

Congregation Children of Israel Augusta's Oldest Jewish Congregation January 2012 Tevet—Shevet 5772

Keeping the Dream Alive: Why Dr. King Still Matters



Music begins at 6:45 PM, Service at 7:00 PM Thursday, January 12

Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church 2261 Walton Way (at Johns Rd.)

We are honored to have as this year's Keynote Speaker

The Rev. Dr. Raphael Gamaliel Warnock

Of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Atlanta

(Dr. Martin Luther King's home church)

Join many others from Augusta's interfaith community for music and for words of hope and challenge.

A reception follows.

Celebration and interfaith service sponsored by the Progressive Religious Coalition of Augusta.







Brotherhood Deli Night

Saturday, January 28 at 6:30 PM at CCI

Folk Music with Mara
Barbershop
and Classical Guitar

Deli Sandwiches with Choice of Filling (Corned Beef, Pastrami, Turkey, Egg Salad) and Bread (Plain Rye, Seeded Rye, Gluten Free) Sides (Garlic Dill Pickles, Half Sour Pickles, Sour Tomatoes, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad) Beverages (Dr. Brown's Soda – Regular or Diet, and Iced Tea)

Cost \$25 per person

Send Reservation to office@cciaugusta.org or call 706-736-3140 by January 25

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS



It was so exciting to share our Chanukah dinner with so many of you on Wednesday evening. A week before the event our reservation list was rather short, but when the evening finally arrived, we had over 150 people celebrating Chanukah together. There was a real sense of joy and unity as we celebrated this joyous holiday as a congregation. As we commemorated the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem so long ago, it almost felt like a rededication of and to our own Temple.

While some express concern for the future of Congregation Children of Israel and the Jewish community in Augusta in general, and it is true that the numbers of Jews in the CSRA has declined over the years, the attendance and excitement that evening indicated that we have a bright future ahead. It was especially wonderful to see so many young people with us that night. We had almost 30 children under the age of 13 pre-

sent and several teenagers! Seeing young couples with their babies and toddlers celebrating together with our senior members demonstrated the potential of congregation. We encourage those who attended the Chanukah dinner, but who are not yet officially members of our congregation, to call Elyse Kronowski, our Temple Administrator, to formalize you membership.

From the lighting of all the Menorahs, to the singing led by Marc Gottlieb, to the children making Chanukah Menorahs with my wife, Francine, and even to my little "miracle" with the pitcher of water (symbolizing the oil) which emptied out again and again, but yet seemed to be replenished each time, it was an exciting and memorable evening

A very special thank to Ila Abramovitz who coordinated the delicious dinner, including turkey and latkes and to the many people who helped with the cooking, the set up, and all the other aspects of the celebration. On Monday evening the kitchen was crowded to the point of overflowing with all the Temple members who came to help.

Part of why it was so exciting to see all the young people here for Chanukah was because I had just come back from the Union for Reform Biennial in Washington, D.C. It was the largest URJ Biennial in history with over 5,000 people. During the Biennial, we recognized the work of Rabbi Eric Yoffie, the retiring President of the URJ and the installed Rabbi Rick Jacobs as the new URJ President. Rabbi Jacobs' main focus of his address was the new Campaign for Youth Engagement. He spoke about how we do not see our teenager after Bar Mitzvah and how few Jewish young adults in their 20s and 30s are involved in Jewish life. While the average age of our members at Congregation Children of Israel may be above the average age in Reform congregation throughout the country, we have recently seen a much larger percentage of young adults coming to our services, and they were surely here for Chanukah. Almost all of the post Bar and Bat Mitzvah students in our congregation have come to at least some of our teens meetings and very few families have left the congregation after the Bar or Bat Mitzvah ceremony of their children. There are very few congregations that can say as much about the teens and young families in their synagogues. We still have a great deal to do to keep our young people involved and to increase the involvement of all our members, but the Chanukah dinner illustrated their great potential which exists in our congregation.

As advertised elsewhere in this newsletter, the Progressive Religious Coalition again this year is sponsoring an interfaith service celebrating Martin Luther King's Birthday. The service will be held this year on Thursday, January 12 at Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church. I look forward to seeing many of you at this important community event.

