

JAN / FEB 2021

mickve israel

# contact

## Special Notice

This is the final paper edition  
of the Contact automatically  
sent by mail  
Future editions will be sent  
electronically and available  
on our website  
If you would like to continue  
receiving a paper edition,  
please call the office at  
912-233-1547 by February 5<sup>th</sup>





# Jan/Feb Shabbat

## DINNERS TO GO

**JAN 22** *(Order by Wednesday, Jan 20)*

### **GRILLED SALMON WITH DILL YOGURT SAUCE**

*with potato-cauliflower au gratin, green peas, green salad, and cookies*

**JAN 29** *(Order by Wednesday, Jan 27)*

### **SPAGHETTI AND MEAT BALLS**

*with green salad and tiramisu cake*

**FEB 5** *(Order by Wednesday, Feb 3)*

### **MIDDLE EASTERN CHICKEN STEW**

*with garbanzo beans, tomatoes, zucchini and lentils*

**FEB 12** *(Order by Wednesday, Feb 10)*

### **MEATLOAF WITH TOMATO BALSALMIC GLAZE**

*with egg noodles, zucchini, green salad and cookies*

**FEB 19** *(Order by Wednesday, Feb 17)*

### **GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST WITH PEPPERS AND ONIONS**

*with orzo, asparagus, green salad and cookies*

**FEB 26** *(Order by Wednesday, Feb 24)*

### **BEEF SKEWERS**

*with Caribbean rice, roasted broccoli, green salad, and cookies*

Cost \$12 per Shabbat Dinner. Each meal will include main course, salad, side vegetables and cookies. Directions for heating your meals will be provided. Orders must be placed by Wednesday. Pre-payment by credit card or by bringing a check is required. Pickup meals on Fridays between 10am and 2pm.

*During the months of Jan/Feb we are continuing all services and events online. We are using the application Zoom as well as our YouTube channel to stream these offerings.*

*Each service and event will indicate which platform we are using for streaming.*

## WORSHIPSCHEDULE

### FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBATS

Kabbalat Shabbat from our Youtube Channel, 6pm  
Or Zoom ID: 81106931418 Password: 151619

### SATURDAY MORNING SHABBATS

Shabbat Morning Service streamed from  
our Youtube Channel, 11:00am  
Youtube.com/mickveisraelsavannah

## OF BLESSED MEMORY

### **Jean E. Wolf**

mother of Jim (Rena Meltzer) Wolf  
December 3, 2020.

### **Elizabeth (Betty) Gamzon**

mother of Mel Gamzon  
December 7, 2020

### **Eleanor Louise Randall Coburn**

wife of Jack Coburn, Jr.  
December 9, 2020

### **Leon Friedman,**

father of Philip (Lisa (z"l)) Friedman  
December 25, 2020

### **Sidney Prefer**

father of Terri (Barry) Parker  
December 26, 2020.

## VIRTUAL EVENTS

### **Rabbi Haas Interviews**

Every Tuesday at 1pm  
Zoom ID: 898299995  
Password: 009694

### **Judaism 101 Education**

with Tim Slivinski  
Tuesdays - January 19, 26,  
Feb 10, 17, and 24  
at 6:30pm

Email Tim at [tim@mickveisrael.org](mailto:tim@mickveisrael.org) to  
participate in any of the classes

### **Study Session with Rabbi Haas**

Every Wednesday at 10:30am  
Zoom ID: 91646643571  
Password: 151619

### **Weekly Torah Study with Tim**

Every Friday at 1pm  
Zoom ID: 898299995  
Password: 009694

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## MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to Shannon Celiz  
daughter of Katie and Chris (z"l) Celiz  
for winning the 2020 Chanukah  
Essay Contest sponsored by Chabad  
of Savannah and the Savannah  
Jewish Federation. Shannon and  
her fellow contestants wrote  
beautiful essays about what  
Chanukah means to them.



Mazel Tov to Barbara (Randy z"l)  
Bart and Carol (Albert z"l) Davne  
on the birth of their grandson and  
great grandson, Joseph "Alan"  
Bart who was born December 22,  
2020. Barbara's son Matthew and  
his wife Joanna will be calling him  
Alan, in honor and memory of his  
great Grandpa, Albert Davne.







MISSION: To create a pluralistic community of Jewish high school teens. More Jewish Teens, More Meaningful Jewish Experiences.



