

Congregation Ahavath Achim

FOUNDED 1898



An Affiliate Of
The United Synagogue Of Conservative Judaism



24 TEVET - 25 SHEVAT 5779

3501 SOUTH DONNYBROOK, TYLER, TEXAS 75701

JANUARY 2019

From the Desk of the Rabbi

“LIVING IN TWO WORLDS”

Jews live according to the rhythm of two different calendars – the secular and the sacred. To a certain extent, living by both of them leads to a kind of schizophrenic experience. The night of December 31 may be an exciting time in one tradition, but meaningless in the other. And at the same time, the first of Tishri takes on a cosmic meaning for the Jews, but has no meaning for the secular world.

According to the Mishnah, there are four different new years: one for kings and festivals, one for cattle, one for years (sabbatical and jubilee), and one for trees. On January 21st, we will celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for trees.

For those of you who may be aware, the planting and growing of a tree is a personal mitzvah for me. A mitzvah I have taken quite seriously. Many of you who have been to my backyard over the years have noticed that one of the first things I did when I moved into my house over 12 years ago was to plant a grapefruit tree. Why a grapefruit tree?

Coming from the land of the Great White North (Illinois), growing anything in a citrus tree variety was just impossible. Moving to a more moderate climate finally offered me a chance to do so with a few challenges. I have battled the freezing temperatures we will get from time to time. I have spent money on numerous tarps with both positive and negative results. I have placed heat lamps under the tarps in order to protect the tree from the rare cold snaps that frequent East Texas. A few years ago, I almost lost the tree to the harshness of a colder than usual winter. Over the years, I have learned how to protect and nurture this tree and this year, it produced 19 grapefruit!

This fall, starting at Thanksgiving, I set out on a new Mitzvah; to build a more permanent shelter for my tree. Yes, I built a greenhouse around and over my grapefruit tree. No more tarps. Was it worth it? I have faith in Hashem that it was and will continue to be a positive Mitzvah. I feel connected to Tu B'Shevat every year as I nurture and try to enhance the Mitzvah that I started over 12 years ago.

If you have watched with keen interest the various challenges the Land of Israel has faced over the last year with the amount of forestry that has been lost due to fire by terrorism, I urge you to consider renewing your commitment to the planting of trees in Israel.

I think it would be a wonderful idea to keep this in mind as we prepare to celebrate Tu B'Shevat this year. If Tu B'Shevat is true to its secular date, it will, in all probability, be cold outside here. But if we allow the sacred calendar of the Jewish year to work its magic on us, maybe, just maybe, we can imagine how good it will be to feel warm and for it to be spring-like, with almond trees in bloom, and G-d's blessings descending upon earth.

After the barrage of secular holidays over these last two weeks, Tu B'Shevat comes along to remind us that we are Jews and that we need to be connected to our land, and to our faith. As we continue in this new century to battle the effects of assimilation, Tu B'Shevat is a healthy reminder for the need to strike a balance between living in the secular word and finding meaning and sustenance from the spiritual world.

With Torah Blessings,
Rabbi

Co-President's Message

For a recent Sunday School lesson, I downloaded several biographies of notable Jewish people for the students to read and teach the rest of the class. The students summarized the information as to the dates of their lives, their Jewish heritage, the noted accomplishments and whether they would serve as a good role model for Jewish young people. The students chose famous people, such as Albert Einstein, Marc Chagall, Leonard Nimoy, Mayim Bialik and Harry Houdini.

