

קול יעקב | Kol Ya'akov

THE VOICE OF BETH JACOB CONGREGATION

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Mendota Megilla Madness -
March 2 - 6:30pm



bethjacobcongregation



bethjacobcongregationmn



(651) 452-2226



info@beth-jacob.org



beth-jacob.org



1179 VICTORIA CURVE,
MENDOTA HTS., MN 55118

בית יעקב
BETH JACOB
CONGREGATION

St. Paul Community

Women's* (Deconstructed) Seder



Thursday, March 19 / 1 Nisan
5:45-8:15

Space is limited--RSVP by March 10th
[Beth-Jacob.org/WomensSeder](https://beth-jacob.org/WomensSeder)

*For women and those who feel most comfortable in women-centered spaces.

Torah - Avodah - Gemilut Chasadim

February 7 - Mazal Tov to Elijah Black on his Bar Mitzvah



Elijah Black

I am in 7th grade at Pepin middle school, in Pepin Wisconsin. I live on a farm in the country near there. My parents are Martha and Geoffrey Black. I also have a younger brother, Samuel. We have about 20 cows and around 170 chickens. We also have 6 cats and 2 dogs. I like to read books, build stuff in Minecraft, and draw. My Parashah is Yitro, which has some stuff about the judicial system of the time. Oh, and also the part about the ten commandments.

February 28 - Mazal Tov to Logan Johnston on his Bar Mitzvah



Logan Johnston

I am in 7th grade at Rosemount Middle School. I live with my mom and dad, Richelle and Daniel Johnston. I like Martial Arts, gaming, traveling, and collecting vinyl. My parasha is Tetzaveh. I like to be kind and help when I can--to promote positivity.

March 21 - Mazal Tov to Ari Schwartz and Jon Lovett on their Aufruf

Mazal Tov to Ari Schwartz and Jon Lovett on their upcoming marriage. Kiddush is sponsored by the Schwartz family in celebration.



SHABBAT

Shabbat Services begin every Saturday morning at 9:00 am.

Services are followed by a kiddush lunch. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Please consider celebrating an occasion, or celebrating something you've totally made up. Gather friends to co-sponsor with you!

Contact the Beth Jacob office, or donate at **[Beth-Jacob.org/Kiddush](https://beth-jacob.org/kiddush)**.



Upcoming Post-Kiddush Learning

January 17: Gun Violence Prevention 1.0
Sheldon Berkowitz and Patricia Jewett

January 31: The impact of the Jewish Federation's P2G Program, with Laurie Radovsky, Michelle Perry Shamash et.al.

February 14: Mira Steinberg's reflections on volunteering at the Southern Border

February 21: Social Justice

March 14: Special Guest announced soon

Director of Community Learning Search Process

The Search Committee, composed of 6 congregants and Rabbi Tamar, is right in the middle of the effort to find our next Director of Congregational Learning. This is an important role that includes running Limudim (children's learning and adult ed), helping prepare our b'nai mitzvah students, overseeing Jewish summer camp advocacy, and other youth and education-related work. When this position is held by a rabbi, they also work alongside Rabbi Tamar to lead services, provide pastoral care, and support congregants during life cycle events, among other rabbinic responsibilities.

We are currently interviewing five highly qualified candidates by Zoom, all of whom are, or will soon be, rabbis. We hope this round of interviews will be complete by mid-January, after which we will invite 3 candidates to visit us in person. We expect these visits will occur from late January through mid-March.

We hope each candidate will come for a weekend so they can experience the vibrancy of our Shabbats together. While each weekend might be a little different, due to previously scheduled events, for each visit we hope to have a Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat and potluck, opportunities for the candidate to teach to various age levels, and a "Meet the Candidate" session where the congregation can get a sense of their background and vision. Thus, there will be a variety of points at which you will be able to get to know the candidates, and experience their teaching and davening, welcome them warmly and show them what makes Beth Jacob a great community to join.

Kabbalat Shabbat and

Shabbatluck



**Join us at 6:00 pm for Kabbalat Shabbat
and stay for a pot-luck Shabbat dinner.**

February & March dates to be announced

when we have dates confirmed for candidate visits

No Shabbatluck in April

We return to our regular

First Friday Schedule starting in May

Register at [Beth-Jacob.org/Shabbatluck](https://beth-jacob.org/Shabbatluck)

East Metro Morning Minyan

The East Metro morning minyan is held in person and online. If you are interested in attending minyan, just show up--You will be welcomed!

East Metro Morning Minyan at Beth Jacob

Monday - Friday: 7:15 am

Federal Holidays: 8:30 am

Join online via Zoom at:

[Beth-Jacob.org/Minyan](https://beth-jacob.org/Minyan)

East Metro Minyan at Temple of Aaron

Monday - Thursday: 6:00 pm

Sunday Morning: 9:00 am

Join online via Zoom at:

bit.ly/EMMinyan

UPCOMING EVENTS



GAME DAY

JANUARY 10
AFTER KIDDUSH

Play games we have here, or bring your own.
All ages welcome!
Stay for as much of the afternoon as you like.



TAMID
Your Home for Adult Learning

ISRAEL -
THE GENERATIONAL DIVIDE
A COURSE FOR PARENTS
STRUGGLING TO
UNDERSTAND THEIR
CHILDREN'S PERSPECTIVES
ON ISRAEL

Taught by: Rabbi Dan Judson, PhD
4 Mondays, 1/12, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9
7-8:30pm CT

\$36

Online via Zoom

Registration
Required



Gun Violence Prevention 1.0: *What can you do?*

Shabbat, January 17 after kiddush

**Patricia Jewett PhD and
Sheldon Berkowitz MD**

will share their experiences with
Gun Violence Prevention and discuss how
congregants can get involved in this work.





ECHOES OF THE SEASONS

A Musical Tu Bishvat Experience

Sunday, Jan. 25

3 PM - 4 PM

Mendota Heights, MN

Register www.koleinusic.com



Sunday, February 1, 2026



BJUSY Breakfast
ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES & TOPPINGS
AT BETH JACOB

10am-12pm

\$10/ADULTS

\$6/KIDS 12 & UNDER

\$36/HOUSEHOLD MAX



Be a Sponsor!
and/or



Register for Breakfast
Beth-Jacob.org/Pancake

BETH JACOB FAMILIES



KIDS CLOTHES EXCHANGE

SIZES 2-16



Bring your Hand-Me-Downs
Sorted by size and gender



Take home "new" clothes
for your kid(s)!



