

THE JCMI MESSENGER



DECEMBER 2020

KISLEV-TEVET 5781

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Rabbi Mark Gross

and

Cantorial Soloist Hari Jacobsen

Please go to the JCMI website:

www.MarcoJCMI.com

for Live Streaming Services Information



Turning a Corner, Finding a Spot

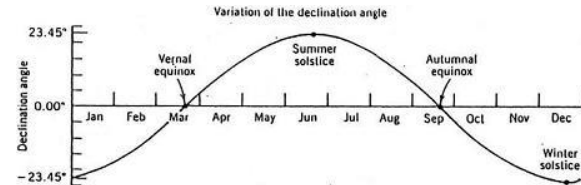
A lot of our Marco Island residents are either beach-walkers or oceanside tower residents, who have occasion to notice that the sun does not actually set in the West. Rather, depending on the time of year, our luminous orb sinks below the horizon at a point appreciably to the left or right of 270°,



due West. That is, of course, because our planet's orbital axis is at an

offset of 23½ degrees to our orbital plane, so that we are viewing the sun at a slightly different place in the sky throughout the course of our annual orbit.

The corollary of that, though, is that the procession of sunset times is not constant. Since the orbital path of our solar year is elliptical, not circular, we turn the virtual corner around the sun at perihelion in January much more quickly than we do at aphelion in July. That creates a lack of symmetry in what would otherwise be a perfect sine wave of sunset times.



You can see all these mechanics manifesting in the Shabbat candle-lighting times listed in this month's *Newsletter*. Early in the month, as we approach the Winter solstice, the change from one Friday to the next is one minute; later in the month, it is three minutes— and, if you keep tracking this, you will find that by the time we get to March, and its downhill run to the Vernal equinox, the change is six to seven minutes a week. So it's all a moving target, because so is the earth under our feet and the cosmos through which we are flying.

Yet the one constant in all this is our Shabbat candle-lighting. Anywhere on earth, whatever the precise moment of sunset as perceived at that location, Jewish people are pausing eighteen minutes beforehand to “*bentsch licht*”— offer a benediction over the sacred flame.

That eighteen-minute head-start is important. It is the passing of the baton (or, perhaps more appropriately, of the torch), with us creating light here below even as God's Own celestial light prepares to fade away On High. We anticipate; we celebrate; and we welcome the sanctity of Shabbat as respite in lives much in need of holiness. As such, our dispelling the darkness, before it has even fallen upon us, is a compelling sacred act of affirmation.

All of which finds additional significance this month, as we dispel the darkness of the solstice season with the lights of Chanukah, The Feast of Rededication. Polish off your *m'norah*, and assemble your cohort of 44 candles to light in it— one additionally, each night, starting at sunset on December 10. May we find illumination, and rededication to all that is truly and enduringly sacred in our lives.

For counseling, Jewish questions, or guitar lessons, the Rabbi is at your disposal any time by telephone 954-798-6037 or e-mail RabiMarkGross@gmail.com.



JCMI Schedule of Services

December, 2020 – Kislev/Tevet, 5781

Rabbi Gross and Cantorial Soloist Hari Jacobsen lead our Congregation in welcoming Sabbath every Friday night at 7:30. Until such time as it is again safe to hold public gatherings, we will exclusively be live-streaming Friday night worship, with convenient one-click access from [this link](#).

Visit our Congregational [website](#) to download a copy of our Friday night “Satellite Siddur” (to keep at-home worshippers in orbit!) and the current week’s Saturday Torah-study handout.

שבת קבלת Qabbalat Shabbat Worship - Friday evenings, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat vaYishlach –

Friday, Dec 04 [candles 5:17] – our first-Friday-of-the-month “Celebration Shabbat” features a blessing for everyone celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the newly arrived month of December.

Shabbat vaYeisheiv-Chanukah –

Friday, Dec 11 [candles 5:18] – starting with [lighting of our beautiful JCMI Chanukah lamp](#), a memorial gift from the late Marjorie Seltzer and a proud Congregational legacy. Featuring a blessing for the coming New Moon and new month of Tevet.

