



CoM newsletter

CONGREGATION OF MOSES • Kalamazoo, Michigan

Volume 13 Issue 5
May 2020 7 Iyar - 14 Sivan 5780



Programming Update

Here we are, beginning another month of staying at home. The weather is beginning to get warmer and now we can all spend more time outdoors, instead of being cooped up inside. The Program Team is continuing to bring to you more of the programs you have been enjoying, with new programs online!

This past month has been filled with new experiences for everyone. I was expecting to fly to New York to spend Passover with my family; I may not have been with them in person, but we all came together for a Zoom seder. I missed being able to physically be at my grandparents' house to celebrate together, but it was good to see everyone on our screens. Zoom has been an amazing resource during this time. I've been able to reconnect with friends during our virtual cocktail hours and participate in religious experiences.

Last month, we kickstarted our online programming with *Stories with Rabbi Spivak* and the *Second Cup Study Group*. *Havdalah Happy Hour* continues to thrive and now we are adding games to our weekly meetings. For those looking to get active, we are offering two different fitness classes: one for adults and teens, and one for kids. Each class meets twice a week with Melissa Anderson, Certified Personal Trainer. *The Daily Minyan*, led by Earl Norman, is still going strong with daily meetings to come together in prayer. All of these programs and more are on our website, where you can sign up to attend.

We also gathered to celebrate two holidays last month. On April 9th, we had our first ever virtual second night Seder. Over 50 CoM members celebrated Passover together in a meaningful Seder led by Earl Norman. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the Seder. We also commemorated Yom HaShoah on April 20th with a meaningful service led by Rabbi Spivak. The service began with a video that highlighted the lives of European Jews before, during and after the Holocaust, and featured a reading of the poem "A Small Station of Treblinka" by CoM member Rachel Haus. Over 50 CoM members lit candles to honor the six million who were lost during the Holocaust. Big thanks to everyone who attended, helped plan this event, worked on the video or read poetry during the service.

THE OVERSIGHT BOARD

always welcomes comments from CoM congregants and invites you to attend its regular meetings, held twice monthly.

Oversight Board

Co-Chairs

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The CoM newsletter is published monthly by the Congregation of Moses for the benefit of its members. **The deadline for submitting articles, photos and ads is the 18th of each month, for publication the following month.** Please send submissions to both the editor, at bulletin@congregationofmoses.org and assistant editor, at congofmosesbulletin@hotmail.com.

After a hiatus, Rabbi Spivak is bringing his class, *The Ethical Life: Jewish Values in an Age of Choice* online! Classes began on April 27th with a study of the *Ethics of Food Production*. On May 20th, the topic will be *Advance Directives and the Ethics of End-of-Life Care* and on June 22nd, *Is Lying Ever Ethical?*

Rabbi Spivak will also be starting a new weekly program, *Jewish Food for Thought*. Beginning on Thursday, May 7, each week the group will meet for a short discussion about how Judaism looks at God and the world. Shabbat morning services have also begun online, as of April 25th.

We hope that you are staying healthy and safe during this time. We can't wait until we can see everyone in person again!



For now, access to the synagogue is limited to employees only.

If you have any needs, contact Shirley Mengel, who will be in the office 8:00 am-noon most weekdays.

Call Shirley at 269-342-5463 or via email at comofficemgr@gmail.com.



Shabbat candle lighting times

May 1	8:24 p.m.
May 8	8:32 p.m.
May 15	8:39 p.m.
May 22	8:46 p.m.
May 29	8:53 p.m.



Bracha for candle lighting

*Ba-ruch a-tah A-do-nai Elo-hei-nu me-lech
ha-o-lam a-sher kid-shan-u be-mits-vo-tav
vi-tzi-van-u l'had-lik-ner shel Shabbat.*

Services Online

Saturday, May 2

9:30 a.m. online
Torah: Leviticus 16:1- 17:7
Haftarah: Amos 9:7-9:15

Saturday, May 9

9:30 a.m. online
Torah: Emor, Leviticus 21:1-22:16
Haftarah: Ezekiel 44:15-31

Saturday, May 16

9:30 a.m. online
Torah: Leviticus 25:1-38
Haftarah: Jeremiah 16:19-17:14

Saturday, May 23

9:30 a.m. online
Torah: Numbers 1:1-54
Haftarah: Hosea 2:1-22

Friday, May 29

9:30 a.m. online Shavuot Services

Saturday, May 30

9:30 a.m. online
Torah: Shavuot, Deuteronomy 14:22-16:17, Numbers 28:26-31
Haftarah: Habakkuk 2:20-3:19



Shabbat services signup can be found on our website, congregationofmoses.org

DAILY MINYAN

Led by Earl Norman every Monday-Friday morning at 7:30 am and Sunday mornings at 8:30 am.



