



CoM newsletter

CONGREGATION OF MOSES • Kalamazoo, Michigan

October 2023

Volume 16 Issue 10
16 Tishrei - 16 Cheshvan 5784

A Sukkot Celebration

PIZZA HUT IN THE HUT

October 1 • 12:00 noon
at the Congregation of Moses

➤RSVP at congregationofmoses.org



**Featuring JET's pizza, Bouncy House,
Obstacle course, games and special
Nubian guests, Joyce and Samantha.**



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

Oversight Board

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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 the editor, at
bulletin@congregationofmoses.org.

TBI AND COM BOOK CLUB

We will meet each month at “this is a bookstore” in Oakwood
Plaza at 7:00 pm. Contact **Cary Mannaberg** or **Patty Conlon**
with questions.

October 26 - *Best Place on Earth* by

Ayelet Tsabari

November 30 - *The Woman*

Beyond the Sea by Sarit Yishai-Levi

December 28 - *American Shtetl*

by Nomi Stolzenberg and David
Myers

January 25 - Reading Together

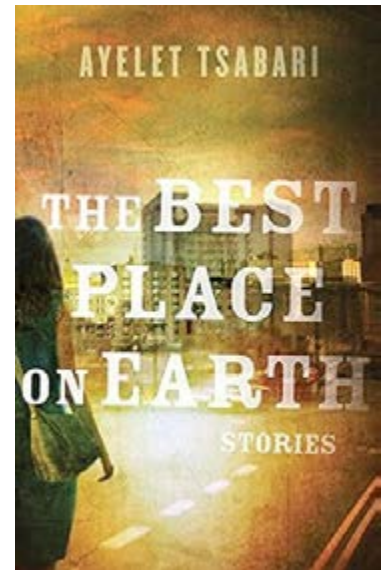
Kalamazoo (Title not announced yet)

February 29 - *How To Be An*

Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi

March 28 - *Color of Love* by

Marra Gad



Introduction to Torah Tropes Class

Andrea Johnson and
Susan Scheinker will
be teaching an **Intro to
Torah Tropes class**

this fall. Across four

1-hour classes, we will teach you how to recognize and
chant common Torah tropes in the traditional Conserva-
tive melody.

We ask that attendees be over the age of 13 and able to
read Hebrew. There is no cost for the class and you do
not have to be a member of CoM to attend.



**Classes will be held at CoM on October 29th,
November 5th, 12th and 19th, from 10:30 - 11:30 am.**
Online sign-up will be available on the website.



Rabbi Goldman

I write to you having recently completed Yom Kippur services and looking ahead to our communal celebrations of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. As the festival of booths is primarily about gratitude, I reiterate my heartfelt thanks to the large circle of synagogue members who made these High Holy Days possible.

Thank you to the members of the Religious Activities Committee, Oversight Board, Kiddush Crew, Baking Team, Torah Readers, Aliyah Blessers, Haftarat Readers, Gabbai'im/ot, Shofar Blowers, Envelope Stuffers, Ushers, Bimah Officers and Greeters for all your hard work! Thank you to our dedicated staff: Rich Wojtas and Kristil Semrau. Thank you to anyone whom I may have inadvertently forgotten to mention. Thank you to Cantor Jon Hendler for leading us in song again this year. It takes a village, or in this case a CONGREGATION, to pull off the Days of Awe! Thank You!

My sermon on the second day of Rosh Hashanah was so well received that it was suggested that I explore the themes in my monthly column. This is a fantastic idea! Here goes:

I first remember hearing the Shema while on a Yom Kippur walk in the forest preserves with my family. My mom had brought along her old siddur, given to her by her congregation when she was about 5 years old. As we rested on mossy tree stumps, she read aloud: **Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheynu Adonai Echad. Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One.** In that moment I began to wonder: What are these words? From that moment, decades ago, to this moment today, I have gone on a journey of study and discovery that has spanned continents. I would like to share with you some of what I have learned.

The words of the Shema are to be on our lips when we wake up in the morning and when we go to sleep at night. We say them at the beginning of each Torah service, hugging the holy scroll in reverence in front of the congregation, and we will end the High Holy Day cycle by proclaiming them at the conclusion of Ne'ilah, the final service of Yom Kippur.

The traditional Jewish prayer formula almost always begins with the words **Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheynu Melech HaOlam, Blessed are You Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe**, but The Shema, our most central declaration, does not begin that way. How did these few words come to occupy such a hallowed place in our tradition? I often think about these words and would like to suggest some alternative ways of understanding them. Let's go word by word.