Donate at the Pancake Breakfast on Feb 1 or
before the Exchange on February 7



Questions: RTaurog@gmail.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3
5-7pm

Unclaimed clothes will be donated to charity.

Special Interest Tables at Kiddush:



Everyone welcome--**Come have a seat!**

- 1st Shabbat of the Month

French Speakers Table

- 2nd Shabbat of the Month:

Science Fiction Table

- 3rd Shabbat of the Month:

Spanish Speakers Table

Want more tables? Talk to Frances!



ENDOTA



egilla



ADNESS



1179

VICTORIA CURVE

Calling All Bakers!

It's

Hamentashen

Season!



Join a friendly group of bakers, pinchers, painters, ploppers, and packers as we make delicious hamentashen for the congregation.

No Experience Needed

Sunday, February 22

Pick a shift between 10:00 and 3:00



Sign up at [Beth-Jacob.org/Bake](https://beth-jacob.org/Bake)

Free Samples for Bakers!

Buy Your Hamentashen

from Beth Jacob



\$18/Dozen



[Beth-Jacob.org/Hamentashen](https://beth-jacob.org/Hamentashen)

**Prune, Poppy,
Apricot, Raspberry,
Chocolate/Hazelnut,
or assorted**



Questions? Frances@Beth-Jacob.org

PURIM DINNER

At Beth Jacob Congregation

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

Designed for busy families
(but all are welcome)

6:00 PM

KID-FRIENDLY DINNER

FOLLOWED BY

MENDOTA MEGILLA MADNESS AT 6:30

\$10 per person

[Beth-Jacob.org/PurimDinner](https://beth-jacob.org/PurimDinner)



Family Megilla Reading Sunday, March 8 10:15am

Come for the Megilla, stay for the Carnival!



1179

VICTORIA CURVE

Snacks!

Silliness!

Storytelling!

Costumes!

BETH JACOB'S
WORLD FAMOUS

Purim

FILM FESTIVAL



Submit your FUNNY, SHORT Film!

(up to a minute)

via WETRANSFER.COM

Email to Frances@BethJacob.org



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egilla



inyan

TUESDAY MORNING

March 3

8:30am

Beth Jacob Youth Department Presents:

PURIM CARNIVAL



Prizes!

Games!

Fun!

Inflatables!

Food!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

11:00AM -1:00PM





We have assembled an experienced and talented internal leadership team to guide Limudim through the remainder of this school year.

Our interim leadership team includes:

- **Drake Prohofsky** - Teacher, student and parent liaison, providing support and supervision for teachers. Drake is the person you reach out to with any concerns.
- **Amalia Prohofsky** - Curriculum development and implementation
- **Marisa Goffman** - Program administration and logistics
- **D. Marcos Vital** - Professional development for our faculty

Each team member brings valuable expertise to their role, and together they will ensure that Limudim continues to provide the engaging, meaningful, Jewish learning experience our families have come to expect.

Please see Page 3 for details on the search for a new Director of Congregational Learning.

Ongoing Children's Programming

Limudim

Tuesday evenings and Shabbat mornings, for our Pre-K through 8th graders.
Beth-Jacob.org/Limudim

Tot Shabbat

First Shabbat of every month from 10:00 - 10:30 in the nursery. A song-filled Shabbat Morning Service for BJC's littlest ones (0-3 years old).

Play Group

Every Friday at 10:30 in the nursery, we have open play time for young children and their caregivers that lasts until naptime.

Raising Jewish Kids



A Conversation Circle with Rabbi Tamar

**During Limudim on Tuesdays
5:30-6:15 in the chapel**

- Jan. 13 – Tech and Kids: phones, watches, tablets, social media, AI
- Jan 20 – Talking to our kids about Israel and Antisemitism
- Jan 27 – Self-Care – When? How?

For parents and caregivers, interfaith families, Jewish couples, single parents, families where one or more person is considering conversion... basically anyone involved in raising Jewish kids. We'll talk about the blessings and challenges, and share struggles, ideas and resources.

YOUTH GROUPS



BJUSY

2026 is looking bright and busy for our youth! It has been such an honor watching our teens step into leadership positions and grow as Jewish young adults. There are so many opportunities to engage in community including social, educational, and community service programs.

Marisa Goffman
Youth and Education Coordinator



Be a Sponsor!

beth-jacob.org/pancakesponsor



Support Beth Jacob youth programming and scholarships!



Pancake Breakfast Sleepover **Sunday Jan. 31 - Feb 1**

BJUSY's annual fundraiser! All you can eat. Mendota Heights-famous pancakes with a variety of toppings.

Please sponsor an element at beth-jacob.org/pancakesponsor



Purim Carnival Sleepover **Saturday March 7-8**

Food, fun, games, prizes, and inflatables! BJUSY sleeps over for set up and prep.



Lounge Nights **Every Tuesday at 7:30pm**

It's a different activity each week! Movies, cooking, arts and crafts, anything you'd like.



EMTZA Region **Winter Shabbaton** **Friday Feb 20-22**

Spend a weekend with teens from around the Midwest full of fun programming, food, meeting new people, friends, and more! Register at emtza.org/wintershab



Our GLC is hard at work brainstorming and planning great Geshet get togethers!

- **Thursday January 22, 6pm** - Tubing @ Buck Hill
- **Friday February 7-9** - EMTZA Geshet Shabbaton
- **Sunday February 22, 10am** - Baking Hamentashen @ BJ
- **Thursday Feb 26, 6pm** - TBD
- **Wednesday, March 25, 6pm** - TBD

EMTZA GESHER SHAB



- **Monday January 19, 12:30pm** - BJuniors go Ice Skating!
RSVP: beth-jacob.org/BJskating
- **Sunday February 22, 10am** - BJuniors bake Hamentashen!



