



CONGREGATION CHILDREN OF ISRAEL Est. 1845

Augusta's First Jewish Congregation

March April 2014 Adar I - Adar II - Nisan 5774



PURIM SHPIEL AND CELEBRATION

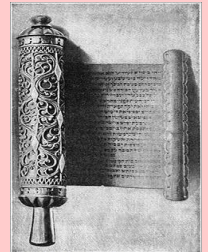
For All Ages

Plan to join us

Saturday, March 15, 7:00 PM

for a very brief Purim Service and Megillah reading
followed by our Purim Shpiel

Hamentaschen and Ice Cream to follow



Everyone is encouraged (but not required) to come in costume

Congregation Children of Israel

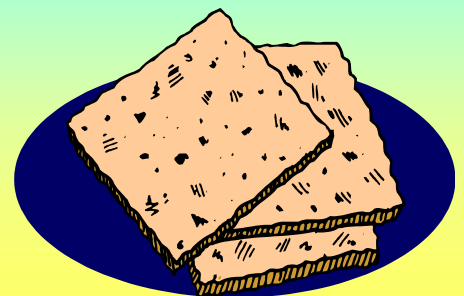
PASSOVER SEDER

Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30 PM

Rabbi Robert Klensin will conduct the Seder.

A traditional meal will be served.

See page 5 for more information



CONGREGATION **C**HILDREN OF **I**SRAEL

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

Est. 1845

Augusta's First Jewish Congregation

ROBERT G. KLENSIN, Rabbi
 rabbi@cciaugusta.org
 ELYSE KRONOWSKI, Administrator
 office@cciaugusta.org
 JOANNE GREENE, Cantorial Soloist &
 Choir Director
 MARK DICKENS, Accompanist
 VICTORIA RESNICK, Youth Group
 Advisor

OFFICERS

JACK GOLDENBERG, President
 president@cciaugusta.org
 STEVEN NATHAN, 1st VP
 RACHEL RAY, 2ND VP
 MARJORIE STEINER, Secretary
 MATT BRONSON, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

JEAN BRODY, ROBIN BRIGMON, ASKIEL
 BRUNO, KARA DEANER, GAIL ERLITZ,
 SANDRA FREEDMAN, HARVEY
 HANDFINGER, LAUREN JOLLES, ELLIOT
 PRICE, BILL ROSENBLUM, LOU
 SCHARFF, MICHAEL SCHARFF,
 MORTON WITTENBERG

COMMITTEE CHAIRS for 2013-2014

Music	Sandra Freedman
Religious Practices	Steve Nathan
Budget and Finance	Matt Bronson
House	Jean Brody
Membership	Gail Erlitz
Memorials	Kara Deaner
Life Long Jewish Learning	Askiel Bruno
Youth	Bill Rosenblum
Social Action	Lauren Jolles
Caring Congregation	Ila Abramovitz

Web Master	George David
	webmaster@cciaugusta.org
Bulletin Editor	Candie Campbell

Affiliated with the



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope that all of you have completed your recovery from the Great Ice Storm of 2014 – not to mention the snow before and earthquake after!! While we lost some trees and many limbs, the Temple was fortunate not to suffer any significant damage. I'm sorry to say that I have heard that some of our Congregants did not fair so well. Please, if you require any assistance with your remaining recovery let us know. We can find the talent

to help!!

Time certainly does fly!! Purim will be celebrated 15 March and Passover 2nd Seder on 15 April. Plenty of opportunities available for you to help!! Call Steve Nathan or the Temple office if you'd like to be part of either or both efforts.

Our Annual Casino Night Fundraiser is scheduled for 8 March. Marjorie Steiner's Team continues planning for this Annual Fundraiser with set-up to commence the week of 3 March. Team members include Ila (Tickets), Cynthia Eiring (Food), Lou and Michael Scharff (Drink), Rachel Ray (Silent Auction), and Elyse (Information). PLEASE, this is an important event for the Temple. If you'd like to take an active role, give Marjorie or one of her Team Members a call – believe me, we will need your help selling tickets, or obtaining silent auction items, or helping with set-up, or in any other ways you'd like to assist!! In any case PLEASE purchase a ticket – I promise you will have a GREAT time!!

The Nomination Committee being led by Rachel Ray is working hard to provide a slate of new Temple Board Members and officers to serve starting in June. The Committee will report out to the Temple Board at our 23 March meeting. The Congregation will be notified in accordance with our Constitution before the Annual Meeting in May.

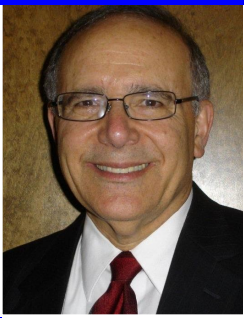
Remember, this is YOUR Temple, get involved – there's always things to do, so let us help you find your match!!

Jack P. Goldenberg
 President

Please help us fill the bins in the entrance area
 (just outside the Temple office)
 with non-perishable goods.

