



Agudas Achim Congregation

401 E. Oakdale Blvd., Coralville, IA 52241

Phone: 319-337-3813

www.AgudasAchimIC.org

June 2019 / Iyar – Sivan 5779

Next week, we will be issuing a special one-time bulletin with Safety Committee updates.

FROM THE RABBI

Esther Hugenholtz

Taking breaks is so good for the soul! Of course, as Jews we know how important breaks are – we are, after all, the people who gave humankind the weekend. My family took a wonderful break over the Memorial Day Weekend which we put to good use exploring the Hawkeye State. We explored the Amana Colonies in verdant Spring, supped on fried fish and nostalgic German family-style food. After brunch at Rapid Creek Cidery, we cut across the State in a South-North direction and visited Decorah, in Winneshiek County. I can highly recommend a day trip to what I've dubbed in my head a 'mini-Iowa city': a pint-sized college town with nice coffee houses, restaurants and a charmingly vibrant Main Street.

In the theme of breaks: our current President, Kathy Jacobs, will be cycling off at the end of the month. It has been an incredible privilege to work with her and see her '*mussar*', her Jewish ethics, in practice. I am deeply indebted to her and the rest of the lay leadership for our partnership over the last twenty months. A communal transition to a new rabbi is a happy, exciting but also challenging event on its own. Everyone has to get used to each other, as well as process their feelings about change. On top of that, we have not only dealt with transition but also with turbulence. As we are re-evaluating the place of our Jewish community in an ever-changing America, current events have shaken us up. Still, Kathy's steady and wise hand made its lasting mark on our congregation. I, for one, would

like to wish Kathy and all lay leaders only blessing as they take a much-needed break from their leadership and get to enjoy the pleasures of 'just enjoying' the congregation on their own terms.

Of course, a bigger break is coming up for many of us: the restful summer period. We are already planning for the High Holidays and beyond. The Introduction to Judaism course will run through July and then take a break for my parental leave, and continue once I'm back early November. For the High Holidays, we will be welcoming Rabbi Michael Gilboa, who some of you may already know. Rabbi Gilboa is a beloved colleague of mine who married our own Emily Schoerning, who is now the Director of Innovative Education at Congregation Anshe Emet in Chicago. In fact, Rabbi Gilboa met his future wife in Iowa City and had their *chuppah* at our synagogue, shortly before my arrival. We are honored to have Rabbi Gilboa as our 'interim' High Holiday Rabbi and I am confident that his unique Torah will prove refreshing to our congregation. The Ritual Committee has been working on other aspects of the season behind the scenes to make sure that all will run smoothly, and I am grateful to them. I will also be running a Service Leaders' Course for all four Wednesday evenings in June so if you would like to learn more about leading a service or just understanding how the service works, please join us.

(Continued on page 2)

FROM THE RABBI

Esther Hugenholtz (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

In short, even though we are moving beyond graduations into a more quiet time, please know that we will continue to be here for you. I am excited to work alongside Sue Weinberg, our President-Elect when she and her board take over. I am also excited about getting to know the new Hillel Director, Ashley Fingerhut, as well as welcoming visiting Regional Director of Independent Communities, Andrew Feuerstein, as he will engage our community (and other local communities) in strengthening our Federation life and building stronger connections. All those are good things. And then, what is better yet: we will give ourselves the time to breathe.

CARGILL YOM YERUSHALAYIM TALK

Sunday, June 2, 11:00 a.m.

Why did Josephus Deliberately Misspell Shalem as Solyma in his Writings?



The Jewish Roman historian Flavius Josephus is one of the most important sources of information about first century Jerusalem we have. In his writings, he identifies the city of Shalem mentioned in Genesis 14:18 as Jerusalem. However, instead of transliterating Shalem into Greek as Σαλημ ("Salem") as the Septuagint and other authors do, Josephus represents Shalem as Σόλυμα ("Solyma").

This lecture examines the apologetic reason why Josephus uses this deliberately odd misspelling.

SCHOOL NEWS

Sonja Spear

I am very excited to introduce new books for Sunday School! As you can see, the program will be focusing on stories from the Torah, ethics, and holidays.

Students will still engage in hands-on projects, including crafts and cooking, as they learn about the holidays. The "Make, Create, Celebrate" book is particularly rich in educational activities, and we will be using it in the older grades.

