We are coming together as a caring, inclusive community united in a common commitment to Judaism and to furthering our spiritual growth. We desire to do this recognizing that worship of God, study of Torah, caring for the Jewish people and our community are central to our being as a Reform Jewish congregation. With these principles as our foundation and guided by an historic past, we anticipate our future, one of continual lifelong self-renewal.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Friday, May 4       6:00 p.m.  Annual Teacher-Student Appreciation Service
                   Rockin’ Shabbat with our new Temple Band
                   Cantor Mark will be with us along with our
                   Volunteer Choir

Saturday, May 5     9:30 a.m.  Shabbat Breakfast
                   10:30 a.m.  Shabbat Morning Service

Friday, May 11      6:00 p.m.  Shabbat Evening Service
                   Scott Denson will be conducting the service

Friday, May 18      6:00 p.m.  “Just 4” Tutor Appreciation Service
                   Join us in recognizing tutors past and present
                   with our Volunteer Choir

Friday, May 25      6:00 p.m.  Shavuot Confirmation Service
                   with our Volunteer Choir

Friday, June 1,     6:00 p.m.  Shabbat Evening Service
                   Birthday Blessing for Pinkie Cherniak

The Temple offices will be closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day

ALL SHABBAT SERVICES ARE CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES.
PLEASE JOIN US IN WORSHIP

Torah Selection:
Leviticus 16:1 – 20:27
Haftarah – Amos 9-7-15
FROM THE RABBI

Don Shula, was one of the most winning coaches ever in NFL history and now, perhaps best known for his steakhouses all around the country. It has been said about him, he once wanted to go away with his wife some place for a quiet vacation.

They chose a small seaside town in Maine, where they could relax without people recognizing them. When they arrived, it was raining, so they decided to go see a movie. When they entered the theater, the house lights were on and they were surprised that the small handful of people gave them a warm round of applause as they took a seat. Secretly pleased, Shula whispered to his wife, “I guess there isn’t any place I’m not known.”

A man came over with a friendly smile and shook hands with Shula and his wife.

“I’m surprised that you know me here,” said Shula.

“Should I know you?” asked the man, puzzled.

“We’re just glad to see you folks – the manager said he wouldn’t start the film until at least ten people came in.”

What a wonderful lesson in humility and the lack of it. Our beloved teacher, Moses, was known as the most humble of men. Indeed, humility in Jewish tradition is among the highest personal characteristics.

In fact, we are taught from the Talmud that Rabbi Simon ben Pazi taught, “An ordinary person bows four times in the Amidah, the standing prayer; the high priest bows at the end of each blessing, and the king at the beginning and ending of each blessing.” In other words, the Talmud was teaching that the higher a person in social status, the more humble he or she must be.

This month we will be celebrating the humblest of holidays, Shavuot. We celebrate Shavuot Confirmation on May the 26th at 6:00 p.m. as six young people confirm their faith in Judaism. In fact, even though Shavuot is among the most important of days, the time of the giving of the Ten Commandments, it is the only festival for which we do not remember its date. We are told after Passover we are to count off 49 days, seven weeks, and then upon the 50th day the festival of weeks of Shavuot shall be celebrated. Let us learn from the humility of the festival of Shavuot, the humility that the Talmud teaches us we must attain, and the humility Don Shula discovered by accident. In our Jewish tradition we aspire for greatness in our actions, deeds, and character, while at the same time we reach for the humility of Moses.

Patti joins me in wishing you a happy and joyous holiday of Shavuot.

Rabbi Donald M. Kunstadt

JEWSH FAMILY SERVICES
HAS A NEW CONTACT NUMBER

Please note that the Jewish Family Services has a new telephone number. It is 251-219-8699.

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is a United Way Agency, funded to help our Jewish community members when in need. JFS can provide someone in need with financial assistance, counseling, transportation and much more.

