

The Hourglass

BULLETIN OF
THE HEBREW CONGREGATION
OF ST THOMAS

SEPTEMBER 2022



Contents

September Services and Programs-----	2
Message from the Rabbi.....	3-4
Message from the President.....	5
High Holiday Schedule-----	6
Book of Remembrance -----	7
A message about Ukraine & Our Global Movement-----	8-10
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	11
Prayers for Healing.....	12
Yahrtzeits and Memorials.....	13-14
Donors, Supporters and Friends.....	15-16
Board of Trustees.....	17

September Services and Programs

Parashah: Shoftim
(Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9)
Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12-52:12

Friday, September 2
Erev Shabbat Services - 6:30 PM

Saturday, September 3
Torah Study - 10:30 AM
Lilienfeld House

Parashah: Ki Teitzei
(Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19)
Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10

Friday, September 9
Erev Shabbat Services - 6:30 PM

Saturday, September 10
Torah Study- 10:30 AM
Lilienfeld House

Parashah: Ki Tavo
(Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8)
Haftarah: Isaiah 60:1-22

Friday, September 16
Erev Shabbat Services - 6:30 PM

Saturday, September 17
Torah Study - 10:30 AM

Parashah: Nitzavim
(Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20)
Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9

Friday, September 23
Erev Shabbat Services - 6:30 PM

Saturday, September 24
Torah Study - 10:30 PM

Sunday, September 25
Rosh Hashanah Eve Services - 6:00 PM
Dinner following services
in Lilienfeld House

Monday, September 26
Rosh Hashanah Morning Services - 10:00 AM
Rosh Hashanah Family Services & Tashlich -
3:30 PM- Magens Bay - Shed # 4

Tuesday, September 27
Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day - 10:00 AM
Brunch/Discussion at the home of
Dorothy and Mark Isaacs

Shabbat Shuva - Parashah: Vayeilech
(Deuteronomy 31:10-31:30)
Haftarah:
Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20; Joel 2:15-27

Friday, September 30
Erev Shabbat Services - 6:30 PM

Saturday, October 1
Torah Study - 10:30 AM
Lilienfeld House



Message from Rabbi Shimon Moch



Articulating Your Personal Values Makes a Difference

Every institution has a reason for doing what it does. To keep the institution focused, institutions typically develop a mission statement. I recently read such a mission statement for the Jewish community, especially applied to education. It's author, Rabbi Isadore Twersky, a professor at Harvard University, wrote: "Our goal should be to make it possible for every Jewish person, child or adult, to be exposed to the mystery and romance of Jewish history, to the enthralling insights and special sensitivities of Jewish thought, to the sanctity and symbolism of Jewish existence, and to the power and profundity of Jewish faith. Education, in its broadest sense, will enable young people to confront the secret of Jewish tenacity and existence ... they will be able, even eager, to find their place in a creative and constructive Jewish community."

I loved each emphasis of thought, feeling and experience he charged us with conveying to the next generation of Jews. I then looked up our Congregation's mission statement as recorded in our by-laws under Purpose: "The purpose of the Congregation is to maintain the Synagogue for the worship of God in accordance with the faith of Judaism, to cultivate love and understanding of Jewish heritage, to stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community and to promote Judaism in all aspects of life by means of public and private worship, religious education and social welfare activities."

This past week, we began the month of Elul, an entire month when we take more seriously the process of heshbon ha-nefesh (self-accounting). To aid in this process, consider developing a personal mission statement. Taking some time and really putting a lot of thought into articulating for ourselves our most important values. Then we have a better basis on which to evaluate how well we are doing in our lives. We may be punishing ourselves for offenses according to what others would have us believe as wrongs we have committed, when with deeper reflection, we realize that we ourselves do not share the negative value of the action at all. We may also ignore things that suddenly come into sharp focus as very important.

Understanding the values of the past plays an important role in formulating our own value system. Contemporary opinions of teachers and friends we respect play a part in our values as well. To those we add the feelings of connection that well up from deep within ourselves. Combining valuation of the past with those of today, especially our own is the reason we begin our daily tefilah or amida with the phrase, "Eloheinu vei-lohei avotein," "Our God and God of our forebearers." We say, "God of our forebearers, with respect to the values we have learned from the past. Their strength comes from the wisdom distilled over centuries of shared perspective. Their weakness comes in that they do not spring directly from within us. We say, "Our God," because it does spring directly from our own understanding of life, God and ourselves. Therein it derives its strength. Its weakness comes in that just as we arrived at our values through thought and consideration, we can just as easily be dissuaded of that understanding. We marry what we have received from the past with its anchoring strength to what we have come to understand which springs from within our own experience and understanding. That insures that our values will be strong and real.

