

CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION

Volume 8 | Issue 11 | July 2023 | Tammuz/Av 5783

Congregation Sons of Zion

378 Maple Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
Phone: (413) 534-3369

Email:
office@sonsofzionholyoke.org

Website:
www.sonsofzionholyoke.org

Inside This Issue:

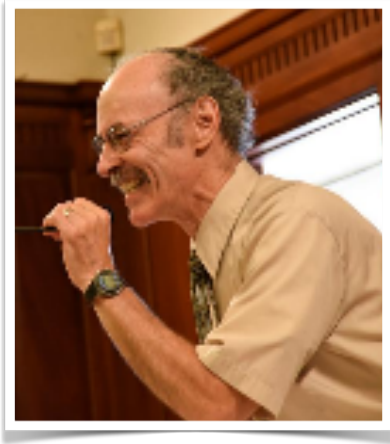
Rabbi's Message.....	2-4
President's Message.....	5-6
Mazel Tov to the New Board.....	7
July Calendar.....	8
Dates to Remember.....	9
SOZ Annual Picnic.....	10
SOZ Book Club.....	11
Sustaining Members.....	12
Legacy Society.....	13
Donations.....	14
Yahrzeits.....	15
Judy's Birthday Kiddush.....	16-18
SOZ Annual Meeting.....	19
Ads from Our Sponsors.....	20



About the Month of Tammuz

The month of Tammuz begins the "season" of the summer. The three months of this season are Tammuz, Av and Elul.





Rabbi's Message

I was asked to give a short report of my activities for the past year. So much has happened that I'd like to focus specifically on new things that we did this year to make religious life at SOZ meaningful and engaging.

Leading up to High Holidays for the first time, we offered daily shofar blowing each morning (except Shabbat) over Zoom during the last half of the month of Elul as a way to begin to prepare ourselves spiritually for Rosh Hashana. Five people volunteered to lead the shofar blowing.

For the Torah reading on the first day of Rosh Hashana, as usual people were called up to the bimah for an aliyah to do the Torah blessings, one person for each of five aliyot. The new wrinkle was that each of them gave a short talk -- one paragraph or so that they had prepared in advance -- about the Torah portion that was about to be read. They spoke about what was personally meaningful or noteworthy for them in that Torah portion. This helped make the Torah reading more accessible for everyone.

For the past several years, the service on the second morning of Rosh Hashana has involved some kind of study and discussion on a theme relevant to the High Holidays. This year, seven people gave thoughtful and moving talks in the form of a letter to someone: three asking for forgiveness for something they regretted; three expressing appreciation to someone for some act of kindness; and one imagining a hoped-for reconciliation. These talks modeled beautifully and powerfully how the High Holidays might inspire us to seek forgiveness for our negative actions and to express appreciation for the positive deeds of others.

We continued this dual theme at Tashlich on the second day of Rosh Hashana. In addition to our usual practice of symbolically casting away our negative behaviors by throwing challah into the waters of the canal, we also talked about positive deeds/mitzvot we have done or wish to do. After someone shared a new/positive behavior that they felt good about doing, they were rewarded with an M & M candy -- that we dubbed a Mitzvah Morsel. Tashlich thus became an opportunity to affirm our positive behaviors as well as consider the negatives.

About 25 people took part in leading some aspect of High Holiday services, giving a

Rabbi's Message (continued)

talk, leading part of the service and so on. I am pleased that SOZ services are not a spectator sport, but rather an opportunity for active participation and sharing. A noted Jewish educator, Joel Grishaver, said: what we remember, what we take away most from a service or discussion or program is what we said or did.

Both Simchat Torah and Purim were celebrated for the first time at someone's home: the Freyman's. Both were very participatory as we danced around with the Torah outside on their patio, and people gave some very creative and even multi-media renderings of the chapters of the Megillah

For Hanukkah, menorah lighting at City Hall on the first night and at the Rosner's on the last night, were lovely but not new. What was renewed was our chorus rehearsing and then leading spirited singing. Several new members of the synagogue joined the chorus.