For more information about the services provided by JFS, or to make a referral, please contact Dana Handmacher at 251-219-8699 or dhandmacher@comcast.net.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sunday, May 20th at 10:30 a.m., the annual meeting will be held. This is a time that the whole congregation can see what is going on with all of the committees. It is also a chance to see and ask questions about the budget and finances. I would hope that as many of our congregants as possible will attend.

This year’s budget is a realistic endeavor that will be thoroughly explained at the meeting.

May 4th will be our Religious School appreciation service. Cantor Mark will be with us and we will have the debut of the Temple Band.

May 18th will be an appreciation service honoring the Volunteers at Just Four.

I look forward to seeing you in May at all these special functions.

Nate Ginsberg, President

“From the President”

FROM YOUR SHAFTY
By Victoria Hirsch, SHAFTY President

Shalom Congregants!

I hope that everyone had a nice Passover with their family.

We are getting extremely close to completing the World War II documentary that we have been working on for the past year and are excited to share it with you all once it is finally completed. We plan to host two screenings of the documentary, one in Baldwin County and one in Mobile, so be looking out for those events because I am sure that many people would enjoy attending.

We will be electing a new SHAFTY General Board and inviting the current 8th grade, soon to be 9th grade, to join our group! Please make sure you encourage your teenagers to become active members so they can gain leadership skills and meet other Southern Jewish Teenagers!

Also, SHAFTY has a big surprise for the congregation, but I can't tell you what it is just yet.

This is the final article that I will be writing for the Temple bulletin because I will be leaving for The University of Alabama at Birmingham at the end of summer. I have greatly enjoyed being the SHAFTY President for the past two years and am sure that future SHAFTY board members will do a fantastic job leading our Temple's Youth Group. The biggest advantage that SHAFTY has is our dedicated, kind, and fun advisor, Mrs. Kim Zimmerman. I hope that all of the congregants fully appreciate how much she helps our Youth Group thrive.
On April 12, 1865, the Civil War ended for the residents of Mobile when the city's mayor surrendered to Union troops marching into the area. Yankees would occupy the city for several years during Reconstruction. Mobilians were described as "sullen and hostile" toward their occupiers, with money and supplies scarce for everyone.

Joseph Bloch, a music teacher and shop proprietor living in Mobile during the Civil War and Reconstruction era, was a Temple congregant along with his wife and their six children. One of Bloch's sons, Edward, compiled memoirs of growing up in Mobile that include interesting descriptions of everyday life during Reconstruction. Edward was thirteen years old when the city surrendered. At the time he held in his possession a rare, "Yankee" twenty-dollar bill that he had been given as a souvenir from the Battle of Shiloh. A budding young entrepreneur, Edward saw that the regiment occupying Mobile had limited access to writing supplies. Edward used his twenty dollars to purchase pens, ink, and paper from a sutler's outpost and then got permission to go into the camp to peddle the supplies. In a very short period he had made over $100.

Edward was well-liked in the camp and was often invited to join the soldiers at meal time. He described a "wonderful lunch" consisting of a steak sandwich, coffee, beans, dried prunes and apples and "splendid bread they baked in the camp." The coffee was especially pleasing to Edward, since during the Civil War blockade his family had made coffee from parched sweet potatoes and peanuts.

Edward apparently had bright red hair, and because of this the soldiers kidded a tall, lanky red-haired soldier from Kalamazoo, Michigan, that Edward must have been his long-lost brother. The soldier, and Edward, took this in stride and they became friends.

After the regiment departed the city, Edward took his earnings and managed to slip into New Orleans by working on a supply boat and then bought up musical supplies to re-sell later at his father's shop back in Mobile.

Edward's memoirs, which are on file in the Temple Archives, paint a vivid picture of life in Mobile during the late 1800s. They provide a glimpse of what life was like for a Jewish family surviving the war and Reconstruction years in a struggling city.

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**Mazel Tov!**

To **Gary and Patty Fishbein** on the marriage of their son, **David Cassius Fishbein** to Emily Nell Davis on April 14, 2012. The wedding took place at the Fishbein home in Perdido Beach, AL.