Sign up on our website, congregationofmoses.org

Havdalah Happy Hour Online

Every Saturday evening
8:15 pm - Happy Hour and games
8:45 pm - Havdalah

Sign up on our website, congregationofmoses.org



LEAD PRAYERS DURING HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

We love people who participate in services by leading prayers from the bima. Whether one prayer or a whole section of the service, we welcome and encourage such participation.



That's especially true for the High Holidays. Every year, several of our members lead part of the morning service for Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur. You can too!

Please let me know that you would like to lead a prayer or prayers on the High Holidays and I will provide you with the material and all the personal help you need to enjoy the experience of leading.

Let me hear from you.

Rabbi Harvey Spivak

342-5463, avocet68@aol.com

CoM / TBI Book Club

Coming in June 2020

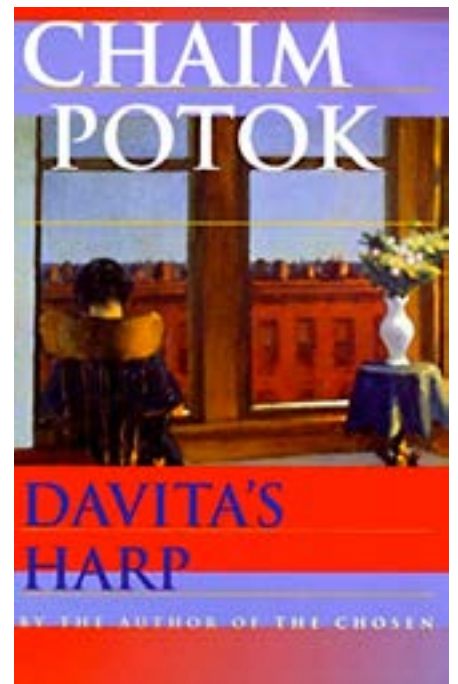
The next combined book discussion between CoM and Temple B'nai Israel will tentatively be held in June 2020 (date to be announced).

The book selection is *Davita's Harp* by Chaim Potok, a historical novel written in 1985. At the time, *The New York Times* said this book was not Potok's best book but it was his bravest. The story is set in 1930s-1940s New York City. Davita's parents (one Jewish, one Gentile) are dedicated communists who eschew religion. Davita, keenly aware of the Spanish Civil War, Italy's invasion of Ethiopia, lynchings in the South and Hitler's Europe, seeks solace and finds comfort in Judaism.

While libraries and bookstores are still closed, it may take some time to acquire and read the book. The Congregation of Moses Fisher Library has one copy and Cary Mannaberg at TBI also has a copy. We will do our best to circulate it. Stay tuned for more information.

In the meantime, please consider buying your own copy. You can order through our locally-owned bookstores, this is a bookstore/Bookbug or Kazoo Books.

Inexpensive used copies can also be found online at websites such as Abe Books, eBay and Amazon.



MAY CELEBRATIONS



The Congregation of Moses wishes **mazel tov and yom huledet sameach** to our members who are celebrating anniversaries and birthdays this month. If you would like to be included in our monthly recognition of birthdays and anniversaries, please contact Joanne Simon at 324-6054 or jhsimon@charter.net.

BIRTHDAYS

- 5/1 P'nina Ari-Gur
- 5/2 Carrie Richman
- 5/3 Andrea Katz
- 5/5 Steve Richman
- 5/6 Alan Cohen
- 5/8 Adam Strauss
- 5/9 Michael Simon
- 5/9 Bruce Minsley
- 5/9 Emma Fischell
- 5/10 Jeffrey Scheinker
- 5/23 Isaac Green
- 5/24 Stella Amy
- 5/29 Tamara Norman
- 5/30 Earl Norman



ANNIVERSARIES

- 5/5 Michelle & Alan Angel
- 5/8 Sylvia & Alfred Blum
- 5/26 Rebecca & Adam Strauss



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turnaround translations but don't want to pay
high premiums and can't risk inaccurate
computer translations.

