



May 16-17, 2025

יט אייר תשפ"ה

Candle Lighting 7:48 PM

Parashat Emor – Leviticus 21:1-24:23 אמור

Stone – p 672 Hertz – p 513 Etz Hayim – p 717

Haftarah – Ezekiel 44:15-31 יחזקאל מד:טו-לא

Stone – p 1176 Hertz – p 528 Etz Hayim – p 735

Kiddush following services
is sponsored by the congregation

Shabbat ends 8:49 PM

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

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

WEEKDAY AND SHABBAT SERVICES

Sunday - 8:30 AM

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

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

Stan Greenberg

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 Torah Portion - Emor

A kohen must do what he can do avoid becoming tamei (impure, or ceremonially unclean.) He may not touch or be under the same roof as a dead body. He must remain aloof from close contact with the dead (exceptions are made for close relatives: his wife, his parent, his child, brother or unmarried sister.) The laws for a Kohen Gadol are even stricter. He may not become tamei even for a close relative, though both he and an ordinary priest may do so for a meit mitzva (who has no one else to attend to his funeral). Here the basic requirement of human dignity overrides the priestly imperative of purity.

Many laws like this – especially the rite of the Red Heifer, used to cleanse those who had come into contact with the dead – are hard for us to understand. It is perplexing. Death defiles. But so does childbirth. Then, in our Parsha, there is the exclusion of any kohen with a physical blemish from service in the Mishkan – including anyone blind or lame, or with a deformed nose or misshapen limb, a crippled leg or hand, or a hunchback. Why? Such an exclusion seems to fly in the face of the principle that “God does not look at the things people look at. People look at the appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” So why should outer appearances affect whether priests may serve in the house of God? Is there an underlying logic?

First, let's unpack the concept of the holy. God is beyond space and time, yet God created space and time as well as the physical entities that occupy space and time. During the process of Creation, God limited His own infinite abilities to create the physical, and then He established the holy as the point at which the Eternal enters time and the Infinite enters space. Holy time is Shabbat. Holy space was the Mishkan, and later, the Temple.

God's eternity stands in the sharpest possible contrast to our mortality. All that lives will one day die. All that is physical will one day cease to be (even the sun!) Hence the extreme delicacy and danger of the Mishkan or Temple. The combination of the purely spiritual and the unmistakably physical is explosive and must be guarded against. Just as a highly sensitive experiment must be conducted without the slightest contamination, so the holy space had to be kept free of conditions that bespoke mortality.

Both death and birth make us aware of our mortality, and tsara'at makes us vividly aware of the body. Even mould on a garment or on the house is a symptom of physical decay. There is nothing wrong about any of these things, but they focus our attention on the physical and are therefore incompatible with holy spaces, dedicated to the presence of the God, the Eternal Infinite that never dies or decays.

Tumah does not mean defilement. It means that which distracts from eternity and infinity by making us forcibly aware of mortality, of the fact that we are physical beings in a physical world. What the Mishkan represented in space and Shabbat in time was quite radical, that holiness exists within this world, although it is bounded by space and time. But holiness must be carefully insulated. Hence the stringency of the laws of Shabbat on the one hand, the Temple and its priesthood on the other. The holy is the point at which heaven and earth meet, where, by intense focus and a complete absence of earthly concerns, we open up space and time to the sensed presence of God who is beyond space and time. It is an intimation of eternity in the midst of life, allowing us at our holiest moments to feel part of something that does not die. The holy is the space within which we redeem our existence from mere contingency and know that we are held within the “everlasting arms” of God.

Shabbat shalom,
Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks zt”l

JOIN US ON SHABBAT, MAY 31, 2025 AS
STANLEY ESTRIN

COMPLETES READING
**ALL ALIYOT
OF THE TORAH!**



STANLEY AND JEAN INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM
FOR SERVICES AND KIDDUSH
TO CELEBRATE THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT!

PLEASE RSVP TO:
TRADITIONALCONG@GMAIL.COM
WITH NAMES OF ALL ATTENDING

TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT

with

Traditional Congregation

and

B'nai Amoona

Sunday, June 1, 2025 7:15 PM

at TradCong, 12437 Ladue Rd

Join us for:

Meaningful Services

Stimulating Learning Sessions

Yummy Dairy Treats

Please register at:

<https://bit.ly/3YNKNpU>

**We look forward to seeing you!
Questions? Need help registering?**

**Call Marian 314-576-5230
or Liessa 314-576-9990 ext 116**





Is Spring Your Thing??

**If you love to be one with nature, we could use
your help to clean up our grounds!**

**Volunteers are needed to clear branches,
weed and clean out the gardens,
pick up trash, etc.**

When? Whenever you're available!

**Bring your tools!
We will supply trash bags.**

**If you can help out, please contact
our Building & Grounds VPs:
Chris Brown 636-288-5356
Justin Zeid 314-412-5758**



You are invited!
SHAVUOT DAIRY LUNCHEON
at the home of
Rabbi Seth & Marian Gordon
Monday, June 2, 2025
following Shavuot services

Please RSVP to Marian:
traditionalcong@gmail.com
or
314-576-5230

**Barbara's "Thank You" to all who helped with
the 2025 Florence Gaponoff Mother's Day Mitzvah Project**

"Thank you!" to our Traditional Family for all your donations for our 34th year of providing Mother's Day gift bags to women's shelters. With your help, we were able to meet our goal of assembling bags that went to 5 shelters! Thank you to **everyone** who took the time to collect items all year long and brought them to Traditional.

