



# Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism | [aieamontgomery.org](http://aieamontgomery.org)



## THE RABBI'S COLUMN

RABBI SCOTT KRAMER

If you are looking for me at noon on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday, I am most likely at the Midtown Y on Carter Hill Road fulfilling a promise my Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies class made to our dean.

On the first day of Rabbinical School in 2002, Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson explained the importance of taking care of our physical selves.

We made a commitment to stay involved with the Jewish community from birth till death, but self care is often overlooked. Rabbi Artson knew we would work hard to meet our community's needs, but neglect ourselves.

The rabbi said that to be there for others, we had to take care of our physical selves first and foremost. I made the promise to take care of myself physically and have kept it ever since.

This time of year something very predictable happens. I call it the "New Year's resolution two-step."

### Step One:

Indulge in all the wonderful holiday eating opportunities. Notice our clothes have shrunk. Now make a

resolution to join a fitness center and lose weight.

### Step Two:

Actually join a fitness center and attend classes January 2.

Great resolution.

The problem occurs one week later when most people let it slide.

You can watch it happen every year. January 2 the place is packed with eager newbies wearing the latest styles in workout and active wear. The classes will be full. The machines are all in use.

By the end of January everything is back to normal.

Don't worry, you will see those fun, well-intentioned people again. Next year. On January 2, 2025.

We laugh and joke about it at the Y. But this year I'm feeling a little different.

As I get older, my energy level is lower. Sometimes I talk myself out of going to the fitness center, making up reasons even I don't believe.

And sometimes my aging body just won't cooperate. Dealing with 60-something years of wear and tear on this body is catching up with me ... further eroding my ability to get out and exercise.

As 2024 rolls in, I need to strengthen my resolve to watch what I eat and stay active.

I think we all need to nourish our souls. Promise yourself to attend services in person at least once a week.

Pick up a good book about Judaism – I can help you find one in our library.

Study the Torah. Alone. With a friend. Or join me at the synagogue – we can study together. We even serve breakfast after minyan on Monday and Thursday.

I wish all of you a Happy New Year! Try to make realistic resolutions in 2024. Make them within your reach. And then ... keep reaching a little more each day.

## Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue

3525 Cloverdale Road  
Montgomery, Alabama 36111

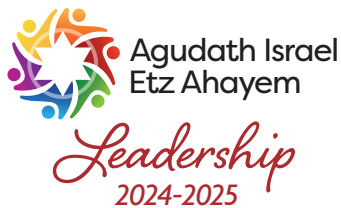
334-281-7394  
[office@agudathmontgomery.com](mailto:office@agudathmontgomery.com)  
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### Rabbi Scott Kramer

334-281-7394  
[rabbi@agudathmontgomery.com](mailto:rabbi@agudathmontgomery.com)

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Agudath Israel  
Etz Ahayem

Leadership  
2024-2025

#### OFFICERS

**Barbara Handmacher**

President

**Tina McManama**

President Elect

Vice President, Fundraising

**Rick Richburg**

Treasurer

Immediate Past President

**Jerald Labovitz**

Financial Secretary

**Emily Allen**

Vice President, Education

**David Zaslowsky**

Vice President, Membership

**Dickie Blondheim**

Building & Grounds  
Maintenance

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joy Blondheim

Phil Ensler

Chris Ginsburg

Kathy Hess

Elaine Kirkpatrick

Ira Kupferberg

Bert Shephard

Fern Shinbaum

Rabbi Scott Kramer

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS JANUARY MEETING

**5 p.m., Tuesday, January 9  
at the Synagogue**

We will vote on a new slate of  
officers at this open meeting.  
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue  
Members are encouraged to attend.

*Board Meetings are held at 5 p.m. on  
the second Tuesday of the month at the  
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem synagogue.*

# Tzedakah Funds

## GENERAL FUND

**In memory of Thelma Kallick,  
Seymore Kallick, Sam Feldman,  
Goldie Feldman, Louis H. Kushner,  
Buddy Kallick, Rose Kushner, Eugene  
Feldman, Enid Feldman, Roy Emanuel,  
Sarah Emanuel, Nathan Feldman, Ann  
Feldman, Phyllis Kasover, Bill Johnson,  
Rabbi Yehuda Leib Merenstein,  
Pauline Merenstein Davidson, and  
Alvin Feldman**

