



Agudas Achim Congregation

401 E. Oakdale Blvd., Coralville, IA 52241

Phone: 319-337-3813

www.AgudasAchimIC.org

August 2020 / Av–Elul 5780

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sue Weinberg

The dog days of summer are upon us. Summer is usually a quiet time at Agudas Achim, even more so this year with Covid quarantines and social distancing requirements.

But behind the scenes we have been working! The Education committee will be sending out information on how classes will be handled in the coming year (spoiler – online for at least the fall semester). The Membership committee has been in contact with new and prospective members – WELCOME to our new members, I'm looking forward to meeting you over zoom and eventually in person. Adult Education has also been busy, they have lined up an exciting array of programming for late July through August, with more ideas in the pipeline. See the bulletin and the weekly emails for details. Tikun Olam has sponsored a blood drive and is discussing other activities. And of course Ritual is busy planning High Holiday services, which will be held via zoom.

I am excited about the reimagining of the Jewish Federation of the Corridor, led by Jody Braverman and Karen Michaeli Timmons. They co-sponsored the Community Bond and Iowa Freedom Riders

presentation with the Adult Ed committee, and I am looking forward to more engagement with them.

We are also working on improving ways to contact the synagogue. When we initially closed the building we had no idea that the closure would be this long. As Karen and John are mostly working from home, most contact with the office has been via email, with the phone mostly only available for leaving messages. We are working on solutions to have the phones forwarded and able to be answered during normal business hours, as well as a way for the rabbi to be reachable by phone. Details will be available shortly.

I hope you are all staying healthy, and taking care of yourselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. Physical is easy – wear a mask and faceshield, wash your hands, use hand sanitizer, the protocols are well publicized. But mental and emotional health are just as important. My coping strategies are to turn the news off, unfollow or block negative people on Facebook, use a meditation app to help me sleep, and play with kittens! What are your strategies?



SCHOOL NEWS

Sonja Spear

The cicadas are singing again. To me, their chirping is always bittersweet. It means that summer is coming to an end, but another exciting year is about to begin.

This year holds more mystery than most. As I write this, it is still not clear if the public schools will be meeting in person in the fall. But I do have plans for Sunday School.

Sunday School will meet remotely for the fall semester. Parents will receive a letter soon with details. Briefly, we are planning a combination of activities: holiday kits for families; brief zoom meetings by grade, and one-on-one tutorials for students preparing for bar or bat mitzvah. In addition, we would like to hold some outdoor family activities with appropriate precautions, if the weather permits and if our COVID numbers begin to fall.

School will be a little different when we can meet in person again. With the advice of the Education Committee and the consent of the Board, we are moving to consolidated program that meets on

Sundays from 9:15-12:15. This program will include both Judaics and Hebrew for prayer. Students who are preparing for bar/bat mitzvah will make appointments individually or in pairs with the rabbi and the principal on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

We will be threading Hebrew through the program, starting by introducing letters in Kindergarten and by integrated Hebrew words into daily speech. In this way, we will create a foundation for introducing reading later on. To some extent, we have already been teaching Hebrew this way. Now that all the students will have the same experiences in the same classes together, it will be easier to build on this common foundation. A common foundation, in turn, makes it easier to teach Judaics such as Jewish culture, history, and ethics.

I am really looking forward to implementing this new program as soon as we can meet in person. Until then, I hope that families will find something fun in the holidays kits. More than anything, I look forward to seeing the kids in the fall, even if it can't be in person.

DONATIONS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ewa Bardach & Hani Elkadi: In memory of Yelena Laneeva Bardach

CEMETERY FUND

Mel & Diane Sunshine: In memory of Kalman Sunshine and Sam Brodsky

GENERAL GIFTS

Jeff & Sara Braverman: In memory of Helen Dunn

Jody & Janie Braverman: In memory of Morris Breggin and Robert Braverman

LIBRARY FUND

Sam & Marj Kuperman: In memory of Burton Frank

SIM & SARAH STRAUSS MEMORIAL FUND

Stephen Strauss: In memory of Meir Markovitz

PORTMAN PROGRAM FUND

Michelle Stalkfleet: In memory of Harriet L. Clark

TALMUD TORAH FUND

Eloise McCuskey: In memory of David J. Pitzele

WARM-UP AMERICA

Sam & Marj Kuperman: In memory of Eleanor Frank

SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE (ALL SERVICES VIA ZOOM)

Streaming links for Shabbat services on Zoom: [Friday Night \(7:30 p.m.\)](#); [Saturday Morning \(9:30 a.m.\)](#)