Imagine what we can accomplish if we all bring one item
 each time we come to the temple.

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS



As the ice storm was bringing branches and whole trees down in the Augusta area on that Tuesday night in the middle of February, many of us had a hard time sleeping as we lay in bed hearing the trees crack, snap and fall. Some of us had to call our insurance companies the next day to report what the insurance and mortgage companies often refer to as "Acts of God." I have often thought about what a terrible term that is for natural disasters like hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, and major ice storms. Poor God gets blamed for all these horrible events. Or some who may not blame God directly, may ask, where was God when this happened to us. The theological question takes different forms. One of my neighbors who did not have a tree hit their house told me that God was watching out for them. Of course, what logically follows from that comment is that God was not watching out for those who were injured or whose homes were damaged by the storm. Was God deciding which tree would fall and which houses would take a direct hit?

There is a passage about the Prophet Elijah in I Kings, chapter 19, verses 11-12 which many of us are familiar with: *"And behold the Eternal passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and broke the rocks in pieces before the Eternal; but the Eternal was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Eternal was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake, a fire, but the Eternal was not in the fire; and after the fire, a still small voice."*

God is in the still small voice within each of us. The still small voice that tells us we need to go out and help those who suffer from disasters, natural disasters or those brought about by people. To me, the act of God is not the falling tree in the ice storm or the shaking ground of the earthquake, but rather, God is there in the first responders, in our neighbors, and in the strangers who, guided by that still small voice, are eager to help, even at times risking their own well being.

Soon we will be observing several special days in the Jewish calendar, commemorating events from our history.

On March 15 and 16 we will be celebrating Purim, remembering when the evil Haman sought to destroy the Jews living throughout the Persian Empire. We will read in the Megillah how we were saved by the wisdom of Mordechai and the bravery of Esther. Was God involved in saving us from destruction? Actually, there was debate about whether to include the Book of Esther in the Tanakh (the Bible) because God is never mentioned. However, since Esther, Mordechai, and all the Jews in Shushan fasted, they were seen as turning to God to save them, and so God and God's salvation was implied. Even more than the fasting and even prayer itself, God was there as that Still Small Voice, reminding Mordechai and Esther of what they needed to do. So too, as we celebrate Purim this year, we should focus on issues of global human rights and genocide, women's rights, poverty and places where Jewish communities are threatened today.

A month after Purim, beginning with the first Seder on Monday evening, April 14, we will celebrate Passover. We will recall Moses at the burning bush being told by a voice seeming to come from that bush which was not consumed by the fire, to return to Egypt, confront the great Pharaoh, and lead the Israelites to freedom. But in contrast on the inferred reference to God's role in the Book of Esther, in the traditional Haggadah, it is Moses who is never mentioned by name. We will read that it was not through an angel, not through an intermediary, not a messenger, but rather it was God, God's self, who led us out of Egypt. Often we think we can do things on our own, without any help. In Judaism we are taught that even Moses, Aaron and Miriam, could not do it on their own. We are partners with God in making the world a better place. As we celebrate Passover in April we need to recall the slavery and oppression which exists in our own day.

Next, a week after the end of Passover, on April 28 we will observe *Yom Ha-sho-ah*, Holocaust Memorial Day. There are some extremists who say that six million Jews died during the Holocaust because we were not religious enough, that we were not following God's commandments. I am sure you join me in feeling such theology to explain the Holocaust is abhorrent, just as we reject those who suggest that the United States suffers natural disasters because we are accepting of homosexuals. There are some who say that after the Holocaust, they can no longer believe in God. On the other hand, there are those who teach we can only condemn the Holocaust if we believe that what is said to be right and wrong is not just a matter of culture, but that some actions transcend cultural preference, and come from a power beyond ourselves, a power that most refer to as God.

(Continued on page 4)

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS (continued from page 3)

A week after Yom Hashoah, on May 5, we will observe Yom Ha-atzma-ut, Israel Independence Day. We will celebrate that in 1948, after almost 2,000 years since we were exiled from our land in the year 70 C.E. by the Romans, a sovereign Jewish State was established. Was God involved? What other people in the history of the world was able to survive for so many centuries without its own land? We could not have done it without our Judaism, without our faith in God, and the belief that we are in a covenantal relationship with the Eternal. We know, of course, of the brave and self sacrificing Israeli soldiers and civilians who gave their lives for the creation and survival of the State of Israel. But if God was somehow involved in the miracles of Chanukah, Purim, and Passover, then God was involved in this modern miracle. Just as the Macabees, Esther and Mordecai, Moses and Aaron, were inspired and guided by God, so were the heroes of our time who created and have sustained modern Israel. Having a sovereign State of Israel today is as great a miracle as the Exodus from Egypt, and crossing of the Sea of Reeds. As we do on Chanukah and Purim, on Yom Haatzmaut it is appropriate to praise God for performing miracles for our ancestors in those days and in these days.

