



CoM newsletter

CONGREGATION OF MOSES • Kalamazoo, Michigan

September, 2025

Volume 18 Issue 9
8 Elul 5785 - 8 Tishrei 5786

ROSH HASHANAH PRAYERS

One of my favorite parts of the Rosh Hashanah liturgy comes near the end of our standing prayer, the Amidah. But first, some history.

The Amidah is one of our oldest prayers. We begin by appealing to God, out loud and together with the whole congregation, on the merit of our ancestors: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah. We continue on by referencing God's great power, the power to bring wind, rain and dew, among other things. We imagine ourselves as part of the angelic chorus singing God's praises when we say Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh/Holy! Holy! Holy!

Then the quiet portion begins. We pray for understanding, repentance, forgiveness, redemption, healing and a good harvest. We pray for the gathering of the Jewish people, the restoration of justice and the rule of law, and the evaporation of evil. We pray for compassion for the righteous, the rebuilding of Jerusalem, salvation, and that all our prayers be accepted. We remind God how many generations of our ancestors have faithfully prayed and celebrated all of the holidays and we ask again that our prayers be accepted. We thank God for all that God has already done for our ancestors and for us and hope for a day when all will bless and praise Adonai. We close by praying for peace.

On a holiday, our Amidah is shortened. This is because on Shabbat and holidays we are encouraged to live in the world as it should be, not in the world as it is. We are encouraged to see the blessings all around us and rest for a time from the drive to make the world a better place.

However, even on holidays we have very real concerns. That is why I love the sentence added to the end of our prayer for peace on Rosh Hashanah. We say, "May we and the entire Jewish People be called to mind and inscribed for life, blessing, sustenance and peace in the Book of Life." We are asking God to let us live for another year. We are praying that this new year be a year of blessings. We pray for sustenance, translated more literally as "a good livelihood," and we pray for peace.

Each year when I read these words I am struck by the simplicity of this prayer. "Remember me and write me into the book of life. This year let me have blessings, peace and a good job. And not just me, let all of my people have a good life and peace."

B'sefer chayim, bracha, v'shalom, u'farnasa tovah.

L'Shanah Tovah u'metukah.

Have a Good and Sweet New Year.



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

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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.

Heads Up, High School Students Entering Their Senior Year!

If your parents are members of the CoM, 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.



The Jewish Federation
OF KALAMAZOO AND SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

Fall Kickoff Event

Sunday, September 7 at CoM, 3:00 - 5:00 pm

We will bring back Jewish genealogist Leo Cooper, who will present a follow-up of his past presentation about tracing Ashkenazi history. This year, Leo will discuss the history of the Sephardic and Ashkenazi connection.

Refreshments will be served.

For more information contact:

Jacob Weintraub, jmw003@aol.com or call 269-808-8765



Services and Events Calendar

Monday, September 1		Labor Day - Building Closed	
Wednesday, September 3	7:00 pm	Mussar group meeting	
Friday, September 5	7:50 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, September 6	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services at CoM, Special kiddish in memory of Evan Adelman, brother of Gary Adelman	Torah: Deuteronomy 24:14-25:19 Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10
		Kiddish hosts	Angel, Koss, Koss-Weston
Sunday, September 7	9:30-11:00 am	OKCJS Registration Celebration	
Sunday, September 7	3:00 pm	Jewish Federation Kickoff Event	
Wednesday, September 10	7:00 pm	RAC Meeting	
Friday, September 12	7:38 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Friday, September 12	7:00 pm	Shabbat Services: Jonah Weiner Bar Mitzvah	
		Oneg host	Means
Saturday, September 13	9:30 am	Shabbat Services: Jonah Weiner Bar Mitzvah	Torah: Deuteronomy 27:11-29:8 Haftarah: Isaiah 60:1-9
		Kiddish hosts	Kahn
Saturday, September 13	8:00 pm	Selichot Services at TBI	
Sunday, September 14	9:00 am	OKCJS Classes Begin	
Wednesday, September 17	4:30 pm	OKCJS at TBI	
Wednesday, September 17	7:00 pm	Oversight Board Meeting	
Friday, September 19	7:26 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, September 20	9:30 am	Shabbat Shacharit Services at CoM	Torah: Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20 Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9
		Kiddish hosts	Badt/Minsley
Sunday, September 21	9:00 am	OKCJS Classes	
Monday, September 22	7:00 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah Services	
		Oneg hosts	R. Howard/Oretsky
Tuesday, September 23	9:00 am	Rosh Hashanah Services	
Tuesday, September 23	1:30 pm	Tashlich at Woods Lake	
Tuesday, September 23	4:30 pm	Family Services at CoM	
Wednesday, September 24	9:00 am	Rosh Hashanah Services	
Thursday, September 25	7:00 pm	Book Club at TBI	
Friday, September 26	7:14 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time	
Saturday, September 27	9:30 am	Shabbat Services and Torah Study	
		Kiddish hosts	Kimmel-Kurtz/Stein
Sunday, September 28	9:00 am	OKCJS Classes	
Sunday, September 28	9:00 am	Sukkah Building	
Sunday, September 28	12:30 pm	Cemetery Service at Jewish Riverside Cemetery	



