
**CONGREGATION SHA'ARAI SHOMAYIM
SPRINGHILL AVENUE TEMPLE**

FOUNDED 1844

THE TEMPLE BULLETIN
springhillavenuetemple.com

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 a historic past, we anticipate our future, one of continual lifelong self-renewal.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Friday, February 6	6:00 p.m.	Tu B'Shevat Service Cantor is with us
Saturday, February 7	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Shabbat Breakfast Morning Shabbat Service
Friday, February 13	6:00 p.m.	Evening Shabbat Service with the Congregational Choir
Friday, February 20	6:00 p.m.	Evening Shabbat Service
Friday, February 27	6:00 p.m.	Evening Shabbat Service

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



TORAH SELECTION:
Exodus 18:1 – 20:23
Haftarah – Isaiah 6:1 – 7:6; 9:5-6

FROM THE RABBI

We have just read the Torah portion that contains the Song of Moses, which is a part of our regular prayer service. You will immediately recognize the words: “Mi Chamocha Be Elim” ... who is like you among the gods that are worshipped.

We sing and pray these words so often that seldom do we stop to think what they mean. Who “does wonder” the prayer says and not “did wonder”, to teach of God’s imminence in our lives. The prayer cites some of the wonders from God: majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, our redeemer. How seldom do we stop to consider all the things God does for us!

When gratitude for all God gives us stops, room is given for entry of cynicism. And when we become tainted with cynicism, holistic faith can crumble.

How can we bring a sense of awe and wonder back into our lives and the lives of our loved ones? We show interest in our children’s progress in algebra, should we not also show the same interest in our children’s spiritual progress? Much of the next generation’s spiritual future might be in our hands, if we can honestly commit ourselves to our faith and convey those emotions to them.

Awe and wonder can be recreated in our lives if we are not too ashamed to talk about it. Talking about the wonder of God is the last taboo left today in our free society. Every prurient topic can all be heard on television any time of day, but sharing our feelings about the power of God is looked at as being inappropriate except for fundamentalist Christians. How odd that is.

Who is like you God, doing wonders? Why not consider that question and discuss it with those you love.

Rabbi Donald M. Kunstadt

SIGN UP FOR THE BEST SUMMER OF YOUR LIFE AT HENRY S. JACOBS CAMP!

PROGRAMS FOR EVERY CHILD SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR FIRST-TIME AND CONTINUING CAMPERS



Plan now for a great Summer Experience! Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Temple youth will be able to receive a \$1,000 incentive grant for Camp tuition for first-time campers and \$500 for continuing campers. These funds are in addition to the first time campers scholarship program of \$1,000 from the Goldring Family Foundation.

Contact Henry S. Jacobs Camp, 3863 Morrison Road, Utica, MS, (601) 885-6042,
fax: (601) 885-6269, Website: jacobs.urjcamp.org

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It is interesting how things play out. About a year ago I was informing you of the status of our Tornado Repair Project and remarked on the hours spent by concerned congregant volunteers. The funny thing is that it all involved negotiations and planning with very little direct material repair work. Today, a year later, we are almost finished with the construction...ah, the smells, sounds, and sights of work in progress.

I have learned, through experience, that we have members who are people that truly care about our Temple, it's about service above self. We lost the presence of Maury Friedlander,

who was involved in the negotiation part of our repairs, a person whose advice was as solid as the ground we stand on. He would have appreciated where we are today. I have learned that through planning and consensus, a group of a few can accomplish a lot.

So what is my message? It is one we can apply to all of the challenges we face at Springhill Avenue Temple and anywhere else. Involve people who care, make a plan, do the work and stay the course. Virtually anything that concerned people can visualize can be accomplished.

Alan Goldberg, President

THE RABBI SEARCH COMMITTEE – UPDATE FROM COMMITTEE CHAIR, AARON SOLOMON

I am writing to update the Congregation regarding the search for our new Rabbi. The Committee has been busy reviewing résumés of prospective Rabbi's, a total of nine (9) in all, including three (3) students that will be ordained this spring. The Committee seems to be functioning well and we are certainly gaining an education in the search process (this week we had a conference via Skype with Rabbi Alan Henkin of the CCAR regarding the search process). These are very exciting times for our Congregation and we look forward to interviewing prospective Rabbis in the very near future. I will update you further very soon.

