

Chayei Olam Circle

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Lillie Brandt
Ron Brandt
Rabbi Menashe & Donna East
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Paul Fishbein
Steve & Beena Levy
Israel & Gloria Lieberman
Gilbert Mayor & Jackie Holubka
Lisa Monday
Sharon & Craig Nessel
Steve & Faye Okun
David & Judi Paris
Charles & Sherry Pollack
Jonathan & Jamie Ramsfelder
David & Meryl Rehaut
Helen S. Schwartz
Steven Schwartz
Lewis Schwarcz
Cookie Wertheimer
Morty Wertheimer
Michael Zeiger
Rochelle Zeiger

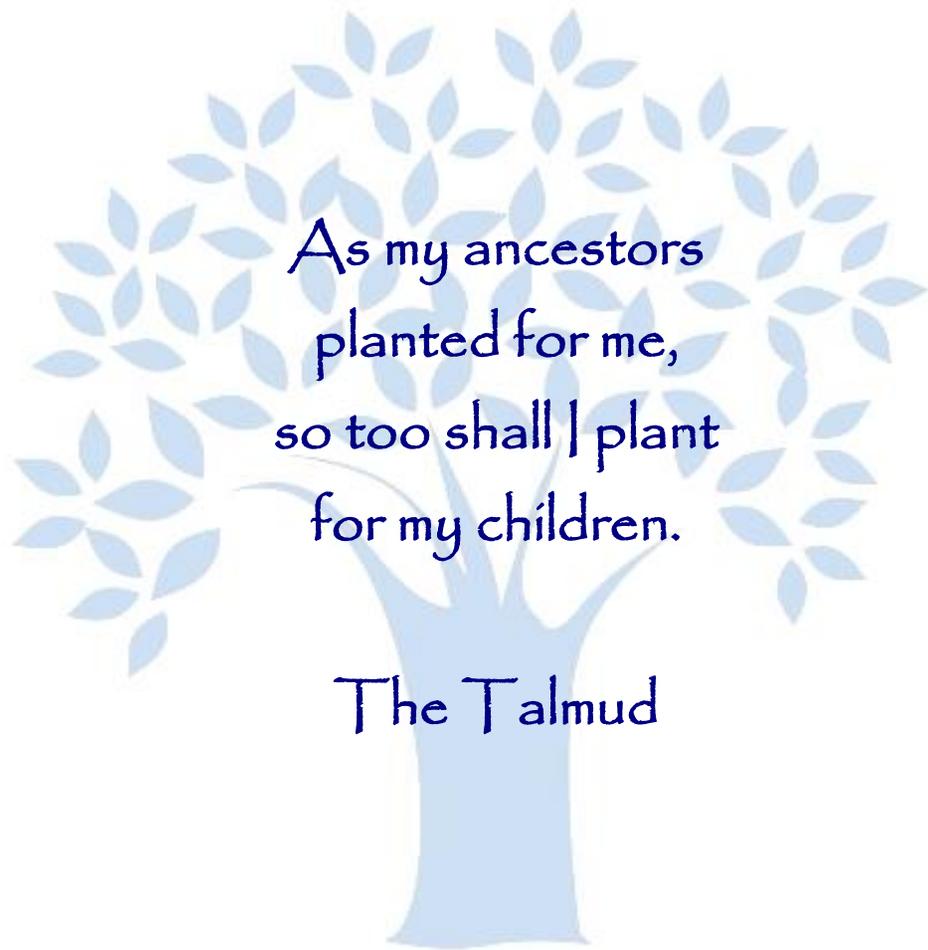


Experience

Envision

Inspire

Build



*As my ancestors
planted for me,
so too shall I plant
for my children.*

The Talmud

Thank you to our
Chayei Olam Circle Members
and to the
Jewish Community Foundation of
Greater MetroWest
and the
Grinspoon Foundation,
our partners in making this
remarkable program possible.

For more information, please see
the COC brochure or speak with
a COC committee person.



The Shul is our home. We raised our family and celebrated all of our simchas together. We also found comfort within our Shul family when we needed that support as well. Joining the Legacy Circle helps insure future experiences for all of our wonderful MFJC family.

--Lillie & Ron Brandt



Chayei Olam Circle members share their thoughts on the importance of the MFJC Legacy program and why they are participating.

There was a special event ... in Springfield and if you weren't there, you should have been there, and if you were there you showed, once again, that Mount Freedom Jewish Center's membership is exceptional in the best sense.

The attendees are committed to be legacy donors, i.e. giving to Jewish institutions in their wills or other deferred means. Maybe our committee did a better job of explaining how painless and simple that is and others complicated the deal.

