



# Shofar

611 First Street    Macon, Georgia 31201    [www.csimacon.org](http://www.csimacon.org)

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**JULY TAMUZ-AV 5785**

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**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](http://www.uscj.org)

Rabbi Aaron Rubinstein



## **Upcoming Services**

**Thursday, July 3**

7:00 am Minyan

**Friday, July 4**

6:15 pm Service

**Saturday, July 5**

9:30 am Service

**Thursday, July 10**

7:00 am Minyan

**Friday, July 11**

**Friday, July 18**

6:00 pm Service

**Saturday, July 19**

9:30 am Service

**Thursday, July 24**

7:00 am Minyan

**Friday, July 25**

6:15 pm Service

6:15 pm Service

**Saturday, July 26**

9:30 am Service

**Saturday, July 12**

9:30 am Service

**Thursday, July 31**

7:00 am Minyan

**Thursday, July 17**

7:00 am Minyan



## **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. We are using one link for ALL services. All services dealing with praying/davening and Torah Study will use the link below.

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

**Passcode: 420674**

**By Phone: 1-929-436-2866**

**Meeting ID: 944 8400 8047    Password: 420674**

**Service Dates and Times:**

**Wednesday Torah Study - July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 7 pm**

**Thursday Morning Minyan - July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at 7 am**

**Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat - July 4, 11, 18, 25 at 6:15 pm**

**Saturday Morning Service - July 5, 12, 29, 26 at 9:30 am**



## **A Word From the Rabbi**

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### **We the People**

July greetings to everyone!

The above title feels like an obvious choice for July, due to July 4, right around the corner. As you'd expect, many folks make the holiday weekend into a getaway, try to beat the heat, escape. And there are folks who search out the fireworks, a parade, traditional



patriotic fare. And, it turns out, July 4-5 falls on Shabbat. Most of us are familiar with the prayer for our country, found after the haftarah blessings, before we sing the Torah back into the ark. Our siddur also contains an excellent historical note, putting this reading into context. Long story short — going back several centuries, wherever we have lived, following ancient rabbinic tradition, pray on behalf of the leaders of the nation in which we live. Being Jewish — here and elsewhere — can be quite fraught. Small wonder that prayer books the world over contain such a prayer.

But I want to go beyond the notion of Jews judiciously hedging their bets and being 'good' citizens/tolerated guests. However we process our hyphenated identities, we (in varying degrees) live very American lives. Here's where the title of this article comes in — We're inextricably connected to the history and the politics and many other cultural aspects of being American. Two ancient Hebrew words come to mind here. First, there's 'Am' (עם), nation (Am Yisrael Chai, for example). How was our Jewish national identity forged? I'd argue that it's the collective memory of the Exodus, the tradition of Revelation at Sinai, and a host of historical events (triumphant as well as tragic) that shape us. The second Hebrew word is 'Edah' (עדה), Cohort/Nation. The root 'Ed' (עד), witness is at the core. Members of an Edah share experiences and truths to which they bear witness. These two terms begin to describe the ingredients that make who we are. So, through the lenses of our Jewish eyes, what do we discern as we ponder We the People? What is our shared experience? Do we share a covenantal relationship with our fellow Americans? How about our understanding of what America is /should be about? I ask these questions because July is the season of celebrating American independence, a bit like the way the Jewish month Nisan is all about Passover and its particular flavor of freedom. These three words: We the People, it turns out, offer a rich menu of serious food for thought. In between the entertainment and escape and relaxation — especially in the...complicated moment in which we live — we would do well to wrap our minds around We the People.

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

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## **A WORD FROM CSI CO-PRESIDENTS**

Shalom. Many of you know me but some of you don't, so I will go ahead and introduce myself. My name is Michael Kruger, and I am happy to be joining Jan Lewis as a co-president of our congregation as we enter a new year. Our synagogue has always been a special place for me as I grew up in Macon coming to 611 First St. for as long as I can remember. My great-great grandparents were some of the earliest members that established our congregation, and several members of my family have served as its president over the decades. As the parent of three young students currently in our religious school, I have the honor of continuing that legacy as we move our shul forward while honoring our past.

