



# CoM newsletter

CONGREGATION OF MOSES • Kalamazoo, Michigan

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## Celebrating Pride

June is Pride month: A celebration of the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Allies) members of our families, including those identities we have yet to fully name (+). After a period of resistance, the Jewish community has become among the most welcoming of religious groups to all the members of our families, regardless of whom they love. Mainstream congregations like our own proudly proclaim that all are welcome and we do our best to make a reality of such aspirational statements.

In this pursuit, we have much to learn from the queer synagogues that were founded before LGBT folks were welcome in most Jewish spaces. We are grateful to the members of the LGBT synagogue in Manhattan, CBST, for reimagining some problematic parts of our prayers with their *Siddur B'Chol L'vav'cha/ With All Your Heart*. They did this in spades with a line from the centerpiece of Friday night's Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Lecha Dodi. The chorus proudly proclaims:

*Come, my love, to greet the bride: Let us welcome Shabbat as she arrives!  
Lecha Dodi Likrat Kala, P'nai Shabbat Nekabelah!*

לְכָה דוּדֵי לְקִרְאָת פְּלָה, פְּנֵי שַׁבַּת נִקְבְּלָה



Rabbi Shelley Goldman

Like many of the songs, poems and prayers penned by our 16th Century Jewish mystics, the Kabbalists imagined a great love affair between the Jewish people and God. The participants in this movement were largely male and straight though they radically imagined God as being made up of both male and female aspects. They were not so visionary as to imagine non-heterosexual relationships, but they did at times understand the Jewish body politic, aka The Jewish People, as female in relationship to a male God. Perhaps more radically, at other times they imagined the Feminine Divine as the presence of Shabbat, the Bride or Queen, arriving to a group of men ushering in the start of Shabbat. In Lecha Dodi, we find the latter viewpoint in the chorus and the former in the verses.

Hidden in the seventh verse of nine, this metaphor is made quite explicit with the line “Your God will rejoice over you, As a groom rejoices over his bride.” Our own Siddur Lev Shalem translates this verse more vaguely as “God and you will celebrate together, a bride and groom in joyful embrace.” It is Siddur B'Chol L'vav'cha, which offers the best solution: new Hebrew text to align with our contemporary understandings of love. Instead of Kimsos Hatan al Kalah we find:

*Kimsos Lev B'Ahavah*

*Your God rejoices with you, Like a heart rejoices in love!*

כְּמִשּׁוֹשׁ לֵב בְּאַהֲבָה

A note accompanying this change in CBST's Siddur reads: “The joy of the divine relationship with the people Israel is compared to the unique happiness of the heart or the soul rejoicing in love. ...we expand this metaphor to embrace many configurations of love, knowing that our love for God – and God's love for us – encompasses the great diversity of love we may experience in our lives: romantic love regardless of sexual orientation, love between friends, between parents and children, love between other family members, and love within community.”

I look forward to celebrating Pride month with you!

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

#### Open Position

#### Vice-President Religious Activities

Dennis Means, (517) 974-9334  
*dmeansmd@gmail.com*

#### 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*

#### Office hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri -

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Tues, 11:00am – 3:00 pm

#### 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](mailto:bulletin@congregationofmoses.org).**

# Colef Fund News

As of this year, the Samuel J. and Mary E. Colef Fund is a member of JDC's distinguished Felix M. Warburg Society!

Founded during World War I, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) was the first Jewish organization in the United States to dispense large-scale funding for international relief.



Named for JDC's first president, an influential leader and philanthropist, the Felix M. Warburg Society recognizes individuals and foundations that have generously contributed a minimum of \$250,000 to JDC over a five-year period, and in doing so are bringing hope and security to the lives of vulnerable Jews across our globe.

The Felix M. Warburg Society was established in the tradition of JDC's first president, Felix M. Warburg, a great humanitarian and legendary philanthropist with a passionate concern for helping those in need. The Felix M. Warburg Society recognizes the commitment of individuals, families and foundations.

As JDC's first president, from 1914-1932, Felix Warburg successfully gathered leading figures from all walks of American Jewish life under the JDC umbrella. Under his leadership, JDC dispensed more than \$100 million for programs to aid vulnerable and impoverished Jews in 46 locations around the world. "It was one of the world's outstanding pieces of human engineering," President Herbert Hoover once said.