Shema means "to hear" or "to listen." A contemporary translation might render it as "Listen up!" or "Pay attention." In the Biblical book of Deuteronomy, "hearing" or "listening" is considered the central way of knowing something. By contrast, the book of Exodus often references "seeing" as the way one gains knowledge. I find it fascinating that within different books of Torah we find statements disagreeing on the best way to learn. These are ideas that we are still debating today, though we now understand that many ways of learning and knowing are valid, and different forms work for different people. Shema means listen. Understand.

Dear readers, I look forward to next month's column wherein I will explore the next word in The Shema: **Yisrael**.



Rabbi Shelley Goldman

ETZ CHAIM ENDOWMENT FUND

“Forever Members”

Death May be Inevitable, But Our Good Deeds Live On!

CONGREGATION OF MOSES

2023 5783

LEADING GIFTS

Rosalie and Marvin Okun
Celia and David Davidoff
Shirley and Robert Grekin
Werner and Beatrice Sichel
Louis and Annelise Loeser

Irving Schensul
Marian and Ken Fisher
Dorothy and Jack Levene
Joshua Weiner
Ben Gubin

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Nan and Ed Goldenthal
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Marcia F. and Martin H. Kalb
Robyn and Scott Levene
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Sylvia and Fred Blum

ADDITIONAL GIFTS

Leslie Davis
Ruby and Eugene Field
Mollie and Haym Kruglak
Marcia and Michael Liepman
Lawrence and Sandra Rose
Christy and Bruce Stein
Susan and Patrick Welbourne

Marilyn and Arthur Feinberg
Betty and Joe Hirschfield
Fred Libin
Joy and Irving Rappaport
Natalie and Harvey Spivak
Esther Stulberg

We profoundly thank all the above-named persons for their thoughtfulness and generosity. Endowed funds provide substantial support to the Synagogue year-after-year-after-year.

While most gifts are promised as bequests, all forms of Etz Chaim donations are welcomed. Our congregation is benefitting from the thoughtfulness of the above past and current members as we address the substantial stress of today's financial challenges. This coming year we hope many more of you will join in this long-term, continuing support of our Jewish community. These gifts secure religious, educational and social needs – even beyond our lifetimes.

The future of the Congregation of Moses depends on your generous actions today.

For further information, please contact the synagogue office (269-342-5463),
Stephen Grode (sgrode@congregationofmoses.org), or
Brad Hershbein (bhershbein@congregationofmoses.org).

Shabbat and Events Calendar

Sunday, October 1	12:00 pm	Pizza in the Hut Sukkot Celebration at CoM	
Sunday, October 1	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, October 3	7:00 pm	Mussar Class	
Wednesday, October 4	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, October 6	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Simchat Torah @ TBI	
Friday, October 6	6:57 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, October 7	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Deuteronomy 14:22 - 16:17 Haftarah: I Kings 8:54-66
Sunday, October 8	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur	
Tuesday, October 10	7:00 pm	OvB Meeting	
Wednesday, October 11	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, October 13	6:46 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, October 14	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services with Second Cup following	Torah: Genesis 2:4 - 4:26 Haftarah: I Samuel 20:18-42
Sunday, October 15	1:00 pm	Jay "Scott" Levene Unveiling	
Sunday, October 15	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Monday, October 16	7:00 pm	Hadassah Book Club	
Monday, October 16	7:00 pm	Suicide Prevention Program on Zoom through TBI	
Tuesday, October 17	6:00 pm	JRSC Meeting	
Wednesday, October 18	1:00 pm	OLLI program at CoM	
Wednesday, October 18	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, October 20	6:35 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, October 21	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Genesis 8:15 - 10:32 Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1 - 55:5
Sunday, October 22	2:00 pm	Hadassah 75th Anniversary program	
Sunday, October 22	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Wednesday, October 25	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, October 27	6:24 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, October 28	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Genesis 14:1 - 15:21 Haftarah: Isaiah 40:27 - 41:16
Sunday, October 29	10:30 am	Intro to Torah Tropes Class	
Sunday, October 29	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	



Bracha (blessing) for Shabbat candle lighting

(The candles are lit before the blessing is recited.)

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.

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the light of Shabbat.

MITZVAH OPPORTUNITY

Gloria Besbris is asking to have members call and talk with her! Her phone number is 269-337-9622.

If you are able, please take a few minutes each month (or week) to do this simple mitzvah, which means so much to Gloria. Thank you.

HADASSAH



Dorothy Slavin Chapter Celebrates 75 years

Save the Date

Sunday, October 22 at 2:00 pm

Location to be announced

Mark your calendar for an afternoon of nostalgia and fun as we reminisce about the events of our chapter's history in Kalamazoo.

