For the Jews who survived the Holocaust, the end of World War II brought new challenges. Many could not or would not return to their former homelands, and options for legal immigration were limited. In spite of these difficulties, these Jewish survivors sought to rebuild their shattered lives by creating flourishing communities in displaced persons camps in Germany, Austria, and Italy. In an unparalleled six-year period between 1945 and 1951, European Jewish life was reborn in camps such as Mariendorf.

In this picture, a young Jewish girl in the JDC-supported Berlin-Mariendorf DP Camp shares matzahs with Captain J. Robbins, Jewish Chaplain for Berlin. Berlin, c 1946.

Photo courtesy of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

During the month of April, we are taking all services and events online. We are using the application Zoom, our Facebook page, as well as our YouTube channel to stream these offerings. Each service and event will indicate which platform we are using for streaming.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 4/3</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Welcome Shabbat with Rabbi, April, Amira, and Aryeh Haas streaming live on Facebook, 6pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY 4/4</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service streamed live from our Youtube Channel, 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 4/10</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Welcome Shabbat with Rabbi, April, Amira, and Aryeh Haas streaming live on Facebook, 6pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY 4/11</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service streamed live from our Youtube Channel, 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 4/17</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Welcome Shabbat with Rabbi, April, Amira, and Aryeh Haas streaming live on Facebook, 6pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY 4/18</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service streamed live from our Youtube Channel, 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 4/24</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Welcome Shabbat with Rabbi, April, Amira, and Aryeh Haas streaming live on Facebook, 6pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY 4/26</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Shabbat Morning Service streamed live from our Youtube Channel, 11:00am</td>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 4/25</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Welcome Shabbat with Rabbi, April, Amira, and Aryeh Haas streaming live on Facebook, 6pm</td>
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### VIRTUAL EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAYS April 3, 10, 17, &amp; 24</td>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>Weekly Torah Study</td>
<td>Access class at zoom.us/j/898299995 Password: 009694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAYS April 7, 14, 21, &amp; 28</td>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>Study Session with Rabbi Haas</td>
<td>Access class at zoom.us/j/898299995 Password: 009694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL 9</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Virtual Passover Seder</td>
<td>Join us for a virtual seder. We will be streaming live on our Facebook page as well as our Youtube Channel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL 10</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Virtual Children's Seder</td>
<td>We will be streaming live on our Young Jewish Families Facebook page</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Here are some tips for accessing each platform:**

To access Zoom, open your computer internet browser, Type in join.zoom.us, then type in the Meeting ID and password provided in the class description. You can join the meeting via video and audio or just audio.

To access our YouTube channel, open your browser, type in www.youtube.com Type in Congregation Mickve Israel Savannah in the search bar. Our channel will come up with a circle photo of our sanctuary on the left of the page. Click on Congregation Mickve Israel to open our channel page. Subscribe to the channel for easy future access.

To access our Facebook page, go to Facebook, type in Congregation Mickve Israel, click on our name. Our page has our address listed in the description.

If you have any questions or need technical assistance, please email Jennifer Rich at jennifer.rich@mickveisrael.org
**Welcome New Members:**

Previous members, Joel and Mary Homansky, are delighted to be returning to Congregation Mickve Israel. They look forward to becoming more active in the congregation and have expressed interest in becoming docents as well as participating on the membership committee. A retired dentist, Joel was born and brought up in Savannah, where he and Mary raised their two sons, David and Eric. They are related to and friends with a number of Mickve Israel members.

**Mazel Tov**

Mazel tov to Cherie Dennis, a 10-year veteran of the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, who was named the 2021 Teacher of the Year at the district’s annual gala on Friday, Feb. 21.

Dennis is an English-as-a-Second-Language (ESOL) teacher at Hesse K-8 School, a post she has held for three years. Prior to that, she taught third grade in the district.

