



CoM newsletter

CONGREGATION OF MOSES • Kalamazoo, Michigan

Volume 18 Issue 7
July, 2025 5 Tammuz - 6 Av 5785

COMING IN JULY: FESTIVE SHABBAT DINNER TO CELEBRATE COM'S KITCHEN REMODEL!

SHABBAT SHALOM

Friday, July 18 at 7:00 pm, immediately following 6:00 pm services

Please save the date and plan to attend services on July 18, followed by a Shabbat meal prepared in our newly remodeled kitchen! Kitchen tours will also be available.

Online sign up page available soon! Dinner will be limited to 50 participants.

If you are willing to help with set up, clean up or cooking, please contact Robyn Levene at 269-217-2831.



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,
bhershbein@congregationofmoses.org

Vice-President Operations

Mike Tenenbaum,
tenemike1967@gmail.com

Vice-President Programming

Elissa Cahn, *elissa.cahn@gmail.com*

Vice-President Religious Activities

Dennis Means,
dmeansmd@gmail.com

Treasurer Neal Berke,

treasurer@congregationofmoses.org

Secretary Rachel Haus,

rachel@congregationofmoses.org

Human Resources Administrator

Maxine Berke,
mberke@congregationofmoses.org

Member-at-Large Robyn Levene,

rbynlevene@yahoo.com

Member-at-Large Charlie Ofstein,

cofstein@congregationofmoses.org

Trustee Representative

Rae Lee Howard, *RHoward@ihdist.com*

Synagogue Staff

Rabbi Shelley Goldman
rabbi@congregationofmoses.org

Office Manager Kristil Semrau
comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org

Office hours: Monday–Friday
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Building Manager Rich Wojtas
buildingmanager@congregationofmoses.org

Library Director Rachel Haus
library@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.

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, 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!



Phishing Scams

Dear CoM members,

There is another phishing scam afoot. **I will never email you and ask you to buy things**, only communicating via email. If you get such an email, please check the actual email address and not just the "name" field.

If the message doesn't originate from rabbi@congregationofmoses.org, it is not from me.

Be sure to verify information contained in an email message by calling the office.

I'm deeply sorry if you have been taken in by this scam.

L'Shalom,
Rabbi Goldman



Services and Events Calendar

Friday, July 4		Building Closed to observe Independence Day	
Friday, July 4	9:04 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, July 5	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services at CoM	Torah: Numbers 20:22 - 22:1 Haftorah: Judges 11:1-33
		Kiddish hosts	Fisher/J. Rubin
Thursday, July 10	7:00 pm	Movie Night: <i>Broadway Musicals, A Jewish Legacy</i>	
Friday, July 11	9:01 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, July 12	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services at CoM	Torah: Numbers 24:1-25 Haftorah: Micah 6:1-8
		Kiddish hosts	Fischell/Krefman
Friday, July 18	6:00 pm	Shabbat Services at CoM	
Friday, July 18	7:00 pm	Shabbat Dinner to Celebrate the Kitchen Remodel!	
		Oneg hosts	Lando/Riley
Friday, July 18	8:56 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, July 19	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services at CoM	Torah: Numbers 28:16-30:1 Haftorah: Jeremiah 1:1-2:3
		Kiddish hosts	Schupan/Green
Thursday, July 24	7:00 pm	Book Club at TBI, <i>Dirty Wars and Polished Silver</i> , by Lynda Schuster	
Friday, July 25	8:50 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, July 26	9:30 am	Shabbat Services and Torah Study	Weekly Torah portion
		Kiddish hosts	C. & T. Howard/Kahn

Heads Up, High School Students Who Have Finished Their Junior Year!

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

A \$500 scholarship is available.

If you would like an application, please call the synagogue office at 342-5463. Applications must be turned in to the synagogue office by September 30, 2025.



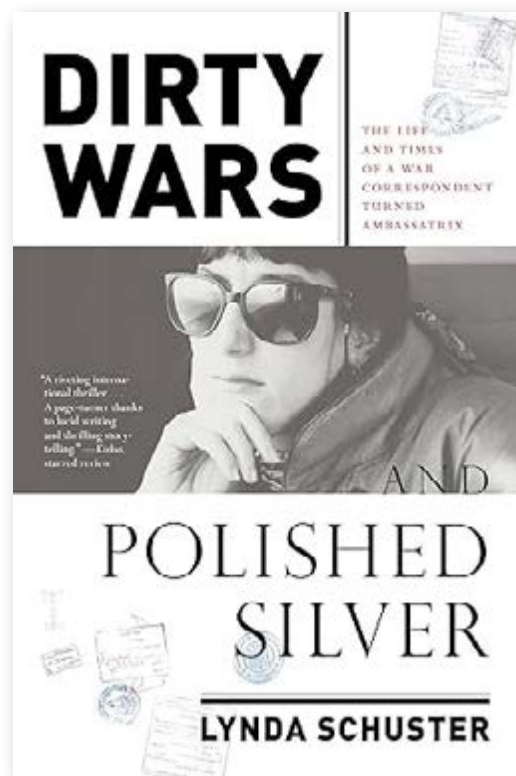
TBI/CoM Book Club

**Thursday, July 24, 7:00 pm at TBI -
Date Change!**

Dirty Wars and Polished Silver, by Lynda Schuster

This gripping memoir opens during Schuster's early life as a teenager living on a kibbutz in Israel, seeking the adventure and spontaneity lacking from her hometown in Midwestern suburbia. The story then moves to Schuster as a young journalist at a pivotal moment in her career, petitioning to report from war-torn South America. Tragedy strikes, and she realizes that the excitement of war also comes with heartbreaking consequences and sudden loss.