I hope you have had a very happy Chanukah and that you will remember that, along with the rededication of the Temple in Judaism, we are all called to rededicate ourselves to our Temple and to our Judaism.

Rabbí Robert Klensín

Walton Way Temple 3005 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30909 (706) 736-3140 or (706) 738-8579 office@cciaugusta.org www.cciaugusta.org

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS for 2011-2012

Membership Congregational Rel. Music Heather Altman Murray Freedman Sandra Freedman

Religious Practices Steve N Fund-Raising/Lifelong Learning

Steve Nathan

Karen N

Karen Nanning Jean Brody

House

Web Master

ster George David webmaster@cciaugusta.org

Bulletin Editor M

Marc Gottlieb

Affiliated with the



President's Message



I hope you all had a great Hanukkah celebration with family and friends. There were lots of things going on at the Temple this past month, including preparation for our Temple Hanukkah dinner on December 21, the first night of Hanukkah. The Brotherhood and Sisterhood are to be thanked for sponsoring this event at no cost to the Temple or congregants. We all appreciate Sisterhood President Jean Brody and Brotherhood President Mike Cherry for their work and support. Also I must acknowledge Steve "The Rock" Nathan for his organizing the Brotherhood Latke

preparation and cooking for the Hanukkah dinner. Steve is always there to help whether it is greeting people at services on Friday nights, serving on the Temple Board as head of the Religious Practices Committee, supervising construction of the sukkah, cooking dinners on the grill or in the kitchen, or keeping Saturday Torah study organized. In his 'day job' Steve is a highly respected nuclear physicist at the US Department of Energy's Savannah River National Laboratory, serving our nation as well.

Heather Altman has been busy as Chair of the Membership Committee. Heather is organizing a special Shabbat dinner for new members on Friday, January 6. We have 10 new members thanks to Heather's, Rabbi Klensin's, and Temple administrator Elyse Kronowski's efforts. Please plan to join us for this special event and welcome our new members so call the Temple office for your reservation. Guests are of course always welcome.

I had the pleasure of volunteering with several Temple members including Dr. Lou Scharff at the Golden Harvest Soup Kitchen over Thanksgiving weekend. Many Golden Harvest regulars and staff know Lou from his many years of volunteering and welcome him by name. As most of you know, Lou received the 2011 Humanitarian of the Year Award at the Augusta Jewish Community Center for his tireless community service. Lou is not resting on his laurels, still helping to serve those who need it most.

Lots of great activities are coming up at the Temple in 2012. Please watch all Temple announcements and this Bulletin for up coming events including a fun dance with DJ, food festival, opportunities to volunteer in our community, our annual Casino Night, a Congregation Sunday Dinner, as well as educational classes, Torah study, and services.

I really appreciate all those who let me know that they enjoy reading this Bulletin. Editor/Publisher Marc Gottlieb is of course the one who 'puts it all together'. Thank-you Marc!

Shalom, Robin Brigmon

SHABBAT & HOLIDAY SERVICES

Friday, January 6

New Member/

Intergenerational Dinner 6:00 PM Shabbat Service 7:00 PM Parshat Vayechi (Gen. 47:28-50:26)

Birthday Blessings

Saturday January 7

Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM

Friday, January 13

Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Parshat Shemot (Ex. 1:1-6:1)

Saturday, January 14

Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Tot Shabbat 10:00 AM

Friday, January 20

Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Parshat Vaera (Ex. 6:2-9:35) Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, January 21

Service 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Havdallah 7:30 PM

Friday, January 27

Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Parshat Bo (Ex. 10:1-13:16)

Saturday, January 28

Service 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Deli Night 6:30 PM

Friday, February 3

Bd Shabbat Dinner 6:00 PM Shabbat Service 7:00 PM Parshat Beshalach (Gen. 44:18-47:27)

Saturday, Feb 4

Service 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM



Our Special
Shabbat Experience for young
children and their families

Saturday, Jan. 14 at 10:00 AM

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Tot Shabbat will be Saturday, January 14th.

Please help us fill the bins in the entrance area (just outside the office) with non-perishable goods. Just think what we can accomplish if we all bring one item each time we come to the temple.

