

# THE JCMI MESSENGER



*FEBRUARY 2026*

*SHEVAT/ADAR, 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](http://www.MarcoJCMI.com)**

**for Live Streaming Services Information**

*Attend in person*

*or via Live Streaming from the JCMI Website*

## Title

February 21 is International Mother Language Day, observed since 1999 by all U.N. member nations to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.

The United States, a vast continental nation spanning five time zones, is one of the few world nations where you can afford to speak only one language. We nonetheless place a value on linguistic sophistication, and as such maintain a foreign-language requirement (usually Spanish, French, or German) for kids to graduate high school. Moreover, even if our multilingualism consists primarily of international restaurant vocabulary, our acquaintanceship with *souvlaki* or *pho* or *cassoulet* or *tamales* or *kimchi* marks us as cosmopolites who value our richly diverse American society in a place where everybody came from Somewhere Else.

Our earliest forebears Abraham and Sarah originated in Ur, speaking Akkadian, then migrated first to Haran, where the local language was Aramaic, and then to Canaan, where the native Canaanite language is what we now call “Hebrew.” Although Akkadian and Aramaic and Hebrew are all cognate Semitic languages, they are nonetheless as distinct from each other as the “Romance languages” of Romanian, Italian, and Portuguese; jumping ship, and starting over, took effort and commitment.

We Jews have always been linguistic cosmopolites. With the establishment of The Third Jewish Commonwealth in 1948, Hebrew language became an important tool of nation-building and identity formation. But prior to that the international language of the Jews had long been the Judeo-Latin patois called “Yiddish.” Although we think of it as Judeo-German, Yiddish originated in Italy a thousand years ago as Judeo-Latin: in part as the native tongue of the Jewish slaves brought from the first-century destruction of Jerusalem to build the Coliseum in Rome, and in part as a tool to integrate into European society waves of Jewish migrants from what is today Iraq.

For my parents and grandparents, Yiddish was their “*mama loishen*” (mother tongue), and English was their language. As, in the case of Grandpa Gross, were Polish, Russian, and Ukrainian. And my late father-in-law, who grew up in an immigrant neighborhood of Los Angeles, spoke Mexican Spanish with a Yiddish accent (and *vice versa*).

Let’s make an occasion this month (not necessarily just on the 21<sup>st</sup>) to find joy in the diversity and richness of our American society, and to take pride in how well attuned our fabulously ancient People has always been to “linguistic and cultural diversity.”



*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](mailto:RabbiMarkGross@gmail.com).*

## JCMI Schedule of Services

### February, 2026 –Sh’vat/Adar, 5786



#### **Oabbalat Shabbat Worship** -

Friday evenings - 7:30.

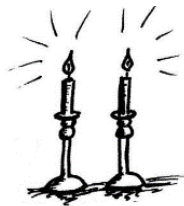
Welcoming the Queen of Days is our “main event” at JCMI, with shared worship in the beautiful Sanctuary of our shared Temple home every Friday night.

February 06 - [Cantor Jacobsen’s annual Musical Shabbat](#), in celebration of Jewish Music Season – and, as first Friday of the new month, also our “[Celebration Shabbat](#),” with blessings for everyone celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the newly arrived month of February.

February 13 - [Federation Shabbat](#), honoring our partnership with Jewish Federation of Greater Naples and welcoming Federation leadership as our worship guests. Featuring [a blessing for the coming New Moon and new month](#) of Adar... which means, time is growing short to plan your Purim costume!

February 20 - Shabbat worship.

February 17 – Our last-Friday-of-the-month “[Torah Shabbat](#),” featuring the reading of a selection from this week’s *parashah* in the sacred scroll.



#### **Home Shabbat Candle-Lighting Times**

*18 minutes before sunset on Marco Island*

February 06 - 5:55

February 20 - 6:05

February 13 - 6:00

February 27 - 6:09

#### **Portion-of-the-Week Torah Study** -

Saturday mornings, 9:30 a.m.