Teaching is a second career for Dennis. Upon graduating from Georgetown University in 1993 with a bachelor’s degree in Japanese and a minor in teaching, and then from Stanford University in 1995 with a master’s degree in East Asian Studies, she intended to become a Japanese language teacher. Instead of landing a teaching position, she ended up working with advertising firms handling accounts such as national campaigns for Toyota and Clorox.

However, her heart remained in teaching. She moved to Savannah in 2004, and completed a master’s degree in teaching and early childhood education from Armstrong Atlantic State University in 2010. During her tenure with the district, Dennis has completed endorsements in Gifted Education and ESOL; and in August 2019, she completed her education specialist degree in teacher leadership with a coaching endorsement from Mercer University. In addition to her teaching duties at Hesse, she serves on the leadership team, the school council, and chairs the school writing team. She is also Hesse’s site-based induction specialist and professional learning liaison. In September 2017, the Exchange Club of Savannah named her Teacher of the Month. Dennis, as District Teacher of the Year, will be the district representative for the Georgia State Teacher of the Year program and receive an array of gifts including a new iPad, the Teacher of the Year name badge and a Teacher of the Year ring presented by Ric Roderick of Herff Jones. At Friday night’s event, Savannah Harbor Foundation President Dan Pavlin presented Dennis with a $5,000 check to be used either for her classroom or the school.

**Of Blessed Memory**

Judy Kaplan
Wife of Jud Kaplan (z”l), mother of Marjorie (Paul) Felser and Ronald Kaplan, grandmother of Mya and Jake Felser.
February 20, 2020

Will Taylor
Husband of Lauri Taylor and father of Lance Taylor
March 16, 2020

Bernice Kravitch Mazo
Wife of Edwin Mazo (z”l)
March 18, 2020

Fred S. Clark
Husband of Nancie Clark (z”l)
March 31, 2020

**Mazel Tov**

Mazel tov to James and Liz Massey on the birth of their son Wade Author Massey, who was born January 13th. James and Liz are the owners of Two Tides Brewery and have made a wonderful addition to the Starland District as well as to the Mickve Israel family!
A Different Kind of Passover

For the last several years, Passover represented a time a
unparallel excitement at Mickve Israel. From the moment
we added a first night community Seder to our already pro-
grammed second night Seder, the holiday has evolved into
a blur of Pesach preparation: dinner menus, Haggada choic-
es, room set up, number of
people, prizes, discussion
items, songs to sing, jokes
to tell, and prizes for the
Afikomen, one for every
kid, of course. Should we
sing “Coming to America”
by Neil Diamond, or play
a video of a sequin clad
Neil Diamond singing this
ballad of ballads. The most
difficult question each year
became “Which pages
would we skip?” The most
controversial decision
morphed into the “Matzah
Ball incident of 2015.”

As we enter into the
Passover week, we feel a
very atypical trepidation this year, perhaps one unfamiliar
to all of us. I can’t remember the last time I celebrated a
Seder with just four people. In fact, as I reach back into
my history, save possibly for the year of my birth, I doubt
it ever happened before. Yet, now as we suffer from this
terrible plague, the irony of our situation becomes all the
more obvious to our eyes. At times of strife, Passover has
always remained a tradition we shared with various friends
and family members and even strangers. A time in which
we would gather together to mourn and comfort each other
even as we celebrated.

Of course, this year will be different. We will eat matzah
and read the four questions with just a family member or
two, or perhaps even alone. We will possibly feel uncon-
ected to the rest of the community in ways rarely seen
even in days of old. As has been mentioned to me, a plague
will prevent us from sitting down with friends and family to
read about the Ten Plagues.

However, the truth is we are not alone. Even though we
might physically celebrate the holiday with only a few, we
remain connected. This year we will just need to find cre-
ative ways to remind us of this connection. For those of us
who feel comfortable using modern technology, this is the
year we should all go virtual. That’s right. Using Zoom,
Facebook, or various other modes, we will share Gefilta
fish with our grandparents or sing Dayeinu with our friends
on the other coast, but why limit this Passover connection
to the Seders. Break out that Passover cookbook and share
a cooking session with your grandkids or share funny sto-
ries from Seders past via Snapchat days before. If
we lack technological sav-
viness, we must then use
the phone as sword which
combats the loneliness that
may envelop us in such
times. In other words, we
must not give the Corona-
virus the power to change
us into spiritual hermits.