S Contact us for a price quote or sample of our
business: onkelus@gmail.com

May 2020

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					1	2 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
3 R.S. online; Second Cup study group online, 4:30-5:00 pm	4	5 OvB meeting, 7:00 pm 	6 R.S. online; Second Cup study group online, 5:00-5:30 pm	7 Jewish Food for Thought online, 11:00 am 	8	9 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
10 No R.S.; Second Cup study group online, 4:30-5:00 pm	11	12	13 R.S. online; Second Cup study group online, 5:00-5:30 pm	14 Jewish Food for Thought online, 7:00 pm 	15	16 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
17 R.S. online - last day; Second Cup study group online, 4:30-5:00 pm	18 Bulletin Deadline, 8:00 pm	19	20 The Ethical Life Course online, 1:00 pm or 7:00 pm Second Cup study group online, 5:00-5:30 pm	21 Jewish Food for Thought online, 11:00 am 	22	23 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
24	25	26	27 Second Cup study group online, 5:00-5:30 pm	28 Jewish Food for Thought online, 7:00 pm 	29 Shavuot services, 9:30 am 	30 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
31						

June 2020

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	1	2 OvB meeting, 7:00 pm 	3	4	5	6 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
7	8	9	10	11 Coffee Talk online, 11:00 am 	12	13 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
14	15 Hadassah Book Club, 7:00 pm	16	17	18 Bulletin Deadline, 8:00 pm	19	20 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
21	22 The Ethical Life Course online, 1:00 pm or 7:00 pm 	23	24	25	26	27 Shabbat Services online, 9:30 am Havdalah Happy Hour online, 8:15 pm
28	29	30				

Yahrzeits

May 1, 2 (8 Iyar – 14 Iyar)

Jeanette Brown*	Robert Cheron	Guttie Gerber
Daniel Goodman	Rose Holstein	William Kaplan*
Samuel Lando*	Max LaVene*	Jack Perse
Bella Schensul*	Grant Schwartz	Dorothy Serlin Gerber
Lillian Zucker		

May 8, 9 (15 Iyar – 21 Iyar)

Norman Besbris*	Stanley Besbris*	Bessie Boris*
Marian Fischell	Robert Forman*	Hyman Gottlieb*
Jean Grossman*	Sol Heytow	George Hyman*
Carrie Kanofsky*	Allen Katz*	Doris S. Kirschner*
Dorothea Knapp*	Dora Leiberman*	Werner Liepman*
Dorothy Pollens	Ceil Rabinovitz	Benjamin Rose*
Fannie Rose*	Ramon Ruiz	Rosalia Ruiz
Ronn Sofen*	Ida Zimmerman*	

May 15, 16 (22 Iyar – 28 Iyar)

Samuel Berman*	Peggy Friedman Frank*	Morris Louis Friedman*
Michael Goldberg*	Bryna Graff*	Edgar Inselberg
Samuel Konigsberg*	Ida Levene*	Irving Rappaport*
Morris Spivak*	Julius Stulberg*	

May 22, 23 (29 Iyar – 6 Sivan)

Morris Cohen	Myron Freed	Samuel Graff*
Mitchell Peven*	Sol Raffel	Lisa Resnick
Aaron Rosenberg*	Avraham Rosenberg*	Dov Bernard Rosenberg*
Hannah R. M. Rosenberg*	Janet Rosenberg*	Shalom F. Rosenberg*
Yitzhok Rosenberg*	Zipporah Seeder*	Nathan Silverman*
Celia Slosberg*		

May 29, 30 (7 Sivan – 13 Sivan)

Joyce Fisher*	Goldie Fogel	Ida Kazanovitz
Irving Lando*	Jack Levene*	Jean H. Morrison*
Harry Okun*	Sarah Oshinsky	David Rose*
Mina Blum Seidler*	Meyer Turndorf	Diana Zheutlin*

* Denotes a memorial plaque in the synagogue

Mishpacha

MAZEL TOV TO

Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

CONDOLENCES TO OUR FRIENDS

Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

— Donations have been made to the following funds. —

GENERAL FUND

Mazel Tov to Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

Condolences to Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

*Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Tamara & Earl Norman, Diane & Harvey Fogel
Beth & Stephen Grode, Shirley Wise, Pnina & Judah Ari-Gur, Cindy & Larry Beer
Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Men's Club, Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal
Joanne & Mike Simon, Men's Club*

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

*Beth & Stephen Grode, Shirley Wise, Pnina & Judah Ari-Gur, Cindy & Larry Beer
Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Men's Club, Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal
Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Tamara & Earl Norman, Diane & Harvey Fogel
Joanne & Mike Simon, Men's Club, Nan Goldenthal, Jacob Weintraub
Sharon & Joel Wittenberg*

