

11 First Street Macon, Georgia 31201 www.csimacon.org

### AUGUST 2022 AV-ELUL 5782

### A Publication of Congregation Sha'arey Israel

A conservative congregation serving Macon and Middle Georgia
Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
www.uscj.org

Rabbi Aaron Rubinstein





# **Upcoming Services**

# **August Services**

**Thursday, August 4** 7 a.m. Minyan

Friday, August 5 6:15 pm Service

Saturday, August 6

Thursday, August 18 7:00 am Service

Friday, August 19 6:15 pm Service

Saturday, August 20

9:30 am Service 9:30 am Service

Thursday, August 11 Thursday, August 25

7:00 am Minyan 7:00 am Minyan

Friday, August 12 Friday, August 26
6:15 pm Service 6:15 pm Service

Saturday, August 13
9:30 am Service
9:30 am Service
9:30 am Service



# **Zoom Davening**

All services can be viewed via Zoom. You can access these either via computer, smart phone or call in and listen to services with any phone.

Here are the links you will need to 'attend' services:

Wednesday Torah Study - August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at 7 pm

https://zoom.us/j/94748985900? pwd=cmU3N1RUV0JYR25rTGRNZCtOaFBPUT09

**Passcode: 381362** 

By Phone: 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 947 4898 5900 \*\*Password: studytorah

Thursday Morning Minyan - August 4, 11, 18, 25 at 7:00 am

https://zoom.us/j/94233255435?pwd=NDg2bE5jejFOcVpqay9MZm42VGp0QT09

**Passcode: 695052** 

By Phone: 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 942 3325 5435 Password: 695052

### Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat - August 5, 12, 19, 26 at 6:15 pm

https://zoom.us/j/93760006426?pwd=RERBMU5KQ1cwR0RRUFI1TnYvcm9VZz09

Passcode: 661400

By Phone: 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 937 6000 6426 Password: 661400

Saturday Morning - **August 6, 13, 20, 27** at 9:30 am July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 9:30 am

https://zoom.us/j/94484008047?pwd=NkN2eVNiOTIMc3kwakpwdFdJdVVPUT09

Passcode: 420674

By Phone: 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 944 8400 8047 Password: 420674



# A Word From the Rabbi

# How Do We Meaningfully Connect to Tragedies from Antiquity?

For me, August holds the sadness of Tisha B'Av, the fast day commemorating the destruction of both Temples (the first, by the Babylonians, the second by the Romans), as well as a host of tragedies that befell our people long ago. Spending summers in Jewish summer camps, there "First, they came for the Communists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak out for me. "The final source I shall quote is from a speech that may sound familiar but, in a moment, we will discover that it's not. It was delivered by the leader of an embattled country to an international body of nations. This is what that leader said:

"I assert that the problem submitted to the Assembly today is a much wider one. It is

were lessons to be learned, lessons to be taught. I cherish childhood memories of hearing Eicha chanted in camp, soaking in lessons of history. And yet — it all seems too remote...the expulsion of Jews from Spain over five centuries ago, the Romans burning down the Second Temple nearly two millennia ago, the Babylonians destroying the First Temple nearly 2,600 years ago — these events feel like the impossibly dim light from distant stars. What lessons can we take home today? I have joked with colleagues and friends about the perennial tough sell of chanting dirges on a Saturday night in August. Within our modern lives, beset with an overload of headlines that loudly shout out a long list of awfulness from political dysfunction, a raging distant war, democracies around the world being tested by corruption and insurrection, the growing awareness that climate crises are no longer abstract topics — who possesses the emotional bandwidth for communal mourning rituals tying us to the distant past?! It's a fair question. We're severely overloaded. What are we trying to teach our children? To borrow a rabbinic Passover-flavored question, what do these rituals mean to us?

So immediately below is a timely piece of Torah from Rabbi David Golinken, one of my favorites from Jerusalem (going back to 1987-1989!). His Torah continually reminds me that ancient insights can still resonate for modern Jews once our eyes and ears are opened...

#### Shalom.

#### \*\*\*\*

As we approach Tisha B'av, my question today is: what is the connection between Tisha B'av and the war going on now in Ukraine? On Tisha B'av, there is a custom

not merely a question of the settlement of... aggression...

It is collective security. It is the very

existence of [this body] ...
In a word, it is international morality that is at stake. Have the signatures appended to a Treaty value only insofar as the signatory powers have a personal direct

signatory powers have a personal, direct and immediate interest involved? ...