Vaetchanan <i>(Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11)</i>	Friday, July 31 Saturday, August 1	7:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	Lev Shalem (Conservative) Mishkan T'filah (Reform)
Ekev <i>(Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25)</i>	Friday, August 7 Saturday, August 8	7:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	Mishkan T'filah Bat Mitzvah of Naomi Greiner
Re'eh <i>(Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17)</i>	Friday, August 14 Saturday, August 15	7:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	Mishkan T'filah Lev Shalem
Shoftim <i>(Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9)</i>	Friday, August 21 Saturday, August 22	7:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	Mishkan T'filah Lev Shalem
Ki Tetze <i>(Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19)</i>	Friday, August 28 Saturday, August 29	7:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	Mishkan T'filah Lev Shalem

TIKUN OLAM NEWS *Jody Braverman*

The Tikun Olam committee is keeping busy despite COVID-19!

The committee is distributing loaner copies of shabbat prayer books Mishkan Tefilah and Lev Shalem plus Etz Hayim. Please contact Jody Braverman for more information at: jtbraverman@yahoo.com.

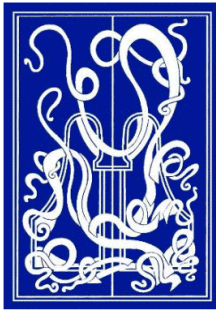
Tikun Olam is promoting the DeGowin Blood Center's blood drive at the former University of Iowa Art Museum through the end of August. Google "DeGowin Blood Center" for information.

On July 27, Tikun Olam, the Adult Education Committees and the new Jewish Federation of the Corridor co-sponsored "Dialogue with Participants in the Community Bond Project and the Iowa Freedom Riders, featuring Ari Braverman and Julia Zalenski."

Members of the Tikun Olam committee, together with Rabbi Hugenholtz and other Agudas Achim members, recently participated in the Johnson County Interfaith Coalition's *Change Assembly*. This online gathering provided a forum for people of many faiths to address racism in our community. Nearly 100 people heard inspiring messages from area clergy, then joined one of eight breakout sessions on a variety of topics to focus on the repair necessary to become an anti-racist community.

Tikun Olam has started a Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange. We have several near new puzzles available now. If you are ready for a challenge or wish to place your current puzzle(s) in a new home, please contact Wendy Levy [here](#).

The next Tikun Olam Zoom meeting is 7:00 on Wednesday, August 12. Let Jody know if you are interested in joining.



Agudas Achim Congregation

Tikkun Olam Committee



Do You Like Jigsaw Puzzles?

**Are You Bored With The Ones You've Completed Ten+ Times?
Want to TRADE PUZZLES With Another Member of Agudas Achim?**

Contact Wendy Levy shawnc02011@gmail.com

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

The bereavement group will meet on Wednesday, August 19 at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.
For more information, [contact Martha Lubaroff](mailto:martha@agudasachim.org).

FAIR SHARE FORMS

It is more important than ever for us to receive your FY20-21 pledges for proper budgeting at the synagogue. If your contact information has not changed, it only takes a minute to fill it out. Scans or photos of the form emailed to administrator@agudasachim.org are acceptable.

GLENN EHRSTINE TALK



Talk by Glenn Ehrstine

Sunday, August 2, 10:00 a.m. [at this link](#)

Glenn Ehrstine will discuss “Pandemics Then and Now: The Black Death and the Erfurt Pogrom of 1349”. This will cover Jews in the time of pandemics, including Jewish-Christian collaboration to preserve Jews and Jewish writings. Glenn is an associate professor in the German department at the University of Iowa.

NAOMI GREINER BAT MITZVAH



Please join us for the Bat Mitzvah of

Naomi Greiner

on Saturday, August 8 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

[Click here](#) to join at the appropriate time.

LISA HEINEMAN TALK



Talk by Lisa Heineman

Sunday, August 16, 10:00 a.m. [at this link](#)

Lisa Heineman will give a primer on Jewish Life in Europe Before the Holocaust. Lisa is a professor in the History department at the University of Iowa.



Agudas Achim Congregation



BLOOD DRIVE

at: UI Old Museum of Art

New Times to Join
Tikkun Olam's
Blood Drive

Easy
Parking

Blood Supplies
Are
Critically Low

Tuesday, July 28 08:00 AM - 02:00 PM
Wednesday, July 29 12:00 PM - 06:00 PM
Thursday, July 30 10:00 AM - 04:00 PM
Tuesday, August 4 noon - 06:00 PM

Thursday, August 6 08:00 AM - 02:00 PM
Tuesday, August 11 10:00 AM - 04:00 PM
Wednesday, August 12 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM

By Appointment ONLY:
uidegowinbloodcenter.org



PRAYER BOOK DISTRIBUTION

Mishkan Tefilah (Reform) and Siddur Lev Shalem (Conservative) are now available for home use while services are conducted on Zoom. You can email secretary@agudasachimic.org to arrange no-contact pickup at the synagogue. If you'd like them delivered, contact Jody Braverman at jtbraverman@yahoo.com or (319) 631-0416.

