

# Or Chadash FOCUS

*By Rabbi Alison B. Kobey*

It is that time of year when we are actively thinking about the year that has gone by and the year to come. Like every year, some of you have had a good year and others of you have had a rough go of it. Every year around this time, God and I get into many arguments. I remain unconvinced that four major holidays plus the start of Religious School should happen all within the same month. It makes for an extremely busy season for me. Why not spread out all these major moments? On a certain level, we would probably appreciate each one more if they were not all within a short time period. On

the other hand, maybe we would be less inclined to take them all

seriously and celebrate them. After all, we already know that Shavuot has problems getting its due recognition (a May/June holiday that actually is very important! Ask me if you are interested in learning more). With each of the Tishrei holidays, there is a different flavor of God-ideas: from Ruler to Healer to Judge, to Merciful One, to Gardener, to Rejoicer, and so many more.

*(continued on page 5)*



## SHABBAT/HOLIDAY SERVICES

**Friday, September 5** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Social Action Theme of Voter Rights followed by Dairy/Vegetarian BBQ and Potluck Dinner

**Friday, September 12** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Birthday Blessings

**Saturday, September 13** – 6:15pm Havdallah and Selichot Services with OCS followed by smores (outdoors, weather permitting)

**Friday, September 19** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Candy Shabbat theme

**Sunday, September 21** – 10:00am Kever Avot (Cemetery service) at Garden of Remembrance, Or Chadash section

**Monday, September 22** – 7:30pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Services

**Tuesday, September 23** – **Rosh Hashanah Day**  
9:00am Young Children's Services (with their special grown-ups)

10:00am Morning Services

12:30(ish) Luncheon (RSVPs required)

2:30pm Tashlich

**Friday, September 26** – 6:15pm Shabbat Shuvah Services with Anniversary Blessings

**Sunday, September 28** – 1:15pm Reverse Tashlich (12:15 if joining for pizza lunch) at Magruder Park Stream Valley Park Trail (where we do Tashlich)

**Wednesday, October 1** – 7:30pm Kol Nidrei / Erev Yom Kippur Services

**Thursday, October 2** – **Yom Kippur Day**  
9:00am Young Children's Services (with their special grown-ups)

10:00am Morning Services

12:15pm(ish) Rise Against Hunger

3:15pm Afternoon Services

4:45pm(ish) Yizkor Services

6:00pm(ish) Neilah (Concluding) Services followed by Break-the-fast

**Friday, October 3** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

**Monday, October 6** – 6:15pm Erev Sukkot Services (outdoors, weather permitting)

**Friday, October 10** – 6:15pm Shabbat Sukkot Services with Birthday Blessings (outdoors, weather permitting)

**Monday, October 13** – 6:15pm Erev Simchat Torah / Consecration Services

**Friday, October 17** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

**Friday, October 24** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Anniversary Blessings and Yoga Theme

**Saturday, October 25** – 10:00am Shabbat Services with the Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Kirsch

**Friday, October 31** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

# Contacting Us



## Rabbi

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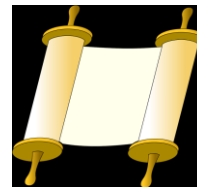
Send your email address to

[orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org](mailto:orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org)

## Contact Us

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Temple Administrator.....	Open
Religious School Administrator.....	Open
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Immediate Past President .....	Andrew Felrice
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Fundraising Committee .....	Open
Social Action Committee .....	Arlene Greenspan
Religious School Committee .....	Howard Benowitz
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Security .....	Security

# Torah/Text Study



Some Torah Study and Talmud classes are Zoom only. Others are in-person only so please check the date to see location. If text study is part of services, the opportunity is multi-access.

## **Saturday, September 6 – 9:30am Torah Study (In-Person Only)**

### ***Ki Tzeitzei (Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19)***

What does Torah teach us about caring for the captive? What is our obligation when it comes to finding something? Why might you need a rooftop fence? What is our responsibility to workers? What laws in this parashah resonate most with you and what seemingly make no sense to you?

## **Saturday, September 6 – 11:00am Talmud Class (In-Person Only)**

## **Saturday, September 13 – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only)**

### ***Ki Tavo (Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8)***

What is one expected to do with tithing and the completion of it? What is the equivalency of tithing today? What are some blessings and struggles in your view? How do they connect (or not) to God?

## **Saturday, September 13 – 11:00am Talmud Class (Zoom Only)**

## **Saturday, September 20 – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only)**

### ***Nitzavim (Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20)***

What would you emphasize to loved ones if you knew you were not going with them on an important journey? How would you stress the importance of tradition and being true to yourselves? What is the process of repentance in Judaism? Is following Torah achievable?

## **Saturday, September 27 – 9:30am Torah Study (In-Person Only)**

### ***Vayelech (Deuteronomy 31:1-30)***

Why is Moses telling the Israelites that he will not lead them into Israel? How often are we to read Torah? If you were to write a poem to serve as a witness to holiness, what would it say?

## **Saturday, October 4 – 9:30am Torah Study (In-Person Only)**

### ***Ha'azinu (Deuteronomy 32:1-52)***

What happens when our relationships go out of kilter? Why is this poem so critical to the fate of the Jews? How is God just, even when we misbehave? How does God evolve? What is Moses' final charge to us? Would you want to know your precise date of death?

## **Saturday, October 4 – 11:00am Talmud Class (In-Person Only)**

## **Saturday, October 11 – 9:30am Ecclesiastes Text Study (In-Person Only)**

## **Saturday, October 18 – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only)**

### ***Bereisheet (Genesis 1:1-6:8)***

Has God ever asked you a question? When have you angered God? What are your responsibilities to others? What does it look/feel like to be in God's image? What does creation really mean?

## **Saturday, October 18 – 11:00am Talmud Class (Zoom only)**

**Saturday, October 25 – 10:00am NO Torah Study** but please join us at Shabbat Services and the Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Kirsch

## President's Column

The specific date that starts a New Year can be quite arbitrary, and as long as we are consistent, it really doesn't matter too much. For some of us, it's January 1. For others, it's our birthday. For others, it's Rosh Hashanah. For me, it has always been the start of the school year. This is likely because this is when my day-to-day life changes most. Routines revolve around the school calendar. School year activities dominate much of our calendars. And even with my oldest no longer living at home while they attend college in Blacksburg, VA, their schedule seems to define much of our lives in Germantown, MD.