BBYO International Convention 2021  
Every Jewish Teen. Every Chapter. Everywhere.  
February 11-15  
[azabbg.bbyo.org/ic/2021/register](http://azabbg.bbyo.org/ic/2021/register)

THE BEST PLACE TO BE A SAVANNAH JEWISH TEEN  
[SAVJ.ORG/SAVANNAH-BBYO](http://SAVJ.ORG/SAVANNAH-BBYO) SAVANNAH BBYO



Savannah Jewish Federation

Beneficiary Agency: Your Campaign dollars at work



HADASSAH

Savannah Chapter



Like us on  
Facebook  
Hadassah Savannah Chapter

**Sunday February 28th at 6pm**

**A live Zoom event**

**Who  
knows  
one?**

**A fast-paced, interactive game  
of Jewish geography!**

**Can you find the Chosen One?**

Visit our Facebook page for more info

**LET'S CELEBRATE PURIM!**

**SAVE THE DATE  
FEBRUARY 26, 7PM**



**SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE**

**See Rabbi Haas for details!**

## Sorrows A Plenty: Goodbye 2020

As I write this article, I am celebrating the fifth day of Hanukkah 2020, incidentally, the best Hanukkah in the lives of both of my children, as my three year old daughter finally understands the idea of the “Hanukkah present,” and my 15 month old son, who would have fun at a lecture series on cardboard delivered in Cantonese, continues to see every day of the year as the fifth day of Hanukkah. The irony of course is that we all now celebrate a Jewish holiday based on the idea of overcoming adversity as we so too attempt to overcome adversity.

Most of us can't say goodbye to 2020 fast enough. Goodbye to a terrible illness. Goodbye to job insecurity and unemployment. Goodbye to virtual hugs. Goodbye to heightened poverty and homelessness. Goodbye to political dissension. Goodbye to masks. Goodbye to six feet apart. Goodbye to virtual only schools/services/meetings/etc. Goodbye to holiday celebrations with just the immediate family. Goodbye to weekly Covid tests. Goodbye to watching blockbuster movies on our Televisions. Goodbye to mask over the nose reminders. Goodbye to rushes on toilet paper and disinfectant wipes. Goodbye to hand sanitizer in every room. Goodbye to....

Yet, despite our goodbyes to 2020, we as Jews, who've overcome adversity time and again, understand that even in adverse times, we grow as human beings.

We must then remember the lessons we've learned from this past year, if there is to be any meaning at all to the year 2020. We must remember to appreciate our family time. We must remember to spend time outside, walking with our families. We must remember our newly found computer skills. We must remember to enjoy quiet time in our households. We must remember to refrain from running at top speed all the time. We must remember how to spend long amounts of time in our homes alongside our families without tearing our homes apart. We must remember to call our friends around the globe and spend quality time speaking with them. We must remember to find ways to help people truly in need. We must remember to remember our good fortunes. We must remember to cook more often and to order meals from local restaurants. We must remember that we remain a community even when we may not be spending as much time together as we'd prefer. We must remember the wonderful moments from a year we are trying to forget.

My family and I wish everyone all the best for the coming year. We look forward to spending time with you in person at our home, at restaurants, at museums, at indoor events, at playdates, at school, at Sunday School, and in our sanctuary. We look forward to smiles, celebrations, hugs and handshakes in the year 2021.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### Judaism 101 Returns

With the winter holidays behind us, it is time once again for Judaism 101. Judaism 101 is designed as an overview of Reform Jewish theology, prayer, liturgy, holidays, history, and more. Though instructed and organized as a course for potential Jews-by-Choice, it is also open to congregants who desire a “refresher course” on their Reform Jewish faith and identity. Current congregants may attend all sessions or any particular sessions that are of interest to them.

Classes will be held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday evenings beginning at 6:30pm, with each session lasting between 90 minutes to 2 hours. Below is the outline of topics for each session. NOTE: The first Tuesday of each month is skipped so that the class does not conflict with Mickve Israel's Board Meetings.

January 12: Who are the Jewish People?

January 19: Jewish beliefs, sin and forgiveness, sacred texts

January 26: Living in Jewish Time: Shabbat and the High Holy Days

February 9: Living in Jewish Time: The Festivals and

other holidays

February 16: The Jewish Story: Creation to Enlightenment

February 23: The Jewish Story: Enlightenment to Modernity, Zionism, and Israel

March 9: Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust

March 16: The American Jewish Experience and Diversity

March 23: Living a Jewish Life: Prayer, synagogue, liturgy, and music

March 30: Living a Jewish Life: Marriage, family, children, creating a Jewish home

April 13: Living a Jewish Life: Death and Mourning

April 20: Choosing Judaism: Conversion

April 27: Open

If you are interested in being a part of this series of classes, please email Tim at the synagogue at [tim@mickveisrael.org](mailto:tim@mickveisrael.org). On the Monday prior to each class session, those who are registered will receive an outline and handouts via email for Tuesday evening's class. If you have any further questions, you may email them to Tim or call him at the synagogue at 912-233-1547.

