## Congregation Ahavath Achim



FOUNDED 1898

# An Affiliate Of The United Synagogue Of Conservative Judaism



30 SHEVAT - 27 ADAR I 5782

3501 SOUTH DONNYBROOK, TYLER, TEXAS 75701

FEBRUARY 2022

#### From The Desk of The Rabbi

Normally, I would be writing an article for our bulletin in the month of February relating to Purim. This year being a leap year affords us an extra month of Adar which pushes Purim out into March when it will be observed during Adar II.

Almost every year around this time, I enjoy reading and discussing the section of the Midrash that explains how a certain descendent of King Agag (okay, go ahead and pound the table) cast lots in order to determine the "optimum" time to destroy the Jewish people living throughout the various provinces of the Persian Empire.

First, lots were cast for the various days of the week. Then the various months of the Persian/Babylonian calendar. Even down to the various signs of the Zodiac. The Midrash proceeds to relate that the various angels in Hashem's heavenly court advocated for the Jewish people for every day of the week, the various signs of the Zodiac, and virtually every month except Adar which on the surface, no Biblical reference could be found to merit the defense and salvation of the Jewish people.

Imagine the joy in our ancient enemy's mind when he fell under the allusion that Jewish people would have no protection from Heaven on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar and proceeded to manipulate the Persian government (mainly King Achashverosh) into issuing the edict throughout the entire kingdom of Persia to destroy the Jewish people. Little did this person know that while on the surface, the month of Adar seemed to not have an advocate angel in Hashem's court, and it represented also the death of Moses, he missed a very important fact.

He thought that Adar, as the 12th month, represented the end. But it's not. Though Adar is the "final month," it completes an annual cycle -- and leads us to a new beginning.

He also misinterpreted the death of Moses. In Parsha Mishpatim, Chapter 23, verse 26, Hashem tells Moses: "I shall complete the number of your days." One interpretation of this obscure verse of Torah is that Moses would die on his birthday, after completing 120 years. Our ancient enemy failed to take into account that the 7th of Adar -- besides being the date of Moses' death -- was also the date of his birth 120 years earlier. Another teaching is that Moses was born on the 7th of Adar I, and died on the 7th of Adar II. (This is the source for the blessing that "you should live to be 120 + 30.") When Moses died, his life didn't end -- rather, it was completed.

Our ancient enemy misread the omens of Adar through his superstitious methods of casting lots, and his plan was foiled. In essence, he misunderstood a basic feature of Jewish history. Throughout history, we see a repetitive pattern in the evolving history of the great civilizations of the past. Whether it's the Egyptians, the Babylonians, the Greeks, the Romans, Napoleon, the Soviet Union -- or even Achashverosh's Persia which included all 127 countries of the civilized world; these "great empires" exist today only in the history books. Their collective histories all have the same pattern: Their nations rose, fell, and disappeared from the face of the earth.

The history of the Jewish people, however, is totally different. Sometimes times are good for us, and sometimes they are not. We go through these ups and downs. For example, we see it prominently in the Book of Judges and also in the Purim story where we the Jews go through the cycle and finish on an up-swing. This cycle is hinted to in the word "Megillah," the Scroll of Esther which we read on Purim. "Megillah" is related to the word *galgal*, which means "wheel." Purim reminds us about the eternal cycle of Jewish history.

#### **RABBI'S MESSAGE CONTINUES ON PAGE 3**

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Adon Olam is a prayer for all ages. This concluding prayer is one of the most familiar hymns that we all learn. It was probably one of the first prayers that I learned some 70 years ago.

When I participated in what was called Junior Congregation, we would have our own services first, and then go into the main sanctuary for the latter part of the services after the Torah service. We quickly learned all the latter prayers especially Adon Olam which in most prayer books has become the concluding prayer before going to sleep, the daily early morning prayers and at the close of Sabbath and festival morning services including the morning of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

The authorship and origins are credited to various poets, particularly to Solomon Ibn Gabriel and has been considered to be written sometime between 1000 CE to 1060 CE. It did not become part of the morning liturgy until the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. In Ashkenazic liturgy, it contains 5 stanzas in 10 lines. The concepts are simple but basic to our beliefs as Jews which to name a few are:

Hashem is eternal, He was, He is and He will be.