But my point is that my "year" is just beginning. This is when I do my best to get organized, to set goals, to take the proverbial "deep breath" and jump in with both feet. Every year, I seem to set lofty goals, and often fail to achieve many of what I aspire to accomplish. But that doesn't stop me from trying again the following year.

One of the things I'm trying to do differently from years past is to recognize limitations. Yes, my goals are still extensive and probably considerably more than is reasonable, but one of my top priorities is recognizing the importance of the word "No." I can't speak for anyone else, but one of the hardest things for me to do is to recognize the reality that I can't do it all. I need to delegate responsibilities to others so I can focus on the things that I do best. But that is something that is very difficult. There are many things that I WANT to do. There are many things that I recognize NEED doing and I am uncomfortable asking someone else to take on

the burden, even if they can do it far better than I ever could.

At Congregation Or Chadash, we are a community. This is what I have always felt makes us special. Being small allows us to get to know each other and feel comfortable around all the members of our congregation ... not just a small handful of people. We see each other at worship. We see each other at committee meetings. We see each other at religious school ... the kids in their classes and the adults waiting on the pick-up line. We have formed friendships and we have celebrated together and comforted each other at different times. But because we are small, we need to be there for the community itself. We need everyone to lend a hand to do something to help us grow. Perhaps not literally (although new members and their families are always welcome!). But, each of us is uniquely qualified in some way. Are you good at fundraising? Then come help to organize a fund-raising event. Do you take pride in being politically active and like to take on projects? Consider joining Social Action. How about finance – are you good at setting a budget and helping to allocate funds? Finance committee may be a good place to go. Are your interests broader? Come to a board meeting and see what we discuss on a monthly basis.

The start of a new year is a perfect time to see what you can do to GET INVOLVED.

*L'Shalom!*  
*Ilene Krom*  
*President*

*Alison B. Kobey (continued)*

As we move around to different God-imagery, I was thinking about a recent Talmud passage that I read, about what God does in Her (His? Their?) spare time. Some of the Rabbis decide that a third of God's time is spent judging with mercy, a third is taking care of all of the animals, and a third was reserved for play. Imagine the idea that God, even God, gets some play time.

This has been a rough year for so many people. I know. I hear you. And, I'm sorry. I also know that plenty of the challenges that arose were not in your control. But, what if we, creatures in God's image, took some time to play as well? What if you insisted to yourself that there be some play / some relaxation / some joy in your daily or even weekly life? As we move into the new year, I encourage you to try.

## Religious School Committee

A new school year is almost here! Sunday Religious School will begin on **September 7** and Tuesday Religious School will begin on **September 9**.

Our curriculum this year will be similar to last year's, but unlike last year, students will be in classes with students of the same or similar age. On Sundays, Hebrew classes will rotate each quarter among Modern Hebrew, Prayers, Torah Text, and Music / Shabbat Service Preparation. Judaic classes will focus on Modern Israel / Innovations, Holidays, the History of Civil Rights in America, and the History of Jews in Pop Culture.

Make room for play / for joy. One of my favorite Hebrew blessings (I know, I know, some of you will call me out on this as I say that about many blessings, but it's true) is the blessing for play. *Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam Yotzer haguf v'chisrono, shenatata b'tocheinu simchat hamischak*. Blessed Are You God, Ruler of the Universe, Creator of the body and its skills, who has implanted within us the joy of play.

I hope you find a way to regularly add that blessing into your repertoire, both in language and in action. May the new year, 5786, be a year of joy and blessing.

*L'Shalom*

*Rabbi Alison B. Kobey*

We will have our special Simchat Torah and Consecration service on **Monday, October 13**, when we welcome new members to our Religious School and celebrate the Torah.

Are you interested in learning more about the Religious School, or do you have ideas for the Religious School? Please join us at the next Religious School Committee meetings on **Sunday, September 14** at 7:30pm on Zoom and **Sunday, October 5** at 12:15pm at the Temple.

*L'Shalom,*

*The Religious School Committee*

### Religious School Schedule

In Session:

**September 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 28, 30**

**October 5, 7, 12, 14, 21, 26, 28**

Not In Session:

**September 23**

**October 19**



# Keeping Up with Or Chadash

## Committee Meetings

**Tuesday, September 2** – 7:00pm Membership Committee

**Sunday, September 14** – 7:30pm Religious School Committee (Zoom Only)

**Wednesday, September 24** – 6:30pm Social Action Committee (Zoom only)

**Sunday, October 5** – 12:15pm Religious School Committee

**Wednesday, October 15** – 7:00pm Ritual Committee (Zoom only)

**Wednesday, October 22** – 6:30pm Social Action Committee (Zoom only)

## Religious School Faculty Meeting

**Sunday, September 14** at 8:15am

## Religious School

Religious School Opening Day is **Sunday, September 7**. Please see separate Religious School mailing with a full calendar.

On **Sunday, September 21**, there will be a field trip for students in Pre-K -Kindergarten.

## High Holy Day Honors

As is our custom, we use the High Holidays as one of our opportunities to say “thank you.” Everyone who receives an honor during the High Holidays is nominated by one or more members of the Leadership Group (Committee Chairs, Board, etc.) for their efforts on behalf of Or Chadash over the past year. We thank them for their dedication, and hope that in the coming year, you too will be an active volunteer and be on the bimah during Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur. **To all our current volunteers: THANK YOU!** Our sacred family is great because of you!

## Prospective Members

We need your help! We know that word of mouth is the best way for people to find us and get to know us. If you know of a possible member, please send us the name and any contact information you might have. Then, we will reach out and include the person(s) in a small group opportunity. We hope to hear from you! While prospectives are always welcome, some specific opportunities for them could include an invitation to our Shabbat service on **Friday, September 5, followed by our Dairy/Vegetarian Pot-luck Dinner**, or to attend holidays. (Please talk to Rabbi Kobey in advance).

