



August 28-29, 2026

טז אלול תשפ"ו

Candlelighting 7:19 PM

Parashat Ki Tavo - Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8 כי תבוא

Stone – p 1068

Hertz – p 859

Etz Hayim – p 1140

Haftarah - Isaiah 60:1-22 ישעיהו

Sixth Week of Consolation

Stone – p 1201

Hertz – p 874

Etz Hayim – p 1161

Kiddush is sponsored
by the congregation

Shabbat ends 8:18 PM

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

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

WEEKDAY AND SHABBAT SERVICES

Tuesday - 6:45 PM

Shabbat - 9:30 AM

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

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 - Ki Tavo

Parashat Kee Tavo is one of the two parashiot in the Torah that features the תּוֹכַחָה--Tochacha, the terrifying prophecies of G-d's reproof of the Jewish people for not following the precepts of the Torah.

Although Deuteronomy 28 is primarily devoted to G-d's admonition of the Jewish people, as is often the case, the numerous dreaded threats are preceded by a host of blessings that will accrue to the people of Israel who faithfully follow the Al-mighty's commandments.

In the opening verses of Deuteronomy 28, G-d tells the Jewish people that if they are loyal to Him, they will be elevated above all the nations of the earth, and that all the blessings of G-d will come upon them. The people will be blessed in the city, and blessed in the field. The fruit of the womb and the fruit of the ground will be blessed, as well as the progeny of the animals. The fruit baskets and the kneading troughs will be blessed. The people will be blessed when they come in and when they go out. Israel's enemies, who rise up against them, will be struck down and flee before them. G-d will bless the people's storehouses, and all of the people's undertakings, and will bless the land that G-d gives them.

Sounding very much like the culmination of all the preceding blessings, the Torah, in Deuteronomy 28:9, declares: יְקִימְךָ ה' לְעַם קָדוֹשׁ, כְּאִשֶּׁר נִשְׁבַּע לְךָ, כִּי תִשְׁמַר אֶת מִצְוֹת הַשֵּׁם אֱלֹהֶיךָ, וְהָלַכְתָּ בְּדַרְכָיו, G-d will establish you as a Holy people to Himself, as He swore to you--if you observe the commandments of the Lord, your G-d, and go in His ways.

The Haamek Davar finds in the wording of this particular verse a basis for the assurance that G-d will enable those who wish to commune with Him in holiness to achieve that level of sanctity, even when engaged in keeping the everyday precepts. The Haamek Davar explains further, that not only will the people be blessed when they pursue material things, but that they will not be defiled or seduced by the mundane blandishments. Instead, the blessing of the L-rd will stand by them, to enable them to overcome all temptations. This, of course, underscores the famed Jewish axiom of מִצְוָה מְצִוָה, גּוֹרֶרֶת מִצְוָה (Ethics of the Fathers 4:2), that virtue brings on more virtue and more reward, and that abiding by G-d's Torah, serves to protect the people from evil influences.

There is a fundamental difference of opinion among observant Jews today regarding how to properly and effectively live full Jewish lives. Many are of the opinion that because the power of secular blandishments is so great, the only certain solution is to withdraw as much as possible from outside influences. Others say that it is important that Jews play a role in contemporary life, so that they can serve as models to others and influence them. The danger of the open-minded approach is that one can never be certain that the outside world will not overwhelm even the most-committed Jews, and cause them to lose their focus and sanctity.

The Haamek Davar, is declaring, in effect, that those who are obedient to G-d's precepts, even if they are deeply involved with everyday affairs, may be guaranteed that they will not be distracted from the holy life. Outside influences will not serve as a barrier between human beings and G-d, to whom they would cleave as before.

This debate, of course, is not merely theoretical. It is a very real and bitter reality in the contemporary Jewish world. I cannot help recalling the major controversy that arose in August 2007, after the publication of the venomous article, written by the brilliant Harvard Law professor, Noah Feldman, in the Sunday New York Times Magazine, in which he spews forth contempt for the Modern Orthodox world that rejected him after his intermarriage, that is very much part of this debate.