Warburg epitomized the dedication and commitment that characterize the members of his namesake society today. JDC and Felix Warburg have always demonstrated the values of *arevut* and *tzedakah*: taking responsibility for aiding the world's most vulnerable Jews.

JDC honors members of The Felix M. Warburg Society with a limited-edition replica of the JDC Seder plate, a symbol of the eternal strength of the Jewish people and our commitment to one another.

The Colef Fund will be presented with the plate sometime later this year.

# Shabbat and Events Calendar

Saturday, June 1	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Leviticus 26:3-27:15 Haftarah: Jeremiah 16:19-17:14
Sunday, June 2	2:00 pm	Annual Meeting	
Sunday, June 2	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, June 4	7:00 pm	Mussar Class	
Wednesday, June 5	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Wednesday, June 5	7:00 pm	Oppenheimer movie, part 2	
Friday, June 7	8:59 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, June 8	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Numbers 2:27-3:13 Haftarah: Hosea 2:16-22
Sunday, June 9	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, June 11	9:01 pm	Shavuot candle lighting time	
Wednesday, June 12	9:30 am	Shavuot & Yizkor Services	Torah: Exodus 19:17-20:23
Wednesday, June 12		CoM office closed	
Wednesday, June 12	9:12 pm	Shavuot candle lighting time	
Thursday, June 13		CoM office closed	
Friday, June 14	9:02 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, June 15	9:30 am	Shabbat Services/Torah Study in Sofen Rm	Torah: Numbers 5:11-6:27 Haftarah: Judges 13:2-25
Sunday, June 16	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Tuesday, June 18	6:00 pm	Joint Religious School Committee Meeting at CoM	
Tuesday, June 18	7:00 pm	Religious Activities Committee Meeting	
Wednesday, June 19	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Wednesday, June 19		CoM office closed for Juneteenth Federal Holiday	
Friday, June 21	9:04 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Friday, June 21	7:00 pm	Nora DeBruler Bat Mitzvah Shabbat Services at TBI	
Saturday, June 22	10:00 am	Nora DeBruler Bat Mitzvah at TBI	Torah: Numbers 9:15-10:34 Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14-4:7
Sunday, June 23	4:30 pm	Torah Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Wednesday, June 26	7:00 pm	Talmud Study with Judah Ari-Gur on Zoom	
Friday, June 28	9:05 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, June 29	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services	Torah: Numbers 14:8-15:7 Haftarah: Joshua 2:1-24
Sunday, June 30	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.



# Shavuot

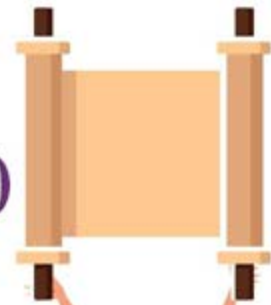
Tuesday June 11 (erev Shavuot)

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

at Temple B'nai Israel

6:30 PM Schmooze

6:45 PM Protecting the Torah:  
but how much protection is  
too much?



Please join Temple B'nai Israel Synagogue Associate Michael Tanoff for Shavuot Torah study session. This year's topic is **"Protecting the Torah, but How Much Protection is Too Much?"**

**Gather and schmooze from 6:30 – 6:45, Torah study to follow from 6:45 – 7:45 pm.**

Light refreshments will be available.

At 8:00 pm, Rabbi Schicker will be teaching as part of the national Tikkun Leil Shavuot. Everyone is invited to stay for in-person learning or join on Zoom.

**Registration for the national program is at: <https://urj.tfaforms.net/901?id=701UG000007Dqnz>**

# TBI AND COM BOOK CLUB

The TBI/CoM Book Club will meet again on **June 27** at 7:00 pm to discuss *The Amen Effect*, by Sharon Brous.