## Lulav and Etrog

Order a LULAV/ETROG! Build a sukkah (or visit others) and have some fun during Rabbi Kobey’s favorite holiday! Invite family and friends over to your sukkah. Eat some meals in the Temple sukkah. Have you ever owned your own lulav/etrog for Sukkot? The holiday may come during a busy season, but take some time and enjoy Sukkot! Sukkot reminds us of the frailty of life... certainly these last few years have been a constant reminder, but let’s turn these times into sacred Jewish acknowledgments of the season.



To purchase your own lulav/etrog through Temple, please call or email the Rabbi with the following: name, email, phone. **ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED AND PAID BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Youth Groups – CORY**

We are proud to present the CORY leadership of 2025-2026:

President: Micah Felman

Programming Vice President: Natalie Gussow

Religious/Cultural Vice President: Ryan Chidakel

Membership Vice President: Ben Felrice

Secretary: Landon Rolnick

Treasurer: Aiden Ballonoff

Purim Carnival Chiefs: Adam Wolfson and Zack Chidakel

Advisor: Rabbi

We are very excited for the upcoming CORY year and we have lots of great events planned. Anyone who has already become a Bar/Bat/B'nai Mitzvah in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and anyone in 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcome and encouraged to join. Our first event is at one of our favorite venues, TopGolf on **Sunday, September 28**. Please submit your money and RSVPs to the Rabbi. We hope to see everyone there!

See the calendar below for more details.

*Micah Felman,  
CORY President*

**CORY CALENDAR 2025-2026**

CORY fee for all events for the year and preferred payment system : \$130.00  
(excluding L'Taken, NFTY events, and weekend retreats). Pay by credit card by reaching out to Terri Binder, Temple Treasurer, or by check that can be given to Rabbi or dropped off in the office.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
Sunday, Sept. 28	4:00pm	Topgolf
Tuesday, Oct. 7	6:00pm	Pizza in the hut, games
Sunday, Nov. 16	3:00pm	Sandy Spring Adventure Park
Fri., Dec. 19-Sat., Dec. 20	5:45pm - 9:15am	Shul-in
Sun., Jan. 11	2:00pm	Ice Skating at Rockville Town Square
Friday, Jan. 23-Sunday, Jan. 25		10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Teen NYC Trip
Friday, Feb. 6- Sunday, Feb. 8		CORY hosts NFTY-MAR Winter Kallah, including services
Fri., Feb. 20- Sat. Feb. 21	5:45pm	8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teen Retreat
Saturday, Feb. 28	4:00pm	Purim carnival set-up
Sunday, Mar. 1	11:00am	Purim schpiel and carnival
Sunday, Mar. 22	10:30am	Chocolate Seder
Sunday, Apr. 26	3:00pm	Monster Mini Golf
Saturday, May 16	3:00pm	Hike at Great Falls

## Adult Education

### Adult B'nai Mitzvah New and Continuing

We are starting a new group for people interested in becoming B'nai Mitzvah. Please email Rabbi Kobey if you are interested in participating. Class schedule will be based on collective scheduling.

The current class (who will become B'nai Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 31**) will have classes on **Wednesday, September 3, Wednesday, September 17, Wednesday, October 22, and Wednesday, October 29**, all at 5:00pm.

### Adult Hebrew Classes

There will be an adult Hebrew class starting on Sunday mornings. Reach out to Rabbi Kobey if you are interested.

### New Class Starting August 29 on Israel's Milestones and Their Meanings

Israel is in the news every day. In order to understand how Israel was created and became what it is today, it helps to have some background information about British-Mandate Palestine, the UN partition of the territory in 1947, the resulting war that ended with the creation of the State of Israel, and the two successive wars (in 1967 and 1973) that resulted in Israel's acquiring vastly more territory than it had previously been granted.

The ideals, the compromises, and the internal debates about basic matters all help us understand what is going on today.

We will watch portions of a well-produced multi-part video series created by the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, entitled ***Israel's Milestones and Their Meanings: The Legacy of the Past and the Challenge of the Future***.

Rabbi Kobey will show the videos and lead the discussion on Zoom. For a four-minute introduction, see the video (narrated by Rabbi Danniell Hartman) at

<https://www.hartman.org.il/program/iengage-israels-milestones-and-their-meanings/>.

Whether you are familiar with Israel's history or not, this class is sure to provide both background and thought-provoking material. Please RSVP to Rabbi at rabbikobey@gmail.com.

Classes will be Zoom only, Fridays at 12:00pm

- **Friday, August 29** – Intro and 1917 The Balfour Declaration
- **Friday, September 5** – 1947 The UN Partition Plan
- **Friday, September 26** – 1967 The Six Day War
- **Friday, October 10** – “Judea and Samaria” – is it occupation or liberation?
- **Friday, October 24** – One State, Two States
- **Friday, October 31** – Jerusalem
- **Friday, November 21** – Now what?! Jubilee Year and Beyond

### New Sunday Series Starting October 26

Join us approximately every two months for in-person one-topic discussions based on articles. Please RSVP to Rabbi to get the article in advance. Come at 9:30am for coffee / social time. Then class will begin at 9:45am. The first class will be **Sunday, October 26**. The article is by Ezra Klein and is entitled *Why American Jews No Longer Understand One Another*.

### New Tuesday Series Starting October 21

We will meet in Urbana (location TBD) at 11:00am. Discussion topic also TBD.

### Shabbat Greeter and Tech Support

We would love for you to sign up on the SignUpGenius (or reach out to Rabbi if you are having trouble) to be the door greeter person or the tech person. If you are not yet trained in either (or both), we are happy to train you! This link is also the link for the oneg list. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050845ACA622A7FC1-56236090-shabbat#/>





## Rise Against Hunger

Back by popular demand! This Yom Kippur we are doing our ninth annual feed-the-hungry program! After morning services, we will be providing an opportunity to directly feed the hungry. While we still will be doing our local food drive for Manna (and hope you will give), this Yom Kippur we will also do a project that will have an international focus. This year we will be packing over 11,000 meals to ship to people in-need in food-impooverished parts of the world. In the last few years, our food went to Haiti, Madagascar, and New Orleans, as a few examples. Last year it went to Honduras.