This year, we will also be introducing 15 minutes of Hebrew starting with the very youngest children. We are using the Onward Hebrew program, which teaches vocabulary through movement. Students follow the teachers' commands (in Hebrew) to run, walk, and to manipulate various objects. For instance, students might learn the names of various fruits then sort them into *pri ha-'etz* (fruit of the tree) and *pri ha-gafen* (fruit of the vine), learn the appropriate blessings, and then, of course, eat!

The kids will be up, out of their chairs, and learning. I'm looking forward to a great year!



TALMUD STUDY GROUP

The Talmud Study Group meets
on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
All are welcome!

WARM UP AMERICA

Connie Berman

Warm Up America has had a productive moment of making squares -- now to get them laid out, sewn together, and edged. For June and July we will meet every other week, starting on June 2, 10:00 a.m. – noon.

That means **June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, and July 28.**

Sometimes we listen in on other things. Sometimes we just find things in the cupboard where you've left them. Sometimes it's crazy. Sometimes it's quiet. But the amount of love put into these efforts is limitless. Thanks for all your efforts and see you soon!



JUNE YAHREZITS

Samuel Bar	Fannie Middleman
Dorothy Buddelof	Dee Norton
Carl Caplan	Simon Pava
Helene Colen	Becky Robin
Gitel Dicker	Richard Stephen
Hy Dicker	Rochman
Bruce Fishbane	Howard Sabin
Katie Fishman	Rose Dovitz Sanders
Steven Frankel	Freda Schumeister
Moshe Green	Samuel Shetzer
Lev Gudkov	Benjamin Sideman
Reaves Holbrook	Alexander Simon
Bessie Josselson	Israel Standig
Arthur Kay	Epstein Stephen
Esther Klausner	Miriam Stone
Jacob Kosubucki	Jessica Thurston
Evelyn Levitz	Etta Tunik
Belle Lupeson	Irving Warren
Russell Smith McGinnis	Sylvia Zukin
Edith Meyer	Walter Zukin
David Michaels	

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Annual Congregational Meeting

Thursday, June 20, 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for the Annual Congregational Meeting, where members will vote on the new slate of board members. Andrew Feuerstein will be in attendance. Andrew will be working with Iowa Jewish communities on developing our local Federation, and hence, the quality of our cultural and social Jewish presence in the state. A bit about Andrew:

“My name is Andrew Feuerstein and I am a Regional Director for **The Jewish Federations of North America/Network of Independent Communities**. “The Network” works with over 300 smaller Jewish communities throughout the United States to assist with community development and connections to Jews in need in Israel and 70 countries around the world. This is done through education, outreach and organizing an annual campaign.

I would help leadership identify unmet or underfunded local needs that the campaign could support along with raising dollars for global concerns. As each community is unique, our efforts vary and can include leadership development, solicitation training, planning events, providing disaster relief and consultation with JFNA’s Secure Community Network (SCN).”

ANTISEMITISM DISCUSSION GROUP

The Antisemitism discussion group will meet on Wednesday, June 12 at 12:30 p.m.

This group allows Jewish and Jewish-adjacent members of the community a safe space to process our thoughts and feelings about increasing antisemitism.

SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Torah Portion	Date	Service Time	Service
Bechukotai <i>(Leviticus 26:3 – 27:34)</i>	Friday, May 31	7:30 p.m.	Sim Shalom (Conservative)
	Saturday, June 1	9:30 a.m.	Mishkan T'filah (Reform)
Bamidbar <i>(Numbers 1:1 – 4:20)</i>	Friday, June 7	7:30 p.m.	Mishkan T'filah
	Saturday, June 8	9:30 a.m.	Sim Shalom
Naso <i>(Numbers 4:21 – 7:89)</i>	Friday, June 14	7:30 p.m.	Mishkan T'filah
	Saturday, June 15	9:30 a.m.	Sim Shalom
Behalotecha <i>(Numbers 8:1 – 12:16)</i>	Friday, June 21	7:30 p.m.	Mishkan T'filah
	Saturday, June 22	9:30 a.m.	Sim Shalom
Shelach <i>(Numbers 13:1 – 15:41)</i>	Friday, June 28	7:30 p.m.	Mishkan T'filah
	Saturday, June 29	9:30 a.m.	Sim Shalom

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kathy Jacobs

This is my last month as your Board President. I'm very grateful to you all for your trust in me these last two years and proud to be turning over the board to the very capable hands of Sue Weinberg. She has worked hard to determine an excellent slate of officers, all of whom I strongly endorse and recommend for your approval at the June Congregational meeting, June 20 at 7:00 p.m. She wisely is including a few members of the present board, while identifying excellent new members for your consideration. Thanks as well, Sue, for your service as President Elect.