NEW CLASS**STAND UP, SIT DOWN, WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?****2nd & 4th Saturdays of the Month Starting in January
9:15am in the Saide Chapel**

For the curious and confused. Guest teachers will explain the prayers, the services, and the movements associated with Shabbat.

Attend once or attend regularly, and come with questions!

Ongoing Classes**FOR THE JEW IN THE PEW WITH RABBI LYNN LIBERMAN****9:15 - 10:00 am in the chapel on Shabbat****1st, 3rd, and the occasional 5th Shabbat of each month.**

Join the continued journey into the beauty of the Tehillim, the Book of Psalms. Having completed the exploration of the Psalms as found in the Siddur, our learning now will take us through the texts from the rest of the volume. Join with others to consider the meaning and impact of these ancient texts and together, consider why and how these words are still an important part of our lives today. No prior experience needed. Texts are provided in Hebrew and English.

TANACH WITH DAVID RISCHALL**Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm on Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/79546614386>**

This is a relaxed, drop-in class to develop a better understanding of the Hebrew Bible and skills to read the Bible in the original Hebrew. The only prerequisite is an ability to read Hebrew. David will introduce short segments of Tanach which are little known to most Jews, highlighting the many differences of thought between biblical Israelites and the Rabbinic Judaism, and how much the Rabbis carried on biblical traditions. Questions? Call David at 651-230-3911.

MORNING MISHNAH WITH RABBI TAMAR MAGILL-GRIMM**Wednesdays at around 8:00 am (after minyan) in the Saide Chapel and online****Join on Zoom at [Beth-Jacob.org/Minyan](https://beth-jacob.org/minyan)**

The Mishnah is an edited record of the complex body of halachic material transmitted in the aftermath of the destruction of the Second Temple. Its intention was to train the sages in thinking through the legal issues that inform Halacha. In encountering these texts together, we gain access to the conversations out of which developed the foundational principles that shaped Jewish law as we know it today. Classes are in the chapel at Beth Jacob and on Zoom at [Beth-Jacob.org/minyan](https://beth-jacob.org/minyan) (or just stay on Zoom after Morning Minyan).



Register: [Beth-Jacob.org/AdultEd](https://beth-jacob.org/adult-ed)



WHY THE JEWISH HOLIDAYS ARE WISE

Sara Lynn Newberger

Tuesdays, 6:30- 7:30 pm

Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 18, Jan. 6, Jan. 13



Each Jewish holiday connects rituals to values to stories, allowing for many points of access and opportunities for connection. Exploring these elements of holidays can enrich traditional practice, make space for innovation, and provide us with opportunities to reflect on our lives, our values and our stories. We will look at a few holidays as models and consider resources for further learning.

HEBREW FOR ADULTS - PART 1

Lydia Schultz

Tuesdays, 6:30- 7:30 pm

Feb. 9, Feb. 17, Feb. 24, Mar. 3



HEBREW FOR ADULTS - PART 2

Lydia Schultz

Tuesdays, 6:30- 7:30 pm

Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24, Mar. 31

These courses are designed to help you decode Hebrew and to become more comfortable in reading the Hebrew in the prayer book. Register using the QR code above!

Twin Cities Tour de Torah

SVARA-style Learning and Studio Art

Sara Lynn Newberger and Lillie Benowitz

April 14, 21, 28th, May 5, 12, 19

6:30PM-8PM at Beth Jacob.



Are you looking to cultivate imagination and deepen your knowledge of Jewish texts? Join communities across the Twin Cities as we strengthen our spiritual muscles through text and art-based learning. Throughout 5786, we'll use the cutting-edge pedagogy of SVARA and the Jewish Studio Process to prepare for Hanukkah, Passover, and the Omer.

JUDAISM 101: CORE PRACTICES AND PRINCIPLES

WITH RABBI CATHY NEMIROFF

Mondays 7:00-8:30 pm in person and online

Starting October 27



For anyone seeking to better understand Jewish thought and practice, whether you are already Jewish, Jewish-curious or on the path to conversion.

Meets Mondays at 7pm at Beth Jacob, with Zoom option available

Register at [Beth-Jacob.org/Intro](https://beth-jacob.org/intro)



University of Minnesota Center for Jewish Studies Community Lecture Series

Beth Jacob is proud to co-sponsor the annual lecture series.
Upcoming lectures include::

Never-Ending Tales: Antisemitism, Jewish Creative Resistance, and a Literature of Hope Dr. Jack Zipes, (University of Minnesota Emeritus) **Wednesday, January 21**

The “Jewish Question,” hotly debated in nineteenth-century Europe, asked what non-Jews should do with Jews after their so-called “emancipation.” Should Jews be accepted as full citizens or were they too dangerous? That question stamped Jewish identity negatively, but Jewish responses to the Question reveal possibilities that Jews will always be able to survive pernicious misinformation. This lecture will demonstrate how Jewish folk narratives and fantasy writing between 1870 and the 1930s, a period in which Jewish and especially Yiddish literature blossomed, enable us to grasp the dilemmas of Jews who seek to identify themselves by themselves—yet also want to become fully assimilated under hostile conditions in various nation-states. These tales, written largely for a Jewish readership and usually with a self-deprecating humor and ironic twist, stress the necessity of hope—despite worldwide antisemitism—for the survival of Jews and their traditions.

Reconstructing Hadassah Kaplan: A Daughter’s Lessons in the Struggle for Jewish Survival Dr. Sharon Ann Musher (Stockton University) **Thursday, February 5**

How did the family of Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan—founder of Reconstructionism—influence his thinking about women, Jewish law and ritual, and a Jewish homeland? The father of four rambunctious daughters growing up in the early twentieth century—as women’s rights were expanding—Rabbi Kaplan considered how Judaism might become a vehicle for women’s self-expression and creativity rather than a burden in the modern world. With his eldest daughter, Judith, Kaplan initiated the bat mitzvah, a coming of age for girls. His second daughter, Hadassah, joined a small but influential cohort of American Jewish women who studied, worked, and volunteered in British Mandate Palestine, bringing back what they learned to help shape Zionism in America. What role, then, did gender and family play as Rabbi Kaplan developed his concept of Judaism as a Civilization?

