



June – July, 2023

Welcome to *Gedenk!*

It is my honor to join with rest of the JCHC Board in bringing you our new newsletter. Many thanks to Michael Goldstein, Dawn Elmore, Matt Kordelski and Peg Hainey for lending their talents! Our format is simple for this first issue but improvements are on the way, so stay tuned!

As with everything else we do, it's dedicated to our members and supporters. *Gedenk*, of course, means “remember” and we pledge that we will not forget our obligation to you to provide Shabbat services that begin and end on time and are one hour or less (High Holy Days Services are slightly longer), keep our website interesting and updated, have events in addition to services, get everyone involved in each service, utilize our Czech Torah scroll at every service (with Robert Pill doing the readings), and maintain our Judaic traditions.

In your service,
Don Burda, President

Welcome to Our New Members and Visitors!

We have had four new members join our congregation in the past year. They are Dr. Dawn Elmore and her husband Matt Kordelski from San Antonio and Kevin and Hannah Lockhart from Kerrville. In addition, a number of visitors from as far away as Seattle have spent time with us at Shabbat, potluck dinners, Seder, and Torah study discussions.

Our out-of-state guests were Lisa Giangreco from Seattle, David Tichenor from Oklahoma City and Sam Rood from the NYC area. And from the Kerrville area, Janet Esterman (welcome back!), Robby Hurt, Jeremy Schreiner and Bryce Hall (Ingram) and Susan Faia (Bandera).

We welcome them all and feel honored they chose us!

Our Website

If you haven't looked at our website ([The JCHC](#)) for a while, you're in for a treat. Through the tech-savvy work of our Robert Pill, it has been upgraded with seven new pages added and modifications to two others. Robert updates it regularly. Please take a look, especially the section titled "About Us," and let us know what you think.

An Adventure!



On February 5th, our first "Adventure!" group of JCHCers traveled to San Antonio to have lunch at DiMassi's Mediterranean Grill followed by a visit to the Holocaust Memorial Museum. You'll find more photos and recollections under the "Adventures!" tab on our website, [The JCHC](#).

Shabbat and Other Dates



Shabbat: Friday (6:00pm): June 9th, June 23rd, July 14th and July 28th

Torah Study: Saturday (11:30am to 1:00pm): June 17th, July 1st, July 15th

Nosh 'n' Watch: Saturday July 22nd (Noon at the UU Fellowship, 213 Loma Vista Dr. (See below))

High Holy Days

(Now's the time to put them on your calendar!)

Rosh Hashanah

Evening Service: Friday, September 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Morning Service: Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (Tashlich following the morning Service)

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre Evening Service: Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Short Yizkor and Closing Service: Monday, September 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

(Followed by blessings and Break the Fast)

About Our Masthead

Our masthead was designed by Matt Kordelski with creative input from Dawn Elmore. It features the Tree of Life (etz chaim) as the symbol for the content and our congregation. May the newsletter and our congregation be like the Tree of Life: grounded in Judaism, tradition, growth, and most of all, connection as a family and community.

Nosh 'n' Watch with Dawn 'n' Don



L to R: Yaakov ("Yanks") Lemmer, Azi Schwartz and Naftali Hershtik

Join us at noon on Saturday, July 22nd at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 213 Loma Vista Drive for a **Nosh 'n Watch with Dawn 'n' Don**, the first in a series of video social events. We'll be watching "The New York Cantors," a 2018 performance by three rising stars on the American cantorial music scene. Recorded in Amsterdam's 17th century Portuguese Synagogue, the concert was accompanied by a 33-piece orchestra and an eight-man choir. We'll be serving Don's homemade chicken soup, Dawn's St. Louis salad, toasted ravioli, and Hawaiian Wedding Cake! You have nothing to bring other than yourself! An announcement with RSVP will be sent the first week in July.

One More Thing

We're also sending the *Gedenk* to former members and friends who may not have returned for a variety of reasons. We're not the JCHC you may remember. There's now a vibrancy and joy that permeates all we do! Our emphasis is on true community. Should you wish to be put on our regular mailing list, please tell us. And if you'd like to visit, a warm welcome awaits you!

If you'd rather not receive further information from us, just say so. We won't try to change your mind.

And to our current members and friends who've not attended services in a while, that "warm welcome" extends to you, too! Yes, it's much easier just to stay home; but you're missing SO much.

Including the food!!!

