

THE JCMI MESSENGER



DECEMBER 2025

KISLEV/TEVET, 5786

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Rabbi Mark Gross

and

Cantorial Soloist Hari Jacobsen

Friday Evenings at 7:30 PM

Please go to the JCMI website:

www.MarcoJCMI.com

for Live Streaming Services Information

Attend in person

or via Live Streaming from the JCMI Website

...Just So Long As We Do It Right.



The full name of the holiday is חג חנוכת המזבח “The Feast of the Rededication of the Altar.” It commemorates the dramatic event 2,189 years ago this month when the Jewish people, having recovered our national shrine in Jerusalem, *rose at dawn and offered a proper sacrifice on the new altar of burnt-offering which they had made. The altar was dedicated, to the joyous music of strings and cymbals, on precisely the same date on which the pagans had defiled it three years earlier* [I Maccabees 5:53-55].

But the truncated, down-to-earth, everyday name of the holiday is simply “חֲנֻכָּה,” and coping with that becomes a quirky challenge to the Jews of the world.

Best possible transcription of that would be “Chanukah.” However, so many of our many neighbors not originating from either Scotland or Germany (and thus lacking context for the initial guttural ח “cha”) mis-pronounce it “tcha-NOO-kuh.” To preclude having to cringe at that, a lot of us find it easiest to drop the initial “C” and run with some variation on “Hanukah.”

As for the consonants in the middle: one of each of is enough. Doubling down with an additional “k” (“Hanukkah”) is superfluous, although at least grammatically correct. There is no linguistic basis, however, for dropping in a second “n”; to a Hebraist, “Hannukah” looks passing strange.

The final syllable ends up running all around the ball-park, in large part because most North American Jews are Ashkenazic Jews descended from Yiddish speakers. Ashkenazim broaden the vowel-sound *gamatz* from “ah” (as in “father”) into “aw” (as in “lawyer”)... and, as a result you will see the name of the holiday morph into “Hanukko,” with or without the final “h.” Moreover, the Ashkenazic shift in emphasis between syllables means that the Hebrew “*Chanukah*” becomes the Yiddish “*Hanikeh*”... which is sometimes written in English just the way it’s pronounced.

Not to mention that both Ladino-speaking Sephardic Jews and Ashkenazic Latinos use rules of Spanish transcription to represent the Hebrew name of the holiday: “Janucca.” The French Jews follow the corresponding rules of their own language, to produce “Hanoucca” (almost invariably with a double “c”; terminal “h,” optional).

All of which linguistic discourse serves merely to highlight that this historically small-scale holiday—that doesn’t even originate in the Biblical era—is nonetheless very much on the landscape of our religious consciousness. We all have some measure of ownership of this annual celebration of our Peoplehood; of our spiritual autonomy; and of our fabulously ancient history. So we will celebrate our Jewish cultural richness being as complex and manifold as the branches of our *m’norah* to acknowledge that it doesn’t matter how we either spell or pronounce “חֲנֻכָּה,” so long as we exert ourselves to do it right... for all eight nights and days.

Rabbi Gross is available to JCMI members, in the course of his weekend visits on-Island, for personal meetings, counseling, or hospital visits— as well as accessible any time during the week by telephone 954-798-6037 or e-mail RabbiMarkGross@gmail.com.

JCMI Schedule of Services

December, 2025 – Kislev/Tevet, 5786



Qabbalat Shabbat Worship - Friday evenings - 7:30.

Welcoming the Queen of Days is our “main event” at JCMI, with shared worship in the beautiful Sanctuary of our Temple home every Friday night.

December 05 - Our First-Friday-of-the-month “[Celebration Shabbat](#),” featuring blessings for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the newly arrived month of December.

December 12 – Shabbat worship.

December 19 – Shabbat worship, [beginning with the lighting of the Chanukah lamp](#) (bring your own *m'norah*, and six candles!), and featuring the announcement of— and [blessing for— the upcoming New Moon](#) and new month of Tevet.

December 26 – Last-Friday-of-the-month “[Torah Shabbat](#).”



Home Shabbat Candle-Lighting Times 18 minutes before sunset on Marco Island on Friday. . .

December <u>05</u> - 5:17	December <u>19</u> - 5:21
December <u>12</u> - 5:18	December <u>26</u> - 5:25

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

Rabbi Gross conducts a [presentation](#) on, and leads discussion of, some aspect of the weekly Torah portion, meeting [live in the Meer Center](#) of our Synagogue building.