Summer is here and as things may be slowing down a bit, we do have a few upcoming CSI events to mention. We will be hosting our next Family Shabbat on Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at the Koplin's house in Macon. Elmo and Marty were kind enough to offer their home (and pool!) to host this event. The last Family Shabbat was a great success, and it was wonderful to see all the children playing after the service. I am confident this one will be even better with such a fun location. We hope you will attend and bring your swimsuits!

Another event fast approaching is especially meaningful for me as my son, Brady Kruger, will be called to the Torah for his Bar Mitzvah. We will be celebrating this wonderful occasion on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> with morning services and a Kiddush luncheon to follow.

We are only a few months away from the High Holidays. If you would like to purchase honors for Rosh Hashanah and/or Yom Kippur, please contact Jeff Lehman. This is also the time of year where we kick off our Annual Fund. Most of you know this, but it bears repeating that the Annual Fund is what keeps us going financially, and you'll be hearing more about it in the coming months.

Looking forward to a great year at CSI!

-Michael & Jan

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# Sponsor a Kiddush Lunch at Congregation Sha'arey Israel

*Honor a Loved One, Celebrate a Milestone, or Remember Someone Special*

Congregation Sha'arey Israel invites you to sponsor a Kiddush lunch, a meaningful way to mark important occasions while supporting our community.

## Why Sponsor a Kiddush Lunch?

- Commemorate a special event
- Honor a friend or family member
- Remember a loved one
- Support our congregation

## Sponsorship Details:

- Minimum sponsorship: \$36
- Your sponsorship helps defray the costs of our complimentary Kiddush Lunches

## Recognition:

- Sponsorship announced in our weekly congregational email
- Acknowledged during Friday and Saturday announcements from the Bima

## How to Sponsor:

Contact our office to arrange your Kiddush lunch sponsorship today!

Phone: 478-745-4571

Email: [secretary@csimacon.org](mailto:secretary@csimacon.org)

**Join us in this mitzvah and create lasting memories for our community!**

Congregation Sha'arey Israel  
611 First Street  
Macon, Georgia 31210

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### THE CSI BOOK CLUB

The CSI Book Club will meet via Zoom at 1 PM on Sunday, July 20 to discuss *The Rabbi's Cat*, by Joann Sfar. All are welcome.

Please contact Jan Lewis at [janlewis73@gmail.com](mailto:janlewis73@gmail.com) for more information.

### Dive Into **SHABBAT**

FRIDAY JULY 25, 2025

6:00 PM

Poolside at the home of  
Elmo & Marty Koplin  
130 Woodmere Trail  
Macon

FAMILY  
SHABBAT SERVICE  
AND  
DAIRY COVERDISH  
DINNER



Please RSVP below  
if you plan to attend.

SAVE THESE DATES EVENTS at CSI		
7/25 6PM	Family Shabbat	Koplin's Pool
9/13	Selichot Program	
10/1	Kol Nidre Dinner	
10/5	Sukkah Decorating @ CSI	
10/6	Supper In The Sukkah	
10/10	Supper @ Rubinstein's Sukkah	
10/24	Family Shabbat @ CSI	
12/14	Chaukah Family Night & Menorah Lighting	Downtown Macon
2/6/26	Family Shabbat	
3/2/26	Purim Shpiel	
4/12/26	Yom HaShoah Program @ CSI	
5/8/26	Family Shabbat	

### RSVP



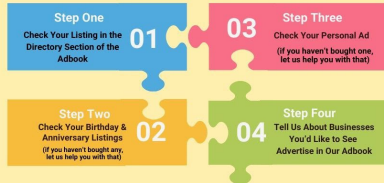
### TODA RABAH TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