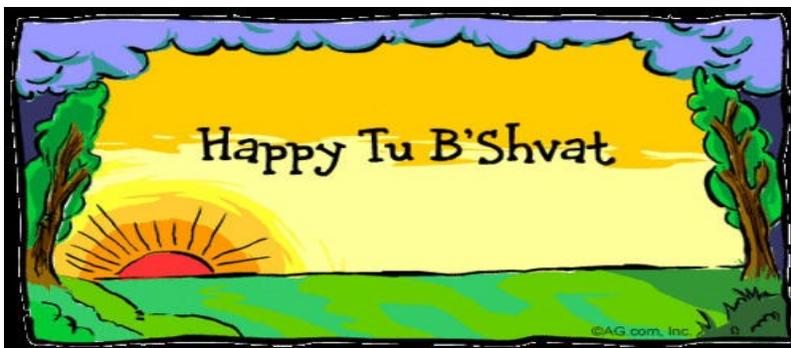
This past class, we were blessed to have Sam Learner support the class. Sam selected Ilan Ramon, an Israeli astronaut who was aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia that exploded over East Texas during re-entry in 2003. We were running a little tight on time remaining, so I almost passed over his report. I am so glad that I did not! During a short amount of time, Sam did not relate that Ilan Ramon was a fighter pilot in the Israeli Air Force that rose through the ranks, fought in the Yom Kippur War and Operation Peace for Galilee, or was specially selected for the Columbia flight as a Payload Specialist. He did not share that his mother and grandmother had both survived the Holocaust in Auschwitz.

Sam shared how Ilan had become more of a secular Jew in Israel. But...he chose to have kosher meals prepared for the flight. Before he was leaving on this flight he decided to talk with rabbis, in order to make sure that he observed Shabbat in the proper way in space. Ilan also was given a variety of mementos to take with him on his flight – letters, poems, photographs. "Israel's president, Moshe Katsav, gave him a credit card-size microfiche copy of the Bible. He also took a pencil drawing titled "Moon Landscape" by a 14-year-old Jewish boy, Peter Ginz, who was killed at Auschwitz." Sam related how during this time, Ilan became more conscious of his heritage and his spiritual life. This was the perfect ending to a lesson with a role model that many of us could relate to.

This is one of many ways in which our congregation is so unique. We have individuals who get involved in so many ways. We have individuals who are spending significant time serving on a safety committee. We have individuals who assist with the children in a variety of ways. We have individuals who assist in conducting services. We have individuals who cook and clean. We have individuals who decide that if something is going to be done, they will step in to do it.

We are blessed! Thank you to all of you for being so involved in working together!

Shalom, Ruth



January Bimah Schedule

4 Samantha Clark	5 Steve Roosth
11 Ruth Elmakiss	12 Dee Wapner
19 Samantha Clark	19 Dale Latner
25 Ruth Elmakiss	26 Co-President

Remember, if you can't be on the Bimah when scheduled, you need to find a replacement.

**BULLETIN
DEADLINE:
JANUARY 18**
for FEB. Bulletin
Submit articles to:
[caasecretary@
suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:caasecretary@suddenlinkmail.com)
Thank you !

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

Sunday, JANUARY 13, 2018
9:00 a.m. at the Synagogue

If you have an item for the agenda,
please call or e-mail
Ruth Elmakiss or Christie Osburn

Save the Date!

Olivia Hammel will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah with a special Friday service and again on Saturday, January 26th

**Mazel Tov
&
Congratulations
to
Karlee & Juan
Munoz
on the birth of
Daniel Munoz
December 20th**

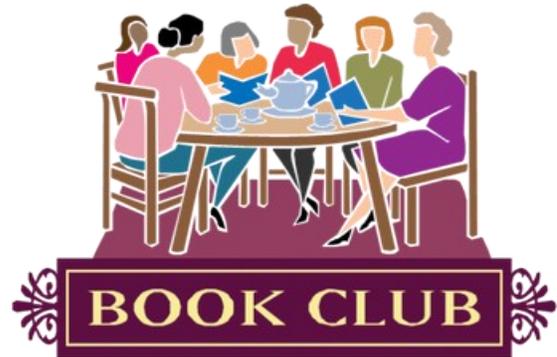
SISTERHOOD NEWS

The Sisterhood continues to be very busy with brunches each Shabbat. We are very grateful to some of the men and young men who have helped cleaning up!! Everyone pulled together to help support Galileo's Bar Mitzvah celebrations. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 13th at 10:30 a.m. at the shul. Please plan to come as we prepare for the upcoming spring events.