Finally, seven weeks after the beginning of Passover, on June 1, we will celebrate Shavuot, a very different kind of holiday. On Shavuot we are not commemorating times when we survived those who tried to destroy us. Rather, Shavuot commemorates that which has kept the Jewish people alive through the centuries. On Shavuot we celebrate the revelation at Mt. Sinai. It is Torah that has guided us, and sustained us, and brought us to this day.

Rabbi Robert Klensin

LIFE LONG JEWISH LEARNING

Hebrew Vocabulary

Have you learned the Hebrew words from our recent newsletters (*Emet, Rachamim, Eretz Yisrael, Medinat Yisrael, Am Yisrael, Mishpacha, Tifilah, Chanukiyah, Minhag, Ahavah, Emunah, B'Tselem Elo-him, Ketubah, Sh'lom bayit, Hagbah, Gelilah, : Ner Tamid Aron Hakodesh Siddur Machzor Tanakh, Birkat Hamazon, Tu B'shvat, Havdalah, B'samim, Sha-vu-ah Tov, Sefer, Sefer Torah, L'hitra-ot, B'tei-a-von, Todah, Todah Raba, B'va-ka-sha*) and made them part of your vocabulary?

Let's add a few more words, including some that you probably already know: *Megilah*—scroll, usually referring to the Scroll of Esther; *Haggadah*—the book used at the Passover Seder; *Ha-na-vee*—the prophet as in Eliyahu (Elijah) the Prophet; *Chad Gad-ya*—one kid or one little goat (actually in Aramaic rather than Hebrew); *Ehad Mi Yoda-ah*—Who knows one; *Dayanu*—it would have been enough for us.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

The next Family Shabbat Dinner is on Friday, May 2. Early Shabbat Services on the first Friday of each month start at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 7:30 PM. Please call the Temple Office with your reservations. However, there will not be a Shabbat Dinner in March because the first Friday is just before the Casino Night, nor will we have a Shabbat dinner on the first Friday in April because of Masters Week and the Congregational Seder later in the month.

We need volunteers to help with coordinating the Family Shabbat Dinners. If you are willing to help with one or more of the dinners, please contact me.

PJ Havdalah will be Saturday, March 1st at 6:30 PM.

Purim is Sunday, March 16th. We will have our Purim Spiel Saturday evening March 15th at 7:00 PM. We are doing a spiel written by Joanne Greene followed by Hamentaschen and Ice Cream.

The Congregational Seder will be Tuesday, April 15th. See the Flyer in this Bulletin for more details.

Are you interested in learning how to lead the Friday Evening Service? Contact Rabbi Klensin or me for information about lay lead services.

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.

I encourage all of you to contact me if you would like to participate on the Religious Practices Committee or with any questions/suggestions you have.

Steve Nathan,
Acting Chair, Religious Practices
Phone: (706) 951-1380
e-mail: snathan3@comcast.net



We are having a great start to 2014 at our Augusta Jewish Community Sunday school. Our parent's commitment to our students is appreciated. Attendance has been good and participation at our last Parents Meeting shows that they care. Making Shabbat special is another way to dedicate ourselves and family to Judaism.

Listed below are our activities for March and April including AJCSS pictures.

Shalom,
 Elliot Price, Principal
 706 339-3798

- March 2 – Regular Session
- March 9 – Regular Session, Bagels and Blox
- March 16 – Purim Celebration and carnival at the AJCC
- March 23 – Sam Kahan's visit, our ISJL fellow
- March 30 – Passover Celebration, Bagels and Blox
- April 6 and 13 – No School, Spring Break
- April 20 – Regular Session, Bagels and Blox
- April 27 – Parent's Meeting



SISTERHOOD NEWS



Sisterhood will give six teens financial assistance to go to the L'taken in Washington, D. C. March 21-24. The money came from the Randy Shapiro memorial fund. We are happy to help them.

We will begin to sell raffle tickets for the restaurant raffle, after casino night, for \$25 each. The restaurants this year are Calvert's, Bonfish Grill, Carraba's, T-Bonz, and French Market Grille. We will announce the winner at the annual meeting.

We will begin to sell raffle tickets for the restaurant raffle, after casino night, for \$25 each. The restaurants this year are Calvert's, Bonfish Grill, Carraba's, T-Bonz, and French Market Grille. We will announce the winner at the annual meeting.

Jeanie Brody
 Sisterhood President

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Although the Super Bowl turned out to be a run-away game (congrats to the Seahawks and their fans), we had a small but spirited turnout for our Super Bowl party at the beginning of February. Thanks to the Augusta Jewish Community Center for the use of the facility as our location.

Brotherhood was disappointed that the Deli Night had to be cancelled due to the ice storm and the earthquake. We are very appreciative of the support we received from the community by people making reservations. Discussion is underway to see if we reschedule the event for this Spring after the Annual Fundraiser.