Shabbat miQeitz –

Friday, Dec 18 [candles 5:21] – Shabbat worship ushers out the eighth and final day of Chanukah. [Rabbi Gross will discuss this Shabbat as “A Bridge in Time.”](#)

Shabbat vaYeitzei –

Friday, Dec 25 [candles 5:24] – Last-Friday-of-the-month [Torah Shabbat](#).

Portion-of-the-Week Torah Study - Saturday mornings, 9:30 a.m.

Until such time as it is again safe for us to meet in person, Rabbi Gross will continue to live-stream our weekly *parashah* study by Zoom (which, unlike live-streaming from our Sanctuary, makes provision for interaction among participants). Launch Zoom on your device, and join the meeting at 944-816-2391 with password 777711. And be sure to visit our website www.marcojcmi.com beforehand, to download that week’s study sheet under discussion.

<u>Dec 05 - vaYishlach</u>	Genesis 32:4-36:43	Hosea 11:7-12:12
<u>Dec 12 - vaYeisheiv</u> [plus special reading for Chanukah]	Genesis 37:1-40:23 Numbers 7:18-23	Amos 2:6-3:8 Zechariah 2:14-4:7
<u>Dec 19 - miQeitz</u>	Genesis 41:1-44:17	I Kings 3:15-4:1
<u>Dec 26 - vaYigash</u>	Genesis 44:18-47:27	Ezekiel 37:15-28

- Celebrating חג האורים The Feast of Lights -

Chanukah at Home

Whether you call it a מנורה *m'norah* or a חנוכיה *chanukiyah*, it's time to dust off and polish your Chanukah lamp, ready to **light the first candle of Chanukah at sundown on Thursday, December 10.**

You can visit [this site](#) for a reminder about which way the candles go, and for the blessings to recite (including a fun "Prayer-eoke" sing-along video!).

Chanukah at JCMI

We will be **celebrating Chanukah together on Friday, December 11**, in the course of our regular *Qabbalat Shabbat* worship service at 7:30 p.m.

Lighting the three candles in our beautiful Seltzer Memorial Chanukah lamp will be the very first thing that happens that evening, so be sure to tune in early to our www.marcojcmi.com live-stream.

Chanukah In Our Town

Rabbi Gross and Cantor Jacobsen invite you to join them for candle-lighting at the All-Collier County **On-Line Community Celebration of the first night of Chanukah— Thursday, December 10, at 5:00 p.m.**

Be sure to register for this very special event ahead of time— see the Federation flyer on the calendar page for details.

תא שמע

Ta Sh'ma



**Rabbi Gross's
Third-Sunday
Life-Long Learning Series
for 5781 (2020-21)**

Sunday, January 17 - Leprecohens, and Other Interesting Jews.

An introduction to unique Jewish communities around the world (with recipes!).

Sunday, February 21 - Erotic Love Poetry (and What It's Doing In the Bible).

On the Sunday after Valentines Day, an exploration of the Song of Songs, exploring how this incongruous little book finds its way into the Jewish religious consciousness (and into the prayerbook, too).

Sunday, March 21 - "...But Was Caesar Good for the Jews?"

There was an era when "...but is it good for the Jews?" was the sum evaluation of all things in current events. On the Sunday after the proverbial "ides of March," we will do a little survey of non-current events, evaluating some of the rulers of ancient Rome to discover what their dominion meant to our long-ago people...both in and out of Israel.

If pandemic has subsided by then - All sessions convene in the Meer Room at the Synagogue, starting at 10:00 a.m., with coffee social beforehand at 9:30.

If it is not yet safe to be together - All sessions will convene on-line by Zoom at 10:00, with hand-outs available at the JCMI website the previous week.

Watch for details in the JCMI Newsletters for those respective months!

♪ NOTES FROM OUR
CANTORIAL SOLOIST ♪



The Torah kicks off the first Shabbat of December with “VaYishlach” (“And he sent”). The most leading figure in this parashah is one of most prominent figures in Biblical history. Since we’re too far into the Torah, it can’t be Adam or Noah. And nope, it’s not Moses or Abraham. It’s our third patriarch, Jacob – sometimes. For part of the reading he’s Jacob, and for part of the reading, as you probably already know, he’s Israel.