## Thank You

I can't believe my two-year term is already about to end. I am proud of all we have accomplished. In 2019 I reviewed our security plan John Kohn had initiated and found we could harden our physical plant security by adding locks to completely secure the offices for the safety of our staff; Jennifer was able to update our locks' access system as well.

We completed our first ever museum audio tour so now it is a usable entity; this was done before the pandemic and will prove useful when our museum reopens.

In 2019 we revamped our fundraisers and had the "Night at the Museum" and "Casino Night" events that were a lot of fun and raised significant money.

Being the president during the pandemic has been challenging. 2020 was an ever-changing landscape for us and I felt like we handled it well and adapted as we needed so Rabbi Haas and our Board could interact with congregants in a safe manner. Our virtual services and other events have been great and well received. High Holiday services were especially fantastic and popular. Everyone involved did a great job transitioning from in-person to

our online presence. We're in the process of updating our website and membership software so they are integrated and congregants can interact with Mickve Israel virtually in new ways.

Thank you to my Board of Adjunta and the staff at Mickve Israel for making the best out of what was a tough 2020.

Because of the pandemic we are in tough financial times. Mickve Israel will for the first time in years have very little money in the bank account at the beginning of 2021. I'm asking you to pay your dues in January or February at the latest so we can continue to keep the lights on and pay our staff without having to take out a loan. Please consider honor dues as well.

Please attend our virtual annual meeting in January as we look forward to 2021.

Sincerely your Parnas,  
Charles Harris

## BACKPACK BUDDIES



*Backpack Buddies hard at work for the kids!*



## Welcome New Members

Relocating to Bluffton from LA about a year ago, **Eric Scot Shaw**, is not only a professor at SCAD but is an Executive Producer as well as an Emmy winning TV writer of shows like SpongeBob, Muppets and the like. He is the father of two sons, Ethan, Jake and daughter Brooklyn who are his “heart and soul.” His hobbies include tennis, boating, running, and he loves the beach. He looks forward to being involved with Mickve Israel where he can feel at home and be in a welcoming congregation for his family.

Another newcomer, **Shawna Densmore**, recently moved into her home in the Parkside area of Savannah and commutes to her civilian job with the Marine Corps in Beaufort. The daughter of a Navy serviceman, she grew up in a number of locations but has Georgia connections having received her Masters in Education at UGA. Her son is currently a student at SCAD and her daughter continues to live in Japan with her father. Shawna was very impressed with Mickve Israel’s High Holy Day services and all the activities that were scheduled around the holidays and looks forward to being an active part of the CMI family.

**Matthew Moosey and Justin Gordon** are dual military officers stationed at Hunter Army Airfield. Both raised in the military, they have called many places home including Panama, the Netherlands, Colorado, DC and Kansas. Matt is a psychologist in the Army and Justin is a pilot and unit executive officer at Hunter Army Airfield. They both enjoy traveling and learning about local history. Having already had a chance to connect with Rabbi Haas, they look forward to being members of Mickve Israel and serving the Savannah Jewish community.

Florida residents **Debbie and Jason Brown**, along with their two daughters **Maya and Lucie**, feel a very deep connection to Mickve Israel. They have visited Savannah often over the past five or six years and make sure to come to services each time they are in town. When the pandemic forced them to change their plans to celebrate the girls’ b’nai mitzvah in Israel this fall, they felt fortunate to be able to have the service in our historic sanctuary. They look forward to a long ongoing connection with the congregation as members and plan to come to visit regularly once we are able to be back at services in person.

In August, **Linda and Jack Beasley** relocated to May River Preserve in Bluffton from North Georgia.

She retired from the steamship business having work for Zim Lines and he was in railroad management. Linda grew up here in Savannah and although her family was a member of the B’nei Brith Jacob, she did attend various functions at Mickve Israel as a child. Linda, and her brother **Ron Reed**, who is also a new member, are related to the Portmans and the Paderewskis, a number of whom are congregation members and they are both cousins to Alice Gerber who is also related to the Paderewski family. So nice to extend all of these family connections here at Mickve Israel.

**Ron Reed**, brother of Linda Beasley, has been in Savannah for most of his life. A former restaurant owner he is an avid fisherman and one can find him regularly on his dock on the Herb River. Additionally he worked with the Olympic lifting team here in Savannah and still is an avid weightlifter. Having come to Mickve Israel a number of times with his cousins over the years he is happy to be a member of the congregation.



# Building of God's First Jewish House in Savannah

## A Bi-Centennial Anniversary - Part II

By Rabbi Saul J. Rubin and Herbert L. Victor

In Part I of this series, we learned that several Jewish leaders attended the May, 1819 dedication of Independent Presbyterian Church (on Bull and Oglethorpe), and were impressed with the ceremony. Probably partially inspired by this church dedication, by August, 1819 Board of *Adjunta* (BOA) minutes indicates that a building program and consecration ceremonies were decided. A Building Committee of A. DeLyon, D. Leion, Dr. Moses Sheftall, Sheftall Sheftall, and later, Dr. Jacob De la Motta were appointed with power to contract with a builder and with necessary means to fund a building.