High Holy Days - 2025/5786

at Congregation of Moses

- September 13** Joint Community Selichot Services, 8:00 pm **at TBI**
- September 22** Erev Rosh Hashanah Services, 7:00 pm
- September 23** Rosh Hashanah Services, Day I, 9:00 am
Tashlich at Woods Lake with TBI, 1:30 pm
Family Services, 4:30 pm
- September 24** Rosh Hashanah Services, Day II, 9:00 am
- September 28** Build the Sukkah, 9:00 am
Memorial Service **at Riverside Cemetery**, 12:30 pm
- October 1** Kol Nidre Services, 6:30 pm
- October 2** Yom Kippur Services and Yizkor, 9:00 am
Family Services **at TBI**, 4:30 pm
Afternoon Program, 5:00 pm
Mincha, 6:00 pm
Ne'ilah, 7:00 pm
Break-the-Fast, 8:08 pm
- October 5** Memorial Services for October 7 **at TBI**, 7:00 pm
- October 6** Sukkot Celebration **at TBI**, 6:00 pm
- October 7** Sukkot Services, 9:30 am
- October 10** Eat, Pray, Sing in the Sukkah, 6:00 pm
- October 14** Shemini Atzeret Services, 9:30 am with Yizkor, approximately 11:15 am
Simchat Torah Celebration, 6:00 pm

*All events will be held at Congregation of Moses,
2501 Stadium Drive, unless otherwise noted.*



Join Us for Our Annual High Holiday Baking Event — Now in Our Refurbished, State-of-the-Art Kosher Kitchen!

Week of September 8

We need your help baking delicious pastries for our Erev Rosh Hashanah oneg and Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast. Whether you're an expert or a first-time baker, don't worry about your skill level or the kosher guidelines—our welcoming team will be there to support you, answer questions and make sure you feel relaxed and at home in the kitchen.

What to expect:

We kindly ask each baker to prepare at least 75 pareve pieces.

All basic baking ingredients will be provided. If your recipe needs specialty items not stocked in the CoM kitchen, simply purchase what you need and submit your receipt for reimbursement.

No need for nerves—just bring your enthusiasm! Our community will ensure you have a joyful, stress-free Jewish cooking experience. Come connect, learn and help make the holidays sweet for everyone.

Sign up online at:

congregationofmoses.org/com-events



November 26, 1957. l-r, Mrs. Ben (Miriam) Brot, Mrs. Louis Brown, and Mrs. Elmer (Molly) Steinberg prepare 1,600 meat-balls for the Dec. 8 Sisterhood Buffet Dinner at the Kalamazoo Civic Auditorium

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, September 2025

Date	Occasion	Host	Host
Saturday, Sept. 6	Shabbat	Stephen & Alice Koss	Michael & Mara Koss-Weston
Friday, Sept. 12	Jonah Weiner's Bar Mitzvah	Dennis Means	-----
Saturday, Sept. 13	Jonah Weiner's Bar Mitzvah	Wilma Kahn	-----
Saturday, Sept. 20	Shabbat	David & Sandra Badt	Bruce & Diane Minsley
Monday, Sept. 22	Erev Rosh Hashanah	RaeLee Howard	Phil Oretsky
Tuesday, Sept. 23	Rosh Hashanah I	Brad Hershbein	-----
Wednesday, Sept. 24	Rosh Hashanah II	Dennis Means	-----
Saturday, Sept. 27	Shabbat	Bruce & Christy Stein	Emily Kimmel-Kurtz
Thursday, Oct. 2	Yom Kippur	Elissa Cahn	