(con't next page)

There is no doubt that Noah Feldman was one of the best and brightest in his class in the Maimonides School of Boston. Despite his outstanding academic achievements, he continued to live an observant lifestyle, apparently until he met his (non-Jewish) Korean girlfriend, who later became his wife. Could it be that Noah Feldman's religious commitment was not properly focused, even while he practiced the Orthodox lifestyle, and therefore G-d's blessing did not protect him from being distracted from Jewish life and commitment? Or is it that it is simply impossible to be a "Tzaddik in Sodom," where virtually every moment of the day, Jews are subjected to the most powerful seductive attractions, ripping them away from their commitments and their loyalty to their faith.

In the Book of Esther 2:5, we are told: **אִישׁ יְהוּדִי הָיָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה**-- there was a Jewish man in Shushan, the Capitol, whose name was Mordechai. Rabbi Yonatan Eybeschutz reads into the extra words, "in Shushan the Capitol," that Mordechai acted as a Jew, not only in the privacy of his home, and in the Bet Midrash, the house of study, but even in Shushan, on the streets, among the people. Mordechai was a communal leader and activist, who was very much involved in secular local and national politics. At the same time, he was a member of the Anshei Knesset Hagedolah, Men of the Great Assembly, the 120 leading sages of that era. Jewish history regards Mordechai as a great, uncompromising, hero who risked his life on many occasions to stand up for his people, and affirm his devotion to G-d. On the other hand, Jewish tradition criticizes Mordechai somewhat, stating that because of his many communal involvements, he never achieved the greatness that he had the potential to achieve in the realm of Torah and the world of Jewish scholarship. He is therefore not regarded among the truly great scholars of the Men of the Great Assembly.

Jewish tradition (tractate Pesachim, 64b), states: **אֵין סוֹמְכִין עַל הַנֶּס**, we do not rely on miracles. One cannot walk into a lion's den expecting G-d to protect him. Each person is required to care for his/her own safety and security. Pushing the envelope is often foolish and futile.

Although there are no easy answers to resolve this ongoing debate, there is, I believe, a valid and thoughtful approach that may be helpful. It is the question of "balance." After consulting with wise advisors, each person must use his/her own common sense, to determine how to balance their own involvement in the secular world, and their commitment to the world of Torah. Those who are naturally weak, should close themselves off from the virulent outside influences. Those who are stronger and more comfortable with the outside influences, may get more involved in the outside world, and rely on G-d's blessing that He will protect them, and keep them holy. For those who are not certain whether they have the inner strength, it is always better to err on the side of security and holiness, and withdraw from the contemporary blandishments.

Sometimes, in times of epidemic, it is necessary for doctors to withdraw and care for themselves, so there will be at least some healthy physicians left to treat the others when the epidemic subsides.

Unfortunately, there are no easy answers. We can rely on G-d's blessing, but we also must rely on our own self-awareness and common sense.

May you be blessed.

Shabbat Shalom,
Rabbi Ephraim Z. Buchawld

THIS SUNDAY - JOIN US!!

Israeli Jewelry – A History in Silver

Join Maureen Brodsky for an illustrated talk in which we explore the cultural influences, economic pressures and design solutions that created the distinctive look of Israeli jewelry.

Sunday,
August 30, 2026
Light Israeli
Breakfast
@ 10:00 AM
followed by
the program

No charge.
Share the Fare
donations are
appreciated.



Wear/bring your
own Israeli jewelry!



RSVP to:
traditionalcong@gmail.com
with names of all attending



TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION
12437 Ladue Rd, Creve Coeur 63141
314-576-5230
www.traditional-congregation.org





TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION HIGH HOLYDAYS - 5787

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING (those whose past-due accounts and 1/2 current year dues have been paid) are entitled to attend High Holyday Services at no additional charge.

Non-members of Traditional, including adult children and grandchildren of member families, are invited to join us for in-person services.

DONATIONS FOR GUEST SEATS ARE WELCOME AND APPRECIATED.

