



Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism | aieamontgomery.org



THE RABBI'S COLUMN
RABBI SCOTT KRAMER

We are in the midst of Passover. The cleaning and gathering of Passover foods consumes us.

Every year I ask the question, “Why? What is the significance of all this work and expense?”

I am looking for the meaning behind the sweat and tears. Searching every year keeps the observance fresh and meaningful.

This year, I am finding meaning in the special Shabbatot that precede the holiday.

The first is Shabbat Shekalim. Long ago Shabbat Shekalim was a reminder to pay the half shekel for Temple maintenance and those pesky sacrifices.

The second special Shabbat is the Shabbat before Purim – Shabbat Zachor. It recalls Amalek who was the ancestor of the “man that shall not be named.”

The fourth is Shabbat HaChodesh and precedes Nisan, the first biblical month of the year. It is the month in which Passover occurs.

The Shabbat I found meaning in this year is the third – Shabbat Parah.

This special Shabbat reminds us of the ancient custom of using ashes of the red heifer to ritually purify those who came in contact with a dead person. Only the pure could eat from the Passover sacrifice at the Temple.

We are reminded to begin the purification process in preparation of observing the Passover holiday.

Today, red-heifer ashes do not exist. We do not have the Temple. In some sense we all remain in a state of impurity. But we still try to remove that impurity by cleaning our homes.

Impurity is also represented in the food forbidden on Passover. Chometz or hametz is any food that is made from wheat, barley, rye, oats or spelt and has come into contact with water allowed to ferment and rise.

Anything made from these grains except Passover matzah is chometz. This includes flour, cake, cookies, pasta, breads and items that have chometz as an ingredient.

As long as chometz is not consumed or found in our homes we exist in a state of absolute purity.

After spending time cleaning our homes, changing out dishes and purchasing over-priced Passover goods don't you feel more pure spending the week living in a very clean house?

Ridding our homes of chometz

is only part of the reason for all this hard work. Reaching a place of purity is a major undertaking and when we work hard at it there should be a feeling of accomplishment.

I hate the cleaning. But when I taste the matzah at the Seder table with family and friends I know why I worked so hard.

We have to do the work in order to have the experience. Here is wishing that all of you experience a very healthy and kosher Pesach. Chag Kasher Pesach!



Get your Pesah Guide at aieamontgomery.com

Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue

3525 Cloverdale Road
Montgomery, Alabama 36111

334-281-7394
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aieamontgomery.org

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Message from the President

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Dearest Congregants,

Joy Blondheim and Rabbi Kramer have planned a wonderful Seder for us! It will be catered by Nick and Davena and we will gather at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem at 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 23.

Please join me as we celebrate the meaningful holiday of Passover together. Just as families should.

Love,
Barbara

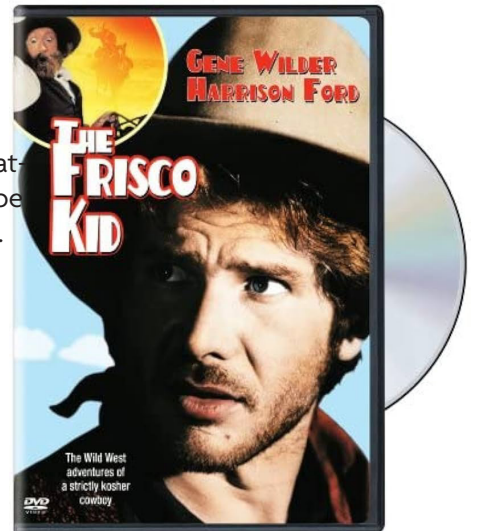


An Invitation from our friends at Temple Beth Or

As president of the Temple Beth Or Men's Club I'm inviting members of Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem to attend a showing of the classic film Frisco Kid. It will be at our temple social hall on Sunday, April 7 at 3 p.m. Hot dogs and side dishes will be served.

Thanks,
Lew Nyman

There is no charge. Please RSVP with Terri at 281-7394 or office@agudathmontgomery.com so Lew has a head count.



Chaim League

by Executive Director
Linda R. Smith

April - TBA

In May, we will have a luncheon and special guest speaker. Details will be announced soon.

Tai Chi is canceled due to lack of participation. It can be restarted when there is more committed participation.