Apart from the Kingdom of the Lord, there is not on this earth any nation that is superior to any other. Should it happen that a strong Government finds it may with impunity destroy a weak people, then the hour strikes for that weak people to appeal to [this body] to give its judgment in all freedom. God and history will remember your judgment."

And finally, he said, "This is not a case of the impossibility of stopping an aggressor, but of the refusal to stop an aggressor."

You might think that this is a quote from President Zelensky of Ukraine talking to the United Nations about the Russian invasion of his country – but you would be wrong. It's a quote from Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia talking to the League of Nations in Geneva in June of 1936 after Italy invaded his country without provocation, and with the help of poison gas, managed to capture his country. He came to the League of Nations, and he asked for their help — and they did absolutely nothing.

Thus, we see that there is a direct line from the story of Bar Kamtza in the tractate of Gittin about the Destruction of the Second Temple, which teaches us what happens when good men do nothing. This is what happened in Ethiopia in 1936. This is what happened during the Shoah from 1933 to 1945. And this is what could happen in Ukraine if the world does not

to study a famous section of the Talmud (tractate Gittin folios 55b-58a) which contains legends and stories about the Destruction of the Second Temple.

The first story in that section tells the story of a certain wealthy Jew who lived in Jerusalem, who had a friend named Kamtza and an enemy named Bar Kamtza. He sent his servant to invite Kamtza to a feast, but by mistake, the servant brings Bar Kamtza. When Bar Kamtza shows up and sits down at the meal, the host goes over to him and says "What are you doing here! Get out!" Bar Kamtza replies: "Since I am here, let me stay, and I will pay for whatever I eat and drink." The host says, "No, get out!" Bar Kamtza says:" I'm willing to pay for half of this entire feast." The host says, "No, get out!" "I'm willing to pay for the entire feast." The host says "No! get out!". Bar Kamtza says: "Since the rabbis were sitting there and did not stop him, this shows that they agreed with him. I will go and inform against them to the Government."

In other words, because the host publicly insulted Bar Kamtza while the rabbis sat there and did nothing, Bar Kamtza went to the Roman Emperor and slandered the Jews and the end result was the siege on Jerusalem and the Destruction of the Second Temple.

The lesson of this tragic story can be summarized in a quote attributed to Edmund Burke in the 18th century: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing".

This idea was reiterated after the Holocaust by the anti-Nazi Lutheran Minister Martin Niemoller. It's not exactly what he said, but it's the gist of a speech he delivered in January 1946:

continue to aid Ukraine.

When we see individuals being mistreated, we must speak up.
When we see entire ethnic groups and minorities being discriminated against, we must take action.

When we see peaceful countries being attacked for no reason, we must protest and force our governments to help the victims.

This is one of the important lessons of Tisha B'av.

#### (Rubinstein's wrap-up)

Our minds are deeply distracted. School schedules, strategizing our travel routines as we dodge waves of COVID — it's tough to engage our community with a section of Talmud when we're up to our necks in the hot mess of 2022. But it turns out, if we clear a bit a space within our mental clutter, we'll hear this call to reject passivity in the face of tyranny. When we stand aloof, hand over our eyes and ears, pretending — not my problem, not my fight! - the bullies understand the message. They realize how much they can get away with. They understand that people just don't care that much. Our people bear the trauma and the scars that come with this knowledge. If we look away from the horror, if we remain silent and indifferent, how can we face our own image in the mirror? What will tell our children when they ask us why we sat this tragedy out, lost in our own noise?



### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Seems like yesterday we were finishing religious school for the year and summer was something to look forward too! Now school is starting soon, and we are preparing for another great school year at CSI. It has been challenging these past two years since the pandemic began, we worked hard last year to bring things back to a semblance of normal. Be on the lookout for upcoming information about Religious and Hebrew classes.

We are continually reviewing CDC guidelines and staying informed on other Congregations' procedures relating to COVID to protect everyone during services or meetings. Although masks are currently required to attend services, we hope the numbers will go down soon and we can again become mask optional.

The Rabbi and the Ritual committee will be meeting soon to discuss plans for the High Holidays and whether we will be able to have our pre-Kol Nidre dinner, Break the Fast and the various Sukkah hops and dinners here at shul. Please be patient as we are attempting to balance everyone's preferences with the science and what is the best practice to protect our most vulnerable congregants from catching COVID and its many newer strains that seem to crop up as one is being eliminated or significantly reduced.

Please stay tuned for more exciting changes in the months to come. Hope to see all of you in shul or on Zoom!

in shul or on Zoom!	
Shalom!	
Shelley	



#### THE CSI BOOK CLUB

The CSI Book Club will meet on Sunday, August 21 at 1 p.m. The new reading is *All Who Go Do Not Return* by Shulem Deen. All are welcome. Please contact Jan Lewis with any questions at janlewis73@gmail.com.