[Rabbi Gross](#) offers 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.

February 07 - *Yitro*

Exodus 18:1-20:26

Isaiah 6:1-7:6

February 14 - *Mishpatim-Sh’qalim*

Exodus 21:1-24:18

Jeremiah 34:8-23

February 21 - *T’rumah*

Exodus 25:1-27:19

I Kings 5:26-6:13

February 28 - *T’tzaveh*

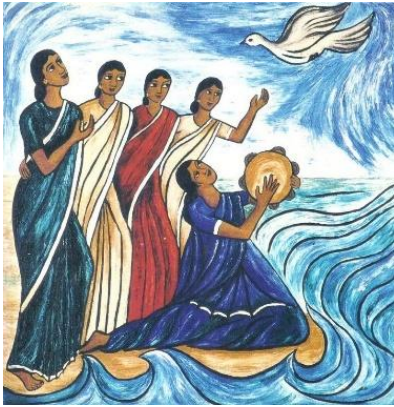
Exodus 27:20-30:10

Ezekiel 43:10-27





## Celebrating Jewish Music Season, Feb. 06



Ours is a singing congregation, to start with— but at services on Friday, February 06, Cantor Jacobsen will be letting out the clutch on an expanded melodic Shabbat in celebration of Jewish Music Season.

The Torah portion we read at the tail end of January described how our long-ago Israelite forebears responded to being miraculously saved from the pursuing Egyptians at the shores of the divided Sea by bursting into songs of praise. We Jews have been singing, ever since... and every year observe a special Music Season from that Shabbat “Shirah” right up to Israel Independence Day.

---

## “Federation Shabbat” at JCMI, Feb. 13

We will once again have the pleasure and privilege of welcoming Jewish Federation of Greater Naples President/CEO Nammie Ichilov and Board Chair Nat Ritter as worship guests on Friday, February 13. We at JCMI always make Shabbat “*Sh’qalim*” (the announcement of the New Moon of Adar, which is traditionally a time to teach about *tz’dakah*)

an occasion to celebrate our proud relationship as both beneficiary of and partner with our local Federation.

---



## Be Getting Ready To Be Someone Else!

Men and Women of Mystery: be working this month on your Purim costume.

Our First-Friday-of-the-Month “Celebration Shabbat” on March 06 will include a jubilant musical celebration of The Feast of Esther, and there will be prizes for the best costume and noisemaker!

[Full disclosure: prize not depicted at left ◀].

תא שמע

Ta Sh'ma



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

Sunday, February 22 -

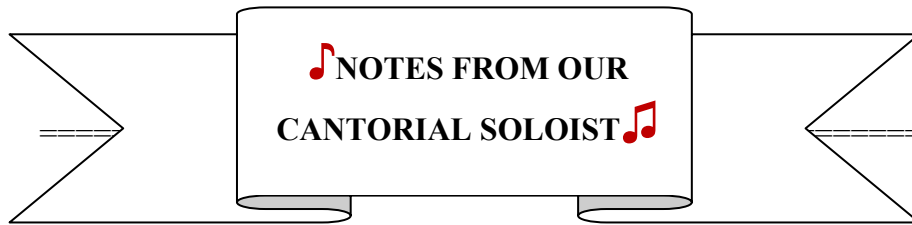
**The *Chutzpah* of Moses (and His Wonderfulness)**

*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.*



**Convenes 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.



What would you have if you had a room full of Adam and Eve and Cain and Abel and Noah and Abraham and Sarah and Ruth? And add to that room Mahatma Gandhi and Maria Corina Machada and the Dalai Lama and Mother Teresa and Malala Yousafzai? A room with a bunch of goys. Dang! Those darn goys! What's even worse – Oh, yes! – what's even worse, the first parashah in February is named after one of them. Yeppers. *Yitro* (*Jethro*). And, sorry, but even worse, Yitro is Moses' father-in-law and most treasured mentor (And that also means that Moses was married to a goy.). Oh, the shame!

