

Shabbat Shalom

Vayeilech/Shabbat Shuva

September 27 | 5 Tishrei 5786

Havdalah 7:42pm

בית יעקב
BETH JACOB
CONGREGATION

Welcome to Beth Jacob Congregation, a Jewish community that comes together to nurture relationships with God and each other. We are a Conservative synagogue that values Torah (study), Avodah (reverential service) and Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving-kindness). We believe every person has an equal opportunity to be part of our community regardless of age, race, ability, special needs, financial status, sexual orientation or gender identity. We're glad you've joined us this Shabbat!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Shabbat services this week.

Gabbaim:

Neal Gale, Barb Curchack,
Stuart Kaufman

D'var Torah:

Rebecca Noecker

Greeters & Security:

Laurie Radovsky, Mindy Ratner, Shiloh
Henderson, Mark Usem, Matt Leichter

Mashgiach: Mira Miller

Kitchen Crew:

Katherine Tynan, Anne Froelich, Nicole Guthrie

Torah Reading

First / Rishon Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:1-31:3	p. 1173	Brad Elkin
Second / Sheni Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:4-31:6	p. 1173	Brad Elkin
Third / Shelishi Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:7-31:9	p. 1174	Brad Elkin
Fourth / Revi'i Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:10-31:13	p. 1174	Razele Hofrichter
Fifth / Chamishi Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:14-31:19	p. 1175	Giulia Girgenti
Sixth / Shishi Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:20-31:24	p. 1177	Giulia Girgenti
Seventh / Shevi'i Aliyah	Deuteronomy 31:25-31:30	p. 1178	Sara Lynn Newberger
Maftir	Deuteronomy 31:28-31:30	p. 1178	Razele Hofrichter
Haftarah	Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20	p. 1235	Hannah Hofrichter

Senior Rabbi:

Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm
RabbiTamar@Beth-Jacob.org

Executive Director:

Sonya Rapport
Sonya@Beth-Jacob.org

Director of Congregational Programming:

Frances Fischer
Frances@Beth-Jacob.org

Interim Limudim Coordinator and Rabbinic Intern

Rimon Reches
Rimon@Beth-Jacob.org

Youth and Education Coordinator:

Marisa Goffman
Youth@Beth-Jacob.org

Co-Presidents:

Leonard Oppenheimer & Tessa Silver
President@Beth-Jacob.org

Rabbi Emeritus:

Rabbi Morris Allen

Our services depend on the participation of our community members. We welcome diverse voices and talents to lead our community in prayer and to read Torah.

Please use this QR code, or sign up at [Beth-Jacob.org/DavenOrTorah](https://beth-jacob.org/DavenOrTorah).



Contributions to this week's kiddush is made in honor of all of our volunteer mashgichim and kitchen crews who make our kiddushes so wonderful!

As of printing, donors include: Geoff Marshall & Laurie Radovsky, Eric & Jo Pasternack, Frances & Keven Fischer, Beth Pearlman, and Sheldon Berkovitz (in honor of Carolyn Levy).

To make a donation, go to [Beth-Jacob.org/Kiddush](https://beth-jacob.org/Kiddush)

Moses's Journey, and Ours

Shuly Rubin Schwartz

Whenever I read the opening verse of this week's parashah, I recall the other parashah that opens with the same verb: לך-לך ("Go forth"). Told to go, Abram heeded God's call, uprooting his life and journeying—both physically and emotionally—first to Haran and then to the land of Israel. And now, Parashat Vayeilekh attributes that very same action to Moses, as he nears the end of his life. What can we learn from the parallel acts of journeying that these two great leaders of our people undertook?

Abraham's "לך-לך" marks the beginning of his journey. Moses's act of "וילך" marked some of the final footsteps of his life. It also has no complement—where did Moses go? The next phrase does not tell us where he went; it tells us what he said:

וילך משה וידבר את־הדברים האלה אל־כל־ישראל
"Moses went and spoke these things to all Israel."

Why then does the parashah begin with the verb of movement? At this moment, as B'nei Yisrael prepares for their long-awaited entrance into the Promised Land, Moses's journey is marked by a lack of physical movement. He has known for some time that he will not enter the land; he now must prepare himself to divulge this crucial information to his people. He surely anticipates that they will be frightened, angry, and dejected and that they could question whether they are up to this next challenge without him. Moses must undergo an emotional journey, moving past lingering feelings of sadness or bitterness to effect a smooth transition of power and give the people the strength and confidence to continue their journey. Thus, the next verb after "went" is "spoke," as Moses shares all of this with the people.

As we know, some of the most consequential journeys we take in life are invisible to the naked eye. This is, after all, our task during the month of Elul and the Yamim Noraim: to do the internal work to manage sadness, disappointment, frustration, and anger, and to reach out to those in our lives with a generous spirit and an eye toward the future.

Shadal (Samuel David Luzzatto, 1800–1865, Italy) makes explicit the connection between the parashah and the Days of Awe, by reminding us that the same verb, לך (go), is also used in reference to the shofar that accompanied the Revelation at Sinai:

ויהי קול השופר הולך וחזק
"The blare of the horn grew louder and louder" (Exod. 19:19).

Several commentators note how this image of increasing, even swelling, sound is unusual, since generally the sound of an instrument grows fainter over time as human breath grows thinner.

Torah Commentary

CONT.