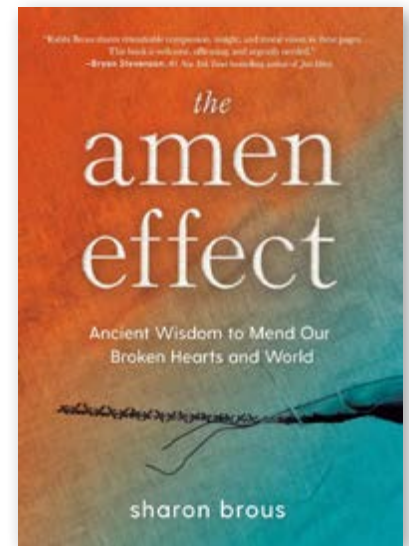
**July 25**, *An Island Called Home* by Ruth Behar - Ruth will be a guest speaker at CoM on September 22. Stay tuned for details.

**August 29**, *Stranger in the Desert: A Family Story* by Jordan Salama

**September 26**, *When Angels Left the Old Country* by Sacha Lamb.

**October 31**, *Racism of People Who Love You* by Samira Mehta

Contact **Cary Mannaberg** or **Patty Conlon** with questions.



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# RABBI SUCCESS TEAM

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 to 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](mailto:hausjeff@yahoo.com)

Andrea Johnson - [redhead5318@gmail.com](mailto:redhead5318@gmail.com)

Charlie Ofstein - call (269) 330-1866

Thank you!

# Okun School News



The Marvin and Rosalie Okun Kalamazoo Community Jewish School students completed their school year on May 19. The final day was shared with families joining in for breakfast, T'filah, a student concert led by Naomi Morse and awards ceremony.

The Okun School is lucky to be blessed with a lot of community support. The Shana Winter Education Fund is one example of this kind of support. The Fund offers assistance to the religious school in several ways. One of its main goals is to provide financial assistance to religious school teachers and/or the director to pursue professional development opportunities.



*Angie Saltzman, Director*

The fund also recognizes a student with the **"Shana Winter Award for the Jewish Education Student of the Year."** This year's award went to **Stanley Lubratich**. The award is typically given to an older student or students who demonstrate that they are making the most of their time learning and growing in their understanding of Jewish values and/or identity during the Religious School year. This is demonstrated by their actions of tikkun olam. Congratulations to Stanley on receiving this meaningful honor!

The Okun School has three students being called to the Torah this year. On May 11th, Stanley Lubratich's Bar Mitzvah was held and on May 25th, Zoe Leinwand became a Bat Mitzvah. Both students did an amazing job. Mazel Tov to Stanley, Zoe and their families! We look forward with anticipation to the Bat Mitzvah of Nora DeBruler on June 21st - June 22nd.



*Stanley Lubratich with Henry and Ellen Winter*

Camp Keshet will be held this summer over the course of three weeks. Students entering 1st - 7th grade are invited to attend.

**[The Camp Keshet Registration Link is here.](#)**

**Week 1** - June 17th - 21st, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm at CoM  
June 19th, Lego Day - drop off at Woods Lake

**Week 2** - June 24th - 26th, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm at TBI (on 6-24 and 6-26)  
\*\*\* June 25th at Pretty Lake, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm drop off / pick up

**Week 3** - July 8th - July 12th at Camp Tavor - busing provided from CoM  
Monday through Friday, drop off 9:15 am and pickup 3:45 pm at CoM



*Student awards!*

# June 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](mailto:comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org).

## June Birthdays

June 2	Kenneth Goodman
June 2	Joseph Schook
June 4	RosaLynn Pollens
June 5	Anna Langerveld
June 10	Micah Kiley Goldman
June 12	Stacey Rocklin
June 12	Dona Satir - Special Birthday!
June 13	Alana Harriet Haines Weston
June 15	Larry Beer
June 16	Marvin Berkowitz
June 18	Judith Poger
June 25	Arlen Rubin
June 27	Simon Gelman
June 28	J. Phillip Horwich
June 28	Michael Johnson
June 28	Sandra Snyder
June 29	Natalie Spivak
June 30	Harvey Spivak



## June Anniversaries

June 12	Al Rosenthal & Judy Davis
June 15	Robert & Tema Lando
June 29	Moritz & Genia Angel



# Mishpacha

Donations have been made by the following individuals and families.