Congregational Passover Seder

catered by Nick and Davena

***Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Social Hall
6 p.m. Tuesday, April 23***

*Please join your Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Family
for the first Congregational Passover Seder since 2019.*

Only \$25 per person

*For details and registration contact the office
at 334-281-7394 or office@agudathmontgomery.com*

***Let's celebrate the meaningful holiday of Passover together.
Just as families should.***



Agudath Israel  Etz Ahayem

Tzedakah Funds

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Victor Hanan

Morris V. and SueEllen Hanan

In memory of Dr. Phillip Golomb

Carolyn and Jeff Bern

Thank you for the hospitality you and your congregation extended. It was deeply appreciated

Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg and Cathy Felix

In memory of Jerome Smith

Steve and Marsha Orange

In memory of Rhonda Wise Blitz

David, Michael and Raymond Cohen

In memory of Gary Zaslowsky

David Zaslowsky

ETZ AHAYEM FUND

In memory of Jerome Smith

Buddy and Jo Anne Rousso

In memory of Michael Klausman

Buddy and Jo Anne Rousso

SHIVA PANTRY

In memory of Rhonda Blitz

Neal and Amy Labovitz

SYNAGOGUE SECURITY

Janice Prescott and Warren Simons

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation for the warm hospitality by Rabbi Kramer and the volunteer team during the visit of the Conservative Movement Social Justice Commission, April 5-7.

Rabbi Edward Bernstein

Thank you for welcoming us.

Rabbi Heather Miller

In memory of Rebecca Rich

Esther Miller

BUILDING FUND

In memory of Teri Aronov

Owen Aronov

In memory of Sylvia Rubin

Barbara Handmacher

NACE ALLEN YOUTH FUND

Good health to Abigail Greenberg

Barbara Handmacher

Good health to Mitchell Allen

Barbara Handmacher

Good health to Ruby Goldfield

Barbara Handmacher

In memory of Sally Green

Emily Allen

In memory of Jerome Smith

Sharon and Mitchell Allen

In memory of Jerome Smith

Emily Allen

SARA AND SIGMUND SEGALL CHILDREN'S FUND

In memory of Rhonda Blitz

Bobby & Sandy, Josh and Jacob Segall, Lisa Segall and family, Bob Taffet and Jeff Tafet

Edith Ciarletta

Esther Varon

Yahrzeit Memories

Barbara Handmacher remembering her mother, Sylvia Rubin

My immigrant grandparents, Yetta and Julius Levine, left the lower east side of New York to open a dry goods store in south Georgia. They were accompanied by their six-month-old daughter, my mother Sylvia, and their son Bernard. The year was 1917.

At 19 my mother went from the arms of her parents to the arms of my father, Saul Rubin. And she remained there until his death on their 70th wedding anniversary.

She was beautiful without trying and Daddy adored her. Sylvia was very proud of her Jewish heritage, being from

the South, and our small town where she lived until the late 80s.

She was a good golfer, a good bridge player, good looking and she loved a good time.

She instilled in my brother and me a deep sense of right and wrong, to always be thankful for what you have, be a true friend, never judge, be respectful of others and act in a way others will respect you, honor thy father and mother and always have good manners.

I will treasure the lessons she taught me and try to carry them with me all the days of my life.



Yahrzeits

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

APRIL 1 - 5 | 22 - 26 ADAR II

- ☆ **REUBIN D. LIPMAN**
- ☆ **DANIEL SEGALL**
Remembered by Steve Kermish
- ☆ **DAVID SEGALL**
- ☆ **ABRAHAM BUTLER**
Remembered by Michael Butler
- ☆ **ZEB CAPOUANO**
Remembered by Leon & Sylvia Capouano
- ☆ **SYLVIA RUBIN**
Remembered by Barbara Handmacher

APRIL 6 - 12 | 27 ADAR II - 4 NISSAN

- ☆ **PATRICIA SEGALL DAVIS**
Remembered by Bobby Segall and family,
Lisa Segall and family, and Bob Taffet
- ☆ **GERARD CARSTENS**
Remembered by Stephanie Blondheim
- ☆ **FRANCES BELL CORMAN**
- ☆ **CHERI SILVERMAN**
- ☆ **ISRAEL KATZ**
- ☆ **MORRIS VARON**
Remembered by Esther Varon
- ☆ **JULIUS ASELRD**
- ☆ **RALPH A. FRANCO**
- ☆ **EDITH GROSS**
Remembered by Rosi Smith
- ☆ **JANICE WOLF CAPILOUTO**