He is my G-d.

I trust Him with my spirit and body from the moment I am born and even when I die.

The powerful message is that Hashem is present in the day to day lives of every individual. Sometimes, we take this prayer for granted as a transition to leaving the synagogue. Many of the men are folding their Tallit while singing the prayer and we are all preparing for the Kiddush and Brunch to follow.

We do not always think about what we are saying and what it means. We should focus on this prayer like many others in our liturgy as another example of a declaration of faith. One of those declarations being: He is our savior and redeemer.

But enough of the heavy. Let's get to the fun part, the tune. There are a few traditional tunes that we all learn. The most common tune is attributed to the Russian cantor, Eliezar Mordecai Gerovitsch.

As I reflect back to my Jewish learning some 60 years ago while in both Junior Congregation and Hebrew camp, its meter is Iambic tetrameter and lends itself to many popular melodies that employ 4/4 time. One of my favorites is to sing Adon Olam to the tune of Scarborough Fair as sung by Paul Simon and Art Garfunkle. Its my generation and I suspect for some of you as well.

My Rabbis and teachers taught us that prayer can be fun even when the messages in the prayer are important. If singing this prayer to different melodies helps us to internalize the message its author intended to teach us, let us continue to have fun as we affirm our faith and belief in its beautiful poetry.

### Michael Tobes





FEBRUARY Bimah Schedule

5 Wally Newsom
12 Kesleigh Terry
19 Dr. Stan Weiner
26 Christie Osburn
Remember, if you can't be on the Bimah when scheduled, you need to find a replacement.

#### BULLETIN **DEADLINE:**

Feb. 18 for the March 2022 Bulletin Submit articles to: caasecretary@ suddenlinkmail.com Thank you!

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

Sunday, February 13 2022

If you have an item for the agenda, please call or e-mail

Dr. Michael Tobes or Samantha Clark



# shabbat shalom



### FEBRUARY SCHEDULE OF READINGS

Triennial Readings/Holiday Readings

Saturday Sunday	February February	5 6	Morning Service Torah Reading Haftorah Tephillin Service	<b>TERUMAH</b> Exodus 26:31 - 27:19 I Kings 5:26 - 6:13	9:00 A.M. 8:00 A.M.
Saturday	February	12	Morning Service Torah Reading Haftorah	<b>TETZAVEH</b> Exodus 29:19 - 30:10 Ezekiel 43:10 - 27	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	February	19	Morning Service Torah Reading Haftorah	<b>KI TISSA</b> Exodus 33:12 - 34:35 I Kings 18:1 - 39	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	February	26	Birchat HaChodes Morning Service Torah Reading Maftir Haftorah	sh Shabbat Shekalim VAYAKHEL Exodus 36:20 - 38:20 Exodus 30:11 - 16 II Kings 12:1 - 17	9:00 A.M.



#### RABBI'S MESSAGE

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

We continue to see a cycle in the world stage where anti-Semitism is on the rise. Our enemies continue to tout the old blood libel tropes. This was recently on display a few weeks ago when a terrorist, an anti-Semite took four individuals' hostage in Colleyville, Texas. While the hostages miraculously were not harmed including their Rabbi, this incident certainly reminds us all too well, that the spirit of Amalek is alive and well and continues to be at war with the Jewish people in every generation. A disturbing note however was that it was not declared anti-Semitism at the time of the attack. It was not immediately declared a hate crime. It took a while for various agencies to finally call it what it really was and only because of public pressure.