Our assembly line on Sunday was extra smooth this year thanks to the work of my super M & M team (Mindy and Mimi) who sorted and organized all the donations. Thanks also to Marian and Jackie for all their help and support. A big thank you goes to Mindy for sorting and preparing the donated jewelry and counting donations. Another huge thanks goes to Mimi for printing the gift tags and adding ribbons so they were ready to attach to the bags.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to assemble and fill the gift bags: **Judy Becker, Lisa Binowitz, Anne Brown, Shelah Feldman, Lilia Gordon, Marian Gordon, Rabbi Seth Gordon, Mimi Levy, Jeffrey Melnick, Dina Rinder, Florence Schachter, and Mindy Strauss.**

Due to limited availability, we were short on some basic items. But we were able to purchase these items and add them to the bags thanks to generous donations from: **Ann & Ken Bohm, Anne & Chris Brown, Rosemary Cooper, Jean & Stanley Estrin, Ellis Frohman, Meira & Shaul Ganel, Nikki & Paul Goldstein, Annette & Jack Heller, Barbara & Sid Levin, Ophira & Jeffrey Melnick, Steve Puro, Rafi Rabinoff, Florence & Joe Schachter, and Bettina & Mel Weinberg.**

Thank you with extra hugs to **Zeta Chervitz** for her discount access to special AVON products!

Please start collecting now for next Mother's Day. Remind everyone you know to collect as well. We are able to store your donations at the shul – so you can begin dropping them off now! Donations may also include bracelets and necklaces in good condition, and new makeup and perfume. We will need to purchase more items in bulk for next year as hotel samples have become more limited. Please consider sending in a contribution. This project cannot happen without your donations!

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped make this mitzvah of giving to others a success. We could not have done it without YOU!

Thank you all for a fantastic job!

Barbara Gaponoff Berson

Tributes In Honor Of...

Happy birthday to Anat Reschke, Bill Gold, Bill Rosenfeld, Claire Hack, Dikla Roufa, Eitan Brody, Gary Feldman, Matthew Levison, Mimi Levy, Myra Perlman, Nikki Goldstein, Sarah Sanders, JJ Lerner, Matthew Levy, Akiva Belk, Alan Levi, Andy Zimmerman, Ann Bohm, Annabelle Chapel, Carol Max, Cecilia Soibel, Daniel Rosenbluth, Fred Chait, Gloria Ezekiel Kweskin, Lisa Binowitz, Marty Levison, Maureen Brodsky, Mauricio Lisker, Mindy Strauss, Nancy Feldman, Nina Radman, Noga Melnick, Phil Brick, Randy Zimring, Rita Weinstein, Robbyn Roth, Sandy Pomerantz, Sandy Rich, Stan Becker, Susan Boxerman, Traude Wilson, Rebecca Weinstein, Nate Rosenberg

Anne & Chris Brown

Happy birthday to Anat Reschke, Ann Bohm, Annabelle Chapel, Bil Gold, Carol Max, Gloria Ezekiel Kweskin, Marty Levison, Mauricio Lisker, Mimi Levy, Mindy Strauss, Phil Brick, Randy Zimring, Sandy Pomerantz

Annette & Jack Heller

Happy anniversary to Joan & Jules Stiber, Elaine & Eric Farkas, Christy & Phil Brick, Nina & Phil Radman, Sandy & Steve Bell, Ann & Ken Bohm, Vilma & Alan Levi

Anne & Chris Brown

Happy 60th anniversary to Bettina & Mel Weinberg

Anne & Chris Brown

Annette & Jack Heller

Linda & Bill Levin

Carol Max

Cindy Muchnick

Mindy Strauss

Happy anniversary to Ann & Ken Bohm, Christy & Phil Brick, Elaine & Eric Farkas, Joan & Jules Stiber

Annette & Jack Heller

Mazal Tov to the Lisker Family on Karyn's new roles

Judy & Stan Becker

Refuah Sh'leimah for Revi Belk

Judy & Stan Becker

Mazal Tov to Joyce & Richard Becker on daughter Karen's promotion at Federation

Annette & Jack Heller

Tributes In Honor Of...