The eventual property where the structure was built was not originally owned by the congregation. On March 27, 1820 the City granted property on the northwest corner of Liberty and Drayton Streets, but that was swapped for a location at Perry Lane and Whitaker Street, and on April 19, a Masonic cornerstone ceremony took place. About three months later, Georgia's first Jewish synagogue building was dedicated.

Although there are no known images showing what the building looked like, we know that it was small and wooden with off-ground construction. "Mr. Evans", probably John C. Evans\*, was the "master builder". Evans was a ship's carpenter who had been rescued from a sinking boat and whose medical recovery was possibly overseen by Dr. Moses Sheftall or Dr. Jacob de la Motta, both Building Committee members. With the maritime building experience of Mr. Evans, it is reasonable speculation that the ceiling of the sanctuary was in the shape of an upside down Noah's ark, a common shape for a synagogue ceiling. (For example, it is easily visible in Mickve Israel's current sanctuary and in the sanctuary in Savannah's Congregation Agudath Achim. Besides the ark's hull and keel reaching to the heavens, symbolism of the Noah's ark story reminds Jews through synagogue architecture of God's forgiveness, promise of redemption, and pursuit of peace by the dove and olive branch symbol.) In traditional Sephardic style, the altar seems to have been in the center of the sanctuary, not at one end. It had a *ner*

*tamid* (eternal light) and benches.

The April 14 Masonic cornerstone ceremony probably was inspired by the Presbyterian church dedication the year before and Masonic membership of several congregational leaders, including Dr. Jacob De la Motta, Worshipful Master of Solomon's Lodge at the time. A procession took place from the Masonic Hall to the synagogue, approximately eight short blocks down Whitaker Street. The procession included numerous Masonic participants (both congregants and non-congregants), Masonic leaders, city leadership including the mayor and aldermen, and congregants. The required Masonic "stone-laying" ceremonies took place as well as a



prayer in Hebrew and English and a dedicatory speech.

The dedication of the completed building began at 5 PM on Friday, July 21, with a short procession from the Free School to the synagogue. Invited were "citizens of Savannah", the mayor and alderman, and prominent clergy. The two Torah scrolls were carried under a *chupah* (canopy), and the scrolls circumnavigated the *tabah* (central altar) seven times. Dr. De la Motta, a widely respected orator, gave an address reviewing the congregation's history (highlighting Jewish participation in the founding of the Union Society) and the importance of religious life and regular worship. Prayers were offered, psalms were sung and, for the first time in an American synagogue service, organ music was played. (An article about that bicentennial event is in the August, 2020 "Contact" as well as the booklet prepared for the congregation's 287<sup>th</sup> anniversary.)

Sadly, in 1829, after limited usage, the 1820 wooden synagogue burned down. Fortunately, the Torah scrolls, ark, eternal light, benches, and other items were saved from ruin. The building was insured, providing seed money for its replacement several years later.

At the dedication ceremony of Shearith Israel in New York City in 1818, Moses Manuel Noah, a descendant of Dr. Samuel Nunez, applauded the U.S. as a haven for Jews. Noah sent a copy of the speech to President Thomas Jefferson who responded with a letter attacking religious prejudice and persecution. That letter,



# Building of God's First Jewish House in Savannah

## A Bi-Centennial Anniversary - Part II

auctioned in 1986 for \$360,000, still exists. Likewise, in the days after the Savannah synagogue dedication, Jacob de la Motta shared his speech with Presidents Jefferson and Madison. In response, both wrote letters to Dr. De la Motta with their thoughts about religious freedom and the importance of Jewish participation in the American experiment. Two hundred years later, copies of these letters (and others) are displayed on Mickve Israel's Wall of Presidential Letters and read to congregants on special occasions.

To summarize the historic significance of the 1820 Mickve Israel synagogue, consider these facts:

- The first Jewish edifice built and dedicated in the state of Georgia.
- It was the second synagogue constructed in the South. The first was in Charleston in the 1790's.
- At the 1820 dedication, organ music accompanied the Shabbat liturgy for the first time in American Jewish history.
- Two former Presidents sent letters to the dedicatory speaker, Dr. Jacob De la Motta, after receiving copies of his sermon. The Jefferson and Madison Presidential documents are considered American treasures. Both defined what these Founding Fathers believed about *Jewish rights and religious freedom*.
- Given the full participation of the local Masonic leaders, the civic officials, and the major clergyman in the rites and festivities surrounding the event, the 1820 dedication may have resulted in the elevation of Savannah Jewry as honored citizens of the City and State. The philo-Semitism that blossomed with Dr. Nunez and Benjamin Sheftall (the Union Society) in the 18<sup>th</sup> century seems to have expanded. Now Jews, like many others, could take pride in having their own house of prayer.