Those unable to attend our *parashah* study in person are invited to [follow the session by Zoom](#) (room i.d. 944-816-2391— passcode “GrossTorah,” case-sensitive). The associated study material for each week is available for download from the JCMI website that Friday morning.

December 06 - vaYishlach	Genesis 32:4-36:43	Hosea 11:7-12:12
December 13 - vaYeishev	Genesis 37:1-40:23	Amos 2:6-3:8
December 20 - miQetz	Genesis 41:1-44:17	I Kings 3:15-4:1
December 27 - vaYigash	Genesis 44:18-47:27	Ezekiel 37:15-28





Rabbi Gross on Milestone Interfaith Panel

Rabbi Gross will be making a presentation on behalf of the local Jewish community, as part of an interfaith panel marking the 60th anniversary of “*Nostra Aetate*,” the 1965 Vatican declaration that forever changed the nature of Jewish-Christian relations.



The symposium, sponsored jointly by the Catholic-Jewish Dialogue Group of Jewish Federation of Greater Naples and the Diocese of Naples in Venice, will be presented:

- ✧ Sat, December 06, 2:00 p.m. at Ave Maria University, Ave Maria.
- ✧ Sun, December 07, 2:00 p.m. at Nina Iser Jewish Cultural Center in Naples (4720 Pine Ridge Road, 1½ miles west of Collier Blvd.).

Attendees are asked to pre-register at <https://jfgn.regfox.com/nostra-aetate-60th-anniversary>.

For those interested in the program, but unable to attend in person, arrangements may be available to follow the presentation on Sunday 07th by live-stream; contact the JCMI Office for details, and to receive an advance copy of the handouts Rabbi Gross will be distributing to attendees that day.

JCMI to Take Part in Annual Holiday Parade

The Jewish Congregation of Marco Island, JCMI is participating for the first time in the Marco Island Holiday parade. As a community-based Synagogue, we are so excited to be involved. We will have three golf carts all decorated for Hanukkah and Chrismukkah.

Lighting the Lights Together, December 19

Come show off your family’s Chanukah lamp, by bringing your *m’norah* (and six candles!) to light together at the start of our Shabbat services during Chanukah.

Plan to come a little early, to configure your *m’norah* as part of our “Parade of Lights” enhancing the glow of our beautiful golden JCMI Chanukah lamp, and let’s dispel the darkness of Winter (and affirm Jewish faith) together!

JCMI to Host Chanukah Celebration for All Our Neighbors

We will once again be co-sponsoring with Jewish Federation of Greater Naples the annual South Collier County Community Chanukah Celebration, beginning at 5:30 on the afternoon of Sunday, December 21. Federation leadership and Marco Island city dignitaries will be joining us to light the *M’norah*, and to welcome neighbors coming to celebrate the occasion, and to mingle over seasonal holiday treats afterwards.

Jewish Congregation of Marco Island
– invites you to attend –



תא שמע

Ta Sh'ma



Rabbi Gross's
Fourth-Sunday
Life-Long Learning Series
for 5786 (2025-26)

**Sunday, January 25 - Firing Line:
"Ask the Rabbi"**

Why is the m'zuzah hung at a slant? What's inside t'filin? Who was the first Jew in the New World? Why do bad things happen to good people? How is it, that "Jewish" rye isn't, and that "kosher" pickles aren't?

It's open season, as the Rabbi willingly fields any burning question of Jewish import that you've always wanted to know about.



**Sunday, February 22 - The Chutzpah of Moses
(and His Wonderfulness)**

Our ongoing exploration of important Biblical figures focuses on the most important of all: God's reluctant prophet, the estimable lawgiver and nation-builder whose yahrtzeit of 07 Adar falls on Tuesday of this week.



Sunday, March 22 - A Passover Miscellany

With the seider for our Feast of Freedom coming up the following Wednesday evening, we'll be taking a deep dive into the development and content and significance of the world's oldest interactive educational activity.



All sessions convene at the Synagogue (991 Winterberry Drive), beginning with a coffee social at 9:30 and presentation at 10:00

There is no fee to attend our Life-Long Learning programs. Unaffiliated guests are always welcome to join us for these sessions, and are asked to make a \$5 contribution to underwrite printing costs.

🎵 NOTES FROM OUR
CANTORIAL SOLOIST 🎵



We recently have journeyed through all the awe of the High Holy Days, the joys of Sukkot and Simchat Torah, the solemnity of Kristallnacht, and the warmth of Thanksgiving. And just ahead of us is the festival of Chanukah (or in English, Rededication); another time set aside for special recognition and honoring. As usual, I go with the more serious aspect of this festival – since all around us we see the sparkle and glitter of the celebration.