This extraordinary image of the shofar blast growing in impact is mirrored by the force of Moses's message. Rather than dwelling on his own disappointment and brooding over his impending death, Moses addresses the people's anxiety head on. He publicly appoints his successor, Joshua, reassuring the people that he had been chosen by God. Moses then offers a rousing charge to both the people and Joshua to be strong and resolute. His words instill in Joshua and the people of Israel the courage and stamina to continue the journey without him. The verb **לָךְ** makes an additional appearance here:

When we hear the shofar during these Days of Awe, we hope that it will awaken us, just as Moses awakened, according to Seforno, to do precisely the kind of journeying that Moses models—to consider our own paths, how we have fallen short, and how we might still do better for those we love and those in our charge.

ה' הוא ההלך לפניך הוא יהיה עמך לא ירפך ולא יעזבך לא תירא ולא תחת

"And God, Godself, will go before you. God will be with you;

God will not fail you or forsake you. Fear not and be not dismayed! (Deut. 31:8)

In this way Moses's—and Abraham's—legacies continue to endure through the strength of each generation of Jewish journeyers. The shofar blast is the call to Abraham to set us on our journey; it's also the reminder from Moses that we have the strength and knowledge within us to continue to progress in our life's journey. Our task is not only to listen to the shofar, but to become the shofar—growing stronger in our conviction, and more resolute in our work of building and rebuilding a better world. When we do that, God will go with us.

Inclusivity and Accessibility During Services

We recognize the variety of needs within our community and strive to provide access to all through physical, emotional, and/or sensory accommodations. The majority of our prayers and scripture readings are conducted in Hebrew, so we invite those who do not read Hebrew to use a copy of the transliterated prayerbook (siddur) found on the table near the entrance to the sanctuary. We have large print books, braille prayerbooks, and listening devices available on the bookshelf in the lobby. There is also a sensory-friendly room just off the sanctuary with a speaker and window from which services can be experienced. Please ask the greeter near the sanctuary door if you need help locating any of these. Please reach out to our office if there are needs that aren't being met.

Children are Welcome in our Sanctuary!



We encourage children's participation in services and love having them in our sanctuary. Older children are encouraged to lead parts of the service and/or read Torah once able to do so. Younger children are invited to carry crowns during the Torah service and are also invited to the bimah for Adon Olam each week. At the end of services they can visit the rabbi's magic tallis bag to receive a lollipop or mini bubbles. Parents, please let Rabbi Tamar know if you do not want your child to receive one of these items.



TODAY at Beth Jacob



Limudim: Our Learning Community

We begin with breakfast at 9:00am. We are so excited to see our building full of families engaged in fun and meaningful Jewish learning!

Yahrzeit List for Week Beginning September 27, 2025 / 5 Tishrei

The seventh aliyah is reserved for those observing yahrzeits during the coming week. If you are observing a yahrzeit this week, please come forward at the seventh aliyah and give your full Hebrew name to the gabbai who will call you to the Torah. Your full Hebrew name includes your name and then ben/bat/mibeit and your parents' names or Avraham and Sarah. Please say your name loudly and clearly, so that the gabbai can hear it.

Masks are required on the bimah during the Torah service. If you do not have one, please get one from the basket by the greeter and put it on prior to coming up for an aliyah.

Sept. 27 / 5 Tishrei

Irwin Baker
Feige Rivkah Bender
Renee Berkowitz
Shirley Cohen
Jinny Forbush
Cheryl Greene
Rebecca Levine
Fay Lieberman
Elaine Zack
Morris Oglansky
Hanna Kaufmann

Sept. 28 / 6 Tishrei

S. Devitt
Libby Kardonsky
Solomon Katzman
Sarah Rabinovitz
David Samuelson
Dora Zaidenweber
Max Bix
Mary Jagoda
Amelia Gueron

Sept. 29 / 7 Tishrei

Abraham Benjamin
Chinitz
Abe Cohen
George Kaplan
Terry Meredith
Abraham Benjamin Chinitz
Abe Cohen
George Kaplan
Terry Meredith
Aaron Niedorf
Ruben Stein
Ruben Stein
Ruth Cukier
Selma Makiesky

Sept. 30 / 8 Tishrei

Joseph Dvorkin
Cheryl P. Kamm
Golda Karasakov
June Larkin
Isaac Lazarus
Loraine Lindenbaum
Bella Potamkin
Miriam Goldhirsh Shaten
Ida Smordin
Molly Longman
Edith Gleeman

Oct. 1 / 9 Tishrei

Dennis Barouch
Mammie Ferdman
Eva Grushka
Gersh Khitrik
Bertha Lipshultz
Joseph Paper
Lillian Rosenzweig
Molly Schulman
Anna Siegel
Joseph Wishnow
Betty Bix

October 2 / 10 Tishrei

Esther Belinsky
Sanders Bender
Miriam Bogen
Esther Chedeck
Clara Diamond
Morris Diamond
Lena Diamond
Koppel Gershcov
Betty Kroll
Goldie Loffman
Jacob Wolf Lubling
Ruth Pasternack
Rachel Rosenzweig
Aaron Rosenzweig
Sylvia Shure

October 2 / 10 Tishrei (cont'd)

Dr. Francis E. Siegfried
Adele Slutzky
Yisroel Weisberg
Feiga Zlotnick
Morris Grodin
Morris Grodin
Ralph Newberger

October 3 / 11 Tishrei

Meyer Applebaum
Mary Cronmiller
Israel Friedman
Herman Gordon
Rafael Lehmann
Lena Lohmanchinsky
Harriet Mohen
Shprinia Pusin
Isadore Falk



