

# Congregation Ahavath Achim

FOUNDED 1898



An Affiliate Of

The United Synagogue Of Conservative Judaism



6 SHEVAT - 4 ADAR 5780

3501 SOUTH DONNYBROOK, TYLER, TEXAS 75701

FEBRUARY 2020

## ***From the Desk of the Rabbi*** ***Shevat-Is It Only About Trees?***

When one approaches and enters into the month of Shevat, our first reaction is to think of Tu'B'shat the New Year for Trees. However, upon closer examination and research, there are a few more things about Shevat that bear attention to this month of the Jewish calendar.

**It's the Eleventh Month in the Torah.** The Torah does not give names to the months of the year. Actually the only month in Hebrew going by a Hebrew name is Aviv or translated as spring. The remaining months of the Hebrew calendar do not have Hebrew names because...

**It's all Babylonian to Me:** The Jerusalem Talmud tells us the modern names of the months "came up [to Israel] with [the returnees] from Babylon," at the onset of the second Jewish commonwealth, approximately 350 BCE. The original system was to count months in numeric order, starting from Nissan. Thus, any time a person mentioned a month, they were in effect recalling the exodus from Egypt: we are in, say, the sixth month—six months since the month of the Exodus. Thus, the numeric naming served as a constant reminder of our deliverance from Egypt. After we were delivered from Babylonian captivity, however, we started using the names we became used to using in Babylon. The month of Shevat is associated with the heavy rains of the winter season. Rain in Israel is directly tied to blessings because...

**It's the Age of Aquarius!** Yes, the signs of the zodiac do play a role in the Hebrew calendar! The sign for the month of Shevat is Aquarius, the water bearer. Again, this ties Shevat appropriately to the rainy season and Israel this year has had a lot of rain which is beneficial for all crops especially when we would want to...

**Make Like a Tree!** As I have mentioned in previous years, Shevat is well known as the month of Tu' B'Shevat, one of the 4 Jewish New Years celebrated in the course of our calendar year. It is celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Shevat. According to the Mishneh, there's an opinion that the New Year for trees should be celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, not the 15<sup>th</sup>. Either way, we recognize that in Israel, nature is starting to come back to life as the seemingly long dark winter days draw to a close. Speaking of long, Shevat is also known in Jewish History as...

**The Long Speech of Moshe Rabbeinu!** The month of Shevat was when Moses prepared for his passing in the following month on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Adar. This long speech is the 5<sup>th</sup> book of the Torah or Devarim (Deuteronomy). Here Moses starts out rebuking the Children of Israel and gives the next generation words of admonition as they are about to cross the river Jordan into the land. Moses also uses this time to teach the Children of Israel...

**How to Say Abraham in Chinese!** The Midrash teaches Moses spent the month of Shevat translating the entire Torah into the 70 major languages of the other nations that would be written on the huge plastered stones to be erected upon Israel entering the land otherwise known as "Torah on the Rocks"! However, we would be remiss if we did not bring to light the important connection between...

**Torah, Women and Trees!** Important Biblical women are either named after trees or have a close association with trees. Esther's Hebrew name was Hadassah referring to the myrtle tree and Judah's daughter-in-law was Tamar referring to the date palm.

The judge Deborah heard cases while sitting under Tamar Devorah, Deborah's date palm tree. The alon bachut, "the weeping tree," stands where Rebecca's nurse, another woman named Deborah, died. The verse; Etz Chaim He (The Tree of Life) is an important feminine symbol in Judaism. Women bear offspring, as the Torah bears wisdom, and trees bear fruit. A woman's children are often referred to as the "fruit of her womb." In Shevat we recognize the fabulous female connection to the life-giving cycles of nature.

Parsha Be'sha'ach in the Torah usually falls within the month of Shevat as well and is also known as Shabbat Shirah. It is here where we read the Shir Hai'Yam or Song at the Sea where Miriam and the women sang songs in celebration of Hashem's great miracle of deliverance. This is mirrored in the Haftorah where Deborah the Judge also sang in celebration of Hashem's great miracle at that time.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Co-President's Message

Dear Congregants and Friends:

We find ourselves in what should be January's icy blade, yet the budding dandelions and green grass sprouts are more in keeping with spring . . . go figure !

Nature is always surprising and unpredictable.

The same holds true for all natural things, including people. As we forge forward in 2020, surprising, unpredictable and unsettling human events are unfolding all around the world, but is it really so surprising and unpredictable? Are our times more unsettling than in previous generations across the millennia?

Where can we find a predictable and peaceful sanctuary in times like these?