Or not. NOT this year. This year I'm going for the obvious; glitz and joy. There certainly is a great deal to be said for sparkle and glitter. Just ask my daughter, Lia; she absolutely loves sparkle and glitter. And since I absolutely love Lia, let's go with it.

Sparkle and glitter go hand in hand with happiness. And who doesn't love the happy in happiness? It brings families together. That in itself is a feat not to be sneezed at. It brings the generations together, from toddlers to teens to young adults to the toddlers' parents to those parents' parents to the geriatric bands. And, again, it does it with happiness. It brings those special melodies that put smiles on our faces and hearts (when we take out the Chanukah menorah (Chanukiah), if we're lucky). It creates new material for new, happy memories.

Ya gotta love it. Really.

So, when Chanukah rounds the bend again this December 14th, may we rededicate ourselves to engaging in all the happiness this festival extends.
Chanukah Same'ach (Happy Chanukah)!

Friday evening services can still be accessed using the Live Stream link found on our JCMI website – instructions are available upon request but are also found in the Wednesday email.

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 BINGO 5:00PM	2	3	4	5 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	6 Torah Study 9:30AM
7	8 BINGO 5:00PM	9 Chess Club- 9:30AM- 12:30PM	10	11	12 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	13 Torah Study 9:30AM
 14  Film Festival Brunch 10:30AM Film 12:00PM	 15 BINGO 5:00PM JFGN Chanukah Celebration 5:00PM	 16 Chess Club- 9:30AM- 12:30PM Book Club 11AM	 17	 18  Meeting 7:00PM	 19 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	 20 Torah Study 9:30AM
 21 Community Chanukah Celebration 5:30PM	22 BINGO 5:00PM	23 Chess Club- 9:30AM- 12:30PM	24	25 <i>Office Closed for Christmas</i>	26 Shabbat Worship 7:30PM	27 Torah Study 9:30AM
28	29 BINGO 5:00PM	30 Chess Club- 9:30AM- 12:30PM	31			

January Anniversaries

January Birthdays

- 1 Denise Schwartzman
- 3 Shirley Posner
- 7 Steve Rosenberg
- 9 Charlie Blum
- 15 Rony Joel
- 15 Judy Sacher
- 17 Beth Weinberg
- 24 Suzie Eisinger
- 24 Irv Povlow
- 26 Irene Fox
- 27 Gloria Meer
- 29 Paul Krueger



December Weekly Yahrtseit List

November 30 – December 6, 2025

10 Kislev – 16 Kislev

Zila Askenazi*
Louis Bulmash*
David Edelstein
David Louis Greenspan*
Aaron Grossman*
Morris Grossman
Morris Grossman
Florence Mordecai Holl*
Judith Horowitz*
Ben Kalin
Minnie Lang
Samuel Linder
Henry Lipsitt
Louis Raskin*
Jacob Rosenberg*
Ida Siegel
Robert Irving Silverstein*

December 7 – December 13, 2025

17 Kislev – 23 Kislev

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Bergman
William Henry Bunten
Leon B. Entin*
Sadye Koch Goldman*
Shirley Greenfield
Emmanuel Haber*
Nancy Hankin
Marion W. Hurvitt*
Greta Johansson
Max Karpman*
Karen Sacher Porter*
Pearl Frances Posner*
Ruth Rabin
Samuel Schultz
Isabella Selowsky
Pamela Germaine Sharone*
Bess Singer
Amy Scherr Stoltz*
Joseph Weisberg*
Arnold Yorra

December 14 – December 20, 2025

24 Kislev – 30 Kislev

Gertrude Baum
Jack Farber
Irwin Fox*
Sherwood Goodwin
Zelda Sparks Hepner*
Harry Jermanok*
Cecile Gottsegen Krupp*
Roy Lapidus*
Floyd Mannoff*
Meyer Margolis*
Gisele Miller*
Esther Raskin*
Frances Sabetay
Helene Klein Sussman
Abraham Thompson
Marcia Ann Tumpowsky*
Freda Weiss*