A Jewish Language for All Occasions: Ladino Culture and Its Innovations Dr. Devin Naar (University of Washington, Seattle) **Tuesday, March 17**

While spoken today by relatively few people in the United States, Europe, and Israel, Ladino (also known as Judezmo and Judeo-Spanish) melded Jewish, Iberian, and eastern Mediterranean cultures to produce a new and vibrant language that permeated every aspect of Jewish life in Greece, Turkey and the Balkans. This lecture delves into the defining features of the Ladino language as a source of Sephardic resilience and adaptation after the expulsion from the Iberian Peninsula through the creation of serious and humorous Ladino folk culture, and the production of key works of Ladino literature, both religious and secular.

St. Paul Community Women's* (Deconstructed) Seder



*For women and those who feel most comfortable in women-centered spaces.

Same Ruach, New Experience

**Thursday, March 19 / 1 Nisan
5:45-8:15 pm**

**Beth Jacob Congregation
1179 Victoria Curve, Mendota Heights**

Deconstructed Seder Featuring

- Charoset Recipe Share
- Candle Making
- Music and Learning
- Make Your Own Themed Mocktails
- Delicious Kosher Vegetarian Meal

**Space is limited--RSVP by March 10th
[Beth-Jacob.org/WomensSeder](https://beth-jacob.org/WomensSeder)**



The seder is offered to you free of cost. We welcome and appreciate donations.

Thank you to Temple of Aaron Sisterhood, Women of Mount Zion Temple, and Beth Jacob Congregation for their generous sponsorships of this year's seder.



It's (Never) Too Early to Start Thinking About Pesach

**Beth Jacob's Passover Guide will be available
in February at Beth-Jacob.org/Guide**

Search for Chametz:
Tuesday, March 31

First Seder:
Wednesday, April 1

Second Seder:
Thursday, April 2

Yontiff days:
April 1, 2, 8, & 9

WINE
Sale
AND JUICE
AND CHOCOLATE
AND GEFILTE FISH



NEW THIS YEAR:
No ordering ahead!

All inventory will be available to purchase and take home
on **Purim, at the Purim Carnival, and on March 24-25***

**while supplies last.*

Seder for All



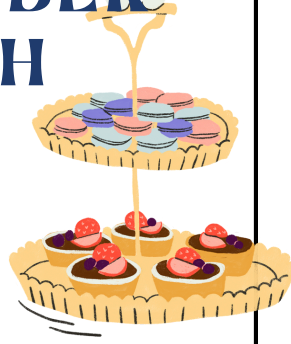
The Seder is so much richer when everyone is at the table.

We are a community that values the mitzvah of Hachnasat Orchim (Welcoming Guests). Beth Jacob is committed to making it possible for everyone to participate in a seder. Do you have a space or spaces at your seder table? Would you like to share a seder at another's table?

**Please let us know by March 19 by filling out the form at
Beth-Jacob.org/sederforall**

NEW MEMBER BRUNCH

Come one, come all,
to a New or
Relatively New
Member Brunch



**Sunday, February 22
10-12**



If you have joined Beth Jacob in the last 1-2 years, or longer and would appreciate more orientation, join us for brunch at Beth Jacob.

Childcare provided.
We look to visiting with you!



Blood Drive! Sunday, May 31, 2026

Plan your blood donations:

- Last date to donate double red
February 1 (120-day deferral)
- Last date to donate whole blood
April 5 (56-day deferral)



Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Save the date, and save a life!

❤ **Memorial Blood Centers**

Come See Our New Playground!

Beth Jacob's newest addition is a playset for our kids! Thanks to Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm and Becky Taurog for taking the lead on this project, and to Laurie Goldsmith and Sonya Rapport for their advice and behind the scenes work in the office. And to Will Thomas, Mitch Multer and Kyle The Security Guard for their help with security concerns.

Sheldon Berkowitz, John Allen, Will Thomas, Will Pomerantz, Yonathan Reches, Mark & Bea Gutman, Davida Alperin, Roy Kay, Geoffrey Black, Elijah Black, Samuel Black, Rema Absey, Michael Hofrichter, Eric Pasternack all contributed time and effort, especially to laying landscaping fabric and schlepping wood chips into place.

This project was made possible with special donations from the Pasternacks and two anonymous donors.



Report on the Veterans' Delegation to Israel

by Gavriel DePrenger-Gottfried



Shortly after the start of the ceasefire, myself and four veterans from the Minnesota Jewish community traveled to Israel. This trip a delegation organized and funded through Partnership2Gether, and the Minneapolis Jewish Federation. The Israeli half of the delegation was in Minnesota back in June. That was first time that the respective halves of the delegation had met in person, and it was a great opportunity to hear their stories, and how impactful their continued military service has been in Israel. Getting the opportunity to travel to Israel, and see everything from their perspective, was an incredible experience.

This veteran's delegation was my fourth time in Israel, having been previously in 2005, 2007, 2009, and now adding 2025. The gap between these two most recent trips was notable for several reasons. Obviously Israel itself has dealt with significant challenges in recent years, changing the country in ways both seen and unseen. But, the same could be said for me as well. Much in my life has changed in these years, and it has encompassed all of my military career; 15 years and counting.

When I think about what was most impactful for me on this veteran's delegation trip, it was hands down the tour of the Gaza envelope. This tour, lead by an Israeli member of the delegation, traveled to the majority of the October 7th sites. The Nova music festival site was absolutely significant, emotional, and painful, but every place carried scars and stories. Every place had a weight to it. When imagining the trauma of the day, it was almost unsettling how quiet all of these places were, save for the occasional spot of machine gun fire or artillery in the distance. A reminder that after two years of war, October 7th is not a scar on the body of the Israeli populace, but an open wound struggling to heal.

Continuing to foster programs like these exchanges is, in my opinion, an important way share the story of Israel with Jews living abroad. In a world with more noise than ever, personal stories and real connections are more meaningful than ever.

SAVE THE DATE:

**BETH JACOB
FUNDRAISER**

MAY 3

**ENGAGING
COMMUNITY
RAISING
FUNds**



Please lend your volunteer talents to our fundraiser! Contact Marni Tselos
amztselos@comcast.net to get involved.