But what’s in a name? Sometimes bunches and sometimes nothing. And, in this case, again it’s both. Regardless of the name, it’s always the same fellow. Regardless of the name, he’s still extraordinary. Regardless of the name, all generations that have succeeded him and continue to succeed him, learn remarkable lessons from reading about him. However, it is not until he comes to terms (symbolically dream-wrestling) with a man - an angel representing Elohim and all men, for that matter, that he merits the name of Israel; a name denoting such unique power that it would become used to describe all the Biblical Jews to follow and would evolve to become the name of the promised land itself. Canaan wasn’t named after Adam or Noah or Moses or Abraham. The chosen chosen was Jacob. Israel.

Soon after we read “VaYishlach”, we will be commemorating another Jewish hero, Judah Maccabee, who hardly dream wrestled. He, along with his brothers, out-and-out fought and overcame the mighty Assyrians. Clearly, Judah’s actions are worthy of our remembering and honoring him. So, it is with good reason that there is much in his name, also. On the other hand, not so much, when you compare him to Jacob/Israel.

What’s in a name? How about what’s in yours and mine? I suggest that we all dedicate and re-dedicate (as the word “chanukah” means) ourselves to putting the most honor in our names that we can.

Chag Urim Same’ach! Happy Chanukah!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past summer, I organized a Task Force consisting of the following members:

- Stan Alliker
- Mitch Braun
- Heather Greenfield
- Jonathan Greenfield
- Rabbi Gross
- Marty Holtz
- Cantorial Soloist Hari Jacobsen
- Dr. Paul Krueger
- Dr. Greg Poland
- Dolores Siegel
- Frank Weinberg



This amazing group of people from our temple and our community at large worked hard to recommend to the Board of Directors a plan for the Synagogue to deal with the Covid-19 epidemic. The Task Force, also known as our “Blue Ribbon” Task Force, recommended to close the Synagogue for all events and activities, including the High Holy Day services. Their recommendation was adopted by our Board.

On November 17th, the Task Force re-convened to review the current situation. Once again, they worked diligently to make sound recommendations in the best interest of our congregants’ health and well-being.

The Task Force, examining reports and detailed statistics, have made the following recommendations:









- That the Synagogue continue to be closed to all events and activities inside and outside the Synagogue
- That all who enter the Synagogue wear masks

At the November Board of Director's meeting, the above recommendations were agreed upon. We will continue to use our newly acquired streaming system for services and events. If any congregant requires assistance, we can supply tutorial services. Contact the office.

Keep well, and have hope this situation will end soon.

Friday evening services are now held using the Live Stream link found on our JCMI website – instructions are available upon request but are also found in the Wednesday email. Torah study will continue via Zoom – instructions are available upon request but also found in the Wednesday email.

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
					Services 7:30PM	Torah Study 10AM
6	7	8	9	10 Federation Chanukah Event	11 Services 7:30PM	12 Torah Study 10AM
						
13	14	15 Book Club 11AM	16	17	18	19
					Services 7:30PM	Torah Study 10AM
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Film Festival Live Stream Event					Services 7:30PM	Torah Study 10AM
27	28	29	30	31		



Community Wide
Virtual Chanukah Celebration

Let's light our menorahs together on the first night of Chanukah!

Thursday, December 10
 Free event starts at 5pm
 Register at www.jewishnaples.org

A link will be emailed to those who register.
 Please register one per household.

 Jewish Federation
 OF GREATER NAPLES

January Anniversaries

12 Marvin & Natalie Klein



January Birthdays

1 Denise Schwartzman

2 Herb Kern

3 Shirley Posner

6 Helen Lerner

9 Richard Plager

9 Charles Blum

15 Judy Sacher

15 Rony Joel

17 Beth Weinberg

24 Irv Povlow

26 Irene Fox

27 Gloria Meer

28 Karen Saeks

29 Paul Krueger

30 Ted Buntin

31 Gary Donner



December Weekly Yahrtseit List

November 29, 2020 – December 5, 2020

13 Kislev – 19 Kislev

Zila Askenazi*
Ruth Belgrade
Louis Bulmash*
David Louis Greenspan*
Aaron Grossman*
Florence Mordecai Holl*
Judy Horowitz*
Marion W. Hurvitt*
Minnie Lang
Esther Burk Leifer*
Samuel Linder
Henry Lipsitt
Louis Raskin*
Henry Reussenberger*
Jacob Rosenberg*
Robert Irving Silverstein*
Abraham Skolnik
Joseph Weisberg*