We have a Youth Activity planned to take place at Phinizy Swamp in March in conjunction with our Augusta Jewish Community Sunday School. We wish to thank Robin Brigmon and Heather Linn for their assistance in planning this activity.

Michael Scharff
 President



FIRST FRIDAY

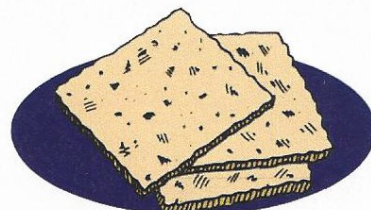
STUDENT PARTICIPATION

On the first Friday night of each month we have an Intergenerational Service, beginning at 6:00 PM. During these services, we invite our Sunday School age children to participate by opening the ark, uncovering or covering the Torah or reading one of the prayers. If you would like your children to participate, contact Rabbi Klensin.

CONGREGATION CHILDREN OF ISRAEL PASSOVER SEDER



Tuesday, April 15
The Second Night of Passover
We will begin promptly at 6:30 PM
Rabbi Robert Klensin
will conduct the Seder.
A traditional meal will be served.



Cost of the meal is as follows:

Adult Temple members	\$40.00
Children (13 & under)	\$15.00
Children (under 5)	free
College Students* and active duty enlisted military	\$15.00
Non-members	\$45.00

If you have any questions,
please contact the Temple office (706-736-3140 or office@cciaugusta.org)

Deadline for reservations: Friday, April 4
Make your check payable to:
Congregation Children of Israel

Please use the coupon below to make your reservation.

* College Students living away from home

-cut here-

OF ADULTS _____ NAME(S): _____

OF CHILDREN _____ NAMES (with ages) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NO. _____ E MAIL _____

PAYMENT AMOUNT \$ _____

MAIL CHECK TO:

CONGREGATION CHILDREN OF ISRAEL
3005 WALTON WAY, AUGUSTA, GA 30909

March - April 2014

Adar I—Adar II - Nisan 5774

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 10:00a AJCSS at AYS	3	4	5 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	6 10:00a Adult Hebrew	7 6:00p Intergenerational Shabbat Service Service to be led by CITY (our Temple Youth Group)	8 Parashat Vayikra Leviticus 1:1-5:26 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study 7:00p Casino Night
9 10:00a AJCSS at AYS 2:00 Brotherhood Meeting 5:00p Youth Group	10	11	12 5:00p Weekday Hebrew 7:00p Chai Mitzvah	13 10:00a Adult Hebrew	14 7:30p Shabbat Service	15 Parashat Tzav Leviticus 6:1-8:36 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study 7:00p Purim Megillah Reading and Sphiel
16 PURIM 10:00a AJCSS at AJCC 12:00p Purim Carnival at AJCC	17 7:30p Choir rehearsal	18 7:00p Executive Committee	19 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	20 7:00p Religious Practices	21 7:30p Shabbat Service	22 Parashat Shmini Leviticus 9:1-11:47 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
23 10:00a AJCSS at AYS 1:00p Phinzy Swamp Tour 7:00p Board Meeting	24 7:30p Choir rehearsal	25	26 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	27	28 7:30p Shabbat Service With Temple Choir	29 Parashat Tazria Leviticus 12:1-13:59 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
30 10:00a AJCSS at AYS 5:00p CITY board	31	April 1	2 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	3	4 6:00p Intergenerational Shabbat Service	5 Parashat Metzora Leviticus 14:1-15:33 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
6	7	8	9	10	11 7:30p Shabbat Service	12 Parashat Achrei Mot Leviticus 16:1-18:30 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
13 5:00p CITY meeting	14 First Seder	15 PASSOVER Day 1 (Temple office closed) 11:00 Passover Service 6:30p Congregational	16 PASSOVER Day 2 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	17 PASSOVER Day 3 7:00p Religious Practices	18 PASSOVER Day 4 7:30p Shabbat Service	19 PASSOVER Day 6 Chol Hamoad Pesach 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
20 PASSOVER Day 6 10:00a AJCSS at AYS 2:00p Brotherhood Mtg 7:00 Passover Service with Yizkor	21 PASSOVER Day 7 (Temple office closed) 7:30p Choir rehearsal	22 7:00p Board Meeting	23 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	24	25 7:30p Shabbat Service With Temple Choir Sisterhood-Brotherhood Service	26 Parashat Kedoshim Leviticus 19:1-20:27 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
27 10:00a AJCSS at AYS	28 YOM HASHOAH	29	30 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	May 1	2 6:00p Intergenerational Shabbat Service 7:30p Shabbat Dinner	3 Parashat Emor Leviticus 21:1-24:23 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study
4 10:00a AJCSS at AYS 1:00p CITY Elections	5 7:30 PM Yom Ha-atz-maut (Israel Independence Day) Service	6 YOM HARTZMAUT	7 5:00p Weekday Hebrew	8	9 7:30p Shabbat Service	10 Parashat Behar Leviticus 25:1-26:2 9:30a Shabbat Service 10:00a Talmud Study