LIFE AND LEGACY

Consider making a legacy gift, ensuring a strong Jewish community for future generations. Regardless of your age or income, this is a great time to start thinking about your legacy. Legacy gift commitments cost nothing today and can be made by designating Beth Jacob as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), will, or trust.

Your legacy gift will ensure that we will continue our Jewish journey by building and sustaining the next generation of the Jewish people and this special congregation with warmth, tradition, and community.

For more information on getting started on your legacy, please call Leonard Oppenheimer at (651) 690-4168 or email him at lroppy@gmail.com.



BE A GREETER

Help us give a warm greeting to visitors, guests, and congregants by being a Shabbat Greeter! Sign up for a shift at **[Beth-Jacob.org/Volunteer](https://beth-jacob.org/Volunteer)**

CEMETERY

The Cemetery committee is responsible for Beth Jacob's cemetery, which consists of three contiguous cemeteries: Sons of Moses cemetery, Sons of Jacob cemetery, and Children of Abraham cemetery. For information about the cemetery, or for information about purchasing plots, please contact Mike Keller or the Synagogue office.

CHESED COMMITTEE

The Chesed Committee fulfills two roles in the Beth Jacob community, and there's room for you to help!

We offer meal support for people with a new baby or who are recovering from surgery or an injury. You can put your name on a list to receive notifications of meal support requests, then decide how to participate if you are able.

Bikur Cholim is the other role we fulfill--attending to people in time of need. Consider signing up to sit with someone who might be isolated and to listen to their story. Just listening--it's that simple. You'll get some guidance about how to keep the conversation focused on the person you're visiting, and have ongoing support from others doing this sacred work.

If you are interested, contact EB (Elizabeth Barnard) or sign up at Chesed@Beth-Jacob.org

CHEVRA KADISHA

The Chevra Kadisha is a group of anonymous individuals who provide pre-burial services to deceased congregants. We provide Shmira, in which the deceased is "guarded" in two-hour shifts between death and burial. We also provide Tahara, the ritual preparation of the body for burial including ritual cleaning, dressing, and placing into the casket. We have an ongoing need for people to help with both of these functions, and would welcome the opportunity to talk with you. If you are interested in joining the Chevra Kadisha, or if you just want to know more about what we do, contact Eric or Jo Pasternack.

MEALS OF CONSOLATION

When a family member of a congregant passes away, the shul provides a Meal of Consolation after the burial. We are always looking for more volunteers. It can be anything from making cookies or a kugel to helping serve. No prior experience necessary. We will add you to our list and when the need arises, we send out an email asking if you would like to assist. It is a very heartwarming and meaningful experience. Contact Lynn Usem, Lynn.Usem@gmail.com, if you would like to help.

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

A proposal including cost/payback analysis for installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic panels on our building was presented to the BJC Board at its October meeting. The Board approved the next step of pursuing grants to make the project possible. Two separate grant applications were submitted to different organizations. As of this writing, BJC has been awarded one of the grants and the other application remains pending.

Additionally, the Climate Action Committee has started working with BJC leadership on Beth Jacob's 2026 Climate Action Plan (CAP) to be submitted to the national Jewish climate organization, Adamah, in January. We will be implementing the initiatives included in our CAP throughout the upcoming calendar year. If you would like to participate, or for more information, please reach out to Laura Millberg, at millbbl@comcast.net.

DOROTHY DAY COMMITTEE SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Putting our value of tikun olam into practice, Beth Jacob members volunteer to prepare and serve meals at the Dorothy Day homeless shelter. The shelter provides housing, social services, and meals to some of the most vulnerable people in downtown Saint Paul. Joining with other local faith communities, we take responsibility for Sunday breakfast once a month.

We serve a hearty vegetarian breakfast, usually of eggs, potatoes, cereal, and fruit. We prepare, serve, and clean up, serving approximately 300 clients.

Participation is easy. Email invitations are sent out each month. Anyone who chooses to respond comes to the shelter's kitchen at 7:45 am to help cook. We serve breakfast at 9:00 and finish by 10:30. Parking is free, and the warm feeling that comes from helping others is priceless.

Join the list of volunteers by sending an email to Andy.Meltzer@gmail.com.

KESHER

The Keshet Committee has been busy this year with our annual activities: sending Rosh HaShanah cards to all members, sponsoring the Tashlich picnic, conducting engagement meetings with new members, and working on the new member bulletin board which introduces the community to our most recent members. We will continue to work on integrating new members into the community and working on ways to keep members engaged, such as the potluck playdate for families with small children we had in the summer and the ever-popular Xmas Chinese food and movie program.

SECURITY

Beth Jacob relies on congregants who serve on Shabbat and holidays as greeters at the front door with the paid security guard. Please consider signing up to be a Community Greeter, welcoming members and saying hello to newcomers. You can sign up via the link in the weekly shul email. If you're interested in receiving training to become a security greeter, please contact us. Will Thomas, w.thomas.mn@gmail.com, Mitch Multer, mitchmulter@comcast.net, or contact Security@Beth-Jacob.org.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

As a participatory shul, we welcome you to read Torah and/or lead davenning. If you would like to learn how, we welcome that too! Use this QR code to sign up for a Torah reading or a service.



Please contact

- Michael or Marguerite Krause (markrause@gmail.com, sherlock47@gmail.com),
- Jo Pasternack (EricandJo44@aol.com), or
- Jessica Zehavi (Jessica.Zehavi@gmail.com)

with any questions, or to request lessons!

SHUL CLOUD UTILIZATION

ShulCloud is Beth Jacob's synagogue management software system. We use it for all manner of record keeping and communications with our community, and we continue to work diligently to clean up and update information from our old systems, including household account information, personal information, and Yahrzeits.

Some of the things we have been working on since our last report:

- Helping to provide transparency on Board of Trustees activities by making meeting minutes available in ShulCloud.
- Preparing for integration between our Sage accounting system and ShulCloud by end of year.
- Expanding use of digital notices to members (e.g., Yahrzeit notices, financial statements)

As we always emphasize, properly observing Yahrzeits is one of the highest priorities we have. To that end, one of the things we use ShulCloud for is sending out Yahrzeit letters and e-mails to observers. If you did not receive a Yahrzeit letter you expected, please let us know so that we can fix our ShulCloud information in a timely manner.