Shavuot. Other than the Torah portion being the 10 Commandments, this year's Shavuot service had many elements that we introduced that were unlike any previous Shavuot service I can remember at SOZ. We welcomed a new convert to the community who spoke beautifully about her process of conversion; we had two of our younger members come up for an aliyah for the first time to mark their becoming a bar and bat mitzvah; and we welcomed new members who had joined the synagogue in the last year -- three couples and five singles for a total of 11 people in all. As a way of introducing themselves to the community on this holiday that marks the giving of the 10 Commandments, several new members chose to talk about a commandment that was especially meaningful to them.

One other new and poignant element in this service was that Yizkor not only included remembering deceased biological family members, but also included deceased members of our SOZ extended family. Many congregants sent written remembrances and even photos in advance that were displayed in the hallway, to honor and recall with affection people who made the synagogue a warm and caring community. During Yizkor we took time to walk through the hallway and read those remembrances.

This may have been the last service - and almost certainly the last Shavuot service - that we hold in the main sanctuary, a space that holds special memories and meaning for

Rabbi's Message (continued)

many of us. As our building is about to be sold, this Shavuot service was a mixture of nostalgia and loss as expressed in Yizkor and also of renewal and celebration by welcoming a new person into the Jewish people, two b'nei mitzvah, and the new members, about half of them in their 20's and 30's, who have joined us and are already actively participating in SOZ.

I was asked to give a report about my activities for the past year. You might well be wondering why I have been describing new -- and I hope creative and meaningful -- ways that involve others. My goal as your rabbi is to help all of us feel part of a vibrant, caring, warm, participatory, spiritual community. To help us feel connected to each other, to our tradition, and to the Source of our being. And the best way I know how to do that is to have all of us share our stories, our joys and sorrows, to share ourselves with one another.

I want to end by thanking Joan and Rich, the Religious Committee Co-Chairs, for everything they do, and especially for giving me the support and encouragement to try new ways to make our services and holidays meaningful and uplifting. I want to thank Bonnie and Shoshana who have joined me almost every Shabbat at my home on Zoom, along with Isy a young woman with a sweet voice who sings with us when she can, to help you hear several pleasant voices singing together even when we cannot all sing together out loud on Zoom.

This third year of almost all our services on Zoom could have been a disaster as we prepare to leave our familiar space for a place as yet unknown. Instead, quite the opposite as happened: we have become closer as a community, we are welcoming new members of all ages, and our participation has grown in numbers and in depth. I deeply appreciate everyone for your openness to trying new things, your resilience, and your active participation that strengthens us all. Thank you so much!

Rabbi Saul Perlmutter



President's Message

It has been an eventful time for my first year as your President. I came in during the Covid virus crisis. We were not meeting in person but tried hard to stay in touch with Zoom. Our Zoom Shabbat and minyan services were fortunately well attended. In fact, our congregation has grown this year with many new members. My husband Bill and I hosted the Annual Picnic at our home in Belchertown which was a really fun event. The difficult decision to sell our 19,000 square foot building which has good bones but needs a lot of updating, was made. We did manage to have a wonderful time at the Holyoke Jewish Homecoming with a large crowd wanting to visit the building where so many had grown up and attended Hebrew School. The High Holidays drew good numbers of members who had missed attending services in person. A water leak occurred which meant replacing some piping and a gas leak which required new piping also. The city shut the gas to the building off until the leak could be repaired. Since the building had been listed for sale, we made the decision not to do the repairs and close the building for the winter. The Rosners hosted our annual Hanukkah party at their home which was a warm and wonderful time as always. In the meantime, we were fortunate that the Massachusetts Economic Development council, of which we are members was working to help the city restore the High Street corridor.

They connected us with The Lighthouse School, a local private school with some state funding, who fell in love with our old building, and we negotiated a reasonable price to sell it to them. Since they are partially state funded the closing will not take place for several months. Fortunately, the state agreed to help pay the costs of fixing the gas piping and turning the water and heat back on.

