



The Maggid

C O N G R E G A T I O N E T Z C H A I M

P O B O X 3752 MERCED CA 95344

N O V E M B E R 2024

President's Notes

Hi, all.

More than a year has now passed since the horrific attacks of Oct. 7, 2023, and we are still in a holding pattern in our hearts, awaiting the return of the last hostages even as we continue with our everyday lives here in the Central Valley. It seems a little strange to continue as we always have here while more attacks compound the situation in and around Israel. One way to help those in Israel is to donate to an organization like American Friends of Magen David Odom (afmda.org), which supports people in medical emergencies and disasters; to help both Israeli and Palestinian civilians, you can support the International Committee of the Red Cross (icrc.org), which works in coordination with the Palestine Red Crescent Society and Magen David Odom.

But since our lives have not come to a standstill, it behooves me to inform you of upcoming events and hope that we can uplift each other with the great sense of community that this congregation has. The High Holy Days have passed (Thank you, Rabbi Lotker!); we've celebrated the "rewinding" of the Torah to the beginning, and we look ahead to November, returning at last to our traditional schedule of services on the first and third Friday of the month.

You know what to expect: Formal services on Friday, November 1, at 7pm, and then a potluck followed by lay-led services on Friday, November 15th, starting at 6:30pm. It looks to be a thankfully slow month sandwiched between two busy ones. However, sandwiched between the two November services is one social event I have emailed you about: an opportunity to join Congregation Beth Shalom of Modesto and Temple Israel of Stockton at 2pm on Sunday, November 3rd, for a screening of the Jewish-themed comedy/drama *Between the Temples* at the State Theatre in Modesto. The small, hosted reception that follows will give us an opportunity to mingle with the members of our Conservative and Reform sister congregations to the north. Buy your ticket through the link in the email or at <https://thestate.org/> and email me about carpooling if you need or can provide a ride.

On another note, those who came to Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur Services probably noticed that that we now have two wonderful Torahs in the ark thanks to the donated one from Baltimore Hebrew Congregation. The board is looking into two new mantles (Torah covers) – regular and white for the holidays – and a yad (pointer), made possible by some member donations for this and also funding we have saved up. Be on the lookout for a Google form in a month or two, asking for your feedback on the board's selections/options.

B'shalom,
Belinda

Upcoming Events

**11/1 7:00 pm Friday
Night Services at our
Chavurah House**

**11/15 Friday Night
6:30 pm Potluck
7:30 pm Lay Led
Services at our
Chavurah House**

**12/6 7:00 pm Friday
Night Services at our
Chavurah House**

**12/20 Friday Night
6:30 pm Potluck
7:30 pm Lay Led
Services at our
Chavurah House**

**12/28 Save the Date!
Chanukah Party at
Sheryl Wight's**

**11/5 6:15 pm Board
Meeting at Carol
Friedman's home**

Welcome to our Puzzle Page!

CHESHVAN WORD SEARCH

M C O N M E L O R D T H O N P
A S D O T A I N E R R A B R G
H A O N N O A I I X E P A O N
S I O T O E D L A N A Y I R I
S A L I S H A H D R A L E Y T
H U F T A E O B N R E X T Z A
N R N R E A E L S E E T S E C
E G A P S S E E I N H Q N L D
I S Q H Y X G S T D L O A I L
N R A O N O A S I Y A I V U W
G O X M I R N I E E E Y H O P
R E L H A C T N H C I L S S U
O O B O R A M G B I T T E R S
F N V I T A R S P E R P H L R
X X C H A G X S A M E A C H X

BARREN

MAR

BITTER

NO HOLIDAYS

BLESSINGS

NOAH

CHESHVAN

RAINY SEASON

EXALTED

SARAH DIED

FLOOD

WINTER

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Welcome to our Puzzle Page
Sudoku

		5	7	6	9	3		
		4				1		
8			5		1			4
	1			2			3	
		2				6		
			4		2			
	5			8			9	
2		7		1		4		5

Our Fiscal Year is July - June

\$500.00 per Year per Family Unit

Please mail your 2024/ 2025 Dues payment to:

Congregation Etz Chaim

P O Box 3752

Merced CA 95344

For those who prefer, we do accept monthly Dues payments year round

Other Planned Community Events

December 28 - Chanukah Party

1st Fridays: 7:00 Formal Lay Led Services with Torah Reading

3rd Fridays: 6:30 Potluck and 7:30 Lay Led Kabbalat Shabbat Services

at our Chavurah House on Parsons Ave

November Yahrtzeits

Seymour Blatt
 Bill Ellis
 Zelta Harvey
 Debra Kleitman
 Irma Schiffman Labbok
 Earl Lewis
 Eric Matlin
 Marti Rabon
 Israel Reiter
 William Spangler
 Morris Shapiro
 Victor Wax

Birthdays

Daniel Holman	11/01
Carol Friedman	11/09
Larry Giventer	11/10
Donald Hadley	11/10
Kathie Tenenbaum	11/19

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ACTIVE!**

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 (www.jewishmerced.org)



*Those we remember in the
 year of their passing:*

Wolf Rosenberg 06/2024

זכרונום לברכה

May their memories be a blessing



John Hofmann and Greg Friedman have donated gallons of blood in the Congregation's name.
 Any Congregant can access blood via the credit accumulated under the Congregation's name.