Feel free to contact the synagogue office or Bernie Miller:
651-792-6563 or mille328@comcast.net

Includes donations received through December 1, 2025

Adult Learning & Programming Fund

Robert & Julie Tornberg

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Allen-Gorin Education Endowment

Yanislav & Inna Wolfson

In honor of Baby Boy Usem

Betty & Bud Sweet Endowment

Laurie & Tom Smith

In memory of Fyllis Winston z"l

In memory of Marvin Smith z"l

In memory of Marcia Stone z"l

In memory of Alan Kane z"l

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Janet & Charlie Leavitt

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Bear-Schoenkin Endowment

Louis Newman & Rabbi Amy Eilberg

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Stuart Bear & Marsha Schoenkin

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

In memory of Carol Schaumann z"l

Building Fund

Tanya Shipkowitz

Fred Haeusler & Leslie Martin

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Herb & Marta Schechter

Feeding the Hungry (Dorothy Day) Fund

Mira Frank

In memory of Gretchen Tselos z"l

General Fund

Linda Schloff

In honor of Laurie Radovsky & Geoff

Marshall on their 40th wedding anniversary

Joan Farber

In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Carolyn Belle & Sandra Levine

In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Bonnie Resnick & Alan Milavetz

In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Beth Pearlman & Garry George

In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Bruce Schwaidelson

In memory of Helen Schwaidelson z"l

In memory of Sidney Schwaidelson z"l

In memory of Steven O. Siegfried z"l

Elie & Eileen Helms

Baruch Hashem

Elaine DuFresne

In honor of Inna & Slava Wolfson

In honor of Judy Levitan

In memory of David Birnbaum z"l

In honor of the birth of Shira Shahar Forbush

In memory of Carol Schaumann z"l

In honor of the birth of Gemma Elle Millberg

Laurence Cooper

In honor of Ann Cooper

Noam Kaufmann

Ted & Jackie Flaum

In memory of Gregg Flaum z"l

Cynthia Launer & Will Thomas

In memory of Edna Bernstein z"l

In memory of Leonard Wetzler z"l

In memory of Carolyn Auerbach z"l

In memory of Carol Schaumann z"l

Riva & El Nolley

In memory of Edna Bernstein z"l

In honor of the birth of Gemma Elle Millberg

In honor of Chatan Torah D.Marcos Vital

In honor of Kallat Bereishit Lydia Schultz

In honor of the birth of new baby boy Usem

Robert & Jennifer Kaplan

In memory of Gretchen West z"l

Shira & Michael Schwartz

Michael & Marguerite Krause

Kate Sandweiss & Gerry Richman
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Naomi & Neil Arnold
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Jimmy & Stephanie Levine
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Dionne S. Genz
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Rhoda Mains
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Giulia Girgenti, Louis Hunter, & Erin Webb
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Carol Max
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Amy & Kevin Olson
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Michael & Susan Slotnick
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Lapidos/Gillman Family
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Burt & Lucille Garr
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Jerry & Maury Feingold
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Sandy Aaron
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Lee Litman
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Elizabeth Lamin & Heather Grulkowski
*In honor of Sonya Rapport receiving the
Women of Intention award
In memory of Sean O'Connor z"l
In memory of Don Salisbury z"l
In memory of Gretchen Tselos z"l*

Kiddush Fund

Mira Frank
In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Barb Curchack & Natan Paradise
In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Rachel Chinitz
In honor of Rabbi Tamar's installation

Aron & Ellen Rolnitzky
*In honor of Steve Rosenthal's 80th birthday
In memory of Don Salisbury z"l*

Susie Minsberg
In honor of Maxine Rosenthal

Carol & Gordon Altshuler
*In memory of Edna Bernstein z"l
In memory of Leonard Wetzler z"l
In memory of Dr. Jonathan Slavin z"l
In memory of Gretchen Tselos z"l
In memory of Don Salisbury z"l*

Debby Evans
*In honor of the 1st birthdays of Zevi and
Shai Evans and of the 6th birthday of
Dalia Evans*

Limudim Adult Education Donation

Jean Gordon
In honor of Rabbi David Thomas

Rabbi Tamar's Discretionary Fund

Rochelle Weisgurt
In honor of Chevra Kadisha & Rabbi Tamar

Aaron Silver & Noam Sienna
In honor of the arrival of
Arlo Joseph Briski-Richie

Riva & El Nolley
*In appreciation of Carolyn Levy
In memory of Larry Savett z"l*

Stuart Kaufman & Esther Malabel
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Dale Rosenberg & Rabbi Ahuvah Loewenthal
In honor of Sharon Rosenberg-Scholl

**In honor of Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm
on her installation**

Chuck & Cookie Abramson
 Agudas Achim Congregation
 Elizabeth Barnard & Rabbi Lynn Liberman
 Mary & Benjamin Bejar
 Carolyn Belle & Sandra Levine
 Mara Benjamin & Miryam Kabakov
 Sheldon Berkowitz & Carolyn Levy
 Barbara Block
 Sheila Brod
 Marian Broida & Ruth Einstein
 Alan & Carmella Chazin
 Linda Clark
 Michael & Lorraine Davis
 Shosh Dworsky & Mitch Multer
 Debby Evans
 Caryn Feinberg
 Mari Forbush
 Mira Frank
 Paula Garland
 Susan J. Garner
 Gordon & Beth Gendler
 Sergio & Monica Girgenti
 Goffman Family
 Wendy Goldberg & Dan Halpern
 Laurie & Joel Goldsmith
 Kristine Handsart
 Laura & David Honan
 Ellen & Bruce Johnson
 Marilyn Kales
 Roy & Stephanie Kay
 Michael & Marguerite Krause
 Krause/Pomerantz Family
 Pam & Bill Lauer
 Cynthia Launer & Will Thomas
 Barbara A. Lehmann
 Matt Leichter
 Barbie Levine & Sara Lynn Newberger
 Bernie, Hanne, & Joseph Levinson
 Cary Libman
 Andrea Lubov & Allan Schultz
 Geoff Marshall & Laurie Radovsky
 Toby & Michael Meirovitz
 Laura & Brian Millberg
 Don Mitchell & Barbara Staub
 Leslie Morris