COM OFFICE HOURS

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

Gil Golde Paintings Exhibition and Sale

Sunday, October 12, from 2:00 – 5:00 pm

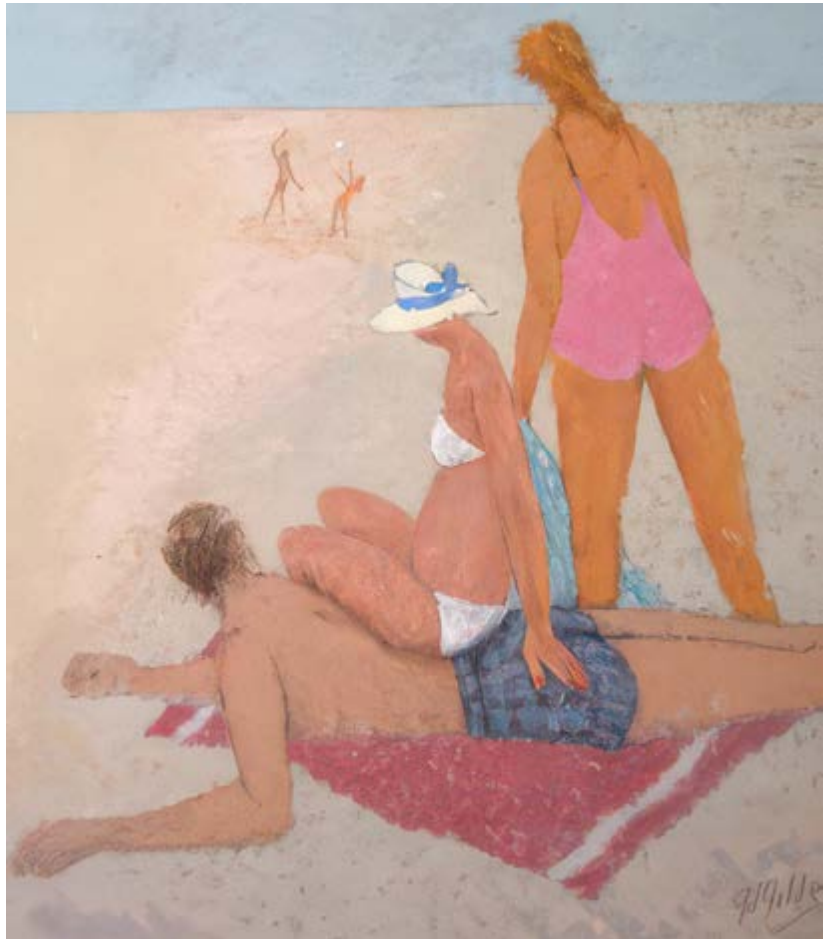
Robin's Nest Gallery will open on October 12 with an exhibition and sale of paintings by Gil Golde.

Father of Valerie Eisenberg, Gil's work spanned almost 85 years from the late 1920's until his death in 2015 at the age of 101. As a young man, he studied art in the classical tradition at the National Academy of Design (now called the National Academy Museum and School of Fine Arts) in New York City. In the 1930s as a student at The Art Students League and the New School, Gil witnessed the emergence of modern art and studied with and worked alongside artists who shaped modern art. He continued to paint, draw and create sculptures throughout his life.

While many of Gil Golde's paintings are in private collections, the family has decided to make the remaining paintings available for sale at prices that will allow others to collect and enjoy his work.

The proceeds from this sale will benefit the Kalamazoo Valley Community College's free summer art workshop programs for children in third through eighth grades called "Art & Animation: Characters and Comics."

The Gil Golde exhibition will be on display at Robin's Nest Gallery, 5115 Texas Drive in Kalamazoo, through December 31.



Donations Accepted Through September 7!

CAMP KESHET MITZVAH PROJECT



HELP SUPPORT THE SPCA OF
SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN



NEEDED ITEMS

- Puppy food – dry/wet
- Canned dog food
- Clumping kitty litter
- Kitty food – dry/wet
- Dish Soap
- White copy paper
- Paper towels
- Hand sanitizer
- antibacterial cleaners
- Peanut butter
- Chicken broth
- Garbage bags
- Gallon ziplock bags
- Laundry detergent
- Used or new towels
- Used blankets (washable)



Donation boxes at TBI and CoM

SPCA website: <https://www.spcaswmich.org/>

The End of Summer, New Beginnings

This summer, Camp Keshet concentrated on fostering community, embracing Jewish values and exploring meaningful actions we could take together. Our goal was to complete at least one mitzvah each day through activities that demonstrated kindness to animals, reduced waste, promoted environmental care, engaged with our community and upheld traditions.