December 21 – December 27, 2025

1 Tevet – 7 Tevet

Aron Alperovwitz
Gussie Alpert
Harry Alpert
Jack Bernat
Martin Calvin
Joyce Mae Engels
Rose Forman
Gertrude P. Goldenberg*
Harris Grossman
Samuel Haber*
Edna Hollander
Max Lachman
Jack Lerner*
Lenore Tender Levine
Gertrude Roberts
Margot M. Rose*
Abraham Schemansky
Craig Schiffer
Sorley Sheinberg*
Herman Sonnenberg*
Rose Stein*
Raymond Thompson*
Ira Tritt

December 21 – December 27, 2025 (continued)

1 Tevet – 7 Tevet

Irma Wertheim

December 28 – January 3, 2026

8 Tevet – 14 Tevet

David Becker
Sylvia Brownstein*
Sam Chasin
Roselyn M Jacobson
David Eugene Johansson
Paul Aaron Levi Sr.*
Jessica Mannoff*
Esther Mauerberger
Jeanne Naidich
Frances Newman*
Eula Ottinger
Eloise Rausch
Bernard Reminick*
Sam Simon
Miriam Slavich*
Meyer M. Snyder
Diane Wallack
Fred Wertheim



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



We Appreciate the Thoughtfulness of Those Who Support JCMI

REFUAH SHELAYMAH

(Best wishes for a speedy recovery)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Arnold Baron from

Marty & Barbara Holtz
Bernie & Lulu Seidman

Sue Baum from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Bernie & Lulu Seidman

Arthur Doxer from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Marlene Glass from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Marty & Barbara Holtz

Rabbi Mark Gross from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Bob Jares from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Bert & Joan Thompson

Cantor Hari Jacobsen from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Sandra Hechler
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Bert & Joan Thompson

Tony Pinto from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Larry Sacher from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Don Schwartz from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Bert & Joan Thompson

Paul Scherr from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares

Gene Siegel from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares

Barbara Silver from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Marty & Barbara Holtz

Robin Singer from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Mike Suffian from

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Marty & Barbara Holtz

Joan Thompson from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Elod Weinhaus from

Elinore Weinhaus

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Arnold & Jane Baron from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Bernie & Lulu Seidman

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Sandra Hechler
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Bert & Joan Thompson

Allan & Sue Kluger from

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Irv & Beth Povlow from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Frank & Beth Weinberg

Steven & Carole Roberts from

Bernie & Lulu Seidman

Don & Roberta Schwartz from

Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum
Mitch Braun & Bob Jares
Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
Marty & Barbara Holtz
Tony & Mary Pinto
John Reiches & June Streisand
Bernie & Lulu Seidman
Frank & Beth Weinberg

BUBBE'S BAKERY SPONSOR

from Stan & Esta Alliker
from Richard & Suzie Eisinger

from Marlene Glass
from Jonathan & Heather Greenfield
from Sandra Hechler
from Marty & Barbara Holtz
from George & Estie Karpman
from Morris & Nancy Margolis
from Robert Meldman & Leila Silverberg
from Marvin & Lynn Nathanson
from Norman & Adele Oppenheim
from Tony & Mary Pinto
from Irv & Beth Povlow
from Phyllis Rosenblum
from Larry & Judy Sacher
from Denise Schwartzman
from Bernie & Lulu Seidman
from Gene & Dolores Siegel
from Dan & Robin Singer
from Audrey Snyder
from Bert & Joan Thompson
from Herb Wallack
from Frank & Beth Weinberg
from Elinore Weinhaus
from Lynn Wilk
from Sara Straight Wolf

CANTORIAL DISCRETIONARY

FUND

Stephen Goldenberg – IMO Gertrude P. Goldenberg

Sandra Hechler – H.B. Cantor Hari Jacobsen

FLOWERS FUND

Aren Alter, the Alter & Inangelos Family –

IMO Stephen Alter, loving father & husband

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares– IHO their 10th

Wedding Anniversary & IHO Bob's 70th

Birthday

GENERAL FUND

Irene Horowitz – IMO Judy Horowitz

Elena Rosner – IMO Louis Fink

Denise Schwartzman – IMO Elizabeth

"Lizzie" Bergman

Herbert Wallack – IMO Diane Wallack

PRAYER BOOK FUND

Prayer Books – Machzor for the Days of Awe

Miskan Hanefesh– Brian Skornicki, Sam

Skornicki & Paula Skornicki

from Paula Skornicki

ONEG FUND

Mitch Braun & Bob Jares– IHO their 10th

Wedding Anniversary & IHO Bob's 70th

Birthday

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield– IMO Shirley

Greenfield & IMO Samuel Schultz

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Paula Skornicki – General Donation

WITH SINCERE SYMPATHY TO:

Herb Handelsman – IMO Norma

Handelsman

from Sally Aaron

from Bernard & Rita Blutfield

UPCOMING ONEGS

Call the office to be a sponsor!