Rabbi Aaron is meeting with congregants by appointment. You can call him at 478-250-5952 to schedule an appointment.

### CSI DIRECTORY/ADBOOK

The CSI Directory/Adbook is currently being updated. If anyone has any changes with an address, cell/home phone number or email, or if a birthday/anniversary has been omitted, please contact the CSI office with the corrected information.



# Mi Sheberach



Please call Stephanie at the synagogue office 478-745-4571 or email her at secretary@csimacon.org for donations to all funds <a href="mailto:Except"><u>Except</u></a> The Wall of Jerusalem and Noah's Ark Funds.

For donations to the Wall of Jerusalem Fund, please call Shelley Kruger at 478-474-0060.

For donations to the Noah's Ark Fund, please call Anne Bayme at 478-474-0063.

Yahrtzeit donations should be mailed directly to synagogue.

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Please note that you can also make donations to the various CSI funds through our website:

www.csimacon.org

It's easy and quick!
You can designate which fund to
honor your loved ones.

Congregation Sha'arey Israel extends
Get Well Wishes
to the following:

Larry Elowitz
Ellen Goodrich
Ian Altman
Linda Blumenthal



# August <u>Birthdays</u>

- 4 Sol Hirsh
- 5 Stephanie Johnson
- 7 Ian Altman
- 8 Juan Carlos Rodriguez
- 10 Zohar Rubinstein
- 12 Elaine Dreizen
- 13 Elijah Bloodworth
- 15 Edward Vogel
- 16 Jeff Lehman
- 16 Sharon Purcel
- 16 Laura Ilan
- 19 Seth Hirsh
- 19 Steve Schwartz
- 21 Ronnie Wulwick
- 22 Sig Dayan
- 23 Amalie Proskauer
- 23 Richard Bullington
- 24 Jill Neimark
- 25 Robert Schwartz
- 29 Cindy Burstein



Congregation Sha'arey Israel extends its condolences to Vickie Brown Richards and the Richards family on the passing of her husband William Richards.

HaMakom Yenachem

May God comfort all who mourn.



# August Anniversaries

- 9 Henry & Debbie Oliner
- 15 Rosalind & Gary Simson
- 16 Burt & Dorothy Haskins
- 16 Scott & Allison Brody
- 17 Bill & Pamela Webster
- 20 David & Terri Frolich
- 20 Steve & Shelley Kruger
- 28 Dourlas & Reeda Katz

30 - Joshua Cohen30 - Chrissy Crabtree



## SYNAGOGUE & MAZEL TOV FUND DONATIONS

In memory of Kay Morrison Israel

In memory of Sol Kent Joan & David Kent

In memory of my mother, Esther Harris Joan & David Kent

In memory of my father, Henry Vogel Ed Vogel

In memory of Eleanor Winer

Michael Winer

Chana Dayne Winter

In memory of my father, Leon Singer Richard Singer William Singer

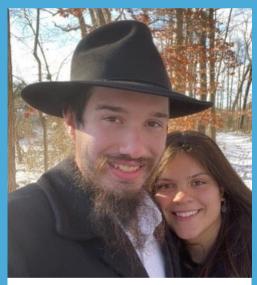
In memory of my sister, Katherine Singer Eidex Richard Singer

In memory of Annette Dotson
Eva Cogar

In memory of my mother,



Mazel tov to Johnny Cohen. He accepted a new position as a Professor of Foundations at the Savannah College of Art and Design.



Mazel tov to Teva Ilan who graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Master's of Science degree in Astrophysics in August 2021. After a gap year of studies at the Rabbinical College of America Yeshiva and Kollel in Morristown, NJ, Teva and his wife, Rachel, will return to UW-Madison where he will pursue a Ph.D. in medical physics in September 2022.