To **Allen Ross** on being accepted to law school at Loyola University in New Orleans. **Allen** will start his studies this August, 2012.

and to

**Jordan Ross** who was appointed to the Executive Board of the Society of Professional Journalists. **Jordan** was also appointed to the Student Government Association’s President’s Advisory Board and was inducted into the Order of Omega Senior Honors Society at the University of Alabama where he is currently a Junior. **Jordan** is majoring in public relations with a minor in business management.
Contributions

In honor of the 2012 Confirmation Class – Iris & Nate Ginsberg

In honor of Barry Silverman’s 70th birthday – Iris & Nate Ginsberg, Sandra & Harvey Gandler

In honor of Mel Sternberg’s 80th birthday – Iris & Nate Ginsberg

In honor of Gary Rich’s 70th birthday – Reita Franco, Iris & Nate Ginsberg

In honor of Mike Rosenbaum’s birthday – Joyce & Julien Richard

In memory of Louis Heir – Priscilla Gold-Darby

In memory of Willis Darby – Priscilla Gold-Darby

In memory of George Kunstadt – Rabbi & Patti Kunstadt

In memory of Bernice Gordon – Rabbi & Patti Kunstadt

In memory of Ralph Holberg, Jr. – Elaine & Robert Holberg

In memory of Pearline Ginsberg – Patricia & Howard Silverman, Amy & Jack Friedlander, Susan & Mike Rosenbaum, Enid & Gil Laden, Jill Gottlieb, Iris & Albert Klein, Richard Rose, David Rose, Joyce & Gerard Toubiana, Phyllis Feibelman, Pricilla Gold-Darby, Bobette & Lowell Friedman, Ellie & Cole Appelman, Diane & Richard Frank, Margaret & Milton Brown, Renie & Bob Topper, Sandra & Harvey Gandler, Frances & Max Mutchnick, Reita Franco, Calvin Clay

In memory of Jake Rich – Elaine & Erwin Skibell

In memory of Cecile Mendelson – Iris & Albert Klein

In memory of Ethel Gold – Priscilla Gold-Darby

In memory of Betty Levin – Debbie Clolinger

Rabbi’s Appreciation Fund – Patty & Gary Fishbein

Congratulations to
Our 2012 Confirmation Class!

Shavuot Confirmation
Friday, May 25, 2012 - 6:00 p.m.

Caitlin Amanda Brown
Rebecca Sara Denson
Miller Thomas Eberlein
Marissa Lauren Friduss
Jonathan Raymond Hirsch
Ashton Mitchell Silverstein

You are invited to attend the Shavuot Confirmation
A special oneg will follow
FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
By Deborah Sack, Committee Chair

Dear Members,

Passover at the Temple was wonderful. The room was filled with the aroma of bubbies kitchen and the roar of everyone having a great time with their family and friends.

Liz Fry and Iris Ginsberg, you did an amazing job!

We are working on the calendar for next year and have some great events in mind.

It is very important that all of our members attend the annual meeting in May.

Have a wonderful month.

Shalom,

FROM OUR HEBREW SCHOOL
By Helen Small, Director

All of our Hebrew School students participated in the March 30th Shabbat Service. They did an excellent job! If you weren’t there, you missed something special! Tov Ma’ode!

A big thank you goes to our dedicated teachers: Patti Kunstadt, Rachel Borak, Ravid Steinpress, Rabbi Kunstadt and our substitute teacher, Glen Mutchnick. Thank you, also, to our parents who provided a lovely oneg after the service.

Our last day of Hebrew School is on Wednesday, May 16th.

Have a great summer!

Shalom!

YAHRZEIT

It is a true Mitzvah to honor those whose memory we hold dear by attending services on the Shabbat Yahrzeit (year’s time) joining your congregation in reciting Kaddish and the giving of charity in their memory.

