

The Center of Our Jewish Lives

WJC

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

from **חזק חזק**
Strength to Strength

The Endowment Campaign for Westchester Jewish Center

CASE FOR GIVING

From Strength to Strength: The Endowment Campaign for the Westchester Jewish Center

WJC – A Gateway to the Future

We now celebrate the 100th anniversary of our beloved synagogue – the Westchester Jewish Center – which has been the center of our Jewish lives for so many of us and our families, as well as the many who came before us. They entrusted us with a beautiful spiritual center. With our love and care we maintain it and fill it with the love and vibrancy of Jewish tradition and spirit. It remains a foundation of the Jewish values and ideals that we hold dear and we hope will shape the future for good.

Some of us have been here for just a short while, others for their entire adult lives. But for all of us, the Center is holy. The holiness happens when we gather as a community for a Renewal Service, for the Hanukah party or the Purimshpiel. The holiness happens with the cries of our babies at their bris, and the sounds of our sons and daughters singing God's words at their b'nei mitzvah. The holiness of a synagogue comes from the powerful prayers that we say at Ne'ilah, and the tears that we shed when the body of a friend or family member lies before our bimah. The holiness we create is worthy of a long future.

For 100 years and to this day, WJC impacts the lives of countless people. The WJC clergy and lay leadership have a successful record as thought leaders in Conservative Judaism. Our measured pursuit of innovation and willingness to embrace critical change is reflected in our variety of religious services, excellent schools, engaging classes and programs that touch the minds and souls of young and old alike. Our Center has excelled in finding the right balance between old and new, traditional and progressive.

As we find ourselves in a deeply polarized society, WJC is a place that continues to bring together and embrace people of different backgrounds and ideas with mutual respect. As the new generation confronts a world of extremism, our synagogue is an example of how productive and creative compromise is reached, and how that willingness to cooperate makes us a stronger and more complete community. Indeed, every day we strive to be the model of civility and righteousness that our community and our society needs and deserves.



The Opportunities that Lie Ahead

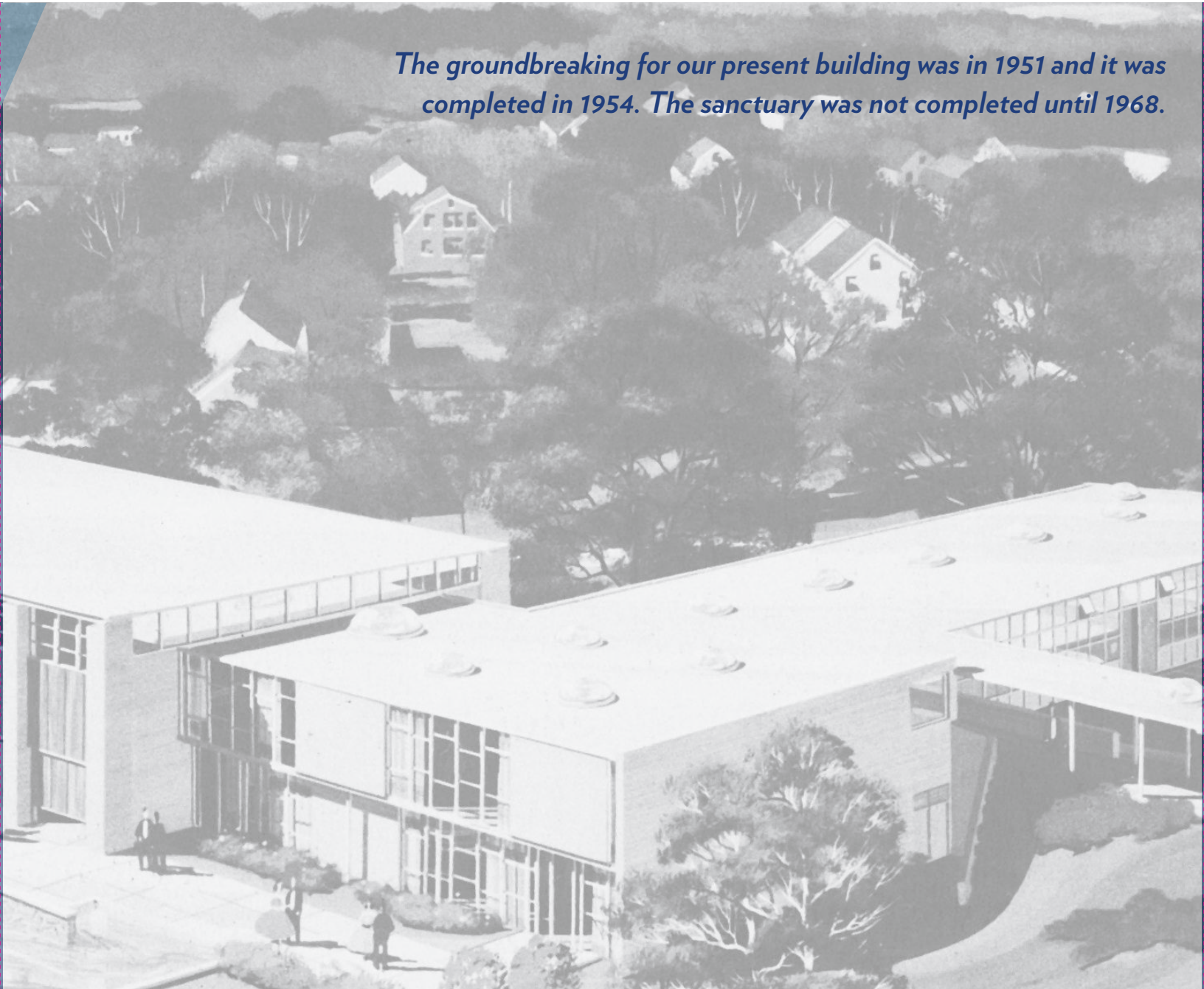
The future of WJC will present new and unique opportunities. We know that social trends are moving away from institutional religion and toward a more personal and less communal spirituality. Balancing ancient wisdom and tradition with modern and even “personalized” meaning remains our objective and doing so with excellence has been the hallmark of our success. Continuing to do so will require fearless and creative innovation. It will require excellent clergy and teachers and a willingness to experiment with different forms of programming and outreach.