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

SEAT REQUESTS

REQUESTS FOR GUESTSEAT(S) MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 31, 2026

Indicate the day(s) each person is planning to attend services.

HOLYDAY(S) ATTENDING: (use additional sheet if needed)

	9/12/26-ROSH HASHANAH-1	9/13/26-ROSH HASHANAH-2	9/21/2026 YOM HA KIPPURIM	ALL HOLYDAYS
PLEASE PROVIDE FULL NAME				
ADULTS –indicate holyday(s) for EACH person:	ONLY	ONLY	ONLY	

Name _____

Name _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

CHILDREN: Name/Age – indicate Holyday(s) for each child:

Name: _____ Age/School grade: _____ RH _____ YK _____

Name : _____ Age/School grade: _____ RH _____ YK _____

MAIL SEAT REQUEST FORM TO:

Traditional Congregation, 12437 Ladue Road, STL MO 63141-8100
or email pdf or photo to: traditionalcong@gmail.com Phone (314) 576-5230

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Requests must be received by August 31, 2026

Schedule of Services is available at <https://www.traditional-congregation.org/>



Greeters Needed for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur

Plase let Marian know which shift(s) you would like:
traditionalcong@gmail.com or 314-576-5230

Greeter 1

Greeter 2

RH Day 1 - *Shabbat* , 9/12/2026

8:30 - 9:30 AM (ladies only) **Filled**

8:30 - 9:30 AM (ladies only)

9:30 - 10:30 AM

9:30 - 10:30 AM

10:30 - 11:30 AM

10:30 - 11:30 AM

RH Day 2 - Sunday, 9/13/2026

8:30 - 9:30 AM (ladies only) **Filled**

8:30 - 9:30 AM (ladies only)

9:30 - 10:30 AM

9:30 - 10:30 AM

10:30 - 11:30 AM

10:30 - 11:30 AM

Kol Nidrei - Sunday, 9/20/2026

6:05 - 6:35 PM

6:05 - 6:35 PM

Yom HaKippurim - Monday, 9/21/2026

9:00 - 10:00 AM (ladies only) **Filled**

9:00 - 10:00 AM (ladies only)

10:00 - 11:00 AM

10:00 - 11:00 AM

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

4:55 - 5:55 PM

4:55 - 5:55 PM

5:55 - 6:55 PM

5:55 - 6:55 PM

6:55 - 7:45 PM

6:55 - 7:45 PM

Join us
for
Selichot
at
B'nai
Amoona

Advance
registration
required



Selichot Speaker

8:15 PM | SATURDAY, SEPT 5

RETIRED LT. COL. OR HORVITZ

Horvitz is a strategic leader and Middle East commentator with over 17 years of experience in Middle Eastern affairs, U.S.-Israel relations, intelligence, and national security. A former Lieutenant Colonel in Israeli Defense Intelligence, Horvitz played a central role in post-October 7 transformation efforts within Israel's intelligence community and in Israel's campaigns against Hezbollah and Iran. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



Selichot Schedule

SATURDAY, SEPT 5

8:15 PM: HAVDALAH AND PRE-SELICHOT DISCUSSION WITH RETIRED LT. COL. OR HORVITZ

9:25 PM: DESSERTS & COFFEE

10:00 PM: SELICHOT SERVICE



TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

HIGH HOLYDAYS SCHEDULE 2026/5787



Motzei Shabbat, September 5 at B'nai Amoona

REGISTER HERE (required)

8:15 PM Havdalah/Program with

Ret. Lt. Col. Or Horvitz

9:25 PM - Desserts & Coffee

10:00 PM -Selichot Service

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 11

Minchah/Arvit 6:30 PM

Candle Lighting 6:58 PM

Shabbat, September 12 : 8:30 AM - 12:45 PM

Shacharit 8:30 AM

Torah Service 9:15 AM

Rabbi's Remark's 10:00 AM

Musaf and Shofar 10:30 AM

Service concludes approx. 12:45 PM

Please join us for *kiddush* following services
on each day of *Rosh haShanah*,
sponsored by Dina & Morty Rinder.

