 886 4652 0065

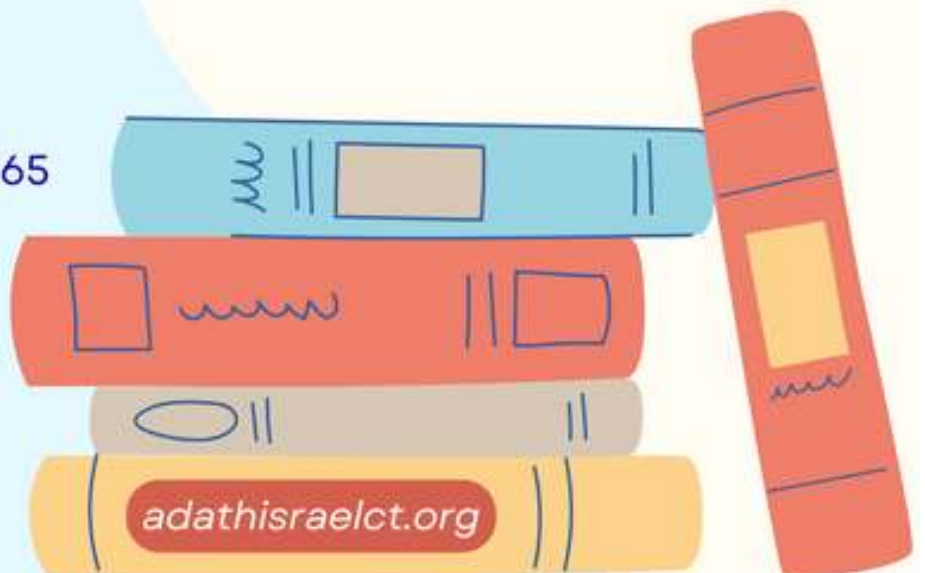
Passcode: 196174

For more information please

contact **Roberta Glass:**

rjlevine610@gmail.com

302-593-7581



IT'S NEWS**MAZAL TOV!**

Sari Rosenblatt & Steve Machuga on the birth of a grandson
 Yael & Matt Dubin on the recent birth of a granddaughter
 David Director on being honored as a Champion of CT Big Brothers/Big Sisters at their recent gala

**TODAH RABAH****Acts of Kindness**

Meals & Shopping: Phil Saxe, Paula Goldstein

Picking up food at the Crown: Fred Zierler

Proofreading: Phil Saxe

Helping with mailings: Barbara Sequenzia

Washing linens from the kitchen: Joanna Schnurman

Returning bottles: Eileen & Mike Daling

Adult Megillah Reading

Leah Adler, Phil Saxe, Elliott Altenburger, Michaela Altenburger, Joanna Schnurman, Nathaniel Altenburger, Richard Kamins, Rick Grossman, Sonia Roberts, Rob Goldstein, and Rabbi Nelly

Drag Purim

Leah Adler, Phil Saxe, Elliott Altenburger, Honor Edmands, Sonia Roberts, Justin Brennan, Joanna Schnurman, and all those who came in costume!

Lisa Goodman Purim Carnival

Melissa Olczak, Ari Poliner, Jim Poliner, Liz Hibino, Rabbi Nelly, Religious School students, Loretta Rubin, Adam Finkelstein, Beth Shapiro, Jonathan Shapiro, Nathaniel Altenburger, Elliott Altenburger, Seth Olczak, Ethan Olczak, Tod Olczak, Jaime Bruno, Ellie Bruno, Rich Bruno, Maya Shapiro-Rosado, Joe Dubin, William Ianuzzi, Miryam Welbourne



“Where there is no food there is no Torah”

Early Risers Minyan Sponsors & Helpers

Raymond Bourret in memory of Dave Shulman
 Scott Levy, Paula Goldstein, and Phil Saxe

Pray-Eat-Sing Sponsors & Helpers

Josephine Trotta Poliner in loving memory of Myron Poliner and
 Phil Saxe, Marion Irizarry, Leah Adler, Naomi & Richard Kamins, Andy Bauer

Bagel Break Sponsors & Helpers

Melissa Olczak, Marilyn Finkelstein, The Cohen Family, The Aiudi Family, The Login Family, The Zaplin Family

Oneg, Kiddush, or Refreshments Sponsors

IN HONOR OF

His birthday by Rabbi Michael Kohn

IN MEMORY OF

Matthew Niemeyer by Hinda Niemeyer

Lillian Mally by Mark Shlien

**SPEEDY RECOVERY**

We'd like to wish a "Refua Shleima" to the following: Katrina Axelrod, Bob Baskin, Phyllis Frydenberg, Suzanne Goldberg, Paula Goldstein, Shari Lynn Kochman, Jean Lawrence, David Schwarz, Stephen Shapiro, Harriet Thiela

IN MEMORIAM**May God grant comfort to**

Anita Hennessey on the recent death of her sister, Sybil Amitay.

