

Congregation Ahavas Achim

P.O. Box 334

Westfield, MA 01086

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. 11/9 @ 10:00am - Shabbat Morning Service*

**Please join us in welcoming Cantor Reaboi for his first Shabbat service as our spiritual leader on November 9th.*

Fri. 11/22 @ 7:15pm - Shabbat Evening Service

Sat. 12/14 @ 10:00am - Shabbat Morning Service

Mon. 12/23 @ 6:00pm – Chanukah Menorah Lighting and Celebration

Note: All Services take place at the Interfaith Center at Westfield State University unless otherwise noted.

Board Meeting: December 11 @ 6:30 PM
Wendy Blondin's – 59 Forest Glen Drive, Wfld
Call Wendy for directions 413-568-5347
All Members Invited to Participate

Soup Kitchen (First Thursday of the month) at Our Community Table, 101 Meadow St., Westfield
4:00 – 5:45 pm. Contact Sandy at 413-262-4564.
Nov. 7, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 & Dec. 25

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

		<u>2019</u>
Allene Dressler	Cheshvan 6	11/4
Ida Bernstein	Cheshvan 7	11/5
Edna Newman	Cheshvan 9	11/7
Irene Hoffman	Cheshvan 10	11/8
Rebecca Pearl	Cheshvan 11	11/9
Hyman Bernstein	Cheshvan 12	11/10
Myrna Siegel	Cheshvan 12	11/11
Gussie Chernick	Cheshvan 17	11/15
Harold Riklin	Cheshvan 23	11/21
Ruth Krosnow	Kislev 3	12/1
Morris Pearl	Kislev 7	12/5
Herman Blumenthal	Kislev 9	12/7
Phyllis Mackler	Kislev 12	12/12
Lazare Temkin	Kislev 15	12/13
Paul Goldstein	Kislev 19	12/17
Richard Caplin	Kislev 29	12/27
Alvin Jacobs	Teveth 4	1/1
Ethel Levy	Teveth 5	1/2
Alan Tropp	Teveth 5	1/2

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

Fran Eisenberg – in honor of her granddaughter, Delaney Scout King, who will be celebrating her first Chanukah this December – General Fund

Elsa Rosenak – General Fund

Geri Johnson – Torah Fund, Educational Development Fund and General Fund

**Donations received as of 10/31/19*

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

Blondin Family – in honor of Faith starting college at the University of Maine - General Fund

Blondin Family – in memory of Nancy Rapisarda's father, Bernard Goldberg - General Fund

Mackler/Newman family - in memory of Nancy Rapisarda's father, Bernard Goldberg - General Fund

Barbara and Michael Davenport – in honor of Cantor Reaboi's marriage to Tara - General Fund

**Donations received as of 10/31/19*

High Holidays:

Thank you to all of you who contributed to the High Holiday services: special thanks to Rabbinic Intern Jessica Goldberg for leading a wonderful and engaging service and for carrying the Torah on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; Jessica's husband, David, for superb shofar blowing; Fran Eisenberg for coordinating the break-the-fast supper; and to all the adults and children who contributed to our services and helped make these services meaningful for us all.

Sukkot Celebration:

Thank you to Michael and Barbara Davenport for building a beautiful sukkah. Many of us joined together to make decorations and then hang them from the sukkah for our Sukkot celebration. Thanks to Fran Eisenberg for coordinating our annual pizza dinner, and thanks to everyone who brought delicious desserts. Thank you, also, to Cantor Reaboi for leading the prayers and songs.

Menorah Lighting Ceremony – Lights & Latkes:

Mayor Brian Sullivan 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 Monday, December 23, at 6:00 pm. The community is welcome to come and enjoy this event. Immediately following the lighting ceremony, the Congregation has invited all participants to the Boys and Girls Club at 28 West Silver Street to enjoy some homemade Latkes.

Christmas Soup Kitchen:

As many of you know, Congregation Ahavas Achim has served the Christmas day meal at the Westfield Soup Kitchen for many years. This allows the group that would normally serve the meal that day to spend their holiday with their families.

We are looking for folks to help prepare and serve the meal, and to provide food and/or make a donation so that we can put on a truly special meal. We start preparing at 4:00 pm, serve at 5:00 pm, and are generally done by 6:00 pm.

Please contact Fran, who will once again be coordinating this event. She can be reached at 575-8465 or at volleyfran@comcast.net.

Condolences:

The Board and members of Congregation Ahavas Achim would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Nancy Rapisarda on the loss of her father, Bernard Goldberg.

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

Message from the Board:

We are your Board.

Just like you, we have jobs, familial obligations, personal challenges and numerous commitments and responsibilities. We choose to volunteer our time, efforts and energy for meetings, publicizing, accounting, organizing, coordinating, corresponding, discussing and planning. This is all done with the sole purpose of strengthening our Congregation. We may ask for your input and assistance from time to time, and hope that we can count on your support.

Thank you!

Sandy Mackler – Co-President
Andrew Blumenthal – Co-President, Education Coordinator
Nancy Rapisarda – Treasurer
Barbara Davenport - Board Secretary, Publicity and Facilities Coordinator
Wendy Blondin - Newsletter Editor
Fran Eisenberg - Member at Large

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>

When you click on the above link, you will be taken to smile.amazon.com and are automatically asked if you want to support Congregation Ahavas Achim. In doing so, that allows us to receive 0.5% in cash back from the price of your smile.amazon.com purchases.

Please be sure to use our unique link that is provided above in place of www.amazon.com as only purchases made at smile.amazon.com are eligible.

Congratulations!

The Board and members of Congregation Ahavas Achim would like to wish Cantor Reaboi Mazel Tov on his marriage to Tara, which just took place on October 27, 2019.

Happy Birthday!

Birthday wishes go out to the following:

Wendy Blondin December 23rd

Barbara Davenport December 26th

Rich O'Donnell December 26th