

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

P.O. Box 334

Westfield, MA. 01086

2021-2022

You are cordially invited to renew your membership or join your membership Congregation Ahavas Achim. The communities we serve include Westfield, Southwick, and Northern Connecticut, as well as the Hilltown communities and the entire Pioneer Valley. Services are held at the Ferst Interfaith Center at Westfield State University or online via Zoom (during the winter months or if due to COVID related restrictions at the Interfaith.)

We welcome Rabbi Dawn Rose as the congregation's new spiritual leader. Rabbi Rose has many years of experience as a congregational rabbi and as a religious educator. More about Rabbi Rose can be found on Congregation Ahavas Achim's Facebook page and at congregationahavasachim.org

Sabbath Services are held on a regular basis with dates listed in our quarterly 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. We conduct additional adult and youth-oriented programming throughout the year, as well as helping out at the Westfield Soup Kitchen monthly and on Christmas Day. Information regarding 2021 High Holiday services will be announced in the upcoming quarterly newsletter.

We have strived to make Congregation Ahavas Achim as affordable as possible, so that those who are unable to afford membership elsewhere can join us. Our family dues are only \$650.00 per family and \$325.00 a year for an individual membership, with no additional charges for High Holy Day services. For those living over 50 miles away, we offer a Virtual Membership at a reduced rate.

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 and welcoming atmosphere. If you are looking for a friendly place to enjoy the holidays, say Yizkor for a departed one or want to explore your Jewish roots, please consider joining us. In the process, you will be helping maintain a Jewish presence in this area. We are happy to welcome those new to Judaism, members of interfaith marriages and their children. On request, our spiritual leader would be glad to talk to members about conversion, should that be a personal choice.

If you would like to join Congregation Ahavas Achim, please complete the enclosed 2021-22 Membership Form and return it with your payment towards annual 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 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 or Andrew Blumenthal at (413) 569-1148.

L'Shana Tova from the 2021 – 2022 Executive Board of Congregation Ahavas Achim

Board Members:

Wendy Blondin, Newsletter Editor	568-5347
Andrew Blumenthal, Co-President	569-1148
Fran Eisenberg	575-8465
Lynne Goldberg, Communication/Publicist	<u>530-8453</u>
Sandy Mackler, Co-President	262-4564
Nancy Rapisarda, Treasurer	562-9491

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Last Name _____ **Family Members** _____

Address _____

Home Telephone _____ **Cell phone** _____ **E-mail address** _____

Annual Dues

Please remit annual dues for the **2021-2022** year, by **9/1/2021**. 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 9/1/21 **No payment plan fees**

2 payments Due by 9/1/21 and 11/1/21 **Pmt #1** _____ **+\$10 Pmt#2** _____ **+\$10**

3 payments Due by 9/1/21, 11/1/21 & 1/1/2022 **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 1/1/2022

Family (2 or more people) \$650 \$ _____

Individual (1 person only) \$325 \$ _____

Virtual Membership (living 50+ miles from Westfield):

\$75 Individual _____

\$250 Family _____

Hebrew School \$300 Additional Sibling \$175 \$ _____

Sunday School \$100 \$ _____

Additional Sibling \$50 \$ _____

High Holiday Guests \$75 suggested donation \$ _____ (please indicate names)

(Includes all 5 HH services)

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 use back of form 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..