I am especially thankful for the service of the board executive officers and members who have worked with me during my tenure, and the other volunteers who work to keep our synagogue the wonderful place that it is for our religious school, weekly and festival services, and the other programs we are able to provide. I must give thanks to the generous membership that allowed us to purchase, renovate and move to our present space in 2013, and those who created and maintain our

landscape. Visitors continue to admire what you all have created here.

Board presidency has made it possible for me to get to know you better, and to understand what it takes to serve you properly. I hope I have met most of your needs. I appreciate the search committee led by Susan Simon and Michael Flaum who found and hired Rabbi Hugenholtz. I have been privileged to work with her and to have her as a friend and mentor. We are so fortunate to have a rabbi who is already recognized as a rising star in American Jewry. Sonja thank you too for your leadership of our religious school. Finally, I must praise our office administration team. Karen and John are the face of our congregation to our membership and the world. They are the tireless organizers of our operations here and with the Reform and Conservative movements.

You will still find me at services and many events. I'm ready to step down, but will be around. I hope to see you soon as your Past President.

SHAVUOT

For Shavu'ot this year, we will try something different!

We will convene for an Erev Shavu'ot (evening of Shavu'ot) service at 8:30 p.m. with an opportunity for a Tikkun Leyl Shavu'ot (learning session) starting at 9:00 p.m. We are opening this to all who want to bring their 'Torah' and teach our community. If you are interested in teaching on any particular topic which relates in some way to Judaism, Jewish thought, practice or text, please be in touch with the Rabbi at rabbi@agudasachimic.org.

If we have enough learning happening and we have become sufficiently engrossed to spend our waking hours learning, we will cap this experience with a dawn service at the synagogue. Dawn breaks at 5:32 a.m. If people have a wish to retire earlier for the night, we will have our regular Shavu'ot service

at 9:30 a.m. In any case, there will be a regular Shavu'ot service at 9:30 a.m., irrespective of the dawn service taking place.

In short, this will be an opportunity for us to learn together, pray together and watch the sun rise as we prepare to receive Torah at Mount Sinai.

Shavuot Services

Saturday, June 8:

8:30 p.m. Shavuot evening service

9:00 p.m. Tikkun Leyl all-nighter

Sunday, June 9:

5:32 a.m. (possible) Shavuot dawn service

9:30 a.m. Shavuot morning service;

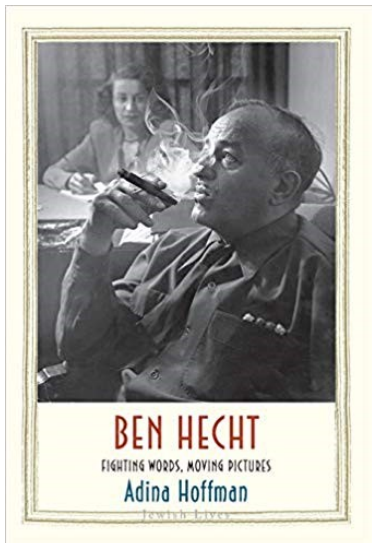
Monday, June 10:

9:30 a.m. Shavuot morning service

FROM THE STACKS

Linda K. Kerber

BEN HECHT: FIGHTING WORDS, MOVING PICTURES, by Adina Hoffman



If this were simply a page-turner of a book about a largely forgotten journalist and screen-writer and script-doctor (who knew Ben Hecht revised the script for "Gone With the Wind" at the last minute?) it would not be an appropriate addition to the Agudas Achim Library.

But read to Chapters 7, 8, 9 and you will find him an early voice 1939, 1940, 1941—publicizing Jewish vulnerability to Hitler's Final Solution and then a vigorous supporter of the Irgun and its attacks on the British in Palestine (including the role of Menachem Begin). This part of his story, and ours, is largely unrecognized.