If you have a story you'd like to share, contact Nan Goldenthal at engold@charter.net

A surprise program is being planned.

October 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 the office at 342-5463, or comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org.

October Birthdays

October 2	Lauren Schook
October 3	Robyn Levene
October 5	Harvey Fogel
October 10	Micah Kiley Goldman
October 12	Maxine Berke
October 13	Lauren Strongin
October 14	Brad Hershbein
October 19	Rachel Barry
October 22	Neal Berke
October 24	Judy Seyburn
October 25	Nijodins Frances Ellison
October 29	Isaac Rubin



October Anniversaries

October 6	Howard & Andrea Katz
October 13	Michael & Andrea Johnson
October 16	Joel & Leslie Bez – Special anniversary!
October 20	David & Emily Green
October 21	Brad & Carolyn Kennedy
October 22	Karl & Lauren Schook
October 22	Adam & Allison Weiner
October 23	Kenneth & Valerie Eisenberg's – 50th anniversary!
October 28	Kenneth & Sallie Goodman – Special anniversary
October 29	Brad Hershbein & Emily Freed



Mishpacha

Donations have been made by the following individuals and families.

Mazel Tov to Michelle & Alan Angel and Genia & Moritz Angel on becoming grandparents and great-grandparents to Riley Chava Zyndorf.

Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal, Diane & Harvey Fogel, Cindy & Larry Beer, Shirley Wise, Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Diane & Bruce Minsley, Joanne Simon, Beth & Stephen Grode, Sherry Deems, Judy & Leonard Poger, Maxine & Neal Berke, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, Rae Lee Howard, The Fischell Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich

Mazel Tov to Cindy & Larry Beer on the birth of their first granddaughter, Miller (Millie) Louise Cohen.

Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal, Diane & Harvey Fogel, Shirley Wise, Michelle & Alan Angel, Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Diane & Bruce Minsley, Joanne Simon, Beth & Stephen Grode, Sherry Deems, Judy & Leonard Poger, Maxine & Neal Berke, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, Rae Lee Howard, The Fischell Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich

Mazel Tov to each of our members celebrating a special milestone in October: Joel & Leslie Bez, Kenneth & Valerie Eisenberg, Kenneth & Sallie Goodman celebrating milestone anniversaries.

Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal, Diane & Harvey Fogel, Cindy & Larry Beer, Shirley Wise, Michelle & Alan Angel, Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Diane & Bruce Minsley, Joanne Simon, Beth & Stephen Grode, Sherry Deems, Judy & Leonard Poger, Maxine & Neal Berke, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, Rae Lee Howard, The Fischell Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich

In Memory

In loving memory of my brother, Russ Deutsch, *Michelle Angel*

In loving memory of my beloved husband, Ed Goldenthal, *Nan Goldenthal*

In loving memory of my parents, *Philip Horwich*

In loving memory of my brother, Evan Adelman, *Gary Adelman*

All donations go to one of our special funds:

General Fund • Building Fund • Herman & Rose Fisher Library Fund • Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Joyce & Morton Fisher Kitchen/Oneg/Kiddush Fund • Honor & Memorial Fund • Levene Cantor Fund
Marvin & Rosalie Okun Fund • Harry B. Sofen Learning Center Fund

THE ISRAEL SERIES

LUNCH AND LEARN

It's back! Wednesdays at noon, beginning November 1
Led by Rabbi Hannah Estrin on Zoom

November 1: **Masada - What's in a Name?**

Pirke Avot teaches us that the crown of a good name surpasses all. Explore how we earn, are bound by and transcend our names through rabbinic and modern texts, as well as modern naming traditions. Then delve into the power of names in the community at the "yelling point" on Masada.

November 8: **Robinson's Arch - From the Four Corners of the Earth**

Connect with the past, present and future and to Jews around the globe under Robinson's Arch on the Western Wall. Feel the hearts and souls of generations past as we come to understand the Shema in a deeper way.

November 15: **Tzippori - To Go or Not to Go**

Living among others has been a Jewish conversation since Abraham. How much do we integrate and where do we draw a line in the sand? Together, we will explore how our ancestors found a balance between daily life as a minority and preserving Judaism.

November 29: **Sukkot in Israel - You Be the Judge**

A sukkah on a boat? Is that kosher? Take a tour of Sukkot through history and around the land of Israel to examine the technicalities and psychology of what makes a sukkah fit for use.