APRIL 13 - 19 | 5 - 11 NISSAN

- ☆ **LEON J. CAPELOTO**
- ☆ **SELMA CAPOUANO**
- ☆ **RUTH SHINBAUM ZELEN**
Remembered by Irving Brenner
and Jeffrey Brenner
- ☆ **SARA KERMISH**
Remembered by Steve Kermish
- ☆ **JOSEPH COHEN**
Remembered by Marion Varon
- ☆ **SUE ISRAEL**
- ☆ **JOSEPH MAZER**
Remembered by Fern Shinbaum
- ☆ **GERSON SOLOMON**
- ☆ **ANNE WILDSTEIN**
- ☆ **REBA BRENNER**
Remembered by Irving Brenner
and Jeffrey Brenner
- ☆ **BERT WORTH**

- ☆ **ISADOR MAYER BAUMAN**
- ☆ **ZELDA FRANCO**
- ☆ **LOIS GINSBURG**
Remembered by Rick Ginsburg
- ☆ **VICTOR COHEN**
Remembered by Rita Martin
- ☆ **MEYER J. HASSON**
- ☆ **MAX HASSON**
Remembered by Esther Scheuer

APRIL 20 - 26 | 12 - 18 NISSAN

- ☆ **NATHAN MANDELBAUM**
Remembered by Michael Mandelbaum
- ☆ **DAVID B. MONSKY**
- ☆ **ELEANORE MORTON**
Remembered by Susan Sass
- ☆ **LEON GOLINSKY**
- ☆ **NACE D. VARON**
Remembered by Rhea Schneider,
Arlene Goldstein, Billy Kleinberg and
Michael Mandelbaum
- ☆ **SAMUEL H. WALTER**
- ☆ **JULIUS ABROMSON**
- ☆ **MORRIS BETON**
- ☆ **MIRIAM FRANCO**
- ☆ **REITA FRANCO**
Remembered by Alan Franco
- ☆ **NATHAN HANDMACHER**
Remembered by Barbara Handmacher
- ☆ **PINCUS HASSON**
- ☆ **BERTHA R. SALSBURG**
- ☆ **CAROLYN SILVERMAN (HANNA)**
- ☆ **OSCAR JEROME HAUBEN**
Remembered by Mickey Feldman
- ☆ **FRANCES GOLDFINGER**
- ☆ **ROSA LEBOVICI**
Remembered by Esther Labovitz and
Jerald Labovitz
- ☆ **HENRIETTA NICKOL**
Remembered by Nick Ashner
- ☆ **IRENE SHIRLEY SEIDERMAN**
- ☆ **MINNIE ZAKUTO**
Remembered by Dr. Allen Stern
- ☆ **HERMAN AXELROD**
- ☆ **MIRIAM COHEN**
Remembered by David Cohen, Joel Cohen,
Michael Cohen and Raymond Cohen

- ☆ **ELLA KELLER**
Remembered by Yvette Hochberg

APRIL 27 - 30 | 19 - 22 NISSAN

- ☆ **ROSLYN BLITZ SCHULWOLF**
Remembered by Jeff Blitz
- ☆ **MORRIS KAHAN**
Remembered by Channie Kahan
- ☆ **BARI ROSEMAN**
Remembered Fern Shinbaum
- ☆ **FANNIE SHULMAN**
- ☆ **MENASSEH MANDELBAUM**
Remembered by Michael Mandelbaum
- ☆ **KATE SAKS**
Remembered by Bonnie London
- ☆ **MURRAY J. WEILL**



*We are deeply saddened
by the death of*

Rhonda Wise Blitz

*Preceded in death by her Husband
Daniel Mark Blitz z"l*

*Preceded in death by her Father
Tommy Wise z"l*

*Daughter of
Madge Maerene Wise*

*Mother of
Sam Blitz*

*Grandmother of
Barnes Coleman and Brooks Warner*



*We are deeply saddened
by the death of*

Jerome Smith

*Husband of
Bella*

*Father of
Shelly Parker, Miriam Ross
and Perry Smith*

*Grandfather of
Colin, Casey and Bennett*



Shalach manot greetings were made possible through kind donations from the following individuals

Thank you for your support!