We are able to meet in the building at least temporarily until we find a new home for

President's Message (continued)

our congregation. Having looked at dozens of possibilities, we needed to find a building or house that could accommodate handicap accessibility including bathrooms, enough space for a sanctuary and social hall and a kitchen. Hoping to stay within Holyoke or the vicinity was also a consideration. We have made a letter of intent to buy a building in South Hadley which is only a couple of miles away. It is a former Peoples Bank which is about 3500 square feet, all on one floor with 3 handicap accessible entrances, 2 handicap accessible bathrooms, a partial kitchen. enough room to make a sanctuary and social hall to accommodate our growing congregation, and plenty of parking. Whether we will be able to purchase it within our budget remains uncertain. As this year comes to a close, I am still optimistic about our future and grateful to all those who have helped us get through Covid and other problems. We will try to have more in person activities now that Covid seems to be waning in our area.

A special thank you to Joan Rosner who as our former President has been there to help guide me through this very difficult year. And my never-ending gratitude to our retired attorney, Buddy Resnic, who worked tirelessly to negotiate the sale of our building and is helping us in the quest to establish a new, affordable, warm, and welcoming home for our shul.

Many thanks also to all those who have volunteered their time to pack, clean and support the congregation during this past year, especially our office manager Tara Neddeau, David Scher, our officers, and Board of Directors. We will continue to need your support as we forge ahead into an unknown but promising future.

Joanne Saltman

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to our new Board and Officers!!!

Heartfelt thanks to all of them for their attention, dedication and leadership.

Officers

Joanne Saltman, President

Stephen Levin, Vice President

Michael Rosner, MD, Treasurer

Lois Levin, Recording and Corresponding Secretary

Cindy Vieu, Financial Secretary

Board

David Carmen

Ilana Cohen

Andrea Fox

Richard Freyman, PhD

Alfred Hutt, MD

Eitan Kenefick

Ira Laby

Lois Levin

Stephen Levin

Stephen Levine, MD

Burton Resnic, Esq.

Joan Rosner

Michael Rosner, MD

Joanne Saltman

Mady Schorsch

Barry Sparkes

Cindy Vieu

Ken Vieu

Mazel Tov and Thank you!

Tammuz/Av
5783

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 6 Tammuz SOZ 119th Annual Meeting, 11 am (Zoom and In-person at Rodphey Sholom)	26 7 Tammuz	27 8 Tammuz	28 9 Tammuz Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	29 10 Tammuz	30 11 Tammuz	1 12 Tammuz Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom) Chukkat-Balak
2 13 Tammuz	3 14 Tammuz SOZ Garden Clean-up, 10 am-12 pm (@ SOZ)	4 15 Tammuz <i>Independence Day</i>	5 16 Tammuz Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	6 17 Tammuz <i>Fast of the 17th of Tammuz</i>	7 18 Tammuz	8 19 Tammuz Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom) Pinchas
9 20 Tammuz	10 21 Tammuz	11 22 Tammuz	12 23 Tammuz Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom) SOZ Board Meeting, 6:30 pm (Zoom)	13 24 Tammuz	14 25 Tammuz Deadline to RSVP for the SOZ Annual Picnic	15 26 Tammuz Shabbat Service 10 am (Zoom) Matot-Masei
16 27 Tammuz SOZ Annual Picnic, 12-4 pm (@ the Saltman's Home)	17 28 Tammuz	18 29 Tammuz	19 1 Av Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom) <i>Rosh Hodesh Av</i>	20 2 Av	21 3 Av	22 4 Av Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom) Devarim
23 5 Av	24 6 Av	25 7 Av	26 8 Av Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	27 9 Av	28 10 Av	29 11 Av Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom)
30 12 Av	31 13 Av					Vaetchanan

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, July 1, 2023

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom)

Monday, July 3, 2023

SOZ Garden Clean-up,
10 am-12 pm (@ SOZ)

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

Independence Day

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

Thursday, July 6, 2023

Fast of the 17th of Tammuz

Saturday, July 8, 2023

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom)

