

Congregation Ahavath Achim

FOUNDED 1898



An Affiliate Of
The United Synagogue Of Conservative Judaism



9 SIVAN - 8 TAMMUZ 5780

3501 SOUTH DONNYBROOK, TYLER, TEXAS 75701

JUNE / JULY 2020

From the Desk of the Rabbi **SHOULD WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?**

Miracles do not fall under the jurisdiction of the special effects crew on a movie set no matter how technically advanced they become. Traditionally, Judaism has always been very suspicious of miracles. Unlike Christianity; a religion which is based on the notion that faith requires a person to believe in something which defies logic and the natural order, Judaism has always sought to view the world through the prism of "reality." In fact, our sages often understood passages in the Bible which dealt with miraculous events as metaphorical or symbolic. They were not so quick in believing the notion that Hashem altered nature for miracles to occur.

Menachem Mendel also taught: "If you don't believe in miracles, then you are an atheist." Why? Because, the truth of the matter is that life is not what it appears to be on the surface. There are "miraculous events and moments in this world." But let's understand how Judaism defines something as "miraculous."

There is a story about the great Abraham Joshua Heschel who was invited to deliver a lecture. When he arrived at the lecture he declared: "I just experienced a miracle before coming to this lecture." Naturally, there was dead silence. After all, this was Abraham Joshua Heschel, one of the great spiritual figures of the 20th century. What could he have possibly experienced a single witness could describe as a miracle? Heschel said: "The miracle was that the sun rose this morning. And if you can't see that as a miracle, then you don't have a Jewish understanding of the miraculous."

It is no accident the word "miracle" is not a Jewish word. Miracle is defined by the dictionary as "an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention of human affairs." The Hebrew word for miracle is Nes. Nes means a sign, something significant. The birth of a child is as much a miracle as any miracle I know, but there's nothing supernatural attached to it. It is a part of the natural order of the universe set into existence by Hashem. In order for something to be significant it need not violate the laws of logic or the laws of nature.

To be a Jew means to view the ordinary as extraordinary: a child's smile, the voice of the wind in the trees, the morning light, the emotions which flood into us when we see the bloom of flowers, the petals of a rose, the glow of a rainbow through the prism of a drop of water as the sun shines through it. These are the real miracles of life and Judaism trains us not to miss their significance. That is why there is a Bracha; a blessing for everything under the sun. No blessing in life should go unappreciated.

In our current times, we are witnessing some very challenging obstacles as we work diligently to stay healthy and safe as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to test our faith, our congregation and our country. So far, Baruch Hashem, it is a miracle one of our members is safe and recovering from the virus. It is a miracle we welcome a new baby girl into our congregation. It is a miracle as we see in the news every day, people who are recovering and being reunited with their families. The sun still continues to come up every morning.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Co-President's Message

Time has fluidity that is often hard to understand. Sometimes it seems to fly by, while at other times it will drag on forever. And yet at other times it seems to just stand still. These past 4 years serving as President/Co-President has involved all three aspects. I have learned so much during these past four years – skills I have never needed to use in my previous life.

I have taken the lead in the classroom for 45 years – leading children in academics, social-emotional and recreational learning. Little did I know that some of those same skills would serve me well in leading adults.

During these 4 years, we have trained up new, younger adults providing direction with our youth of all ages. It is a welcoming sight to see all the parents being involved in some manner with our Sunday School program. But now, another goal has been reached as we are actually training the children how to participate and lead services with our Junior Congregation meeting twice a month.

During these four years, we have been through contract negotiations – a totally new experience. We have discussed various financial situations involving endowments, money markets, liabilities and assets – most of which I relied on our Treasurer, Steve Roosth, for his expertise (certainly not mine). We have made interior improvements with our nursery, youth room and Sunday School areas.

We were able to work through the selection of the High Holiday Machzor – through much prayer and open discussion of options, opinions and beliefs. Once we were able to move through that process, I thought we had taken care of all the bumps in the road could possibly arise – that is until October 2018 when the tragic shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh brought the possibility of violent anti-semitism home to us in Tyler, Texas. Suddenly we were inundated with materials about how best to protect our little family Shul. To help us work through that Tim Birmingham stepped forward to share his expertise in safety and security, which had been his career. Watching our small congregation pull together, consult with experts, take on responsibilities that were new to each of us and continue to provide spiritual leadership was amazing! We have developed many routines for safety with a core of people providing support. Moving through this period was momentous!