The timing of completion of this sanctuary may have been providential. By August through October, 1820, Savannah was in the throes of a major yellow fever epidemic, the first of three that were especially viral and deadly during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

With the building of a permanent sanctuary for Jewish worship, only one more piece of infrastructure was needed to complete the process of developing a permanent Jewish community. The hiring of a rabbi, with the institutions that could provide, would be the final piece of the puzzle, but that would have to wait for over

thirty more years; however, the building of a sanctuary two hundred years ago showed that Savannah Jews felt confident they had a permanent home. Savannah's Jewish community was here to stay and thrive.

\*Additional information has been unearthed about John C. Evans, the architect-builder of Savannah's first Temple "Mickva" Israel. A letter sent in 1991 by a Dr. Evans of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, direct descendant of John C. Evans, was recently uncovered. Though Dr. Evans was not a practicing Jew, he confirmed that family documents he collected and genealogical data he discovered revealed Jewish ancestry. One of his 19<sup>th</sup> century progenitors was a Jewish woman, Isabella Goldsmith, a well-known piano teacher in Savannah, who married a John Evans in 1823. Because the Temple was built by the only John C. Evans in Savannah, according to the 1820 U.S. Census, and intermarriage between Jews and Non-Jews was rare in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it is suspected that Mr. Evans may have been Jewish. Evans may have been chosen to build the Temple because he was involved in the Jewish community, not because he was treated by Jewish physicians (the current theory). Further investigation is required before any definitive conclusion is drawn.

### Resources:

Third to None. Rabbi Saul Jacob Rubin. 1983.

"Historical Record of the City of Savannah". F. D. Lee and J. L. Agnew. 1868.

"Instrumental Music Arrives in American Jewish Worship: A Bicentennial Anniversary" by Herbert L. Victor. 2020.

"Jefferson Letter Attacking Prejudice Brings \$360,000". Orlando Sentinel. October 30, 1986.

"Mickve Israel and the Masonic Movement". By Herbert L. Victor. 2017.

Interview with Jamie Credle. Davenport House. September, 2020.

[www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com)

1991 letter from "Dr. Evans" of Tuscaloosa, Alabama

*After our building re-opens, Mickve Israel's History and Heritage Committee welcomes you to explore our Gutstein Museum, sanctuary, and Slany Torah exhibit to learn more about our congregation's story as well as Savannah and American history.*

# 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](mailto:jennifer.rich@mickveisrael.org)*

## **JANUARY 1 & 2**

Morton Deutsch  
Leon Ferst  
Harry Gross Green  
Elsie Jerrine Holitser  
William Longwater  
Alexander Meddin  
Ralph L. Michels  
Benjamin Raffel  
Fritz R. Regensteiner  
Sigmund (sam) Schaffer  
Hazel Dryfus traub  
Rosalind Kravitch Weitz

## **JANUARY 8 & 9**

Morris H. Bernstein  
Pearle Silver Bernstein  
Rabbi Joseph M. Buchler  
Dr. Emil Eisenberg  
Tessie A. Getz  
Lawrence Kaufmann  
Elaine Miller  
Sheri Ulman Portman  
Joyce Heller Roaman  
Sydney Schafman  
Rehette Stein  
Bessie Louise Cooper Yates

## **JANUARY 15 & 16**

Leopold Adler  
Tillie B. Alexander  
Henry Berger  
Ellen Abeshouse Garfinkle  
Abe Simon Guckenheimer  
David Hirsch  
Rosie R. Hirsch  
Adele Lillian Kleiner Kantziper  
Pauline Karp  
Rita M. Kirschbaum  
Beatrice W. Kowalsky  
Raymond M. Kuhr  
Nettie W. Lichtman  
Rudolf Lieberls  
Rachel Flaum Lieberls  
Sadye Meddin  
Lena R. Oppenheimer  
Moses M. Smith  
Lena Traub

## **JANUARY 22 & 23**

Judge Sol Clark  
Rita J. Falk  
Hettie Dewald Kaufmann  
Lillian Sloviter Koegler  
Mary L. Levy  
Birnie J. Mincey  
Joseph Mirsky  
Mrs. Lee Roy Myers  
Jennie W. Perelstine  
Janet S. Rosolio  
Gladys Birnbaum Schwab  
Fannie B. Schwarzbaum  
Hannah Brown Victor