Let us notice though, the little things may be a little different in our current time which should give us some measure of hope. We have seen an unprecedented event in the UN where they passed a resolution condemning Holocaust denial and distortion on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wannsee Conference. Unilever has been hit hard financially with the boycott of their BDS position concerning Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. Many of our states here in this country have shown their support for Israel by divesting themselves of Unilever. Christian evangelical support for the State of Israel has so far been a positive force against the anti-Semitism that threatens it on a daily basis. Many of our states are redefining anti-Zionism as anti-Semitism and taking strong positions condemning it.

Perhaps the lessons of the Holocaust are being learned and eternalized slowly but surely. This can only continue if we the Jewish people remain steadfast with our Jewish identities and show our support for the state of Israel. We must continue to show the world that we are prepared to be the Mordechai's and Esther's of our generation.

With Torah Blessings, Rabbi

#### AFTER SERVICES/ BRUNCH §7:46PM §7:51PM **TORAH STUDY** §7:57PM §8:03PM Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: KI TISSA Bimah: Dr. Stan Weiner Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: VAYAKHEL Bimah: Christie Osburn Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: TERUMAH Bimah: Wally Newsom Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: TETZAVEH Bimah: Kesleigh Terry ד אדר א' כה אדר א' א אדר א' יָר אדר א' 26 ii6:42PM 5 ii6:47PM 116:53PM 116:59PM , אדר א' CT ATC A יז אדר א' , אדר א' 8 25 =4 ב אדר א' כג אדר א' ט אדר א' טז אדר א' 9 24 က §7:55PM ROSH HODESH II **PURIM KATAN II** טו אדר א' א אדר א' כב אדר א' ר אדר א' 23 2 တ §7:54PM ROSH HODESH I **PURIM KATAN I** כא אדר א' לך אדר א' אדר א' ל שבט 22 ω כז אדר א' כ אדר א' , אדר א יג אדר א' 4 28 7 13 CAA Board of Trustees Meeting 9:00 a.m. a.m. Sisterhood Meeting: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Tephillin Service: 8:00 ה אדר א' יט אדר א' כו אדר א' יב אדר א' 20 27

## Sisterhood News

The Sisterhood's next meeting will be at the Synagogue on Sunday February 6th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

### Sunday School:

February 6, 2022 @10:00 am
Sunday School will be meeting to learn
all about Shabbat. What is Shabbat?
Why do we keep it? What do we do
and what do we not do?

Don't forget that Purim is coming up soon. Wednesday night,
March 16 is the date.
Start planning your
Purim costumes now.:)

# February Celebrations <u>Birthdays</u>

1 Barbara Zimmerman
3 Lysa Levy
4 Lawren (Lolly) Greenberg Gross
6 Liyah Rut Walls
11 Walter (Dale) Latner
14 Noah Mitchel Indianer
16 Daron E. Walls
24 Ezra Kol Rey

Anniversaries

10 Jerome & Sharon Smith

#### **TODAH RABAH**

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>

Jonathan & Rachel Green

MELLINGER MAINTENANCE FUND

Marleen Swerdlow
Cynthia & Michael Wolf

#### TODAH RABAH

Brunch Sponsors
Charlene Goodman
the Learner Family
LeeAnn & Hannah Yates
the Munoz Family

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	INDICATE THE FUND OF YOUR CHOICE BELOW AND IN THE MEMO AREA OF YOUR CHECK.		
Thank you for printing!!!  Attached is my check in the amount of \$	MINIMUM DONATION \$5 PER REMEMBRANCE.		
Attached is my check in the amount of \$	☐ Breakfast Fund		
This donation is being made:	☐ Maintenance Fund		
IN HONOR / MEMORY / OTHER OF:	☐ Hebrew School Fund		
Send acknowledgment to:	☐ Adult Education Fund		
Name	☐ Safety Fund		
Address City/State/Zip	General Fund		
IN HONOR / MEMORY / OTHER OF	Rabbinic Fund		
IN HONOR / MEMORY / OTHER OF:	☐ Book Fund		
Send acknowledgment to:	THE FUNDS BELOW REQUIRE A SEPARATE CHECK		
Name Address City/State/Zip	Sylvan Mellinger Maintenance Fund		
	☐ Rabbi Discretionary Fund		
This donation is made by: Name	Sisterhood Flower Fund - CAA SISTERHOOD		
Address	Cemetery Fund - CAA CEMETERY		