The time of year has arrived for heshbon ha-nefesh. I will be working on a personal mission statement and I will use every resource from tradition and from current teachers and friends I respect. I will add to that what emerges from deep within of my own real life values, especially garnered from the mistakes I have made (read learning experiences). Working from that mission statement along with regular check-ups on how well I am doing, I hope through this year to feel a little higher spiritually from one day to the next.



While we are considering personal values, we want what comes from the Synagogue to reflect our Congregation's mission statement and allow a comfortable connection for most members. Name changes often give us a healthy opportunity to reflect values and our changing perspectives on values. Toward that, we welcome suggestions for a new name of our monthly bulletin. Please send your suggestions to Rabbi Shimon Moch at rabbi@synagogue.vi. He will share them with the Board and we will choose a new name. If you do have trouble connecting to aspects of any communication that comes from the synagogue, please let Rabbi Moch or President Marilyn Blackhall know.



A New Year in a New World !

Message from Marilyn Blackhall, President

For the past couple of years my thoughts for the High Holy Days and the New Year have focused on the pandemic which has caused untold tragedies, loss of lives, sadness, destruction of income, and families torn apart. Mercifully however, the world has come around, the worst seems to have passed and we have made progress in dealing with this new world in which we live. Nothing is perfect and life for many of us this year presents new difficulties and yet we persevere bringing joy and happiness to ourselves and to those we love and respect.

As a community, and in many other parts of the world as well, what we saw during the worst of Covid was an awesome willingness to come to the aid of our friends and neighbors, the infirm, elderly, and those less able, living among us. I hope and trust that, in this coming New Year, we can remain positive and continue to do everything in our power to help those in need, while caring for our Synagogue, our Congregation.

Before I conclude, may I offer a profound thank you to our Members and our Chai Members – those in person and those joining us remotely – for your love and support during these extraordinary and uncertain times.

And thank you to our staff (Stella, Agi, Michelle, and Michael) and our new interim Rabbi, Shimon Moch... for your unceasing devotion and hard work, and to our dedicated Board of Directors and Rabbinic Search Committee. As we all prepare to welcome the New Year, I wish you a year full of smiles, happiness, and sweetness...May all problems and sorrows vanish from our lives.

“You have stayed long enough in this place, God said. Time to go forward. Turn your face to the future. Believe that you can cross this sea and survive.”

Shana Tova!!!!



High Holiday Schedule 5783-2022

Selihot: 9:00pm – 11:00pm, Sunday, August 28

Rosh Hashana Eve: 6:00pm, Sunday, September 25

Dinner following services in Lilienfeld House

Rosh Hashana Morning: 10:00am, Monday, September 26

RH Family Service & Tashlich: 3:30pm, Monday, September 26

at Magen's Bay - Shed #4

Rosh Hashana 2nd Day: 10:00am, Tuesday, September 27

Brunch/discussion at the Home of Dorothy and Mark Isaacs

Yizkor Services at both Cemeteries: Sunday, October 2

9:00am at Savan followed by tour of grave markers

10:00am at Altona followed by tour of grave markers

If your loved ones are buried far away, you are welcome to come to one of our cemeteries for that Yizkor and to remember them on holy ground.

Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre: 7:00pm, Tuesday, October 4

Yom Kippur Morning: 10:00am, Wednesday, October 5

Discussion: "The challenge of making things right" 1:00pm

Yom Kippur Afternoon Service: 4:00pm

Yom Kippur Yizkor: 5:30pm

Yom Kippur Ne'ila: 6:00pm

Break fast in Lilienfeld: 7:00pm

Erev Sukkot Schedule: Sunday, October 9

Sukkah Decorating Program: 4:30pm

Erev Sukkot Service: 5:30pm

Dinner in Sukkah: 6:00pm

Sukkot morning Service: 9:30am Monday, October 10

Lunch in Sukkah provided by Rabbi Moch

Sukkot lunches or dinners may be reserved through the Synagogue office.

Simhat Torah/Shemini Atzeret: 6:30pm, Sunday October 16

and consecration. Snack for the children before services.