Our heartfelt condolences to

The family of Ray Irizarry who came to his eternal rest on March 10 (21 adar).

May the bereaved find comfort with God's help and through our prayers.

**IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS IN THE HOSPITAL OR OTHER HEALTH CARE FACILITY**

Patient privacy laws prohibit the hospitals and other healthcare facilities from notifying Aduv Israel if you are admitted unless you specifically request it. Upon admission, please list Judaism as your religion and request spiritual care or a visit from the chaplain. The hospital chaplain will contact the synagogue. If you do not wish to go through the hospital, please contact the synagogue directly if you or a loved one would like a pastoral visit.

LEARN FOR LAG BA'OMER! ARCHERY

May 7th at 7:00pm



Adath Israel
Celebrate Jewish Life

FREE

**FOR YOUNG
ADULTS 21-39**

LOCATION:
Hall's Arrow
291 Middle Tpke W
Manchester, CT

Register by 4/30



ADATH ISRAEL DEDICATED FUNDS

ADATH ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND (SOPHIE & JULIUS BARKER, EVELYN & ABRAHAM GROSSMAN, SARAH ZIETZ PIERSON, RABBI ALBERT & ROSALYN TROY, SYLVIA GROSS WASSERMAN, MAX CHEIKIN, BERNIE SEIDON, AND JEAN STERN ARON SCHOLARSHIPS)

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending an accredited college, university or school of higher learning

DR. ARTHUR & GLADYS WEISS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending Jewish camp, Jewish content special programs, and trips to Israel

BEIT-PALEY FUND

Supports Torah repair

CHEVRA KADISHA

Supports maintenance and enhancement of the cemetery

ARTHUR & EDYTHE DIRECTOR FAMILY FUND

Supports music in the ritual, educational, and cultural gatherings at Adath Israel

IN HONOR OF

David Director being named as Champion of Big Brothers Big Sisters of CT by Eileen & Michael Daling

ETERNAL LIGHT FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

IN MEMORY OF

Robin Levine by

Barbara & Bruce Brumberger

Marci & Gregg Shipman

HOWARD FELDMAN BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Supports the beautification of our synagogue building and grounds and the Nester Center

REFUA SH'LEIMA (SPEEDY RECOVERY)

Deborah Fisher by Marge & Stan Sadinsky

IN MEMORY OF

Norman Lazarson by Marge & Stan Sadinsky

LYNN BENNETT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Supports the upgrade of our religious school

IN MEMORY OF

Emma & Bernard Eisenstein by Myra Finkelstein

Edward Schoenberger by Joy and Alan Firestone

MAXINE THUMIM CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending Jewish camp or travelling to Israel

IN HONOR OF

Luanne & Mark Paley by JOanna Schnurman

MAZAL TOV!

Sari Rosenblatt and Steve Machuga on the birth of their grandson by Eileen & Michael Daling

REFUA SH'LEIMA

Judi Merida by Eileen & Michael Daling

MICHAEL FASSLER FUND

Supports early childhood education at Adath Israel

MUSEUM FUND

Supports purchases and maintenance of Adath Israel's museum

NATHAN OLSHIN SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE-FUND

Supports annual scholar-in-residence program

IN MEMORY OF

Robin Levine by Jan & Jay Weiss

David Finkelstein by

Myra Finkelstein

Paul & Eileen Finkelstein

Jamie & Shivali Finkelstein

Julie & Julius Jonas by Jeffrey & Bobette Reed Kahn

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Allows the rabbi to support individuals and causes in our community anonymously

Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk

IN MEMORY OF

Robert Zavod by Barbara & Steven Weiss

SANFORD BEIT MINYAN FUND

Supports the creation and building of community over Kiddush

IN MEMORY OF

Robin Levine by

Naomi & Richard Kamins

Marion & Ray Irizarry

SYNAGOGUE FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

YAHRTZEIT FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

Arthur Palmer by Michael Palmer

Adolf Kahn by David Kahn

Jacob Hoberman by Marvin Hoberman

David Shulman by Teresa Shulman

Ruth Friedman by Larry Friedman

Burton Slossberg by Sheryl Sadinsky

Dolly Rosenfield by Patty Netherland

Lee Resnick by Steven Resnick

Gussie Shapiro by Ernie Shapiro

(Yahrtzeit Funds Continued on page 19)



INTERFAITH COALITION OF PORTLAND WELCOMES ALL TO

NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER*

PRAYERS | MUSIC | MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS | REFRESHMENTS

TOGETHER IN PRAYER. TOGETHER IN SERVICE.