CONTRIBUTIONS

FRIENDS OF TEMPLE MUSIC FUND

(Temple office)

- In memory of Channah Schlifka, by Jackie & Arthur Miller
- Wishing Sandra Freedman good health, by Terrie & Charlie Levy Sumner & Joan Fishbein
- In honor of Murray Freedman, by Terrie & Charlie Levy
- In honor of Myra & Buddy Jolles, by Sumner & Joan Fishbein
- In memory of Lee Sinsheimer, by Sumner & Joan Fishbein

GENERAL FUND

(Temple office)

- Wishing Lou Scharff a speedy recovery, by Terrie & Charlie Levy
- In memory of Barbara Epstein, by Lou & Dot Scharff
- In memory of Miriam Scharff, by Lou & Dot Scharff

ENDOWMENT FUND

(Temple office)

- In memory of Lee Sinsheimer, by Mary Steinberg

GOLDBURG CENTER

(Temple office)

- In memory of Julie Cohen, by Lois Cohen

BETTY PADILLA CARING CONGREGATION

(Meryl Alalof - Sisterhood)

- In memory of Lillian Aronow, by Harriet & Martin Dolin
- In memory of Lee Sinsheimer, by Terrie & Charlie Levy
- In honor of my son, Sgt Brentt Moyer & the 124th EN CO Army National Guard serving in Afghanistan, by Beverly Lowenstein

BROTHERHOOD GENERAL FUND

(George David - Brotherhood)

- In honor of the retirement of Dr. Louis Scharff from the VA hospital, by Terrie & Charlie Levy

BART D. WITTENBERG RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

(Temple office)

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

RALPH ABRAMOVITZ YOUTH FUND

(George David - Brotherhood)

- Nat & Elaine Kruskol

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

(Temple office)

- Sandra Nachman
- Asia Ransom

OTHER FUNDS THAT ACCEPT DONATIONS ARE:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

PRAYER BOOK FUND

(Terry Siegel-Weaver - Sisterhood)

RANDY SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

(Jean Brody - Sisterhood)

BELLA BARR SLUSKY MEMORIAL FUND

(Jackie Miller - Sisterhood)

TEMPLE YOUTH FUND

(Temple Office)

JANE MOTHNER FLORAL FUND

(Myra Jolles - Sisterhood)

TREE OF LIFE

(Temple Office)

JOSH'S PLACE

(George David - Brotherhood)

HAPPY DAY FUND

(Marian Shapiro - Sisterhood)

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.

When making a contribution to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, please make the check payable to *Congregation Children of Israel* and write *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund* on the memo line.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

(Those celebrating a birthday are invited to come forward for a special blessing on the first Friday of each month)

March 1: Cynthia Eiring
March 2: Harvey Handfinger
March 3: Terry Siegel-Weaver
March 5: Beverly Lowenstein
March 8: Ellie Bissell, Mia Montarbo
March 10: Austin Campbell
March 11: Asia Ransom, Thomas Maffey
March 13: Savannah Mariano
March 14: Ian Herskowitz
March 17: Ralph Boerckel
March 20: Geoffrey Marks
March 22: Sydney Henle
March 23: Jamie Leshnov, Jamie Rosenblum
March 25: Elyse Kronowski
March 26: Paul Singer
March 27: Matt Bronson, Amber Flicek
March 30: Emma Campbell, Kristyn Norwitch
March 31: Davic Bennett
April 1: Bonnie Price
April 3: Chavis Aaronson, Jay Pearlstein, Louis Scharff
April 5: Barbara Mintz
April 6: Pauline Flicek, Eric Helling
April 7: Lelia Brigmon, Michael Friedman
April 8: Meagan Wilson
April 9: Joshua Rosenblum
April 11: Ellen Bledsoe, Robin Brigmon, Marian Shapiro
April 12: Dan Hillman, Anita Meyer
April 14: William Lutin
April 15: Diane Solorsh
April 16: Matthew Siegel
April 21: Samuel Schwartz
April 22: Jared Broder, Michael Scharff, Boots Wittenberg
April 23: Ian Lucas Herskowitz
April 24: Daniel Maffey
April 25: Stuart Marks
April 26: Calvin Brunner, Robbie Goodman
April 29: Mollie Silver

Anniversaries

(Couples celebrating their anniversary are invited to come forward for a special blessing on the first Friday of each month)

March 11: Michael & Jamie Zibman
March 26: David & Mollie Silver
March 27: Alberto & Lily Grinspun
March 29: Helane & Dale Bennett
March 31: Richard & Kara Deaner,
Samuel & Paula Schwartz
April 2: Bobby & Susan Wilson
April 16: Dan & Jan Hillman
April 17: Elliot & Bonnie Price
April 21: Ben Bashinski & Deborah Richardson
April 22: Bill & Gwen Rosenblum
April 27: Chris & Risa Gay,
Franklin Williams & Sarah Bobrow-Williams
April 30: Askiel Bruno & Susan Salisbury,
Jon & Susan Simowitz

***Chesed Shel Emet* True Loving Kindness**

When a Jewish person dies, there are special customs and rituals which are usually followed. Most of us know about having the funeral as soon as possible after death, using a wooden casket, observing Shiva after the funeral, and observing the *Yahrzeit* (anniversary of the death) each year .

