

A publication of Congregation Sha'arey Israel A Conservative Congregation Serving Macon and Middle Georgia Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism - Website: www.uscj.org Editor: Deborah Adler

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*** <u>OFFICE HOURS</u> *** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm M-Thursday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Friday Lunch 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Friday Evening Shabbat Services are held at 6:15 PM. Saturday Shabbat services are at 9:30 AM. Thursday morning minyan at 7:00 AM Please check the calendar each month for any special times.

Services at a Glance - April

Saturday, April 1st 9:30 AM Service Thursday, April 6th 7:00 AM Minyan Friday, April 7th 6:15 PM Service Candle Lighting 7:41 PM Saturday, April 8th 9:30 AM Service Tuesday, April 11th Passover Service 9:30 AM Wednesday, April 12th Passover Service 9:30 AM Thursday, April 13th 7:00 AM Minvan Friday, April 14th 6:15 PM Service Candle Lighting 7:46 PM Saturday, April 15th 9:30 AM Service Monday, April 17th Passover Service 9:30 AM Tuesday, April 18th Passover Service 9:30 AM Thursday, April 20th 7:00 AM Minyan Friday, April 21st 6:15 PM Service Rockin' Shabbat 5:30 PM Candle Lighting 7:51 PM Saturday, April 22nd 9:30 AM Service Thursday, April 27th 7:00 AM Minyan Friday, April 28th 6:15 PM Service Candle Lighting 7:56 PM Saturday, April 29th 9:30 AM Service



Sunday school - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

April 9th Tots/Teens - Chocolate Seder April 16th April 23rd Teens & Jr. Congregation <u>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON APRIL 2nd</u> <u>Hebrew School</u> Wednesday, April 5th, 19th, 26th 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm <u>NO HEBREW SCHOOL ON APRIL 12th</u>





Join the Jewish conversation

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS LIMMUD - WRESTLING WITH THE TEXT SUNDAY, April 16th and 30th 10:15 am to 11:15 am



PLEASE LET RABBI RUBINSTEIN KNOW IF YOU WANT TO SELL YOUR CHAMETZ.

This is to attest to a sell of foods with leaven and utensils connected with leaven made on Passover Eve, Friday, April 22, 2016. Rabbi Aaron Rubinstein, acting as representative for Congregation Sha'arey Israel, is selling all chametz (leaven) to Stephanie Johnson for the sale price of \$1.

This sell applies to all known residences (including vacation homes) belonging to members of Congregation Sha'arey Israel. It includes all chametz foods, kitchenware as well as spirits.

Seller: Aaron Rubinstein Buyer: Stephanie Johnson

amazonsmile

HELP CONGREGATION SHA'AREY ISRAEL RAISE FUNDS THE EASY WAY SHOP AMAZON SMILE AND CHOOSE OUR SHUL TO RECEIVE A PORTION OF WHAT YOU SPEND http://smile.amazon.com



ROCKIN' SHABBAT PURIM ACTIVITIES FRIDAY, APRIL 21st 5:30 PM KID FRIENDLY SERVICES, STORIES, DANCING SHABBAT DINNER FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR KIDS & FAMILY

A word of Torah From Rabbi Aaron Rubinstein

Leaving Egypt is Difficult

As Passover approaches we return to the annual rituals of preparation — for some folks that includes changing out dishes, shopping for Passover items (checking local selections, contemplating trips to Toco Hills), drawing up guest lists, preparing for our tribal Spring cleaning. Important as all those items are, I feel compelled to consider the more difficult aspects of the season.

In the Friday night section of our new siddur there's a powerful reading from Arthur Waskow about leaving Egypt. He reminds us that the Hebrew word Mitzrayim מצרים is built around the root — tsar , ארים which means 'narrow.' Geographically, the root points toward the fertile strips of land flanking the Nile. Figuratively, the narrowness might apply to our own constricted state of mind. We are challenged to consider the ways in which our thinking, our manner of interacting with the world is tight and inflexible.

This is the hard part.

An important current event

AIPAC's current conference has gathered over eighteen thousand Jews who passionately support Israel. National leaders on both sides of the political aisle address the audience. AIPAC is powerful, it is inspirational, it is Front Page. The A-list speakers who address the gathering testifies to AIPAC's political prowess. While a dominant theme within the halls is the wall-to-wall bipartisan support for Israel, it is also clear that things outside the auditorium are much more complex than that. Years of bareknuckled partisan politics have taken a serious toll. AIPAC cannot be faulted not for this sad reality. It's where things are.

An personal relic/memento

I once owned and wore a lapel pin with the motto We Are One. Great pin whose motto seems a quaint relic, nostalgia for a bygone era. More than a few American Jews have peeled away from the old consensus. They are not disloyal or hateful or unworthy. They don't need to be shamed or lectured. They're exhausted from all the shouting and name-calling, and perhaps cynical. And over the years, the politics (no need to mention names; there's plenty to go around) has left its scars and divisions.