## **Yahrzeits**

<b>FEBR</b>	<u>UARY 1 - FEBRUARY 3</u>		UARY 25 - MARCH 3 cont	<u>APRII</u>	<u> 8 - APRIL 14</u>	
1	Mayer Lulky	27	Hannah Florence (Flo) Berkman	8	Ida Hannah Lazarus	
3	Leo Frank		Phillip Feld		Jacob Meyer	
	Sara Krumholtz	29	Isadore Sulsky	9	Betrice Goldfeder	
FEBRUARY 4 - FEBRUARY 10		MAR	<u>CH 4 - MARCH 10</u>		Bennie Roosth	
4	Ernestine Berlin	7	Boris Shteinsheleifer		Bob Benjomin Taylor	
6	Melvin Rubin	8	Mary R. Golenternek	11	Jerry Lee Jeffers	
	Frances Vogel		Richard Hale Jeffers		Manuel Zimmerman	
7	Hattie Freeman		Freida Serkes	12	Frances Bromberg	
	Dr. Harold Roosth	9	Celia Goldstucker		Pearl Krumholtz	
9	Rabbi Morris Nathan Taxon	10	Harry Mermelstein	<u>APRII</u>	<u> 15 - APRIL 21</u>	
10	Mary Cohen Golenternek	MAR	<u>CH 11 - MARCH17</u>	18	Sam Levine	
<b>FEBR</b>	UARY 11 - FEBRUARY 17	11	Alexander Golenternek	19	Clara Levine	
11	Jake Roosth		Miriam Seiderman	<u>APRII</u>	<u> 22 - APRIL 28</u>	
14	Abraham Eisen	14	Morris Jarett	22	Abraham Flicker	
	Isadore Golenternek	15	Ida Goldberg	24	William D. Roosth	
16	Ruby Hayman Kahn	MAR	<u>CH 18 - MARCH 24</u>	26	Ralph Davis	
	Helen Levy	19	Helen Nathan Caro	27	Judge Earnest Stevens	
17	Marcus Leon Strum	21	Nate Ginsberg		Ruth Waghalter	
<b>FEBR</b>	UARY 18 - FEBRUARY 24		Bert Jacobs	28	Maurice Block	
19 Dr. Wiley Roosth		MAR	MARCH 25 - MARCH 31		<u>APRIL 29 - MAY 5</u>	
	Mynette Rochelle Goldberg	27	Jack Berry	29	Isabell Davis	
	Sol Smith	29	Annie Levine	30	Anna Eisen	
20	Jean Katz	30	Sylvia Gaylin	1	Morris Rudman	
23	Annie Rabinowitz Edelman	<u>APRII</u>	<u>L 1 - APRIL 7</u>	3	Hyman Smith	
	Hannah Ruth Frank	5	Rosa Lee Roosth Mellinger	4	Arthur Frank	
24	Fred Davidoff		Eva Zuckerman		Mary Mirsky	
	Jake Luskey		Maurine Muntz	5	Raye Bromberg	
<b>FEBR</b>	<u> UARY 25 - MARCH 3</u>	6	Sidney Manuel Kahn		Ruth Gross	
25	Edna Greenberg		Mike Cohen		Selma Greenberg	
26	Hannah Jarett	7	Thomas Dula		Pauline Heffler Roosth	
	Nelson Kendall Jeffers		Louis Shafts		Jerome Wolf	
	Hortense Cohn Israel					
	Anna Leaman					
	Charles Rosenthal					



## **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 @ sudddenlinkmail.com Or write to: CAA 3501 S. Donnybrook Ave. Tyler, TX 75701

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**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 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:

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

Ofter you order, send your check, made out to:

Congregation of and a contact of a contact 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