The program has strict requirements and one is a large indoor space. Thus, the program will occur immediately after morning services and will go (give or take on the timing) until afternoon services. I ask, in advance, for your patience as there might be a bit of "organized chaos," both at the conclusion of morning services and again before the start of afternoon services.

The event is open to anyone ages 4 and above who wishes to help. People need to wear closed-toed shoes and we will be standing as we pack the boxes of food. People will need to wear gloves and hair nets, both of which they provide. As found in the Torah, God commands us to feed the hungry. Will you help? If you are interested, please sign up on the link below. If you have trouble, let me know and I

would be happy to sign you up. We are looking for approximately 40 volunteers at any one time. If there is high demand, we will slightly alter the shift time slots to ensure that anyone who wishes to engage in this mitzvah may do so. If you are signing up multiple people within your household, please list everyone individually so we know who to expect.

We look forward to Yom Kippur and this special Rise Against Hunger program. Sign up here!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0545A4AB2B0-57978659-cocrise>

Note that this program is not free. We have to pay for the food that we package and it costs Congregation Or Chadash several thousand dollars every year.

To date, Rabbi Kobey has been supplementing any donations from her discretionary fund to make sure we can keep this program running. But we really need congregants to donate to this worthwhile program in order to continue doing this year after year.

If every family that plans to participate can consider making a directed donation to the program, it would make a large difference. Thank you for your help!



**Ronald Isaacson, Tutor**

**Hebrew**

(Bar/Bat Mitzvah, 65+ students)

Member of Or Chadash since 1994

**(301) 996-9153**

**isaacson4@gmail.com**

## Kosher Policy

Please be mindful of our kosher policy. This includes any/all Temple events on Temple property plus Religious School and youth group field trips.

Did you know that we have a kosher policy at Congregation Or Chadash? If you are not familiar with our policy, and to make sure that everyone remembers, here it is:

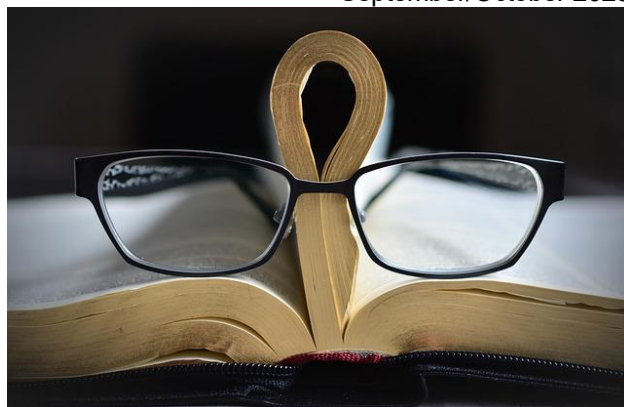
*Kashrut is the term applied to foods that meet Jewish religious requirements. It is used in the sense of food that is ritually clean and edible.*

*Kasher or Kosher means fit to eat.*

*Congregation Or Chadash asks that all people using the building or on Temple grounds, including our members, show respect for our sacred tradition, so that all food served is acceptable to all of our members. Or Chadash follows Biblical Kosher rules meaning:*

- *There should be no treif at all in the building (i.e., no pig and no shellfish)*
- *Gelatin is made from pigs and is not okay. It is found in marshmallows and in many candies.*
- *There should be no mixing of milk and meat (includes chicken) throughout the entire event. This includes “large” or “small” ingredients. Examples include:*
  - *Cheeseburgers*
  - *Chicken dinner with rolls and butter*
  - *Chicken dinner with ice cream for dessert*
  - *A cake made with butter at a meal with meat.*
- *There may not be dairy foods at one table and meat foods at a different table.*
- *Pareve means something neutral, such as fish or eggs and can be served with either dairy or meat. It means the items cannot even have minor meat or milk ingredients.*

If students are at a Congregation Or Chadash Religious School program outside of the Temple as part of their Religious School class, we expect them to follow the Congregation Or Chadash Kosher Policy.



## Torah Study and Talmud

There are text-study classes on most Saturdays in September and October. Learn more about our sacred traditions, and connect it all to modern life. Many of our Torah and Talmud study classes are still meeting Zoom-only, but a few now occur in person (without an online component). Please consult the Happenings email blast for links to those sessions that are on Zoom.

Feel free to just drop in, or let the Rabbi know you're interested. See the separate *Torah/Text Study* section on page 3 of this FOCUS for a summary of each week's material, and schedule. No need to read in advance.

## First Aid at Temple

We hope you never need first-aid, but as an FYI, there are band-aids and cream in the kitchen, near the sink, and there is an A.E.D. (defibrillator) machine mounted near the glass doors leading into the sanctuary from the foyer.

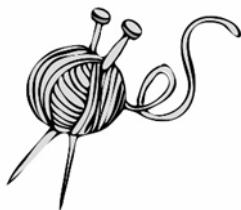
## Social Action Committee

In support of Mazon's national campaign, ***No One Deserved to Go Hungry***, Congregation Or Chadash and the Social Action Committee delivered 37 postcards to the USDA demanding that they preserve the systems and structures that help those facing food insecurity. Unfortunately, the cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) were retained in the bill and have now become law. The Social Action Committee continues to focus many of our activities on food insecurity and homelessness.

On **Saturday, June 28**, the Social Action Committee, with support from several congregants, prepared a dinner for the Stepping Stones family homeless shelter, located in Rockville, MD. Stepping Stones is a family shelter that provides temporary housing and post-shelter support for up to 6 families at a time.

COC and The Social Action Committee is participating in the Interfaith Labor Day 5K run/walk on **Monday, September 1**. The registration fee is going to families in need through Gaithersburg HELP. Gaithersburg HELP is a volunteer organization that provides basic-needs assistance to residents in the Gaithersburg area.