Our next Family Shabbat Dinner will be Friday, January 6th, 2012.

Purim is not that far off (Thursday, March 12, 2012). Carrie Collister is working with Rabbi Klensin to procure the script for our Purim Celebration. If you would like to participate please contact Carrie (carrieann1224@gmail.com) or me.

I encourage all of you to contact me with any questions/suggestions you have or if you would like to participate on this committee. We are looking for volunteers to help prepare the Family Shabbat Dinners if you would like to help please contact me.

Steve Nathan snathan3@comcast.net Cell (706) 951-1380



ADULT EDUCATION

Jewish Learning is Not Just for Kids

A New Tuesday Evening Series Beginning on January 17 at 7:00 PM

Modern Jewish Thought and Practices

Whether you have been learning about Judaism and Jewish life since you were a child or have only recently begin to you study of Judaism, join us on Tuesday evenings to explore Jewish ideas and practices, both ancient and modern, traditional and creative. Contact Rabbi Klensin for more information (rabbi@cciaugusta.org or 706-736-3140)

TORAH STUDY

The study of Torah is equal to all the other commandments combined (Talmud Shabbat 127a)

Return to Torah study

After a break of a few weeks, we will be returning to our weekly Shabbat Morning Torah Study.

Join us on January 5 at 9:30 AM for

- A 30 minute Shabbat morning service
- Interactive discussion of the Torah portion
- A chance to share you thoughts or just listen
- Multimedia highlights
- Learning how the Prophets speak to us today
- And a special Kiddush lunch

Sunday Mornings: Jewish Values

Sunday mornings, 11:15-12:15 January 8, 29, & February 5,12, 26 At Congregation Children of Israel

Rabbi Klensin will be presenting a series on Jewish values. Each week we will explore a different value, such as justice, mercy, visiting the sick, comforting mourners, acts of loving–kindness, and redemption. While the children are in Sunday School, their parents and other adults, have an opportunity to increase their own understanding of Judaism and how we can live its values in our daily lives.

Sunday School classes for the children are moving this semester to AYS, but these adult education session will meet our at Temple. We will conclude by 12:15 PM so those with children in Sunday School can return to AYS to pick up their children.

Jewish Learning On Line

You can learn about the latest in Jewish and Israel news at JTA.org. View their news at this website or sign up there for their daily e-newsletters.

To watch webcasts of the recent Biennial of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), go to http://urj.org/biennial11/ You will be able to view and hear the remarks by leaders of our Reform Movement, political leaders, including President Obama, Rep. Eric Cantor, former Israeli Prime Minster, current Minister of Defense and Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Barak. You will also be able to see and hear the moving Friday evening and Saturday morning services with the inspiring new music being used in many Reform congregations, as well as many other sessions during the Biennial.

Or go to http://urj.org/learning/my/ for many learning opportunities, including the following:

Sign up to receive a one-page e-mail each weekday on a topic of Jewish interest at http://urj.org/learning/torah/ten/

It only takes **10 minutes a day** to get started on a lifelong journey. 10 minutes a day of personal connection to a Jewish text, issue or topic. Each day has a separate theme: Torah, Holidays, Israel Connections, Delving into *T'filah*, and Reform Judaism Q&A.

Take your study of 10 Minutes of Torah to the next level by reading <u>Eilu V'eilu</u> These and Those Are the Words of the Living God -a weekly communication that involves a dialogue between two scholars and provides for your active participation. Sign up at http://urj.org/learning/torah/ten/eilu/



CONGREGATION NEWS

Congregation Children of Israel would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members:

Josh Smith & Bonnie Cothran Kara & Richard Deaner Bobby & Susan Wilson Asia Ransom Alex Osborn Janine Solrush & Jon Winn

We invite all members to join us for a special New Member Shabbat Dinner, January 6, 2012.

Not a member yet? Consider the year round benefits and the sense of Jewish community that membership brings.