Throughout both weeks, campers welcomed various groups from the TBI and CoM congregations, each sharing their missions and assisting with our daily mitzvah challenge. The Green Team led initiatives such as planting trees, weeding and cultivating vegetables in our raised garden beds. They discussed the solar panels on the roof and campers cooked s'mores using a solar oven made from a box, all while learning about composting.



Friends Store for Refugees organized sorting tables where campers prepared bags for children in need. Members of Zazim shared insights about CoM's green initiatives, highlighting updates in the kitchen and improvements in building lighting. They also discussed the importance of caring for the pollinator rain garden, and campers constructed bird and bug houses for the CoM property.

Engagement with local community organizations was another highlight. Dave and Sue Goldenberg, supporters of the SPCA of Southwest Michigan, launched our large mitzvah project with a visit from three adorable puppies currently at the SPCA. We will be collecting donations through Sunday, September 7. Donation boxes are located at CoM and TBI. Additionally, if you wish to support the SPCA through volunteering or financial contributions, please visit their website: www.spcaswmich.org.

The Epic Center graciously hosted us for a morning filled with creative exploration, featuring activities organized by The Gilmore Piano Lab, the KSO Instrument Petting Zoo, and Wellspring Dance (Cori Terry Theatre). These activities encouraged campers to express themselves through the arts.

We also appreciate our wonderful KDPS Officers, who provided more than just security this year. Officer Pena from the Aviation Unit and Bomb Squad wowed everyone with a drone demonstration, and we had a special guest appearance by one of our KDPS K-9 officers, a dog named Blue.

As summer ends, we are excited to welcome everyone to the new school year! An **Open House is scheduled for Sunday, September 7, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am** at CoM. Our **first day of school is Sunday, September 14, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**, at CoM for students Pre-K through grade 7.

Registration link for the OKCJS 5786 school year: <https://forms.gle/VEi3BHUqIinDyYEZ8>



Today's Jewish teens are navigating a dual burden. Not only are they grappling with the joys and challenges of adolescence, but they are also faced with rising antisemitism, political division and conflicting feelings about what's happening in Israel and Gaza. How can parents help our teens through anxious times like these?

Join Moving Traditions on September 11 for **Parenting Anxious Teens: Jewish Approaches to Resilience**, a conversation with clinical psychologist and parenting expert Dr. Yoni Schwab, Assistant Head of School for the Shefa School. In this conversation facilitated by Rabbi Daniel Brenner, we will address strategies parents can use to help their teens cope with everyday stress, anxiety and more. A panel of teens speakers will also share their experiences and advice about how adults can better support Jewish youth who are struggling with stress and anxiety.

This free Raising Up Teens webinar for parents and educators of Jewish youth will include actionable takeaways and resources to use with the teen in your life. **Register now!**

www.movingtraditions.org/event/parenting-anxious-teens/



Mervin & Fossie Okun
KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY
Jewish School