May 4
Morris Loeb, Stanley Nussbaum, Frieda Friedman, Minnie Piser Schwarz, Karin Appelman, Camille Baer, Miriam Yassem Gandler

May 11
Beatrice Zelnicker, Gladys Kahn, Fran Brown, Issac Friedman, Elsa Keller Lewis

May 18
Sylvia Rose, Milton F. Rubel, Sr., Abraham Luther Shugerman, Bruce Fox, Jennie Spitzberg, Jack Hyman, Edward Gandler

May 25
What’s everyone talking about?  
Our new Temple Band!

Mark Your Calendar For A Rockin’ Shabbat  
May 4th at 6:00 pm

Shabbat worship enhanced with contemporary Jewish music  
Presented by our congregant band and Cantor Mark Opatow

This will also be our Annual Teacher-Student Appreciation Service  
Come hug our teachers and check out the new Temple Band!

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ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE!!

You are cordially invited to  
Springhill Avenue Temple’s Annual Meeting

"This is a time that the whole congregation can see what is going on with all of the committees. It is also a chance to see and ask questions about the budget and finances."  - Nate Ginsberg, President

Get a status report on your Temple!  
Participate in the nomination, election and induction of new officers

Don’t Miss This Very Important Meeting!  

Sunday, May 20, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.  
Men’s Club and Sisterhood will provide  
Light Food and Refreshment
May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To ...

1 Susan Denson
1 Donald Friedlander
1 Ralph Holberg III
1 Robert Zimmerman
2 Jerry Schjott
2 Carrie Spain
2 Kimberly Zelnicker
3 Alain Gamble
3 Jonah Klein
4 Becky Hoffman
4 Tim Prince
4 Ann Yonge
6 Ron Berman
7 Randall Kogon
8 Arik Sokol
10 Nicole Appelman
10 Dana Handmacher
10 Adian Lobel
10 Elsa Simon
11 Evelina Shmukler
12 Lori Aynne Michaelis
12 Lauren Friedlander
12 David Rose
12 Richard Rose
12 Ryan Sophie Small
13 Carolyn Metzger
14 Stephen Conrad
14 Joseph Fetterman
15 Heidi Kinsella
16 Todd Lewis
17 Ira Frederic Cherniak
19 Michael Pereira
20 Michelle Klein
20 Richard Tolpin
21 Kenneth Altman
21 Lucas Ryan Michaelis
21 John Webster
22 Mark Brown
22 Debbie Clolinger
22 Ethan Kunstadt
24 Frank Friedman
24 Rabbi Donald Kunstadt
24 Genna Yonge
24 Julie Kogon
25 Alan Lewis
27 Diane Franco
27 Maure Sternberg
28 Lisa Hirsch
28 Irving Koffler
29 Aaron Denson
29 Abbe Fass
29 Richard Zimmerman
30 Shirley Boyd
30 Gladys Cherniak
30 Eli Foster
30 Sloane Maisel
30 Allen Levy Ross
31 Corey Passman
31 Elizabeth Prager

Happy Anniversary To ...

15 Ada & Sam Small
18 Jeanne & Gary Garfunkel
20 Patti & Donald Kunstadt
22 Sandra & Eric Liederman
24 Yaffa & Mark Brown
24 Tammy & David Rubenstein
June Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To ...

1  Christopher Friedman  
1  Emily Stein 
2  Joshua Denson 
2  Barbara Kretzer 
3  Veronica Cherniak 
3  Victoria Cherniak 
3  Gretchen Goldberg 
3  Michael Lichtenstein 
3  Sonja Lichtenstein 
3  Lynn Zelnicker 
4  Paul Bergman 
4  Patrice Fishbein 
5  Bradley Ennis 
5  Kimberly Zimmerman 
6  Sam Small 
6  Alaina Stokke 
8  Richard Hirsch 
9  Sarah Webster 
10  Shirley Newfield Gaggstatter 
10  Albert Klein 
12  Richard Mazey 
13  Matt Friduss

13  Amelia Holberg 
13  Adam Sack 
15  Lila Kogon 
16  Jerry Dobbins 
16  Seth Izenberg 
17  Marc Gottlieb 
18  Dana Friedlander 
19  Doris Alfin 
19  David Brown 
19  Alan Goldberg 
20  Adrian Dyer-Smith 
21  Mark Berkin 
21  Samuel Feibelman 
22  Jill Conrad 
23  Robert Brown 
23  Roy Hoffman 
26  James Barkin 
26  Sandra Gandler 
27  Benjamin Fishbein 
28  Harriet Kahn 
30  Jeff Silverman 
30  Brian Susman

Happy Anniversary To ...