Motzei Shabbat, September 12

Candle Lighting After 7:57 PM

Sunday, September 13: 8:30 AM - 12:45 PM

Service schedule same as *Shabbat* above

Sunday, September 13

Minchah/Tashlich 6:30 PM

(Tashlich at Ladue Lake)

SHABBATSHUVAH

Friday, September 18

Candle Lighting 6:47 PM

Shabbat, September 19

Shacharit 9:30 AM

Kiddush following *musaf*

Shabbat Ends 7:45 PM

Sun, September 20:

All hands on deck to assemble our sukkah!

9:30 AM

Please help out if you are available!

Kol Nidrei Food Drive

Please fill bags with food for the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry and bring them when you come for *Kol Nidrei*. Non-perishable food items only, no glass jars, nothing expired. (If you are not attending in-person services, bags may be dropped off Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:30, Fri 8:30-12:00 by Friday, September 18). NOTE: Food Pantry bags (as well as a gift bag for each family attending services) will be available to take home on Sunday, the 2nd day of *Rosh HaShanah* as the 1st day is on *Shabbat*.

YOM HAKIPPURIM

Sunday, September 20

Candle Lighting no later than 6:44 PM

(Those who wish to light candles at home before the start of Yom HaKippurim and then ride to shul may do so. Lighting candles does not cause *Shabbat* or Holyday to begin; it is a pre-*Shabbat*, pre-Holyday act.)

Kol Nidrei

6:35 PM SHARP

To maintain the sanctity of the services and not disturb our congregants, no one will be permitted to enter the Sanctuary during the chanting of *KOL NIDREI*.

Monday, September 21: 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Pesukei Dezimrah 9:00 AM

Shacharit 9:30 AM

Torah Service 11:00 AM

Rabbi's Remark's 11:30 AM

Yizkor 12:00 AM

Musaf 12:30 PM

BREAK

Yom HaKippurim afternoon and Ne'ilah

Minchah 5:05 PM

Ne'ilah 6:15 PM

Arvit 7:35 PM

Havdalah & Teki'at Shofar 7:50 PM



TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

SUKKOT/SIMCHAT TORAH SCHEDULE 2026/5787



First Days

Friday, September 25- Sukkot

Candle Lighting 6:36 PM

Shabbat, September 26-Day 1

Shacharit 9:30 AM

Candle Lighting After 7:35 PM

Sunday, September 27-Day 2

Shacharit 9:30 AM

Yom Tov ends 7:25 PM

Kiddush in the Sukkah - join us!



Closing Days

Friday, October 2 - Hoshanah Rabbah

Shacharit 9:30 AM

with reading of Ecclesiastes

Candle Lighting 6:25 PM

Shabbat, October 3 - Shemini Atzeret

Shacharit 9:30 AM

YIZKOR

Minchah 6:30 PM

Arvit/Hakafot 6:55 PM

Candle Lighting After 7:15 PM

Sunday, October 4- Simchat Torah

Shacharit 9:30 AM

Yom Tov ends 7:11 PM



PRAYER

Have many among us brought to God our most treasured possessions, the first fruits of our labor?

Having brought them to God, have we acknowledged that we were once wanderers and slaves, and that only through His help have we come to a good land?

Having acknowledged that He brought us to this estate, do we remember that His constant care is like the rain that falls and the grain that grows?

Have we understood that the strength of God is His mercy, that His mighty hand is outstretched to us only when we reach toward Him?

We pray to learn anew these lessons of our teacher, Moses:
to bring to God the offering of first fruits,

To acknowledge in humility our dependence upon Him, to share our joy with the lonely and the depressed, with the stranger as well as the friend,

To rejoice in all the good which God has given us,
to come gladly to the house of God

*To give thanks for the wonders of His universe,
that sustain us every moment of our lives.*

Ruth Brin

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't make them all yourself.

Eleanor Roosevelt