12/05/25 – Available

12/12/25 – Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

– IMO Shirley Greenfield &

IMO Samuel Schultz

12/19/25 – Available

12/26/25 – Available





YAHRTSEIT DONOR

IN MEMORY OF

Rony & Nora Joel
Rony & Nora Joel
George & Estie Karpman
Bert & Joan Thompson

Minnie Lang
Isabella Selowsky
Max Karpman
Raymond Thompson



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

Call the office for the following special items:

- Friday evening **Onegs** - \$85
- Sponsor the **flowers** on the bimah for \$88
- Yahrzeit **Memorial Candles** - \$2 each
- Honor your loved ones with a **Yahrtseit Plaque** - \$250
- Mark a special occasion with a **Chai Leaf** for the Tree of Life - \$200, or a **Walk of Honor Paver** - \$100
- **Health & Caring** - 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 \$7.50 each, though a larger donation is always appreciated
- **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.

Dear Fellow Congregants,

I wanted to reach out on behalf of JCMI's Board and all its members. As most of you know, these past few years have been extremely fiscally challenging for the Congregation. To meet operating shortfalls, the Board was required to draw upon our limited financial reserves to make up for the lack of fundraising. This is because our dues structure, including the Above and Beyond Campaign, alone are not sufficient to meet the annual operating costs of JCMI. This past season, we have successfully established and renewed events and fundraisers that are necessary to support and maintain JCMI's annual cash flow.

We also had an incredibly successful Above and Beyond Campaign that included a generous matching gift from one of our members that enabled the Board to replenish funds drawn from reserves during the Covid years. However, these reserves are not likely to be sufficient to cover expenses the Board is expecting in the coming years, including the cost for a new roof and HVAC systems. Due to our ageing building these costs and others will continue.

These large requirements need more avenues for support. Legacy gifting is a great way to support your Synagogue.

Whether you are an active volunteer at the synagogue or a continued benefactor, we need your help!

What better way to secure your legacy and memory of our beloved Jewish community and home?

Our home is not just a place for religious worship but a gathering area for all of us.

As we begin our 42nd year as an organized house of Jewish worship, I ask that you consider a Legacy Giving plan to JCMI so that we may be able to continue to provide JCMI as a house of worship for our current and future families to enjoy. Naming JCMI as a beneficiary in your will, trust, or annuity, as well as many other mechanisms can secure your legacy in support of JCMI. Having this conversation with your financial adviser would be the best way to implement your desires to fund JCMI. Legacy Giving is a great way to support your Synagogue; what great way to secure your legacy and memory for our beloved Jewish community and home!

Please reach out to me at kdalter13@gmail.com or 617.293.6515, or Stan Alliker, JCMI President, at alliker1@comcast.net or 609.238.2500, should you have any questions or are interested in establishing a Legacy Giving donation.

Thank you for considering this gift giving.

Sincerely,



Keith D. Alter, First Vice President, JCMI

SAVE THESE DATES

→ PLEASE NOTE: Event dates and venue are subject to change.

These programs are exciting, entertaining and informative. Don't miss one. We encourage you to save this reminder page and mark the events on your calendar!

"5786"

December 2025

14th - Film Festival	Brunch	10:30 AM
	Film	12:00 PM
15th - JFGN Chanukah Celebration		5:00 PM
16th - Book Club		11:00 AM
18th - Board Meeting		7:00 PM
21st - Comm. Chanukah Celebration		5:30 PM
25th - Office Closed		

March 2026

7th - Concert Series- Motown	7:30 PM
15th - Film Festival	2:00 PM
17th - Book Club	11:00 AM
21st - Concert Series- BeeGees	7:30 PM
22nd - Rabbi's Life-Long Learning	9:30 AM
26th - Board Meeting	7:00 PM
28th - Princess Cruise	5:30 PM
29th - Concert Series- ABBA	7:30 PM

January 2026

1st - Office Closed	
11th - Concert Series- Billy Joel	7:30 PM
18th - Film Festival	2:00 PM
20th - Book Club	11:00 AM
22nd - Board Meeting	7:00 PM
25th - Rabbi's Life-Long Learning	9:30 AM

April 2026

1st - Congregational Seider	6:30 PM
2nd - Office Closed	
9th - Office Closed	
21st - Book Club	11:00 AM
23rd - Board Meeting	7:00 PM

