

Ha Shavuah B' Sha'arey Israel

February 2 – February 8, 2012

Shevat 9 – 15 Shevat , 5772



Candle lighting time 5:50 pm
Friday, February 3

Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat Services begin at 6:15 pm
Saturday morning Shabbat Services begin at 9:30 am

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**PARASHAT B'SHALAH** (Commentary on Page 4)

SHABBAT SHIRAH

Annual: Exodus 13:17 – 17:16 (Etz Hayim p. 399)

Triennial: Exodus 14:15 – 16:10 (Etz Hayim p. 403)

Haftarah: Judges 4:4 – 5:31 (Etz Hayim, p. 424)

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Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery to:

Elaine Dreizin, Carol Besser, Paul Kruger, Elsie Benn, Arnold Cotton, Harold Goodrich, Jay Freedman

We wish a Happy Birthday this week to:

Tirzah Whitehouse, Hershene Goldman, Molly Bayme, Carol Bashuk, Rebecca Kenirey and Stephanie Kross

This week we remember the Yahrzeit of:

Izzie Chanin, Hannah Ksyonjik Norman, Sol Tavor, Isadore Torch, Rose Rosenberg Bayme, Renee Saroff Oliner, David Davidson, Elsa Kessler, Kate Oliner, Ann Chanin Donner, Jayme Faibicher, Celia R. Farb, Lewis Lavine, George Louis Nirenstein, Moshe Glick



**MACON CHAPTER OF HADASSAH
ANNUAL GALA ART AUCTION**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2012

7:00 O'CLOCK PREVIEW

SUNDAY SALE FROM 9:30 AM 'TIL NOON

MACON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

DOOR PRIZE - RAFFLE - OPEN BAR - HORS D'OEUVRES
\$20.00 PER PERSON

OVER 200 WORKS OF ART
ALL BUDGETS - ALL MEDIA
MARLIN ART AUCTION AND EVENTS

CALL DEBORAH ADLER 474-0505 FOR INFORMATION AND TICKETS

The Next Junior Congregation
Saturday – February 11 – 10:00am
Adults in Charge: Sandra & Richard Singer
Davening Leaders: Teva Ilan and
Will Finkelstein

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Rabbi Pamela Gottfried will be joining us  
the weekend of February 10 - 12  
She will be teaching a class on Sunday, February 12 at 9:45am

### Adult Education Classes

Rabbi Pamela Gottfried and Cantor Russell Jayne will co-teach a course in comparative religions. The Rabbi's classes will explore how religious concepts, laws, and practices are expressed in the world's major religions. The Cantor will focus on the development of the Jewish liturgy and comparisons with the prayer services and rituals of other faiths.

#### All classes will be held at the synagogue.

The Rabbi's classes will begin at 9:45AM  
The Cantor's classes will begin at 10:30AM

#### The schedule of classes is as follows:

Sunday, February 12 at 9:45AM - Rabbi  
Sunday, March 18 at 10:30AM - Cantor  
Sunday, April 15 at 9:45AM - Rabbi  
Sunday, May 6 at 10:30AM - Cantor  
Sunday, May 20 at 9:45AM – Rabbi

Coffee and light refreshments will be available 15 minutes prior to the start of each class.

**SEFARIM (Hebrew for BOOKS)**  
The Literary Discussion Group of  
Congregation Sha'arey Israel

**Wednesday - February 15 - 1:30pm**

**Topic: Richard Elliot Friedman's  
WHO WROTE THE BIBLE**

**Rabbi Gottfried has mentioned his commentary on the Bible in her Sunday class.**

**We hope you will join us!**

# Family Shabbat Dinner

## Friday - February 24



Services begin at 6:15 pm  
and will feature our Yeladim Class  
with dinner to follow

Adults \$10.00 ~ Children \$7 ~ Under 3 Free  
All Religious School Students - Free!

Please call 745-4571 to make reservations  
or email: [secretary@csimacon.org](mailto:secretary@csimacon.org)

## The Promise Haggadah Passover Fundraiser

**Your Name  
Here!**

YOUR FIRST OR  
LAST NAME  
PRINTED ON  
THE FRONT  
OF EACH  
PASSOVER  
HAGGADAH



### A Forever Keepsake for Your Family

*The proceeds will benefit  
our Religious School*

**Your order must be  
received by February 22<sup>nd</sup>!**

Please contact Anne Bayme to order  
your personalized Haggadah  
474-0063 - [abbayme5@aol.com](mailto:abbayme5@aol.com)

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The CSI Gift Shop

Birthdays - Anniversaries - Weddings
Bar/Bat Mitzvahs - Graduations
House Warming Gifts



Remember we have free gift-wrapping and free delivery in the city.
We are open on Sundays during Sunday School and by appointment at any time.
Call Terri 477-8597 or Deborah 474-0505

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## Prescription Pill Bottle Donations for MedShare

Congregation Sha'arey Israel's Social Action Committee is collecting clean, empty prescription only pill bottles which are taken to MedShare's donation center in Atlanta. MedShare delivers them to countries around the world that do not have enough containers to dispense needed medicine. These donations for MedShare can be deposited into the two baskets on the cart in the hallway near the chapel. It is very important that you also peel off the labels. Please recycle all other containers for health/nutritional supplements, over the counter medicines, or prescription bottles for liquid medicines. For more information you may visit: [www.medshare.org](http://www.medshare.org), or contact MedShare at 3240 Clifton Springs Road, Decatur, GA 30034, tel: (770)323-5858.

If anyone would like to help deliver these donations to MedShare's donation center in Atlanta, (Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), please contact Laura Ilan at 474-6965 or [ilanclan@gmail.com](mailto:ilanclan@gmail.com). Thank you!



