



October 31-November 1, 2025

י חשון תשפ"ו

Candle Lighting 5:44 PM

Parashat Lech Lecha לך לך Genesis 12:1-17:27

Stone – p 54 Hertz – p 45 Etz Hayim – p 69

Haftarah – Isaiah 40:27-41:16 ישעיה

Stone – p 1133 Hertz – p 60 Etz Hayim – p 95

Kiddush luncheon following services

is sponsored by

Jean & Stanley Estrin

in honor of Stanley's 75th birthday

and his **Bar Mitzvah** anniversary

Birthday cake provided by

Rabbi Seth & Marian Gordon

in honor of Marian's and Stanley's birthdays

Shabbat ends 6:43 PM

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

Rabbi Seth D Gordon - Rabbi.Gordon@yahoo.com
Marian S. Gordon, Executive Director - traditionalcong@gmail.com

WEEKDAY AND SHABBAT SERVICES

Tuesday - 6:30 PM

Shabbat - 9:30 AM

Board of Directors:

Governance Committee:

Florence Schachter, Chair

Marty Levy, Vice-Chair

Ken Bohm, Ellis Frohman, Ron Green, Dina Rinder, Mindy Strauss

Ellis Frohman, Financial Vice President

Mark Weinstein, Ritual Vice President

Marty Levy/Mindy Strauss, Education Co-Vice Presidents

Dina Rinder, Membership Vice President

Steven Puro, Administration Vice President

Chris Brown/Justin Zeid, Building & Grounds

Co-Vice Presidents

Ron Green, Fundraising Vice President

Barbara Levin, Treasurer

Mimi Levy, Secretary

Past Presidents: Kenneth H. Bohm, Phil Brick

Members at Large:

Maureen Brodsky

Stanley Estrin

Bill Gold

Gary Golden

Jack Heller

Sid Levin

Ari Levy

Carol Max

Florence Schachter

We welcome new members!

If you or someone you know would like to receive membership information,
please contact our office at 314-576-5230
or traditionalcong@gmail.com

On This Week's Parashah - Lech L'cha

Our parsha begins with the puzzling words *Lech Lecha* as God commands Avraham to leave his birthplace and settle in the Land of Israel. The words literally mean "go to yourself", and as this is a confusing phrase, many of the commentators interpret them differently. Here are four possible interpretations:

1. Rashi has a tradition that the words mean "Journey for yourself." According to him, God is saying "Travel for your own benefit and good. There I will make you into a great nation." Sometimes we have to let go of our past in order to embrace the future, and trust in God's plan. Avraham was about to say goodbye to the things that mean most to us – land, birthplace and parental home, the places where we belong. He was about to make a journey from the familiar to the unfamiliar, a leap into the unknown. At the end of it, however, Avraham would discover that he had achieved something he could not have done otherwise. "Go for yourself" – believe in what you can become.

2. The Midrash takes the phrase to mean "Go with yourself" – meaning, by travelling from place to place you will extend your influence not over one land but many. Avraham was commanded to leave his place to show that God was not limited to one place (as many believed their ancient Gods were). Avraham's God was Creator and Sovereign of the entire universe. Avraham and Sara were to be like perfume, leaving a trace of their presence wherever they went. Lech Lecha according to the Midrash means "Go with yourself" – your beliefs, your way of life, your faith.

3. A more mystical interpretation takes the phrase to mean, "Go to yourself" – take a journey of self-discovery. Avraham was being asked to leave behind all the things that make us someone else – for it is only by taking a long and lonely journey that we discover who we truly are. "Go to yourself."

4. There is, however, a fourth interpretation: "Go by yourself." Only a person willing to stand alone, singular and unique, can worship the God who is alone, singular and unique. Only one able to leave behind the things we are born into, that influence who we become – home, family, culture and society – can form a relationship with God who stands above and beyond nature.

When Reb Zushya of Hanipol was lying on his deathbed, surrounded by his Hasidim, he began to softly weep. His students also began to cry and through their tears they called out "Reb Zushya, Reb Zushya, why do you weep? You are about to meet your Creator and be welcomed home into shamayim (heaven) as a tzaddik (righteous man)".

The old and frail Rebbe slowly shook his head. "My Hassidim I fear what the heavenly court will ask me" he gently whispered. The men surrounding his bed rocked back and forth in puzzlement. "What could you possibly fear, our great and holy leader?" they questioned him. He replied "I fear not that the court will ask me why I did not manage to become an Avraham, or a Yaakov, or a Moshe, for who could reach the level of our saintly forefathers?! But I fear they will ask me a much harder question. What will I answer if they ask me: Reb Zushya, why did you not become a Zushya?!"