1  Pinkie & David Cherniak 
2  Flo & Tom Kessler 
4  Nancy & Charles Brown 
5  Emily & Harold Fink 
6  Patricia & Howard Silverman 
7  Helen & Stanley Small 
10  Shirley Newfield Gaggstatter 
10  Albert Klein 
12  Richard Mazey 
13  Lynne & Harvey Switzkey 
14  Sherry & Glen Mutchnick 
16  Kay & Jerry Friedlander 
18  Elaine & Robert Holberg 
19  Monica & Jonah Klein 
19  Bettina & Steve Prager 
21  Norma & David Conrad 
21  Missi & David Shumer 
22  Alain & Gary Gamble 
27  Jenny & Gary Rich
When I sat down to share my thoughts with you, I came across a text written by Raoul Molnar. Raoul is the Shaliach in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and a dear friend. I got very inspired by his words about the meaning of the word "home." So I sat down and tried to write what home means to me:

When I think of home I think of different smells. The smell of oranges from the orchard. The smell of fresh mint and sage growing by the stream. The smell of food from around the world: Arabic food, Eastern food, European food, African food. All of those smells, tell us stories of the places where people came from.

When I think of home I think of transportation, cars, buses, bicycles, all sharing the same road, honking to each other, just to say hello, to alert us from danger, and to share what we think of each others’ mothers.

When I think of home, I think of a street filled with colorful people. Soldiers on their way home, with their olive green uniforms and shiny unit pins. Orthodox dressed in black, dancing in the street because it is a “mitzva” to be happy. I hear different languages, Russian, Ethiopian, English, French, Spanish, Arabic, German, and all of those languages mingle in to Hebrew with so many accents. All are dressed so different. Some will wear suits, some jeans, some shorts, some with Kippa, some with keffiyeh, and all in the same street at the same time.

When I think of home, I think of people arguing and shouting - not due to lack of respect but because they care. I hear people say how great it would be to move away and be far away from all of this, but when you ask them, “Then why don’t you move?”, the answer will be, "Are you crazy? This is my home."

When I am thinking of home I hear the music playing on the radio, and by listening just to two songs I can know what is going on. If a tragedy has occurred or if a holiday is coming up. I can hear people blaming each other for different problems and then, due to the same problems, I see the compassion and caring between those people.

When I think of home, I think of my legacy, of my ancestors, of the people who gave their lives for this home, of those who prayed and wished for this home. I think of the life I have because of this home, how secure I feel due to this home, and the responsibility I have to this home.

When I think of home, I think of Israel.

I want to wish y'all a Happy Lag B'Omer and Happy Shavuot and Roll Tide!

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FROM OUR LIBRARY COMMITTEE
By Maud Patterson, Committee Chair

Thanks to Amy Friedlander for helping our library grow, with donations of:

- **A Plague of Dreamers**, written by Amy’s first cousin Steve Stern
- **O Jerusalem**, by Larry Collins
- **Members of the Tribe**, Ze’ev Chafets
- **Mama Leah’s Jewish Kitchen**, Leah Fischer
- **Inside Hana’s Suitcase**, on DVD

Also added to our collection: **Constantine’s Sword**, on DVD – a painful exploration of how religion, an instrument of love, is turned to hate.
At Temple

Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. – Torah Study with Rabbi Kunstadt in the Temple Library. Continuing in the Book of Kings.

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Annual Teacher’s Appreciation Rockin’ Shabbat Service – Friday, May 4th at 6:00 p.m. Come hug our teachers and check out our new Temple Band and Cantor Mark.

