



CoM newsletter

CONGREGATION OF MOSES • Kalamazoo, Michigan

Volume 17 Issue 2
February 2024 22 Shevat - 20 Adar 5784

Explorations of Shema

This month I'd like to continue my exploration of the Shema, our foundational prayer, which I first explored in my Rosh Hashanah sermon. In columns last fall I explored the words *Shema* and *Yisrael*. This month I'd like to explore the words *Adonai*, *Eloheyenu* and *Echad*.

Adonai is the personal name of God. The ineffable, the name so sacred that we do not say it out loud. It is made up of the letters *Yod-Hey-Vav-Hey* which, were we to try to pronounce them, would actually come out as breath.

It is not an accident that God's most special name is all breath, for God is the reality that implants within us the breath of life. Other names for God that we have in our tradition are *Hey HaOlamim* or *Ruach HaOlam*, translated as Life Force of All the Worlds, the wind of the world or the soul of the world. The Hebrew language is rich in tone and expresses the interconnections between our breath, our soul, our life itself and the great Mystery which has led to our creation and existence on this earth at this time and in this place.

Eloheyenu is perhaps the most recognizable word in the Shema as it is part of the six word blessing formula that opens most blessings in Jewish tradition: *Baruch, Atah, Adonai, Eloheyenu...* *Eloheyenu* means Our God. It is made up of the word *Eloha*, meaning God, and the possessive plural ending, *eynu*.

If *Eloheyenu* is too hierarchical or patriarchal for your sensibilities, there are other words in Jewish tradition that can be substituted, including *Eyn HaHayim*, Source of Life or *Shechinah*, the mystical name for the feminine aspect of God.

The *Shechinah* is, in Kabbalah, one of ten aspects of the Divine and she resides closest to the earth. *Shechinah* is the aspect of God that is most accessible to human beings.

The final word is *Echad*, One. This simple sixth word of the Shema is deep in meaning. It expresses the oneness of God, the oneness of the universe and can also be translated as "unique." God is Other, so different from any other reality that we know of, so Other that we have trouble even understanding the nature of God, let alone putting that understanding into words.

As we continue on life's journey and walk into February not knowing what tomorrow will bring, I send you blessings of rich, soulful breath, ever interconnected with the great Mystery, the Life Force of All the Worlds. I wish for us all a month of life and peace, joy and gladness, deliverance and comfort.



Rabbi Shelley Goldman

Rabbi Goldman

The Oversight Board

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

Oversight Board Members

President

Brad Hershbein, (617) 967-3093
bhershbein@congregationofmoses.org

Vice-President Operations

Mike Tenenbaum, (269) 929-8384
tenemike1967@gmail.com

Vice-President Programming

Saraphoena Koffron,
skoffron@congregationofmoses.org

Vice-President Religious Activities

Al Rosenthal, (269) 290-5565
alvin.rosenthal@wmich.edu

Treasurer Neal Berke,

treasurer@congregationofmoses.org

Secretary Rachel Haus, (412) 719-4293

rachel@congregationofmoses.org

Human Resources Administrator

Maxine Berke, (978) 761-8212
mberke@congregationofmoses.org

Member-at-Large Patty Conlon,

conlonpn@yahoo.com

Member-at-Large Phil Oretsky,

blueskyphil@msn.com

Trustee Representative

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

Synagogue Staff

Rabbi Shelley Goldman

rabbi@congregationofmoses.org

Office Manager Kristil Semrau

comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org

Building Manager Rich Wojtas

buildingmanager@congregationofmoses.org

Library Director Rachel Haus

rachel@congregationofmoses.org

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.

CoM office hours have changed

As of January 2, new office hours are:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Tuesday, 11:00am – 3:00 pm

TBI AND COM BOOK CLUB

Read Something Interesting

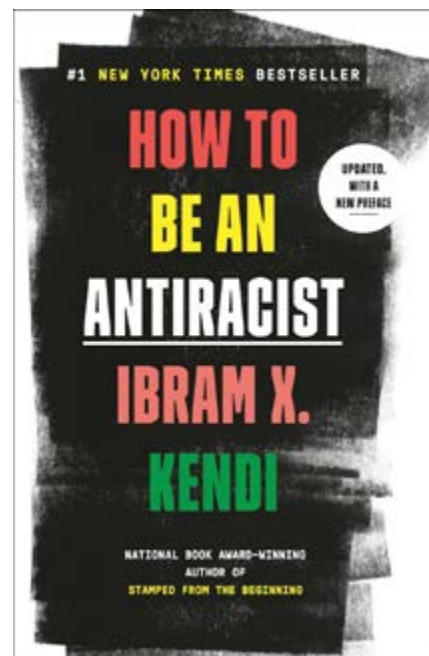
The TBI/CoM Book Club will meet again on **February 29** at this is a bookstore to discuss *How To Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi

Contact [Cary Mannaberg](#) or [Patty Conlon](#) with questions.