From there, what else could happen before my retirement as Co-President – smooth sailing! Until COVID-19 threatened everyone around the world! Even here in Tyler, Texas! As we have always been such a close worshipping family, it was a major decision to shut down and not be able to engage as we have in the past. But even out of that, some of us experienced our first virtual Pesach online with Rabbi Learner. And the joy this past Shabbat as those who were not at risk were able to come to CAA to worship in a new manner, exercising safety and social distancing. It was a real blessing!

I look forward to experiencing continued growth and special occasions at our synagogue, and letting others take on the roller-coaster ride of leadership!

Shalom!

Ruth

We live in an age where telecommunications, computers, and special effects have affected our appreciation for what is truly miraculous in life. The current crisis has caused us to rely on these mediums even more. However, as we cling to all this technology, let us not travel farther away from understanding the real miracle of the world is life itself. Our goal should be to learn to appreciate the blessings of life as miracles. If we do, then we will have gained an authentic Jewish understanding of the miraculous and will have brought ourselves closer to the Author of life.

As we go into the summer months, stop for a moment and look at just a single leaf on a tree or bush. Stop to look at the flowers on the trees and in the yards. Look up to the sky and marvel at how blue it can be (especially here in Texas). This is something not easily found in this world every day. Trust me, I have lived in another state where a blue sky was a true miracle!

While we attempt to connect to Hashem by observing the miraculous things found in nature every day, let us also connect to Hashem by observing the miraculous things all of us bring together as a Chaverah as we continue to get back to weekly Shabbat services, if only on Saturday Morning for now. Perhaps we should all Bentch Gomel when we next meet. Perhaps, we should do it every day!

Hinei Ma Tov; Behold! How good and pleasant and "miraculous" it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity. See you in Shull!

With Torah Blessings,
Rabbi

CONGREGATION MEETING- JUNE 14TH

A Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 14th at 10:30 a.m. here at the synagogue. If you are uncomfortable attending in person for the meeting, a "virtual electronic" link can be provided, please contact Ruth Elmakiss for information, assistance, requirements and set-up for the virtual link.

If unable to attend, please know your proxy is due into the office at CAA by June 12th at 4:00 p.m. As usual, your proxy may be mailed, emailed or a simple email with your proxy designee is required by the due date and time. Emailed proxies MUST come from your primary email address we have on file here at the office.

Bimah Schedule

JUNE

- 6 Dr. Michael Tobes
- 13 Sean Hammel
- 20 Dale Latner
- 27 Samantha Clark

JULY

- 4 Steve Roosth
- 11 Dale Latner
- 18 Christie Osburn
- 25 Sean Hammel

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

JULY 18
for AUGUST
Bulletin

Submit articles to:
[caasecretary@
suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:caasecretary@suddenlinkmail.com)
Thank you !

JUNE BOARD MEETING

Sunday, JUNE 14, 2020
9:00 a.m. at the Synagogue

**If you have an item for the agenda,
please call or e-mail
Ruth Elmakiss or Tim Birmingham**



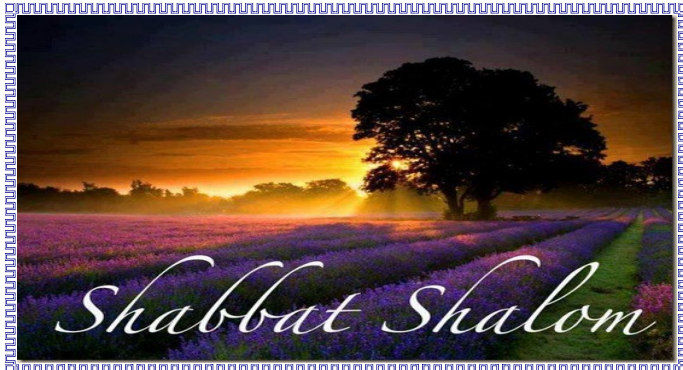
shabbat shalom



JUNE SCHEDULE OF READINGS

Triennial Readings/Holiday Readings

Saturday	June	6	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	NASSO Numbers 4:21 - 5:10 Judges 13:2 - 25	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	June	13	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	BEHA'ALOTCHA Numbers 8:1 - 9:14 Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	June	20	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	Shabbat Mevarachim Ha Chodesh SH'LACH Numbers 13:1 - 14:7 Joshua 2:1 - 24	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	June	27	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	KORACH Numbers 16:1 - 17:15 I Samuel 11:14 - 12:22	9:00 A.M.



BULLETIN DEADLINE:

JULY 18
for
August Bulletin
Submit articles to:
caasecretary@suddenlinkmail.com
Thank you !