Schuster is able to turn just about anything into a thrilling story, including the seemingly mundane, such as adjusting to domestic life, raising a child and tending to a household. Raw and witty, you will feel the author's pain during her tragedies, laugh with her through happy times and funny anecdotes, and gasp in fear during moments of intense strife. (Review from the Jewish Book Council)



Round Up Your Purchases in July at PFC to Help Friends Store

July's Change for Change organization at People's Food Co-op (PFC), is the Friends Store for Refugees, housed at Congregation of Moses!

During July, you have the opportunity to round-up your purchases at the Co-op to benefit the Friends Store. All funds raised will allow the store to purchase things such as personal care items, socks, underwear and warm jackets for winter. It's a very easy way to give and can really add up!

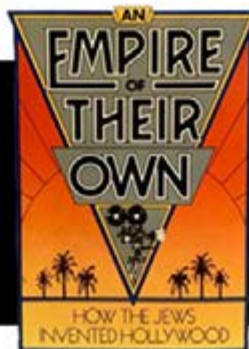
PFC is located downtown at 507 Harrison St., Kalamazoo.



Congregation of Moses

MOVIE NIGHT

7:00 PM all dates



Let's Go to the Movies!

Broadway Musicals, A Jewish Legacy, Thursday, July 10, 7:00 pm

Produced by PBS. Tap your feet and hum along as we watch segments of the most endearing Broadway musicals, and learn the story of how Jewish composers, lyricists and producers created the beloved songs and stage performances which are uniquely American and Jewish in form and message. The video will be followed by a group discussion on the topic (and obligations) of the Jews as a gifted people.

Sign up to attend online: congregationofmoses.org/event-signup-dev/?EID=99257

Caring Circle

Caring Circle—compassionate volunteers for the Congregation of Moses family. **Caring Circle 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 members of **Caring Circle**, listed below, welcome your call. They have agreed to make their names and contact information available so that you can choose to connect with the person with whom you feel most comfortable.

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

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

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

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

Rachel Haus 412-719-4293, rachelhaus@yahoo.com

Patty Conlon 269-352-6324, conlonpn@yahoo.com



Saturday morning Kiddish is an integral part of the celebration of Shabbat and hosting a Kiddish is a great way for you to be involved in the CoM community. It is important that all members occasionally host Kiddish so that the responsibility is spread out over the entire congregation.

Dennis Means or Wilma Kahn will be on hand to answer questions on your Shabbat morning. You will also receive an email about a month in advance with detailed instructions. You do not need to purchase food, though you may if you wish. **The request is purely to set up and clean up our normal fare.**

Thank you in advance for playing an important part in this weekly ritual. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or questions.

Rav Todot/Many Thanks,

Kristil Semrau, CoM Office Manager, comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org

Dennis Means, Religious Activities Committee co-chair

Kiddish/Shabbat Hosts, July-August 2025

Date	Occasion	Host	Host
Saturday, July 5	Shabbat	Marian & Ken Fisher	Jenifer Rubin
Saturday, July 12	Shabbat	Anne Fischell	Lori & Stephen Krefman
Friday, July 18	Friday Services	Tema & Rob Lando	Shane Sarah Riley
Saturday, July 19	Shabbat	Jeanne & Marc Schupan	Emily & David Green
Saturday, July 26	Shabbat	Christy & Tim Howard	Wilma Kahn
Saturday, August 2	Shabbat	Cheryl & Mike Tenenbaum	Andrea & Michael Johnson
Saturday, August 9	Shabbat	Cindy & David Greenwald	Tema & Rob Lando
Saturday, August 16	Shabbat	Betty & Joe Hirschfield	Laurel & Charlie Ofstein
Friday, August 22	Friday Services	Michelle & Troy Serlin-Zukowski	Paul Nimz
Saturday, August 23	Shabbat	Emily Hoffman & Lee Klingman	Pam & Josh Weiner
Saturday, August 30	Shabbat	Jill & Rudy Ruterbusch	Jenna & Richard Verne

COM OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

CAMP KESHET

Register for some Jewish summer fun!

Dates : **Tavor (3 Days) - July 9th -11th (W-F)**
CoM drop off 9:15am; pickup 3:45pm (2nd-7th gr.)

Keshet 1: August 4th-8th (M-F 9:30am-2:00pm) at TBI (1st-7th gr.)

Keshet 2: August 11th-15th (M-F 9:30am-2:00pm) at CoM (1st-7th gr.)

A KOSHER LUNCH AND SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED DAILY

Cost: per camper: one price listed below.