Future dates and titles:

March 28 - *Color of Love* by Marra Gad

April 25 - Reading Together Selection, *Yellow Face*, by R.F. Kuang



Lunch and Learn Winter and Spring Series

Wednesdays at noon

Judaism and Peoplehood in Practice

Led by Rabbi Schicker at TBI, Zoom option available

Final sessions February 7, 14

[Sign up here.](#)

Foundations for A Thoughtful Judaism: Ethics

Spring series, led by Rabbi Goldman at CoM

Zoom option available

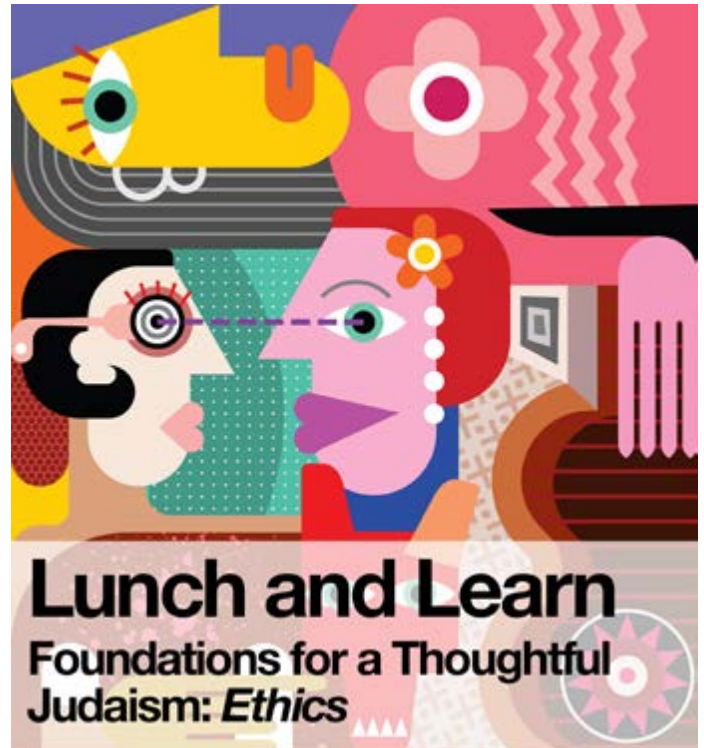
March 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 10, 17

Signup page coming soon.

Join Rabbi Goldman as we discuss what Jewish texts have to say about Ethics, and how to balance our commitments to the Jewish people and humanity at large.

The course explores questions related to ethical obligation and decision-making: How has Jewish tradition conceived of what we owe other people? How might we approach ethical dilemmas which test our loyalties to values and to people?

Our classes will utilize the **Foundations for a Thoughtful Judaism** curriculum produced by the Jerusalem-based Shalom Hartman Institute.



Shabbat and Events Calendar

Friday, February 2	5:39 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Friday, February 2	7:00 pm	Refugee Shabbat at TBI	
Saturday, February 3	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Exodus 18:1-20:23 Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-13
Sunday, February 4	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, February 6	7:00 pm	Intro to Judaism at TBI	
Tuesday, February 6	7:00 pm	Mussar Class	
Wednesday, February 7	Noon	Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Schicker at TBI or on Zoom	
Wednesday, February 7	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Wednesday, February 7	7:00 pm	Movie Night with Discussion at CoM - "Golda"	
Friday, February 9	5:48 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, February 10	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services, with Second Cup following	Torah: Exodus 22:4-23:19 Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-24
Sunday, February 11	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, February 13	7:00 pm	Intro to Judaism at TBI	
Tuesday, February 13	7:00 pm	OvB Meeting	
Wednesday, February 14	Noon	Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Schicker at TBI or on Zoom	
Wednesday, February 14	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, February 16	5:57 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Friday, February 16	7:00 pm	Third Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Services at CoM	
Saturday, February 17	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Exodus 26:1-26:30 Haftarah: I Kings 5:26-6:13
Sunday, February 18	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, February 20	6:00 pm	Joint Religious School Committee (JRSC) Meeting at CoM	
Tuesday, February 20	7:00 pm	Intro to Judaism at TBI	
Wednesday, February 21	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, February 23	6:06 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, February 24	9:30 am	Shabbat Services/Torah Study	Torah: Exodus 28:31-29:18 Haftarah: Ezekiel 43:10-27
Sunday, February 25	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, February 27	7:00 pm	Intro to Judaism at TBI	
Tuesday, February 27	7:00 pm	RAC Meeting	
Wednesday, February 28	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Wednesday, February 28	7:00 pm	Movie Night with Discussion at CoM - "Ken Burns Holocaust, Part 1"	
Thursday, February 29	7:00 pm	TBI/CoM Book Club Meets at this is a bookstore	