Riva & El Nolley
 Paula Nordhem
 Dina Osullivan
 Genevieve Parker
 Linda & Bob Perry
 Debra Rappaport
 Sonya & Jacob Rapport
 Tamar Resnick & Daniel Schwarcz
 Phyllis Robinson & Laura Robinson
 Ellen & Aron Rolnitzky
 Doris Rubenstein
 Rabbis Rubenstein
 Tammy & Naften Sadoff
 Larry (z"l) & Sue Savett
 Linda Schloff
 Wendy & Ruven Schwartz
 Ronald Scott
 Emery Sher
 Ann Silver
 Tessa Silver
 Jill & Steve Spanier
 Dianne & Hector Sztainer
 Alex T. Treitler
 Mark & Lynn Usem
 Joanna Volk
 Lisa & Kevin Walker
 Bonnie & Ron Weisman
 Inna & Yanislav Wolfson

Sanctuary Technology Fund

Paula Garland

In memory of Mark Greenberg z"l

Security Fund

Steve Krovitz

In appreciation of the dedicated work of
the volunteers who greet and those who
provide security for our congregation

Sharon Bloom Endowment

Aron & Ellen Rolnitzky

In honor of Stephen & Katharine Liston

In honor of Eric & JoAnn Pasternack

Jan & Lou Leichter

In memory of Sharon Bloom z"l

In memory of Albert Kontur z"l

In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Tikun Olam Fund

Nan Zieleniec & Michael Kirsch
*In honor of Zevi, Shai and Dalia Evans and
 Debby Evans for being such a wonderful
 Bubbe to our grandchildren!*

Will Thomas & Cynthia Launer

Esti Koen & Andrew Meltzer
In appreciation of Rabbi Tamar

Carolyn Belle & Sandra Levine

Steffanie Goldsmith

*Thank you so very much for opening your
 shul to my family to gather from all points
 of the US and celebrate with my son at
 Macalester for the high holidays. We felt
 so warm and welcome. It was truly
 special.*

Debby Evans
In appreciation of Mindy Ratner

Linda Clark
In support of Afghan families

Torah Fund

Susan Siegfried
*In memory of Sarah Schwaidelson z"l
 In memory of Bessie Simon z"l*

USY/Gesher Fund

Gordon & Carol Altshuler
In honor of the birth of Harvey Holdhusen

Debbie Vertelney
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Yahrzeit Fund

Elizabeth Lamin & Heather Grulkowski
In memory of Edna Bernstein z"l

David Rephan & Jason Bryan
*In memory of Ryan Lohr's Mother and
 Grandmother on their first yahrzeits*

Paula Garland
In memory of Irma Rosenfeld z"l

Pam & Bill Lauer
In memory of Hallie Goss z"l

Debby Evans & Family
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Beth Rosenschein
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Gordon & Beth Gendler
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Sheldon Berkowitz & Carolyn Levy
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Marlene & Mike Schoenberg
In memory of Larry Savett z"l

Gordon & Carol Altshuler
In memory of Phillip Boslov z"l

Lynn Arnold
In memory of Ruth Wieting z"l

Elizabeth Barnard
*In memory of Sylvia Helfrick z"l
 In memory of John Helfrick z"l*

Linda Birnbaum
In memory of Hilda Peterson z"l

Joy Blaker
*In memory of Oscar Stein z"l
 In memory of Rose Stein z"l*

Alan Block
In memory of Roberta Hirsch Block z"l

Sheila Brod
In memory of David Brod z"l

Michelle Buchert
In memory of Ida Weinstein z"l

Bruno Chaouat
In memory of Rywka Goldberg Majer z"l

Linda Clark
In memory of Denzil Showers z"l

Maddy & Yosef Cohen
*In memory of Jennie Minnie Schatz z"l
 In memory of Leo Reitner z"l
 In memory of Marvin Turk z"l*

Lorraine & Mike Davis

In memory of Donna Weiser z"l
In memory of Bob Weiser z"l
In memory of Gertrude Cohen z"l
In memory of Larry Cohen z"l
In memory of Paul Davis z"l
In memory of Jeremy Davis z"l

Dori Denelle

In memory of Eileen Brown z"l
In memory of Laurie Holden z"l

Gerald Fine

In memory of Louis Fine z"l
In memory of Anne Fine z"l

Cadence & Dean Fingerholz

In memory of Harry Schoen z"l

Irwin Fischman

In memory of Mary Schachtman z"l

Susie & Leslie Fishman

In memory of Rebecca Fishman z"l

Mari Forbush

In memory of Eva Gruska z"l
In memory of Virginia Forbush z"l
In memory of Jinny Forbush z"l

Tom & Deb Frishberg

In memory of Serene Frishberg z"l

Giulia Girgenti & Louis Hunter

In memory of Vincenza Meli z"l
In memory of Giorgio Girgenti z"l

Jane & Howard Gleeman

In memory of Ben Gleeman z"l

Elaine Gross

In memory of Faye Lazer z"l
In memory of Hyman Bliznsky z"l

Jeri Heiligman

In memory of Avron Heiligman z"l

Karen Helfand & Susan Woodstrom

In memory of Sadie Brochin z"l

Louis Hurvitz

In memory of William Hurvitz z"l
In memory of Edith Hurvitz z"l
In memory of Lucia Rebalsky z"l

Ellen Johnson

In memory of Emanuel Block z"l
In memory of Myron Block z"l

Harold Kaplan

In memory of Hyman Kaplan z"l
In memory of Esther Kaplan z"l
In memory of Reuben Kaplan z"l
In memory of Patrice Kaplan z"l