## **Mazel Tov to Cindy and Larry Beer as they welcome a new granddaughter!**

*Gary Adelman, Michelle & Alan Angel, Pnina & Judah Ari-Gur, Maxine & Neal Berke, Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal, Valerie Eisenberg, The Fischell Family, Diane & Harvey Fogel, Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Rabbi Shelley Goldman & Kieran Kiley, Beth & Stephen Grode, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Rae Lee Howard, Diane & Bruce Minsley, The Ruterbusch Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn, Joanne Simon, Shirley Wise*

## **Happy Special Birthday to Dona Satir!**

*Gary Adelman, Michelle & Alan Angel, Pnina & Judah Ari-Gur, Cindy & Larry Beer, Maxine & Neal Berke, Judy Davis & Al Rosenthal, Valerie Eisenberg, The Fischell Family, Diane & Harvey Fogel, Emily Freed & Brad Hershbein, Sallie & Ken Goodman, Rabbi Shelley Goldman & Kieran Kiley, Beth & Stephen Grode, Wilma Kahn & Phil Horwich, Rae Lee Howard, Diane & Bruce Minsley, The Ruterbusch Family, Judy & Lowell Seyburn, Joanne Simon, Shirley Wise*

## **In Memory**

In loving memory of my parents, Morton & Joyce Fisher, *Stacey Fisher*

In loving memory of our mother, Jean Grossman, *Leonard & Barbara Lebowitz*

In memory of Norman Marshall, beloved husband of Naomi Marshall and beloved father of Debbie & Scott Golan, Ellen & Frank Rondi, and Laurie & Jay Josephson

## **In Honor**

In honor of Rabbi Goldman's installation and in appreciation of her kindness, outreach and creativity. With good wishes from *Pat & Richard Kirschner*

In honor of the birth of a granddaughter to Beth & Stephen Grode, *Carolyn & Brad Kennedy*

In honor of the birth of a granddaughter to Cindy & Larry Beer, *Carolyn & Brad Kennedy*

## **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

# Yahrzeits

## June 1-7 (Iyar 24-Sivan 1)

Samuel Berman*	Bryna Graff*	Morris Spivak*
Peggy Friedman Frank*	Samuel Graff*	Julius Stulberg*
Morris Louis Friedman*	Edgar Inselberg*	Irvin Wise*
Michael Goldberg*	Ida Levene*	

## June 8-14 (Sivan 2-8)

Morris Cohen	Aaron Rosenberg*	Yitzhok Rosenberg*
Myron Freed	Avraham Rosenberg*	Zipporah Seeder*
Jean H. Morrison*	Dov Bernard Rosenberg*	Nathan Silverman*
Mitchell Peven*	Hannah Rachel Rosenberg*	Celia Slosberg*
Sol Raffel	Janet Rosenberg*	
David Rose*	Shalom Friedman Rosenberg*	

## June 15-21 (Sivan 9-15)

Joyce Fisher*	Irving Lando*	Meyer Turndorf
Goldie Fogel	Jack Levene*	Diana Zheutlin*
Ida Kazanovitz	Harry Okun*	Aron Ziv*
Rose Lando King*	Sarah Oshinsky	
Dora Kirschner*	Mina Blum Seidler*	

## June 22-28 (Sivan 16-22)

Ida Becker*	Moses J. Graff*	Norman Kirschner
David Berkowitz	Murray S. Gubin*	Gerald Pryweller*
Norman D. Bowman*	David Hyman*	Morris Stulberg

## June 29-July 5 (Sivan 23-29)

Herman Davidoff*	Sadie Hyman*	Samuel Schensul*
Recia Deutsch*	Louis Levene*	Gertrude Braufman Stein*
Sylvia Goldman*	Hilde M. Nadelman*	Alfred R. Thea*
Pauline Grekin	Louis Rose	Sara Lee Weisman*
Zelda Handlesman*	Yaffa Sasson	Morris Willage*

*\*Denotes a memorial plaque in the synagogue*

## Yahrzeits Now Online

Now you can find all yahrzeits listed on the CoM website for the current week, as well as the entire year. The list is also searchable by name. Find your yahrzeit name and date anytime by visiting this page: [congregationofmoses.org/yahrzeits](http://congregationofmoses.org/yahrzeits)