Our Faith in Torah teachings and the history of our people provide the stability, strength and, yes, predictability and peace that we need. Our Faith is the magic ingredient that opens our hearts and minds to the meaning of the Torah. Each of us is responsible to hold to our Faith and be better students of Torah, to believe in and work toward better solutions in the coming year.

Is this enough, or does the responsibility run deeper?

I believe that we have the added responsibilities of keen awareness, sober planning and firm resolve. Keen awareness to see and clearly understand the dangers, as well as the opportunities that surround our daily lives. Sober planning to engage in the great debates of our time, while realizing that each of us is responsible for the greatest part of our own, individual safety and success at all times. Firm resolve in that we will not allow our lives or heritage to be lost.

This in mind, I pray for and will work toward supporting the Faith and safety of our precious congregation throughout 2020. I hope you will join me in strengthening the safety and joyful peace of our synagogue in the coming year !

Tim Birmingham, CAA Co-President 2020



### RABBI'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1

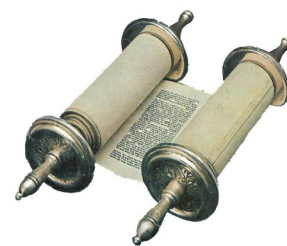
Deborah is the only female judge named in the Tanach. She was wise and fair. Deborah sat under her date palm tree and decided cases for the Israelites. Deborah, was also called a prophetess who urged the Israelites into battle, informing them that G-d had commanded it and would see to it that they would come out victorious "by the hand of a woman." When the battle was indeed won, Deborah sang a victory song. Deborah inspires us to act fairly, cultivate wisdom, and **pursue** justice. Deborah's success as a judge, an occupation that in her day was dominated by men reminds us that women can do anything.

These are just a few examples of the significances the month of Shevat brings. It is a month that honors not just the men in our Tanach, but equally if not more the strong women in Jewish history.

With Torah blessings,  
Rabbi



# shabbat shalom



## **FEBRUARY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Triennial Readings/Holiday Readings

Friday	January	31	Evening Service		6:00 P.M.
Saturday	February	1	Morning Service	<b>BO</b>	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 10:1 - 11:3	
			Haftarah	Jeremiah 46:13 - 28	
Friday	February	7	Evening Service	Shabbat Shirah	6:00 P.M.
Saturday	February	8	Morning Service	<b>BE-SHALLACH-SHIRAH</b>	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 13:17 - 15:26	
			Haftarah	Judges 4:4 - 5:31	
Sunday	February	9	Tephillin Service		8:00 A.M.
Friday	February	14	Evening Service		6:00 P.M.
Saturday	February	15	Morning Service	<b>YITRO</b>	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 18:1 - 18:27	
			Haftarah	Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 6	
Friday	February	21	Evening Service	Birchat HaChodesh	6:00 P.M.
Saturday	February	22	Morning Service	<b>MISHPATIM Shabbat SHEKALIM</b>	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 21:1 - 22:3	
			Maftir	Exodus 30:11-16	
			Haftarah	II Kings 12:1 - 17	
Sunday	February	23	Tephillin Service		8:00 A.M.
Friday	February	28	Evening Service		6:00 P.M.
Saturday	February	29	Morning Service	<b>TERUMAH</b>	9:00 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 25:1 - 25:40	
			Haftarah	I Kings 5:26 - 6:13	

### **FEBRUARY Bimah Schedule**

7 Co-President	1 Co-President
14 Co-President	8 Steve Roosth
21 Co-President	15 Dr. Stan Weiner
28 Co-President	22 Wally Newsom
	29 Dee Wapner