PORTLAND FOOD BANK
**STORIES
 OF HOPE**
 HOW OUR FOOD BANK IS RESPONDING TO NEEDS



Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 6:30 pm

Portland Senior Center | 7 Waverly Avenue | Portland, CT

PLEASE DONATE

SNACKS:

Chips (Big and small bags)
 Cookies
 Fruit Snacks
 Jello, Pudding & Fruit Cups

DRINKS:

Apple Juice
 Juice Boxes
 Coffee
 Powdered Drink Mixes

GENERAL FOOD ITEMS:

Cooking oil (small)
 Oatmeal
 Hamburger Helper
 Brownie Mix
 Sugar (small)
 Flour (small)
 Crackers

HOME GOODS:

Paper Towels | Toilet Paper | Dish Detergent | Laundry Detergent (small)

JAR OR CANNED GOODS:

Spaghetti & Meatballs
 Ravioli
 Beefaroni
 Hash
 Potatoes

CONDIMENTS:

Ketchup
 Mustard
 Mayonnaise
 Relish
 Salt & Pepper

(Yahrtzeit Funds Continued from page 17)

Evelyn & Abraham Grossman by Joanne Pasternack
 Joseph Barker by Michael Barker
 Minnie & Bernard Levitt by
 Arlene Weyler
 Edith Schpero
 Zeddie Handler by Leslie Handler-Stern
 Ethel Edelberg Segal by Claire Segal Sergi
 Cindy Frank & Nelda Greengas by Helene Koenig
 Rubin Segal by Claire Segal Sergi
 Lena Friedman by Cyndi & Donn Friedman
 Ralph Kohn by Rabbi Michael Kohn
 Matthew Niemeyer by Hinda Niemeyer
 Reva Paley by
 Mark, Pam & Stewart Paley
 Mark & Luanne Paley
 Irving Katz by David Katz
 Julius Jonas by David Kahn
 Julie Jonas nee Oppenheimer by David Kahn
 Jules Grossman by Dahlia Grossman
 Dorothy E. Miller by Joanne Myszkowski
 Mamie Melton by Steven Resnick
 Isaac Stoller by Paul Beckman
 Julius & Minnie Grower by Jan Cooper
 Sol Cheerman by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman
 Michael Melton by Steven Resnick
 Leslie Bluman by Susan Mikulski
 Myron Poliner by Deborah & Michael Poliner
 Geraldine Kahn by Lee King
 Max Edelberg by June Saltzberg
 Ann Shapiro by Ernie Shapiro
 Hazel B. Dubin by Joseph Dubin & Family
 Mark Itkin by Harriet Itkin
 Bernice Silverman by Edie Simon
 Dr. Arthur Waldman by Phyllis Waldman
 Alan Pressman by Evan Pressman
 Lena Rosemoff Rubin by Julius Rubin

5786 Annual Giving Campaign


We are incredibly grateful to our members and friends who have participated in this year's Annual Giving Campaign. Their support promotes the vitality of Adath Israel, allowing us to improve our facilities and enhance our cultural, educational, and spiritual offerings.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Nedra Schwarz Mirkin

**THANK
YOU!**

**Support Your College Dreams
Apply for a Scholarship Today**



"Thanks to the Jewish Community Foundation's scholarship - made possible by generous donors - I can put my financial worries behind me and focus on pursuing a degree at UConn."
 — Jordan Fogel, pictured here with his dad



For more information and an application, please visit: www.jcfhartford.org
ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 15, 2026.



Adath Israel
 "Creating a Better Life"

MAH JONGG

Every Tuesday at Adath Israel

11:00am-1:30pm
 and
 12:30pm-3:00pm

All Levels Welcome!

Please reach out to
community@adathisraelct.org
 for more info

Bar Mitzvah D'var Torah of Cooper Bruno Offered on February 14, 2026

Greetings!

Shabbat shalom.

It's really a pleasure to be with you all today, taking a break from this busy week and some quality time with Torah and with each other. Shabbat provides each of us a chance to take a step back and reflect on what we are doing and how we want to be as individuals as well as as a community of Jews.

The parashah this week, Mishpatim, may at first hearing not be very thrilling, as it is a whole list of laws, until we take a closer look and see that they are laws we are living with each and every day. Treating animals is a part of everyday life. And it is not overlooked in Mishpatim.