Rave reviews have appeared in the New Yorker and the New York Review of Books.

And a personal note: Adina Hoffman is the daughter of Rosellen Brown, who read from her most recent novel, *THE LAKE ON FIRE*, last October. That book is also in our library.

Find BEN HECHT as the featured item on the New in the Library shelf during June, then in the Becker Room at 812/Hof.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Beverly Jones

Mitzvah Fund Brunch

Sisterhood's annual Mitzvah Fund Brunch will be held on Sunday, June 23, 11:00 a.m. at Vesta, 849 Quarry Road, Coralville.

Our guest speaker is Sammie, a transgender young woman, who is new to Agudas Achim and Sisterhood. Sammie will discuss issues of gender identity: "Meeting trans people where we are, and moving together toward our shared future," in the "hope that together we can work toward building healing, empowering spaces and relationships..." Sammie will focus on "the power dynamics of gender identity as felt vs. as perceived by others."

There will be an \$18.00/person minimum donation over the price of the lunch. We each pay for our own lunch, which we'll be ordering from the menu.

Your \$18.00 donation will support the the Women's League of Conservative Judaism's Torah Fund which provides scholarships to rabbinical and cantorial students; the Women of Reform Judaism's YES Fund which supports youth, education, and special projects; and at the request of our speaker, Tanager Place LGBTQ Youth Center in Cedar Rapids. Please contact sisterhood@agudasachimic.org by Friday, June 21 to RSVP.

Send your check for \$18.00, made out to Sisterhood, to Agudas Achim, 401 E. Oakdale Blvd, Coralville, IA 52241. Please contact administrator@agudasachimic.org if you prefer to pay by credit card. You may also pay at the door. Donations over the \$18.00 minimum are welcome.

This event is open to all synagogue women, their spouses, partners, and guests.

Save the Date for a Baby Shower

Sisterhood will be hosting a Baby Shower for Rabbi Hugenholtz on Sunday, July 14 at 2:00 p.m. at Agudas Achim. Information coming soon about a gift registry and other needs for a baby girl and her parents. All synagogue women, their spouses and partners, are invited.

Thank You

Sisterhood was honored to have hosted the Women of Reform Judaism Midwest District's first ever Iowa Area Day on May 5. We were joined by women from Davenport and Des Moines, as well as the WRJ Midwest District's leadership team from Chicago.

Our thanks to everyone who helped in planning this event, and who worked hard getting everything organized on the day of the event. Thanks go to Jeanne Abrons, Samantha Karrel, Nancy Sprince, Janelle Jaskolka, Sue Weinberg, Karen Lipman, Mary Milavetz, and Rabbi Hugenholtz.

Sisterhood Board

If you've ever been interested in taking on a more hands-on role with Sisterhood, and have ideas about programming, fundraising, communication, or social action, please contact us at sisterhood@agudasachimic.org to sit in on a Board Meeting. We are looking to expand our horizons for 2019-20.

LAY LEADER COURSE

Please join us for a Lay Leader Course: **Every Wednesday in June, 7:00 p.m.** Are you interested in learning more about Jewish prayer, the prayer book and how to lead services? Then this course is for you!

In this four week class during the month of June, we will look at the history, meaning and structure of the liturgy as well as train motivated lay leaders to lead services in both English and Hebrew, at any level. All levels and abilities welcome - we look forward to your participation on the bimah!