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

SOZ Board Meeting,
6:30 pm (Zoom)

Friday, July 14, 2023

Deadline to RSVP to the SOZ
Annual Picnic

Saturday, July 15, 2023

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom)

Sunday, July 16, 2023

SOZ Annual Picnic (@ the
Saltman's home), 12-4 pm

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

Rosh Hodesh Av

Saturday, July 22, 2023

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom)

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

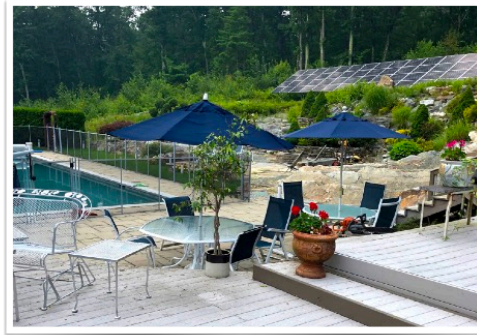
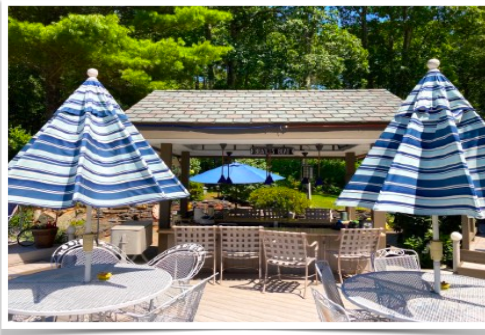
Saturday, July 29, 2023

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom)



CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 16, 2023
12 - 4 pm



Hosted by **Bill and Joanne Saltman**
55 Juckett Hill Drive, Belchertown, MA 01007

If you'd like to swim, bring bathing suit and towel.
The pool is heated!

Congregation Sons of Zion will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, veggie hot dogs, buns, drinks, condiments, paper goods, and plasticware. Please bring an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert to share (parve dishes only - no cheese or dairy).

[RSVP Here by July 14th](#)

Please contact the SOZ office with any questions or concerns at office@sonsofzionholyoke.org or (413)534-3369.

SOZ BOOK CLUB MEETING

Sunday, August 13th at 10:30 am



Once We Were Home: A Novel by Jennifer Rosner

When your past is stolen, where do you belong?

Ana will never forget her mother's face when she and her baby brother, Oskar, were sent out of their Polish ghetto and into the arms of a Christian friend. For Oskar, though, their new family is the only one he remembers. When a woman from a Jewish reclamation organization seizes them, believing she has their best interest at heart, Ana sees an opportunity to reconnect with her roots, while Oskar sees only the loss of the home he loves.

Roger grows up in a monastery in France, inventing stories and trading riddles with his best friend in a life of quiet concealment. When a relative seeks to retrieve him, the Church steals him across the Pyrenees before relinquishing him to family in Jerusalem.

Renata, a post-graduate student in archaeology, has spent her life unearthing secrets from the past--except for her own. After her mother's death, Renata's grief is entwined with all the questions her mother left unanswered, including why they fled Germany so quickly when Renata was a little girl.

Two decades later, they are each building lives for themselves, trying to move on from the trauma and loss that haunts them. But as their stories converge in Israel, in unexpected ways, they must each ask where and to whom they truly belong.

Beautifully evocative and tender, filled with both luminosity and anguish, *Once We Were Home* reveals a little-known history. Based on the true stories of children stolen during wartime, this heart-wrenching novel raises questions of complicity and responsibility, belonging and identity, good intentions and unforeseen consequences, as it confronts what it really means to find home.

A Special Thank You to Our Sustaining Members

Robert and Frances Abrams
Andrew Barowsky
Ned and Cindy Barowsky
Bonnie and Maggie Gruszecki
Norman and Marion Halpern
Alfred and Lee Hutt
Stephen and Lois Levin
Buddy and Margie Resnic
Michael and Joan Rosner
Bill and Joanne Saltman

Please consider joining our generous Sustaining Members...at any time!

Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society

★ Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society ★

The following congregants have made arrangements in their wills to leave a bequest to Congregation Sons of Zion and/or have named Congregation Sons of Zion as a beneficiary in their life insurance policy and/or have established a tax-deductible fund for the synagogue, retaining a lifetime income from the fund.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Anonymous (4) | Aaron & Gail Lansky |
| Elaine Baskin | Stephen & Lois Levin |
| Irene Bernstein* | Stephen & Joan Levine |
| Joseph Boucher | Sidney* & Elizabeth* Paul |
| David & Nancy Carmen | Burton & Marjorie Resnic |
| Louise Citron | Michael & Joan Rosner |
| James Eisenstock* | William Robbins* & Mollie Blatt* |
| Andrea Fox | Ellen Saltman* |
| Richard & Ellen Freyman | Paul Saltman |
| Albert Goldberg* | William & Joanne Saltman |
| Herbert* & Barbara* Goldberg | Elihu & Joan Schepps |
| Debra Goldberg and Seth Waxman | Nitza Seaver |
| Rose Gorin* | Charles Weinstein |
| Janet & Richard Greenfield | Frances Welson & Thomas Osborn* |
| Rachel Henderson | Sherwin & Rhoda Wernick |
| Alfred & Lee Hutt | Thomas & Eleanor Wilson |
| Ira Laby | <i>*Deceased</i> |

Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society has participated in Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts, which is jointly funded by the Jewish Endowment Foundation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The Federations of Western Massachusetts and the Berkshires are program partners.

For further information about supporting Congregation Sons of Zion through a legacy or planned gift, please contact Michael Rosner at office@sonsofzionholyoake.com or (413)534-3369. Thank you very much.





Donations: Thank you!

Cemetery Fund

- ✦ Jay Eisenstock: In memory of his father, James Eisenstock
- ✦ Ellen and Steve Kappel: In memory of Charles and Esther Kaplinsky

General Fund

- ✦ Robert and Frances Abrams: In memory of Robert's sister, Estelle "Cookie" Abrams
- ✦ Andrew Barowsky: In memory of his mother, Norma Barowsky
- ✦ Ned and Cindy Barowsky: In memory of Ned's mother, Norma Barowsky
- ✦ Kathy Black: In honor of Judy Katz on her 80th birthday
- ✦ Lisa Blain: in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Leah and Gerry Glasser
- ✦ Andrea Fox: Happy birthday to her sister, Laurie
- ✦ Andrea Fox: In honor of Judy Katz's 80th birthday
- ✦ Andrea Fox: Happy 21st birthday to her son, Zachary
- ✦ Barry Hirsch: In memory of his grandmother, Fannie Wolkovsky
- ✦ Ellen and Steve Kappel: In memory of Charles and Esther Kaplinsky
- ✦ Judy Katz: In memory of her mother-in-law, Elizabeth Katz Jeremias
- ✦ William Rothchild: In memory of his mother, Sadie Rothchild
- ✦ Pinky Stein: In memory of her parents, Harry and Rose Pincus
- ✦ Pinky Stein: In memory of her brother-in-law, Lloyd Stein
- ✦ Pinky Stein: In memory of her husband, Ken Stein
- ✦ Pinky Stein: In memory of Anita Levin-Epstein

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ✦ Mady Schorsch: In memory of her father, Max (Mordechai) Schorsch



"Toda" Thank You

July 2023 Yahrzeits

July 2-8: Cindy View

July 2 Anna Joseph Hertzmark
 Anna Levitan
 July 3 Joseph Berman
 Dorothy Chesik
 John Cooper
 Sidney Epstein
 Goldie Halpern
 Nathan Halpern
 *Sigmund Leffeld
 Sidney Nathanson
 *Lillian Wolfe
 July 4 Estelle "Cookie" Abrams
 *Sarah R. Magaziner Epstein
 *Sonia Soltz
 *Milton K. Welson
 July 5 *Kate Koufax Levine
 Michael A. Marks
 *Stephen Robbins
 July 6 Benjamin Robinson
 July 7 *Simma Daniels
 *Bertha Epstein
 Joe Fleischman
 Elizabeth Katz Jeremias
 July 8 *Eve Gerstein Scheinblum