Mazal Tov to Elaine & Eric Farkas on the birth of a grandson, Blaise Hart

Laurie & Sidney Bennett

Ann & Ken Bohm

Nikki & Paul Goldstein

Erika & Stan Greenberg

Annette & Jack Heller

Mindy Strauss

Rita & Mark Weinstein

Mazal Tov to Sid Levin on the 60th Anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah

Ann & Ken Bohm

Beth & Gary Golden

Nikki & Paul Goldstein

Erika & Stan Greenberg

Rita & Mark Weinstein

Mazal Tov to Mimi & Marty Levy on the birth of a grandson, Leo

Ellis Frohman

Joni & Bob Kaiser

Vilma & Alan Levi

Mindy Strauss

Rita & Mark Weinstein

Mazal Tov to Mindy Strauss on celebrating her Bat Mitzvah

Ann & Ken Bohm

Ellis Frohman

Nikki & Paul Goldstein

Annette & Jack Heller

Carol Max

Mazal Tov to Rebecca Weinstein on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Mindy Strauss

Mazal Tov to Rita & Mark Weinstein on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Rebecca

Nikki & Paul Goldstein

Marilyn & Marty Levison

Marcia & Mauricio Lisker

Carol Max

Appreciation to Marty Levy

Mark Franklin

Appreciation to Rabbi & Marian Gordon

Maureen Brodsky

Gratitude for good health

Nikki & Paul Goldstein

Refuah Sh'leimah for Mike Lander

Ellis Frohman

Tributes In Memory Of...

Joanne Schuver

Joyce & Richard Becker
Judy & Stan Becker
Ann & Ken Bohm
Vilma & Alan Levi
Carol Max
Mindy Strauss

Ruth Levin, mother of Jay Levin

Ellis Frohman

Sam Fingard, grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Cohen

Ellis Frohman

Pearl Boxerman, Stuart Abrams, Irene Abrams

Susan & Stuart Boxerman

Margo Mekler, Yetta Komen, Jack Mekler

Christy & Phil Brick

Gus Chait, Mirzakhan Raoufian

Fred Chait

Moshe Pollack

Rosemary Cooper

Morris Mandel

Anita & Zvi Feigenbaum

Irv Feldman, Sarah Etta Levin

Nancy & Gary Feldman

Jacob Frohman, Lillian Goldberg

Ellis Frohman

Ellen Rich, Rachael Gilden, Fae Odelson

Suzanne Gilden

Gussie Lefkowitz, Harry Gold, Elsie Sinai,

Emanuel Lefkowitz, Lillian Sinay

Nanci & Bill Gold

Irving Marks, Freeda Golden

Beth & Gary Golden

Sarah Young, Melvin Goldstein, Irwin

Goldstein, Nathan Young, Isadore Geeser

Nikki & Paul Goldstein

Alita Zeid, Mitchell Dolgin, Gary Zeid, Ida

Dolgin, Bernard Zeid

Joe & Lori Zeid Ingram

Jerome Levy, Gus Kaplan, Anna Beckman Schuver

Mimi & Marty Levy

Philip Handelman

Sherri Lopatin

Miriam Kornitzer, Istvan Karpati, Michael

Neidorff, Monica Neidorff, Alicia Karpati,

Peter Karpati, Katalin Karpati, Ernest

Kornitzer

Noémi Neidorff

Tributes In Memory Of...

Tillie Lapin, Miriam Pessin, Benjamin Pessin

Stephen Pessin

Norman Guralnick, Morris Rabinoff, Lillian Rabinoff, Etta Goodman, Ruth Goodman, Carol Goodman

Rafi Rabinoff

Warren Rich

Andy Rich

Scott & Cheri Ann Rich

Sally Rich

Sharon & Jeffrey Rosenblum

Herb Gilden, Rachael Gilden, Sarah Green,

Allen Roth, Phyllis Roth

Robbyn & Michael Roth

Ruth Schwartz, Hyman Schwartz

Benjamin & Susan Schwartz

Eleanor Goldstein, Edward Strauss, Minnie Fried

Mindy Strauss

Zvi Woodward

Traude & Gary Wilson

Yizkor Donation

Gail & Jerry Tullman

Special Contributions Made by:

Raj & Stefanie Balasubramanian

Rebecca Coffman

Michael Davis

Nanci & Bill Gold

Rabbi Seth & Marian Gordon

Annette & Jack Heller

Kevin & Janice Heuser

Anat Reschke & Brad Fink

Bettina & Mel Weinberg

Thank you all for your support!

Tributes listed were received from

1/31 - 5/13/2025

To send a tribute card, contact Marian:

traditionalcong@gmail.com

or order online:

<https://www.traditional-congregation.org/donate>

PRAYER

Judaism teaches the unity of the human race.

We all have one parent, one God has created us.

Judaism commands holding other people's honor as sacred as our own.

It therefore forbids degrading them with ridicule or mortifying them.

Judaism encourages the practice of chesed towards all, clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, nursing the sick, comforting those that mourn.

It therefore forbids limiting our care to ourselves and our families, and withholding sympathy when our neighbors suffer.

Judaism commands respect for labor; all in their own sphere shall strive for the blessings of life by worthwhile creative activity.

It therefore demands the cultivation and development of all our powers and capabilities.

Judaism suggests walking humbly with God and in modesty among people.

It therefore forbids conceit, arrogance, or disparagement of the merits of others.

Judaism commands the promotion of the welfare of one's fellow human being.

It therefore forbids indifference to the needs of others.

Judaism requires sanctification of the name of God through living a life of justice and integrity.

It bids us exert ourselves to hasten the time in which all people shall be united in the love of God and the love of one another.

Unknown (Adapted)

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

Waste of time is the most extravagant of all expense.

Theophrastus