Parashat Mishpatim comes right after the Ten Commandments. After the big, dramatic moment at Mount Sinai, the Torah moves into everyday rules how people should act at home, at work, and in society. Among these laws are many about animals: how we treat them, how we protect them, and how we take responsibility for them. This teaches us something very important. Judaism is not only about prayer or big moments; it's about daily choices. The way we treat animals shows our values. It shows whether we are kind, thoughtful, and aware, or careless and selfish. Mishpatim reminds us that even small actions matter.

The one thing that comes from these commandments is that animals are important to the world because they are created by God. This is found in the Torah because if you notice that someone else's donkey is struggling with too much of a burden and it is from a person whom you dislike, you are still responsible to stop and assist.

Now we know that we will not be seeing donkeys on the road as we drive by, but we observe animals everywhere we go. This can be in our homes in the form of domesticated animals, animals in zoos, and animals in the wild. This shows us animals are also cherished by God and aren't objects.

The Torah teaches us that we are not supposed to cause unnecessary pain to animals. This is called tza'ar ba'alei chayim. A simpler way of putting it would be that it is not nice to be cruel to others. In the world we live in, it is easy to neglect this rule of the Torah in a hurry and, in a sense, treat the animals like machines and not like creatures with the same rights to exist and live as the Jewish people do. That is, the Jewish people who live in Israel in the future and who live all over the world in the past and in the future again.

The Torah teaches us that it is imperative that we treat others with kindness.

One of the main points in Mishpatim is that animals are not treated as objects. Yes, people own animals, but ownership does not mean complete control. The Torah repeatedly reminds us that animals are living beings created by Hashem. They experience pain, exhaustion, and stress. By involving animals in legal discussions, the Torah teaches us that morality does not stop with humans; it includes all living things.

A perfect illustration of this principle can be found when talking about Shabbat. The Torah mandates total rest on Shabbat for both humans and animals, meaning that all your oxen and donkeys (or any other work animals) cannot work in any way.

This is quite significant; because animals cannot ask for time off, they do not know what Shabbat is. Therefore, by requiring humans to rest their animals from working on Shabbat, the Torah illustrates that compassion is defined not by convenience, but rather by responsibility.

Another part of Mishpatim is responsibility of animals. If your ox injures someone or destroys their property, for instance, you must take responsibility for your actions. This is a significant lesson to learn; it's important to recognize that having animals requires considerable responsibility. You cannot be absolved of accountability through your animal's behavior. The Torah teaches us that our choices, as well as how well we cared for and how much we paid attention to our animals, may have a negative impact on others.

If you have no responsibility for your animals, the result could be damaging to others, and it will result in you being held accountable.

By teaching us empathy for others through concern for animals, the Torah shows that caring about animals helps us develop empathy toward other people. We tend to disregard suffering that does not directly impact us; but when we come across a situation where we can assist someone who is suffering from physical pain or distress, we become aware of their pain and are compelled to do something to help.

If we have such compassion toward animals that we are required by Torah law to stop and assist them, then we should have an even greater obligation to demonstrate compassion toward people who are in need.

Now that the boring stuff is over I'd like to thank some people.

I'd like to thank my mom and dad for always being there for me. I'd like to thank my sister for being there when I needed her the most even if we used to fight. I'd like to thank my deceased and alive grandparents for the effort they have put to be an important and loving part of my life, I'd like to thank all my school friends for the fun outside of my religious life I'd like to thank my Hebrew school friends for enjoyment here. I'd like to thank our dear rabbi for all she's taught me and being like a second mother here. Lastly, I'd like to thank this congregation for helping me find my place in my Jewish life. We still have more time left in the service, but I just want to thank everyone for coming. Shabbat Shalom.