## Macon Outreach Donations

Macon Outreach is greatly in need of non-perishable food donations and are collected year round in a bin on a cart in the hallway near the Chapel. Items such as canned fish and beans, peanut butter, macaroni & cheese, applesauce, canned fruits and vegetables, rice and pastas are all especially helpful. Please help contribute to this Tikun Olam effort by bringing a can with you on your way to services and/or religious school.

Thank you to all of the dedicated CSI and TBI volunteers who help serve lunch to those in need at Macon Outreach (Mulberry Methodist) on the third Thursday of each month from 10:45 – noon. If you are interested in participating please contact David Ilan at 474-6965 or [ilanclan@gmail.com](mailto:ilanclan@gmail.com).

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PARASHAT B'SHALAH

Exodus 13:17-17:16

This week's Torah commentary is by Rabbi Deborah Joselow, the Managing Director of the Commission on Jewish Identity and Renewal Department at UJA-Federation.

Singing On The Way - Despite the fear and exhaustion of journeying from a dark, narrow place, we must remember to accompany our arrivals with song and joy.

This week's Torah portion is B'shalah. From the Hebrew root meaning "to send," the name of the portion reflects Pharaoh's decree that the Israelite people may finally leave the land of Egypt.

For over 400 years, our ancestors were physically and spiritually enslaved. Their release was not only cause for joy but, more importantly, the basis of a mandate that continues to inform all of Jewish life and activity. Then and now, freedom for every one of God's children is our constant and ultimate pursuit.

In the cycle of reading the Torah, the dream of freedom was first realized in last week's parasha. In Parashat Bo, we read of the actual exodus from Egypt--the basis for the Passover story--and many of the Passover rituals are first recorded. All of this was undertaken in preparation for the moment that finally arrives in B'shalah when the dream is actualized, when the Jews have finally and conclusively escaped Egypt.

A New Stage, A New Song

This transition from hope to reality is important--it is a stage that, in our own lives, is often neglected or denied. The gritty territory between "leaving" and "arriving" lacks both the passion of pursuit and the satisfaction of completion. Yet, in truth, this "in-between" stage is the terrain where we spend much of our time.

B'shalah takes us to the shore of the Sea of Reeds where the Israelites, led by Moses, erupt in song. This historic moment will be reenacted in synagogues throughout the world. When the "Song at the Sea" is read, the entire congregation will rise. The tune will not be the usual chant but one reserved for this particular spectacular occasion. Even the Torah scroll reflects the miracle of the crossing: The words of the song are written in a staggered layout on the parchment--parted like waves--as a scribal tribute to the event.

The Israelites sang at the shores of the sea, but their view was more the color of blood than the color of roses. The sea through which they miraculously passed had, after all, consumed the entire Egyptian army. To commemorate this loss, on Passover we empty our own cups by ten small drops. It is difficult to imagine having the capacity to break out into song while viewing carnage of this magnitude.

Relief After A Long Journey

Like the Torah portion it accompanies, this week's Haftarah, taken from the Book of Judges, also contains a song. This one, the Song of Deborah, was written several hundred years after the events detailed in B'shalah and was sung at the conclusion of a fierce military campaign. The message contained in these two texts could not be any more simple. For any of us who have ever journeyed out of a narrow and dark place, we know that when we recognize our arrival to other side, it is most often accompanied by tears of relief and exhaustion. If we are to learn anything from our portion, we must also remember to sing.

A Song For The Future

The Song at the Sea begins with the Hebrew words "az ya-shir." Written in the future tense, the phrase can be understood as saying, "thus one will sing." It is a fitting epilogue to an awesome moment, and it is a charge to all of us who continue to pursue freedom in all of its forms. The song that the Israelites sang is as much our inheritance as the cause of freedom. This path we travel is not without blood and sweat, but we are also obligated to fill it with the sounds of joy.

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

(copy and paste into your browser)

<http://www.aish.com/tp/> (Aish.com)

http://www.isjl.org/rabbinic/taste_of_torah.htm (ISJL Taste of Torah)

http://www.jtsa.edu/Conservative_Judaism/JTS_Torah_Commentary.xml (JTS)

http://www.myjewishlearning.com/texts/Bible/Weekly_Torah_Portion.shtml?TSBI (MyJewishLearning)

http://www.uscj.org/Torah_Sparks_Weekly5467.html (USCJ Torah Sparks)

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Contact information:

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Quick links:

(copy and paste into your browser)

www.csimacon.org (Sha'arey Israel website)

<http://www.pamelagottfried.com/> Rabbi Gottfried's blog

www.uscj.org (United Syn. For Conservative Judaism)

www.jtsa.edu/Conservative_Judaism/JTS_Podcasts.xml (Jewish Theological Seminary)

www.sidduraudio.com/ (Siddur Audio)

<http://jta.org/> (JTA)

www.fromil.com/tv/index.php?radio=4 (Israeli TV stations-in English)

<http://www.synagogue3000.org/> (Synagogue 3000)

http://www.uscj.org/Jewish_Living_Learn5019.html (United Syn. Living & Learning)

<http://www.thebreman.org/index.html> (Breman Jewish Heritage & Holocaust Museum)

<http://www.jewishfederations.org/index.aspx?page=1> (Jewish Federation)

<http://www.ajula.edu/> (American Jewish University)

For the children (or the young at heart):

<http://www.aish.com/tp/> (Torah Portion Coloring Pages)

<http://www.babaganewz.com/parashah> (Babaganews Torah Parasha of the week movie)