Obviously, I lack fondness for the all-too-often used reference that someone is a goy. Now back to Parashat *Yitro*. What obscure tidbits do we find in this *Torah* portion named after a non-Jew? *Aseret haDibrot* (*The Ten Commandments*). Ironic, huh?

Are there advantages when our children date, marry, whatever Jews. Of course. However, the *Torah* does not indicate that God chastised Moses for marrying a non-Jew nor for heeding the counsel of a non-Jew. Apparently, one's words and actions were the consequential issues.

May we embrace this up-coming re-reading of *Aseret haDibrot* with all its intent and merit, and may its power strengthen us for all our up-coming trials.

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.

# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>1</b> <b>Bubbe's Bakery</b> <b>9:30AM</b>	<b>2</b> <b>BINGO</b> <b>5:00PM</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Chess Club-</b> <b>9:30AM-</b> <b>12:30PM</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Mah Jongg-</b> <b>11:00 AM-</b> <b>3:00PM</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Shabbat Services</b> <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Torah Study</b> <b>9:30AM</b> <b>Neil Diamond Concert</b> <b>7:30PM</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>BINGO</b> <b>5:00PM</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Chess Club-</b> <b>9:30AM-</b> <b>12:30PM</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Mah Jongg-</b> <b>11:00 AM-</b> <b>3:00PM</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Shabbat Services</b> <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Torah Study</b> <b>9:30AM</b>
 <b>15</b> <b>Film Festival Film</b> <b>2:00PM</b>	<b>16</b> <b>BINGO</b> <b>5:00PM</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Chess Club-</b> <b>9:30AM-</b> <b>12:30PM</b> <b>Book Club</b> <b>11AM</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Mah Jongg-</b> <b>11:00 AM-</b> <b>3:00PM</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Shabbat Services</b> <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Torah Study</b> <b>9:30AM</b>
 <b>22</b> <b>Rabbi's Life-Long Learning Series</b> <b>9:30AM</b>	<b>23</b> <b>BINGO</b> <b>5:00PM</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Chess Club-</b> <b>9:30AM-</b> <b>12:30PM</b>	<b>25</b>	 <b>26</b> <b>Board Meeting</b> <b>7:00PM</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Shabbat Worship</b> <b>7:30PM</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Torah Study</b> <b>9:30AM</b>

## March Anniversaries

- 5 Anthony & Mary Pinto
- 7 Al & Yvette Benarroch
- 24 Michael & Nanette Suffian



## March Birthdays

- 1 Laura Vesecky
- 1 Alan Zuckerman
- 2 Paul Zwillenberg
- 12 Susan Daroff
- 17 Betsy Berner
- 24 Ray Bergman
- 28 Lynn Nathanson





## **February Weekly Yahrtseit List**

### **February 1 – February 7, 2026**

14 Shevat – 20 Shevat

Stephen M. Alter\*  
Sadye Avratin\*  
Abraham Cooperman  
Ruth Goldstein  
Phyllis Greenspan\*  
Abbe Hankin  
Abe Jacobson  
Herb Jermanok  
Freda Koslow\*  
Ida Krueger  
Eva Levin\*  
Bernard Levine\*  
Hermann Linz  
Sigmund Migden\*  
Beckie Nahmias\*  
Elizabeth Poverman  
Robert Sachs  
Josephine S. Sacks  
Dr. Victor Silberstein\*  
Beatrice Silverman  
Alex Tuller\*

### **February 8 – February 14, 2026**

21 Shevat – 27 Shevat

Samuel Blutfield  
Joseph Galker\*  
Robert S. Gottesman\*  
Agnes Hertzner\*  
Diana Hutz\*  
Sylvia Kan  
Jason H. Katz\*  
Elaine Landy  
Celia Levin\*  
Aaron Margolis  
Meyer Migden\*  
Max Poverman  
Charles Rivkin  
Sperantza Roman\*  
Gladys Rosenberg  
David Sachs  
Maurice Saval\*  
Max Selowsky  
Paul Sirkus