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

### **BULLETIN DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 18 for MARCH Bulletin**

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

### **FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING**

Sunday, February 16, 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



# FEBRUARY

Today

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						<b>1</b> Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: BO Bimah: Co-President Brunch: Jerome & Sharon Smith Junior Congregation
						<b>6 Shevat</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Service: 6:00 p.m. Bimah: Co-President	<b>8</b> Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: BE SHALLACH-SHIRAH Bimah: Steve Roosth Brunch: The Learner Family
7 Shevat	8 Shevat	9 Shevat	10 Shevat	11 Shevat	12 Shevat	13 Shevat
<b>9</b> Tephillin Service: 8:00 a.m. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.	<b>10</b> Tu B'Shevat \$6:49PM	<b>11</b> Conversion Class: 5:30 p.m.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Service: 6:00 p.m. Bimah: Co-President	<b>15</b> Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: YITRO Bimah: Dr. Stan Weiner Brunch: Kesleigh Terry Junior Congregation
14 Shevat	15 Shevat	16 Shevat	17 Shevat	18 Shevat	19 Shevat	20 Shevat
<b>16</b> CAA Sisterhood Meeting 8:00 a.m. CAA Board of Trustees Meeting 9:00 a.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Conversion Class: 5:30 p.m.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Service: 6:00 p.m. Bimah: Co-President	<b>22</b> Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: MISHPATIM Bimah: Wally Newsom Brunch: The Escamilla-Perez Family
21 Shevat	22 Shevat	23 Shevat	24 Shevat	25 Shevat	26 Shevat	27 Shevat
<b>23</b> Tephillin Service: 8:00 a.m. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Rosh Hodesh I Conversion Class: 5:30 p.m.	<b>26</b> Rosh Hodesh II	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Service: 6:00 p.m. Bimah: Co-President	<b>29</b> Service: 9:00 a.m. Parsha: TERUMAH Bimah: Dee Wapner Brunch: TBA
28 Shevat	29 Shevat	30 Shevat	1 Adar	2 Adar	3 Adar	4 Adar

TORAH STUDY  
AFTER BRUNCH



## BOOK CLUB

At our March book club meeting, our book will be,

"The Alice Network" by Kate Quinn .

Book club meeting will be

Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Thank you, Christie Osburn

## Sunday School

### Moses & Mitzvot!

**The CAA Sunday school is continuing to thrive and learn. Our focus for January was the story of Moses and since we have had much illness within the congregation we have been learning about ביקור חולים (bikar cholim - visiting the sick) and making רפואה שלמה (refuah sheleima - get well soon) cards.**

**Students are continuing to learn about the Hebrew calendar and learned when their Hebrew birthday is and we sang "Happy Birthday" in Hebrew. Bonus points to anyone who can say "Happy Birthday" in Hebrew. Our kids know how!**

**February will be time for Tu B'Shevat, continuing the story of the Exodus from Egypt and more mitzvot!**

**Sunday School will meet February 9th and February 23rd .**

## CAA SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood continues to provide delicious meals for our brunches. We can certainly use more chefs in the kitchen - whether Sisterhood or Brotherhood. Toni Poulsen is back from her travels and is keeping everything in the kitchen rolling! Our next Sisterhood meeting is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 16th - prior to the Board meeting at 9:00. We have a possible fund-raiser to discuss, along with planning for the next few months, including Purim, Passover, and Yom HaShoah along with many other items. Please plan to attend and bring another Sister along with you!

### TODAH RABAH

Continued from page 6

#### CEMETERY FUND

Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Dr. Harold Roosth, Rosa Lee Roosth Mellinger  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Jennie & Bennie Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Polly & Isadore Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Sol Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Rita & Dr. Wiley Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Dr. Hyman Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Mary & Jake Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Celia & Sam Roosth  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Anna & Morris Leaman  
Marleen Roosth Swerdlow in Memory of Esther & Sylvan Mellinger







# TODAH RABBAH



## Last month's brunches were generously sponsored by:

January 4 Jerome & Sharon Smith in Memory of Dr. Wiley & Rita Roosth  
 January 11 Rabbi Learner & family in Memory of Bert Jacob Learner  
 January 18 The Weiner Family  
 January 25 Kesleigh Terry

## February Brunches are generously sponsored by:

February 1 Jerome & Sharon Smith in Honor of Dee Wapner's Long Service to CAA & the Board of Trustees  
 February 8 Rabbi Learner & Family in Memory of Ellinore Learner  
 February 15 Kesleigh Terry in Honor of her husband,  
 February 22 The Escamilla-Perez Family in Memory of Dr. Wiley & Rita Roosth  
 February 29 TBA

## February Celebrations

### Birthdays

1 Barbara Forzano Zimmerman  
 3 Lysa Levy  
 4 Lauren (Lolly) Greenberg Gross  
 6 Lijah Rut Walls  
 9 Ruth Trus  
 11 Walter (Dale) Latner  
 14 Noah Mitchel Indianer  
 16 Daron E. Walls  
 24 Ezra Kol Rey