JUNE 2019

Fri	5/31	Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner	7:00 PM
		Shabbat Evening Services	7:30 PM
Sat	6/1	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
Sun	6/2	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM
		Warm-Up America	10:00 AM
		Cargill Talk: Yom Yerushalayim	11:00 AM
Mon	6/3	Sisterhood Board Meeting	7:00 PM
		Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM
Wed	6/5	Service Leaders Course	7:00 PM
Fri	6/7	Shabbat Evening Services	7:30 PM
Sat	6/8	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
		Shavu'ot Evening Service	8:30 PM
		Tikkun Leyl & Dawn Service	9:00 PM
Sun	6/9	Shavu'ot Dawn Service	5:30 AM
		Shavu'ot Festival Service	9:30 AM
Mon	6/10	Shavu'ot Festival Service	9:30 AM
Wed	6/12	Antisemitism Discussion Group	12:30 PM
		Service Leaders Course	7:00 PM
Thurs	6/13	Ritual Committee	7:15 PM
Fri	6/14	Family Chavurah	6:00 PM
		Shabbat Evening Services	7:30 PM
Sat	6/15	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
Sun	6/16	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM
		Warm-Up America	10:00 AM
Mon	6/17	Executive Committee Meeting	6:30 PM
		Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM
Wed	6/19	Service Leaders Course	7:00 PM
Thurs	6/20	Annual Congregational Meeting	7:00 PM
Fri	6/21	Shabbat Evening Services	7:30 PM
Sat	6/22	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
Sun	6/23	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM
		Sisterhood Mitzvah Fund Brunch	11:00 AM
Mon	6/24	Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM
Wed	6/26	Free Lunch	11:30 AM
		Calendar Meeting	6:30 PM
		Service Leaders Course	7:00 PM
Fri	6/28	Shabbat Evening Services	7:30 PM
Sat	6/29	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
Sun	6/30	Yahrzeit Minyan Steve Green	9:00 AM
		Warm-Up America	10:00 AM

SAVE THE DATE!

Sun	7/14	Sisterhood Baby Shower	2:00 PM
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DONATIONS

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Judy & Gary Galluzzo: In memory of

Harry H. Dreyfuss

Gloria Gelman: In honor of David Glicksman

Mark Graber & Hetty Hall: In memory of

Sarah Hall

Alan Mutnick: In memory of Paul Mutnick

Jonathan & Susan Simon

Michelle Stalkfleet: In memory of Roz Mankoff

Jeffrey Whitebook

CEMETERY FUND

Kathy Chapman Keller & Dwight Keller:

In memory of Ansel Chapman

Michael & Joanne Margolin: In memory of

Grace Bernstein

FAMILY ASSISTANCE FUND

Doug & Beverly Jones: In memory of

Louis Solganick

2ND CENTURY FUND

David Wieseneck & Samantha Karrel

GENERAL FUND

David & Constance Berman

Gary & Randi Levitz: For security efforts

Paul & Linda Muhly

Marvin & Karen Sachs: In honor of Chana Rachel

Sachs' Carver Medical School Graduation and the aliyahs for our family

Stephen & Susan Strauss: In memory of

Samuel Osdoba

PORTMAN PROGRAM FUND

Michelle Stalkfleet: In honor of Sam Stalkfleet's college graduation

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

The next bereavement group will be on
Wednesday, June 19 at 12:30.

If you have had a loss and would be helped by the support of others sharing their stories, please consider attending.

**“As tiny scales join to form a strong coat of
armor, so little donations combine to form a large total of good”**

From the Talmud

Should you desire to make a contribution, may we suggest any of the following synagogue funds:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Braverman Talmud Torah
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> General Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Garden & Landscaping Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> High Holiday/Cantor Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Lauren Reece Flaum Terrace Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Library Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Louis Ginsberg Youth Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Marcus Scholarship Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> The Rabbi Portman Program Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> School Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Sim & Sara Strauss Memorial Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Sisterhood Mitzvah & Memorial Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Synagogue Assistance Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Tikun Olam Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Torah Enhancement Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Kadima Fund |
|---|--|

Contribution in memory of _____

Contribution in honor of _____

STAFF			
Rabbi	Esther Hugenholtz	Youth Director	Bennett Shapiro
Administrator	Karen Brady	Office Secretary	John Wertz
Principal	Sonja Spear	Custodian	Amos Kiche
BOARD OF TRUSTEES			
President	Kathy Jacobs	Religious School	Rebecca Romano O'Neill
President Elect	Sue Weinberg	Sisterhood Liaison	Nancy Sprince
Vice President	Jeff Braverman	Social	Beverly Jones
Treasurer	Mindy Russell	Tikun Olam	Martha Lubaroff
Board Secretary	Janelle Jaskolka	Ways & Means	Mindy Russell
Adult Education	Frank Salomon; Daphne Lison	Youth	Shellie Smith
Membership	Shelley Goffstein	At Large 1	Jonathan Sabin
Ritual	Peter Rubenstein; Alan Weinstein	At Large 2	Janice Weiner