## **JANUARY 29 & 30**

Bernard Adler  
Eva C. Byck  
Dorothy Coleman Cohen  
Phyllis Denmark  
Doris Lippman Falk  
Bernice Wolf Harris  
Celia Agranat Kane  
Amy Lemberger  
Leona Zerman Mirsky  
Samuel Pinkussohn  
Sarrah Polonskaya  
Ruth S. Reinhard  
Leon J. Schwab  
Theodore Spitalnick

## **FEBRUARY 5 & 6**

Emma Einstoss Adler  
Louis Alexander  
Ida Boley Byck  
Mr. Howard Cooper  
Fannie F. Engel  
Dr. Stephen Halperin  
Sarah S. Hirsch  
Marjorie Levy Kahan  
Gloria Kazlow  
Edwin J. Mazo  
Elizabeth Mendes  
Isadore L. Michels  
Joseph J. Oppenheim  
Isaiah A. Solomons III  
Dr. Louis Udell  
Miriam P. Wiseman

## **FEBRUARY 12 & 13**

Theresa S. Byck  
Henrietta A. Falk  
Mrs. Jean Gilmore  
Marguerite Taylor Mazo  
Alvin H. Nagelberg  
Lillian Belle Nussbaum  
Mark Henry Schaul  
Rhetta Dryfus Steinheimer  
Ida Zerman

## **FEBRUARY 19 & 20**

Max Frank  
Rachel Weiner Levine  
Morris Levy  
Sidney C. Markowitz  
Lily Silverberg Mendel  
Sigo Mohr Jr.  
Stella Schwarzbaum Oppenheim  
Yank Jake Schwartz  
Bernard Wolner  
Lazarus W. Wortsman

## **FEBRUARY 26 & 27**

Harry Barnett  
Cissie Solomons Falk  
Bessie M. Ferst  
Irma Marion Holitser  
Edwin Leffler  
Max M. Lieberls  
Rachel B. Longwater  
Irma Schaul Rose  
Jacob Simon  
Kayton Smith Sr.  
Rabbi George Solomon  
Vivienne Stern  
Miriam Stern  
Mary Volpin Straus  
Frank F. Traub Sr.  
Mr. Michael Weinberg



*Ladies of Mickve Israel,*

*This has been a most unusual year, both for ourselves and our families as well as our congregational family. Because of the sheltering requests and with an abundance of caution, many of our activities had to be either cancelled or altered in scope. We are looking forward to resuming more normal activities as more of us step out of what has become our current normal to rejoin more social activities and events. Our activities and events will be published in the weekly e-news and hopefully you will feel comfortable to join us in those you will find interesting. May 2021 bring good health and the ability for increased participation for us all.*

*We hope that you will be able to join the CMI Sisterhood for 2021, thus supporting much needed funding for our activities and programs. The cost of membership remains unchanged and does include membership in the local, regional, and national Women of Reform Judaism organizations. All you need to do is complete the Dues Statement form below, enclose it with your dues check made out to Mickve Israel Sisterhood for \$36 and return it to the Temple office. We hope you will continue to show your support by participating in our activities and fundraising opportunities throughout the year. They cover many aspects of the general community, the Jewish community, the synagogue family, and our families with children. All are important to us and, hopefully, they are to you as well. Whether you are more comfortable participating in a one-day project or a long-term commitment, our Sisterhood offers many opportunities for involvement. However you choose to become involved, you should be able to select something that fits into your time commitment and lifestyle. Thank you for joining us throughout the year.*

*Annual Membership Statement*  
*Please complete all sections and return*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Your personal information is only used for Sisterhood communications purposes. It is treated as confidential information and is not distributed to third parties.*

*Thank you for becoming a part of our organization through your membership in Sisterhood of Mickve Israel.*

☐ I wish to be a 2021 Annual Member \$36.00

☐ I am already a Lifetime Member \$0.00  
(program discontinued in 2007)

☐ I am a New Congregation Member \$0.00

*(I joined Mickve Israel since Oct., 2020. Thank you for my complimentary membership in Mickve Israel's local Sisterhood only which will expire Dec 31, 2021)*

☐ Additional Contribution (optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to*  
**Mickve Israel Sisterhood**  
*and mail your check and this completed form to*

**Sisterhood Treasurer**  
**PO Box 816**  
**Savannah, GA 31402**



# FUNDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## To the Building Repair/ Maintenance Fund

In memory of David Byck

- Cookie & Barry Gale

## To the Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival

In memory of Eleanor Coburn

- Gail & Michael Siegel

## To the General Fund

In memory of Helene Adler  
In memory of Sy Blank  
In memory of Robert, father of  
Melinda Byck  
In memory of Nancie & Fred Clark  
In memory of Valerie Kassel  
In memory of Martin, brother of  
Carol Cohen  
In memory of Sylvia Dane  
In memory of David Meyer, uncle of  
Charles Harris  
In memory of Frank Hoffman  
In memory of Boo Hornstein  
In memory of Susan, mother of  
Diane Kahn  
In memory of Martin Karp  
In memory of Dick Kent  
In memory of Skip Feinstein,  
stepfather of Jessica Lebos  
In memory of Joel Lynch  
In memory of David Meddin  
In memory of Nancee, mother of  
Julie Rubin  
In memory of Frances Wilson