B'nai Knit-vahs are back!! We are looking for additional knitters to help grow our contribution. We will be making children's scarves, women's scarves, baby blankets, baby booties, or baby beanie hats. Knitted items will go to Interfaith Works, an organization that among other things, helps provide emergency shelters and supportive help to over 35,000 Montgomery County residents every year. For more information on joining B'nai Knit-vahs please reach out to Nancy Thorner or the rabbi.



Do you have old coats in your closets collecting dust? We will be sponsoring a coat drive this

fall. Information about the collection will be forthcoming in Happenings.

The upcoming meetings of the Social Action Committee will be held on **Wednesday, September 17** at 6:30pm. (Note we are moving up the meeting by a week due to Rosh Hashanah), and **Wednesday, October 22** at 6:30pm. Please see Happenings for the link. We welcome all congregants' input on identifying and planning upcoming social action activities.

## Supporting Refugees

New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) has doubled the number of people we are supporting this year, since help for the families is scarcer than ever due to federal funding cuts that handicap the federally-funded resettlement agencies. Our COC Social Action Committee recently demonstrated our support to NNIA by making a \$100 donation for sponsorship in the August NNIA Volleyball Tournament Fundraiser.

NNIA is always looking for more volunteers. Our most active committees – employment, education, food delivery, and drivers, are always looking for more help. No experience is needed for any of the volunteer work...our committee leads can help you get involved.

Contact us at [NNIAMaryland@gmail.com](mailto:NNIAMaryland@gmail.com), or contact congregant Debbie Eisenberg at [rjeisenberg@comcast.net](mailto:rjeisenberg@comcast.net) for more information, or to volunteer.

All of this work would not be possible without the incredibly generous financial support that we have received from our compassionate donors! While checks can still be mailed to the COC NNIA Refugee Fund, NNIA itself is now a 501(c)(3), and is now accepting online donations at <https://ssl.charityweb.net/nnia-maryland>.

Also, check out the in-kind donations that are needed here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45A4AA2DA5F9C52-inkind1>.

## Food Drive

We have a food drive that happens throughout the year, but as we enter our Jewish season of Thanksgiving (aka Sukkot), we ask that you especially remember to fill our food barrels so that we may help local shelters. You will get an empty bag at Rosh Hashanah services, and we ask that you fill it and drop off food on or before Sukkot. Please also know that we are in a friendly competition with other synagogues so the more you give, the better. We want to win!

## Mah Jongg

Last year we started a monthly Mah Jongg session. It is not required for you to attend every session. We will meet on the third Sunday of the month from 2:00pm-4:00pm.

The next session is scheduled for **Sunday, September 21** at 2:00pm. All levels are encouraged and beginners are welcome. Everyone is learning and we will provide instruction and refreshers as needed. And there is no obligation to come every month ... just come whenever you are able. If you have and are able, please bring a Mah Jongg set and/or square card table.

American Mah Jongg is played according to the rules and standard hands of the National Mah Jongg League. The Official Standard Hands and Rules Cards can be ordered at National Mah Jongg League

(<https://www.nationalmahjonggleague.org/index.aspx>). It is \$14 for a regular card and \$15 for a large-print card. Please join us even if you do not (yet) have a card - we have some extras and can share.

## Brotherhood

The Brotherhood said good-bye in June to our long-time leader, Joe Baum, who moved with his wife Ellyn to Wilmington, North Carolina, in August. Joe has made countless contributions to the Brotherhood and Or Chadash, and we had a good turnout for his send-off. The Brotherhood also met in July and August for their increasingly popular Guys' Night Out dinners, and will meet on **Thursday, September 18** at Ted's Bulletin in Downtown Crown at Rio in Gaithersburg.

We are looking at other additional events as we begin our fall planning. If you have any ideas for events, please send them our way to Jack Goldman at [jackhgoldman24@gmail.com](mailto:jackhgoldman24@gmail.com).

*Jack Goldman, Ralph Locke, and Bruce Thorner*

## New Children's Library in Memory of Vivian Stahl.

Vivian Stahl, who died earlier this summer, was a dedicated member of the Library Committee. In her memory, her family suggested that donations could be made to the Or Chadash Library. From the generous donations, we have been able to create a new library section, specifically for children (and youth) books. The new children's library is in room 107 (on the left as you walk down the hallway). We encourage children, teens, and adults to drop in, browse and read, and check out books. Our adult library collection remains in the room that the COC Library shares with the Little Hands office.



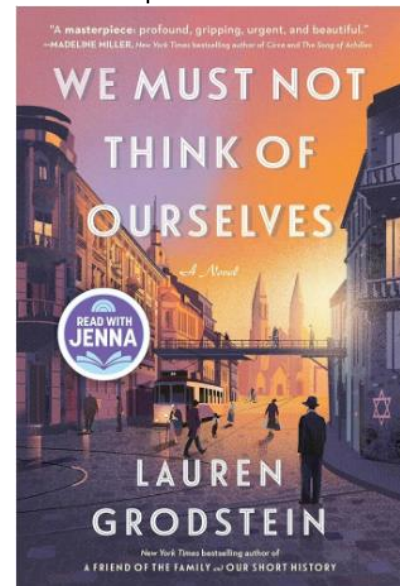
## Congregation Or Chadash Book Club

The next meeting of the Congregation Or Chadash Book Club is **Friday, September 12** at 11:30am at Wegmans Market Cafe, 20600 Seneca Meadows Parkway, Germantown. This is an in-person meeting. Zoom is not available.

The book for September is *We Must Not Think of Ourselves* by Lauren Grodstein. This book is available at the Montgomery County Public Libraries.

This is a coed book club. All are welcome to attend!

Please RSVP by **Tuesday, September 9** to Jane Harris, [clamityjgh@aol.com](mailto:clamityjgh@aol.com).



**Garden of Remembrance**  
GAN ZIKARON MEMORIAL PARK

Peaceful and serene 152 acre nonprofit memorial park with beautiful Community Gardens, Family Gardens, and Green Burial Garden.



*The Garden of Remembrance* is a Certified Level I Arboretum surrounded by a Forest Conservation Preserve in Upper Montgomery County.