*Laurel Robinson* for the fabulous  
Yad-making workshop on  
Shavuot

*Rosalind Simson and Rabbi  
Aaron* for the inspiring Shavuot

**We Are Putting Together  
All The Pieces Of The  
2025-26 CSI Adbook**

*Here's What We'd Like You To Do:*



*We could also use more help with this fundraiser  
so if you can lend a hand, please let us know ♥*

eve celebration

*Dan Wengier and Shelley  
Davidson* for the delicious Shavuot  
eve dinner

*Pam Webster* for presenting TWO  
reports each month at BOG  
meetings for the past year

*Sabrina Wengier* and her Long-  
Range Planning Committee for  
preparing a new Mission  
Statement for CSI

# Save the Date

You are encouraged to mark your  
calendars and attend this  
important event!

**EVENT:**

Countering Active Threats  
Training (CATT)  
& Situational Awareness  
Presentation

**WHERE:**

Congregation Sha'arey Israel  
Synagogue Main Sanctuary  
611 First Street / Macon, Georgia  
(use Plum Street entrance)

**WHEN:**

Sunday, August 17, 2025  
at 1:30 pm  
(arrive 10-15 minutes early to get  
signed in)

**PRESENTER:**

Neil Rabinovitz  
Regional Director, Southeast /  
Secure Community Network  
in collaboration with CSI Security  
Committee



## **Mi Sheberach**

Congregation Sha'arey Israel  
extends Get Well Wishes to:

Ian Altman  
Mark Bresler  
Henry Koplin  
Miriam & Kive Wengier  
David Frolich




RSVP required with attendee name(s) & contact info (email/ phone) by August 12, 2025 for admittance to [secretary@csimacon.org](mailto:secretary@csimacon.org).



## **July Birthdays**

- 1 - Robert Chanin
- 2 - Jennifer Bernstein
- 2 - Sylvia Brown
- 6 - Christopher Jackson
- 6 - Merrill Sanden
- 8 - Fabianne Perofsky
- 9 - Stuart Kent
- 11 - Steve Cohen
- 13 - David Cohen
- 14 - Shelley Kruger
- 15 - Jennifer Baxley
- 15 - Brady Kruger
- 19 - Markus Hill
- 22 - Charles Bradley Kent
- 23 - Carol Chanin
- 23 - Robert Fieldsteel
- 24 - Amy Cohen
- 28 - Rachel Goodrich
- 30 - Katherine Perofsky



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AUGUST - SEPT 30  
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## **SYNAGOGUE & MAZEL TOV FUND DONATIONS**

**In memory of my beloved father, Louis Oscherwitz**  
Diane Vogel

**In memory of my beloved Charles A. Harris**  
Joan & David Kent

**In memory of my beloved Sol Kent**  
Joan & David Kent

**In memory of Kay Morrison**  
Israel



## **July Anniversaries**

6 - Sabrina & Daniel Wengier  
11 - Ronnie & Ken Wulwick  
15 - Gail & Jack Krapf  
24 - Robert & Carol Chanin



### **KRUGER TORAH FUND**

**Happy 75th Birthday to  
Scott Bayme**  
Alan & Hershene Goldman



Please call Stephanie  
at the synagogue office  
478-745-4571 or email her at  
[secretary@csimacon.org](mailto:secretary@csimacon.org)  
for donations to all funds  
except The Wall of Jerusalem.

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 the CSI secretary.  
Yahrzeit 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](http://www.csimacon.org)

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



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. DAYBREAK needs volunteers. If interested, call (478) 216-9119 or visit <https://depaulusa.org/programs/macon/>. You can also drop off donated items at their Macon location at 174 Walnut Street. You can also ship directly from Amazon.