The QR code is for Cooper's mitzvah project supporting Claws and Paws, whose mission is to: "Rescue and/or rehome animals from abuse, neglect or illegal possession. Raise abandoned or orphaned wildlife. Rehabilitate injured or sick wildlife. Release raised and/or rehabbed wildlife into the wild. Recruit new wildlife rehabbers and provide assistance through the process of getting their license and resources for rehabbing. Making the community aware of our services and providing education on wildlife."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18th of Nisan No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9a Minyan	19th of Nisan 8a Minyan 6p Community Seder (for those who have RSVPed)	20th of Nisan Office Closed 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen	14th of Nisan No Religious School No Torah Study 5:09a Fast begins 7a Siyyum & Minyan 1st Seder at Home Erev Pesach 6:57p Candle lighting	15th of Nisan Office Closed No Torah Study 8a Festival Minyan Pesach I 7:59p Candle lighting	16th of Nisan Office Closed 8a Festival Minyan 7p Shabbat Evening Services Pesach II 7:00p Candle lighting	17th of Nisan 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Pesach III (CH"M) 8:01p Havdalah
25th of Nisan No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9a Minyan	26th of Nisan May Kolot Deadline 8a Minyan Breakfast Bunch following services 6p Yom HaShoah Program, Meriden Public Library	27th of Nisan 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen Pesach VI 7:04p Candle lighting	21st of Nisan Office Closed No Religious School No Torah Study 8a Festival Minyan Pesach VII 8:06p Candle lighting	22nd of Nisan Office Closed No Torah Study 8a Festival Minyan Pesach VIII Yizkor 8:07p Havdalah	23rd of Nisan 8a Minyan 7p Shabbat Evening Services 7:07p Candle lighting	24th of Nisan 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Parashat Sh'mini 8:10p Havdalah
2nd of Iyyar No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9a Minyan	3rd of Iyyar 8a Minyan	4th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen Yom HaShoah	5th of Iyyar 8a Express Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School Yom HaAtzma'ut	6th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 6p Torah Study, Zoom	7th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 7p Shabbat Evening Services Rosh Chodesh Iyyar 7:15p Candle lighting	8th of Iyyar 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Rosh Chodesh Iyyar Parashat Tazria-Metzora 8:18p Havdalah
9th of Iyyar 9a Minyan 9a Religious School 10:30a Mazel Tots 12p Post B'nei Mitzvah	10th of Iyyar 8a Minyan	11th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7pm Book Club 7p Al Anon/Alateen Yom HaZikaron	12th of Iyyar 8a Express Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School	13th of Iyyar Lag Ba'Omer Archery Program RSVP Deadline 8a Minyan 6p Torah Study, Zoom	13th of Iyyar 7:23p Candle lighting	13th of Iyyar Parashat Achrei Mot-Kedoshim 8:27p Havdalah



May 2026

Iyyar – Sivan 5786

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15th of Iyyar 9a Minyan 9a Religious School 10:30a Mazel Tots	17th of Iyyar June Kolot Deadline 8a Minyan	18th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen	19th of Iyyar 7a Early Risers Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School 7p Board of Directors Meeting	20th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 6p Torah Study, Zoom 7p Lag Ba'Omer Archery Program	14th of Iyyar Pray-Eat-Sing RSVP Deadline 8a Minyan 7p Shabbat Evening Services 7:30p Candle lighting	15th of Iyyar 9:30a Shabbat L'chol Adat Morning Services 11:30a Tot Shabbat Parashat Emor 8:35p Havdalah
23rd of Iyyar No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9a Minyan	24th of Iyyar 8a Minyan Breakfast Bunch following services	25th of Iyyar Lag Ba'Omer 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen	26th of Iyyar 8a Express Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School	27th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 6p Torah Study, Zoom	28th of Iyyar 8a Minyan 7p Shabbat Evening Services 7:38p Candle lighting	29th of Iyyar 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Parashat Behar-Bechukotai 8:44p Havdalah
1st of Sivan Mother's Day 9a Minyan 9a Religious School 10:30a Mazel Tots 12p Post B'nei Mitzvah Class	2nd of Sivan 8a Minyan	3rd of Sivan 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen	4th of Sivan 8a Express Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School	5th of Sivan No Torah Study 8a Minyan 7:30p Shavuot Study Session	6th of Sivan Office Closed 8a Festival Minyan 7p Festival Shabbat Evening Services Yom Yerushalayim 7:45p Candle lighting	7th of Sivan 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Parashat Bamidbar 8:52p Havdalah
8th of Sivan Rosh Chodesh Sivan	9th of Sivan Office Closed 8a Minyan	10th of Sivan 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen	11th of Sivan 8a Express Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School	12th of Sivan 8a Minyan 6p Torah Study, Zoom	13th of Sivan 9:00p Candle lighting Shavuot I 7:51p Candle lighting	14th of Sivan 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Shavuot II Yizkor 9:00p Havdalah
15th of Sivan 9a Minyan 9a Religious School 10:30a Mazel Tots	17th of Sivan Memorial Day	18th of Sivan 8a Minyan 11a Mah Jongg 12:30p Mah Jongg 7p Al Anon/Alateen	19th of Sivan 8a Express Minyan 10:30a Torah Study, Zoom 4p Religious School	20th of Sivan 8a Minyan 6p Torah Study, Zoom	21st of Sivan RSVP Deadline June Pray-Eat-Sing 8a Minyan 7p Shabbat Evening Services 7:58p Candle lighting	22nd of Sivan 9:30a Shabbat Morning Services Parashat Nasso 9:07p Havdalah