
the Shofar



Etz Chayim Conservative Synagogue's Monthly Newsletter

AUGUST, 2015

AV/ELUL, 5775

Friday evening services begin at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday morning services begin at 9:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jul 25 Community Tisha B'Av service at EC, 7:30 PM, Saturday. Bring a flashlight.
- Aug 11 EC Board meeting
- Aug 17 Sisterhood visit to Belle Chevre In Elkmont, call Nannette Schwartz for reservations and Info
- Aug 28-30 Bluff City Bash, 20's & 30's Jewish singles event- Memphis

MEN'S CLUB, ETC.

Next Men's Club Meeting: Tuesday, August 25th, 7:30 PM at the Synagogue

IMS: Deliveries made bi-weekly to Food Pantry and First Stop. Please place items in the entry way container of the Synagogue. It's a Mitzvah!!!!

Simcha & Memorial Plaques: \$50.00 & \$75.00 respectively. Contact Joe Sacks for further details at 256-883-1889

Have a great Summer-----Joe 😊

SISTERHOOD

Greetings,

I hope everyone is having a terrific summer. It goes by too fast.

Your Sisterhood has been busy planning activities for the coming year. Some of the events we hope to schedule are the Haunted House Tour in October, a Craft Night in November and a Game Night. For August 17, we're planning to visit Belle Chevre in Elkmont. Please RSVP to Nannette Schwartz at Nannette.schwartz.1@bc.edu or at 256-883-2764. We'd like to carpool for this event.

Erev Rosh Hashanah is September 13. Please plan to attend services and our Rabbi Reception, which is a yearly event. Bring a sweet treat to share as part of this reception. Help us welcome Rabbi and Mrs. Listfield for the High Holidays.

As much as I'd like to have all Etz Chayim women join Sisterhood, I'd like you to know that whether you do or not, all women who are members of the

synagogue are always welcome to attend our Lunch Bunch and any scheduled activities that we sponsor. The sole purpose of the Sisterhood is to support Etz Chayim and to provide activities for the women of the synagogue. Please join us.

If you have any suggestions for future events, please call me or our Activities Chairman, Nannette Schwartz.

Sandra Wiederecht
256-797-9013

DONATIONS

General Fund

From: Sandy & Marvin Kalachman
In Memory of Abraham Kalachman

From: Maria Sumerall
To: Arlene Polin White – Sincere sympathy on the loss of your husband, Boyce White.

To: Max Rosenthal - Wishing you complete success in your surgery.
To: Shirley Roberts - Best of health after your surgery.
To: Janet Schindler - Hope you are back to feeling well soon and stay that way.

Randy Sacks Memorial Fund

From: Susan & Alan Sacks
In memory of Randy's birthday.

Rabbi Fund

From: Sandy & Marvin Kalachman
Yizkor: Kalachman & Makower Families and our brave Service Members.

Sisterhood

From: Ellie and Howard Levingston
To sponsor a Rabbi Luncheon in appreciation of the thoughtfulness of Diana and Howard Polin and Dorothy and Bill Goldberg

From: Jerry and Nancy Fishman

Outdoor Lighting Fund

In Memory of Gertrude & Perry Schlein from their daughters Natha Hancock and Robin Slomka and their families.

ONEGS

Jul 31	Levitt
Aug 7	Thomason/Kirshtein
Aug 14	Miller
Aug 21	Reece & Schindler
Aug 28	Yalowitz
Sep 04	Zelickson

BIRTHDAYS

Aug 01	Scott Hancock
Aug 02	Joey Yalowitz
Aug 10	Harriet Sacks
Aug 20	Andrea Rosenthal
Aug 22	Lucas Copeland
Aug 23	Lauren Goodman
Aug 25	Michael Zelickson
Aug 29	Daniel Weiderecht

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 04	Sheri & Dennis Bulgatz
Aug 09	Michal & Gary Hall
Aug 12	Linda Kolchin & Frederick Kolchin
Aug 16	Kelley & Jeffrey Zelickson
Aug 28	Anna Maria & Gary Robbins
Aug 29	Sue & Joe Paddock