How One Generation Arranges the Success of the Next Generation

We are inspired by the many talented and dedicated young people currently taking on leadership roles at WJC. Rabbi Arnowitz, our dynamic new Senior Rabbi, will lead the congregation into its second century. Our younger members are very excited. Those who have loved our synagogue for many years should be both proud and hopeful – many have found themselves reinvigorated as we look forward.

An important task remains, and that task is ours. The task is to provide our lay leaders and clergy with the resources they need to continue our pursuit of innovation and change while maintaining the core of our traditions and customs. In so doing, WJC will continue to meaningfully impact the lives of our current membership and the community at large and be ready to have a significant and positive impact on generations yet to come.

The groundbreaking for our present building was in 1951 and it was completed in 1954. The sanctuary was not completed until 1968.



**MAKE AN EXEMPLARY, LEGACY,
ONCE-IN-A-GENERATION GIFT**

to our Endowment Campaign which will ensure that WJC continues to serve the Jewish community of our region with excellence for generations to come.

*It's our turn now
to create our legacy.*

GIVING LEVELS

Benefactor:	\$2,000,000+
Guardian:	\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999
Pillar:	\$500,000 - \$999,999
Builder:	\$250,000 - \$499,999
Leader:	\$100,000 - \$249,999
Patron:	\$50,000 - \$99,999
Sustainer:	\$25,000 - \$49,999
Sponsor:	\$18,000 - \$24,999
Friend:	\$10,000 - \$17,999
Supporter:	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Donor:	\$4,999 or under



From Strength to Strength: The Endowment Campaign for the Westchester Jewish Center

To make that happen, WJC is determined to raise \$8-10 million to create an unrestricted endowment, committed to supporting our synagogue as it advances and evolves. Endowments are designed to keep the principal intact and use the earnings to invest in our future. Committed to transparency and governed by an Investment and Financial Oversight Committee, our current and future leaders will be able to use the income generated by the Endowment to explore new programs, provide additional resources, and experiment with new approaches to advance the spirituality and vibrancy of our synagogue and the Jewish community.

Securing Our Spiritual Future in the Face of Change

Our one hundred years of success was accomplished by each generation enhancing the legacy they inherited from those before them. In every aspect of our lives, change occurs more rapidly today than ever before. The WJC Endowment will finance the innovation and exploration required to help secure our shared spiritual future. The success of the Endowment depends upon you. We all know that in every life endeavor, the efforts we make to secure the future make our present more meaningful. We look forward to strengthening WJC today by giving it the means to remain the steward of our Jewish values and ideals for generations to come.

Dear Friends,

Westchester Jewish Center is truly the Center of our Jewish lives, sustaining us spiritually, intellectually, culturally and emotionally. We have prayed together, celebrated holidays and festivals together, and shared so many simchas that we feel a special sense of kinship and connection with all of you who, like us, treasure WJC.

We are honored to lead From Strength to Strength: The Endowment Campaign for Westchester Jewish Center, enabling our synagogue to nurture our community as it continues to grow and evolve and remain a Jewish hub for generations to come.

Our Campaign will provide WJC with important financial resources to encourage innovation and the development and advancement of programs that embrace new opportunities. The endowment will also strengthen and secure our financial foundation, allowing us to meet the changing priorities and needs of our community as we continue to expand and thrive, as well as protecting us from unforeseen circumstances or occurrences in the future. This unrestricted endowment will provide our current and future leadership with the flexibility to try new and creative approaches for our congregation while maintaining allegiance to the core of our already successful programming.

Change is happening at an accelerated pace in every aspect at WJC, from technology and security needs, to providing spiritual and educational connectivity to our members and their children. By successfully establishing this Endowment, we will provide our synagogue with important financial resources to pursue change, take advantage of opportunities and meet the needs of our members from a position of strength. Together, we will further secure our foundation, so that WJC will continue to serve our community well into the future, as it has for nearly 100 years.

As it is written in Pirkei Avot, Ethics of the Fathers, it is not our duty to finish the work, but neither are we at liberty to neglect it. We invite you to join us in generously supporting the WJC Endowment Campaign. Together we can create an inspiring legacy, impacting the lives of our members and future generations.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and participation.

In friendship and with appreciation,

Rabbi Jeffrey Arnowitz

Rabbi Jeffrey Segelman

Cantor Ethan Goldberg

Seth Schafler, WJC President

Ian Winters and Lawrence Iason,
Campaign Co-Chairs



***It is not our duty to finish the work, but
neither are we at liberty to neglect it.”***

(Pirkei Avot, Ethics of the Fathers)

The Center of Our Jewish Lives



WESTCHESTER JEWISH CENTER

www.wjcenter.org

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