December 6, 2020 – December 12, 2020

20 Kislev – 26 Kislev

Lizzie Bergman
William Henry Bunten
Walter Cahn
David Edelstein
Leon B. Entin*
Jack Farber
Irwin Fox*
Shirley Greenfield
Emmanuel Haber*
Nancy Hankin
Greta Johansson
Esther Kaplan
Max Karpman*
Gisele Miller*
Karen Sacher Porter*
Pearl Frances Posner*
Ruth Rabin
Esther Raskin*
Samuel Schultz
Isabella Selowsky
Pamela Germaine Sharone*
Ida Siegel
Amy Scherr Stoltz*
Marcia Ann Tumpowsky*

December 13, 2020 – December 19, 2020

27 Kislev – 4 Tevet

Gertrude Baum
Gertrude P. Goldenberg*
Sadye Koch Goldman*
Sherwood Goodwin
Zelda Sparks Hepner*

Harry Jermanok*
Cecile Gottsegen Krupp*
Roy Lapidus*
Floyd Mannoff*
Meyer Margolis*
Frances Sabetay
Helene Klein Sussman
Abraham Thompson
Freda Weiss*
Irma Wertheim

December 20, 2020 – December 26, 2020

5 Tevet – 11 Tevet

Jack Bernat
Rose Forman
Samuel Haber*
Edna Hollander
Max Lachman
Lenore Tender Levine
Esther Mauerberger
Myer Pelton
Gertrude Roberts
Margot M. Rose*
Craig Schiffer
Rose Stein*
Raymond Thompson*

December 27, 2020 – January 2, 2020

12 Tevet – 18 Tevet

Sylvia Brownstein*
Flora Cahn
Harvey Goldenberg*
Jay Greenberg*
Rosalyn M Jacobson
Jack Lerner*
Paul Aaron Levi Sr.*
Maurice Levine
Jacob Mandel
Jessica Mannoff*
Jeanne Naidich
Frances Newman*
Clara Plager
Dora Reisfield
Bernard Reminick*
David Sabetay
Sam Simon
Meyer M. Snyder
Herman Sonnenberg*
Fred Wertheim

*Denotes a Yahrtseit Plaque. Yahrtseits will be recited during the Shabbat Services in the week that they occur.

Yahrtseit Notices

Our policy at JCMI is to offer members the choice of recording Yahrtseit dates in accordance with the English or Hebrew calendars.

If members choose to remember loved ones on their Yahrtseit using the English date of death, the Yahrtseit will be observed each year on the Friday Evening of the week in which that English date occurs.

If the Hebrew date is chosen, the Hebrew date falls on a different English date each year. The Yahrtseit will be observed each year on the Friday evening of the week when that Hebrew date occurs.

Please inform the office as to which date you observe the Yahrtseit of your loved one so that it can be properly recorded in our records. I hope this clarified and eliminates confusion about our policy.



Flowers on the Bimah

Now that we are live streaming, we have a lovely view of the Bimah. We can, once again, take sponsors for flowers on the Bimah. So, nice to get back to some measure of normality. If you would like to sponsor an arrangement, they are still only \$50 per arrangement. Call the office and let us know when and for what occasion – we look forward to making our Bimah beautiful again!

The **Office** is open Mon. through Fri. - 9 am to 2 pm

Event Information can be found in the monthly **Messenger**, the weekly **Monday Email** and online at the JCMI website: www.marcojcmi.com

Honor your loved ones with a **Yahrtseit Plaque** - \$250 - Call the Office

Mark a special occasion with a **Chai Leaf** for the Tree of Life - \$200, or a **Walk of Honor Paver** - \$100 - Call the Office

Health & Caring - Notify the Office if you have information concerning our members. **Hospital visits** by the Rabbi and the Cantor can be arranged by calling the Office ~ Have a rose in a bud vase sent with your well wishes - \$17.50.