**Shabbat shalom,
Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks zt"l**

Jewish War Veterans Shabbat
November 8, 2025
in partnership with
Kol Rinah



Join us to recognize and honor all who served our country,
and view a display of our veterans
and their family members.

A meat kiddush luncheon will follow,
sponsored by
Jewish War Veterans
Heritage Post 644

RSVP's appreciated to traditionalcong@gmail.com
or 314-576-5230





“Actually, it IS Brain Surgery!
(but not rocket science)”

Brunch and program with
Dr. Ari Levy,
Board-certified Neurosurgeon



Sunday, November 9, 2025 10:00 AM

[Register here](#) or



SCAN ME

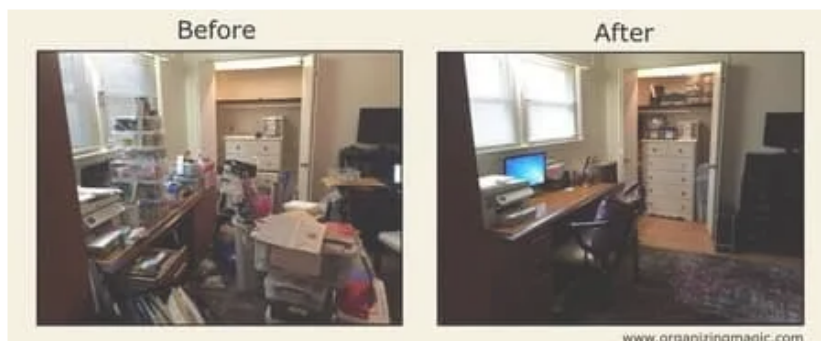
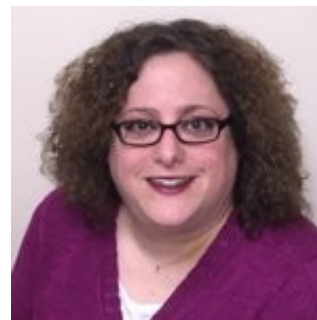
No charge -
Share the Fare donations are appreciated!



Traditional Congregation of Creve Coeur
12437 Ladue Rd, St Louis MO 63141
314-576-5230

"Organizing & Downsizing"

with Jodi Granok, Certified
Professional Organizer
Brunch & Program,
Sunday, November 23, 2025
10:00 AM



"We help you unlock your true potential by clearing the mental and physical clutter that blocks your path."

Downsizing your home? Just need to get rid of "stuff" and don't know where to begin? Need help organizing paperwork? Jodi has answers and systems for you!

**Join us at 10:00 AM for a light brunch,
followed by Jodi's program.**

No charge -

Share the Fare donations are appreciated!

"Jodi helped me organize my office, including moving furniture, reorganizing my filing system, purging a lot of unneeded items, generally clearing my work space, and getting everything organized so it all works better and feels better. She also gave me some good ideas for dealing with my huge flow of email. Jodi is very good at this." ~ Brett, St. Louis

**BE LIKE BRETT!
GET ORGANIZED WITH JODI!!**

[Register here \(required\)](#)



**Traditional Congregation of Creve Coeur
12437 Ladue Rd, St Louis MO 63141
314-576-5230**



PRAYER

I am a Jew because Judaism demands
no abdication of my mind.

*I am a Jew because Judaism asks every possible
sacrifice of my soul.*

I am a Jew because wherever there are tears
and suffering the Jew weeps.

*I am a Jew because whenever the cry of
despair is heard the Jew hopes.*

I am a Jew because the message of Judaism
is the oldest and the newest.

*I am a Jew because the promise of Judaism
is a universal promise.*

I am a Jew because, for the Jew, the world is
not finished; human beings will complete it.

*I am a Jew because, for the Jew, humanity is
not fully created; mortals are creating it.*

I am a Jew because Judaism places human
life above Judaism itself.

*I am a Jew because, above the individual,
Judaism places the oneness of God.*

Edmund Fleg (adapted)

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

To try is to risk failure. But risk must be taken, because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, and is nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he simply cannot learn, feel, change, grow, live, or love. Chained by his addictions, he's a slave. He has forfeited his greatest trait, and that is his individual freedom. Only the person who risks is free.

Leo Buscaglia