Daybreak's current needs are:

canned or fresh fruit	large sturdy back packs
applesauce	Bio freeze
breakfast bars (soft)	Claritin
sandwich cookie packs	daytime cold medicine-no alcohol
powered lemonade/tea	eye drops
coffee creamer	insect repellent
instant grits	hydrocortisone cream
sugar	reader glasses - 2.00/higher
brown paper snack bags	Benadryl
plastic spoons	ponchos
lawn bags - 33 gallon	disinfectant spray
vinegar	air freshner
bleach	hand/foot towels
men's T-shirts (white, size lg, XL, 2X)	\$10 gift cards
men & women's underwear	



## **July 2025 Yahrzeits**

**Evening of**  
**July 4th/5th-July 11th**

Eleanor Winer  
Solomon Avrunin\*  
Leon Singer

Gerald Straus  
Arthur Schwartz  
Katherine S. Eidex  
Hyman Katz  
William Richards



Isidor Goldman\*  
Helen Rubin

Jeffrey Kirsh\*  
Isaac Samuel Rubin

**Evening of**  
**July 11th/12th-July 18th**

Brenda Slivka  
Henry Vogel  
Leslie Jampole  
Gayle Bullington

**Evening of**  
**July 18th/19th-July 25th**

Raymond Arogeti  
Florence Besser

**Evening of**  
**July 25th/26th-Aug. 1st**

Eli Freedman\*  
Sarah D. Avrunin\*  
Sally Granek  
Helen Frank Chanin\*  
Morris L. Rubinstein  
Michael Yardeni\*  
Shelia Weger  
Mose Chanin\*  
Norman Slivka

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

5785 2025	<b>July</b>	tamuz av	<b>KAR-BEN</b> PUBLISHING www.karben.com			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<small>JUNE</small> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<small>AUGUST</small> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 5 tamuz	2 6 tamuz	3 7 tamuz 7 AM MINYAN	4 8 tamuz 8:28 PM 6:15 PM SERVICE	5 9 tamuz 9:29 PM 9:30 AM SERVICE
6 10 tamuz	7 11 tamuz	8 12 tamuz	9 13 tamuz	10 14 tamuz 7 AM MINYAN	11 15 tamuz 8:26 PM 6:15 PM SERVICE	12 16 tamuz 9:27 PM 9:30 AM SERVICE
13 17 tamuz	14 18 tamuz	15 19 tamuz	16 20 tamuz	17 21 tamuz 7 AM MINYAN	18 22 tamuz 8:24 PM 6:15 PM SERVICE	19 23 tamuz 9:23 PM 9:30 AM SERVICE
20 24 tamuz FAST OF 17TH OF TAMUZ	21 25 tamuz	22 26 tamuz	23 27 tamuz	24 28 tamuz 7 AM MINYAN	25 29 tamuz 8:19 PM 6:15 PM SERVICE	26 1 av 9:18 PM 9:30 AM SERVICE
27 2 av	28 3 av	29 4 av	30 5 av	31 6 av 7 AM MINYAN		<i>Matot-Masei</i> ROSH CHODESH

**2025-2026**  
**Executive Committee**

**2025-2026**  
**Committee Chairs**

Co-Presidents - Jan Lewis, Michael Kruger  
Vice President - Lara Geller  
Treasurer - Evan Koplin  
Recording Secretary - Pamela Hill  
Corresponding Secretary - Allison Bloodworth  
Ex-Officio - Shelley Davidson  
Rabbi - Aaron Rubinstein

Adult Education - Rosalind Simson  
Board Of Education - Jennifer Bernstein, Shalom Keenum  
Cemetery - Marty Koplin  
Gifts and Memorials - TBA  
House - Jonathan Atzmon, Markus Hill  
Kitchen - Shelley Davidson  
Long-Range Planning - Sabrina Wengier  
Marketing/Communications - Chip Koplin  
Membership - Pamela Webster  
Ritual - Jeff Lehman  
Security/Parliamentarian - Theresa Rosengart  
Social Action - Bonnie Cornelius  
Special Projects - Gary Simson



**Secretary - Stephanie Johnson**

**Office Hours**

8 am - 4 pm Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

8 am - 12 pm Friday

Lunch 1:00pm - 2:00pm

**Our mailing address is:**

611 First Street Macon, Georgia 31201

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