Sukkot festival is forerunner of Thanksgiving

Close on the heels of the High Holy ay, Yom Kippur, Jews are preparing o celebrate another historical holiday

Sukkot. by building make-shift booths. The Called the Feast of the Tabernacles, family spends time in the hut during

Annual 'Harvestfest' planned at church

Fortune tellers, games of chance, a aunted house, and other attractions

haunted house, and other attractions for all ages will be featured.

A boutique booth with handmade items and a foodstuffs booth will also be available. Items will be reasonably arrived.

rced. Food of all kinds, including pizza and hot dogs, tacos, soup, cheese, popcorn and cider, will be available for hungry harvestfesters.

Dorothy Dudley and June Dover are co-chairmen for the event. Several Southfield residents are in-cluded on the working committees.

art Williams, Harriet and Bob Bartinis, Tina and Ernie DelFavero, and Frank and Marilyn Gentile. Other active workers are Georgia Vititick, Eleanor Bailey and Saily Williams, Fran and George Stoughton, Lenore and Bob Storer, Bill and Karla Rosenblum, and Rossalle and Baxter Webb.

Also Elizabeth Deeds, Jan and Steve Decker, Morris Goodman, Johanna and Mike Kobran, Johan and Dorothy Amberger, Bill Szaro, Lou and Doris Esposito, Theresa and Adrienne Esposito and Ted and Judi Zachary.

The church is located on the Northwestern service drive and can be reached via the 10 Mile exit from the Lodge Freeway or Mt. Vernon bridge across the expressway.

Sukkot and eats there picnic-style.

Some Jewish congregations prefer to build a single Sukkah, or booth, in or near the synapogue for the entire group rather than building individual booths.

The Sukka is a symbol of the exodus from Egypt. "You shall live in booths seven days — in order that the future generations may know that I made the Israelite people to live in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt," according to the Bible passage.

Besides symbolizing a period of wandering in the desert, the huts also symbolize poverty amid the wealth of harvests taken in at this time of year. the week-long festival period will begin Friday night. Sukkot's theme is the giv-ing of thanks for the final harvest when it is gathered. Modern Jews commemorate Sukkot

second temple in Jerusalem during the first century A.D., Jews were expected

BEFORE the Romans destroyed the

to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem three times each year. Those three times were Passover, Shavuoth, and Sukkot.

Sukkot.

Archeologists have found that
Jerusalem once had a huge hotel district and tourist economy as a result of
these mass pilgrimages during spring and summer months.

Christian tradition mentions mass
pilgrimages at the time of Jesus. The
New Testament states that when Jesus
was a youth, he was separated from his

New Testament states that when Jesus was a youth, he was separated from his family in the crowds because the boy was too busy discussing ancient texts with the experts.

The ancient Sukkot festival was so popular, scholars referred to it merely as "the festival" a

Assyrian Greeks, tradition says, Jewish Maccabean soldiers were unable to celebrate Sukkot because of the war. To make up for their loss, they de-clared a second Sukkot-like festival

that winter when the war ended — a festival of lights, or Hanuka.

THE PLANTS listed in the Bible that are native to the Middle East, are myrtle twigs, willow branches, a large thick-skinned fruit called "egrog" (Hebrew for citrin), and palm branches. Since the palm branch is the largest item on the list, the entire collection is

The Sukkot festival ends after slightly more than a week concluding with the holiday called Simchat Torah.

Simchat Torah, the joy of the Torah, will begin at sundown on Sunday, Oct.

will begin at sundown on Sunday, Oct.
I this year.
The Torah, the first five books of the Bible, is read in the synangues in weekly portions on a precise schedulethrough the year.
Simchat Torah is the day when the
last portion is finished, and Jews beginagain with Genesis, chapter one.

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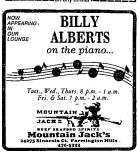


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