

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION 12437 Ladue Rd, St Louis MO 63141 <u>www.traditional-congregation.org</u> 314-576-5230 traditionalcong@gmail.com Affiliated with the Union for Traditional Judaism Rabbi Seth D Gordon



February 28 - March 1, 2025

א אדר תשפ"ה

Candle Lighting 5:35 PM

Second Day **Rosh Chodesh Adar Shabbat Shekalim**

Parashat Terumah - תרומה Exodus 25:1 - 27:19 Stone – p 444 Hertz – p 326 Etz Hayim – p 485

7th Aliyah (Rosh Chodesh) Numbers 28:9-15 Stone – p 890 Hertz – p 695 Etz Hayim - p 930

Special *Maftir – Sh'kalim* שקלים – Exodus 30:11-16 Stone – p 484 Hertz – p 352 Etz Hayim – p 523

Haftarah – Second Kings 12:1-17 מלכים ב יב:יז Stone – p 1213 Hertz – p 993 Etz Hayim – p 1277

Kiddush following services is sponsored by the congregation

Shabbat ends 6:35 PM

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

Rabbi Seth D Gordon - Rabbi.Gordon@yahoo.com Marian S. Gordon, Executive Director - traditionalcong@gmail.com

WEEKDAY AND SHABBAT SERVICES

Sunday - 8:30 AM Tuesday - 6:30 PM **Shabbat** - 9:30 AM

Board of Directors:

Governance Committee: Florence Schachter, Chair Marty Levy, Vice-Chair Ken Bohm, Ellis Frohman, Ron Green, Dina Rinder

Ellis Frohman, Financial Vice President Mark Weinstein, Ritual Vice President Marty Levy/Mindy Strauss, Education Co-Vice Presidents Dina Rinder, Membership Vice President Steven Puro, Administration Vice President Chris Brown/Justin Zeid, Building & Grounds Co-Vice Presidents Ron Green, Fundraising Vice President Barbara Levin, Treasurer Mimi Levy, Secretary

Past Presidents: Kenneth H. Bohm, Phil Brick

Members at Large: Maureen Brodsky Stanley Estrin Bill Gold Gary Golden Stan Greenberg Jack Heller Sid Levin Ari Levy Carol Max Florence Schachter

We welcome new members! If you or someone you know would like to receive membership information, please contact our office at 314-576-5230 or traditionalcong@gmail.com

On This Week's Torah Portion - Terumah

The Torah's explanation of the design and building of the Mishkan (the portable Temple) is the longer passage in the whole book of Shemot.) It begins this week in Terumah and continues all the way through to the end of Shemot (only taking a short break to tell the story of the Golden Calf).

The Israelites used their own money to build the Mishkan, and it became the central place to worship God and a way to see and feel God's presence among the people. The Torah's description of the building of the Mishkan is long and detailed to teach us how important it was for the Israelites to put all their effort and care into building it.

The sections of the Mishkan discussed in this week's parsha include the ark for the tablets of stone, the ark's cover, the table for the showbread, the Menorah, the covers and walls of the whole Mishkan, the partition, and the altar.

Our parsha begins with these words: The Lord spoke to Moshe, saying, "Tell the Israelites to take an offering for Me; take My offering from all whose heart moves them to give." (Shemot 25:1-2) This instruction marks a turning point in the relationship between the Israelites and God. The first new concept introduced here is the Mishkan (the travelling home for the Divine Presence as the people journeyed through the wilderness). But more than that, we are also introduced to a new value, summed up in the word that gives our parsha its name, Terumah, meaning, a gift, a contribution, an offering. The parsha is telling us something very important. The act of giving gives us dignity. Receiving does not.

Until that moment, the Israelites had been receivers. Virtually everything they had experienced had been given to them by God. He had freed them from slavery, taken them out from Egypt, led them through the desert, and created a path for them through the sea. When they were hungry, He gave them food. When they were thirsty, He gave them water. Apart from the battle against the Amalekites (where they themselves fought bravely), they had done almost nothing for themselves.

The Israelites had become dependent, expectant, irresponsible and immature. The Torah records their repeated complaints. Reading them, we feel that they were an ungrateful, difficult, sulky people.

But being dependent on God up until this point was necessary. They couldn't have crossed the sea by themselves. They couldn't have found food or water in the wilderness. Complaining produced results, and so an unhealthy pattern developed. The people complained to Moshe. Moshe turned to God. God performed a miracle. The result was that, from the people's perspective, complaining worked. Now, however, it was time for a change. God was giving them something else entirely. It had nothing to do with their physical needs and everything to do with psychological, moral and spiritual needs. God gave them the opportunity to be givers.

YOU ARE INVITED!

flat Din

with JFed's YPD Young Professionals Division

Fri, March 21, 2025Shabbat services6:00 PM sharpfollowed by dinner

at Traditional Congregation

\$25.00/person \$15/child age 9 and under Vegetarian option available



Register at <u>https://bit.ly/43emQeH</u> or scan the QR code

Bring your family and friends and help us show the young pros what Traditional is all about!





Traditional Congregation Adult Education Committee presents:

IT AIN'T Chopped liver!!

Join us on **Sunday, March 9 at 10:00 AM** for bagels, cream cheese, etc., followed by a presentation regarding state of the art knowledge of Liver Diseases with **Dr. Mauricio Lisker**, Director of Hepatology at

John Cochran VA Medical Center.



LEARN ABOUT:

Understanding Viral Hepatitis

Fatty Liver Disease: Conundrum between body weight and alcohol abuse

Impact of End-Stage Liver disease

Growing out of Control: Liver Cancer

Liver Transplantation: a realistic option

No charge; share-the-fare donations appreciated Please RSVP to Marian by 3/5: 314-576-5230 or traditionalcong@gmail.com

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2025 Florence Gaponoff Mother's Day Gift Bag Project

The greatest need is monetary donations to purchase items. - To donate, send check to Traditional Congregation or go to: <u>https://www.traditional-congregation.org/donate</u> - Donate travel-size shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap/body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbush, dental floss. - Women's necklaces and bracelets in good, wearable condition. *NO earrings, rings, watches, tarnished or broken jewelry, please.* - To donate the above items, bring to Traditional and place in the wicker bin near the office door. - Assembly date will be provided soon.

- THANK YOU!



PRAYER

Source of all goodness, as we join in *Shabbat* worship, We ask Your blessings.

Grant us health enough to perform our daily tasks, Wealth enough to answer our needs, Compassion enough to feel the needs of others.

Give us strength enough to recognize our faults, Wisdom enough to understand Your laws, Loyalty enough to discharge our duties.

Give us courage enough to be true to the best within us, Charity enough to see the best in others.

Give us patience enough not to become discouraged, Hope enough to overcome all fears for the future,

And faith enough to feel Your presence.

Unknown

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

People who live well are experts at giving. They give their money; they give their time. They share their wisdom and their skills. They quickly say yes when asked to help. For them ... to give is to love and to love is to live. It's a formula for a successful life.

Steve Goodier