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

*Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Men's Club, Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal, Barbara Utter
Joanne & Mike Simon, Men's Club, Pnina & Judah Ari-Gur, Cindy & Larry Beer
Diane & Harvey Fogel, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Tamara & Earl Norman
Shirley Wise, Beth & Stephen Grode, Liz Thall, Nan Goldenthal, Elyse Kaps
Jane & Bob Rogers, Marysue & Mark Hoffman, Benny, Jimmie & Danny Cunningham
Curt & Margaret Haan, Jane & Joe Brogger, Shirley & John Rodgers*

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

*Beth & Stephen Grode, Shirley Wise, Pnina & Judah Ari-Gur, Cindy & Larry Beer
Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Men's Club, Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal
Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Tamara & Earl Norman, Diane & Harvey Fogel
Joanne & Mike Simon, Men's Club, Nan Goldenthal, Liz Thall, Jane & Bob Rogers*

In memory of Mim Brot

Liz Thall

In loving memory of my mother, Hannah Beilis

RosaLynn Pollens

In loving memory of my father, Cy Beer

Larry Beer

Mishpacha

GENERAL FUND *(continued)*

In loving memory of my mother, Rose Schanwald

Tamara Norman

A donation was received

Valery Ohmart

BUILDING FUND

Mazel Tov to Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

Condolences to Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

Maxine & Neal Berke, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, The Ruterbusch Family

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, The Ruterbusch Family, Sallie & Ken Goodman

Maxine & Neal Berke, Carolyn & Brad Kennedy

Wendy & Philip, Sam, Adam & Shoshana Arnold

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

The Ruterbusch Family, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Maxine & Neal Berke

Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, Carolyn & Brad Kennedy, Pat & John Schmidt

Randie Levin, Terry Paule, David Besbris, Debra Strichartz & their families

In loving memory of our parents, Celia and Norman Besbris and Uncle Stanley Besbris

In memory of Mim Brot

Randie Levin, Terry Paule, David Besbris, Debra Strichartz & their families

MARVIN AND ROSALIE OKUN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Mazel Tov to Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

Condolences to Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

The Fischell Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn

In loving memory of my father, Mac Howard

Sara Amy

HERMAN AND ROSE FISHER LIBRARY FUND

Mazel Tov to Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

Condolences to Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

Marilyn & Art Feinberg

Mishpacha

JACK LEVENE CANTOR FUND

Mazel Tov to Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

Condolences to Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

Rae Lee Howard

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Rebecca & Adam Strauss, Emily Hoffman & Lee Klingman

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

In loving memory of my sister, Dana Wardlaw

Jeanne & Marc Schupan

TIKKUN OLAM

Mazel Tov to Gary Kushner on his “special birthday”

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

Condolences to Joel Bez and family on the passing of his father, Dr. Bert Bez

Michelle & Alan Angel

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Michelle & Alan Angel, Tema & Rob Lando

JOYCE AND MORTON FISHER KITCHEN/KIDDUSH/ONEG FUND

Condolences to Rabbi Harvey Spivak and family on the passing of his father, Aaron Spivak

Condolences to Sandy Rose and family on the passing of her husband, Larry Rose

Condolences to Gloria Besbris and family on the passing of her brother, Larry Rose

Gail Brot

In loving memory of Abraham A. Rocklin, father of Sharon Schwartz

Sharon Schwartz

In loving memory of my parents, Joyce and Morton Fisher

Beth Fisher, Emery, Ellen, and Jaren Bresnick

Heads up, High School Juniors!

If your parents are members of the Congregation of Moses, we invite you to apply for the Andrew Levene Scholarship.

If you would like an application, please call the synagogue office at 342-5463. Applications must be turned in to the synagogue office by July 22, 2020.



Dear CoM Members,

Thank you once again for all of your thoughtful and kind contributions in honor of one of our family's special celebrations. Patrick and I are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary being careful and safe.

We are at risk in several ways for the coronavirus. Our celebrations of several events in our lifecycle are the very events which are putting us at risk. Our ages, our previous health conditions and our family and friends cause us to self-isolate for now. Then we can celebrate with joy and love when the pandemic is over. (Our grandson's Bar Mitzvah is postponed for a few months too.) Thank you for your many years of friendship and fellowship.

*Please stay safe and well,
Susan and Patrick Welbourne*



PAUL F. DAVIDOFF

ATTORNEY AT LAW

PAUL F. DAVIDOFF, P.C.