Mitzvah Cards are available at the minimum cost of \$5.00 each, though a larger donation is always appreciated - Call the Office

Bequest Form requires only the signature of a legal witness to be valid - forms available at the Office.

Office Notes:

Any information for the **JCMI Messenger** must be turned in to the office *no later than the 20th* of the preceding month.

Any updates to the **Monday Email** must be sent to the office no later than Thursday of the preceding week.

We Appreciate the Thoughtfulness of Those Who Support JCMI

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Sue Baum from

Herbert & Hanita Kern
Ted & Jean Bunten
George & Estie Karpman
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Abbe & Elaine Hankin
Barbara Silver
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Arthur Doxer from

Bert & Joan Thompson
Karen & Eddie Saeks

Eta Gluzband from

Karen & Eddie Saeks
Stephen B. Goldenberg

Hari Jacobsen from

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Ted & Jean Bunten
George & Estie Karpman
Marvin & Natalie Klein
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Barbara Silver
Frank & Beth Weinberg
Herb & Regina Jermanok

Bob Jares from

George & Estie Karpman

Phyllis Marco from

Sandra Hechler

Tony Pinto from

Bert & Joan Thompson
Karen & Eddie Saeks
Stephen B. Goldenberg

Mary Potechin from

Sandra Hechler

Rabbi Mark Wm. Gross, D.D. from

Karen & Eddie Saeks

Don Schwartz from

George & Estie Karpman
Marvin & Natalie Klein
Abbe & Elaine Hankin

Barbara Silver from

Anthony & Mary Pinto
George & Estie Karpman
Marvin & Natalie Klein
Eleanor Bittman
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Abbe & Elaine Hankin
Jerry & Evie Levin
Peggy Stollen

Miriam Slavich from

Herbert & Hanita Kern
Ted & Jean Bunten
George & Estie Karpman
Marvin & Natalie Klein
Abbe & Elaine Hankin
Barbara Silver
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Max Stein from

Sandra Hechler

Mike Suffian from

Herbert & Hanita Kern
Anthony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Joan Thompson from

Karen & Eddie Saeks
Stephen B. Goldenberg

Jo Anne Youman from

Abbe & Elaine Hankin

Dalia Zuckerman from

Herbert & Hanita Kern

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Arnold & Jane Baron from

Sandra Hechler

Abbe & Elaine Hankin from

Bert & Joan Thompson
Karen & Eddie Saeks
Stephen B. Goldenberg

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares from

Anthony & Mary Pinto
Ted & Jean Bunten
George & Estie Karpman
Marvin & Natalie Klein
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Barbara Silver
Sandra Hechler

Jack & Hari Jacobsen from

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George & Estie Karpman
Marvin & Natalie Klein
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Barbara Silver
Frank & Beth Weinberg
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Irv & Beth Povlow from

Bert & Joan Thompson
Stephen B. Goldenberg

Steven & Carole Roberts from

Herbert & Hanita Kern
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Don & Roberta Schwartz from

Bert & Joan Thompson
Karen & Eddie Saeks
Stephen B. Goldenberg

WITH SINCERE SYMPATHY TO

Gloria Meer - IMO Edward Meer
Michael & Nanette Suffian

BUD IN A VASE

John Reiches & June Streisand - IHO
Barb Silver's Birthday
John Reiches & June Streisand - IHO
Jean Bunten
John Reiches & June Streisand - IHO
Hari Jacobsen

CANTORIAL DISCRETIONARY FUND

Arnold & Jane Baron - IMO Ethel Baron
Arnold & Jane Baron - IMO William
Bernstein
Bert & Shirley Posner - IMO Herbert
Rudnick

FLOWER FUND

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares - IHO their
Anniversary
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares - IHO Bob's
Birthday



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JEWISH CONGREGATION OF MARCO ISLAND IN COOPERATION WITH  Jewish Federation OF GREATER NAPLES PRESENT
THE 20TH SEASON OF THE SIDNEY R. HOFFMAN MEMORIAL



JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

The Jewish Congregation of Marco Island is pleased to announce our 20th season of the Sidney R. Hoffman Memorial JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL, and we are more than proud to say that the JCMi FILM FESTIVAL is the first Jewish Film Festival in all of Southwest Florida.