Safety Committee News

The Safety Committee has completed the safety assessment of the synagogue. A Safety Team to monitor Services and Events has been established in support of Tyler Police Department officers who provide security. Additionally, a Safety Fund has been established and infrastructure improvements have been prioritized.

Safety materials will be distributed and Safety Team members and the congregation will be receiving regularly scheduled 15 minute safety training sessions, to begin soon with a new procedural flip chart for Safety Team and Tyler PD participants. Training began for Sunday School Teachers and parents on 12/16/18.



ANNOUNCING — NEW BOOK CLUB

We would like to extend an invitation to join a new book club. We will meet Tuesday evening, January 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the social hall at Congregation Ahavath Achim; with snack and beverages provided. (We will explore an option for babysitting if the need arises) The January meeting will be an important meeting to attend as we explore our book options and enjoy fellowship with friends. The book club is not limited to members, so please invite a friend that may enjoy an interesting discussion about the depth and beauty of our faith.



shabbat shalom



JANUARY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Triennial Readings/Holiday Readings

Friday	January	4	Evening Service	Birchat Ha Chodesh	6:00 P.M.
Saturday	January	5	Morning Service	VA'ERA	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 8:16 - 9:35	
			Haftorah	Ezekiel 28:25 - 29:21	
Friday	January	11	Evening Service		6:00 P.M.
Saturday	January	12	Morning Service	BO	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 12:29 - 13:16	
			Haftorah	Jeremiah 46:13 - 28	
Friday	January	18	Evening Service	Shabbat Shirah	6:00 P.M.
Saturday	January	19	Morning Service	BESHALLAH	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 14:26 - 17:16	
			Haftorah	Judges 4:4 - 5:31	
Sunday	January	20	Morning Service	Brotherhood Tephillin Minyan	8:30 A.M.
Friday	January	25	Evening Service		6:00 P.M.
Saturday	January	26	Morning Service	YITRO	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 19:1 - 20:23	
			Haftorah	Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6 ; 9:5 - 6	

Marvin Beleck visited our Congregation recently. Marvin grew up in Ahavath Achim as a youth, having his Bar Mitzvah here. Marvin published a book last year cataloging his stamp collection Noted Jewish People of the World on Stamps. He left a copy of his book autographed for us in our library. Check it out sometime! Thanks, Marvin!



Crosspointe Community Church sent a gift to our Congregation in memory of Kristallnacht. They have sent several gifts of crystal over the past few years. We thank them for sharing in our heritage and for the lovely trifle dish they sent us this year. Members for Crosspoint Community Church have also served on the Yom Ha'Shoah Planning Committee for several years.

Jose Escamilla-Perez gave the entry and hallway walls and ceilings a wonderful fresh coat of paint this past month. The walls and ceilings actually seem to sparkle!
Thanks, Jose!

JANUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 24 Tevet	2 25 Tevet	3 26 Tevet	4 27 Tevet	5 28 Tevet
6 CAA Board of Trustees Meeting 9:00 am CAA Sisterhood Meeting 10:30 am	7 Rosh Hodesh	8 Conversion Classes 5:30 pm	9 Conversion Classes 5:30 pm	10 Adult Hebrew Continuing Education 6:30 pm	11 Service: 6:00 pm Bimah: Ruth Elmakiss	12 Service:9:00 am Parsha: BO Bimah: Dee Wapner Brunch: Mrs. Charlene Goodman
13 CAA Board of Trustees Meeting 9:00 am CAA Sisterhood Meeting 10:30 am	14 1 Shevat	15 Conversion Classes 5:30 pm Book Club 6:00 pm	16 3 Shevat	17 4 Shevat	18 5 Shevat	19 6 Shevat
20 Tephilin Class 8:30 am CAA Sunday School 10:00 am	21 Tu B'Shevat \$6:31PM	22 Conversion Classes 5:30 pm	23 10 Shevat	24 11 Shevat	25 12 Shevat	26 13 Shevat
27 14 Shevat	28 15 Shevat	29 16 Shevat	30 17 Shevat	31 18 Shevat	25 19 Shevat	26 20 Shevat
21 Shevat	22 Shevat	23 Shevat	24 Shevat	25 Shevat		

**Torah study following
brunch
unless noted.**

CAA SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

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We had a good turnout for the December Sunday School. The students worked creatively on decorations for the windows in the doors for the social hall and sanctuary. Look forward to seeing some of their great creations coming soon.