Mark Kallick and David Moore

**In memory of Joseph Fleischman,  
Esther Schulwolf Fleischman, Frances  
Fleischman, Maurice Schulwolf, Gussie  
S. Schulwolf, Morris Schulwolf, Dora  
Schulwolf, Max Abraham Schulwolf,  
Regina Schulwolf, Annie Werfel, Fanny  
Fleischman, Rose Bauman**

Diane Logan

**In memory of Rachel Moon**

Ira Kupferberg

**In honor of Alan, Deborah  
and Boone Berlin**

Ken Wool  
Wool Family Foundation

**In memory of Myer Rich**

Diana G. Hanan & Morris Capouano  
Esther Miller

**In memory of Morris Capouano and  
Diana G. Hanan**

Debbie Capp

**In honor of Jake Aronov  
and Owen Aronov**

Camille Sanford, Warren Averett

**In memory of Jimmy Smith**

Mark Kallick & David Moore

**In memory of  
Lois Feldman Clauson**

Mark Kallick & David Moore, Lauren &  
Dan Hoven and Phyllis Feldman Rehmar

**In memory of Oscar Schoenbaum**

Owen Aronov

**In memory of Jimmy Smith**

Michael & Maxine Goldner

**In memory of Lilyan Ginsburg**

Michael & Lynn Herman

**In memory of Israel Ehrlich**

Betty Erlich,  
Barry & Deborah Ehrlich,  
John & Elaine Kirkpatrick

**In loving memory of  
Jerre Lee McManama, Jr.**

Tina McManama

## HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOK FUND

**In memory of Rick Goldstein**

Spencer & Kristen Segall,  
Lisa Segall and Sara Goldstein

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**In memory of Jimmy Smith**

Arnold & Wendy Finkelstein

**In memory of Jimmy Smith**

Steve & Marsh Orange

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**In memory of Janet Kulbersh**

Diane & Barry Blondheim  
Marsha & Steve Orange

**BUILDING FUND**

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**In memory of Rubin Alter Aronov**

Jake Aronov

**In memory of Aaron Aronov**

Owen Aronov

**SECURITY**

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**Donation**

Warren Simons & Janice Prescott

**In memory of Jimmy Smith**

Steve & Marsha Orange

**NACE ALLEN  
YOUTH FUND**

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**In memory of our sweet cousin,  
David Markowitz**

Jeffrey Brenner and Joseph Dumas

**In loving memory of my  
grandfather, Sam Brenner**

Jeffrey Brenner

**Continued good health to our  
aunt, Betty Ehrlich**

Jeffrey Brenner and  
Joseph Dumas

**In memory of our very special  
brother David Scott Brenner**

Jeffrey Brenner & Joseph Dumas

**In memory of Regina Lobato**

Yvette Hochberg

**In memory of Conrad Albert**

Yvette Hochberg

**In memory of Ronnie Rosen**

Emily Allen

**In memory of Jamella Alhadeff**

Emily Allen

**SARA & SIGMUND SEGALL  
CHILDREN'S FUND**

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**Donation**

Bob Taffet & family  
Bobby & Sandy Segall and family  
Lisa Goldstein & family

**KITCHEN FUND**

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**Continued good health to our  
aunt, Helen Bern**

Jeffrey Brenner & Joseph Dumas

**ARLENE MILLER  
SILVER FUND**

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**Continued good health to our  
uncle, Charles Miller**

Jeffrey Brenner & Joseph Dumas

**In loving memory of my mother,  
Barbara Brenner**

Jeffrey Brenner

**SHINBAUM FAMILY  
HEALTH FUND**

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**Mazol-Tov to Laurie & Bobby  
Feigenberg & Ellis on the birth of  
their son and brother**

Jeffrey Brenner & Joseph Dumas

**SHIVA PANTRY**

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**In memory of my  
great-grandmother  
Jennie Brenner**

Jeffrey Brenner

**In memory of Jimmy Smith**

Esther Varon



by Co-Leaders Emily Allen  
& Elaine Kirkpatrick

We hope everyone had a very happy Hanukkah!

Sisterhood's annual Hanukkah Hoopla on December 3rd was both successful and enjoyable! We had a great crowd, the food was delicious and fellowship was heartwarming.

Special thanks to Carolyn Bern, Chris Ginsburg and Kathy Hess for preparing, serving and selling the hot dogs and latkes. We are so grateful to Barry Ehrlich who helped us prepare the latkes and grilled the hot dogs with the indispensable assistance of Bill Braunstein on the grill. Thank you all!

On Sunday, December 17th, our book club met at the home of Amy Labovitz to discuss "How to Make a Life" by Florence Reiss Kraut. We had an interesting discussion via Zoom with the author. Our next Book Club event will be in February (date to be announced), when we will discuss "She's Up to No Good" by Sara Goodman Confino.