February 2026

1st - Bubbe's Bakery	9:30 AM
7th - Concert Series- Neil Diamond	7:30 PM
15th - Film Festival	2:00 PM
17th - Book Club	11:00 AM
22nd - Rabbi's Life-Long Learning	9:30 AM
26th - Board Meeting	7:00 PM

Ongoing Events Throughout the Season:

Mondays - Bingo at 5:00PM

Tuesdays - Chess Club at 9:30AM to 12PM

Thursdays - Mah Jongg at 11AM (starts Dec 11th)

Fridays - Evening Services at 7:30 PM

Saturdays - Torah Study 9:30AM Sept.6 through April

NEW TIME 5 PM

MONDAY NIGHT BINGO

Celebrating 25 Years!



Bigger Payouts!!

SUPPER – NO CHARGE

EVERY MONDAY
•FREE PIZZA DRAWING FROM SAMI'S

DOORS OPENS EARLY AT 5:00 P.M.

BONANZA POSTED AT 5:30 P.M.

FIRST GAME STARTS AT 6:30 P.M.

NOT FOR PROFIT

•Free Coffee, Tea and Food

- 2 Packs \$20 plus 1 FREE Bonanza
- 3 Packs \$27 plus 2 EXTRA Bonanzas

Jewish Congregation of Marco Island
991 Winterberry Drive
South on Collier, Left on Winterberry
642-0800

Kosher Hot Dog Supper with
pickles, relish & sauerkraut,
chips and baked goodies

HOTBALL
Up to \$250

END-OF-MONTH
PRIZE BINGO
TOTE

2025-2026 Women's Book Club

Men are welcome!



Our 18th Season

Held the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00AM
Located at the Jewish Congregation of Marco Island
991 Winterberry Drive in our Meer Room

November 18, 2025

Weight of Ink
Rachel Kadish

March 17, 2026

Daughters of Shandong
Eve J. Chung

December 16, 2025

And So I Roar
Abi Daré

April 21, 2026

God of the Woods
Liz Moore

January 20, 2026

In My Father's Court (Classic Edition)
Isaac Bashevis Singer

Suggested Summer Reading:

Body and Soul
Frank Conroy

February 17, 2026

Frozen River
Ariel Lawton

Prophet Song
Paul Lynch

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand
Helen Simonson

Temple membership is not necessary ~ everyone is welcome to participate in the discussion whether you have read the book or not. Questions? Call Sandra 239-394-6953 or the JCMI Office at 239-642-0800

JEWISH CONGREGATION OF MARCO ISLAND IN COOPERATION WITH



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER NAPLES

PRESENT



FILM FESTIVAL



THE 25TH SEASON OF THE SIDNEY R. HOFFMAN MEMORIAL

PRESENTING THE NEWEST AND BEST AWARD-WINNING FILMS ON THE JEWISH CIRCUIT

Opening Day

BAD SHABBOS

Brunch at 10:30 AM (Please note new time for this showing only)

Sunday afternoon, December 14, 2025

Film 12:00 PM

You don't have to be Jewish to laugh at Daniel Robbins' entertaining comedy about a Sabbath dinner gone awry. **BAD SHABBOS** took the top Audience Prize at the Tribeca Film Festival and Grand Jury Award Best of Festival, Cordillera International Film Festival 2024. **Bad Shabbos** continues to earn accolades from audiences across the country. **84 Minutes**

THE RING

RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE FILM

Sunday afternoon, **January 18, 2026**

Film 2:00 PM

THE RING stars Adir Miller, the most popular stand-up comedian and comic actor in Israel. He is also an outstanding actor, winning an Ophir Award for his first leading dramatic role in **THE MATCHMAKER**. This film, **THE RING**, written, co-directed and starring Miller is based on his own family's Holocaust survival story. There are moments of laughter and moments of tears. This story of loss and redemption is not to be missed. **122 Minutes**

RUNNING ON SAND

RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE FILM

Sunday afternoon, February 15, 2026

Film 2:00 PM

RUNNING ON SAND, another wildly popular Israeli dramedy, tells the story of Aumari, a young Eritrean refugee who, facing deportation, is mistaken for a professional soccer player. Themes of identity, resilience, and belonging shine through this careful balance of humor and social commentary. It stars Shawn Mongoza who came to Israel from the Democratic Republic of Congo. He speaks fluent Hebrew; reading the script brought him to tears. The film won award for Best First Feature at the Haifa International Film Festival and the Anat Pirchi Award for Best Screenplay. **104 Minutes**