Shemini Atzeret Morning Service and Yizkor:

8:30am, Monday, October 17



Dear friends,

We hope this note finds you well and that you have been enjoying your summer. We have been diligently working on our Book of Remembrance for the High Holidays 5783. In order to have the book ready for the High Holidays we must have your information soon. With our busy lives, deadlines can pass before we know it.

If you would like to have the name(s) of your loved one(s) included in this year's book, please send us the information by September 6, 2022 by calling the office at 340-774-4312 to provide the information.

If you have already submitted your information, thank you and please disregard this notice.

L'Shalom,
Stella Minion, Administrator
stella@synagogue.vi
703-539-9652

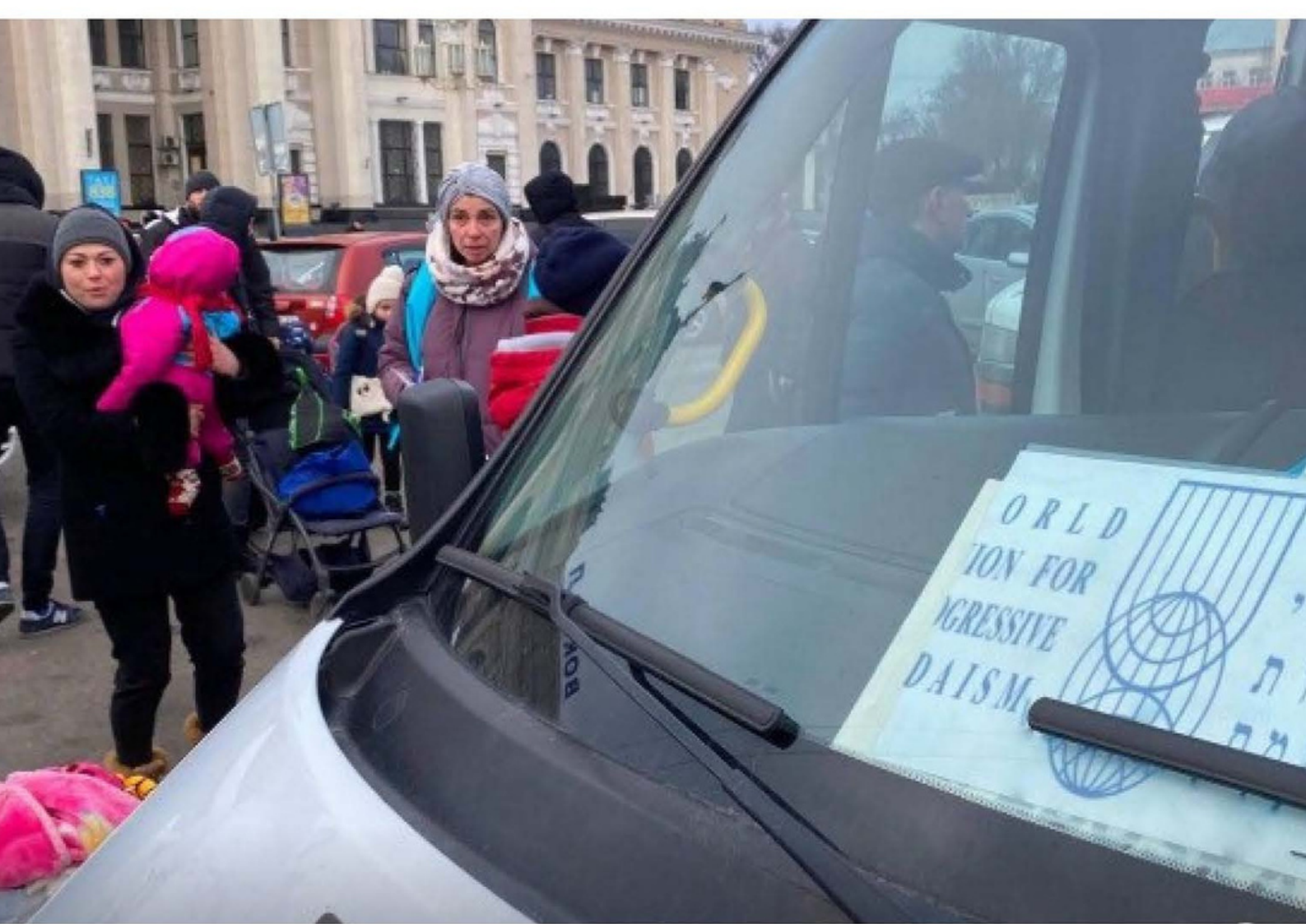


A message about Ukraine and our Global Movement:

By Tadd Schwabb

Friends, the war in Ukraine has had an effect on us all. Our own World Union for Progressive Judaism has become very involved in helping Ukrainians both Jewish and not Jewish. Perhaps you are not aware of the wonderful work of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ). The WUPJ is the global arm of our Reform/Progressive Jewish Movement. With congregations (including our own) in 50 countries the WUPJ supports our movement in many ways.