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Springhill Avenue Temple’s Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 20th at 10:30 a.m. This is your chance to find out what is going on with your Temple! Get updates on the all of the Temple’s Committees. This year’s budget is a realistic endeavor that will be thoroughly explained at the meeting. This is your chance to see and ask questions about your Temple!

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Friday, May 18th is the “Just 4” Appreciation Service. Tutors past and present will be recognized.

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Shavuot Sabbath Confirmation Service is Friday, May 25th at 6:00 p.m. Our confirmands this year are: Catilin Amanda Brown, Rebecca Sara Denson, Miller Thomas Eberlein, Marissa Lauren Friduss, Jonathan Raymond Hirsch, and Ashton Mitchell Silverstein.

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The Religious School is incredibly excited to announce its First Annual ALL-DAY Field Trip New Orleans. This trip, which includes Jewish worship, music, food, and fun will be Saturday, June 2, 2012 from 6:30 am until 8:30 pm. Students and chaperones will travel by charter bus.

We thank Judge G.B. Kahn for his tremendous generosity, as this trip will be no charge for our Religious School. Permission forms will be handed out at school.

Around The Community

Jacobs Camp Men’s Upkeep Retreat 2012 is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, May 4-6. Male adult members of the Jacobs Camp Family are invited to help the camp get ready for the summer. From general repairs to special building projects. Jacobs Camp will provide the tools, supplies and direction. Bring your energy and enthusiasm. Wear clothes you don’t mind getting dirty. Delicious dinner on Saturday night. If you’re coming to work, then you come for free! For registration form or even more information, please visit jacobscamps.org/yearround.

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Our community Yom Ha’Atzma’Ut Event this year will be held at the Ahavas Chesed Synagogue on Sunday, May 6th at 5:00 p.m. This event is organized every year in conjunction with the Mobile Area Jewish Federation.

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The next Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue Event is scheduled for May 23 at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation for Vespers. Time to be announced. This is the first in a series of occasional visits to local houses of worship with discussion to follow the service.

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The Kesher Committee would like to thank Judge G. B. Kahn for his most generous donation which provided for Corned Beef Extravaganza lunches to be delivered to the recipients on their Kesher List.

A big “thank you” also goes out to Cece Spain, Karen Singh, Sharon Sokol and Priscilla Gold-Darby, who helped to make those deliveries possible.
Springhill Avenue Temple  
1769 Springhill Avenue  
Mobile, AL 36607 - (251) 478-0415

**CALENDAR**

Wednesday – May 2, 9, and 16  
4:00 p.m. Hebrew School  
(last day of Hebrew Class May 16)

Wednesday – May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30  
6:00 p.m. Torah Study with Rabbi Kunstadt

Sunday – May 20  
9:45 a.m. Religious School  
(Friday Religious School May 4, and 25)  
(No Religious School May 13)

Friday – Sunday, May 4-6  
Men’s Upkeep Retreat at Jacobs Camp  
(details on page 11)

**Friday, May 4**  
5:00 p.m. Religious School  
6:00 p.m. Annual Teacher Appreciation Service  
Rockin’ Shabbat with our new Temple Band  
Cantor Mark will be with us along with our Volunteer Choir

Sunday, May 6  
5:00 p.m. Yom Ha’Atzma’ut Event at Ahavas Chesed Synagogue

Friday, May 18  
6:00 p.m. “Just 4” Tutor Appreciation Service  
(details on page 11)

**Sunday, May 20**  
10:30 a.m. Springhill Avenue Temple Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 23  
TBA Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue Event  
Vespers, Greek Orthodox Church of Annunciation  
(details on page 11)

**Friday, May 25**  
6:00 p.m. Shavuot Confirmation Service  
(Confirmands listed on page 5)

Saturday, June 2  
6:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. First Annual All-Day Religious School Field Trip to New Orleans  
(details on page 11)

*The Temple offices will be closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day*