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KALAMAZOO, MI 49007

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Director: Larry Beer, Ed.D.



The Ethical Life: Jewish Values in an Age of Choice

From political and financial scandals to rapid progress in biomedical sciences and technology, the complex issues of modern society are, at their core, issues of ethical and moral concern.

Now, more than ever, we require a solid understanding of how Jewish ethics can inform our discussions and decisions about the critical questions of the day. Judaism has a long history of wrestling with moral questions, responding to them in a way that considers all sides of an issue.



The Ethical Life: Jewish Values in an Age of Choice from the Jewish Theological Seminary will be presented by Rabbi Spivak online.

Sign up to attend classes online at our website, congregationofmoses.org

Advance Directives and the Ethics of End-of-Life Care **Wednesday, May 20 at 1:00 pm, with a second session at 7:00 pm.**

Among the diverse perspectives in Judaism about planning and decision-making for healthcare concerns, one teaching is clear and consistent: Life is sacred.

When you plan in advance, you honor the sacredness of life by considering important questions with ample time and space. Planning ahead enables you to explore Jewish values as a guide for sorting out the complexities of healthcare decisions and end of life care together with trusted loved ones, rather than making difficult choices hastily and under the pressure of a healthcare crisis. Jewish wisdom can provide profound guidance that can have great impact when considered thoughtfully in conjunction with your personal values, goals and life choices.

This course will cover Jewish thought on decision-making, power-of-attorney, balancing the needs of parents and children and more.

Is Lying Ever Ethical?

Monday, June 22 at 1:00 pm, with a second session at 7:00 pm.

Using ancient and contemporary texts, we will examine the concept of truth in personal and interpersonal ethics.

Wenke Bucks can be mailed to you-contact Shirley
to make arrangements. Thank you!



the earth
laughs
in flowers
~ Emerson

**Spring is just around the corner!
Get Wenke Bucks and get busy
in the garden!**

Get everything you need for this year's garden
by purchasing "Wenke Bucks" from the
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**To buy your Wenke Bucks, contact
Shirley Mengel in the CoM office, at
342-5463 or by email at
comofficemgr@gmail.com**

SPRING

Caring Connection

Caring Connection—compassionate volunteers for the Congregation of Moses family. **Caring Connection is a network of volunteers who would like to support our CoM members in times of need, whether during an acute crisis or a need for ongoing support.**

The people on the list below, all part of **Caring Connection**, welcome your call. They have agreed to make their names and contact information available so that you can choose to connect with the person you feel most comfortable talking to.

Call, email or text (all numbers are cell phones unless otherwise indicated)

Rabbi Harvey Spivak 269-342-5463 office, 269-998-0659, avocet68@aol.com

Judah Ari-Gur 269-598-9609, jarigur@gmail.com

Rae Lee Howard 269-217-2833, 269-544-2894 home, rhoward@ihdist.com

Maxine Berke 978-761-8212, maxineberke@gmail.com

Jill Ruterbusch 269-779-5455, the4rudys@att.net

Cindy Beer 269-341-1033, cinbeer@gmail.com

Shirley Wise 269-330-3103, goldensmw@sbcglobal.net

Charlie Ofstein 269-330-1866, ofsteinc@gmail.com

Larry Beer 269-324-0777 home, lbbkzoo@aol.com

Sherry Deems 912-220-4873, sedeems@gmail.com

Joyce Camhi 269-267-4253 home, joyce.camhi@gmail.com

Pat Kirschner 269-385-8999 home, rjkirschner99@gmail.com



Gift Cards are Always Useful

Buy gift cards in the office from 7:30 to 11:30 am or call and we can mail them to you. The Congregation of Moses can earn from 2-15% of your total purchase price. Many more brands are available. Thank you!



DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS



Please continue to drop off your receipts in the envelope located outside the CoM office. The total in the "Direct your Dollars" portion of the receipt must be present. Please do not cut off any part of the receipt. You can help even more by buying D&W gift cards and other scrip for our continuing fundraiser. Thanks!

Box Tops for Education

Look for these on products from Reynolds, Green Giant, Annie's, General Mills cereals, Nature Valley, Mott's, Land O'Lakes, Go-Gurt, Yoplait, Ziploc, Hefty, Betty Crocker, Cascadian Farms, Kleenex, Scott's, Old El Paso, Progresso, Lysol, Fiber One and Larabar.

The Marvin and Rosalie Okun Kalamazoo Community Jewish School earns money by collecting these. Please watch for them and bring them to the office. Thank you!