### Anniversaries

10 Jerome & Sharon Smith

## BOOK FUND

Robi & Eileen Jalnos

## BREAKFAST FUND

Tim & Fran Birmingham

Dr. Ron & Elaine Beals in Memory of Rita Roosth

Ruth Elmakiss in Memory of Rita Roosth

Dr. Larry & Jan Rosenfield in Memory of Rita Roosth

Dee & Chuck Wapner in Celebration of Kesleigh Terry's Graduation

## GENERAL FUND

Marshall & Gail Eisen in Memory of Irving Goodman

## MELLINGER MAINTENANCE FUND

Kevin & Lolly Gross in Memory of Rita Roosth

Dr. Larry & Jan Rosenfield in Memory of Rita Roosth

Continued on page 5



## 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

## FEBRUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 6

- 3 Robert Beaver  
Ellinore S. Learner
- 5 Morris Sherman
- 6 Samuel Genecov

## FEBRUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 13

- 7 Joseph Aranow  
Marlene Mandell  
Rebecca Miller
- 8 Jennie Haltzman
- 9 Mollie Mirsky  
Ike Rudman  
Sidney C. Kahn  
Minnie Kahn  
Selma Kahn
- 10 Frances Soltes Sobel
- 11 Rose Beaver
- 13 Isaac Block  
Raymond Kahn  
Jane Pearl Suarez  
Sidney M. Wolf

## FEBRUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 20

- 14 Ida Kurtz
- 15 Barnett Wolf
- 16 Eva Levy  
Sam Krasner  
Sarah Kline  
Sol Katz  
Jeanette Levy Lemson
- 18 Fannie Abramsky  
Millie Heffler  
Mike Levine
- 19 Morris Engle
- 20 Sarah Leah Lulky  
Minnie Nathan

## FEBRUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 27

- 21 Israel Katz  
Laura W. Muntz
- 22 Harry Freedman  
Sam Vogel
- 25 Mayer Lulky
- 27 Leo Frank  
Sara Krumholtz

## FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 5

- 28 Ernestine Brelín
- 29 Boris Shteinsheleifer
- 1 Melvin Rubin  
Frances Vogel

## FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 5 cont...

- 1 Mary R. Golenternek  
Richard Jeffers  
Freida Serkes
- 2 Hattie Freedman  
Celia Goldstucker
- 3 Harry Mermelstein
- 4 Dr. Harold Roosth  
Rabbi Morris Nathan Taxon  
Alexander Golenternek  
Miriam Seiderman
- 5 Mary Cohen Golenternek

## MARCH 6 - MARCH 12

- 6 Jake Roosth
- 7 Morris Jarrett
- 8 Ida Goldberg
- 9 Abraham Eisen  
Isadore Golenternek
- 11 Ruby Kahn  
Helen Levy
- 12 Marcus Strum  
Helen Nathan Caro

## MARCH 13 - MARCH 19

- 14 Dr. Wiley Roosth  
Minette Rochelle Goldberg  
Sol Smith  
Nate Ginsberg  
Bert Jacobs
- 15 Grace Luskey Laves
- 16 Jean Katz
- 18 Annie Rabinowitz Edelman  
Hannah Ruth Frank
- 19 Fred Davidoff  
Jake Luskey

## MARCH 20 - MARCH 26

- 20 Edna Greenberg  
Jack Berry
- 20 Hannah Jarrett  
Nelson Kendall Jeffers  
Hortense Cohn Israel  
Anna Leaman  
Charles Rosenthal
- 22 Hannah Florence (Flo) Berkman  
Phillip Feld  
Annie Levine
- 23 Sylvia Gaylin

## MARCH 27 - APRIL 2

- 29 Rosa Lee Roosth Mellinger  
Eva Zuckerman  
Maurine Muntz
- 30 Sidney Manuel Kahn  
Mike Cohen
- 31 Thomas Dula  
Louis Schafts
- 1 Ida Hannah Lazarus  
Jacob Meyer
- 2 Beatrice Goldfeder  
Bennie Roosth  
Bob Benjomin Taylor

## APRIL 3 - APRIL 9

- 4 Jerry Lee Jeffers
- 5 Manuel Zimmerman  
Sarah Zuckerman
- 6 Pearl Krumholtz

## APRIL 10 - APRIL 16

- 11 Sam Levine
- 12 Clara Levine
- 15 Abraham Flicker

## APRIL 17 - APRIL 23

- 17 William D. Roosth
- 19 Ralph Davis
- 20 Judge Earnest Stevens  
Ruth Waghalter
- 21 Maurice Waghalter
- 22 Isabell Davis
- 23 Anna Eisen

## APRIL 24 - APRIL 30

- 24 Morris Rudman
- 26 Hyman Smith
- 27 Arthur Frank  
Mary Mirsky
- 28 Raye Bromberg  
Ruth Gross  
Selma Greenberg  
Pauline Heffler Roosth  
Jerome Wolf
- 29 Mary Hendelman  
Betty Beck  
Boris Tobes
- 30 David Learner



# 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 @ sudddenlinkmail.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 Leanne the secretary and I will be more than happy to help you!  
Thank you, Leanne