Each of the classes had a different focus, with our youngest group, Torah Tots, beginning to learn some Hebrew letters. Our middle group learned about some notable Jews and determining whether they had qualities that would make them role models for us. The oldest group learned about fasting, especially with the upcoming Fast of Tevet.

As we gathered for videos, the students learned about the many Jewish creators of superhero comic books and how they reflected Jewish culture and ethics. Now, perhaps when they watch the newest and best Marvel movies, they will recall some of their Jewish heritage. With a quick quiz about Jewish culture, our students demonstrated that they knew more than adults in the video who were trying to answer the questions!

Be sure to join us for our January session with Tu B'Shvat!

January 20, 2019
February 17, 2019
March 17, 2019
April 7, 2019
May 19, 2019





TODAH RABAH



Last month's brunches were generously sponsored by:

- December 1 The Learner Family in Memory of Bertram Jacob Learner
- December 8 The Escamilla-Perez Family in Honor of Galileo's Bar Mitzvah
- December 15 The Escamilla-Perez Family in Honor of All Those Who Helped
- December 22 Beck Roosth in Honor of Steve, Brian & Julie's Birthdays
- December 29 Beck Roosth in Honor of the Escamilla-Perez Family

January Brunches are generously sponsored by:

- January 5 The Weiner Family in Honor of Dr. Ron Beals
- January 12 Mrs. Charlene Goodman
- January 19 The Learner Family in Memory of Elinore Learner
- January 26 The Hammel Family In Honor of
Olivia Hammel's Bat Mitzvah

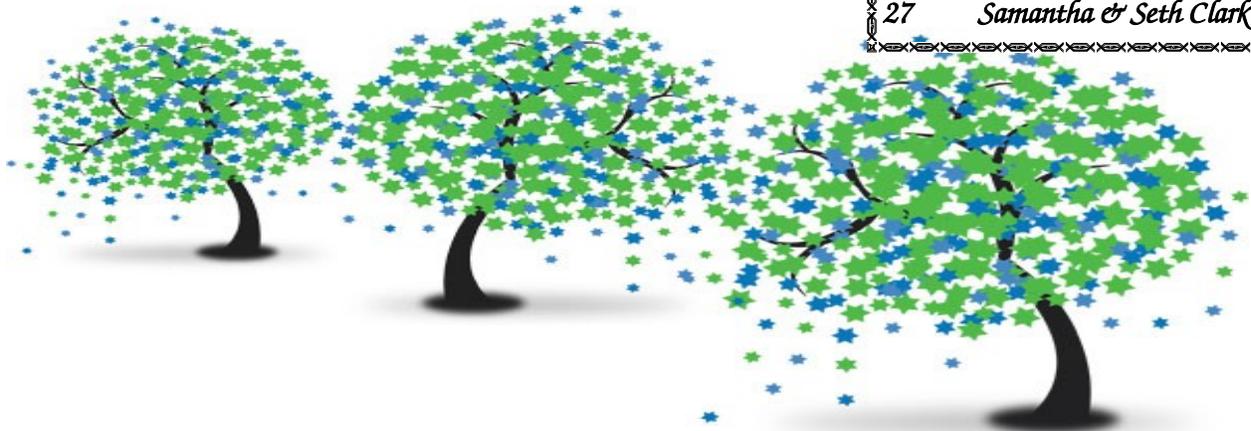
January Celebration

Birthdays

- 4 Hannah Morgan Schumer
- 11 Faith Elizabeth Melamed
- Elsie Beaver
- 12 Beth Hill
- 13 Christie Osburn
- Cindy Dawn Lebowitz
- 23 Victoria Hammel
- 25 Gary Paul Beck
- 26 Karlee Munoz
- 27 Ann Roosth Melamed
- 30 Marleen Roosth Swerdlow
- 31 John Zimmerman

Anniversaries

- 4 Fran & Tim Birmingham
- 12 LeeAnn & Robert Yates
- 16 Beth & Jeff Rose
- 21 Jan & Dr. Larry Rosenfield
- 27 Samantha & Seth Clark



CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM DONATION FORM - Thank You For Your Donation!!!!!!