### **February 8 – February 14, 2026 (continued)**

21 Shevat – 27 Shevat

Maynard (Moe) I. Whitebook\*

### **February 15 – February 21, 2026**

28 Shevat – 4 Adar

Morris H. Betten\*  
Linda Chase  
Harry Feldman\*  
Linda Geszvain  
Marion Thompson Gonshor\*  
Robert Saul Gottsegen\*  
Ina Greenspan  
Harold K. Grossman\*  
Abbe Hankin\*  
June Hertzberg-Harvey  
Rabbi M'nachem-Mendel Kazaskov  
Connie Kulok  
Alice Jane Miller\*  
Jules Mitnick  
Zeiger Mona  
Harold Noskin\*  
Harley Rosenberg\*  
Kate Silver\*  
Lois Smith\*  
Pearl Wall\*  
Arthur Emanuel Wilfond\*

### **February 22 – February 28, 2026**

5 Adar – 11 Adar

Hyman Avratin\*  
Earl & Gloria Brandon\*  
Craig Elliot Chentow\*  
Pearle Cohn  
William Cohn  
Morton Ettinger\*  
Ann Molowitz Evangelista  
Karen Flesch  
Gazella Frank\*  
Florence Stein Good\*  
Irving Greenberg\*  
Leonard Greenfield  
Joseph Hepner\*  
Frances Kalin

**February 22 – February 28, 2026 (continued)**

5 Adar – 11 Adar

Bubbles Katz\*  
Lena E. Klein\*  
Ronald B. Klein\*  
Beatrice Krieger  
Abe Landy  
Gus Lipsitz\*  
Selma Lubin  
Leslie Mascoop  
Nelson Posner  
Louis Roberts  
Violet Silvershein\*  
Jerome Silverstein\*  
Selma Goldston Snyder  
Elda Spizzichino\*  
Clare Tucker\*  
Stuart Wolf  
Sylvia Young\*  
Manuel Wold\*



**\*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)

**Carol Gross from**

Sandra Hechler

Audrey Snyder

**Cantor Hari Jacobsen from**

Bert & Shirley Posner

Audrey Snyder

**George Karpman from**

Bert & Shirley Posner

Audrey Snyder

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

**Sally Aaron from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Bert & Joan Thompson

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Charlie Blum from**

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Mitch Braun from**

Paul & Lydia Krueger

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Bert & Joan Thompson

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Richard Eisinger from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Steve Goldenberg from**

Paul & Lydia Krueger

Bert & Joan Thompson

**Estie Karpman from**

Paul & Lydia Krueger

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Bert & Joan Thompson

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Melissa Kalloo from**

Paul & Lydia Krueger

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Bert & Joan Thompson

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Allan Kluger from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

**Lydia Krueger from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Bert & Joan Thompson

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Paul Krueger from**

Denise Schwartzman

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Judy Margelefsky from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Gloria Meer from**

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Shirley Posner from**

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Irv Povlow from**

Alan & Sue Daroff

Denise Schwartzman

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Betsy Rosenberg from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

**Judy Sacher from**

Shirley & Bert Posner

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Denise Schwartzman from**

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Audrey Snyder from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Paul & Lydia Krueger