Regards,
Aaron Solomon



Come Visit your Temple Gift Shop

We have all of your gift and holiday needs

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Mezuzahs

Gifts for the Home

Plus much, much more!

Please shop us **FIRST** for better prices
and no tax/shipping additional costs!

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

By Susan Thomas, Archivist

The Archives was recently contacted by Laurence Jacob, Senior Curator of the History Museum of Mobile. Jacob is working on a project regarding Mobile's involvement in World War I. He is specifically interested in information on Esau Frohlichstein, a young congregant who was one of 17 American seamen killed in the Battle of Vera Cruz during the Mexican Civil War in 1914. This war was considered a prelude to the beginning of the World War I.

Esau was stationed on the U.S.S. New Hampshire when the fighting broke out at Vera Cruz. The night before he died he wrote a poignant letter to his parents which seemed to predict his imminent death. Hailed as a hero, Esau's funeral procession from City Hall to the Temple was attended by thousands of Mobilians. He was buried in the Temple cemetery and the entire contents of the letter he wrote to his parents the night before his death was inscribed on his tombstone.

Esau was the son of Nathan H. Frohlichstein, who, along with his brother, owned the

Frohlichstein Cigar Company, a prominent Mobile business in the late 1800s. Esau's sister, Lillian, married Ralph Gans Holberg. Their son was Ralph Holberg, Jr., wife of the Temple's Mimi Holberg and father of Ralph Holberg, III and Bob Holberg.

Members of the Frohlichstein family were among the earliest Temple congregants. Hirsh Frohlichstien and Sarah Loeb (also spelled Leib in early records) were the first couple married in the Temple. Married on July 24, 1847, they were "the first couple to be married in the first synagogue of the first congregation by the first rabbi in the state of Alabama," stated Robertk Zietz in his history of the congregation. The large ebony doors at the entrance of the Temple's sanctuary were dedicated in memory of Hirsh and Sarah Frohlichstein by their great-granddaughter and her husband.

Although the Frohlicstein name figured prominently in Temple history for several generations, no known Frohlicsteins are currently residing in Mobile.

**70TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 7 P.M.
BERNHEIM HALL AT THE BEN MAY MAIN LIBRARY,
701 GOVERNMENT STREET**

The Gulf Coast Holocaust Center, the Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue, and the Mobile Public Library will present a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Mayor Sandy Stimpson will present a proclamation honoring Mobilian and Auschwitz survivor, Agnes Tennenbaum. Ms. Tennenbaum will offer a brief description of her experiences at Auschwitz, along with the history and significance of Auschwitz for Jews, and the challenge of Auschwitz to Christians. A reception will follow. For more information, please visit the Gulf Coast Holocaust Center's website at gcholoocaustcenter.org

CONTRIBUTIONS

In honor of Rabbi Kunstadt's service to the Springhill Avenue Temple congregation for the past 28 years – The Rosenbaum family of Chappaqua, New York.

In honor of Carlie Gotlieb's engagement (Sandra & Harvey's granddaughter) – Iris & Nate Ginsberg

In honor of Lowell Friedman's birthday – Iris & Nate Ginsberg, Susan and Louis Good

In loving memory of my father, Lt. Col. Neil Levin (Ret. USMC) – Debbie Clolinger

In memory of Carolyn Metzger – Lila Kogan and family

In memory of Leon Mishkin – Alain & Gary Gamble

In memory of Marcus Cecil Pierce – Mark Gilberstadt

In memory of Tini Appelman – Joyce & Gerard Toubiana, Alain & Gary Gamble

In memory of Harry Kogon – Lila Kogon

In memory of Al and Molly Kahn – Martha & G.B. Kahn

In memory of Carolyn Metzger – Linda & Eddie Blassingame, Alain & Gary Gamble

In memory of Helen Heffler Silverman – Alain & Gary Gamble

In memory of Arthur Prince – Venetia Prince

DONATIONS AND ACCOUNT PAYMENTS TO SPRINGHILL AVENUE TEMPLE



Payments to the Temple can now be made online through the Springhill Avenue Temple website (springhillavenuetemple.com). All credit card types are accepted. There is a new clickable “Donations/Dues” tab on the home page. Once at the payment screen, notations can be made in the “Invoice” and/or “Note” field. There is a small service fee of 3% for all credit card payments. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Temple Office.