———— *Serving the Jewish Community ~ One Family at a Time* ————

For information or to schedule a visit please call (301) 428-3000  
14321 Comus Rd. Clarksburg, MD 20871  
[www.gardenofremembrance.org](http://www.gardenofremembrance.org)



# Oneg Schedule

Oneg assignments have been made for the year. Assignments for September-October-November are listed below. We are appreciative of everyone's willingness to provide hospitality for our community in our sacred home. If you have any issues with your assignment, please email us at orchadashadmin@gmail.com. You will be sent a reminder two weeks beforehand.

Friday, August 29	Luciano Benenati	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Heather and Jason Bergman	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, September 12	Alex and Melissa Lebedinski	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Howard and Melissa Benowitz	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, September 19	Henlan / Rosado	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Terri and Irwin Binder	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, September 26	Arlene Greenspan	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Lisa Cahn	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, October 3	Richard Carr	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Susan and Scott Chidakel	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, October 10	Marci Nadler	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Jon Clark and Maureen Ruskin	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, October 17	Andrew and Suzanne Colby	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Lona Farhi and Ralph Locke	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, October 24	Kirsch Household	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
Saturday, October 25		Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, October 31	Nancy Goldspiel	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Karen Conner	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, November 14	Mayer/Tinkleman Families	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
		Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, November 21	Rob and Deb Eisenberg	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Carol Cooper	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, November 28	Lisa and Daniel Cooperstein	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Michael DeMesquita	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)

## Special Services

### Summary of the Tishrei Cycle

**(Starting with Selichot and talking about Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah)**

**Saturday, September 13** starts the fall holiday season in earnest with Selichot, a holiday that sets the mood for Rosh Hashanah by offering a few of the prayers and melodies and moments of reflection. The service begins at 6:15pm, followed by s'mores (with vegetarian marshmallows). Outdoor service, weather permitting.

**Sunday, September 21** at 10:00am at Garden of Remembrance is a new (for Or Chadash) ritual of honoring our loved ones who have died. The ritual is called Kever Avot, literally meaning grave of the ancestors, and is an opportunity to physically visit the cemetery right before the High Holy Days. While our loved ones may be buried in a variety of cemeteries across the globe, we will have a ritual at the Or Chadash section of Garden of Remembrance as a tangible way to reflect and remember.

**Monday, September 22** marks Erev Rosh Hashanah with services at 7:30pm and

**Tuesday, September 23** marks Rosh Hashanah with our children's service at 9:00am, main services at 10:00am, a Rosh Hashanah luncheon (RSVP required) and Tashlich at 2:30pm.

**Sunday, September 28** at 1:15pm (12:15pm if joining for pizza lunch) will be Reverse Tashlich. Tashlich is a communal ritual to help cast off our "sins" and free ourselves of the past, and an opportunity to come together as a COC community to engage in social action and mindfulness. We will be cleaning up where we go for Tashlich. Please see the additional information on page 16 with details.

Erev Yom Kippur is **Wednesday, October 1** with services at 7:30pm. Yom Kippur day is on **Thursday, October 2**, with our children's service at 9:00am and main services at 10:00am. We will again have our Rise Against Hunger program, packing over 11,000 meals to help feed the hungry. Yom Kippur services will continue in the afternoon at 3:15pm, including time for meditation, yizkor (remembering our loved ones who have died) at approximately 4:45pm, and the concluding service at approximately 6:00pm. We will end our day with a congregational (and guests) break-the-fast. Please RSVP.

**Monday, October 6** is the start of Sukkot and we will have services at 6:15pm followed by an edible sukkah building. How will your sukkah look at the end? Will you use M&M's? Frosting? Graham crackers? Supplies will be provided.

**Monday, October 13** is Simchat Torah and we will mark the holiday again at services at 6:15pm. Services will include Consecration (officially welcoming our newest students into the Religious School) followed by a make-your-own-sundae oneg. We hope that we will get enough adult hands to help us so we can unroll the entire Torah scroll that evening!

I know the fall is a busy season, both in our secular lives and in the Jewish calendar. (Really, I know!) Please mark your calendars and join us at all the events and holidays. While I may not love the months leading up to the holidays (it's a lot to do!), the holidays themselves are all really special. The more people that share in them, the more fun will be had by all!

## Edible Sukkah Building

What will your edible sukkah look like?! Join Rabbi Kobey making your favorite edible sukkah, including graham crackers, frosting, pretzels, and more. Come to Erev Sukkot services on **Monday, October 6** with services beginning at 6:15pm and stay for edible sukkah building. Supplies will be provided. All are welcome. While RSVPs are not required, they will help us plan, so we encourage you to RSVP to Rabbi.

## Make Your Own Sundaes

Join us at Erev Simchat Torah services on **Monday, October 13** at 6:15pm and stay for make-your-own-sundaes.

## Celebrating Simchas (Joyous Moments)

Celebrate your birthday with your Or Chadash family. Be called to the bimah and receive a special blessing and birthday treat to mark the occasion. We have Birthday Blessings every month. For the month of September, come on **Friday, September 12** at 6:15pm and for the month of October, join us on **Friday, October 10** for Sukkot/Shabbat in the sukkah (weather permitting) at 6:15pm.

We also celebrate anniversaries within our Or Chadash family. Again, be invited onto the bimah for a special blessing and treat (a different treat from the Birthday Blessings). This is also monthly with Anniversary Blessings on **Friday, September 26** at 6:15pm and **Friday, October 24**, at 6:15pm.

Do you have other simchas to share? Let Rabbi Kobey know so we can rejoice together.

## Rosh Hashanah Luncheon

See the flyer on page 19.

## Yom Kippur Break-the-fast

Join us after Yom Kippur concluding services for the break-the-fast. It's free, but we need RSVPs! See the flyer on page 21.

## Tashlich and Reverse Tashlich

**Tashlich** is a communal ritual to help cast off our "sins," and free ourselves of the past. We meet on Rosh Hashanah for a shared ritual that also allows for private reflection. Some people use bread. Others use pebbles to gently toss into a stream as part of casting off our wrong-doings.