This year, however, is very different from the last 19 years. The Covid-19 virus has markedly changed all our lives. Our Film Festival has always been shown live and in person at our Temple building on Winterberry Drive. This year, at least for now, we can't in good conscience invite the public to join our members inside our building to show our films.

However, on Sunday, December 22nd at 2:00pm we will have a virtual presentation of THE INTERPRETER, an award winning movie from Slovakia. This is a gripping story and is really a character study of two older men, one of whom is Jewish and wants to avenge the murder of his father by the Nazis, while the other is the son of the Nazi General who was responsible for the murder of his father.

The film has received numerous awards including Best Picture and Best Director as well as Best Actor and Best Screenplay awards. It was nominated for Best Foreign Picture at the Hollywood Oscars and won the Best Picture Award at the Trieste Film Festival. And just last year it won the Jury Award for Building Bridges at the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival.

Because so many of our patrons look forward to the Film Festival and because this is our 20th Anniversary, we have decided to make this film a gift to our patrons and to our community at large. The film will be shown at no charge via LIVE-STREAM so you can watch it from your own home. You need only go to our website and click on the LIVE-STREAM icon on Sunday, the 22nd. Join us and enjoy this important movie and then please let us know your comments. With a positive response from our viewers, we will continue to show our 20th season via LIVE-STREAM until such time as we can safely open JCMi to our members and the public.

2020-2021 WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB



Our 13th Season

Held the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00AM
Jewish Congregation of Marco Island

•**November 17, 2020**

Body and Soul
By Frank Conroy

•**February 16, 2021**

Walking Lions
By Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

•**December 15, 2020**

The Dutch House
By Ann Patchett

•**March 16, 2021**

The Silent Patient
By Alex Michaelides

•**January 19, 2021**

The Taming of the Queen
By Philippa Gregory

•**April 20, 2021**

The Flight Portfolio
By Julie Orringer

Temple membership is not necessary ~ everyone is welcome to participate in the discussion whether you have read the book or not.

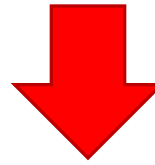
Call Sandra at 239-394-6953 for questions, to RSVP and for location details.

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OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

OFFICERS

President	Sue Baum
First V.P.	Stan Alliker
2nd V.P.	Marty Holtz
Treasurer	Joe Atkin
Assistant Treasurer	Morris Margolis
Secretary	Mitch Braun

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2 Year Term	1 Year Term
Steve Goldenberg	Sandra Hechler
Marilyn Flynn	Estie Karpman
Audrey Snyder	John Reiches

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 21-22

Carol Atkin	Sandra Hechler
Joanne Blau	

STANDING COMMITTEES AND THEIR CHAIRPERSONS* 2020-2021

Finance, Budget & Investment

*Joe Atkin	Stan Alliker
Sue Baum	Marilyn Flynn
Marvin Klein	Jerry Levin
Morris Margolis	Elliott Mascoop
Bernie Seidman	
Herb Wallack	

House

*Marty Holtz	Bernie Seidman
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Membership

Stan Alliker

Food

Joanne Blau	Jean Bunten
Sandra Hechler	Audrey Snyder

Public Relations

*Mitch Braun	Sue Baum
Elliott Mascoop	

Cemetery

*Bernie Seidman

Rabbi Liaison, Ritual & Honors

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Sue Baum Roger Blau
Elaine Hankin Natalie Klein
Denise Schwartzman Bernie Seidman
Mike Suffian

Ways & Mean

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Heather Greenfield Estie Karpman
John Reiches

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*Steve Goldenberg Shirley Posner

Office Liaison

*Sandra Hechler

Parliamentarian

*Steve Goldenberg

Security

*Stan Alliker Rivka Mascoop