When war broke out in Ukraine the WUPJ created a fund to use to help our congregations and people there. To date over \$2,100,000 has been collected and more is needed. If you have donated, your support of the WUPJ Ukraine Crisis Fund is making tremendous positive impact in the lives of individuals and families affected by the war. If you have donated we appreciate your contribution.



"We have undertaken the task and responsibility of overseeing the allocation and distribution of these essential funds," he said. "To this end, we are coordinating our efforts with reputable and knowledgeable people on the ground."

WUPJ is also coordinating with other global organizations such as the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), the American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), HIAS Europe, and the World Zionist Organization (WZO) to ensure successful streamlining and to avoid duplication of efforts.

"The humanitarian needs are growing daily," said Carole Sterling, WUPJ Chair, noting the decimation of Ukrainian communities leading to one of the largest flows of refugees — 3 million so far — in Europe.

The plan has 4 parts: Rescue, Relief, Resettlement, and Rebuilding. We are not finished and will not be for a long time.

We are not finished and will not be for a long time. Please consider support for this important cause.

Contributions can be made online at <https://wupj.org/give/ukraine>

DONATIONS ARE SUPPORTING DIRECT EFFORTS ON THE GROUND:

-  **Safe Transport**
for Ukrainians seeking security and safety across borders
-  **Support & Community**
for refugees through Progressive Jewish congregations in Europe
-  **Monetary Assistance**
to Ukrainians in desperate financial need
-  **Legal Assistance**
for Ukrainian refugees in Israel
-  **Emergency Food Packages**
within and beyond Ukraine
-  **Pesach Food & Shabbat Observances**
for individuals and families in Ukraine and refugees across borders
-  **Programming & Assistance for Refugee Children**
with special needs and their families
-  **Support to the Refugee Crisis Center**
in Warsaw

THE WUPJ HAS HAD SEVERAL ONLINE RECAPS WITH UKRAINIANS WHO HAVE GOTTEN TO SAFETY OR USED OUR FINANCIAL HELP IN OTHER WAYS.

BELOW WE HEAR FROM OLGA, YULIA, AND VENIAMIN.

Olga was able to leave her home city of Bucha, where it is very unsafe, and get to Israel with her daughter. She says: "Thank you for your support. I am safe now in Israel, and one day plan to return to Ukraine. I am very grateful to the communities of Progressive Judaism who accepted me into their family and did not leave me alone in such a difficult situation for the world and for me in particular."

Yulia Parvenova and her family were forced to leave their home and their business, a small flower shop in Kharkiv, when war broke out. They were left with no money and three children to support. Yulia says: "Your help was vital for us and the money goes to food and necessary things for children. Our eldest daughter, Sofia, 20 years old, is now in Poland. Our sons Igor, 17 years old, and Dima, almost two years old, are with us in Western Ukraine, where it is quieter. Thank you again very much! We are waiting for the end of the war, and dream of returning home and re-starting work."

Veniamin levchenko, a member of the Hatikvah Congregation in Kyiv, fled Ukraine with only a few winter clothes. After making Aliyah, your support has helped buy new clothes to get him through the Israeli summer. He said: "I am very thankful for the financial support I received and will always remember your kindness."

The congregation Veniamin mentions above in Kyiv (Kiev) is the Congregation our friend Rabbi Alex Dukhovny is the Rabbi at. Perhaps some of you saw Rabbi Dukhovny speak several years ago at Congregation B'nai Israel in Boca. Rabbi Dukovney is now in Israel and along with other Rabbi's from Ukraine conducts Shabbat and holiday services via zoom in an effort to keep the congregations together.

