

Congregation Ahavas Achim

P.O. Box 334

Westfield, MA 01086

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. 11/7 @ 10:00am – Adult Study

Fri. 11/20 @ 7:15pm - Shabbat Evening Service

Sat. 12/5 @ 10:00am - Shabbat Morning Service

Fri. 12/11 @ 6:30pm – Community Chanukah
Menorah Lighting

Fri. 12/18 @ 7:15pm - Shabbat Evening Service and
Eighth Day of Chanukah

Please join us via Zoom until further notice. Cantor Reaboi sends out Zoom invitations prior to each service or event. Please contact us at ahavasachiminquiry@gmail.com or leave a voicemail message at (413) 642-1797 if you want to say Kaddish or have any suggestions for us.

Board Meeting: Meetings are held via conference calls during the pandemic. Our next meeting is scheduled for December 9th. All are welcome to join. Please let us know if you are interested so we can include you in our call.

Hebrew School:

Coordinator: Andy Blumenthal
(Please call him at (413) 569-1148 if you or another member of our community has expressed interest.)

Yahrzeit

With great sadness, we remember the following people on the Yahrzeit of their passing:

2020

Gussie Chernick	Cheshvan 17	11/4
Judith Schulman	Cheshvan 20	11/7
Harold Riklin	Cheshvan 23	11/10
Ruth Krosnow	Kislev 3	11/19
Morris Pearl	Kislev 7	11/23
Herman Blumenthal	Kislev 9	11/25
Phyllis Mackler	Kislev 12	11/28
Lazare Temkin	Kislev 15	12/1
Paul Goldstein	Kislev 19	12/5
Richard Caplin	Kislev 29	12/15
Alvin Jacobs	Teveth 4	12/19
Ethel Levy	Teveth 5	12/20
Alan Tropp	Teveth 5	12/20
Irving Renninger	Teveth 12	12/27
Lillian Flax	Teveth 20	1/4
Abe Milstein	Teveth 24	1/8
Joseph Gubkin	Teveth 24	1/8

Congregation Ahavas Achim wishes to thank all its friends and members for their generous donations:

Larsen's – General Fund

Blondin's – General Fund

Nancy Rapisarda – General Fund

Elsa Rosenak - General Fund

Geri Johnson - General Fund

**Donations received as of 10/31/20*

Congregation Ahavas Achim wishes to thank all its friends and members for their generous donations (cont'd):

Fran Eisenberg – in honor of Alyssa and William's 5th wedding anniversary and Sarah and Joey's recent wedding – General Fund

Gail Wertel – in honor of the newlyweds Sarah Eisenberg and Joseph Bucko - General Fund

Gary and Judith Brevoort- in honor of Cantor Reaboi – General Fund

Barbara and Michael Davenport - in memory of Barbara's mother, Judith Schulman - General Fund

Mackler/Newmans - in memory of Howard and Phyllis Mackler – General Fund

Barbara Kronfeld - in loving memory of Sam Blumenthal – General Fund

**Donations received as of 10/31/20*

High Holidays:

Thank you to all who contributed to the High Holiday services: special thanks to Cantor Colman Reaboi for leading a wonderful and engaging service, despite the challenges of Covid-19. Cantor Reaboi prepared, organized and led services on Zoom where many were able to watch and listen to the service. Thanks to our many congregants who participated with Aliyah's and readings. Thanks to Shelley Motsko for carrying the Torah on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and special thanks to Cantor Reaboi's wife, Tara, for making sure our services were not only available on Zoom, but also streamed live on Facebook. We also want recognize and thank her for her beautiful playing of the violin on Kol Nidre. Thanks also to Cantor Reaboi and Andrew Blumenthal for superb shofar blowing during Taschlich on Rosh Hashanah as well as on Yom Kippur; and thanks to all the adults and children who contributed to our services and helped make these services meaningful for us all.

Menorah Lighting Ceremony:

Mayor Don Humason and the City of Westfield are pleased to announce the Menorah Lighting Ceremony on Park Square Green to celebrate Chanukah. In conjunction with Congregation Ahavas Achim, the lighting of the City's Grand Menorah will take place on Friday, December 11, at 6:30 pm. The community is welcome to come and enjoy this event.

Soup Kitchen:

Congregation Ahavas Achim has continued to provide the meal on the first Thursday of every month. Since the onset of Covid-19, we have been preparing brown bag "grab and go" meals, and are looking for volunteers to provide sandwiches, snacks, or beverages. Please be aware that it is not necessary to enter the building. For further information regarding the monthly soup kitchen, please contact Sandy at sandra.mackler@comcast.net or 413-262-4564.

Also, in keeping with our tradition, we will be providing a take-out version of our usual Christmas dinner, and are looking for volunteers to cook (in your own home is fine) and assemble take-out containers. Monetary contributions are gratefully accepted.

We will be putting together gift bags, as we have done in previous years. Items most needed include socks, hats, soap, shampoo, toothpaste and various toiletries.

For further information regarding the Christmas dinner, please contact Fran, who will once again be coordinating this event, at volleyfran@comcast.net or 413-575-8465.

Fundraising:

Did you know that Congregation Ahavas Achim has a unique AmazonSmile link that makes it easier for people to find and support us? We ask that you consider using our link if you will be shopping on Amazon anyway.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0141633>

Click on the above link and you will be taken to smile.amazon.com where you are automatically asked if you want to support Congregation Ahavas Achim. In doing so, that allows us to receive 0.5% of the price of your smile.amazon.com purchases. Please be sure to use our unique link in place of www.amazon.com as only purchases made at smile.amazon.com are eligible. Any items ordered via the Smile.Amazon website are at the same price as listed on the regular Amazon website.

Website and Facebook:

Please click on the following links:

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

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

When you find us on Facebook, please “Like” our page. You will also be able to find announcements and listings for our services and events. If you have any questions, or would like us to post any announcements, events or pictures for you, please email:

Carol and Nate Rosenthal - ncrose@comcast.net

Happy Birthday!

Birthday wishes go out to the following:

Wendy Blondin December 23rd

Barbara Davenport December 26th

Rich O'Donnell December 26th