YARZHEITS

Jul 30	Av 14	Bernard Roberts
Aug 01	Av 16	Beatrice Goldner*
Aug 02	Av 17	Fannie Feldman*
Aug 03	Av 18	Gilbert A. Greenbaum
Aug 09	Av 24	Betty Librett
Aug 13	Av 28	Sarah Fink
Aug 13	Av 28	Morris Martin Singer
Aug 14	Av 29	Dolores D'Acosta Hein
Aug 18	Elul 03	Belle D'Acosta*
Aug 20	Elul 05	Adolph Goldstein*
Aug 21	Elul 06	Caryl Hollenberg
Aug 21	Elul 06	Grete Goldstein*
Aug 21	Elul 06	Milton Levitt
Aug 21	Elul 06	Roland Jordan Krantz
Aug 26	Elul 11	Milton Baum*
Aug 27	Elul 12	June Rothfeder
Aug 27	Elul 12	Leonard Flank*
Aug 28	Elul 13	Alvin Jack Bulgatz
Aug 29	Elul 14	Albert Goldner*
Aug 30	Elul 15	John Goldstein*
Aug 30	Elul 15	Barbara Beck
Sep 01	Elul 17	Molly Silver Rodkin*
Sep 02	Elul 18	Edward Kahn*

* Plaque

**Light Memorial candle at sunset of the previous evening

A FABLE: ADAM SEES THE LIGHT

By Ted Roberts

Can you imagine Adam - G-d's first human creation in Eden's green meadow? See him, newly minted. His fresh body gleaming and his mind totally empty of facts, attitudes, opinions - as empty as Eden is of thorn bushes - ready to begin its lifelong task of accumulation of data and weaving that data into an intellect. He turns slowly 360 degrees, a full circle, and takes in grass and forests, and flowers, and mountains, and brooks, all covered by a blue dome.

As he registers every throb of the new creation in the lush, green grass of Eden and wonders at his consciousness - as flimsy as the few white clouds that sail above him. He looks closer and sees the songbirds. And look, there are small creatures in the grass and larger ones hopping and bounding amongst the trees. Truly, a brave new world full of creatures unlike himself that are necessary for him to understand - he who at birth has no identity and a head full of inexperience. Then he chances to stare into that copper disc that illuminates his new world. It beams over all.

Still sitting on the green savannah and swiveling his head in all directions, because the Lord of creation has put a potion called curiosity into his bloodstream; unappreciated at the time by Adam, but destined to nourish his intellect. So much to see that it took many hours to inscribe it all in his heretofore blank brain like the honeybee fills his comb with nectar.

Then among his recording of his surroundings, he made an alarming observation. That bright orange thing was no longer straight ahead. The trees on the far horizon appeared to consume it. And he could no longer see the sharp outlines of trees and mountains. In fact, the creatures that had been joyfully bounding in the woods were no longer visible to him. Darkness was replacing light. He trembled. Even a partially stocked brain knew that somehow darkness meant blindness and blindness was death. And as the trees pulled more and more of the light below the horizon, Adam's blindness increased. He chose to run to the declining sun. He must escape the danger of darkness. But he fell over a

large boulder. He rose, only to run into a tree. He resumed his running - somewhere there must be light and he must find it. He was cold and blind and fearful all at once.

And the Lord G-d saw his fear and took pity on him. Ah, we need a light for the night, thought the mind of G-d wherein dwells all the mechanisms of the universe. Therefore, he flung the full moon into the midnight sky. Adam stopped his flight to look heavenward. But it was only a small improvement. Now at least he could see the river, which lay in his path. But still the garden's beauty seemed blurred in dusky yellow. So, the Lord flung millions of points of light into the sky. They helped but a little.

The good Lord, who made the heart of Adam, understood the heart of Adam. This fear of nighttime blindness needed more than moon and stars.

The Creator spoke in Adam's ear the secret of day and night. How they revolve like all things in nature; life and death, good and evil, the seasons, the great architecture of the galaxies. But Adam's mind could not accommodate the voice of his maker. It was like talking to the beasts. He needed one of his own kind. The ragged hole of fear in Adam's soul could only be filled by a helpmate. Thus, Adam slept and G-d made Eve.

She stood beside him and pointed to the horizon where the earth had swallowed the sun. Her eyes expressed no fear, only wonder. They sank to the grass in each other's arms - huddled like two babes. Neither knew anything except the warmth of the other. They watched and waited. Their fearful eyes focused on the Pine

tree where they had last seen the sun. Would it ever return to bless them with light and warmth? They dozed, frightful, but full of the need to sleep. Then Eve, feeling a warmth at her back and noticing the lightening of the black sky, laughed the first exultant laugh of creation and put her hand to Adam's face in order to turn it to the life-giving light behind them. "It returns, it returns," she whispered with awe; "but not where it was eaten by the earth." They stand, they face the rising sun, and then they lift their faces to heaven - wherein the laws of nature are made - to thank He who gave them life and light and warmth. Around them all living things hummed a hymn of hope.

Ted Roberts, "The Scribbler on the Roof," is a syndicated Jewish columnist and longtime member of our Synagogue.

Buy Ted's collected works at Amazon.com or the Sisterhood Gift Shop. Ted welcomes your comment and/or critique and can be emailed at:

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