



Congregation Ahavath Achim

FOUNDED 1898

An Affiliate Of
The United Synagogue Of
Conservative Judaism



10 SHEVAT - 7 ADAR 5783

3501 SOUTH DONNYBROOK, TYLER, TEXAS 75701

FEBRUARY 2023

From The Desk of The Rabbi

REDEMPTION

As one who keeps up with the news on a daily if not hourly basis at time, it's hard not to get depressed or discouraged when viewing all the strife that our world is going through now. Anti-Semitism is elevated to record levels all over and in this country as well. Celebrities continue with their Holocaust revisionist statements even after apologizing for their previous ones, their Anti-Semitic slurs, and blood libels. We thought after the Holocaust, the Nazi regime during WWII, the Civil Rights Movement, and Apartheid in South Africa, maybe the world was heading in a better direction.

While things have come a long way from where they were in 1948, we are still struggling for the human being's right to exist 78 years later. This is very clear when it comes to Israel's right to exist. What is discouraging is how we have seen in the fairly recent weeks where some in Judaism view the current Jewish State of Israel. Notice that I said "Jewish" state.

Every year, Americans, both Jewish and non-Jewish attend the annual AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) policy conference in Washington D.C. which met last month. Thousands of people are inside the convention center representing a cross section of Americans, all seeking support for the State of Israel. Outside there are demonstrators, calling for Israel to end the occupation, and for many of them, calling for Israel to simply disappear. Of course, some of these demonstrators are Palestinians and their progressive supporters. What is truly sad is there are numerous black hat rabbis out there, calling for an end to the state of Israel.

These rabbis represent Naturei Karta, Satmar, and other organizations who believe Israel has no right to exist. They believe that until the Mashiach comes and brings about the age of redemption, Jews have no right to build a Jewish state in the holy land. Zionism, the movement to establish a Jewish homeland in the Middle East, was a secular movement, built on the idea that the Jewish people should bring about their own redemption. They should not wait for Hashem to redeem them. There were certainly many religious supporters of this Zionist Movement; one thinks of the first Chief Rabbi of Palestine Abraham Isaac Kook. But for at least some religious extremists, bringing redemption before He/She/It was ready is an affront to Hashem.

Let us examine one of the basic tenants of Judaism. Judaism is built on the idea that Hashem is our Redeemer. The Hebrew for redeemer is Go'el, for redemption is Geulah. As Jews say every day in both their morning and evening prayers, Hashem is Go'el Yisrael, the Redeemer of Israel. We pray for Geulah - redemption. The major theme of last week's Torah portion, Parsha Bo is redemption. At the beginning of the portion the Israelites are still slaves in Egypt. At the end of the portion, Hashem has brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm.

The word Go'el has its roots in the laws of a man forced into slavery because of debts. His brother, or if there is no brother, other family members, must pay a ransom price and redeem him out of slavery. Indentured servitude, outlawed in the United States today, was common through much of history. Brothers had to redeem brothers. But when the entire people Israel were enslaved, Hashem heard their cry and became their Redeemer.

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

When looking through the daily prayer book, I have become aware of just how many prayers deal with the word shalom or peace. This led me to remembering that my mother always emphasized to me that we should always seek shalom bayit or loosely translated "peace in the home." But what does this really mean? It is noted in the Talmud as a Jewish religious concept of domestic harmony with mutual love and respect between a husband and a wife. It is evidence that Hashem is present in the home and that the couple's way of life will reflect this. It creates an atmosphere of family harmony for children to be nurtured and sets an example for children to learn how a husband and wife interact. It has nothing to do with the volume or noise level in the house. My parents were loud and their TV was louder. They were just fine with that. This type of home supports the growth of both partners and creates a sense of security for the couple to interact with life outside the home. So Shalom Bayit sustains and nourishes our souls. It also affects how we deal with conflicts. This idea made me think that the concept of Shalom Bayit could be extended to our congregational family and our local communities. Unfortunately, having peace in the greater community or even our own country is not done easily. So first we start with our own homes and family. I wish all of you a Shalom Bayit and a peaceful Shabbos when we have the opportunity to enjoy our congregational life and home life.

Michael Tobes, President

RABBI'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1

And so, at least according to the view of some Jews, only Hashem can be the redeemer. There is precedent in the Torah that supports this and there is already a hint of this idea in the Passover Haggadah, which tells the story of Israel's redemption from Egypt. The Haggadah speaks of Hashem but notice that it never mentions Moses. In the Haggadah, Hashem is the Redeemer; we do not mention the human role in redemption at all.

Now let us examine the concept of redemption from the other perspective that supports Zionism; the human role. Allow me to offer three different occasions where there was a human role in redeeming the Jewish people. One found in the Torah and the other two; post Torah.