**Reverse Tashlich** is an opportunity to clean up the earth and take away waste/trash. Please join the global Jewish movement dedicated to repairing and safeguarding the environment. Please help by volunteering for an innovative approach to Jewish environmental stewardship. We will be meeting on Sweepstakes Road where we have gathered previously for Tashlich and pick up trash along the boardwalk and surrounding areas on the Magruder Park Stream Valley Park Trail. We hope to have at least 20 volunteers to help clean up, remove trash and improve the environment along the trail. Gloves and trash bags will be available. This year, on **Sunday, September 28**, we will be offering a pizza lunch after Religious School at 12:15pm (open to the whole congregation), after which we will proceed to Reverse Tashlich at 1:15pm. Please RSVP to the Rabbi by **Wednesday, September 24** if you plan to attend the pizza lunch at Or Chadash at 12:15pm.

## Cemetery Service (Kever Avot)

The ritual Kever Avot, literally meaning grave of the ancestors, and is an opportunity to physically visit the cemetery right before the High Holy Days. While our loved ones may be buried in a variety of cemeteries across the globe, we will have a ritual at the Or Chadash section of Garden of Remembrance as a tangible way to reflect and remember our loved ones. Jewish cemeteries are meant to be a serene and a beautiful physical space where we can visit to recall the memories of our loved ones. We will share in some communal prayers and reflections as well as have space for our own private moments. Join us on **Sunday, September 21 at 10:00am** at Garden of Remembrance, 14321 Comus Rd., Clarksburg, MD, at the Or Chadash section.

## Thank You to Our Donors

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Thank you to our generous donors. Note that this list includes donations that were deposited during late June, July, and early August. Please contact the office for more information.

### General Donations

Jesse Gellert  
 Susan Gellert in memory of Ferrel Furr  
 Doreen Kreger in memory of Betty Cohen  
 Gerald Ray Mollie Lipshy Charitable Trust &  
 Judy Gable  
 Louis & Ting Rosenthal in Memory of Evelyn  
 Rosenthal  
 Marc & Geri Sliffman

### Yahrtzeit Board

Alex & Melissa Lebedinsky in memory of  
 Lynda Keisler  
 Bob Senseney in memory of Vivan Stahl  
 Bob Senseney in memory of Helen Stahl

### NNIA Refugee Support

Social Action Committee, as sponsor of NNIA  
 Volleyball Tournament fundraiser

### Rise Against Hunger

John & Jane Harris

### Library Fund

Diane & Sydney Levitus in memory of Vivian  
 Stahl  
 Deborah Lewis in memory of Vivian Stahl  
 Kathy Spiegel & Richard Fitz in memory of  
 Vivian Stahl  
 Sharon Stahl in memory of Vivian Stahl  
 Nancy & Bruce Thorner in memory of Vivian  
 Stahl's life & spirit & keeping her memory  
 alive

### Rabbi's Discretionary

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Colby in memory of  
 Robin Colby  
 Diane & Neal Levene thank you so much for  
 coming out in the heat for mother's unveiling  
 Alan Tinkleman

## Welcome

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Welcome to our new members Karen Klausmeyer and Jason Klausmeyer

## Mazel Tov

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Congratulations to Michael Isaac Kirsch on becoming a Bar Mitzvah on October 26.

## Condolences

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We extend our deep condolences to Bette Korenge and her family on the death of her child, Brandon Kennard (aka Bex MacDonald Kennard, IV) who lived January 6, 1992 - August 5, 2025.

# Yahrzeits

If you have an upcoming yahrzeit that is not listed, please call the office at 301-482-1025, and we will add any names you wish to remember. Names will be read at Shabbat services during the week of a loved one's death. When two dates are shown, the names will be read during the Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services. Note that the second column lists the observing member.

## Friday, August 29

\*\*Harry Abrahams Father of Michael Abrahams

## Friday, September 5

\*\*Amelia Abrahams Mother of Michael Abrahams  
Jane Nadler Mother of Karl Nadler

## Friday, September 12

Peggy Weber Sedman Fred Petok & Marsha Weber  
\*\*Saul Keisler Father of Melissa Lebedinsky  
Victor Farhi Father of Lona Farhi  
Sheila Geisler Mother of Andrew Colby

## Friday, September 19

Edith Cahn Grandmother of Lisa Cahn  
Mildred Ross Great-aunt of Ellyn Baum  
Benjamin Heritage Brother of Robin Farquhar  
Samuel Weidler Father of Nancy Isaacson

## Friday, September 26

Gertrude Marx Grandmother of Fred Marx  
Isaac Goldsteen Hay Son of Donna Goldsteen & Carl Hay  
Anne Rosenthal Mother of Cindy Bender

## Friday, October 3

Jerome Apirian Father of Susan Drubin  
Ronald Kalman Father of Karen Conner  
Betty Sommer Grandmother of Heather Held  
Faye Tinkleman Mother of Alan Tinkleman  
\*\*Yetta Bell Mother of Heather Bergman  
Bernice Perselay Aunt of Jane Harris  
Leon Segal Grandfather of Jared Bellman  
Lovice Price Mother of Esther Streusand

## Friday, October 10

George Miller Father of Ina Meyer  
Maxine Bellman Grandmother of Jared Bellman

## Friday, October 17

Gabrielle Barkan-Bilow Daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Bilow  
Ike Cohen Grandfather of Heather Held  
Ann Bailen Mother of Rich Bailen  
Howard Seal White Father of Susan White  
Arline Baum Mother of Joe Baum  
\*\*Yta Gellert Grandmother of Jesse Gellert  
Mother-in-law of Susan Gellert  
George Goldenberg Grandfather of Diane Levitus  
Robert Swigart Brother of Thomas Swigart