There are additional customs of which many of us are not aware. Individuals in our congregation volunteer to serve as *Shomrim*, or watchers, (sometimes referred to as “sitters”) to stay with the body at the funeral home, usually in two hour shifts, until burial. At one time, the danger of desecration or theft of the body was very real; now it has become a way of honoring the deceased by not leaving the body alone until it is placed in the earth. Sometimes it is difficult to find enough individuals to serve as *Shomrim*. If you might consider serving in this important and meaning way, please contact Rabbi Klensin with any questions or to let us know that we may call upon you.

A *Chevra Kadisha* , (קדישא חברה) which in Aramaic literally means a “holy society” is a loosely structured, but generally closed organization of Jewish men and women who see to it that when a Jewish person dies, his or her body is prepared for burial according to Jewish tradition. The *Chevra Kadisha* is required to always show proper respect for the deceased during the process of the ritual cleansing and subsequent dressing for burial. The solemn mood is strengthened by a sense that the soul of the person is present in the room where the ritual cleansing takes place. Some refer to the purification ritual as helping to “midwife” the soul from this world into the next.

The *Chevra Kadisha* is a group of synagogue members that prepares the deceased through a ritual called *Taharah*, or purification. The treatment of the deceased is governed by the principle of *Kavod Hamet*, respect for the dead. Serving on the *Chevra Kadisha* has been an honor throughout Jewish history. The men and women of *Chevra Kadisha* work in teams to perform *Taharah* while reciting passages from the Torah, Prophets and the Song of Songs and special prayers. The body is first thoroughly cleansed of dirt and anything else that may be on the skin, and then it is ritually purified by immersion in, or a continuous flow of, water from the head over the entire body.

Tahara may refer to either the entire process, or to the ritual purification. Once the body is purified, the body is dressed in *tachrichim*, or shrouds, of white pure cotton garments which are identical for each Jewish man and each Jewish woman, showing our equality in death, and which symbolically recall the garments worn by the *Kohen Gadol* (High Priest). Once the body is dressed, it is gently placed in the casket which then remains closed.

The task of the *Chevra Kadisha* is considered a laudable one, as tending to the dead is a favor that the recipient cannot return, making it devoid of ulterior motives. In fact, while the members of the *Chevra Kadisha* may be known, the identities of the individuals who take part in a specific ritual purification are to remain confidential. They expect no thanks, not even from relatives of the person who has died. The work of the *Chevra Kadisha* is, therefore, referred to as a *Chesed Shel Emet* (true loving kindness), paraphrased from Genesis 47:29 (where Jacob asks his son Joseph, "do me a 'true' favor" and Joseph promises his father to bury him in the Land of Israel).

Individuals who are willing to serve in the sacred role of becoming a member of the *Chevra Kadisha* are welcome and will receive appropriate training. If you are interested please contact Rabbi Klensin.

Condolences

When cherished ties are broken, our burden of sadness is made lighter by the sympathy and comfort of friends. The congregation extends its sympathy to the families of:

Samuel Honig

Uncle of Meryl Alalof
February 14, 2014

Evelyn Frank

Grandmother of Kara Deaner
February 26, 2014

Aaron Hammer

Uncle of Meryl Alalof
March 1, 2014

Y A H R Z E I T S

March 7: June Josefsberg, David Scharff, Ruth Scharff, Jay Vincent Addante, Stella Weil, Sylvia Goldman, Robert Miller, David Carl Goldstein, Rose Abramovitz Slinger, Arthur Wetherhorn, Ada Winer Abelman, Dora Shapiro Rubenstein, Betty Strock, Lee Blum, Martha Jones, Frances David Rock

March 14: Pearl Kunnes, Lee Brody, Samuel H. Justa, Saul DeWitt Powell, Mozelle Cospier Prisant, Benedict Stoll Goldberg, Amelia Rosenthal, Helen Shangold, Bernice Glickman, Abram Levy, Martha Chumley, Channah Korn, Deborah Gittel Korn, Yosef Korn, Miriam Korn, Samuel Silverstein

March 21: Bea Landon, Howard Landon, Arlene Ziegler, Annie Rochelle Lesser, Robert Michael Nachman, Samuella L. Cohen, Morris Benjamin Honig, Edwin Albert Salisbury, Julius Miller, Freda Rosenwasser, Bella Slusky, Lenard Cohen, Belle S. Marks, Anna Blum, Ronni Meldrum, Carol Myers, Albert J. Rosenthal, Sr., Robert Perley, Jacqueline J. Wetherhorn