Shortly after coming out of Egypt, Moses and the nation of Israel find themselves trapped between Sea of Reeds and Pharoah and the Egyptian Army. This coming Shabbat we will read about the Israelites trapped at the sea in Parsha B'shalach. Moses stood and prayed for Hashem to take action, to redeem the people. But what does He/She/It say to Moses? Enough prayer! Take action! Save yourself! Why do you cry out to me?! According to Jewish tradition, it was at that point Nachshon ben Aminadab, the prince of the tribe of Judah, jumped forward into the sea. When the sea reached up to his neck the water parted. Redemption begins or continues now, depending how you see it with human action!

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BULLETIN DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 18 for the MARCH 2023 Bulletin
Submit articles to:
caasecretary@suddenlinkmail.com
Thank you !

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

Sunday, FEBRUARY 12, 2023
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	February	4	Morning Service	BESHALACH	9:30 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 13:17 - 15:26	
			Haftorah	Judges 4:4 - 5:31	
Sunday	February	5	Morning Service	TEPHILLIN	8:00 A.M.
Saturday	February	11	Morning Service	YITRO	9:30 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 18:1 - 20:22	
			Haftorah	Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 6	
Shabbat Shelakim					
Saturday	February	18	Morning Service	MISHPATIM	9:30 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 21: 1 - 22:3	
			Maftir	Exodus 30:11 - 16	
			Haftorah	II Kings 12:1 - 17	
Saturday	February	25	Morning Service	TERUMAH	9:30 A.M.
			Torah Reading	Exodus 25:1 - 25:40	
			Haftorah	I Kings 5:26 - 6:13	

RABBI'S MESSAGE

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In a couple of months' time, we will celebrate another holiday of redemption - Purim. We read the Megillah which tells the story of saving the Jews from the evil Haman. But this time Hashem's name is not mentioned at all. Human beings, Mordecai and Esther, become the source of redemption. It is as if Hashem is saying to us, I will be your Redeemer when it comes to leaving Egypt. But in the future, you Israelites must redeem yourselves. Do not wait for me to redeem you. Move forward and take action. Redemption becomes a human activity. For me, the parable of the man waiting to be saved in a flood comes to mind.

Fast forward to the Chanukah Story in 165 B.C.E. when the embers of Jewish life and identity were nearly snuffed out. Mattathias and his sons take action and rally the Jewish nation to a hard fought victory over their enemies. There is no direct redemption from Hashem. The redemption comes indirectly from Hashem because the Jewish people at that time took action on their own.

In our own time, the Jewish people decided to take redemption into their own hands. Jews from multiple backgrounds - Orthodox and secular, socialists and capitalists, traditionalists and revisionists, Ashkenazic and Sephardic, decided to rebuild a Jewish homeland in what was then called Palestine. They did not wait for Hashem, but realized that humans must be the redeemers. Because of their actions, today we have the Jewish State of Israel.

Perhaps those waiting for G-d to come and redeem them should take a hint from the lessons of our history. There are far more cases of our people taking action and making change than those who sit on their hands waiting for change to come to them. History has shown time and again that when we do that, that is not the change we were looking for.

The Torah speaks of the four stages of redemption and in that, is a very powerful message. Total redemption does not occur overnight, but comes in stages. The current state of Israeli politics is appalling. It seems that neither faction or political party can seem to agree to work towards the common good of the country. It is riddled with Sinat Chinam; Baseless hatred of Jew against Jew. It is time to sweep this aside and for our people to unite as one. Otherwise, as we say in our prayerbooks with the Prayer for Israel, Israel is the Reishit Tz'michat Geulatenu - "the beginning of the flowering of our redemption" will be a lost opportunity for the next stage of our redemption; whether it be by human hands or Hashem's.

With Torah Blessings, Rabbi



February 2023

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25	26	27	28

PLAN TO ATTEND- PURIM
 SERVICE & ONEG MONDAY
 MARCH 6TH
 AT 6:30 PM
 BE SURE AND DON
 YOUR COSTUMES & MASKS

February Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Barbara Forzano Zimmerman
- 3 Lysa Levy
- 4 Lawren (Lolly) Gross
- 6 Liyah Rut Walls
- 11 Dale Latner
- 16 Daron E. Walls
- 18 W. Christopher (Chris) Terry
- 24 Ezra Kol Rey

Anniversaries

- 10 Jerome & Sharon Smith

SISTERHOOD NEWS

It's my pleasure to mention that brunches and sponsors are picking back up. Nathaniel's Bar Mitzvah was a success and couldn't have been done without the guidance of Kimberly and all those that put the food and decorations together.