July 9-15: Ken View

July 9 *Max Bussel
 Jacob N. Freedman
 July 10 Louis Goldblatt
 *Joe Mandel
 July 11 Samuel Hirsch
 *Aaron Posnik
 Dorothy Siegel
 July 12 *Samuel Bernson
 Daisy Hirsch
 July 13 Mamie Kahan
 *Sidney Levinson
 July 14 Max Berman
 Irene B. Kagan
 July 15 *Stanley Jacobson
 Rose Polak

July 16-22: David Carmen

July 16 *Lilyan Laby
 Ida August Suher
 July 17 *Benjamin F. Evarts
 *Julius Levenson
 *Harry Saul Nulman
 July 18 Sidney Hirsch
 Morris Wolfe
 July 19 Harry Herman
 *Anna Herman
 *Fannie Nathanson

July 21 *Harry Durlister
 Herman Fox
 Arthur I. Gold
 Syrel Kappel
 *Abraham Ritterman
 July 22 Samuel Gellert
 Barnett Orlen

July 23-29: Ilana Cohen

July 23 Reuben Barshay
 *Israel Goldberg
 *Clara Greenspan
 *Estelle Laufer
 July 24 *Joseph Polansky
 *Lester A. Stone
 Mildred "Millie" Berman
 July 25 Rose Epstein
 *Israel Epstein
 July 26 Alexander Breslow
 Isadore Cramer
 Miriam Margolis
 *Sarah Zager
 July 27 *Norma Magidson Barowsky
 July 28 *Samuel Rosenbloom
 July 29 Kenneth P. Stein

July 30-August 5: Andrea Fox

July 30 Mary Baker
 May Goodstein
 Fannie Greenspan
 *Idah S. Hirshon
 *Esther Malkin
 *Eva Polansky
 July 31 *Eric Goldenberg
 Evelyn Hecht
 *Rose Palevsky
 August 3 Samuel Broudy
 Lena Suher Cooper
 *Harry Gaberman
 *Samuel Halpern
 *Sadie Gamzue Nathanson
 *Abraham Saul
 *Minna H. Sills
 Mollie Smernoff
 Maurice Zanger
 August 4 *Rev. Samuel D. Falk
 August 5 Elsie Gellert
 *Jennie Housen
 *Martin A. Jaffe
 *Ethel Lesnow
 *Maxwell E. Marshall
 *Nyoma Sorkin



Judy's Birthday Kiddush

Provided by Andrea Fox



Judy's Birthday Kiddush

Provided by Andrea Fox



Judy's Birthday Kiddush

Provided by Andrea Fox & Steve Levine



SOZ 119th Annual Meeting

Provided by Andrea Fox



Ads from Our Sponsors

ASCHER 
ZIMMERMAN
 Funeral Home, Inc.

Funeral Directors: 413-734-5229
 RYAN S. ASCHER 888-827-2437
 ROBERT P. ZIMMERMAN

EMAIL: ascherzimmerman@aol.com
 WEBSITE: ascherzimmerman.com
 44 SUMNER AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, 01108

**RESNIC
 BEAUREGARD
 WAITE &
 DRISCOLL**

Attorneys At Law

BURTON S. RESNIC

330 WHITNEY AVE.
 SUITE 400
 HOLYOKE, MA 01040

413-536-0653 x 104
 FAX 413-536-4074

email kstdenis@rbwd.com

EMILY DUMALA

EmilyDumala@SmithMonuments.net

OFFICE: (413) 568-8682
 CELL: (413) 374-2692

104 COURT STREET WESTFIELD, MA 01085

SMITHMONUMENTSWESTFIELD.COM

Business Card Ads: \$180/Year - Please contact the
 synagogue office at (413) 534-3369 OR
office@sonsofzionholyoke.org

There is always room for more!!!