March 28: Samuel Dolin, Benton Freedman, Fannie Center, Ethel R. Glassman, Gloria Goldenberg, Marsha Straus, Shelton Mark Abelman, Harry M. Cohen, Lewis Glasser, Ruth Cohen Prinsky, Aaron Wolach, Hannah Abraham, Elias Koppel, Eugene Melcher, Richard Rosen, Anne Furst Kwis, Amy S. Goodmen

April 4: Martha Lowenstein, Marvin Miller, Charles Mullenax, Esther Berg Epstein, M.K. Steinberg, Michael Stepakof, Phyllis Brody, Nathan Bronson, Henrietta M. Friedman, Pearl O. Schrameck, Marvin S. Schuster, Edna Brigmon, Frieda H. Cohen, Jack Marks, Ruth Davis

April 11: Bart David Wittenberg, Morton Silverstein, Herman Dessauer, Mina Lee Rubenstein, Harry L. Davis, Hedwig L. Goldenberg, James Mark Orr, Renee Brody Phares, Rhode Cohen, Ruth H. Hammer

April 18: Ann L. Simowitz, Harry Winer, Rachel S. Friedman, Louis Greenberg, William Orville Wright, Helen Lipsitz, Ilse Blanck, I. H. Cohen, Phillip Cohen, Israel Rubenstein, Israel Kolonel, Lucille B. Steine, Morris Wittenberg, Joseph S. Goldberg

April 25: Leopold Ira Cohen, Herman Goldenberg, Bernard Maxwell Gottlieb, Arthur Zanville Singer, Estelle Sinsheimer, Cecil Steine, Anna Cohen, Mo Haas, Anna B. Selwyn, Moses Asher, W. Ralph Eisenmayer, Sadye Shapiro, Gershon Ginsburg, Isaac Simmons

May 2: Frank David Low, Charles Silbert, Bess Simowitz, John Strock, Ira Goldberg, Anna Hammer, Sarah K. Schuster, Joseph J. Lutin, Mary Friedman Bellino, Hanny Schwarz, Benjamin A. Brahlin, Jack Burnstein, Morris Marks

Learning to Read & Chant the Blessings From the Reform Judaism website

<http://www.reformjudaism.org/shabbat-worship-services>

Prayers in the Shabbat Service

Including the blessing over the candles, the Kiddush and the Torah blessings

Do you have questions about
Judaism in general
or specifically about Reform Judaism
or would you just like to learn more?

Go to

Reform Judaism.org

"With prices the way they are, my \$20 in food stamps doesn't buy much food. I am rich with friends, but my savings is gone."

-Normarose



©2012 MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger/Barbara Green

This Passover, join MAZON to end hunger for Normarose and the millions of Americans and Israelis who struggle with food insecurity.

Please help us end hunger. Donate today.

MAZON | A Jewish Response
To Hunger

P.O. Box 96119 Washington, D.C. 20090 | (800) 813-0557 | mazon.org

PUBLIX PARTNERS CARD

Thank you for using your Publix Partners Card. We recently received a check for \$255 from Publix. Please continue to give your Publix Card to the cashier when shopping.

Additional cards are available. Let us know if you need one.

Chuck Baldwin
Gail Baldwin
Amy Murphy-Williams, Front of House Manager
Scott Guyer, Executive Chef
Patty Reece, Catering Manager



**French
Market Grille**

(706) 737-4865
Fax: (706) 733-0275
Email: fmg@knology.net

SURREY CENTER • 425 HIGHLAND AVE. • AUGUSTA, GA 30909
www.frenchmarketaugusta.com

The
simcha^{*}
place.



*celebration!

WINDSOR
JEWELERS

2635 Washington Road • 706.738.7777
Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm • www.windsorjewelers.net

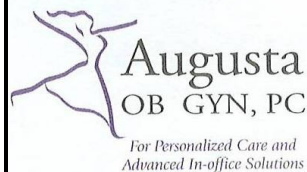


PO Box 15087
Augusta, Georgia 30919

M. David Alalof
President
david@achsinsurance.com

t: 706.868.1610
c: 706.951.1200
f: 706.860.0274

1229 Augusta West Parkway
Augusta, Georgia 30909
www.achsinsurance.com



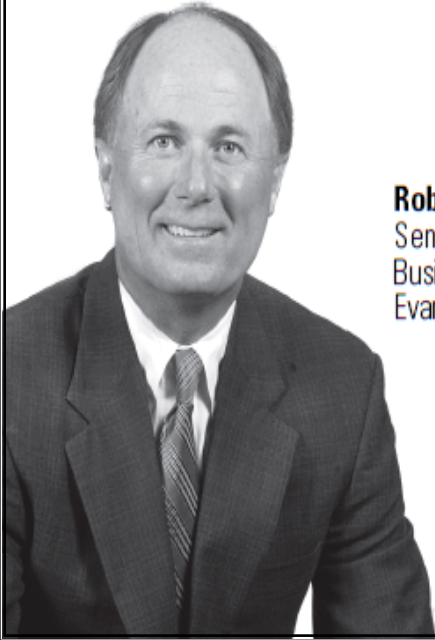
Peter D. Grossman, M.D.