January Birthdays

Shabbat Birthday Blessings are offered the first Shabbat of each month

January 2: Askiel Bruno

January 4: George David, John Rigg

January 7: Kerry Kline, Rachel Ray

January 8: Sandra Freedman

January 9: Jackie Miller, Michael Thomason, Jamie Zibman

January 10: Kent Kronowski

January 13: Pamela Gottlieb

January 14: Lionel Solursh

January 19: Jack Shapiro

January 20: Genieve Feldman

January 23: Janine Solursh

January 26: John Henderson

January 28: Russell Nanning

January 29: David Silver

January 30: Alberto Grinspun

January Anniversaries

Anniversary Blessings are offered the third Shabbat of each month.

January 15: Nathaniel & Elaine Kruskol

January 20: Stuart & Genieve Feldman,

Steve & Angela Sorkin

January 30: Russell & Karen Nanning

Mazal Toy to

Janine Solursh and Jonathan Winn on their marriage, November 15, 2011. Janine is the daughter of Lionel and Diane Solursh.

Nat & Elaine Kruskol on the marriage of their granddaughter, Adrienne, to Glenn Thompson on November 20, 2011

Congregation
Children of Israel
contingent to the
Union for Reform Judaism
Biennial 2011



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CONTRIBUTIONS

FRIENDS OF TEMPLE MUSIC FUND

(Temple office)

In honor of the marriage of our granddaughter, Adrienne, to Glenn Thompson, by Nat & Elaine Kruskol

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Jean Michelle Benedict

GENERAL FUND

(Temple office)

In memory of Allan Silver, by Lea Silver

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

(Temple office)

Ralph Boerckel Gus & Joanne Etersque Marc & Pam Gottlieb Sandra Nachman Steven Nathan

ENDOWMENT FUND

(Temple office)

In memory of Alan Roberts, by Karel Copenhaver In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Shelby Estroff, by Karel Copenhaver In memory of Stephen Nachman, by Sandra Nachman

RANDY SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

(Jean Brody - Sisterhood) In memory of Louis Simowitz, by Susie & Jerry Saul

BART D. WITTENBERG RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

(Temple office)

In loving memory of Bart D. Wittenberg, by Boots & Mort Wittenberg

Other funds that accept donations are: RALPH ABRAMOVITZ YOUTH FUND

(George David - Brotherhood)

PRAYER BOOK FUND

(Terry Siegel-Weaver - Sisterhood)

BELLA BARR SLUSKY MEMORIAL FUND

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(Temple office)

HAPPY DAY FUND

(Marian Shapiro - Sisterhood)

BETTY PADILLA CARING CONGREGATION

(Meryl Alalof - Sisterhood)

JANE MOTHNER FLORAL FUND

(Myra Jolles - Sisterhood)

TREE OF LIFE

(Temple Office)

In order for acknowledgements to be sent in a timely manner, please send your minimum donation of \$10 to the listed chairperson.

When making a contribution to a Sisterhood or Brotherhood Fund please make the check payable to CCI Sisterhood or CCI Brotherhood.

Temple Teenagers

Those of you who have been around Congregation Children of Israel for a while probably know the special significance of the word "CITY" as used in our synagogue. Our national youth movement is NFTY—the North American Federation of Temple Youth (formerly the National Federation of Temple Youth). The local groups usually have names ending with "TY" for Temple Youth. So our youth group has been know as CITY (Children of Israel Temple Youth).

As a larger number of our teenagers are attending our Sunday evening discussions and other activities, and some are going to regional NFTY events, our youth group is being revived and you can expect to hear more about CITY activities.

Our teenagers will be meeting this coming month on January 8 and 29.

YAHRZEITS January 2012

January 6: Ida Gordon Margolis, Dorothy Jolles Robin, Henri Leon Schlifka, Frances Schulman, Doris Burnstein, Sara B. Dessauer, Milton Prisant, David Feldman, Mose M. Darling, Dorothy Haas, David Wetherhorn, John Erlitz, Mildred Krasnoff, Lil Sapowitz, Coleman Bernard Solursh, Alan Rosenthal

January 13: Donnie April, Isadore Scheer, Joseph Kunkel, Martha Anderson, Milton Kramer, Leon R. Nathan, Jill Estroff Young, Kittie Friedmann, Jeannette Miller, Sabet Rubenstein, Milton Fine, Abraham Pearlstein, Irwin Price, Max Simon, Minnie P. Schaul, Naomi P. Estroff, Harry Handfinger, Annie Platzblatt, Martin Rogell