Shopping Fun

Late night run to Toco Hills included a bizarre encounter with a True Believer ultra-Orthodox woman who felt compelled to play Jewish missionary (there is no other word for the harangue) - and it was impossible to politely disengage from the spectacle. My better half (simply no other way to describe this situation) is unfailingly polite to everyone, no exceptions.

Shopping Fun, continued

That includes people who do and say crazy things. So while my head explodes, she quietly mends the world with being an unflappable mentsch. Without cease. The True Believer delegitimized any Jew who doesn't do things While we're looking at the price of kosher cheese, she's preaching the Only Way, whether we want to hear it or not. She couldn't help herself: she simply channeled the messages from the Mother Ship. It all felt very much like a combination of assault plus cultural anthropology moment - sad, funny, obnoxious, surreal. And instructive. All apologies to my old lapel pin. We Are Not One. In an honest moment it shouldn't be tough to find a fellow Jew speak about our tribe in seriously pejorative terms — not only to fellow Jews, but to others, as well. We're stupid, misguided, naive, you name it. Regardless of the banner you choose to fly, my poor old lapel pin knows that it has become a sad joke. Sure, we can muster a smiling group shot for the press, go on the joint community mission if needed. Issue sweet platitudes about our bonds to each other. Yes: I work hard to believe the words as I say them. And I struggle. To pretend otherwise would be dishonest as well as insulting the intelligence of my fellow Jews. I won't do that.

Prayer question

Every morning and every evening our prayers include the Sh'ma — the three paragraphs which include Hear O Israel, Love the Lord your God, the section about rewards and punishments connected to following or abandoning the commandments, and the section which includes the fringes (tzitzit J) on the corners of our prayer shawls, and remembering that God took us out of Egypt. Every day, twice a day - the same texts. Why are they so critical? For starters - we are called to bear witness to One God. And we are reminded that our tribal mission statement should really guide us through each day. Last, but not least - God took us out of Mitzrayim, but it is excruciatingly difficult for us to leave our constricted narrow-minded ways. True: our foes never rest. They attack and demean and intimidate us each and every day (see UN, for a helpful daily demonstration). But let's leave our foes aside for a moment. How do we treat each other? How do we portray each other to the larger community? I miss my old lapel pin and its earnest aspirational motto. We Are One. Maybe it's a prayer. If so, may it be so.

As Passover approaches, may we all resolve to march out of Egypt, every morning and every evening. One mindful, compassionate, determined step at a time. and see things the way she does.

Chag Sameach...and wishing you a sweet and kosher Pesach.

A Message from our President, Theresa Rosengart

Passover commemorates the exodus of the Jews from slavery in Egypt. Ultimately, it is a celebration of freedom and rebirth. And while plenty of good food abounds at the Seder table, there are certain dietary requirements or restrictions that are followed as well.

As we celebrate we are also mindful of the bitter tears of our ancestors as slaves. While ridding one's home of *chametz* is an intensive process, it's much harder to rid ourselves of the ease at which we can take things such as food and shelter and freedom for granted. Matzah is flat and relatively flavorless. But in this simple and unleavened form it is humble and uncomplicated. Pesach is another opportunity on the Jewish calendar to remember the past and in turn help reset your personal journey for the future. We are about halfway (if you can believe it) to the next Yom Kippur. Passover is a good time to assess how we are doing with the well intentioned resolutions we made at the High Holidays.

As you gather around the Passover table this year and read the Haggadah with family and friends, may we all count our blessings in the present day.

May you be blessed with happiness, prosperity, peace, good health, and a daily dose of humor on Pesach and always!

Happy Passover! Theresa







March has blown in "like a lion," and has been really busy for our Sunday School. We began the month with Rockin' Shabbat on the 3rd. Students made masks for Purim, and Rabbi Aaron and Sharona led them in a service. Thanks to our older students for coming and helping. Also thanks to the Piassicks for overseeing the evening, and for a delicious Shabbat dinner.

On March 4th our students began their Passover candy phona-thon. Thank you to all of our congregants that received the students' calls, and supported them by ordering Passover candy. This activity is a small fundraiser for our religious school, but more importantly, it is a service to our Jewish community, and outreach from our students to our congregation. We appreciate everyone that participated! It was a wonderful success. Thank you, Pam Hill, for organizing it all!

Our students participated in the mitzvah of Shalach Manot. Items were collected for The Ronald McDonald House. We applaud our families and their students, and our teachers, as they brought in everything from trash bags to coffee to snacks to paper towels. Thanks to the Cornelius and Bernstein families for delivering the items.