This is the year to
create new and interesting
questions for Passover. How can we assist others
when we can’t leave the
home? When Elijah comes
to the door, will we open it,
tell him to wash his hands
for 20 seconds, or allow him to enter as long as he doesn’t
touch anything, wears a mask and gloves and stays six feet
from us. Of course, we will have to translate feet into cu-
bits.

This is the year we should reach out like never before
to ensure everyone stays connected. If we know of peo-
ple who live alone and maybe a bit more on the introvert-
ed side, stay in contact with them. If we happen to be less
open to calling others on our own, let’s challenge ourselves
during these challenging times.

As for Congregation Mickve Israel, we are here for you.
If you are in need or know of someone who may need as-
sistance, please let us know. We are currently working on
several ways to assist everyone this season, including the
creation of our first virtual Seder. Always remember, there
are people who care about us, even if we need to reach out
for this care sometimes.

Whether we feel it at every moment or not, we remain
connected to each other in obvious ways and in ways,
we can only imagine. Let’s go the extra mile to seek out those
ties that bind us to our community. Let’s find ways to cele-
brate Passover together, and let’s pray that Elijah is immune
to the Coronavirus.
Extraordinary Measures for Extraordinary Times

Living in Savannah the past several years, we’ve become accustomed to being prepared to evacuate if a hurricane hits our area. We watch the Weather Channel, we watch our phone apps, and we restlessly pace as the radar shows the hurricane’s cone and its eventual path as it lumbers towards us. It’s distressing but we know that we can drive away to safety (or hunker down). Even if it hits our area, in a couple of days we’ll be back home and get settled back into life.

Covid-19 is like a massive category 5 storm, but one that we can’t see on any radar. Its invisibility makes it elusive and unknowable - what we can’t see, makes us even more fearful. We can’t drive away from this storm. Whereas a hurricane only impacts a small part of our country, Covid-19 is impacting us all. So, we follow the recommendations of the medical experts and scientists and we’re hunkering down. We’re socially distancing.

For a Synagogue, social distancing is the opposite of what we’re supposed to do. We’re supposed to bring people together for prayer, for joy, for spiritual connection. We’ve built a Synagogue community to deepen the meaning and practice of our faith, to cushion the blows we all face in life and to enrich our relationships with each other. As a Synagogue, during this extraordinary time, we must find ways to continue to connect with you and to help you connect with each other.

We’ve been very busy during the past two weeks putting together the following technological pieces to continue our connections with you:

- Mickve Israel now has a Congregation Mickve Israel YouTube Channel.
  - Go to www.youtube.com
  - In the Search box, type Congregation Mickve Israel Savannah GA

- On the main page of the channel, you’ll be able to access the current week’s Saturday Shabbat Service link, as well as links to other CMI content.

- We have a Zoom account. Through our e-news each week, you can find the listing of current classes and a link to join a class during its specific day and time. The classes are live and are a fantastic way to connect with fellow congregants!

- We have updated our website with the links to our YouTube channel, as well as links to Judaic classes and websites.
  - Go to www.mickveisrael.org
  - Click on CMI Online in the horizontal menu bar
  - The CMI Online page contains all our online resource links in one place.

In addition to our recent technological advances, we are continuing to maintain our physical building. We consolidated all the food in the freezers and refrigerators and were able to temporarily shut down one of our commercial fridges and four of our freezers. We’ve made sure that only essential computers are running at this time and we’ve raised all the thermostats in the main buildings to 78 deg. Additionally, the AC unit for the third floor of the Mordechai Sheftall Memorial building broke down and we had it replaced with a new, efficient unit and had some small roof repairs done at the same time.