Proposals for additional and continuing funding continue to be received by WUPJ and the EUPJ (European Union for Progressive Judaism). The two organizations are working in partnership to evaluate and prioritize needs, said Rabbi Igor Zinkov of The Liberal Jewish Synagogue in London, who will visit Poland this month to evaluate funded projects and potential new ones.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

September Birthdays

Stella Minion	Sept. 1
Donald Pomeranz	Sept. 1
Marilu Stern	Sept. 5
James Tunick	Sept. 6
Archie Ogden	Sept. 10
Ethan Eilon	Sept. 12
Joanne Luciano	Sept. 13
Gregory Blackhall	Sept. 15
Harrison Eilon	Sept. 16
Jake Eilon	Sept. 16
Abe Tarapani	Sept. 16
Richard Friedman	Sept. 18
Harvey Werbel	Sept. 20
Jessica Rosenberg	Sept. 22
Arielle Ebeholtz	Sept. 24
Marc Blazar	Sept. 25
Carolyn Pomeranz	Sept. 25
Jeffrey Silverman	Sept. 25
Evelyn Wood	Sept. 30

September Anniversary

Marc and Marianne Blazar

Sept. 1



Jay Kranitz
Helen Leneman
Sheri Levin
Linda Lewensohn
Steven Markowitz
Siobhan McCourt
James Nicholson
Maria Grace Nicholson
Pam Oppenheimer
Edward Pascal
Grace Poon
Rosa Pupko
Randy Raudt
Joshua Redel
Matthew Ress
Dorothy Ring
Brook Robin
Steve Rockstein
Marilyn Rubin
Henia Rubins
Mary Sanchez
John Schenkel
Jerry Silverman
Maxine Shayna Stark
Bill Stein
Steve Steinberg
Abe Tarapani
James Tunick
Robert Tunick
Rona Wolfson
Rhonda Wrobel
David Alan Yoskowitz

-9-

We remember former members and those who are dear to our members.

Week of September 1-8

Abraham Bachrach, Alan Bachrach, Jr., Alan Bachrach, Sr., Dimitri Berman
Solomon Cortisso, Daniel de Castro, Murray Goodman, David Henriques
Naphtaly Bar Jeudah, Charles A. Kahaner, Jodi Hilda Kimelman, William Krefetz
Morris Leland, Julius Edgar Lilienfeld, Benjamin Hoheb Lindo, John Steven Maguire
Gloria Minkoff, Bessy Newman, Leah Orenstein, Mildred Pomeranz
Gerald Prosterman, Goldie Raye, Sarah Robles, Esther Robles Sasso
Andrew Stillman, Samuel Weissbard

Week of September 9-15

Youssef Avigdor, Sol Barry, Oliver Jacob Isenberg, William Koff, Samuel List
Noah Newman, Louis A. Peirez, Selma Bachrach Schafer
Dr. Robert I. Schwartz, Harry Shapiro, Samuel Siegel

Week of September 16-22

Nathan Camhi, Helen Gruber, David Herling, Irving M. Hershkowitz
Philip Mallin, Hirsz Pupko, Nettie Werbel

Week of September 23-30

George Blackhall, Leslie A. Cooper, Alexander Gruber, Oliver Jacob Isenberg
Margaret (Marge) Kalik, Herbert S. LeVine, Diane Libman, Miriam Machover
Bertha Marcus, Jacob Redan, Joseph Rosov, Richard Lewis Schafer
Tema Schuster, Hana Steiner



We remember our Chai Members and those who are dear to our Chai Members

Week of September 1-8

Aaron Barnett, Solika Benlolo, Gussie Berman, Frances Bernstein, Irving Blumenfeld, Abner Blumenfeld, Ethel Brooks
Max Brown, Barbara Carmichael, Max Cohen, Jeannette Cohn, Nancy Delgrosso, Max Dorfman Helen Edles, Elliot Fine
Scott Folz, Herman Glass, Ethel Goldman, Esther Goldstein, Herman Goodman, Geraldine Goodwin, Dr. William Heine
Rosalyn Hirschfeld, Herman Katz, Samuel Kauffman, Morton Kershner Samuel Kessler, Sandra Komisar, Sandra Kopp
Sylvia Lawrence, Dorothy Levy, William Liedtke, Elaine Lipp, Ann Martyn, Herman Platt, Norman Rosiner
Barbara Rothschild, Louis Schlefstein Louise Schwartz, Melvin Schwartz, Herman Seid, Shirley Shapiro, Estelle Shechtman
Harry Sherman, Henry Shulman, David Shuster, Lauren Silver, Martha Simmans, Frieda Steinberg
Milton Steinbock, Yosef Svi Waldman, Nena Winkelman

