

Shabbat Shalom

Korach

June 20, 2026 | 5 Tammuz 5786

Havdalah 9:44pm

Senior Rabbi:

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

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Sonya@Beth-Jacob.org

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Frances@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

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!

Davenners:

Giulia Girgenti

D'var Torah

Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm

Gabbaim:

Laura Honan
Stuart Kaufman

Mashgiach: Mark Usem

Kitchen Crew:

Rabbi Barbara Block,
Robert & Rayna Bullock,
Ronald & May Scott,
Martha & Geoffrey Black

Greeters & Security:

Steve Ukes
Eli Gottfried
Rose Fink
David Alperin
Lisa Hoff



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

Torah Reading

First / Rishon Aliyah	Numbers 16:1-16:13	p. 860	Giulia Girgenti
Second / Sheni Aliyah	Numbers 16:14-16:19	p. 862	Barb Curchack
Third / Shelishi Aliyah	Numbers 16:20-17:8	p. 863	Noam Sienna
Fourth / Revi'i Aliyah	Numbers 17:9-17:15	p. 867	Stuart Kaufman
Fifth / Chamishi Aliyah	Numbers 17:16-17:24	p. 868	Elaine DuFresne
Sixth / Shishi Aliyah	Numbers 17:25-18:20	p. 869	Louis Hunter
Seventh / Shevi'i Aliyah	Numbers 18:21-18:32	p. 873	Sara Lynn Newberger
Maftir	Numbers 18:30-18:32	p. 874	Sara Lynn Newberger
Haftarah	I Samuel 11:14-12:22	p. 877	Jonathan Ehrlich

This week's kiddush is unsponsored and supported by donations made to the Kiddush Fund.

Thank you to everyone that has donated to the fund to make this kiddush possible.

If you would like to help offset costs of kiddush, please consider making a donation to the Kiddush Fund to allow Beth Jacob's kiddush tradition to continue.

Between Chaos and Order

The biblical narrative of Korach's rebellion offers a deep lesson about how to emerge from challenging times.

By Rabbi Charlie Schwartz

Rabbi Charlie Schwartz is the director of Lehrhaus: A Jewish Tavern and House of Learning in Somerville, Massachusetts. He is also the director and co-founder of Not-a-Box Media Lab, a leader in the field of Jewish educational technology. Previously, he was the senior director of Jewish Education for Hillel.

Parashat Korach is a chaotic mess. Within the 95 verses of this Torah portion are multiple active rebellions accompanied by multiple acts of divine punishment, all intertwined in a confusing and complicated narrative. But within this jumble lies a deep lesson about how to bring order to chaos and emerge from challenging times.

At the heart of this portion are attempts by multiple members of the Israelite community to gain power. First, the eponymous Korach and his followers seek religious and communal power, addressing Aaron and Moses saying: “You have gone too far! For all the community are holy, all of them, and the LORD is in their midst. Why then do you raise yourselves above the LORD’s congregation?” Later, two other community members, Datan and Aviram, address their complaint to Moses specifically, seeming to suggest their insurrection was only against the power he personally wielded.

Rather than a straightforward story, the narrative of these critiques keeps changing. Sometimes Datan and Aviram are mentioned as being with Korach, sometimes they appear separately. Key details, such as whether Korach was consumed by divine fire or swallowed alive by the earth, are the subject of later debate. The narrative confusion helps to align the reader to the disorientation Moses must have felt when his leadership was attacked by multiple detractors. It also makes the chaos of the wandering in the desert vivid to modern readers.

At the climax of the rebellion, Korach and his followers are instructed to offer incense in their fire pans alongside Aaron, a test to see whom God favors. When the rebels offer their incense, they are consumed as punishment by a divine fire. In the aftermath of this, God makes what appears to be an odd demand, instructing the Israelites to make the pans into sheets as plating for the altar. Commentators have struggled to understand how the pans could have become consecrated and used to beautify the altar after they had been used in an attempt to usurp power from Moses and Aaron.

Nechama Leibowitz, drawing on the medieval commentator Ramban, writes in response to this difficulty, “The holiness of the vessels did not originate in the actions of those who sinned, but God had them sanctified to serve as a lesson to the people.” That is, it was God — not Korach and his followers — who transformed the fire pans into vessels suitable for divine service. The plating of the altar with the pans then represents the return of ritual order, and the ending of the chaos sown by Korach and his supporters.

It is striking to consider that physical objects once used to sow chaos and dissent can be elevated into objects of beauty and holiness. Even more striking is that the pans forever changed the appearance of the altar. As God commanded, no Israelite could again look at the altar again without being reminded of Korach and his fate.

What the transformation of the fire pans tells us is that order can always be restored from chaos, but it will require transformation. And like the altar, that restored order will look very different than what came before.

Yahrzeit List for Week Beginning June 20, 2026 / 5 Tammuz 5786

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.

