MARCH ADAR-NISAN 5785

A Publication of Congregation Sha'arey Israel

A conservative congregation serving Macon and Middle Georgia
Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
www.uscj.org

Rabbi Aaron Rubinstein





Upcoming Services

Saturday, March 1

9:30 am Service

Thursday, March 6

7:00 am Minyan

Friday, March 7

6:15 pm Service

Saturday, March 8

9:30 am Service

Thursday, March 13

7:00 am Minyan

Saturday, March 15

9:30 am Service

Thursday, March 20

7:00 am Minyan

Friday, March 21

6:15 pm Service

Saturday, March 22

9:30 am Service

Thursday, March 27

7:00 am Minyan

Saturday, March 29 9:30 am Service



Zoom Davening

All services can be viewed via Zoom. You can access these either via computer, smart phone or call in and listen to services with any phone.

We are using one link for ALL services. All services dealing with praying/davening and Torah Study will use the link below.

https://zoom.us/j/94484008047?pwd=NkN2eVNiOTIMc3kwakpwdFdJdVVPUT09

Passcode: 420674

By Phone: 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 944 8400 8047 Password: 420674

Service Dates and Times:

Wednesday Torah Study - March 5, 12, 19, 26 at 7 pm

Thursday Morning Minyan -March 6, 13, 20, 27 at 7 am

Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat - March 7, 14, 21, 28 at 6:15 pm

Saturday Morning Service - March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 9:30 am



A Word From the Rabbi

How Do Mordecai and Esther Speak to Us?

Purim is around the corner, and, in the footsteps of our tradition, we literally make merry. The rabbis of the Talmud taught: "when the month of Adar begins, we increase our joy." I'd like to reflect a bit upon the audacity of this rabbinic teaching.

The story of Esther gives us a glimpse of a vulnerable Jewish population. Mordecai is called a Yehudi, a Jew. His great grandfather was part of the Jewish community exiled from Jerusalem. Esther's secret identity points to a time when being "too Jewish " was a bad idea. Haman employed the rhetoric of the untrustworthy, disloyal foreigner in his bid to "solve the Jewish problem." And the King bought into his dark plans.

And now for bit of a deeper dive: The name Esther, the tradition teaches, hints at the Hebrew word "nistar" which means "hidden." Not only is Esther's identity concealed — so is God. There are no explicit references to God in the scroll of Esther. It is true that Esther and her maidens, backed by the Kehillah of Shushan, fast and pray in response to the terrifying edict. We as readers need to connect the dots to sense God's protective presence behind Mordecai and Esther's courageous actions, and the perfect timing of the king's insomnia, the reading of the royal chronicles, Haman's late-night visit to the sleepless king. God indeed rides to the rescue, the tables are turned. We feast, we give each other gifts, we give charity. Our ancestors escaped certain doom... And if in the midst of this time upheaval — with a not-so-subtle backdrop of anti-Jewish hatred, we're sensitive to the powerful resonance of this story.....we'll also ponder the fragility of it all. Here, in Israel, everywhere. Tyrants roll the dice, and the fate of so many hangs in the balance.

As Adar opens, we chase joy with everything we've got. There is no other choice.



A WORD FROM CSI PRESIDENT

Dear Congregants,

Welcome to March, with cold weather that morphs into warmth. It's time to cut back the roses if you haven't already and get your seeds prepared for planting. Dust off the porch furniture and get ready for Spring. After the winter we've had, we'll all be happy to see it.

Many thank-yous to the team that brought us the Super Bowl Party in February: Michael, Lara, Elmo, Jami, Dan, Shelley and the rest. It was a lot of fun having it at CSI this year, with games for the kids, the photo booth, delicious food, and healthy team competition for everyone.

Please note that CSI is moving forward with our "Building the Next 120 Years" campaign to envision the future for our shul and include more members in all activities. Two gatherings have already taken place with more to come. I hope that everyone will be able to join these forums when invited. We need your thoughts about what's best about CSI and where we could stand to improve. What ideas do you have for programs and initiatives? What committees would you like to join or lead so that your thoughts will translate into action?

Right now, we have two committees that need members and leadership. One is the Social Action Committee, which works with Daybreak to serve the homeless in Macon. Another is our Library Committee, that will re-think and organize our synagogue's library. I've already heard from a few members who have ideas for the library, and we welcome more. If you are interested in either of these committees, please contact me right away.