We had several differentPurim celebrations for our students. On the 12th, the Teen Class and the Third-Fifth grade class paid Marty and Elmo Koplin a visit, and baked hamantaschen. Yum! Thank you Marty and Elmo and Jessica! That same morning the Seedling/Tot Class and the Kindergarten – Second Grade Class attended a Purim Carnival in the CSI Social Hall. Thank you to Jenna Denisar, Blair Kruger, and Anne Bayme for organizing and setting up. Also, thanks to everyone who helped staff the activities during the carnival. It should be noted that prior to the activities on this day, Jack Finkelstein and Isaac Crabtree helped clean out and organize all the Purim materials that live under the stage. We appreciate their help with that huge job!

We want to give a shout out to all of our students who did such a fabulous job during the CSI Purim Schpiel at the CSI Purim Family Night. We are so proud of them! Thank you to the parents who made sure our students got to where they needed to be to practice, as well as to participate.

Hoping everyone had a wonderful Spring Break, and looking forward to Passover around the corner. Our next scheduled Sunday School mornng is April 9th, and we will be celebrating with Bible Rap! You don't want to miss it!



Macon Outreach Needs Your Support

Please everyone, remember to bring food donations for the Macon Outreach Food Pantry. Our donations will serve many families in the Middle Georgia area who are in need of help. 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 Tikkun Olam by bringing a can with you on your way to services and/or religious school.



Congregation Sha'arey Israel is a partner with DAYBREAK, a daytime haven for members of our community who are either homeless or are in need of a place to spend a day with people; a place where they can shower, get a light snack, and feel part of a community.

Donations are needed for the following supplies: shampoo/body wash; body lotion; paper towels; toilet tissue; 13 gallon trash bags; HE laundry detergent; bleach; disposable food service gloves; disposable razors; washcloths; spray deodorant; dish detergent; coffee; coffee creamers; coffee stirrers; sugar bags; powdered lemonade; canned fruit cocktails; crew and boot socks; tea bags; air disinfectant spray

Daybreak has opened a boutique of gently used clothing. The store is called WEAR, and is located at 466 First Street. All donated items must be clean. Hangers are appreciated, but not required. Clothes for all members of the family are welcomed. All profits from the sale of the clothing will go to support Daybreak. You can drop off your donations at DAYBREAK, 174 Walnut







WINNER OF THE 2016 ACADEMY AWARD BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM SUNDAY, APRIL 9th, 2017 2:00 pm (post show discussion) 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm

While both participating in a production of "Death of a Salesman", A teacher's wife is assaulted in her new home, which leaves him Determined to find the perpetrator over his wife's traumatized Objections. Persian with subtitles Iran - 125 minutes - rated PG

TUESDAY, APRIL 18th, 2017 2:00 pm (post show discussion) 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm

13 year old Aisholpan trains to become the first female in 12 Generations of her Kazakh family to become an eagle huntress

> U.K - Mongolia - U.S Documentary 87 minutes - rated G

> COMING IN MAY 14TH A UNITED KINGDOM



Holocaust Remembrance Day יום השואה והגבורה

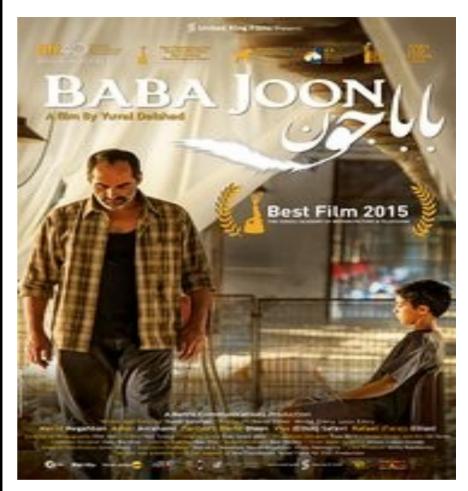
Their Songs Live On

Music and texts of Josef Pinkhof, Ilse Weber, William Hilsley, Boaz Bischofswerder, Shmerke Kascerginski, Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, And Chaim Nachman Bialik

> Performed by Adrian Gnam, Rebecca Lanning, Alexander Locke, and members of the Congregation Sha'arey Israel choir

April 23, Sunday at 4pm Congregation Sha'arey Israel 611 First Street Macon, Georgia

The entire community is welcome Admission is Free



The son of a family of Iranian farmers in Israel rebels against his strong-willed father.