Frank & Beth Weinberg

**Beth Weinberg from**

Shirley & Bert Posner

Denise Schwartzman

**Lynn Wilk from**

Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

Frank & Beth Weinberg

## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

**Irv & Beth Povlow from**

Alan & Sue Daroff

## **ABOVE & BEYOND**

from Aren Alter

from Sue Baum

from Mervyn & Rosalind Benjet

from Stacey & Betsy Berner

from Arthur Doxer

from Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

from Sandra Hechler

from Marty & Barbara Holtz

from Allan & Sue Kluger

from Paul & Lydia Kruger

from Morris & Nancy Margolis

from Norman & Adele Oppenheim

from Steven & Carole Roberts

from Irwin Roseff

from Richard Rosenberg

from Phyllis Rosenblum

from Denise Schwartzman

from Gene & Dolores Siegel

from Audrey Snyder

from Frank & Beth Weinberg

from Leo Wertheim

from Sara Straight Wolf

## **BUBBE'S BAKERY SPONSOR**

from Sally Aaron

from Stan & Esta Alliker

from Keith & Toniann Alter

from Sue Baum

from Richard & Suzie Eisinger

from Marlene Glass

from Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

from Sandra Hechler

from Marty & Barbara Holtz

from George & Estie Karpman

from Natalie Klein

from Hanita Kern

from Morris & Nancy Margolis

from Robert Meldman & Leila Silverberg

from Marvin & Lynn Nathanson

from Norman & Adele Oppenheim

from Tony & Mary Pinto

from Bert & Shirley Posner

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

## **CEMETERY FUND**

**Cheryl Brownstein** – IMO Sylvia D.

Brownstein

## **FILM FESTIVAL PATRONS**

from Stan & Esta Alliker

from Keith & Toniann Alter

from Sue Baum

from Mitch Braun & Bob Jares

from Jonathan & Heather Greenfield

from Sandra Hechler

from Hanita Kern

from Norman & Adele Oppenheim

from Denise Schwartzman

from Dan & Robin Singer

from Bert & Joan Thompson

from Frank & Beth Weinberg

from Jeffrey & Lenore Yale

## **FLOWERS FUND**

**Charlie Blum & Karen Tessel-Blum** – In Gratitude of Bob Jares' Challah Making Skills

**Mitch Braun & Bob Jares** – IMO Shirley Lois Braun, Mitch's Mother

## **GENERAL FUND**

**Aren Alter & Inangelo Family** – IMO Stephen Alter

**Michael & Laura Garrick** – Philanthropic Fund

**Debra Stern** – IMO Freda Koslow

**Bert & Joan Thompson** – IMO Marian Thompson

## **ONEG FUND**

**Sally Sheinberg & Family** – IMO Sorley &

Herbert Sheinberg

**Bert & Shirley Posner** – IMO Isaac Nudelman, Shirley's Father

**Frank & Beth Weinberg** – IHO Beth's 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

## **THINKING OF YOU:**

**Gloria Meer** – Thinking of You

from Bert & Shirley Posner

## **WITH SINCERE SYMPATHY TO:**

**Rita Blutfield** – IMO Bernard Blutfield

from Natalie Klein

from Bert & Joan Thompson

**Ilene Yatvin Brett** – IMO Mother

from Bert & Joan Thompson

**Family of Edith Yorks** – IMO Edith Yorks

from Bert & Joan Thompson

## **UPCOMING ONEGS**

Call the office to be a sponsor!

**02/06/26** – Available

**02/13/26** – Available

**02/20/26** – Available

**02/27/26** – Available



## YAHRTSEIT DONOR IN MEMORY OF



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](http://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 **Yahrtzeit 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 due's 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 42<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:kdalter13@gmail.com) or 617.293.6515, or Stan Alliker, JCMI President, at [alliker1@comcast.net](mailto: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"

## 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

## 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

## March 2026

7th - Concert Series- Motown	7:30 PM
14th - Concert Series- BeeGees	7:30 PM
15th - Film Festival	2:00 PM
17th - Book Club	11:00 AM
19th - Annual Meeting	7:00 PM
22nd - Rabbi's Life-Long Learning	9:30 AM
26th - Board Meeting	7:00 PM
28th - Princess Dinner Cruise	5:30 PM
29th - Concert Series- ABBA	7:30 PM

### *Ongoing Events Throughout the Season:*

*Mondays - Bingo at 5:00PM*

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

*Thursdays - Mah Jongg at 11AM*

*Fridays - Evening Services at 7:30 PM*

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

## ***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

**Winn✓Dixie**



### *Traditional Homemade Baked Goods*

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

***Supports Bubbe's Jewish Bakery***

#### *For More Information*

visit us online at [marcojcmi.com](http://marcojcmi.com) or call the office at 239.642.0800



# 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 14, 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](http://www.jcmimusic.com) ~ Ticket prices plus applicable service fees will vary by seating level and performance.