During the coming weeks, we will continue to provide all that we can to keep connected with you. We hope you’ll join with us online! Please connect with us to let us know if there’s anything we can do to be of assistance during this extraordinary time.

My best wishes to you for safety and good health!

Jennifer
How to Create a Meaningful Shabbat Experience at Home

By: Chris Harrison, from ReformJudaism.org

As the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) continues, we’re all on high alert and getting used to life spent mostly at home, even on Shabbat.

So long as you’re feeling well, why not take some time to plan a meaningful at-home Shabbat experience? Here are just a few ways you can make the most of Shabbat and feel like part of a larger Jewish community – even when you can’t leave the house.

1. Make Shabbat your own.

Many Reform Jews see Kabbalat Shabbat services as an integral part of Jewish living, but when synagogue isn’t an option, there’s nothing quite like a cozy Shabbat at home.

Try to see this time as an opportunity for personal observance, whether alone or with your loved ones. Even if you’ve never lit Shabbat candles or recited blessings over your wine and bread, now is the perfect time to begin.

2. Watch services online.

If you can’t leave home but don’t want to miss the joy of Shabbat services, you’re in luck. Many congregations livestream services each week, and even amid safety-related cancellations, some congregations are offering online worship opportunities.

For those who are comfortable using technology on Shabbat, “attending” services online is a great alternative to being there in person (and you don’t even have to change out of your pajamas!) As your congregational leadership whether your synagogue is hosting any online opportunities, or search for a congregation online to identify synagogues near you that might be offering virtual services. (Ours is: youtu.be/uPQgFtEuFv4)

3. Spend time talking Torah.

Observing Shabbat from the comfort of home provides an opportunity to have thought-provoking and enriching discussions with your family about Torah.

Brush up on this week’s Torah portion, then choose one of our many modern commentaries to read and discuss; this week’s episode of our podcast On the Other Hand is about the Torah portion, as well. Talking Torah with kids? Try Torah for Tots, Torah for Tweens, and Torah for Teens.

You can facilitate a meaningful, productive Shabbat conversation with your family by fostering participation, encouraging questions, and engaging with Jewish text and learning in unique ways. For guidance in doing so, check out “Tips for Leading Weekly Family Discussions.”

4. Cook a special meal.

With nowhere to go, why not take the time to cook a memorable Shabbat meal? Browse our many Jewish recipes to find a dish that will make this evening special for you and your family, from Ashkenazi staples like kugel and brisket to entrees, sides, and desserts inspired by global Jewish cuisine.

To try your hand at baking challah, choose from our plethora of unique challah recipes – and don’t forget to say HaMotzi before you enjoy the delicious fruits of your labor!

5. Try a fun family activity.

During Shabbat, a time when we set aside time for meaningful engagement, doing a Jewishly themed arts-and-crafts projects can inspire kids’ creativity while helping them engage more deeply with their Judaism.

BimBam’s animated videos will guide you in making a paper hamsa, learning the art of Jewishly inspired papercutting, and even creating “Jewish slime.” Don’t forget to turn on our favorite Shabbat playlist for some family-friendly background music!

No matter how you decide to observe Shabbat, take a moment to say the Mi Shebeirach prayer, which wishes a r’fuah sh’leimah (complete healing) to all those suffering from coronavirus. You may also wish to say a prayer for the wisdom and skills of medical scientists, researchers, and public health officials around the world as they fight the spread of virus.

May we soon see an end to these uncertain times.
The generosity we receive does not go unnoticed. We thank everyone who supports Congregation Mickve Israel through contributions, participation, volunteerism and other means. A special thank you to those listed below who have given Honor Dues. Please consider joining this special group by giving Honor Dues in 2020.

**PILLAR**
($10,000 and above)
The Solomons Family

**Benefactor**
($5,000–$9,999)

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Kole
Mr. & Mrs. B. H. Levy, Jr.