### Brenda Slivka

Rosalind Simson

In memory of my father, Raymond Arogeti

Shelley Kruger

In memory of my son, Jeff Kirsh

Alan & Fran Kirsh

In memory of my mother, Helen Chanin

Steve Chanin

In memory of my father, Harry Chanin

Brenda Turetsky

In memory of William Richards

Jay & Lynn Freedman

Happy birthday to Sharona Rubinstein

Jay & Lynn Freedman

Mazel tov to Will Finkelstein's summa cum laude graduation

Jay & Lynn Freedman

Donation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Nancy Shapiro

Happy anniversary to Robert & Carol Chanin

Alan & Hershene Goldman



### **Torah Fund**

In loving memory of my beloved brother, Marty Kahn

David & Terri Frolich

In loving memory of my beloved grandfather, Kevy Kahn

David & Terri Frolich

In loving memory of Jeff Kirsh

David & Terri Frolich

Happy anniversary to Carol & Robert Chanin

David & Terri Frolich

Happy anniversary to Jack & Gail Krapf

Alan & Fran Kirsh

David Kent's speedy recovery

David & Terri Frolich



Help our shul raise funds
the easy way!
Shop Amazon Smile
and choose our shul to receive
a portion of what you spend.

http://smile.amazon.com



Congregation Sha'arey Israel is a partner with DAYBREAK, a daytime safe 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. They also receive access to the following services:

Housing and housing replacement
Case management
Breakfast and snacks
Laundry facilities
Showers
Free health clinic
Access to phones and computers
Transportation assistance
Identification and documentation

About 100 homeless people visit Daybreak for various levels of assistance each day. More information on Daybreak can be found by calling (478) 216-9119 or visit <a href="https://depaulusa.org/programs/macon/">https://depaulusa.org/programs/macon/</a>. You can also drop off donated items at their Macon location at 174 Walnut Street.

You can also ship directly from Amazon!!!



**August 2022 Yahrzeits** 

# **Evening of** July 29th/30th-August 5th

Scheiwa Granek Helen Frank Chanin\* Abraham Louis Cohen Morris L. Rubinstein Michael Yardeni\* Mose Chanin\* Norman Slivka Shelia Weger

Seemah Shier\* Fanny Burg\*

# **Evening of** August 5th/6th-August 12th

Bess Cotton\*

Joe Goldman\*

Harry Benn Arlene Sachs Lipson Anna Vogel Eva Gordon Chanin\* Evelyn Weiner Chanin\* John Jennings\* Marvin Kirsh Pearl Kaplan Lavine Charles Goldstein Harris Saul Pollock\*

## **Evening of** August 12th/13th-August 19th

Sarah Greenberg Turner\*

Russel Blum Isaac Cohen\* Bess Lutsky Wohl\* Leon Dolinsky\*

Aline Simmons\* Joshua Adelstone Margie Macey Becker\* Katherine Goldstein Marshall Hutten Fanny Kahn

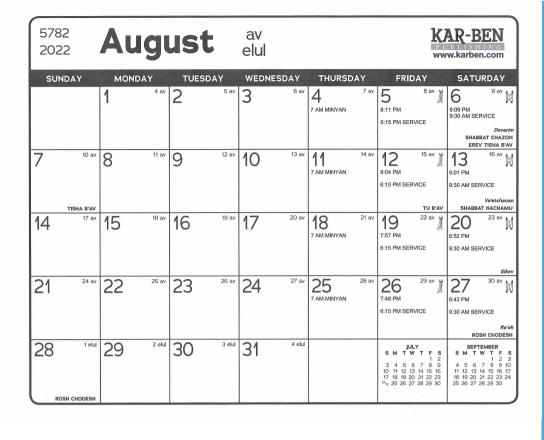
## **Evening of** August 19th/20th-August 26th

Joseph Galkin Jacob Lachterman Morris Potosky Alexander Zeldin Walter Turner\* A.H. Zeldin Alan I. Stencel Joseph K. Oliner Isadore Shier\*

## **Evening of** August 26th/27th-September 4th

Kohlman Koplin\* Alma Dykman Frances Kamensky Robert Rappaport\* Jacob Kaplan Morris Cohen Gladys Rosen Shirley Abromowitz Hyman Bennett\* Ralph Bobo\* Barry Freedman\* Meyer Mendelson Schneider Sam Slotchiver

\* Indicates names listed on a plaque in the main sanctuary.



#### **Executive Committee**

President - Shelley Davidson
Vice President - Jan Lewis
Treasurer/Ex Officio - Evan Koplin
Recording Secretary - Pam Hill
Corresponding Secretary - Lara Geller
Parliamentarian/Member-atLarge/Security - Theresa Rosengart

### **Board Chairs**

Adult Education - Rosalind Simson
Board of Education - Jennifer Bernstein
Cemetery - Joe Finkelstein
Gifts & Memorials - Michael Kruger
Membership - Pam Webster
House - Brian Crabtree
Social Action - David Ilan
Ways and Means - Jan Lewis
Ritual - Jeff Lehman
Special Projects - Gary Simson





9 am - 2:30pm Friday Lunch 1:00pm - 2:00pm

9 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Thursday

# Our mailing address is:

611 First Street Macon, Georgia 31201