- \$ FREE = OKCJS current student; based on Okun grant
- \$90.00 = Non-OKCJS student but member of COM or TBI
- \$144.00 = Non-OKCJS student & Non-member of COM

Register here: [Camp Keshet](#)
Or use the QR code



For more info, email Angie Saltzman at okcjsdirector@gmail.com



Registration at: <https://forms.gle/AGeS8WVDgKfbU56YI9>

Mishpacha

Condolences to the Levene, Howard and Putman families on the recent death of Dorothy Levene in College Station, Texas.

Donations have been made by the following individuals and families.

Mazal Tov

- Mazal Tov to Tema & Rob Lando on their 50th anniversary, *Pat & Richard Kirschner*
- Mazal Tov to Sharon & Paul Schwartz on their 60th anniversary, *Jennifer Fisher, Stacey Fisher, Molly Goodman, Beth Fisher and their families*
- Mazal Tov to Mazal Haus on graduating from high school, *Carolyn & Brad Kennedy*
- Mazal Tov to Micah Ofstein on graduating from high school, *Carolyn & Brad Kennedy*
- Mazal Tov to Gerry & Lee Tregerman's granddaughter, Caroline, on her Bat Mitzvah, *Carolyn & Brad Kennedy*
- Mazal Tov to Sharon & Paul Schwartz on their 60th anniversary, *Fran Raffel*

In Memory

- In memory of my mother, Gertrude Braufman Stein, *Bruce Stein*
- In memory of my mother, Marian Fischell, *Tim Fischell*
- In memory of our father, Jack Levene, *Lori & Glenn Putman and family*
- In memory of father and grandfather, Jack Levene. Loved and missed every day, *RaeLee Howard and family*
- In memory of my mother, Jean H. Morrison, *Elisabeth Thall*
- In fond memory of Cheryl Isley, *Pat & Richard Kirschner*
- In memory of Cheryl Isley, *Ken & Sallie Goodman*

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



Thank you, dear friends. We are honored by all the donations/contributions to CoM on the special occasion of our 50th anniversary. It is great to be part of a Kehillah, surrounded by wonderful people. Todah Rabah!
~Tema and Rob Lando

July Celebrations

The Congregation of Moses wishes **mazal tov and yom huledet sameach** to our members and friends 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.

July Birthdays

July 3	Shira Haus
July 3	Gabriel Victor Weston
July 5	Laurel Scheidt
July 6	Jill Ruterbusch
July 7	Sallie Goodman
July 7	Elisabeth Thall - Special birthday!
July 10	Joel Bez - Special birthday!
July 12	Andrea Johnson
July 12	Deborah Torres
July 13	Nomi Kluger-Nash
July 14	Joyce Camhi
July 15	Eliana Rubin
July 17	Isabel Howard
July 18	Kim Rubin
July 19	Sara Kurlandsky
July 20	David Green
July 22	Patricia Kirschner - Special birthday!
July 24	Jenifer Rubin
July 26	Jeffrey Haus
July 26	Diane Minsley
July 28	Harlon Campbell
July 30	Melvyn Hyman
July 30	Wilma Kahn
July 31	Karl Schook



July Anniversaries

July 6	Richard & Patricia Kirschner
July 14	Charles & Laurel Ofstein
July 20	Neal & Maxine Berke



Yahrzeits

July 5-11 (9-15 Tammuz)

Marsha Abrams	Betty Krohngold	Leah Schensul*
Siegfried Baum*	Bernard Kurlan*	Dorothy B. Slavin*
David Block	Meyer H. Lebowitz*	Ruth Sofen*
Allison Katherine Ginsberg	Edward Okun*	Elmer Steinberg*
Tierney Kaufman Hutchins	Sara Rose*	Edith Stenesh
Marshall Jelaso	Betty Ruden	Aron Thall

July 12-18 (16-22 Tammuz)

Norman Brickman*	Israel Israelson*	Charles Marks
Eugene Colef*	Harry C. Kaufman*	Naomi Marshall
Esidore H. Graff*	Louis E. Koss*	Sophie Miller*
Robert Grekin*	Herman Benjamin Lando*	Irving Schensul*
Pearl Heytow	Louis Loeser*	

July 19-25 (23-29 Tammuz)

Mary Goldsmith*	Bernice Kirsch*	Mollie Wolfe*
Samuel Gottlieb*	Yetta Marcus*	Milton Wruble*
Norman Graff*	Helen Tenenbaum*	

July 26-August 1 (1-7 Av)

Cecile Cohen*	Jehiel Israelson*	Donald Thall
Joanne Freed	Freda Kaufman*	Nancy Thommes
Sidney Friedman*	Howard Miller	Jonathan David Tregerman*
Lois G. Gerber*	Sarah Rozanoff	
Martin Ginsberg*	Captain Myron Seeder*	

**Denotes a memorial plaque in the synagogue*

*Now you can find all yahrzeits listed on the CoM website for the current week, as well as the entire year.
Search your yahrzeit name and date anytime by visiting this page: congregationofmoses.org/yahrzeits*