## Friday, October 24 & Saturday, October 25

Meyer Epstein Father of Alan Epstein  
Lorraine Aronson Mother of Marci Nadler  
Franklin Rosenfeld Father of Karen Rosenfeld-Dean  
David Breuer Brother of Michael Breuer  
Nicholas Stroud Father-in-law of Rebecca Stroud  
Shirley Blum Aunt of Howard Kaufman  
Alvin Charens Uncle of Michelle Bailen  
Stanley Goldberg Father of Julie Swain  
Harriet Leef Aunt of Diane Levitus

## Friday, October 31

Anna Benenati Mother of Luciano Benenati  
Morris Zoldan Grandfather of Howard Lansat  
\*\*Marshall Zeidman Brother of Ricke Zeidman  
Uncle of Philip Zeidman  
Ronald Engel Father of Sheri Dayton  
Edith Slonk Grandmother of Barbara Marx

## Friday, November 7

Arthur Aronson Father of Marci Nadler  
Morris Glosman Grandfather of Alana Hyman  
Joseph Binder Father of Irwin Binder  
Hans Breuer Father of Michael Breuer  
Gertrude Lessans Mother of Ray Lessans  
Else Rosenblum Grandmother of Ziona Mossman Swigart

\*\*Yahrtzeit plaque





# Rosh Hashanah Luncheon

Join us on Rosh Hashanah Day --- **Tuesday, September 23**

following morning services for a **Chinese food lunch**

There will be both chicken options and vegetarian options along with appetizers, veggies, lo mein, rice, drinks and desserts.

**Member** pricing Adults: \$18.00 a person

Children (ages 5-12): \$9.00 a person

Children (ages 4 and younger): Free

**Non-member** pricing Adults: \$25.00 a person

Children (ages 5-12): \$12.50 a person

Children (ages 4 and younger): Free

**RSVP by September 12**



**RH luncheon RSVP by September 12**

*Return to: COC, 24800 Kings Valley Rd., Damascus, MD 20872*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # Veggie meals: \_\_\_\_\_

# Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

# Children (ages 5-12): \_\_\_\_\_

# Children (ages 0-4): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Price: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*If you would like to attend, but are in financial hardship, please reach out to Rabbi Kobey.  
All information will be kept strictly confidential.*



24800 Kings Valley Road  
 Damascus, Maryland 20872  
 Rabbi Alison Kobey  
 (301) 482-1025 F(301) 482-1027

## Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Service Book of Remembrance

Remember your loved ones in our annual *Yizkor Book*. You are welcome to submit names of both Jewish and non-Jewish loved ones. At this time of year, we are at a unique crossroads: we are reflecting upon the year past while looking forward to the New Year. By memorializing the names of loved ones who are in your heart in this year's Yizkor Memorial Service Book of Remembrance, you will not only honor their memories at this special time, but through this act of kindness, you will also fulfill our highest form of tzedakah (charity). The Book of Remembrance will be distributed at the Yizkor Service.

**If a loved one has a yahrtzeit plaque on our Memorial Wall in the sanctuary, the name is automatically included in the Yizkor book.**

ALL FORMS AND CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE TEMPLE OFFICE:

Payable to: Congregation Or Chadash

**MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 19 (FIRM DEADLINE)**

Please list (print clearly) all names you wish to include in this year's *Book of Remembrance*. If needed, please add in parentheses how to pronounce a name. Additionally, if you would like photos of your loved ones as part of the slides, please e-mail them to Rabbi Kobey no later than September 19<sup>th</sup> (but earlier is better!) If needed, attach a separate page with additional names. If you have given Rabbi photos in the past and your list has not changed, just e-mail Rabbi to let her know that it is the same.

Please use same list as last year or please write in names (check here if we should use last year's list) \_\_\_\_\_

In Loving Memory of:

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 14. _____ |

Remembered by: \_\_\_\_\_ (print clearly)

Contact number, and e-mail to clarify information if needed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Member Households: \$18.00 donation

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member Households: \$36.00 donation

Additional donations kindly appreciated.

Please include a check for the appropriate amount.

**Amount Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

# Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast



Join us at the end of Yom Kippur for Break-the-Fast --- **Thursday, October 2**

We will provide bagels, schmear, fish, and more

*We ask that, if possible, you help support break-the-fast by providing dairy/vegetarian food. However, even if you are unable to provide anything, you are welcome (and encouraged) to join us.*

**Households A-L to bring dairy or vegetarian sides/salads**

**Households M-Z to bring desserts**

(If you have multiple last names in your household, the choice is yours!)

**All are welcome.**

**YK Break-the-Fast**

**Help us plan! RSVPs are not required, but encouraged by September 24**

*Include your name and number of attendees to: orchadashadmin@gmail.com*



## Congregation Or Chadash

### Tree of Life

Honor simchas (happy life events) with  
a leaf on Congregation Or Chadash's  
Tree of Life.

Two leaf sizes are available as well as a few special  
Doves.

To order, please fill out the form below and return to the temple office.

To order remembrance plaques for the Yahrzeit Board, Please use the Yahrzeit Plaques Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Small Leaf - Suggested Donation \$180 - Up to four lines, 25 characters per line.

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Large Leaf - Suggested Donation \$360 - Five lines, 30 characters per line.

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Dove - Suggested Donation \$1000 - Call the office for more details

Congregation Or Chadash  
24800 Kings Valley Rd., Damascus, MD 20872

301-482-1025 (o)  
301-482-1027 (f)



# Yahrzeit Plaque Order Form

Person being remembered (check fields desired):

☒ English Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ben/bat \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent 1 Parent 2

☒ Secular Calendar Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate time of death: \_\_\_\_\_ (pre or post sundown)

☐ Hebrew Calendar Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to use the Hebrew date to be included, but don't know it, check the box and we will look up the date for you based on the secular date.

Member Placing the order:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City-State-Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Information

The cost is \$180 per plaque. If transferring a plaque from another congregation, the cost is \$90 per plaque. Each plaque can remember only one person. Payment must accompany the order form.

☐ Check or cash (enclosed)

If you wish to order multiple plaques, please include information for additional remembered people on another sheet of paper.

**Return forms to the Temple office at  
24800 Kings Valley Rd., Damascus, MD 20872 or  
email to [orchadashadmin@gmail.com](mailto:orchadashadmin@gmail.com).**