Week of September 9-15

Marvin Arnold, Hannah Aszkenas, Eleanor Baker, Lawrence Beck, Sophie Bernstein, Grace Blumstein, Janet Bookspan
Gertrude Cohen, Ralph Cohen, Daryl Cowl, Joseph Ben Sholom HaCohen, Florence Epstein, Ruby Farkas, Sara Gelman
Morris Goldberg, Murray Goldberg, Alan Gordon, Mary Grohnke, Rose Haber, Sidney Harris, Rosalie Hoffman
Bethany Janover, Miriam Kahn, Itzhak Kamien, Ian Katz, Benjamin Kessler, Francine Kopet, Paul Kravitz, Cecilia Lehn
Sidney Levin, Helene Levy, Rose Mayerson, Bonnie Menaker, Frank Menaker, Sol Mittman, David Morowitz
Stephen Obstgarten, June Oppen, Leonard Renz, Sally Rose, Lenore Sandel, Arthur Sandler, Philip Sandler, Stanley Sandler
Samuel Sherwin, Sally Solow, Martin Stahl, MD, Israel Stein, Mollie Stein, Madeline Steinberg, Richard Strauss
Haim Turetsky, Channa Waldman, Bernard Weber, Ida Weinstein, Sidney Weiss

Week of September 16-22

Janet Abels, Annette Baker, Maurice Bebchick, Helen Cohen, Irving Cohen, Doris Dorfman, Frieda Dorfman, Martin Epstein
Sidney Epstein, Ira Farnell, Zelda Feinberg, Yetta Ferstenberg, Bessie Fox, Eleanor Friedenberg, Robert Friedenberg
Alba Gennarelli, Esther Gilbert, Nettie Gittelman, Bessie Goldberg, Bella Goldman, Henry Goldman, Michael Goldman
Leo Goodman, Larry Goodman, Rose Gottlieb, Janet Gourwitz, Sarah Hazen Irving Hershkowitz, Stanley Hertzog
Charles Honigman, Esther Horwitz, Henry Ivey, Jeffrey Kaufmann, Robert Kausz, Dorothy Krebs, Ben Kuzacks, Sarah Levitt
Aaron Levy, Morris Levy, Ronald Lewis, Abram Linky Wilbur Lipsius, Mildred Marks, David Meyer, Leonard Oliner
Henrietta Platt, David Prensky, Adam Raisner, Sol Reisberg, Joseph Rosen, Jacob Rosenthal, Richard Ross, Alan Roth
David Rothschild, Frederick Rudo, Dorothy Sternberg, Ben Tarson, Sonia Tarson, Peter Taub, Dr. Steven Walerstein
Hannah Wallace, Lois Pollak, Issie Yanofsky, Maxwell Zinn, Shirley Zuckerman

Week of September 23-30

Dr. Walter Askenas, Ruth Baigelman, Moise Benlolo, Ray Berkman, Sonny Black, Olga Blank, Ben Blau, Helen Browner
Joseph Cohen, Mary Cohen, Geraldine Davis, Ethel Dorfman, Mandel Dymm, Pearl Englander, Julius Fleisher, Daniel Fox
Harold Freeman, Sidney Garron, Abe Gelman, Richard Goldberg, Lionel Goldman, Morris Goldman, Arnold Goodman
Neil Grahame, Sara Green, Selma Greenfield, Ida Henschel, Elizabeth Hewitt, Jenny Kleid, Helen Klein, Paul Kline
Esther Lashinsky, Natalie Lenzner, Sylvia Levinson, Gloria Lowtwait, Edward Markowitz, Joseph Morris, Milton Neimkin
Daniel Paddock, Evelyn Port, Phillip Redelheim, Bertha Rudo, Rita Samen, Faye Sanford, Rose Schafel, Alex Schwartz
Ludwig Sichel, Edith Sobel, Leo Sonkin, Martha Stern, Ethel Tushman, Paula Wachtel, Philip Weiner
William Wideman, Elizabeth Winter, Ruth Witlin, Myer Zevin



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Shalom and welcome
to a place where history and destiny meet,
where looking up, and looking down, and looking around
all tell a tale unlike almost any other.

We have come together here,
as a community and as a congregation,
in spirituality and study and service,
one generation to the next, since 1796
— and in our current building since 1833.

In coming together now, you step into that tradition,
and help write the next chapter in our ongoing story.

Rabbi: Shimon Moch

Administrator: Stella Minion

Administrator Assistant: Michelle Barnes

Docent/Gift Shop Manager: Agnes Rampino

Custodian: Michael Fuertes

The Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas

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