The annual Sisterhood Shabbat is planned for early March. Information will be sent out soon.

You all stay safe and well and we will see you in 2024!

#### MANAGING EXECUTIVE TEAM

Emily Allen and Elaine Kirkpatrick  
*Co-Presidents*

Fern Shinbaum  
*Membership VP*

Chris Ginsburg and Amy Labovitz  
*Programming Vice Presidents*

#### OFFICERS

Elaine Kirkpatrick  
*Financial Secretary*

Irene Kramer  
*Treasurer*

Dale Evans  
*Shalach Manot Bags*

Chris Ginsburg  
Amy Labovitz  
Linda Smith  
*Kitchen*

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Adena Kramer  
Irene Kramer  
*Sukkot Refreshments*

Chris Ginsburg  
Amy Labovitz  
*Shabbat Dinner*

Kathy Hess  
Yvette Hochberg  
*Shabbat Service*

Linda Smith  
*Shiva Pantry*  
Emily Allen  
*Tribute Funds*

Irene Kramer  
*D'Var Torah*

Yvette Hochberg  
*Book Club*

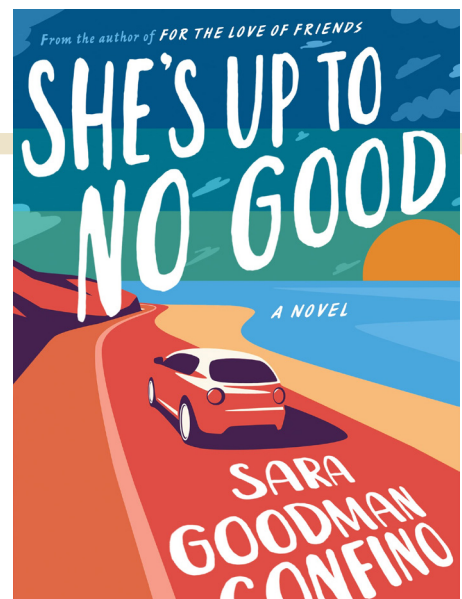


#### FEBRUARY BOOKCLUB DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

12 p.m. at The Wharf at EastChase

Contact Elaine Kirkpatrick at [elainek1922@charter.net](mailto:elainek1922@charter.net) to obtain a copy of the book.

**"She's Up To No Good"**  
by Sara Goodman Confino





# Yahrzeits

*Remembering Loved Ones We Have Lost*  
May G-d give comfort to the families along with  
all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

## DEC 30 - JAN 5 | 18-24 TEVET

### ★ ALICE KLEINBERG

Rembered by Rhea Schneider,  
Arlene Goldstein, Billy Kleinberg,  
Bob Taffet and Bobby Segall