December 6: **Shavuot in Jerusalem - Then and Now**

Stand in Radical Amazement as the sun begins to rise on Shavuot morning along the Western Wall. Explore the celebration of Shavuot in the past 100 years throughout Israel. Understand how the return to the Old City in 1967 changed the way we observe this all-night holiday.

December 13: **Neot Kedumim - You Light Up My Life**

Delve into all the ways the Mishna allows us to light Shabbat and Hanukkah candles (or not). Trace the sources in the Biblical Landscape of Neot Kedumim, as we explore their relevance to our lives today.

Sign up online at congregationofmoses.org



Yahrzeits

September 30 - October 6 (16 - 21 Tishrei)

Jonas Adelman	Fay Ginsberg*	Benjamin Marshall*
Howard Arbetter	Harriet Ginsberg*	Marvin Okun*
Wilhelm Blum*	Jeffrey Ginsberg*	Rose Roseman*
Lucille S. Brown*	Lawrence Kaufman	Sam A. Roseman*
Verna Jean Eisenberg	Ida Konigsberg	Viola Turndorf
Rena Feinberg*	Rae Libin*	Bertram Zheutlin

October 7 - 13 (22 - 28 Tishrei)

Sarah Gottlieb*	Arnold S. Rose*	Bill Tower
Della F. Goldman*	Isadore Swartz*	
Ruth Kushner*	Meyer S. Stein*	

October 14 - 20 (29 Tishrei - 5 Cheshvan)

Molly Berman*	David Kruglak*	Morris Rose*
Julian Doggett	Helen Levey	Isadore Sklansky*
Dora Goldberg*	Fae Okun*	Julieta Torres
Shirley Grekin*	Nora Peisner*	Isaac Weisman*
Hyman Kalb*	Sheldon Pinsky	

October 21 - 27 (6 - 12 Cheshvan)

David Becker	Cherie Gubin*	Frieda H. Levene*
Paul Gerber*	Isadore Gubin*	Seymour Levey
Anita Gilman*	Susan Horwitz	Bernice Mindel*
Abraham Goldsmith*	Julius Hyman*	Solomon Schwartz
Ethyl Mae Green	Isadore Kushner*	Elijah Seeder*
Leon Grossman*	Bernice I. Kurlandsky*	

October 28 - November 3 (13 - 19 Cheshvan)

Sylvia S. Badt*	Fayga Hyman*	Milton Ruden
Frank Brot*	Tillie Kalb*	Maurice Shinberg*
Tillie Columpus*	Albert W. Knapp*	Eva Stein*
Morris Dinerman*	Manuel M. Konigsberg*	James Strauss
Herman B. Fine	Joe Pollens	Bernard Willage*
Maurice Garson*	Jerrold M. Raffel*	

*Denotes a memorial plaque in the synagogue

OvB Minutes Summary of August 23

A. Ad hoc Rabbi Success Committee – Brad Hershbein

Committee met this week and will be providing guidance, mentorship and sounding board for Rabbi Goldman at least in the first year.

B. Colef Committee – Carolyn Kennedy

The OvB approved the following motions:

1. Motion to approve three mini-grants for: Water 4 Mercy, Kalamazoo Literacy Council, and Farmerhood Project.
2. Motion allowing maximum of one member from outside the CoM and/or Jewish community, according to suggested changes in Colef Fund bylaws.

C. OKCJS Report – Angie Saltzman, Director

Camp Keshet – The school completely ran camp this year.

2023/24 School Year – starts September 10, with about 20 students, more to apply.

Kikar (playground) shaping up, grass filled in, activities planned, safe to run. Some playground equipment ordered/ready to assemble.

Angie or OKCJS committee member will present on curriculum at next meeting.

D. Security for High Holy Days and after – Bruce Stein (speaking for Phil Oretsky)

Discussions about security officer presence – one or two officers, inside and outside.

Concealed-carry permit discussion – no firearms to be allowed on premises at this time.

Expansion of run-hide-fight training recommended, continued “hardening” building, followup on other resources such as “bleed kits.”

E. Rabbi Goldman’s installation – Nov. 18 – Brad Hershbein

Initial plans – Friday night service and oneg, Saturday morning service and kiddush lunch.

Need volunteers/coordinators.

F. Anti-Harassment Policy – Brad Hershbein

Ad hoc committee working to update, will publicize policy after HHD.

G. New Member initiatives – Rachel Haus

Website out of date, not geared to needs of those new to community.

H. Building initiatives – Mike Tenenbaum

Gender-neutral/handicapped bathroom will get aesthetic upgrades. Rich painted trash enclosure and scrubbed main kitchen floor. Researching new signage.