JULY BOARD MEETING

Will be held but date and location is to be determined.

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

JUNE 2020

9 Sivan - 8 Tammuz 5780

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Service: 9:00 a.m. Parashat Nasso Bimah: Dr. Michael Tobes
	9th of Sivan, 5780	10th of Sivan, 5780	11th of Sivan, 5780	12th of Sivan, 5780	13th of Sivan, 5780	14th of Sivan, 5780
7 Morning Meetings: Board of Trustees: 9:00 Congregation/Cemetery: 10:30 Sisterhood: 11:00	8	9	10	11	12	13 Service: 9:00 a.m. Parashat Beha'alotecha Bimah: Sean Hammel
15th of Sivan, 5780	16th of Sivan, 5780	17th of Sivan, 5780	18th of Sivan, 5780	19th of Sivan, 5780	20th of Sivan, 5780	21st of Sivan, 5780
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Service: 9:00 a.m. Parshat Sh'lach Bimah: Dale Latner
22nd of Sivan, 5780	23rd of Sivan, 5780	24th of Sivan, 5780	25th of Sivan, 5780	26th of Sivan, 5780	27th of Sivan, 5780	28th of Sivan, 5780
21	22 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Day 1	23 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Day 2	24	25	26	27 Service: 9:00 a.m. Parashat Korach Bimah: Samantha Clark
29th of Sivan, 5780	30th of Sivan, 5780	1st of Tammuz, 5780	2nd of Tammuz, 5780	3rd of Tammuz, 5780	4th of Tammuz, 5780	5th of Tammuz, 5780
28	29	30				
6th of Tammuz, 5780	7th of Tammuz, 5780	8th of Tammuz, 5780				

**NO TORAH
STUDY AFTER
SERVICES**

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13 Tammuz	14 Tammuz	15 Tammuz	16 Tammuz	17 Tammuz	18 Tammuz	19 Tammuz
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20 Tammuz	21 Tammuz	22 Tammuz	23 Tammuz	24 Tammuz	25 Tammuz	26 Tammuz
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27 Tammuz	28 Tammuz	29 Tammuz	Rosh Hodesh 1 Av	2 Av	3 Av	Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: DEVARIM Bimah: Sean Hammel
26	27	28	29	30	31	4 Av
5 Av	6 Av	7 Av	8 Av	9 Av	10 Av	
				Fast of Tishba B'Av	Fast of Tishba B'Av	
						Service: 9:20PM Parsha: CHUKKAT-BALAK Bimah: Steve Roosth
					3	4
					ii:8:17PM	ii:8:16PM
						Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: PINCHAS Bimah: Dale Latner
						Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: MATOT-MASSEI Bimah: Christie Osburn
						Service: 9:12PM



**NO TORAH STUDY
AFTER SERVICES**



shabbat shalom



JULY SCHEDULE OF READINGS Triennial Readings/Holiday Readings

Saturday	July	4	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	CHUKKAT-BALAK Numbers 19:1 - 21:20 Michah 5:6 - 6:8	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	July	11	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	PINCHAS Numbers 25:10 - 26:51 Jeremiah 1:1 - 2:3	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	July	18	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	Shabbat Mevarachim MATOT-MASSEI Numbers 30:2 - 31:54 Jermiah 2:4 - 2:28, 3:4	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	July	25	Morning Torah Reading Haftorah	Shabbat Chazon DEVARIM Deuteronomy 1:1 - 2:1 Isaiah 1:1 - 27	9:00 A.M.



June Celebrations Birthdays

- 3 Robi Jalnos
Ariel Tova Hekier
- 4 Christopher Paul Osburn
Matthew Learner
- 8 Chuck Wapner
- 9 Arthur L. Frank
Azariah Munoz
- 10 Amy Elaine Pogrund
- 11 Melissa (Mimi) Beth Hall
- 12 Jordan Rey
Rachel Tobes
- 14 Rabbi Alan Learner
Ron Moyal
Dr. Ron Beals
Fran Birmingham
- 16 Dr. Jon Markowitz
- 25 Eva Goodman
- 27 Bob Roosth



July Celebrations Birthdays

- 3 Rebeca Escamilla-Perez
- 5 Mitchell Schumer
- 6 Felice Sobel Silverberg
- 9 Julie Schumer
- 10 Olivia Hammel
Sarah Birmingham
- 12 Joshua Levy
- 13 Joan Goldfarb
- 14 Daniel Farb
- 15 Sheryl Green
- 17 Lindsey Marie Schumer
- 26 Jose Escamilla-Perez
- 27 Tyler Rubinsky
- 28 Stephen J. Karten
- 29 Michael Diamond

