

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

P.O. Box 334

Westfield, MA. 01086

2018-2019

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Congregation Ahavas Achim, you are cordially invited to renew or join for the first time your membership in Congregation Ahavas Achim,

serving Westfield, Southwick, and Northern Connecticut, as well as the hilltown communities and the entire Pioneer Valley. Rabbi Efraim Eisen is the congregation's spiritual leader with services held at the Ferst Interfaith Center at Westfield State University.

Sabbath Services are held on a regular basis with dates listed in our bi-monthly newsletter. In addition, a variety of special events are planned each year beginning with High Holiday services, a community Break-the-Fast, a Chanukah party, Purim celebration, and a Passover Seder. The congregation is also blessed with children becoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah each year. We plan additional adult and children-oriented programming throughout the year, as well as participate as a congregation in helping out at the Westfield Soup Kitchen monthly and on Christmas Day.

Our Hebrew School focuses on children who are in Grades 3 – Middle School. The curriculum focuses on the learning of Hebrew, customs, prayers and Bar/Bat Mitzvah training. It is held once per week through the school year. We also offer our popular Sunday school program for younger children. Classes are held on a monthly basis. Many of the services that are held throughout the year are geared to children and their families to strengthen the knowledge and put into practice that which is taught during the year.

We have continued to make Congregation Ahavas Achim as affordable as possible, so that those who are unable to afford congregations elsewhere can join us. Our family dues are only \$550.00 per family and \$275.00 a year for an individual membership, with no additional charges for High Holy Day services. The congregation partially subsidizes Hebrew School tuition by only charging \$300.00 per student and \$175.00 for each additional sibling. If there are enough young children to hold Sunday School, there is a small annual fee to cover expenses.

Our congregation plays a major role in giving both adults and children a sense of Jewish identity, so important in this area. In addition, our congregation is small enough so that an individual's spiritual needs can be met in a warm, supportive atmosphere. If you are looking for a friendly place to enjoy the holidays, say Yizchor for a departed one, or if you want to explore your Jewish roots, please join us. In the process, you will be helping maintain Judaism in this area. We are happy to welcome those new to Judaism, members of mixed marriages, and their children. On request, our Rabbi would be glad to talk to members about conversion, should that be your personal choice.

If you would like to join Congregation Ahavas Achim, please complete the questionnaire enclosed and return it with your payment towards dues. We welcome any ideas for enhancing our programs and services. If you have ideas you would like to share or ideas regarding topics for Adult or Family Education, please feel free to send a note to the board via email at ahavasachinquiry@gmail.com or call any of us. If you have any questions regarding Congregation Ahavas Achim or dues in particular, please feel free to call Sandy Mackler, at (413) 262– 4564.

L'Shana Tova from the 2018 – 2019 Executive Board of Congregation Ahavas Achim

Board Members:

Wendy Blondin, Newsletter Editor	568-5347
Andrew Blumenthal, Co-President	569-1148
Barbara Davenport, Secretary /Publicist	562-1636
Fran Eisenberg	575-8465
Sandy Mackler, Co-President	562-2942
Nancy Rapisarda, Treasurer	562-9491
Nate Rosenthal	562-1193

Website URL: <http://www.congregationahavasachim.org/>

Or connect with us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/AhavasAchimWestfield/>

Congregation Ahavas Achim
P.O. Box 334
Westfield, Massachusetts 01086

2018-2019

Last Name _____ **Family Members** _____

Address _____

Home Telephone _____ **Work Phone or Cell phone** _____

E-mail address **Home** _____ **Work** _____

Annual Dues

Please remit annual dues for the 2018-2019 year, by 9/1/2018. A payment plan may be set up in two or three installments however a \$10 fee will be due for each payment. Please indicate your choice of payment below: If you are more comfortable with a different payment option please contact Nancy Rapisarda, Treasurer. Please send your payment(s) to the address above.

- 1 payment Due by 9/1/18 **No payment plan fees**
- 2 payments Due by 9/1/18 and 11/1/2018 **Pmt #1** _____ **+\$10 Pmt#2** _____ **+\$10**
- 3 payments Due by 9/1/18, 11/1/18 & 1/1/2019 **Pmt #1** _____ **+\$10 Pmt#2** _____ **+\$10 Pmt #3** _____ **+\$10**
- (add \$10 fee to each payment for 2 or 3 payment plans) All payments should be completed by 1/1/2019**

Family (2 or more people)	\$550	\$ _____
Individual (1 person only)	\$275	\$ _____
Hebrew School	\$300	\$ _____
Additional Sibling	\$175	\$ _____
Sunday School	\$100	\$ _____
Additional Sibling	\$50	\$ _____
High Holiday Guests (of Member)	\$75 per guest	\$ _____ (please indicate names)
	(Includes all 5 HH services)	
High Holiday Only (Non-Member)	\$75 per guest	\$ _____ (please indicate names)
Children 12 and under no fee	(Includes all 5 HH services)	

Payment Fees (If making more than one payment) \$ _____

Total Dues, Tuition, HH Tickets, Payment Fees \$ _____

Charitable Donations

It is a Jewish custom to pledge Tzedakah on occasions of happiness, in honor or memory of a family member, or before Yom Kippur. At Ahavas Achim, you may choose one of the following funds in the amount of your choice:

Torah Fund	\$ _____
Educational Development Fund	\$ _____
Prayer Book Fund (Provide Info. for Bookplate)	\$ _____
General Fund	\$ _____
Total Donation	\$ _____

Total Dues and Donation **Total Payment \$ _____**

Please complete so that we may include the following information in our Bi-Monthly newsletters.
 Names and birthdays of family members:

Wedding Anniversary: _____

Yahrzeit Dates you would like us to remind you of: (Hebrew Date if possible, or English day and year)

Please tell us something about you or your family that you would like to see in the newsletter i.e. accomplishments, births, trips, honors, etc. Feel free to do so throughout the year as well. (Use back of form if necessary).