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 Phad-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.



The CoM Camp Endowment Committee believes that Jewish summer camp participation is an important and influential part of a well-rounded Jewish education.

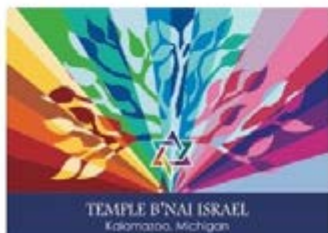
The committee is proud to support our youth by continuing to **provide scholarship opportunities** for attending Jewish camps and activities during the summer months.

Participation by the student and family in congregation life and community, as well as financial need, are all considered as factors in determining scholarship awards. If you have questions or would like an application, please contact Joyce Camhi by email, joyce.camhi@gmail.com or call (269) 267-4253. The deadline to apply is March 17.

Joyce Camhi, Camp Scholarship Committee

March 15th at TBI Potluck Dinner at 6PM Services at 7PM

Join us for a special potluck dinner to honor the members of the Chevrah Kadisha (Jewish Burial Society). Followed by our annual joint service led by Rabbis Schicker & Goldman



Congregation
of Moses

In person and online at
[youtube.com/c/templebnaiisraelkalamazoo](https://www.youtube.com/c/templebnaiisraelkalamazoo)

February 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.

February Birthdays

February 2	Steve Camhi
February 2	Judy Davis
February 6	Michelle Zukowski-Serlin
February 7	Anne Arbetter Fischell - special birthday!
February 7	Allison Weiner
February 11	Brad Kennedy
February 12	Marcie Brown
February 15	Cathy Cheron
February 24	Gail Brot
February 24	Emily Freed
February 26	Judah Ari-Gur
February 27	Sherran Deems



February Anniversaries

February 8	Efrat & Oren Gelman
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The Installation of Rabbi Shelley Goldman as Rabbi of Congregation of Moses

You are cordially invited

to share in the excitement when the Congregation of Moses
officially welcomes Rabbi Shelley Goldman as our next Rabbi!

Saturday, April 13, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm
Congregation of Moses, 2501 Stadium Drive

The Installation Ceremony will be at about 11:15 am, with lunch to follow services. Please RSVP to Kristil Semrau, Office Manager, so that we can plan for babysitting, seating and food. Call (269) 342-5463 or email Kristil at comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org.

Mishpacha

Donations have been made by the following individuals and families.

Mazel Tov to Anne Arbetter Fishchell on her special birthday!

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, The Ruterbusch Family, Valerie & Ken Eisenberg, Rae Lee Howard, The Fischell Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Rabbi Goldman & Kieran Kiley

In Memory

- In loving memory of my father, Dr. Sam I Stein *Bruce Stein*
- In loving memory of my mother, Annelise Loeser *Marjorie Gaynor*
- In loving memory of my father, Dr. Joseph A. Kahn *Wilma Kahn*
- In loving memory of my father, Sidney Schwartz *Paul Schwartz*
- In loving memory of my father, Martin Morrison *Liz Thall*
- In loving memory of my mother, Dorothy Miller *Kim Rubin*
- In loving memory of my mother, Viola Doggett *Julie Northrop*
- In loving memory of my sister, Donna Taylor *Julie Northrop*
- In loving memory of my mother, Betty Levene *Lori Putman*
- In loving memory of my sister, Caryn Levene *Lori Putman*
- In memory of Levi Lando, *Joshua and Pam Weiner*
- In memory of Barbara Arkush, *Pat and Richard Kirschner*
- In memory of Barbara Arkush, *Joyce Camhi*

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

A thank you to all who made contributions to the synagogue in memory of my sister, Elaine Gerber Gold. Your thoughts and kindness are greatly appreciated.