Emily Allen
Owen Aronov
Deborah and Alan Berlin
Marie Berlin
Carolyn and Jeff Bern
Diane and Barry Blondheim
Joy and Dickie Blondheim
Lois and Michael Butler
Carol and Morris Capouano
Sylvia, Leon and Renee
Capouano
Frances Capouya
Debra Capp

Leslie and Morris Capp
Mae and Elliot Cohen
Betty Ehrlich
Debra and Barry Ehrlich
Dale and Olan Evans
Paula Fast
Wendy and Arnold Finkelstein
Susan and Joe Finklestein
Lynn and Pete Ginsburg
Chris and Rick Ginsburg
Barbara Handmacher
Amanda and Stephen Hering
Lee and David Herman

Kathy Hess
Elaine and John Kirkpatrick
Irene Kramer
Rabbi Scott Kramer
Ramona and Ira Kupferberg
Amy and Neal Labovitz
Jerald Labovitz
Tina McManama
and David Zaslowsky
Rita Martin
Leonard Math
Esther Miller
Marsha and Steve Orange

Mathew Orange
Elaine and Edward Raymon
Mark Sabel
Sandy and Bobby Segall
Debra and Bert Shephard
Fern and Ken Shinbaum
Nancy and Richard Shinbaum
Sandy and Allen Stern
Robin and Bob Taffet
Esther Varon
Betty Ziri



Sisterhood

March was a very busy month! We started with Sisterhood Shabbat and installation of our synagogue board members on March 1. We are so grateful to Chris Ginsburg and Amy Labovitz for preparing a delicious meal. Thank you also to Rabbi Kramer for an inspiring installation and Kathy Hess and Irene Kramer for their help with the Shabbat service.

Leading up to Purim, Dale Evans, once again, created beautiful Shalach Manot bags and coordinated their distribution. Her efforts made this fundraiser a real success. We also appreciate

all who helped deliver the bags.

Purim service was Saturday, March 23. There was a good crowd and we had a great time. After service everyone enjoyed a spaghetti dinner prepared by Chris Ginsburg ~ the amazing sauce was made by Ken Shinbaum.

Our next event is April 14th. The book club will meet at noon at The Wharf at East Chase. We will review "The Lonely Hearts Book Club." Whether or not you have had a chance to read the book, we hope you will join us.

by Co-Leaders
Emily Allen
& Elaine Kirkpatrick

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

BOARD MEMBERS

Adena Kramer
Irene Kramer
Sukkot Refreshments

Chris Ginsburg
Amy Labovitz
Shabbat Dinner

Kathy Hess
Yvette Hochberg
Shabbat Service

Dale Evans
Shalach Manot Bags

Chris Ginsburg
Amy Labovitz
Linda Smith
Kitchen

Linda Smith
Shiva Pantry

Emily Allen
Tribute Funds

Irene Kramer
D'Var Torah
Yvette Hochberg
Book Club

Delegation of Power for the Sale of Hametz

This is a Power of Attorney form authorizing Rabbi Scott Kramer to act as your agent to sell all the hametz that remains in your possession before the Holiday of Passover begins on Monday night, April 22, 2024. It is customary to make a donation to Agudath Israel Y Etz Ahayem for this service.

NOTE: If possible, all hametz – food not acceptable during Pesach (Passover), or materials containing such unacceptable food – should be destroyed or given away before the holiday begins. Should this be impossible, the hametz may be stored in such a way that we are sure not to use it during the holiday and its actual ownership is transferred to a non-Jew until the holiday ends. Please complete the form below and return no later than Tuesday April 18, 2024.

I, the undersigned, full empower and permit Rabbi Scott Kramer to act in my behalf to sell all hametz possessed by me – knowingly or unknowingly – as defined by Torah and rabbinic law, and to lease all places wherein hametz owned may be found. This transaction will be in effect for the duration of Pesach, which this year begins with sundown of April 22, 2024, and runs through sundown of April 30, 2024.

And to this I hereby affix my signature on this 18th day of April, in the year 2024.

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Please return to:
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue
3525 Cloverdale Rd.
Montgomery, AL 36111



Get your Pesah Guide at
aieamontgomery.com

From our recent visitors...

... Thank you so very much for the ways in which you enriched our group's time in Montgomery. Your presence was so welcoming and your teaching Wednesday evening was so meaningful. I hope we will meet again.

Rov Todot
Rabbi Amy Eilberg

... Thank you so much for hosting us these past few days. Your graciousness in sharing the shelter of your community brought me a nascent understanding, a *תעוד*, of the Jewish journey, side by side with what we had seen and heard on this racial justice pilgrimage.

Shabbat shalom,
Rabbi Mira Rivera

... I can't begin to tell you how much I appreciated your hospitality during our recent visit to Montgomery. Not only did you feed us well, you provided us with your cookbook and other helpful materials, decorated the tables so beautifully, and attended to all our needs. You really raised hospitality to a whole new level.