Maybe not, maybe the membership of MFJC is very special in their expression of Jewish values, especially Tzedaka. Our membership is a small group. When I looked at the MetroWest roll of donors, it was obvious that MFJC participation was greater than that of many, many agencies with larger membership. I am proud to be a member of this great group.

If you have already enlisted in the legacy program, Mazel Tov and Yasher Koach, and if you haven't, then do so soon. You can make a great community even greater and you will be glad that you did.

-- Lew Schwarcz



MFJC has played a large part in our family's life for the last 12 years. We love that Mount Freedom is accessible to people from all different backgrounds and know that this shul will do wonderful things for the Jewish people spiritually and educationally well into the future. MFJC is dynamic and exciting and leaving a gift makes us all very happy. We work hard in our lifetime to ensure Jewish continuity and it just seems natural to keep doing so for years to come.

--Craig and Sharon Nessel



Helen and I joined Mt. Freedom a bit before Jill was born. Two of our children were born here with our then Rabbis officiating at a Simchat Bat and a Bris. We've had two Bar Mitzvahs and a Bat Mitzvah here. Our sons celebrated their auf-rufs here. We've shared Sheva Brachot here with our community. And eight years ago, we celebrated the birth of Jill's twins with Henry's Bris and Gracie's naming.

Mt. Freedom has been our home and where we have experienced all of our family events while also celebrating those of our many close friends here. So when Sharon asked us to be involved, how could you possibly say no? Raising money is not the easiest thing to do, but this process has allowed us to engage our friends and congregants in a way that encourages them to share their own stories and explain their own devotion to this place. It has, without question, been a honor to be part of this.

Looking at my own children and grandchildren, I see how the cost of being Jewish has increased. I see Day School tuition that costs what college tuition used to be. It affects everything from housing to tuition to dues. Our children's generation is often financially stretched way beyond what we experienced. And the implication of that is that it is hard for them to provide a level of support to their Jewish institutions beyond the required dues, fees and tuition.

That's why Helen and I chose to be part of this. For us, it is crucial that Jewish life remain strong, vibrant and on as sound a financial base as possible. Making a legacy gift to our shul has validated our sense of how central Mt. Freedom has been to our lives. The support we provide after we are gone will hopefully be there to make sure that our shul not only survives but thrives. We are proud to be part of the Chayei Olam Circle and look forward to that circle growing larger and larger!

--Steven and Helen Schwartz

MFJC has meant so much to us—we joined before we even had children. Along with our own children's brit milah, naming, and b'nai mitzvah, we have shared those of our friends and community as well. We have also shared loss, received (and hopefully given) comfort in times of need. For more than 20 years, this special shul has been a valuable part of our lives, and for many members, much longer.

The world changes so quickly; nothing stays the same forever, not even our shul. But we do know the warmth, values, spiritual atmosphere, and community of MFJC has been a constant in our lives. We want to be sure that future generations have the opportunity to experience the beauty of having MFJC in their lives as well.

We are often asked for gifts to help with the current budget, event, or needs. As happy as we are to give today, the thought of leaving a gift for later, a legacy gift, was very appealing. Being Jewish is not just about today; it is about the future as well. We want to be a part of ensuring a strong Jewish community for tomorrow.

--Jonathan and Jamie Ramsfelder

I am soooooo proud to be a member of this Great Little shul because I know what a vital role it plays in our community.

While many shuls are bigger in size and membership, our shul has been and continues to be a nucleus for Jewish life and has had the distinction of being the only traditional/modern orthodox shul in Morris County offering it's membership and the community at large a special place to gather and pray according to our rich heritage.

The name MFJC has a special meaning to me and it raises many associations with my past and present. As a child while living with my family in Nazi Europe, I was deprived of my physical and religious freedom. When I joined our shul I had a limited background in observance of Jewish laws and rituals. However with the help of our spiritual leader at that time (Rabbi Bateman) I was able to accomplish much in increasing my knowledge and in acquiring a strong set of Jewish values, for that my family and I will always be grateful to MFJC and it's membership.

As we celebrate together this morning let's remember that our future is bright and promising. With Rabbi Menashe, our spiritual leader, everything is moving in the right direction. As I often said, we are truly blessed with a successful Jewish community and not only a community of successful Jews.

--Michael Zeiger

Mt. Freedom Jewish Center has always been a wonderful and welcoming shul. From the time we joined in 1978 we were made to feel that members cared about us and that we belonged right away. Through the years we have been glad to celebrate our happy occasions as well as mark our sad ones with our shul family. Over time we would nod in agreement as visitors commented on the warmth and friendliness of our members. We have felt fortunate that our children grew up in a shul where traditional Jewish values were learned and practiced. We made our commitment to help ensure that this special shul will continue to be there for future families.

--David and Meryl Rehaut