Fran Raffel

Thank you for all your donations, phone calls, and cards in memory of our brother/brother-in-law, Larry (Levi) Lando.

With appreciation, *Rob and Tema Lando*

With deep gratitude for the many cards, messages and donations in memory of our mother and mother-in-law, Barbara Arkush. In a time of grief, we are grateful to be part of such a loving and caring community.

Fondly- *Carolyn and Brad Kennedy*



Congregation of Moses

MOVIE NIGHT

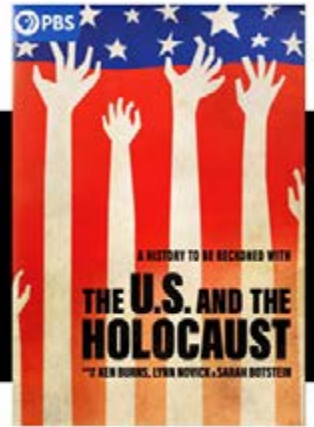
7:00 PM all dates



January 31



February 7



February 28

MOVIE NIGHT AND DISCUSSION

Join your community in the Sofen Room for viewing and lively discussion of current films of Jewish interest.

February 7, 7:00 pm - Golda

Golda is a ticking-clock thriller set during the tense 19 days of the Yom Kippur War in 1973. Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir (Helen Mirren), faced with the potential of Israel's complete destruction, must navigate overwhelming odds, a skeptical cabinet, and a complex relationship with US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (Liev Schreiber), with millions of lives in the balance. Her tough leadership and compassion would ultimately decide the fate of her nation and leave her with a controversial legacy around the world.

February 28, 7:00 pm - Ken Burns "The US and the Holocaust: The Golden Door, Part I"

Sign up to participate, congregationofmoses.org/event-signup/?EID=99183

Yahrzeits

February 3-9 (24-30 Shevat)

Carol Bez	Anna B. Haus	Dorothy Masursky Moyer*
Elizabeth Cohen	Hyman Kirschner	Lou Sanders*
Frieda Friedman*	William Leder*	Ellis Schwager
Max Friedman*	Miriam Epstein Lieberman*	Rebecca Stulberg*
Morris Friedman*	Winifred Meinert	William Zheutlin*

February 10-16 (1-7 Adar)

Charles Berman	Sarah Forman*	Michele Arkush Schaff*
Adela Blum-Auerbach*	Theodore Forman*	Sol W. Schwartz
Aaron Columpus*	James H. Goldman*	Eliyahu Shor
Sallie L. Cushner*	Rachel Goldstein*	Harriet Swartz*
Jean Roseblatt Davis	Rosalie Halpert*	Laure Touitou*
Archie Feinberg	Marianne Mimi Katz*	

February 17-23 (9-14 Adar)

Helen Rose Aronoff*	Alexander Fried*	Mary Schpok*
Nuchim Buchman*	Sylvia Taubman Golde	Victor Seyburn
Mary Colef*	Laura Hoffman	Jack Stein*
Ethel Duchon-Wachtel*	Martin Kalb*	George Ulrich
Isaac Escourt*	Arthur Katz	
Gershon (George) Fisher*	Richard D. Meinert	

February 24-March 2 (15-21 Adar)

Ernest J. Badt*	Faye Hageman	Harry Schechter*
Ely Behrend*	Rose Harris*	Louis Slavin*
Edythe E. Berman	Edythe Palmer Leder*	Bertram Stein*
Regina Blum	Selma Price*	Samuel Edgar Stulberg*
Max Breslow*	Jack Rubel*	Kate Weisman*

**Denotes a memorial plaque in the synagogue*

RABBI SUCCESS

Do you have feedback for or about Rabbi Goldman? We want her to be successful at Congregation of Moses, so if you have specific comments or feedback, here's what you do.

You may contact Rabbi Goldman directly with your feedback or get in touch with a member of the Rabbi Success Team to schedule a time to talk. The team members are:

Jeff Haus - hausjeff@yahoo.com

Andrea Johnson - redhead5318@gmail.com

Charlie Ofstein - call (269) 330-1866

Thank you!



Antisemitism Series

Join Rabbis Goldman and Schicker for a three-part series on antisemitism

What is antisemitism? What is its history? How shall we combat it in our own time?

1:00 pm Saturday, March 2, following Shabbat Services and a light lunch at CoM

7:00 pm Wednesday, May 8 at CoM

7:00 pm Wednesday, May 22 at CoM