You made all of us feel at home in the congregation and also provided the context that made our trip so much more meaningful. We're indebted to the congregation who greeted us and helped make this visit possible.

With much appreciation,
Louis E. Newman

... This is Dana Winer from Austin - I was part of the Conservative/Masorti Racial Justice Pilgrimage group and wanted to say thank you for hosting us during our time in Montgomery last week. It was wonderful to hear about the history of the congregation and y'all have inspired the term "Southern Hachnassat Orchim."

Many blessings to you and your beautiful community,
Dana

CALENDAR *April* CALENDAR CALENDAR

Services in red are also livestreamed on aieamontgomery.org, Facebook and YouTube. Blue events are on Zoom. All other events are purple.

- 1** **Monday, April 1 | II Adar 22**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
Introduction to Judaism Class - 6 p.m.
 at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 4** **Thursday, April 4 | II Adar 24**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 5** **Friday, April 5 | II Adar 26**
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.
 Kol Ami group and Rabbi Krame group
 will join us for the service
- 6** **Saturday, April 6 | II Adar 27**
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.
Havdalah - 7:30 p.m.
- 7** **Sunday, April 7 | I Adar 28**
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.
 at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 8** **Monday, April 8 | I Adar 29**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 9** **Tuesday, April 9 | Nissan 1**
Board of Directors Meeting - 5 p.m.
- 11** **Thursday, April 11 | Nissan 3**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 12** **Friday, April 12 | Nissan 4**
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.
- 13** **Saturday, April 13 | Nissan 5**
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.
Havdalah - 7:30 p.m.
- 14** **Sunday, April 14 | Nissan 6**
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.
 at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
Sisterhood Book Club - 12 p.m.
 The Wharf at EastChase
- 15** **Monday, April 15 | Nissan 7**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
Introduction to Judaism Class - 6 p.m.
 at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

- 18** **Thursday, April 18 | Nissan 10**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
- 19** **Friday, April 19 | Nissan 11**
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6 p.m.
- 20** **Saturday, April 20 | Nissan 12**
Shabbat Services - 9:30 a.m.
Havdalah - 7:30 p.m.
- 21** **Sunday, April 21 | Nissan 13**
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.
 at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 22** **Monday, April 22 | Nissan 14**
Minyan with breakfast - 7:15 a.m.
Eve of Passover - 1st Seder
Candle lighting - 7:02 p.m.
 Kitchen closed
- 23** **Tuesday, April 23 | Nissan 15**
 Office closed
Passover Service - 9:30 a.m.
Congregational Seder - 6 p.m.
- 24** **Wednesday, April 24 | Nissan 16**
 Office closed
Passover Service - 9:30 a.m.
- 25** **Friday, April 26 | Nissan 18**
Chol Ha Moed Pesach Service - 6 p.m.
- 27** **Saturday, April 27 | Nissan 19**
Chol Ha Moed Pesach Service - 9:30 a.m.
Havdalah - 7:30 p.m.
- 28** **Sunday, April 28 | Nissan 20**
Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens Kol Ami
Religious School - 9:30 a.m.
 at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem
- 29** **Monday, April 29 | Nissan 21**
 Office closed
Passover Service - 9:30 a.m.
- 30** **Tuesday, April 30 | Nissan 22**
 Office closed
Passover Service - 9:30 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Renee Capouano
- 02 Jaclyn Glasner
- 02 Jennifer Hershberger
- 03 Kathy Hess
- 06 Paul Freehling
- 07 Donna Richburg
- 08 Debra Ehrlich
- 13 Sandi Stern
- 15 Cindy Sharker
- 16 Frances Capouya
- 16 Terri Capouya
- 16 Richard Rosenthal
- 16 Jo Anne Rousso
- 18 Barry Blondheim
- 21 Rachel Blondheim
- 21 Max Capouano
- 23 Hazel Segall
- 24 Lesley Bianca Shinbaum
- 26 Diane Capouya
- 26 David Weiss
- 27 Leslie Rudnick
- 28 Camryn Skiba
- 29 Matthew Smith

ANNIVERSARIES

- 07 Pete and Lynne Ginsburg
- 12 Jesse and Robin Greenberg
- 28 David and Amy Cohen



SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 12 P.M.
THE WHARF AT EASTCHASE

Contact Elaine Kirkpatrick at elainek1922@charter.net to obtain a copy of the book.



Join Sisterhood
 June 23 for the
 ASF production
 Zelda in the
 Backyard.

Contact Elaine Kirkpatrick for reservations and discounted tickets.