Make your reservations now for our Purim festivities on March 13th. Dinner will be served at 6 pm followed by Rabbi Aaron's spiel of music and comedy at 7pm. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED for the dinner, so call or email Stephanie in our office with your name and

how many are in your party. Adults are \$20 and kids are free.

Please come to Shabbat services in person or via Zoom. We want to see you to share in blessings and prayers and also to help make a minyan for those needing to say Kaddish. Whether you come on Friday evening or Saturday morning (followed by a delicious lunch) – or both! – you'll find the Shabbat service to be a rewarding spiritual and social experience.

Have a great month. See you in shul.

Shalom,

Jan

Shabbat in Milledgeville

There will be a special Shabbat evening service followed by a dairy pot-luck dinner on April 4, 2025 at the home of Gail and Jack Krapf in Milledgeville. The service will begin at 6:30 pm. Please RSVP to the Krapfs with what you will bring at (478) 968-5383 (h) or (478) 731-2215 (Gail's cell). The deadline for RSVPs is April 2, 2025. Out of courtesy to the Krapfs, please adhere to this deadline.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Kiddush Lunch Sponsors

Kiddush lunch on March 8th will be sponsored by Jeff Lehman and
Shelley Davidson in memory of their fathers,
Eli Lehman and Abraham Davidson.
Kiddush lunch on April 5th will be sponsored by the Koplin Family
in memory of Ethel and Myron Koplin.

Sponsor a Kiddush Lunch at Congregation Sha'arey Israel

Honor a Loved One, Celebrate a Milestone, or Remember Someone Special

Congregation Sha'arey Israel invites you to sponsor a Kiddush lunch, a meaningful way to mark important occasions while supporting our community.

Why Sponsor a Kiddush Lunch?

- Commemorate a special event
- Honor a friend or family member
- · Remember a loved one
- Support our congregation

Sponsorship Details:

- Minimum sponsorship: \$36
- Your sponsorship helps defray the costs of our complimentary Kiddush Lunches

Recognition:

- Sponsorship announced in our weekly congregational email
- · Acknowledged during Friday and Saturday announcements from the Bima

How to Sponsor:

Contact our office to arrange your Kiddush lunch sponsorship today!

Phone: 478-745-4571

Email: secretary@csimacon.org

Join us in this mitzvah and create lasting memories for our community!

Congregation Sha'arey Israel 611 First Street Macon, Georgia 31210

Dr. Lawrence A. Haskins Memorial Trust - 2025

BACKGROUND

In 1980 Gertie and Harry Haskins, longtime members of Congregation

Sha'arey Israel (CSI), established a memorial trust to honor their son

Lawrence. A periodontist born and raised in Macon, Dr. Haskins died at
the age of 34, leaving a wife and two young daughters.

It was Gertie and Harry's fondest hope that their generosity would further our young congregants' knowledge of Judaism, increase their awareness and understanding of Jewish culture and the Jewish people, and enhance their religious commitment.

PURPOSE

"To perpetuate and enhance Jewish education for CSI students." The Trust, now in its 43rd year sunsets in 2030, so the committee's challenge is to present scholarships to as many young congregants as possible before 2031.

Given the cancellation of most summer camps during the pandemic (2020-2022), Haskins Trust recipients during those years may use the funds during the summer of 2024 without reapplying for the award.

Simply contact me to utilize the funds.

If you are a new applicant please read the guidelines, process, and deadlines below.

GUIDELINES

- 1. A recipient must be between the ages of 10 and 20, which, for the purposes of the scholarship means to be <u>at least 10 years old</u> and no older than 20 years old in the calendar year in which he or she is granted the award or uses the award money.
- 2. An applicant must have attended Sha'arey Israel's religious school for at least one (1) full year.
- 3. An applicant has "achieved scholastic excellence." This is a vague

tenet of the scholarship but is contained in the original document.