January 20: Sarah Dessauer, Lucille Korman, Frances Meyer, Max Brett, Ida B.C. Levy, Theresa Rosenthal, Edith Kertman, Israel Nathan, Norma Phillips, Nora Quiones, Lillian Rattner, Joel Kampf, Bea Levy, Jerry Saitow, Randy Allen Shapiro, Henry Soloway, Sara Price

January 27: Alan Markowitz, Sol Meyer, Jack Klensin, Frank J. Low, Harry Weinstein, Jack D. Wyland, Gretel Michaelis, Ilse Sieber, Barbara Ann Epstein, Frank Goldman, Ralph Alperin, Rosalind C. Lerman, M. Harry Steine, Stella Budenstein, Hyman Itzkow, Hyman Lipsitz, Julia Rabinowitz, David Roginsky

February 3: Nathan Saul Agress, Rita Levy Fogel, Hannah G. Pearl, Lillian Stiffel,

Michael Goldberg, Rae Wallerstein, Maurice B. Sinsheimer, Sr., Jack Petashnick, Kitty Thomason, Benjamin Greenbaum, Herman Isadore Rubenstein, Lillian Aronow, Emma Marie Cox, Elmore Solomon



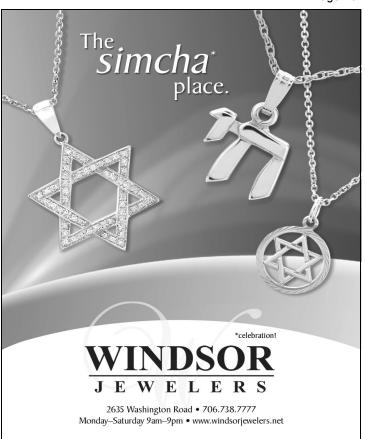


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Return Service Requested

January 2012

Tevet—Shevet 5772

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 1	2 Office Closed	3 7:00PM Website Mtg	4 5:00 PM Weekday Hebrew 7:00 PM Sisterhood Exec Bd	5 10:30 AM Adv Hebrew	6 6:00 PM New Member Dinner 7:00 PM Shabbat Ser- vices	7 9:30 AM Shabbat Services 10 AM Torah Study
8 10:00AM AJCSS at AYS 11:15AM Adult Education: Jewish Values 5:30 PM Temple Teens	9 7:30 PM Choir	10	11 5:00 PM Weekday Hebrew 7:00 PM Sisterhood Joint Meeting	12 10:30 AM Adv Hebrew 6:45Pm Martin Luther King Pgm	13 7:30 Shabbat Services	14 9:30 AM Shabbat Services 10 AM Torah Study 10 AM Tot Shabbat
15 10:15AM Brotherhood Mtg	16 Office Closed 7:30 PM Choir	17 7:00 PM Adult Education: Modern Jewish Thought & Practices	18 5 PM Weekday Hebrew	19 10:30 AM Adv Hebrew 7:30 Religious Practices	20 7:30 Shabbat Services	9:30 AM Shabbat Services 10 AM Torah Study 7:30PM Havdallah
22 10:00AM AJCSS at AYS 7:00PM Board Mtg	23 7:30 PM Choir	24 7:00 PM Adult Education: Modern Jewish Thought & Practices	25 5 PM Weekday Hebrew	26 10:30 AM Adv Hebrew	27 7:30 Shabbat Services	28 9:30 AM Shabbat Services 10 AM Torah Study 6:30 Deli Night
29 10:00AM AJCSS at AYS 1:15AM Adult Education: Jewish Values 5:30 PM Temple Teens	30 7:30 PM Choir	31 7:00 PM Adult Education: Modern Jewish Thought & Practices	Febuary 1 5 PM Weekday Hebrew 7:00PM Sisterhood	2 10:30 AM Adv Hebrew	3 6:00PM Bd Dinner 7:00 PM Shabbat Ser- vices	4 9:30 AM Shabbat Services 10 AM Torah Study