Nancy Karasov

In memory of Bess Stone z"l
In memory of Heidi Resnick z"l

Bruce Karsner

In memory of Helen Karsner z"l

Rochelle Karter

In memory of Jack Karter z"l
In memory of Minnie Karter z"l

Miriam & Bob Kleinbaum

In memory of Mollie Goldrich z"l

Howard Krosser

In memory of Stanley Rosenthal z"l

Steve Krovitz

In memory of Esther Krovitz z"l
In memory of Robert Goldish z"l

Anna Lamin

In memory of Reyzya Gerber z"l
In memory of Perla Gerber z"l
In memory of Ada Lamin z"l

Elizabeth Lamin & Heather Grulkowski

In memory of Perla Gerber z"l
In memory of Reyzya Gerber z"l

Cynthia Launer & Will Thomas

In memory of Robert Launer z"l
In memory of John V Thomas, MD z"l
In memory of Herman Birnberg z"l
In memory of Margaret Thomas z"l

Janet & Charlie Leavitt

In memory of Wesley Siegel z"l

Louis & Janice Leichter

In memory of Max Potrop z"l
In memory of Rebecca Leichter z"l

Joyce Levitan

In memory of Ida Levitan z"l

In memory of Leonard Levitan z"l

In memory of Jacob Levitan z"l

Rabbi Lynn Liberman

In memory of Karl Liberman z"l

Idelle Longman

In memory of Molly Longman z"l

Gloria Lowy

In memory of Rose Lowy z"l

Jim Marver

In memory of Sherman Marver z"l

Ron & Karen Matz

In memory of Leonore Matz Labovitz z"l

In memory of Herman Matz z"l

In memory of George Labovitz z"l

Toby & Michael Meirovitz

In memory of Sara Meirovitz z"l

Bernie Miller

In memory of Jean Miller z"l

Mitch Multer

In memory of Jane Tomayo z"l

In memory of Beatrice Multer z"l

Riva Lee Nolley

In memory of Armon Kamesar z"l

In memory of Bernice Kamesar Lee z"l

Leonard Oppenheimer & Lydia Schultz

In memory of Herbert Oppenheimer z"l

In memory of Gene Oppenheimer z"l

In memory of Donald Schultz z"l

In memory of Elsie Jean Schultz z"l

James & Rosa Orenstein

In memory of Dr. Donald Klass z"l

Beth Pearlman

In memory of Herbert Pearlman z"l

Beth Peck

In memory of Esther Peck z"l

In memory of Roberta Hirsch Block z"l

Yanzhela Pyatigorsky

In memory of Lazar Fleisher z"l

In memory of Leonid Pyatigorsky z"l

Phyllis Robinson

In memory of Bernard (Bill) Goldenberg z"l

In memory of Samuel Frank z"l

In memory of Rose Frank z"l

Phyllis Robinson & family

In memory of Lloyd Robinson z"l

Aron Rolnitzky

In memory of Oscar Rolnitzky z"l

Ellen Rolnitzky

In memory of William Goldberg z"l

In memory of Ruben Wisnudel z"l

Lynn Roth

In memory of Minnie Karter z"l

In memory of Jack Karter z"l

Nina Samuels & Earl Schwartz

In memory of Esther Schwartz z"l

Larry & Sue Savett

In memory of Harry N. Savett z"l

In memory of Bertha Landsman z"l

Linda Mack Schloff

In memory of Victor Schloff z"l

In memory of Harry Mack z"l

In memory of Gordon Marshall z"l

Marlene & Mike Schoenberg

In memory of Louis Cohen z"l

In memory of Hannah Schoenberg z"l

In memory of Frances Levine z"l

Lisa Rachael Walker

In memory of Norman Sorscher z"l

Yanislav & Inna Wolfson

In memory of Solomon Katzman z"l

In memory of Gersh Khitrik z"l

In memory of Benjamin Wolfson z"l

Mike Zaslofsky

In memory of Francine Goldberg z"l

We are a Conservative Jewish Synagogue that values:



- Torah—Study
- Avodah—Reverential service
- Gemilut Hasadim—Acts of loving kindness

Beth Jacob Congregation is a community that has come together since 1985 to nurture a relationship with God and supportive connections to each other.

Shabbat is the centerpiece of our community's week. Davening on Shabbat morning brings together individuals with different understandings and knowledge of liturgy: its "choreography," its meaning, its historical significance. Our Limudim program affords the opportunity for children to know the joys of Judaism and Shabbat. Other activities through the year—our daily morning minyan, Talmud study, learning Hebrew, Friday dinners—all build on, and seek to enrich, Shabbat and the holidays. We understand that our responsibility for repairing the world does not end at our shul doors. For example, whether serving breakfast for the homeless at Dorothy Day, or visiting the sick and homebound, our shul takes seriously the mitzvah of Hesed.

We are participatory.

Everyone has a responsibility to contribute their talents and energy to sustain and enrich our community. This can be done in many ways, including through Gemilut Hasadim: teaching; support of the Congregation facility; office volunteering; or assistance with congregational programs.

We are egalitarian.

Everyone has an equal opportunity to be part of the community. Individuals and families of all ages and incomes are welcome. Financial hardship should never be a barrier to participation.

If you are interested in more information about Beth Jacob or know someone you think is considering membership, please contact our office at (651) 452-2226.

Co-Presidents

Leonard Oppenheimer
Tessa Silver

V.P. Torah

Ethan Jewett

V.P. Gemilut Chasadim

Carol Altshuler

V.P. Finance

Brian Millberg

V.P. Avodah/Worship

Eric Pasternack

V.P. Avodah/Work

Will Thomas

Co-Presidents Elect

Geoffrey Marshall
Michael Keller

Trustees

Dani Black
Barb Curchack
Arielle Ehrlich
Keven Fischer
Louis Hunter
Mickey Minsberg
Sharon Press
Kate Sandweiss
Ruth Silver
Jeff Skochil
Steve Ukes
Mark Usem

Honorary Lifetime Members

Eric Pasternack
Bob Perry

Clergy and Staff

Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm
Executive Director
Sonya Rapport
Director of Congregational Programming
Frances Fischer
Youth and Education Coordinator
Marisa Goffman
Finance Manager
Elaine Samuelson
Administrative Assistant
Laurie Goldsmith
Custodian
Carlo Hernandez
Rabbi Emeritus
Rabbi Morris J. Allen