Okun Jewish School

5786 REGISTRATION OPEN

**Open House@CoM Sunday,
September 7th, 9:30 am - 11:00 am**



- Pre-K through 7th grade
- see your classroom
- complete registration

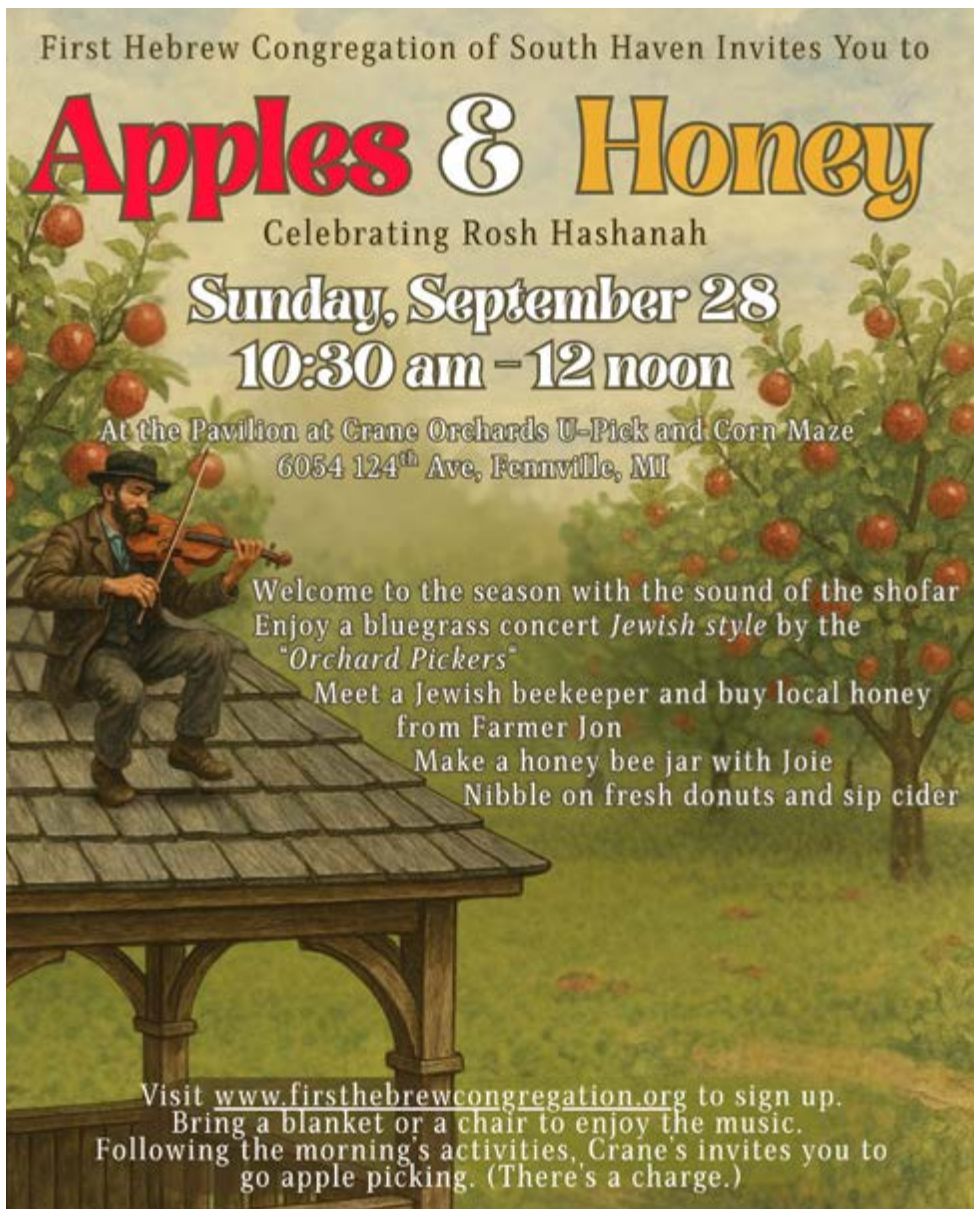


**First Day of School
Sunday, September 14,
9:00 am - 12:00 pm @ CoM**

**Register for school here or
use the QR code_**



Contact Angie Saltzman @ okcjsdirector@gmail.com
with any questions



Apples
 Honey
 Music
 Donuts
 Cider
 Crafts
 Friends

Celebrate Rosh Hashanah!

First Hebrew Congregation of South Haven will host our second “Apples and Honey” gathering at Crane Orchards U-Pick and Corn Maze in Fennville, 10:30 am-noon, on Sunday, September 28. This program is free and open to the community but reservations are required. **Visit firsthebrewcongregation.org** and click on this event.

The morning's activities include the blowing of the shofar by Rabbi Alan Cohen, educational activities and honey products presented by retired Fremont beekeeper, Larry Hasselman and Farmer Jon Laue of Chasing Eden Farms, Jewish-style bluegrass music by Kalamazoo based musicians “Orchard Pickers,” arts and crafts by Joie and Crane's cider and donuts. Want to chill with the music? Bring a chair or blanket! The Allegan Conservation District will also offer seasonal educational activities.

Guests are welcome to go apple picking following the morning's programming. Crane's Orchards U-Pick has signage listing the costs related to picking apples. In case of inclement weather, we'll gather at Crane's Pie Pantry and Restaurant's covered patio.



Volunteers Are Needed for a New Project

CoM and TBI have been invited to help launch a Laundry Love site in Kalamazoo!

Laundry Love is a nationwide project in over 310 locations (laundrylove.org). The Laundry Love initiative consists of regular opportunities to work alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with their laundry. Laundry Love partners with local laundromats in cleaning clothes and linens of low-income or no-income people and families at no cost.