- 4. The scholarship can be used to defray the cost of:
- a. Travel to Israel through an <u>approved program</u>, not individual or family travel.
- b. Attendance at a Jewish camp, conference, seminar or convention sponsored by a Jewish organization with which Sha'arey Israel is affiliated.
- c. A Jewish studies course or class in the United States, Israel, or anywhere in the world at an <u>accredited</u> institution. <u>The student/family</u> must provide a course description, proof of enrollment, and final course grade before payment is made.
- 5. We prefer to send payment directly to the camp, school, program, or travel organization. However, if a recipient's family has already paid for the program, payment will be sent directly to the parent(s) with proof of payment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- 1. The process requires a brief application letter to the committee to include the following information:
 - a. Applicant's name
 - b. Age
 - c. Brief statement of why the applicant believes he/she is worthy of the scholarship
 - d. Name of program and organization or institution, including the address, phone number, date(s) attending, and cost
 - e. Recommendation letter from a Sha'arey Israel congregant or religious school teacher familiar with the applicant's character and academic achievement
- Nominations and applications must be received by Monday, April 21,
 2025 and should be emailed to Haskins Trust Chair, Jami Gaudet, at

- 3. Decisions will be made by Monday, April 28, 2025.
- 4. A scholarship award letter will be sent to each winner and the student's name(s) will be announced in the synagogue bulletin and on the bimah at services by the synagogue president.
- 5. The Haskins Memorial Trust committee selects a recipient or recipients annually and approves the use of the funds. The award amount is based on the number of recipients and amount of funds remaining in the Trust. There is no cap on the number of recipients each year.
- 6. The duration of the trust is 50 years and ends in 2030. 2025 is year 45.
- 7. Each recipient may be asked to speak briefly on his/her camp, travel or educational experience at a Shabbat service upon return. Guidelines will be provided.

Parents and congregants, please encourage our young people to apply for this generous scholarship. If I can answer any questions about the fund or application process, please contact me.

Best regards -

Jami Gaudet

Haskins Memorial Trust Chair

jfsgaudet@aol.com



THE CSI BOOK CLUB

The CSI Book Club will meet via
Zoom at 1 PM Sunday, March
16 to discuss Street Corner
Dreams, by Florence Reiss
Kraut. All are welcome. Please
contact Jan Lewis at
Janlewis73@gmail.com
for details.





SAVE THESE DATES:



Please call Stephanie at the synagogue office 478-745-4571 or email her at secretary@csimacon.org for donations to all funds except The Wall of Jerusalem.

For donations to the Wall of Jerusalem Fund, please call Shelley Kruger at 478-474-0060.

For donations to the Noah's Ark Fund, please call the CSI secretary.

Yahrzeit donations should be mailed directly to synagogue.

Please note that you can also make donations to the various CSI funds through our website:

www.csimacon.org

It's easy and quick!
You can designate which fund to
honor your loved ones.

Mark down May 2nd and July 25th on your calendars for combined New Member/Family Shabbat services and dinners. On May 2nd we will meet at CSI.

The July 25th service and dinner will be at Marty and Evan Koplin's home in Macon. Please plan to come to both events. More details to follow.



Mi Sheberach



March Birthdays

1 - Lance Simon





SYNAGOGUE & MAZEL TOV FUND DONATIONS

In memory of my beloved mother, Mildred Simson
Gary Simson

In memory of my beloved mother, Frances Paller Sharona & Aaron Rubinstein

In memory of my beloved mother, Chava Wengier
Kive Wengier

In memory of my beloved father, Isaac Wengier
Kive Wengier

In memory of my beloved

- 2 Dorothy Haskins
- 3 David Cornelius
- 4 Henry Koplin
- 8 Jonathan Atzmon
- 10 James Bernstein
- 10 Gabrielle Yashinsky
- 12 Allison Bloodworth
- 13 Isaac Crabtree
- 14 Stephen Chanin
- 14 Landon Paul Kruger
- 16 Jacob Redd
- 18 Gary Simson
- 19 Terri Frolich
- 20 Matt Garrett
- 22 Amanda Koplin
- 25 Beth Cohen
- 27 Ellen Cohen
- 28 Debbie Oliner
- 29 Brenda Katz
- 30 Nicole Hill
- 31 Chana Dayne-Winer



March Anniversaries

- 5 Carol & Michael Bashuk
- 5 Francie & Gerald Marshall
- 28 Angie & Charles Brown