**Sustainer**
($3,600–$4,999)

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Siegel
Mr. & Mrs. William Sklar

**Leader**
($1,800–$3,599)

Anonymous
Ms. Nancy Green
Mrs. Toby Hollenberg

**Patron**
($720–$1,799)

Mr. & Mrs. Julius Edel
Mr. Julian Friedman
Mrs. Peggy Good

**Chai Member**
($360–$719)

Anonymous
Mrs. Muriel Bono
Mrs. Anne Gold

Dr. & Mrs. Joel Greenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Grossman
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Harris, Jr.
Dr. Harvey Lebos
Mrs. Joan Levy
Dr. & Mrs. Jules Paderewski
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Silbermann
Mr. & Mrs. Bradly Sinoof

**Supporter**
($100–$359)

Anonymous

Mrs. Janet Basseches
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Byck
Dr. Sylvia Fields
Mr. & Mrs. David Forman
Mr. Charles Furchgott, Jr.
Mrs. Ellen Goodrich
Mr. Seth Grenald
Mrs. Nancy Gutstein
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Harris
Mr. & Mrs. John Kohn
Mrs. Diane Kuhar
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lemberg
Mr. Irvin J. Levine
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Levine
Dr. & Mrs. Neal Markowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mosse
Mrs. Mary Perelman
Dr. & Mrs. George Schuster
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sitrin
Mr. & Mrs. Kayton Smith, Jr.
Ms. Sue Solomon
Col. & Mrs. Edward Wexler

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**Honor Dues as of March 31, 2020**

**Thank you!**

Only those names with Memorial plaques are published. For information on purchasing a plaque or to request that a loved one’s name be read during Shabbat services, contact Jennifer Rich at 912-233-1547, ext. 302 or jennifer.rich@mickveisrael.org

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**We Remember Those with Yahrzeits**

*Only those names with Memorial plaques are published. For information on purchasing a plaque or to request that a loved one’s name be read during Shabbat services, contact Jennifer Rich at 912-233-1547, ext. 302 or jennifer.rich@mickveisrael.org*

**April 3 & 4**
Rose Minkoff Berman
Alexe Mendel Block
Frankie J. Kelly
Donald Lewanda
Arthur Lewis Weil

**April 10 & 11**
Olga Hannah Adler
Sylvan M Byck Jr.
Eugenia Coleman
Washington Falk Jr.
Max D. Hirsch
Jack Homans
Dorothy Isaac Krapf
Aaron Kravitch
Martin Leffler
Rollie Raskin Mendel

**April 17 & 18**
Fredrica M. Eisenberg
Stanley Wolf Feiler
Hugo I. Frank
Kenneth Gold
Milton Leonard Hymes
Daniel Kerness
Amalia Einstoss Lieblich
Sol Mekler
Louis Mirsky
Jacobs A. Salkin

**April 24 & 25**
Goldie Berger
Wallace T. Brown
David A. Byck Jr.
Isaiah M. Falk
Marsha Gould
Valerie Stern Meyer
Jeanette Oelsner
Luba Shmaltz
Blanche Sternberg Simon
Esther Ungar
Casper Wiseman

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CONGREGATION
MICKVE ISRAEL

Need to get in touch?
Call 912-233-1547

Rabbi Robert Haas
rabbihaaas@mickveisrael.org
ext. 304

Jennifer Rich, Executive Director
jennifer.rich@mickveisrael.org
ext. 302

Debbie Owen, Finance Director
dowen@mickveisrael.org
ext. 303

Jill Sandberg, Graphics & Communications
jill@mickveisrael.org
ext. 301

Ann Solomon, Judaica Shop
ext. 307

Charles Harris, Parnas
charlesleeharris@gmail.com

Ina Kuller, Programming Coordinator
inakuller@mickveisrael.org
ext. 312

Tim Slivinski,
Engagement & Learning Coordinator
tim@mickveisrael.org ext. 313