CONGREGATION SHA'AREY ISRAEL FILM NIGHT AND COVERED DISH SUPPER SUNDAY, APRIL 30th AT 4:00 PM AT THE HOME OF JAMI AND JIMMY GAUDET 171 COVINGTON DRIVE RSVP TO LET JAMI KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BRINGING jfsgaudet@aol.com Reb Aaron's

HERBAL VINEGARS & HOT PEPPER SAUCE



Mulato, Chipotle, Arbol, Cascabel, Morita, Serrano, Jalapeño, and Habanero peppers. Get yourself some great stuff. To rephrase a famous lyric by the Young Rascals - *if you got the fever, I got the cure!*



NEW FLAVORS

Champaign vinegar with parsley, basil and garlic

White wine vinegar with arbol peppers and oregano (yummy & hot)

Sherry vinegar with parsley, thyme and rosemary

Red wine vinegar with marjoram and rosemary

Apple cider vinegar with shallots and tarragon

Only 4 of each left! \$10.00 each @ the CSI gift shop



3 NEW VINEGAR FLAVORS!

- ← Red wine vinegar with dill, marjoram, basil, bay leaves & black peppercorn
- White wine vinegar with lemon balm, garlic, tarragon & whole cloves
- Champaign vinegar with lemon balm

Proceeds benefit Neve Michael and Tikkun Olam Nicaragua



PROCEEDS FROM THE PURCHASE OF RABBI AARON'S HOT SAUCE AND VINEGARS WILL BE DONATED TO THE ELIZABETH SWEIGEL HEALTH TRUST Open Sundays during Religious School or by appointment. We wrap, ship and deliver locally. We accept cash, checks and all credit cards

THE CSI GIFT SHOP

Birthdays – Anniversaries - Weddings Bar/Bat Mitzvahs – Graduations - House Warming Gifts by appointment at any time. (within reason) Terri Frolich 477-8597 Or Deborah Adler 474-0505 Free local delivery







SHOP OUR EXTENSIVE SELECTION OF GIFTS FOR YOUR HOME WE HAVE BABY GIFTS, WEDDING GIFTS, GRADUATION, HOUSE WARMING GIFTS WE'RE NOT JUST YOUR JUDAICA STORE! WE WRAP, DELIVER LOCALLY AND SHIP YOUR GIFTS FOR YOU ALL JEWELLRY 35% OFF SPEND \$25.00 IN THE GIFT SHOP AND GET OUR CSI COOK BOOK FOR JUST \$5.00 (\$21.00 VALUE) AND A FREE JAR OF CHEF MARLA'S SPICES (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

5777 2017	Apri	nisan iyar			PUBLI	BEN SHING
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						5 nisan
						SERVICES 9:30 AM
						Vayikra
2 ^{6 nisan}	3 ^{7 nisan}	4 ^{8 nisan}	^{9 nisan}	6 ^{10 nisan}	7 ^{11 nisan} ¥	8 ^{12 nisan} 1
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL			HEBREW SCHOOL	MINYAN 7:00 AM	SERVICES 6:15 PM CANDLE LIGHTING 7:41	SERVICES 9:30 AM
						Tzav SHABBAT HAGADOL
9 ^{13 nisan}	10 ^{14 nisan} Å	11 ^{15 nisan}	12 ^{16 nisan}	13 ^{17 nisan}	14 ^{18 nisan} 🕅	15 ^{19 nisan} 🕅
SUNDAY SCHOOL TOTS/TEENS CHOCOLATE SEDER		OFFICE CLOSED SERVICE 9:30 AM	NO HEBREW SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED SERVICE 9:30 AM	MINYAN 7:00 AM	SERVICE 6:15 PM CANDLE LIGHTING 7:46	SERVICE 9:30 AM
SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ	FIRST SEDER	PASSOVER	PASSOVER	INTERMEDIATE DAY	INTERMEDIATE DAY	CHOL HAMOED
16 ^{20 nisan} Å	17 ^{21 nisan} Å	18 22 nisan	19 ^{23 nisan}	20 ^{24 nisan}	21 ^{25 nisan} Å	22 ^{26 nisan} ₩
SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT ED 10:15 AM	OFFICE CLOSED SERVICE 9:15 AM	OFFICE CLOSED SERVICE 9:30 AM	HEBREW SCHOOL	MINYAN 7:00 AM	SERVICE 6:15 PM ROCKIN' SHABBAT 5:30 CANDLE LIGHTING 7:51	SERVICE 9:30 AM
EASTER INTERMEDIATE DAY	PASSOVER	PASSOVER YIZKOR				Shemini
23 ^{27 nisan}	24 28 nisan	25 ^{29 nisan}	26 ^{30 nisan}	27 ^{1 yar}	28 ^{2 Iyar} Å	29 ^{3 tyar} ₩
HEBREW SCHOOL YOM			HEBREW SCHOOL	MINYAN 7:00 AM	SERVICE 6:15 PM CANDLE LIGHTING 7:56	SERVICE 9:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL/ADULT ED	YOM HASHOAH		ROSH CHODESH	ROSH CHODESH		Tazria-Metzora