Floyd Bob Chaite

Barbara W. Chaite

In memory of Kay Morrison

Israel

In memory of David Arogeti

Ellen Cohen

Billy Singer

Ina Chanin & Louis Schlesinger



KRUGER TORAH FUND

In memory of David Arogeti

Fran & Alan Kirsh

Happy birthday to David Frolich

Fran & Alan Kirsh

Happy birthday to Terri Frolich

Fran & Alan Kirsh

Happy birthday to Beth Cohen

Fran & Alan Kirsh

Happy birthday to Ellen Cohen

Fran & Alan Kirsh



Congregation Sha'arey Israel is a partner with DAYBREAK, a daytime safe haven for members of our community who are either homeless or are in need of a place to spend a day with people, a place where they can shower, get a light snack, and feel part of a community. DAYBREAK needs volunteers. If interested, call (478) 216-9119 or visit https://depaulusa.org/programs/macon/. You can also drop off donated items at their Macon location at 174 Walnut Street. You can also ship directly from Amazon.

Daybreak's current needs are:

canned or fresh fruit large sturdy back packs

applesauce Bio freeze breakfast bars (soft) Claritin

sandwich cookie packs daytime cold medicine-no alcohol

powered lemonade/tea eye drops
coffee creamer insect repellant
instant grits hydrocortisone cream

sugar reader glasses - 2.00/higher brown paper snack bags Benadryl

plastic spoons ponchos

lawn bags - 33 gallon disinfectant spray

vinegar air freshner bleach hand/foot towels men's T-shirts (white, size lg, XL, 2X) \$10 gift cards

men & women's underwear



March 2025 Yahrzeits

Evening of February 28th/March 1st-March 7th

Rodolph Richards
Abraham Davidson*
Rita Govern
Carol Besser

Anne B. Bayme
Sarah Warshauer Schwartzman
Sarah Hirsh*
Norman Alan Cohen*
Elaine Hirsh*

Evening of March 7th/8th-March 14th

Pearl Brooks
Marcia K. Singer*
Eric Lipson
Norma Potosky
Susan Rogler
William Mark
Philip Epstein*
Rosalind Adelstone

Evening of March14th/15th-March 21st

Sonia Segal Cohen*
Adele Meddin Schneider
Marian Kaufman
Louis Winer
Seymour L. Cohen

Evening of March 21st/22nd-March 28th

Edward Bashuk
Tess Wilner Bashuk
Cynthia Wulwick
Herbert S. Posner
Barnett Chanin
Dorothy Jampole
Leah Avrunin*
Harold Goodrich*
Norman Nathan Kaplan*

Evening of March 28th/29th-April 4th

Beulah Bresler Louis Oxlander David Rosen Harry Frolich*

^{*} Indicates names listed on a plaque in the main sanctuary.

5785 2025	Mar	adar nisan					KAR-BEN www.karben.com				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESI	DAY	WEDNE	SDAY	THURS	DAY	FR	IDAY		URDA'
FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	APRIL S M T W T F S 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30										1 ada Ter BAT SHEK OSH CHO
2 adar SUNDAY SCHOOL	3 adar	4	4 adar	5	5 adar	6	6 adar	7 6:18 PM	7 adar 🕻	8 7:14 PM	8 ada
9 adar SUNDAY SCHOOL/PURIM ACTIVITY	10 10 adar	11	11 adar	12	12 adar	13	13 adar	14 7:23 PM	14 adar M	15 8:19 PM	15 ada
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30 1 nisan	31 ^{2 nisan}										Pe

2023-2025

Executive Committee

President - Jan Lewis Vice Presidents - Michael Kruger & Lara Geller Treasurer - Evan Koplin

Recording Secretary - Pam Hill Corresponding Secretary - Allison Bloodworth

Ex-Officio - Shelley Davidson
Parliamentarian/Security - Theresa
Rosengart

2023-2025 Board Chairs

Adult Education - Rosalind Simson
Board of Education - Jennifer Bernstein
Cemetery - Marty Koplin
Gifts & Memorials - Markus Hill
Membership - Pam Webster
House - Jonathan Atzmon
Ways and Means - Michael Kruger & Lara
Geller

Ritual - Jeff Lehman Special Projects - Gary Simson Long-Range Planning - Sabrina Wengier Marketing/Communications - Chip Koplin





Secretary - Stephanie Johnson

Office Hours

8 am - 4 pm Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8 am - 12 pm Friday Lunch 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Our mailing address is:

611 First Street Macon, Georgia 31201

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.