GUNS AND MOSES

RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE FILM

Sunday afternoon, March 15, 2026

Film 2:00 PM

This is a film **NOT TO BE MISSED!** **GUNS AND MOSES** is written by the husband- and -wife team Salvador and Nina Litvak and directed by Sal. They have created what is described by the Jewish Journal, as "a brave and stereotype defying Orthodox Jewish hero: A gunslinging Chabad rabbi who drives a minivan with a "Thank You Hashem" bumper sticker. After what is assumed as a hate crime is committed in plain sight, a young white supremacist is arrested. Our hero, Rabbi Mo, does not believe the young man is guilty and decides to find the real killer—before they strike again. It is an action thriller with no nudity and no profanity. "The movie is kosher." **93 Minutes**

All films will be shown at the Jewish Congregation, 991 Winterberry Drive ~ Marco Island, FL 34145

There are two levels of seating -

Patron Level provides open seating in the first 10 rows of the auditorium with recognition published in the movie program.

General Admission provides open seating starting in the 11th row and back.

Patron Level - \$37.50 per ticket

General Admission - \$25.00 per ticket

Tickets can be purchased **ONLINE** at: www.jcmimusic.com or by calling the office at (239) 642-0800

ANNUAL
COMMUNITY WIDE

HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15
5 - 6 PM
MERCATO ON THE LAWN

Join us for this free event as we celebrate
Hanukkah and light the Menorah

Entertainment, music, food, and fun!

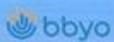
- 🕯️ Naples Klezmer Revival Band
- 🕯️ Chef Dalia's Israeli food for sale
- 🕯️ Enjoy donuts, gelt, and balloon creations



Scan to Register
or visit bit.ly/3T5PWqj



Our Community Partners





**SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL
MARCO ISLAND
COMMUNITY CHANUKAH
CELEBRATION**



Sponsored by



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER NAPLES

**Residents and Guests on Marco Island
And Vicinity are invited to CELEBRATE on**

SUNDAY, December 21st, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM

Jewish Congregation of Marco Island

991 Winterberry Drive

Marco Island, FL 34145

(239) 642-0800

www.marcojcmi.com

Join us for a Candle Lighting Ceremony

And Chanukah Music

Lots of holiday spirit for the entire family



Chanukah holiday treats

Will be served!



Marco Island's Best Concert Series



ON SALE NOW!



Sunday,
January 11, 2026
7:30 PM

Turnstiles
*The Ultimate
Billy Joel*

Turnstiles' renditions of Billy's classic songs are certain to move the casual listener as well as the hard core "Joel fan" to their feet and have them singing along with all the classics!

Tickets \$50 ~ Preferred Seating \$55



Saturday,
February 7, 2026
7:30 PM

Nearly Diamond
*The Neil
Diamond
Tribute*

NEARLY DIAMOND is the **ULTIMATE** Tribute to the legendary singer/songwriter Neil Diamond.

Tickets \$50 ~ Preferred Seating \$55



Saturday,
March 7, 2026
7:30 PM

Larry Johnson's
*Essence
of
Motown*

A true **Motown** artist from Detroit, Larry Johnson is a touring, international recording artist, with extensive experience worldwide. Larry has sang lead vocals on tour with 4 different former lead singers of The Temptations, and one former lead singer of The Four Tops

Tickets \$50 ~ Preferred Seating \$55



Saturday,
March 21, 2026
7:30 PM

Bee Gees
NOW!

Step into the golden age of disco with the world-class **Bee Gees** tribute Band! They bring the Bee Gees' iconic hits to life with meticulous attention to detail in vocals and live arrangements. Their high-energy show delivers all the chart-topping classics, transporting you back to the disco era with authenticity and flair.

Tickets \$50 ~ Preferred Seating \$55



Sunday,
March 29, 2026
7:30 PM

**Almost
ABBA**

MAMMA MIA it's **..Almost ABBA!** Almost ABBA recreates the magic and nostalgia of ABBA in a costumed, choreographed and audience-interactive show! Boasting a sound-a-like performance of intricate harmony's and top-notch musicianship, they truly live up to their almost ABBA name!

Tickets \$50 ~ Preferred Seating \$55

JCMI 991 Winterberry Drive, Marco Island, FL 34145

Tickets can be purchased online at: www.jcmimusic.com ~ Ticket prices plus applicable service fees will vary by seating level and performance.