- Jan & Charlie VandenBulck

In memory of David Byck

- Margo & Andrew Ames
- Barbara Bart
- Susan Kelly Biedinger
- Muriel Bono
- Margie & Alan Braverman
- Linda & Bill Daniel
- Catherine & Ron Fagin
- Lydia Sawyer & Julian Friedman
- Lynda & Charles Furchgott
- Mary Evelyn & Clark Jones
- Jane Kahn
- Harvey Lebos
- Nancy & Jules Paderewski
- Karen & Jim Pannell
- Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pressly
- Betty & Bubba Rosenthal

- Gail & Michael Siegel
- Ann & Steve Solomon
- The Sussman Family
- Tami & Lenny Tishberg
- Margo & Tom Webb
- Gail Wexler
- Linda & Michael Zoller

In memory of Harris Dinnerman

- Mark Nathan

In memory of Paul, brother of Millie  
Willner

- Millie & Les Willner

In memory of Phoebe Kerness

- Stephanie & Robert Blandy
- Toby Hollenberg & Michael  
Bonder
- Ann & Steve Solomon
- Margo & Tom Webb

In memory of Ken Goodman

- Toby Hollenberg
- Millie & Les Willner

In memory of Jean, mother of Jim  
Wolf

- Malvina Leder
- Ann & Steve Solomon

In memory of Milton Kassel

- Cathy & Philip Solomons

In honor of the marriage of  
Samantha to Daniel Bart

In honor of the upcoming birth for  
Joanna & Matthew Bart

In honor of the upcoming birth of a  
new grandson

- Barbara Bart

In honor of Andrea & Charles Harris  
– Happy Hanukkah

- Peggy & Stan Harris

In honor of Mindy Shea's marriage  
to Ricky Frazier

In honor of Maddie House's Bat  
Mitzvah

- Julie & Allan Schoenberger

In honor of their part in services

- Floss & Jeff Kaffee

In honor of Ann & Steve Solomon

- Jay Roth

## To the General Fund (Public Worship)

In thanks to Jennifer & Jason Rich  
for the beautiful HHD services

- Gail & Michael Siegel

## To the George & Julia Solomon Fund

(Rabbi's Discretionary Fund)

In memory of Sisterhood family  
members lost in 2020

- Sisterhood of Mickve Israel

In memory of Dr. Irwin Danziger

- Susan & Craig Disher

In memory of David Byck

- Emily & Michael Cohen
- Lisa & Sherman Cohen
- Joan & Larry Dane-Kellogg
- Jennifer & Brad Greenblum
- Anne Maner
- Patty & Steve Shapiro
- Gail & Michael Siegel
- Sue Solomon
- Steve Wagner
- Sherri & Allen Weiss