Our next big event will be Purim on 6 March. We will have an Oneg following service at 7:30. Sisterhood will be making up Hamantaschan the morning of 5 March so come on and help roll out the dough. The kids will be getting into the dough rolling as well as part of their Sunday School.

Kesleigh Terry

Sunday School
will NOT meet Sunday,
February 5th at 10 a.m.



GENERAL FUND

Charlene Goodman

Kevin & Lolly Gross in Memory of Maurice Berkman
Larry & Celia Schoenbrun in Memory of Maurice Berkman
Jerome & Sharon Smith in Memory of Maurice Berkman
Robert (Bob) Roosth

RABBINIC FUND

Charlene Goodman

SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

Charlene Goodman

BREAKFAST FUND

Ethan Hill

Brunch Sponsors for January

The Learner Family

The Walls Family

The Newsom Family

Loretta Lawson

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 _____

City/State/Zip _____

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 2

- 1 Morris Sherman
2 Samuel Genecov

FEBRUARY 3 - FEBRUARY 9

- 3 Joseoh Arnow
Marlene Mandell
Rebecca Miller
Emanuel (Manny) Smith
4 Jennie Haltzman
5 Mollie Mirsky
Ike Rudman
Sidney C. Kahn
Minnie Kahn
Selma Kahn
6 Frances Soltes Sobel
7 Rose Beaver
9 Isaac Block
Raymond Kahn
Jane Pearl Suarez
Sidney M. Wolf

FEBRUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 16

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

FEBRUARY 17 - FEBRUARY 23

- 17 Israel Katz
Laura W. Muntz
18 Harry Freedman
Sam Vogel
21 Mayer Lulky
23 Leo Frank
Sara Krumholtz

FEBRUARY 17 - FEBRUARY 23

- 17 Israel Katz
Laura W. Muntz
18 Harry Freedman
Sam Vogel
21 Mayer Lulky
23 Leo Frank

FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 2

- 24 Ernestine Berlin
25 Boris Shteinsheliefer
26 Melvin Rubin
Frances Vogel
Mary Golenternek
Richard Hale Jeffers
Freida Serkes
27 Celia Goldstucker
28 Harry Mermelstein
1 Alexander Golenternek
Miriam Seiderman

MARCH 3 - MARCH 9

- 3 Jake Roosth
4 Morris Jarett
5 Ida Goldberg
6 Abraham Eisen
Isadore Golenternek
8 Ruby Hayman Kahn
Helen Levy
9 Marcus Leon Strum
Helen Nathan Caro

MARCH 10 - MARCH 16

- 11 Dr. Wiley Roosth
Mynette Rochelle Goldberg
Sol Smith
Nate Ginsberg
Bert Jacobs
12 Grace Luskey Laves
13 Jean Katz
15 Annie Rabinowitz Edelman
Hannah Ruth Frank
16 Fred Davidoff
Jake Luskey

MARCH 17 - MARCH 23

- 17 Edna Greenberg
Jack Berry
18 Hannah Jarett
Nelson Kendall Jeffers
Hortense Cohn Israel
Anna Leaman
Charles Rosenthal
19 Hannah Florence (Flo) Berkman
Phillip Feld
Annie Levine
21 Isadore Sulsky
20 Sylvia Gaylin

MARCH 24 - MARCH 30

- 26 Rosa Lee Roosth Mellinger
Eva Zuckerman
Maurine Muntz
27 Sidney Kahn
Mike Cohen
28 Thomas Dula
Louis Schafts
29 Ida Hannah Lazarus
Jacob Meyer
30 Beatrice Goldfeder
Bennie Roosth
Bob Benjamin Taylor

MARCH 31 - APRIL 6

- 1 Jerry Lee Jeffers
2 Manuel Zimmerman
Sarah Zuckerman
3 Frances Davidoff Bromberg
Pearl Krumholtz

APRIL 7 - APRIL 13

- 8 Sam Levine
9 Clara Levine
12 Abraham Flicker

APRIL 14 - APRIL 20

- 14 William D. Roosth
16 Ralph Davis
17 Judge Earnest Stevens
Ruth Waghalter
18 Maurice Block
19 Isabell Davis
20 Anna Eisen

APRIL 21 - APRIL 27

- 21 Morris Rudman
23 Hyman Smith
24 Arthur Frank
Mary Mirsky
25 Raye Bromberg
Ruth Gross
Selma Greenberg
Pauline Heffler Roosth
Jerome Wolf
26 Mary Hendleman
Betty Beck
Boris Tobes
27 David Learner

APRIL 28 - APRIL 30

- 28 Otto Heffler
Eva Offricht



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(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 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

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 Kimberly Walls and she will be more than happy to help you!

Kimberly Walls (903) 283-4438 or wallskj@gmail.com