More Info: (239) 642-0800 ~ www.marcojcmi.com ~ manager@marcojcmi.com

Jewish Congregation of Marco Island
– invites you to attend –



תא שמע
אמריא אז



Rabbi Gross's
Fourth-Sunday
Life-Long Learning Series
for 5786 (2025-26)

Sunday, January 25 - **Firing Line:**
“Ask the Rabbi”

Why is the m'zuzah hung at a slant? What's inside t'filin? Who was the first Jew in the New World? Why do bad things happen to good people? How is it, that “Jewish” rye isn't, and that “kosher” pickles aren't?

It's open season, as the Rabbi willingly fields any burning question of Jewish import that you've always wanted to know about.



Sunday, February 22 - **The Chutzpah of Moses**
(and His Wonderfulness)

Our ongoing exploration of important Biblical figures focuses on the most important of all: God's reluctant prophet, the estimable lawgiver and nation-builder whose yahrtzeit of 07 Adar falls on Tuesday of this week.



Sunday, March 22 - **A Passover Miscellany**

With the seider for our Feast of Freedom coming up the following Wednesday evening, we'll be taking a deep dive into the development and content and significance of the world's oldest interactive educational activity.



All sessions convene at the Synagogue (991 Winterberry Drive), beginning with a coffee social at 9:30 and presentation at 10:00

There is no fee to attend our Life-Long Learning programs. Unaffiliated guests are always welcome to join us for these sessions, and are asked to make a \$5 contribution to underwrite printing costs.

JCMI Bake Sale

Jewish Congregation of Marco Island
991 Winterberry Drive, Marco Island, FL

Sunday, February 1, 2026

9:30 AM until 2:00 PM



Enjoy Our Café

- Bagels & A Schmear
- JCMI's Famous Bingo Kosher Hot Dog & Chips
- Coffee • Soda • Water



Traditional Homemade Baked Goods

- Challah • Challah Rolls
- Babka • Cakes
- Hamantaschen
- Mandel Bread
- Rugelach • Kugel
- Macaroons • Strudel
- Chicken Soup with Matzo Balls and more!

Winn✓Dixie



Supports Bubbe's Jewish Bakery

For More Information

visit us online at marcojcmi.com or call the office at 239.642.0800

JEWISH CONGREGATION OF MARCO ISLAND HIGH HOLY DAYS FOOD DRIVE 5786

For Benefit of



Help us feed the hungry in our community.

JCMI, along with all synagogues in Collier County, will participate in a High Holy Days Food Drive. The food will be distributed by the Naples Senior Center at JFCS for families in need in the Naples/Marco Island area.

Please fill an empty grocery bag with items such as the following:

- Tuna
- Canned Chicken
- Peanut Butter
- Pasta
- Soups (some low sodium)
- Mayonnaise
- Pasta Sauces
- Canned vegetables (some low sodium)
- Powdered milk
- Canned fruit
- Rice
- Ketchup
- Salad dressing
- Oatmeal
- Macaroni and cheese
- Ensure
- Jam/Jelly

Thank you for your help!

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MEND IT *at Marco*

Coming Soon: The New NCH Marco Island Urgent Care

The new, 24,000-square-foot facility will be comprised of two floors.

The first floor will house the new Marco Urgent Care Center and will feature 12 private exam rooms, one private triage/patient intake room, new equipment including CT and X-ray, and a covered ambulance entrance. The second floor will house future physicians' services.

40 S Heathwood Drive
Marco Island, FL 34145

Call (239) 624-8540, or learn more at
nchmd.org/marco-island

NCH



**OFFICERS AND BOARD OF
DIRECTORS 2025-2026**

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President	Stan Alliker
First V.P.	Keith Alter
2nd V.P.	Marty Holtz
Assistant Treasurer	Morris Margolis
Secretary	Mitch Braun

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2 Year Term	1 Year Term
Charlie Blum	Mary Pinto
Phyllis Rosenblum	Linda Reitzes
Audrey Snyder	Beth Weinberg

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 25-26

Paul Krueger	Robin Singer
Beth Povlow	

**STANDING COMMITTEES AND THEIR
CHAIRPERSONS* 2025-2026**

Finance, Budget & Investment

Stan Alliker	Marty Holtz
Sue Baum	Keith Alter

House

*Marty Holtz

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Paul Krueger
Mitch Braun

Food Chair

*Mary Pinto

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*

Cemetery

*Morris Margolis

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*

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