Announcing a special Saturday evening
Jewish Music with Cantor Mark

February 7th, 2015
7:30 pm

Social Hall
Deserts will be served



**SPRINGHILL AVENUE TEMPLE'S
PURIM CELEBRATION**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6 – 6:00 P.M.
WITH A SPECIAL PURIM PLAY**

DON'T MISS THE SPECIAL MUSICAL PURIM SPIEL

**ALSO, A PURIM DINNER HOSTED BY
THE TEMPLE'S SISTERHOOD AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
CATERED BY TYNER'S**

**The Purim dinner is free of charge, but for planning purposes, please be kind enough to
RSVP by February 24th**

**Please email or call the Temple office to make your reservations
(478-0415 or secretary@springhillavenuetemple.com)**

FROM OUR SHALIACH, ARAD LERNER



Shalom Y'all!

Tu B'shvat is right around the corner, some would call it "The Jewish Earth Day".

As a kid it was never about the dried fruit for me because, as some of you who have gotten to know me a little in the past five months, I am not a big fan of food from earth (i.e., vegetables), although Israel is blessed with some of the best fruits and vegetables on earth (makes you think maybe this is why the Jewish people celebrate this holiday).

I was more about planting the trees. I liked working with my hands, but I think more than that I loved the idea that I took part in something that is going to stay there forever. That there is something to take care of and nurture and then you see it grow. There is a result to your work and it is beautiful.

In middle school we planted a tree during school and one of the teachers told us, "Well, now you can come here with your kids one day and tell them that you planted that tree".

As someone that really appreciates gestures like that, I think I finally understood the real meaning of long term results.

Of course, Tu B'Shevat is a reason for the family to get together and do a "seder". Tu B'Shevat focuses on different types of dried fruit and my mom is a big fan of all the different kinds of dried fruit that are out there. So, I would say it is one of her favorite holidays.

In conclusion, there is a nice story that says that God did not want man to know that he was going to die one day because then man would not plant trees and work them. What would be the purpose? But I think we all understand that even though we are going to leave one day, it is important to leave something good here for our next generations.

THE FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICE ON JANUARY 2ND



The social hall's new floor had just been polyurethaned and the smell was so strong the Friday Shabbat service had to be held outside. *(photo courtesy of Howard Silverman)*

YAHARZEIT

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.

February 6

Sylvia Gandler Cohan, Abner Hirsch, Alfred Monheit,
Julian S. Lewis, Jay P. Altmayer, Randy Kushner,
Willis Darby, III, Clyde William Boyd

February 13

Allan Irving Denson, Leonard Herbert Metzger, Jr., Sara Friedlander,
Jan Appelman, Fred Susman, Betty Diemar, Dorothy Nathan Goldman,
Milton F. Rubel, Jr., Hyman Yassem,
Joe Stern

February 20

Louis Lewis, Doris Therese Sidie, Theodore Baer,
Florence Renaud, Sid Magnes, Max Zell

February 27

Maurice "Maury" Gordon, Agnes LeMay, Sylvia Lieberman,
Jesse Scholem, Grace Z. Marlieb, Nathan N. Aronson,
Robert Fuller, Isadore Barkin, Roland Fry,
Mary Alice Levin Brucato

SOME TEMPLE REMINDERS

The Rabbi would very much like to be able to visit our hospitalized and homebound congregants. Lately, however, due to HIPPA regulations, we have had a problem with some area hospitals not providing us with information about our members. If you or someone you know would like the Rabbi to visit, please call the Temple Office at 251-478-0415 or email secretary@springhillavenuetemple.com

The Temple is available for use by its members for religious affairs and for receptions following religious occasions and life events. However, for any event an Activity Reservation Form must be filled out by the member/user two (2) weeks prior to the actual event. After submission, any changes to the form must be submitted in writing one (1) week prior to the scheduled event.