### ★ MOSES J. BERMAN

### ★ JAMELLA ALHADEFF

Rembered by Emily Allen and  
Mitchell Allen

### ★ EZRA ASELROD

### ★ ALBERT DAVID CAPELOTO

### ★ ELI COHEN

Rembered by Raymond Cohen,  
David Cohen, Joel Cohen and  
Michael Cohen

### ★ ISAAC SAUL KREISMAN

### ★ THELMA MENDEL

Rembered by Nan Lavin

### ★ BELLE KERMISH

Rembered by Steve Kermish

### ★ ERIC KNURR

Rembered by Dr. Werner Knurr

### ★ SIDNEY BESSER

### ★ BERTHA MARGULIS

Rembered by Steve Lande

### ★ RONNIE ROSEN

Rembered by Emily Allen and  
Linda Smith

### ★ SIDNEY ROSEN

Rembered by Emily Allen and  
Linda Smith

### ★ HYMAN M. SCHWARTZ

Rembered by Steve Lande

## JAN 6-12 | 25 TEVET - 2 SH'VAT

### ★ HOBIE FREEHLING

Rembered by Paul Freehling

### ★ FELICE COHEN

Rembered by Richard Hanan

### ★ MALLORY GOLSON

Rembered by Lisa McDonald,  
Leslie Capp and Ira Kupferberg

### ★ SIEGMUND LANG

Rembered by Mickey Feldman

### ★ SARAH COHN

### ★ BUDDY KALLICK

Rembered by Mark Kallick

### ★ JERRE MCMANAMA, JR.

Rembered by Tina McManama

### ★ RAE SCHWARTZ MIRSKY

Rembered by Ken Shinbaum

### ★ MEYER OBERSTEIN

### ★ PAULINE OBERSTEIN

### ★ JACK SILVERMAN

### ★ ESTHER KERMISH GOLDSTEIN

Rembered by Steve Kermish

### ★ HELEN HELD

### ★ ANNA STEINBERG

### ★ MARJORIE ARONOV

Rembered by Jake Aronov  
and Owen Aronov

### ★ DAVID R. FRANCO

Rembered by Rubin Franco

### ★ DAN BLITZ

Rembered by Rhonda Blitz  
and Jeff Blitz

### ★ GEORGE THOMAS FELT

### ★ BEN GOLTSMAN

## JANUARY 13-19 | 3-9 SH'VAT

### ★ MAX BARDACH

Rembered by Sharon Allen

### ★ JOSEPH FINKELSTEIN

### ★ HYMAN SMITH

Rembered by Michael Smith

### ★ EUGENE MILLER

Rembered by Charles Miller

### ★ OBADIAH J. HAIM

### ★ GOLDIE LIEBERMAN

### ★ ELIZABETH STENGER

### ★ MAX BERINHOUT

### ★ RALPH H. HELLER

### ★ MITCHELL TAFFET

Rembered by Bob Taffet

## JAN 20-26 | 10-16 SH'VAT

### ★ NETTIE FINKELSTEIN BAYLESS

### ★ ANNIE R. BERN

### ★ DR. ALLEN HESS

Rembered by Kathy Hess

### ★ ELI H. HANAN

Rembered by Richard Hanan,  
Esther Miller and Debbie Capp

### ★ CLARA MARCU

### ★ MITZI MAYER

Rembered by Rosi Smith

### ★ ALBERT CAPP

Rembered by Esther Miller, Debbie  
Capp and Morris Capp

### ★ JOSEPH NARLINES

### ★ MAIME SENTER COHEN

### ★ RACHEL M. HANAN

### ★ SARAH VARON

Rembered by Michael  
Mandelbaum

### ★ RUTH WECKER

### ★ GOLDIE FELDMAN

Rembered by Mark Kallick

### ★ DORA KRAMER

Rembered by Rabbi Scott Kramer

### ★ PHYLLIS KASOVER

Rembered by Mark Kallick  
and Rick Richburg

## JAN 27 - FEB 2 | 17-23 SH'VAT

### ★ BERNADETTE HALKO

Rembered by Yvette Hochberg

### ★ JACOB MORRIS ALLEN

Rembered by Emily Allen  
Mitchell & Sharon Allen  
and Robin Greenberg

### ★ BERNARD COPELAND

### ★ LOUIS LEVY

Rembered by Alan Rosenthal

### ★ SHARON SEGALL

Rembered by Hazel Segall  
and Janice Segall

### ★ RALPH CAPOUYA

Rembered by Frances Capouya

### ★ ROSA ROSEN

Rembered by Emily Allen and  
Linda Smith

### ★ ISAAC E. COHEN

Rembered by Raymond Cohen,  
David Cohen, Joel Cohen,  
Michael Cohen and Buddy Rouso

### ★ IDA FEINBERG

### ★ LEHA WEINSTOCK

### ★ LEAH BETON

### ★ MARY TURNER

### ★ RABBI EUGENE BLACHSCHLEGER

### ★ HERMAN LEVINE

Rembered by Raymond Cohen,  
David Cohen, Joel Cohen  
and Michael Cohen

### ★ WERFEL ISIDORE

*We are deeply saddened  
by the death of*  
**Jimmy Smith**



*Husband of*  
**Linda Rosen Smith**

*Father of*  
**Abbie (Kristen)**

*Grandfather of*  
**C.J.**





**EVERY MONDAY AT 6 P.M.  
AGUDATH ISRAEL ETZ AHAYEM**

Rabbi Scott Kramer is leading an *Introduction to Judaism* adult education class Mondays at 6 p.m. at the synagogue.

Whether you were born Jewish, a “Jew by choice” or are thinking about joining our family, you will enjoy this class. The *Introduction to Judaism* class is designed to help us appreciate Jewish history, heritage, observances, holidays, prayers and ethics.

The Rabbi will be using the curriculum from the American Jewish University, Los Angeles “Miller Intro to Judaism Program.” Contact the Rabbi if you have questions.



## TAI CHI CLASS

**2 p.m. Wednesday, January 10**  
**at Temple Beth Or**

Wayne and Susan Mills will get us all back on track for the New Year.