Please use this form to make your donations and send to:
Congregation Ahavath Achim 3501 South Donnybrook, Tyler, TX 75701

Thank you for printing!!!

Attached is my check in the amount of \$ _____

This donation is being made:
IN HONOR / MEMORY / OTHER OF: _____

Send acknowledgment to:

Name _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

IN HONOR / MEMORY / OTHER OF: _____

Send acknowledgment to:

Name _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

This donation is made by:

Name _____
Address _____

INDICATE THE FUND OF YOUR CHOICE BELOW AND IN THE MEMO AREA OF YOUR CHECK.

- Breakfast Fund
- Maintenance Fund
- Hebrew School Fund
- Adult Education Fund
- Trust Fund
- General Fund
- Rabbinic Fund
- Book Fund

THE FUNDS BELOW REQUIRE A SEPARATE CHECK

- Sylvan Mellinger Maintenance Fund
- Rabbi Discretionary Fund
- Sisterhood Flower Fund - **CAA SISTERHOOD**
- Cemetery Fund - **CAA CEMETERY**

Yahrzeits

JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 3

- 1 William Beleck
Rose Carst Mirsky
Sam Roosth
2 Max Mellinger
3 Elizabeth Levy Sherman
Eugene (Sandy) Sandford Katz

JANUARY 4 - JANUARY 10

- 4 Murray Kravitz
5 Rose Carter
6 Sarah Hertzfeld
Morris Leaman
Joe Levy
Jeseso Tubat
Louis Sobel
7 Mollie Acenberg
9 Winifred Heringhi
Milton Joel Kapner
10 Dr. Dan Golenternek
Aaron Joseph Levy
Harris Zuckerman

JANUARY 11 - JANUARY 17

- 11 Frayde Mastbaum
Minnie Waghalter
14 Robert Beaver
Ellinore S. Learner
15 Dorothy E. (Leon) Jacobs
16 Morris Sherman
17 Samuel Genecov

JANUARY 18 - JANUARY 24

- 18 Joseph Aranow
Marlene Mandell
Rebecca Miller
19 Jennie Haltzman
20 Mollie Mirsky
Ike Rudman
Sidney C. Kahn
Minnie Kahn
Selma Kahn

JANUARY 18 - JANUARY 24 cont.

- 21 Frances Soltes Sobel
22 Rose Beaver
24 Isaac Block
Raymond Kahn
Jane Pearl Suarez
Sidney M. Wolf

JANUARY 25 - JANUARY 31

- 25 Ida Kurtz
26 Barnett Wolf
27 Eva Levy
Sam Krasner
Sarah Kline
Sol Katz
Jeanette Levy Lemson
29 Fannie Abramsky
Millie Heffler
Mike Levine
30 Morris Engle
31 Sarah Leah Lulky
Minnie Nathan

FEBRUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 7

- 1 Israel Katz
Laura W. Muntz
2 Harry Freedman
Sam Vogel
5 Mayer Lulky
7 Leo Frank
Sara Krumholtz

FEBRUARY 8 - FEBRUARY 14

- 8 Ernestine Berlin
10 Melvin Rubin
Frances Vogel
11 Hattie Freedman
Dr. Harold Roosth
13 Rabbi Morris Nathan Taxon
14 Mary Cohen Golenternek

FEBRUARY 15 - FEBRUARY 21

- 15 Jake Roosth
18 Abraham Eisen
Isadore Golenternek
20 Ruby Hayman Kahn
Helen Levy
21 Marcus Leon Strum