February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To ...

1 Caitlin Brown	13 Jay Altmayer II
2 Sydnie Susman	13 Aaron Solomon
2 Judith Aronson	13 Samantha Zimmerman
2 Adam Miller	15 Phillip Magnes
2 Bill Susman	16 Brion Berman
3 Lisa Magnes	16 Mark Friedlander
4 Rachel Goldberg	16 Perrye Lewis
4 Joanne Koffler	18 Joy Gardberg
4 Enid Laden	19 Gabriel Fry
4 Joel Silverman	19 Margeoux Silverstein
5 Kathryn Friedlander	21 Darbie Sidie
5 Katherine Miles	22 Claire Aycock
5 Helen Small	22 Alan Hirsch
6 Evan Webster	22 Sam Holberg
9 Dolores Loeb	25 Christopher Kinsella
9 Dori Claire Small	26 Diane Frank
11 Janis Friedlander	27 Norma Conrad
11 Larry Miller	27 Max Mutchnick
12 Bobette Friedman	

Happy Anniversary To ...

- 22 Shirley & Joel Silverman
- 23 Rose & Phillip Brunson
- 23 Carol & Matt Eberlein



March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To ...



1 Kay Friedlander	17 Maxwell Lansky
2 Penny Adamo	17 Bryan Maisel
2 Kathryn Denson	17 Margaret Moore-Nadler
2 John Zelnicker	17 Doris Claire Stein
3 Arthur Denson	18 Amy Friedlander
3 Naomi Gardberg	18 Jill Friedman
3 Mitchell Lawley	19 Christine Hill
3 Daniel Toubiana	19 David Loeser
4 Dale Foster	20 Gilbert Laden
5 Christine Conrad	21 Jennifer Gamble
5 Jennifer Feibelman	21 Jaxon Hall
5 Todd Rich	21 Robert Hyman
6 Danielle Appelman	21 Joanna Kessler
6 Miller Eberlein	22 David Furman
6 Edith Misrok	23 David Cherniak
7 Brian Rich	23 Violet Hirsch
8 Gary Gamble	24 Elliot Borak
9 Matthew Kessler	25 Amelia Miller
9 Wendy Solomon	26 Mary Green
11 Hanna Garden-Monheit	27 Drew Gottlieb
11 Phillip Hyman	27 Michelle Schjott
13 Georgina Hall	28 Celia Mutchnick
13 Elaine Holberg	29 Josh Lansky
13 Barbara Lawley	29 Joseph Mishkin
13 Darlin Tolpin	30 Benjamin Holberg
14 Jeff Fink	30 Abigail Klein
16 Jerry Silverstein	31 Ann Bridgeman
16 Arielle Singh	

Happy Anniversary To ...

- 5 Dana & Nathan Handmacher
- 5 Katie & John Webster
- 9 Joy & Jonathan Gardberg
- 10 Melanie & William Susman
- 17 Diane & Alan Franco
- 24 Nancy & Richard Hill
- 26 Audra & Adam Sack
- 28 Lisa & Eric Lansky

Happy Anniversary

CALENDAR

Torah Study – Wednesdays	5:30 p.m.	February 4, 11, 18, and 25
Adult Religious School – Sundays	10:30 a.m.	February 1 and 8
Hebrew School – Sundays	8:30 a.m.	February 1 and 8 (no classes February 15 or 22)
Religious School – Sundays	9:45 a.m.	February 1 and 8 (no classes February 15 or 22)



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Friday, February 20	6:00 p.m.	Evening Shabbat Service
Tuesday, February 24	7:00 p.m.	70th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz Bernheim Hall, Ben May Main Library
Friday, February 27	6:00 p.m.	Evening Shabbat Service

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