

Ha Shavuah B' Sha'arey Israel

April 23 - 30, 2009

29 Nisan – 6 Iyar, 5769



Candle lighting time 7:53 p.m.
Friday April 24

Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat Services begin at 6:15 p.m.
Saturday morning Shabbat Services begin at 9:30 a.m.

Parashat Tazria-Metzora Rosh Chodesh Iyar (Torah commentary on pg. 3)

Annual: Leviticus 12:1 - 15:33 (Etz Hayim, p. 649)

Triennial: Leviticus 13:40 - 14:32 (Etz Hayim, p. 664)

Maftir: Numbers 28:9 -15 (Etz Hayim, p. 930)

Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1 – 24, 66:23 (Etz Hayim, p. 1220)



We wish a Happy Birthday this week to:

Alex Goodrich, Jenna Denisar, Arlete Faibicher, Ian Altman, Joby Gaudet, Bill Hirsh, Sophie Denisar and Melvin Kruger

and a Happy Anniversary to:

Arlete & Mauro Faibicher

This week we remember the Yahrzeit of:

Sonya Greasley, Benjamin Theodore, Howard Albrecht, Joseph Shuman, & Rabbi Emanuel Popper

This week's Sunday School principal is Charles Brown

We must have your reservation buy mid-day Thursday

For our Family Shabbat Dinner Friday April 24

So make your reservations NOW!!

Services will feature the 1st and 2nd Grade religious school class
These students have worked very hard and are excited to share what they have learned. Please show them your support.



Celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut **Friday May 1** with a community-wide Kabbalat Shabbat service featuring Daron Shultzeiner, visiting lecturer in the Political Science and History departments at Emory University.
6:15 p.m. at CSI

Lunch & Learn is on hiatus while the program is being re-designed. So stay tuned.

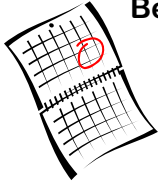


Please remember that we will have a shivah Minyan at the Bayme's (111 Howard Oaks Dr) on Sunday April 26 at 3:00 p.m. for Laurel Robinson whose father Isadore Robinson past away last weekend.

And on Tuesday April 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gaudet's home (171 Covington Dr.) for Jimmy Gaudet whose brother Rooky past away last weekend.



Be sure to save these dates:



Friday May 22 – Confirmation and Family Shabbat Dinner
May 29 & 30 –Will Finkelstein's Bar Mitzvah
Sunday May 31 – Annual Congregational Meeting



Ian and Ben Altman will perform in
Mercer University's Guest and Faculty Artist Recital
A Castel Nuovo-Tedesco Program
Monday April 27 at 7:30 p.m. this is a Free performance in Fickling
Hall, McCorkle Music Building at Mercer University
1329 Adams Street, Macon, Ga. 31207



Last day of Sunday School
Awards * swimming * games * picnic
Sunday May 17 10:30 - 12:30
at the Cohen's home
102 Howard Oaks Dr.



Don't forget the CSI Gift Shop for all your gift needs.
weddings graduations* housewarming gifts* *birthdays*
anniversaries * B'nai Mitzvahs



Iyyar is the second month of the Hebrew civil calendar and the eighth of the religious calendar. The zodiac sign for Iyyar is Taurus. Iyyar has 29 days, and is referred to in the Bible as the month of Ziv. Rosh Chodesh Iyyar will be April 24 & 25.
Iyyar 15 will be Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel Independence Day, which celebrates the proclamation of Israel's independence and sovereign statehood on Iyyar 5708 (1948). The day before Yom Ha'atzmaut is Yom ha-Zikkaron (Memorial Day), which is marked by services held at military cemeteries and prayers for those who died defending the State of Israel. The Middle Ga Jewish community will commemorate Yom Ha'atzmaut with a community-wide Kabbalat Shabbat services at CSI on May 1.



Parashat Tazria-Metzora

This week's commentary was written by Dr. Alan Cooper, Elaine Ravich Professor of Jewish Studies and provost, JTS,

This week's double dose of purity laws is unlikely to top anyone's list of favorite Torah portions. While the laws may be discomfiting and obscure, however, they also are fundamental to an understanding of biblical theology and anthropology, and they convey a message that transcends their particular details.

The priestly author of Leviticus marks the collection of laws in chapters 11–15 as a digression from the book's narrative flow. Next week's Torah portion begins with the words, "The Lord spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron" (16:1), picking up a thread that was dropped following the report of the young priests' demise in chapter 10. The intervening laws concerning dietary restrictions (chap. 11), childbirth (chap. 12), skin eruptions and related afflictions (chaps. 13–14), and bodily emissions (chap. 15) seem to stand outside the story time. In addition to their concern with purity and impurity, what those laws have in common is that they address the essential characteristic of human existence, the fact that we are *embodied*.

In traditional Jewish thought, embodiment and mortality are the principal factors that distinguish us from God. Unlike God, we must take in sustenance (chap. 11) and reproduce (chap. 12) in order to survive, and we inevitably experience physical corruption (chaps. 14–15) and death. Those are ingredients of our humanity, natural concomitants of our embodiment. We strive to constrain and control them and, once every year on Yom Kippur, we attempt to suppress them altogether in a ritual of *dise embodiment* (Lev. 16:29–34).

Concerning God, in contrast, as the popular synagogue hymn *Yigdal* declares:

אין לו דמות הגוף ואינו גוף, לא נערך אליו קדושתו

God has no bodily form and is incorporeal; God's holiness is incomparable beyond measure.

Belief in an incorporeal God is the third of Maimonides' Thirteen Principles. In his "Laws of Repentance" (3.7), Maimonides condemns as a heretic anyone who conceives of God as having bodily form. He also devotes the first chapter of his *Guide of the Perplexed* to refuting the view that the references to the "image" and "likeness" of God in Genesis 1 denote God's physical body. (Ancient Near Eastern evidence, particularly a ninth-century Aramaic royal inscription from Tel Fekheriye, may argue to the contrary, but that is beside the point.)

[Click here for the rest of this commentary](#)

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**For other commentaries on this week's Torah portion check out these sites:**

[Aish.com](http://Aish.com)

[AJU](http://AJU)

[ISJL](http://ISJL)

[MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com)

[USCJ Torah Sparks](http://USCJ Torah Sparks)  
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Interested in participating more in Shabbat service?

Lead a portion of services

Read Torah

Chant the Haftarah

Call Rabbi Bat-Or and she will help you make it happen.

There are still two easy ways for you to help
Congregation Sha'arey Israel make a little extra money

1. visit www.goodsearch.com for your online searches. This won't cost you anything but CSI makes a penny each time to search
2. for all your online shopping needs go to csimacon.org and click on our Amazon.com link.

every time you



CSI earns



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Quick links:

[CSI Macon Online](#)

[United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism \(USCJ\)](#)

[JTS Podcast - this week's Parsha](#)

[Audio Siddur](#)

[Global Jewish News Service](#)

[Israeli News Broadcast – in English](#)

[Crash Course in Jewish History](#)

[The Jewish Ethicist](#)

[The Jewish Women's Archive](#)

[Hadassah](#)

[Synagogue 3000](#)

[Learn through USCJ online](#)

[AJU - Walking with God series](#)

[The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum](#)

For the children (or the young at heart):

[Torah Portion Coloring Pages](#)

[Babaganews Torah Parasha of the week movie](#)