FEBRUARY 22 - FEBRUARY 28

- 23 Mynette Rochelle Goldberg
Sol Smith
24 Grace Luskey Laves
25 Jean Katz
27 Annie Rabinowitz Edelman
Hannah Ruth Frank
28 Fred Davidoff
Jake Luskey

MARCH 1 - MARCH 7

- 1 Edna Greenberg
2 Hannah Jarrett
Nelson Kendall Jeffers
Anna Leaman
Charles Rosenthal
3 Phillip Feld
5 Isadore Sulsky

MARCH 8 - MARCH 14

- 12 Mary R. Golenternek
Richard Hale Jeffers
Freida Serkes
13 Celia Goldstucker
14 Harry Mermelstein

MARCH 15 - MARCH 21

- 15 Alexander Golenternek
Miriam Seiderman
18 Morris Jarett
19 Ida Goldberg

MARCH 22 - MARCH 28

- 23 Helen Nathan Caro
25 Nate Ginsberg
Bert Jacobs

MARCH 29 - MARCH 31

- 31 Jack J. Berry



May Their Memory Be For A Blessing

Congregation Ahavath Achim
3501 S, Donnybrook Ave.
Tyler, TX 75701

(903) 561-4284
(903) 561-5040 FAX
rabbialan@suddenlinkmail.com
caasecretary@suddenlinkmail.com
caatylertx.org

If you are moving or changing an email address-
Please let us know so we can stay in touch!

Call (903) 561-4284, email:

caasecretary @ suddenlinkmail.com

Or write to: CAA 3501 S. Donnybrook Ave.
Tyler, TX 75701

OFFICE HOURS
FOR SECRETARY
MONDAY-FRIDAY
10:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.
FOR RABBI LEARNER
TUESDAY- THURSDAY
4:15 -7:15 P.M.
PLEASE CALL FIRST!

- **Congregation Ahavath**
- **Achim** will not permit the open
- carry of firearms on synagogue
- property. This includes the Syna-
- gogue building, grounds, and ceme-
- tery. Pursuant to Section 30.07, Pe-
- nal Code (trespass by license holder
- with an openly carried handgun), a
- person licensed under Subchapter
- H, Chapter 411, Government Code
- (handgun licensing law), may not
- enter the property with a handgun
- that is carried openly.

Remember A Loved One

Memorial Plaque Order Form

Honor your departed loved ones with a fitting remembrance.

ORDERED BY:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

FOR:

English Name of Loved One _____

Hebrew Name _____

Date of Death _____

Hebrew Date of Death _____

Plaques - \$250 each

Make checks payable to Congregation Ahavath Achim
and send to 3501 South Donnybrook, Tyler, Texas
75701. If you need help with any part of this order
form, contact the synagogue at:
903-561-4284 or rabbialan@suddenlinkmail.com

SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

Interested in ordering flowers for the Bimah?
Contact Charlene Goodman 903-894-7488
After you order, send your check, made out to:
Congregation Ahavath Achim Sisterhood to
The Synagogue

OUR TREE OF LIFE - A SISTERHOOD FUNDRAISER

Upon entering the synagogue, one is welcomed by a beautiful, wooden tree, with golden leaves. This tree is our Tree Of Life and is a way to honor, thank, congratulate, show love, and/or appreciation for a living person in your life. Let's fill our Tree of Life with lots of joy and happiness.

To help you with your wording, please look at the leaves currently on the tree. You will notice that the fewer words, the better, as the letters are larger and can be seen more clearly. We encourage you to follow this formula when you plan the wording for your leaf. If there are too many words, you will be asked to revise the wording and I will give you suggestions for changes. Remember.....simple is better!!

Each leaf is \$100.00 and should take about 3 weeks from order, to receipt, to placement on the tree. You may choose the placement of your leaf. Please consider these things when you are placing an order. If you are interested in a leaf, please contact Rita Roosth and I will be more than happy to help you!

Thank you,
Rita