June 20/5 Tammuz

Sonyamae Alpert
Marjorie Collins
Jacob Difranco
Minnie Green
Hannah Keller
Nathan Mesnik
Michael Scott Rosenberg
Ann Seecof
Ruth Slavin
Eliyahu Soumekh
Irving Steinberg
Samuel R. Schmuckler

June 21/6 Tammuz

Celia Belinsky
Linda Carolyn
Mayer Yale Chemino
Bessie Cohen
Isadore Godes
Benjamin Miller
Meyer Ostfield
Sam Sevak
Louis Blender
Samuel Gerbe

June 22/7 Tammuz

Evelyn Alperin
Lee Goldberg
Robert Samuel Magill
Rose Salute
Alvin Slavin
Samuel L. Rubin

June 23/8 Tammuz

Sarah Basyah Katz
Dora Katz
Jean Carol Levy
Linnea Rovainen
Nathan Silberstein
Dora Wishnow
Marshall Kaufman
Louis Lazarus

June 24/9 Tammuz

Allen Feldman
Rev. Hyman D. Goldberg
Eileen Lewis
Rosemary Olson
Julius Pertzik
Edmond Rubin
Dorothy Sains
Kevin Scudder
Molly M. Friedman

June 25/10 Tammuz

Toivi Gelman
Golda Harris
Esther Katzman
Robert Klausner

June 25/10 Tammuz

(cont'd)
Benjamin R. Levitan
Carol Marshall
Louis Milgrom
Yentel - Miriam -
Sarah - Shaiya Naditch
Hyman Rabinovitz
Paula Schulman
Emile Edmond Chaouat
Bea Weinberg
Claire "Kayla" Fink

June 26/11 Tammuz

Judith Miller
Eli Ratner
Zelda Ravitsky
Luba Rosenblatt
Irving Singer
Donald Williams
Sucher Majer



Upcoming at Beth Jacob - June 13, 2026

Pre-Shul Playgroup—Every Friday at 10:30 am

Join our open play time for young children and their caregivers. Meet in the nursery every Friday morning from 10:30am until naptime.



ADULT EDUCATION:

The Shabbat Effect with Rabbi Tamar

Tuesdays at 11:00am

Based on Alan Moranis's book, The Shabbat Effect.

Morning Mishnah, with Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm

Wednesdays at around 8:00 am (after minyan)

in the Saide Chapel and online

Join on Zoom at [Beth-Jacob.org/Minyan](https://beth-jacob.org/Minyan)

Tanach, with David Rischall

Sundays 7:30-8:30 on Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/79546614386>

Questions? Call David at 651-230-3911.

Limudim Adult Ed

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 Register at [Beth-Jacob.org/LimudimAdultEd](https://beth-jacob.org/LimudimAdultEd)

For the Jew in the Pew is on Summer Hiatus

Stand Up, Sit Down, What Does it All Mean?

2nd & 4th Saturdays at 9:15am

Guest Lecturers will guide us through the Shabbat Morning Service, answering all those questions you've wondered about.

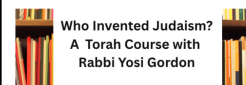
Who Invented Judaism? An adult Torah Course with Rabbi Yosi Gordon

The Yosi's School online, interactive course will meet on Zoom,



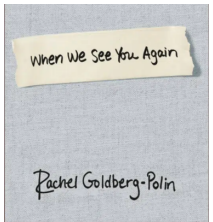




Series One: Mondays, 7:00-8:15, June 1-July 6

Series Two: Mondays, 7:00-8:15, July 13-August 17

To enroll, email yosis.school@gmail.com: Sign me up for Series One, Series Two, both!



Upcoming at Beth Jacob - June. 13, 2026

<p>Pride Shabbat June 27</p> <p>Help celebrate Pride Month with a Pride Kiddush (complete with Rainbow Cupcakes). Beth-Jacob.org/Kiddush</p>	 A heart shape filled with horizontal brushstrokes in the colors of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple.
<p>Family Fun Day June 28 9-11am at the Wabun Picnic Area, Minehaha Regional Park</p> <p>Fun times for families between a playground, wading pool, and some outdoor activities. Questions: Rachel.Sandler@gmail.com</p>	 A colorful illustration of a family (two adults and two children) enjoying a picnic area. There is a playground with a slide and a wading pool in the background.
<p>Beth Jacob Reads a Book Shabbat, July 11, after kiddush</p> <p>Rabbi Tamar Magill-Grimm will lead a discussion of <i>When We See You Again</i>, by Rachel Goldberg-Polin</p>	 The cover of the book 'When We See You Again' by Rachel Goldberg-Polin. It features a light blue background with a small white tag that says 'When We See You Again' and the author's name 'Rachel Goldberg-Polin' at the bottom.
<p>Monarca Democracy Defense Training Tuesday July 14, 6:30-8:30pm</p> <p>This with Unidos, is designed to ensure every citizen can cast their ballot safely and that every person has a voice in our country's future.</p>	 A stylized logo of a monarch butterfly with orange and black wings.
<p>Take Me Out to the Ball Game Sunday July 26, 2:07pm</p> <p>Join Beth Jacob at the special group rate of \$25 per ticket. Beth-Jacob.org/Baseball</p>	 The logo for the St. Paul Saints baseball team, featuring the word 'Saints' in a blue script font with 'ST PAUL' above and 'BASEBALL' below in a blue oval.
<p>Exciting Israel Trip Opportunity October 14–22, 2026, Applications due by June 30</p> <p>The St. Paul Jewish Federation is excited to offer one week in Israel this October for just \$975 per person through a special partnership with Birthright Israel and the Jewish Agency for Israel.</p> <p>Together, we will experience Jerusalem, visit communities impacted by October 7, and participate in meaningful agricultural volunteering in northern Israel within the Federation's partnership region near the Sea of Galilee.</p>	 A square QR code with a white background and a black border, set against a green background.
<p>Shabbatluck - Outdoors! Friday, July 3</p> <p>Join us at 6:00 pm for Kabbalat Shabbat and stay for a pot-luck Shabbat dinner. RSVP: Beth-Jacob.org/Shabbatluck</p>	 The logo for 'Shabbatluck', featuring the word 'Shabbatluck' in a green, stylized font above an illustration of a picnic basket, a bottle of wine, and a plate of food.