Anniversaries June

- 8 Mitchell & Julie Schumer
- 11 Dr. Abraham & Joan Goldfarb
Sean & Shannon Hammel
- 15 Jose & Rebeca Escamilla-Perez
- 18 Robi & Eileen Jalnos
- 20 Dr. Stan & Janice Weiner
- 28 Jordan & Heather Rey

July

- 2 Daron & Kimberly Walls
- 10 Rabbi Alan & Ellen Learner



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.
MINIMUM DONATION \$5 PER REMEMBRANCE.**

- Breakfast Fund
 Maintenance Fund
 Hebrew School Fund
 Adult Education Fund
 Safety 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

JUNE 1 - JUNE 4

- 1 Henry Berry
Doris Ginsberg Diamond
3 Sadie Wapner
4 George Vainer
Isaac Benedict Heffler

JUNE 5 - JUNE 11

- 5 Feiga Ginsberg
Israel Sutton
8 Louis Sherman
9 James Harold Hill
10 Harry P. Goldberg
11 Samuel Cohn

JUNE 12 - JUNE 18

- 13 Rose Rudman
14 Dorothy Cohen Smith
16 Etta Golenternek Gross
Thomas Werbner
17 Robert Muntz
Sam Sable
Bill Werbner
18 Sol Ginsberg

JUNE 19 - JUNE 25

- 19 Eugenia Levite
22 Herman Jay Shafts
24 Frances Fridkin
25 Fannie Mosier

JUNE 26 - JULY 2

- 26 Nora Modisett
1 Arnette Sutton
2 Bella Rosenberg
Berma Dean Levine

JULY 3 - JULY 9

- 3 Ida Kessler
4 Harold Samuel Sulsky
Rabbi Kalman B. Taxon
Sylvia Wolf
7 Nathan Harold Roosth
8 Bernard Krasner

JULY 10 - JULY 16

- 11 Rachel Krasner
12 Tillie Falk
Sandra Greenberg Sharpe
14 Abe Laves
Rena Tobes
15 David Edward Berlin
Rose Kapner
Bessie Luskey Krasner

JULY 17 - JULY 23

- 19 Rose Greenwald
Ester Levine
Rhonda Jackson
20 David Abramsky
21 Marvin Miller
Isadore Roosth
22 Harry Block
Lillian Roberts

JULY 24 - JULY 30

- 24 Merrill Cason
25 Morris Rosenberg
Marvin Waghalter
27 Aleck S. Geneco
30 David Levy
Sam M. Cohen
Rebecca Lulky

JULY 31 - AUGUST 6

- 3 Herman Pines
Sol Roosth
4 Lonnie Goldfeder
5 Harry Kapner

AUGUST 7 - AUGUST 13

- 7 Pearl Levine
8 Yidus Rudman Scrinopskie
10 Ella Kelfer
Jake Davidoff
12 Albert Weintraub

AUGUST 14 - AUGUST 20

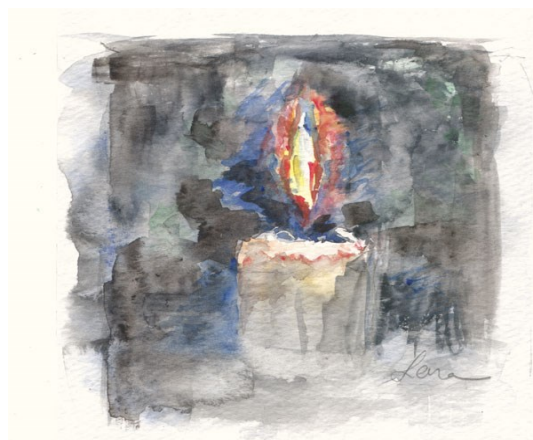
- 14 Jacob Meyer Edelman
16 Molly Luskey
Jeanne Glasser
17 Hannah Goldstein
18 Eve Abramsky Smith
19 Lester Waghalter
20 Rose Heffler

AUGUST 21 - AUGUST 27

- 22 Stella Jarrett
23 Max Edelman
Morris Forman
25 Abraham Davidoff
27 Mary Davidoff
Herta Levite

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3

- 29 Israel Smith
30 Charles Simon Weintraub



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

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!

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

- **Congregation Ahavath Achim** will not permit the open carry of firearms on synagogue property. This includes the Synagogue building, grounds, and cemetery.
- Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal 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 Leanne the secretary and I will be more than happy to help you!

Thank you, Leanne