More Info: (239) 642-0800 ~ [www.marcojcml.com](http://www.marcojcml.com) ~ [manager@marcojcml.com](mailto:manager@marcojcml.com)



JEWISH CONGREGATION OF MARCO ISLAND IN COOPERATION WITH



Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER NAPLES

PRESENT



Jewish Congregation of Marco Island, FL

# FILM FESTIVAL



**THE 25<sup>TH</sup> 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.

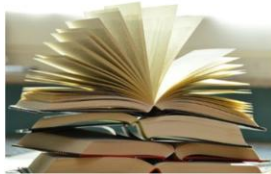
**Patron Level** - \$37.50 per ticket

**General Admission** - \$25.00 per ticket

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

# 2025-2026 Women's Book Club

Men are welcome!



Our 18<sup>th</sup> 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

*Prophet Song*  
Paul Lynch

**February 17, 2026**

*Frozen River*  
Ariel Lawton

*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  
– invites you to attend –



תא שמע  
אמ'א אז



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

Sundav, 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.*



Sundav, 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.*



Sundav, 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.**



## JEWISH CONGREGATION OF MARCO ISLAND

991 Winterberry Drive, Marco Island, FL 34145 ~ 239-642-0800

*Rabbi Mark Gross ~ Cantorial Soloist Hari Jacobsen ~ President Stan Alliker*

January 21, 2026

Dear Members and Friends of JCMI:

We are grateful for the response to our Above and Beyond Appeal so far. However, we are only halfway to our goal and seek your help

Response To-date



Goal



The \$35,000 goal is to cover the cost of repairs of the aging building. Our Synagogue is precious. Please help us meet our needs.

We look forward to your support.

With gratitude.

*Sue R. Baum*

Sue R. Baum  
Chair

web: [www.marcojcmi.com](http://www.marcojcmi.com) ~ email: [manager@marcojcmi.com](mailto:manager@marcojcmi.com)



**NEW TIME 5 PM**

# **MONDAY NIGHT BINGO**

*Celebrating 25 Years!*



**Bigger Payouts!!**

**SUPPER – NO CHARGE**

**EVERY MONDAY**  
**•FREE PIZZA DRAWING FROM SAM'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

**HOTBALL**  
**Up to \$250**  
**END-OF-MONTH**  
**PRIZE BINGO**  
**TOTE**

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

# 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!**

# Our Advertisers

239.316.2373

239.300.3382



Creative Design & Impeccable Service

9 Front Street Marco Island

[www.bfandmore.com](http://www.bfandmore.com)  
[info@bfandmore.com](mailto:info@bfandmore.com)



Hodges-Josberger  
Funeral Home

577 Elkcam Circle  
Marco Island, FL 34145  
239-394-7573

 **Sunshine Stitchers**

**Embroidery • Screen Printing • Banners**

(239) 970-0200  
Office

(239) 919-2549  
Mobile



# 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](http://nchmd.org/marco-island)

# NCH





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

**OFFICERS**

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>2 Year Term</b>	<b>1 Year Term</b>
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

**Membership (Co-Chairs)**

Paul Krueger  
Mitch Braun

**Food Chair**

\*Mary Pinto

**Public Relations**

\*

**Cemetery**

\*Morris Margolis

**Rabbi Liaison, Ritual & Honors**

\*Frank Weinberg  
Sue Baum  
Stan Alliker  
Cantor Hari Jacobsen

**Ways & Mean**

\*Sue Baum  
Charlie Blum                      Marty Holtz

**By-Laws**

\*Sara Straight Wolf

**Office Liaison**

\*Marty Holtz

**Parliamentarian**

\*

**Security**

Don Schwartz

**Caring Committee**

Heather Greenfield