1115 Garredd Blvd
Augusta, GA 30909
www.augustaobgyn.org

Phone 706.922.0101
Fax 706.364.0056

Proudly Supporting Our Community

As a local company, one of our primary goals is to give back to the community that trusts us to provide quality financial services. It is with this spirit that we are pleased to support the Congregation Children of Israel. We applaud your efforts to serve our community.



Rob Bissell
Senior Vice President
Business Development Officer
Evans Office



Doing the right thing.

706.738.6990
www.georgiabankandtrust.com

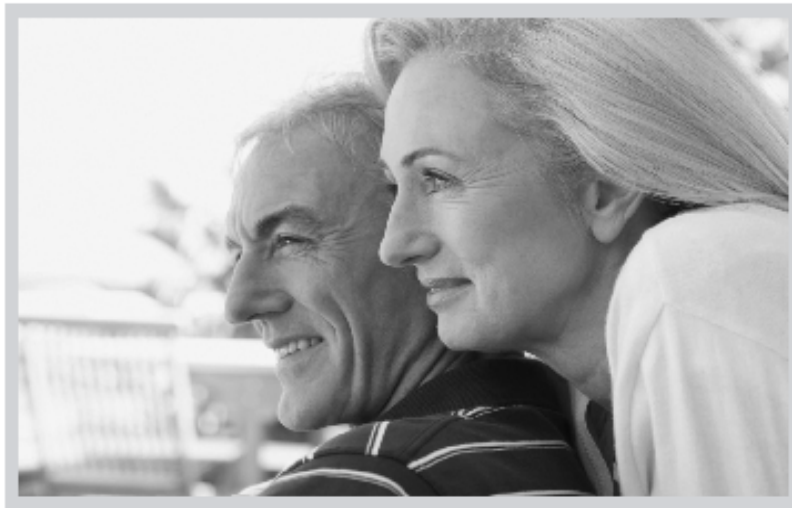
NMLS# 417427
Member FDIC 

HILLCREST MEMORIAL PARK

2700 Deans Bridge Road Augusta, GA 30906
706-790-1185

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL GARDEN AND SERVICES WE PROVIDE PLEASE CALL OR VISIT OUR LOCATION





Through the years, all that's changed is our ability to do even more.

Elliot Sons Funeral Home has proudly served the community for over 100 years. From the beginning, our goal has been to do as much as we can to help families, neighbors and friends through their deepest sorrows. Our affiliation with the Dignity Memorial® network allows us to build on that tradition by offering many exclusive benefits. As a result, we're finding that more and more people are turning to us to help them plan their final arrangements. To learn more about the helpful services we offer, call or visit any of our funeral homes.



ELLIOTT SONS FUNERAL HOME

2524 Lumpkin Road
Augusta, GA 30906
706-793-0123

1134 Telfair Street
Augusta, GA 30901
706-722-5566

4255 Columbia Road
Martinez, GA 30907
706-868-9637

ONE-OF-A-KIND MEMORIALS | GRIEF COUNSELING | BEREAVEMENT TRAVEL PROGRAM | SERVICE GUARANTEE

Tour Beautiful Phinzy Swamp Nature Park

Sunday March 23 at 1 PM

1858 Lock and Dam Road, Augusta, GA
(Off Doug Bernard Parkway,
near the Augusta Airport)

CCI Brotherhood is organizing this event and will provide refreshments. Sam Kahan, our fellow from the Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL), will be here that weekend and will participate in the tour. All Congregants, students, and parents from the AJCSS are invited to attend the tour of Phinzy Swamp.



CCI Congregant Heather Linn, Phinzy Swamp Events and Volunteers Manager, will lead the tour.

For information call Robin Brigmon 803 640 9174

First Friday at Congregation Children of Israel Family Shabbat Dinner Friday, May 2

Service at 6:00 PM Dinner at 7:30 PM

Reservations required by the Wednesday before the dinner
Contact the Temple office (office@cciaugussta.org or 706-736-3140)

With reservations: Adults \$12.50 Children 6-12 \$5.00, Under 6 free
Without reservations: Adults \$15.00 Children 6-12 \$7.00, Under 6 free

Holiday Services

Saturday, March 15, 7:00 PM

Purim Service, Megillah Reading and Sphiel

Tuesday, April 15, 11:00 AM

Passover Morning Service

Sunday, April 20, 7:30 PM

Passover Evening Service, with Yizkor (Memorial) Service

Monday, May 5, 7:30 PM

Yom Haatzmaut (Israel Independence Day) Evening Service