## LUNCH WITH PHILLIP ENSLER

**11:30 a.m.**  
**Wednesday**  
**January 24**  
at Temple Beth Or

Phillip Ensler (D) is the Alabama House Representative for District 74 in the Alabama House of Representatives and the only Jewish legislator in the State of Alabama.

Phil is also the executive director of the Jewish Federation of Central Alabama. He will update us on the Israel-Hamas War and antisemitism here at home. The Tazikis lunch is \$14 per person.

Please make your reservation at [lchaimleaguemontgomery2246@gmail.com](mailto:lchaimleaguemontgomery2246@gmail.com) or text 334-430-0282.



## VALENTINES DAY LUNCH

**Wednesday, February 14**  
**Time TBA**

I hope you are all looking forward to our annual Valentine's Day Lunch on Wednesday, February 14. Location and time will be announced at a later date.



# CALENDAR *January* CALENDAR CALENDAR

Services in red are also livestreamed on [aieamontgomery.org](http://aieamontgomery.org).

Facebook and YouTube. Blue

events are on Zoom. All other events are purple.

- 1 **Monday, January 1 | 20 Tevet**  
OFFICE CLOSED  
Minyan - 7:15 a.m.
- 4 **Thursday, January 4 | 23 Tevet**  
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 5 **Friday, January 5 | 24 Tevet**  
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.
- 6 **Saturday, January 6 | 25 Tevet**  
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.  
Havdalah - 6 p.m.
- 8 **Monday, January 8 | 27 Tevet**  
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.  
Introduction to Judaism Class - 6 p.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 9 **Tuesday, January 9 | 28 Tevet**  
Board Meeting - 5 p.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 10 **Wednesday, January 10 | 29 Tevet**  
Tai-Chi Class - 2 p.m.  
at Temple Beth Or
- 11 **Thursday, January 11 | 1 Sh'Vat**  
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 12 **Friday, January 12 | 2 Sh'Vat**  
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.
- 13 **Saturday, January 13 | 3 Sh'Vat**  
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.  
Havdalah - 6 p.m.
- 14 **Sunday, January 14 | 4 Sh'Vat**  
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami  
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 19 **Friday, January 19 | 9 Sh'Vat**  
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.  
with Cantor Neil Schwartz
- 20 **Saturday, January 20 | 10 Sh'Vat**  
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.  
with Cantor Neil Schwartz  
Havdalah - 6 p.m.

- 21 **Sunday, January 21 | 11 Sh'Vat**  
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami  
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 22 **Monday, January 22 | 12 Sh'Vat**  
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.  
Introduction to Judaism Class - 6 p.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 25 **Thursday, January 25 | 15 Sh'Vat**  
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 26 **Friday, January 26 | 16 Sh'Vat**  
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.
- 27 **Saturday, January 27 | 17 Sh'Vat**  
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.  
Havdalah - 6 p.m.
- 28 **Sunday, January 28 | 18 Sh'Vat**  
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami  
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 29 **Monday, January 29 | 19 Sh'Vat**  
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.  
Introduction to Judaism Class - 6 p.m.  
at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

## BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Debbie Capp
- 01 Phillip Ensler
- 03 Leon Capouano
- 05 Esther Varon
- 05 Lois Weissman
- 06 Steve Kermish
- 06 Elaine Raymon
- 10 Phillip Golomb
- 11 Alan Franco
- 11 Alan Rosenthal
- 12 Samuel Davis
- 12 Esther Miller
- 13 David Skiba
- 13 Joshua Zaslawsky
- 14 Richard Hanan
- 16 Morris Capp
- 17 Stan Leibowitz
- 20 Dr. Olan Evans
- 21 Marion Varon
- 21 Ashlee Whitney
- 27 Hayley Cohen
- 29 Adam Butler
- 30 Michelle Capouya

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 01 Ken & Fern Shinbaum
- 02 Stan & Charli Leibowitz
- 03 Morris A. & Carol L. Capouano
- 04 Michael & Lois Butler
- 07 Neil & Susan Sass
- 16 Jeff & Robin Blitz
- 17 Michael & Judith Broder
- 17 Larry & Corinne C. Capilouto
- 19 Roy & Jaclyn Glasner

### RABBI KRAMER ON VACATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 21



#### Cantor Neil Schwartz

Will be Leading Shabbat Services  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19  
AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

**NO MINYANS:** Mon., Jan. 15 and Thu., Jan. 18



## Don't drive? No problem!

Use the Shalom Shuttle to join your  
Synagogue Family this Shabbat!

Call JFCA 24 hours in advance to request a free ride.