In memory of Valerie Kassel

In memory of Milton Kassel

- Lucile & Kayton Smith

In memory of Evelyn & Steve Haas

In honor of Robert Haas & family

- Bob Woolf

In honor of Julian Friedman's Bar  
Mitzvah

- Cathy & Philip Solomons

In honor of Betty Rosenthal

- Flo Knudsen

In honor of Arlene & Ron Schwartz's  
anniversary

- Malvina Leder

In honor of Tim Slivinski

- Andrea Mathews

# FUNDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In honor of Jason Rich & the CMI staff for HHD services

- Marcia & Sandy Berens

In honor of Rabbi's extra ordinary efforts for HHD services

- Lucile & Kayton Smith

In honor of Rabbi's comedic talent

- Linda Zoll

In honor of Rabbi's Bar Mitzvah encouragement

- Julian Friedman

In honor of Rabbi Haas

- Sandra & David Block
- Michael Schwartz
- West Houston B'Nai Brith

## **To the Memorial Endowment Foundation Fund**

In memory of David Byck

- Carol & Joel Greenberg

In honor of Jennifer Rich earning her Master's degree

In honor of Adam Solender's 13 years of service

- Lydia Sawyer & Julian Friedman

## **To the Mildred A Kuhr Music Fund**

In memory of Marion Mendel

- Judith Hughes

In memory of Larry Hughes

In memory of Eric Meyerhoff

- Joan Levy

In memory of David Byck

- Judith Hughes
- Joan Levy
- Jan & Charlie VandenBulck

In memory of Phoebe Kerness

- Jan & Charlie VandenBulck

In memory of Valerie Kassel

- Joan Levy
- Margie & B. H. Levy

In memory of Milton Kassel

In memory of Samuel "Skip" Feinstein

In memory of Jacqueline Siegel

- Margie & B. H. Levy

## **To the Museum Fund**

In memory of Seymour Blank

- Jane & Ed Feiler

In memory of David Byck

- Marie Dodson
- Rhoda Halperin
- Margie & B. H. Levy
- Eileen Lobel

In memory of Ken Goodman

- Marie Dodson
- Malvina Leder

In memory of Larry Hughes

- Margie & B. H. Levy

In memory of Phoebe Kerness

- Joan & Larry Dane-Kellogg
- Marie Dodson
- Rhoda Halperin
- Margie & B. H. Levy
- Eileen Lobel
- Maxine & Don Patterson
- Gail & Michael Siegel
- Steve Wagner

In honor of Nancy Gutstein's speedy recovery

- Marcia & Sandy Berens

Happy Hanukkah to Rhonda Victor

Happy Hanukkah to Teresa & Herbert Victor

- Helen & George Steinheimer

## **To the Permanent Fund**

In memory of David Byck

- Tammy & Stuart Leffler
- Amy & Brian Markowitz

## **To the Social Action Fund (Backpack Buddies)**

In memory of David Byck

- Karen & Gary McGuffin
- Cathy & George Shriver

- Leslie Westmoreland

In memory of Martin Karp

- The Katz Family

In memory of Phoebe Kerness

- Lydia Sawyer & Julian Friedman
- Karen & Gary McGuffin
- Leslie Westmoreland

In honor of David Jacobson

- Lucile & Kayton Smith

In honor of Max Richards

- His parents, Beth & Ken

Happy Hanukkah to their children and grandchildren

- Kerry & Phil Rosen

## **To the URJ Camps Scholarship Fund**

In honor of Becky & Dan Flaxer's HHD work

In honor of Carol & Joel Greenberg's kindness

In honor of April Haas's co-presidency of Savannah's Hadassah

In honor of Jennifer & Jason Rich's HHD work

- Lucile & Kayton Smith

# Thank you!

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.

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Mr. & Mrs. Kayton Smith, Jr.  
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Col. & Mrs. Edward Wexler

## Essen Essen By Ina Kuller CHICKEN IN SALSA VERDE

The sauce has a very flavorful, rich sauce. Serve with Spanish rice, or tortillas.

Cut up chicken pieces to your preference, sprinkle with kosher salt and pepper; brown in hot skillet using 1T. olive oil. Remove chicken to a med bowl and set aside.

To Prepare Sauce:

1 onion, chopped  
2 t. garlic, minced or crushed  
24 oz. prepared green salsa  
1/3 c. toasted pumpkin seeds, ground to almost a meal.  
Leave a few for garnish  
2 cups chicken stock, or boxed broth  
1 whole bunch cilantro, roughly chopped

Juice of 2 limes  
2 t. ground cumin  
2 t. chili powder  
1 ripe avocado, mashed right before service

Wipe out almost all grease from pot and lightly sauté onions in remaining oil: add garlic and stir, then add all remaining ingred except avocado. Simmer for 20 mins. Use an immersible blender or stand blender and puree, leaving a little texture. Transfer back to skillet; add back chicken, any juices, and simmer until tender, about 30-35 minutes. Remove chicken to serving platter. Add mashed avocado to sauce and puree once again. Pour sauce over chicken. Sprinkle with a few remaining pumpkin seeds. It freezes beautifully.



The Joan and Murray Gefen Memorial  
**2021 [VIRTUAL] SAVANNAH  
JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**  
**FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 11, 2021**



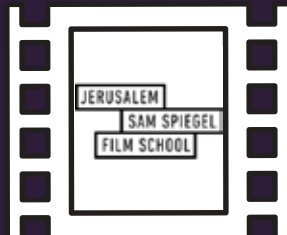
**Kiss Me Kosher**  
Sunday, February 28  
7:00 PM



**Here We Are**  
Wednesday, March 3  
7:00 PM



**Commandment 613**  
Thursday, March 4  
1:00 PM



**Collection of Shorts**  
from students at the Sam  
Spiegel Film School in  
Jerusalem  
Sunday, March 7  
1:00 PM



**Shared Legacies**  
Tuesday, March 9  
7:00 PM



**The Rabbi Goes West**  
Thursday, March 11  
1:00 PM



This year's Virtual Savannah Jewish Film Festival is free. Please consider being a "Friend of the Festival" to ensure that programs like the SJFF continue for years to come.

Films will be available to view 72 hours in advance. Join together on the dates listed above for speakers on each of the films. Details on speakers and how to access films will be available at [www.savj.org](http://www.savj.org).

*Presented VIRTUALLY in collaboration with the  
Charleston Jewish Film Fest through the College of Charleston.*

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