Laundry Love brightens the lives of thousands of people each month through love, dignity and detergent. In short, Laundry Love is about people coming together.

Laundry Love believes that through the neutral space of a laundromat, every guest and stranger can become a friend. This idea pushes against the labels of “us” and “them” and questions the social, economic and cultural divides that separate people.

So how will it work? It is the goal to have volunteers from the Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities work together on this project. We'll need a minimum of four volunteers to work two to four hours each month. A participating laundromat is being arranged and organizing meetings will be held to review the details. Volunteers will assist participants on-site with laundry logistics at designated times, with schmoozing and snacks also as part of the plan.

This will be a fantastic Tikkun Olam opportunity for our community. The more volunteers we have, the less frequently each volunteer will be needed, so come one, come all. Bring a group of people or a family to volunteer together!

If you are interested in learning more and volunteering, please email the CoM office, comofficemgr@congregationofmoses.org. Thanks!

Mishpacha

Donations have been made by the following individuals and families.

Mazel Tov to Charlie Ofstein, celebrating a milestone birthday

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

Mazel Tov to Alan Angel, celebrating a milestone birthday

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

In Memory

In memory of my father, Yale Poger, *Leonard Poger*

In memory of our mother, Winifred Koss, *The Koss Family*

In memory of my mother, Doris Hirschfield Gotthelf, *Joe Hirschfield*

In memory of my father, Irving Cushner, *Cindy Beer*

In memory of my husband, S. Baum, *Elinor Star*

In memory of my mother, Recia Deutsch, *Michelle Angel*

In memory of my aunt, Bertha Rothschild, *Marjorie Gaynor*

In memory of my mother, Peggy Schwartz, *Paul Schwartz*

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

In Honor

In honor of Rob & Tema Lando's 50th anniversary, *Denise Davidoff*

In honor of Pat Kirschner's "milestone" birthday, *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

September 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.

September Birthdays

September 3	Margot Cecily Weiner
September 4	Adam Gelman
September 5	Philip Oretsky
September 6	Cindy Beer
September 7	Robert Lando
September 8	JoAnn Martin
September 9	Charles Ofstein - Special Birthday!
September 10	Nathan Strauss
September 11	Alan Angel - Special Birthday!
September 12	Shirley Mengel
September 13	Jonah Benjamin Weiner
September 14	Charlotte Campbell
September 15	Rabbi Shelley Goldman
September 16	Miriam Verne
September 17	Sarah Kirsch
September 18	Oren Gelman
September 19	Richard Verne
September 20	Micah David Ofstein
September 21	Joanne Simon
September 22	Shirley Wise
September 23	Naomi Marshall
September 24	Cheryl Tenenbaum



September Anniversaries

September 6	Michelle & Troy Zukowski-Serlin
September 28	Kim & Arlen Rubin

Yahrzeits

September 6-12 (13-19 Elul)

Katherine Bachenheimer	David E. Hyman	Joseph Thall*
Max Bennison*	Miriam Kaufman*	Meyer C. Weiner*
Tobias Budin*	Alvin Kushner*	Clarice Weiner
Gertie Feldman	Heidi Schechter Moldo	Dena H. Winick*
Henry Graff*	Ida Rubel*	Dyna Gitel Wise*
Harry Halpert*	Mitchell Sternfield*	

September 13-19 (20-26 Elul)

Barry Arkush	Herbert Fisher*	Patti Paull*
William A. Austin	Janet M. Hoffman*	Ida Schensul*
James Beilis	Harry Kaufman*	Leon Slavin*
Lillian Brot*	David Loeser*	

September 20-26 (28 Elul-4 Tishrei)

Russ Deutsch*	Harry King*	John Jacob Moyer*
Nell Gluck*	Martin Krasnick*	Ruth Simon*
Leonard Haus*	Norma Sue Miller*	

September 27-October 3 (5-11 Tishrei)

Sarah Besbris*	Celia Schiff Horwich*	Abraham Rozanoff*
Stanley Brown*	Samuel Benjamin Horwich*	Eli Verne*
Belle Franklin*	Sam Kurlandsky*	Sumner Weinstein*
Samuel Franklin*	Michael Liepman*	Janice G. Weinstein*
Helen Arlene Gerber*	Peter Kevin McCain*	Thomas Wolfe*
Ed Goldenthal*	Shay Okun*	
Robert Goodman*	Sidney Rose*	

*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*

**Denotes a memorial plaque in the synagogue*