AUGUST 2020

ALL SERVICES, MEETINGS, AND EVENTS WILL BE VIA ZOOM. EMAIL THE OFFICE IF YOU NEED DETAILS.

Sat	1	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM	Mon	17	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM
Sun	2	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
		Glenn Ehrstine Talk	10:00 AM			Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM
		Mussar Study Group	1:00 PM	Wed	19	Bereavement Group	12:30 PM
		Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
Mon	3	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM			Ritual Committee	7:30 PM
		Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM	Thurs	20	Soulful Virtual Ma'ariv	8:30 PM
		Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM	Fri	21	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM
Wed	5	Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM			Shabbat Schmooze	6:30 PM
Thurs	6	Education Committee	6:00 PM			Shabbat Evening Services	7:00 PM
		Soulful Virtual Ma'ariv	8:30 PM	Sat	22	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
Fri	7	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM	Sun	23	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM
		Shabbat Schmooze	6:30 PM			Warm-Up America	10:00 AM
		Shabbat Evening Services	7:00 PM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
Sat	8	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM	Mon	24	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM
		Naomi Greiner Bat Mitzvah	9:30 AM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
Sun	9	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM			Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM
		Warm-Up America	10:00 AM	Wed	26	Free Lunch	11:30 AM
		Mussar Study Group	1:00 PM			Book Group	1:00 PM
		Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
Mon	10	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM	Thurs	27	Soulful Virtual Ma'ariv	8:30 PM
		Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM	Fri	28	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM
		Intro to Judaism	7:30 PM			Shabbat Schmooze	6:30 PM
Wed	12	Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM			Shabbat Evening Services	7:00 PM
Thurs	13	Executive Committee Meeting	5:30 PM	Sat	29	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM
		Soulful Virtual Ma'ariv	8:30 PM	Sun	30	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM
Fri	14	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
		Shabbat Schmooze	6:30 PM	Mon	31	Yiddish Study Group	10:30 AM
		Shabbat Evening Services	7:00 PM			Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM
Sat	15	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30 AM	SAVE THE DATE			
Sun	16	Talmud Study Group	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES SEPTEMBER 6			
		Lisa Heineman Talk	10:00 AM				
		Tea Time Check-In	4:00 PM				

AUGUST YAHRZEITS

Morris Aizenberg	Rosa Dicker	Robert Kieso	Joseph Schwartz
Adele Anolik	Helen B. Dunn	Marilyn Krachmer	Ned Siner
Jack Balch	Rebecca Engman	Robert Kubby	Francis Smith
Janusz Bardach	Rhona Fox	Julius Kunik	Robert Soldofsky
Mary "Vera" Boyers	Burton Frank	Deborah Levin	Lillian Sterman
Regina Brecher	Eleanor Frank	Getzel Levin	Morris Tiss
Samuel Brenner	Frank Phillip Friedland	Lillian Levine	Murray Weiner
Richard Caplan	Anitra Haendel	Liza Zabner Lublin	Julie Whitebook
Harriet L. Clark	Ann Hecht	Norman Madison	Craig Zwerling
Charlotte Cohn	Donald Herbach	Marvin Pomerantz	
Brenna Davidson	Dorothy Haber Kaufman	Sam Saltzman	
Abraham Dicker	Pat Kean	Muriel Savin	

WARM UP AMERICA

Connie Berman

Warm Up America will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays August 9 and 23 [at this link.](#)

YIDDISH STUDY GROUP

The Yiddish Study Group meets on Mondays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.
Contact the office for information.

STAFF

Rabbi	Esther Hugenholtz	Office Secretary	John Wertz
Administrator	Karen Brady	Custodian	Amos Kiche
Principal	Sonja Spear		

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Sue Weinberg	Adult Education	Daphne Lison; Bennett Brown
President Elect	Janice Weiner	Sisterhood Liaison	Nancy Sprince
Vice President	David Lubaroff	Social	<i>Vacant</i>
Past President	Kathy Jacobs	Tikun Olam	Jody Braverman
Treasurer	Mindy Russell	Ways & Means	Mindy Russell
Board Secretary	Janelle Jaskolka	Youth	Shellie Smith
Membership	Jane Zukin	At Large 1	Elliott Abrons
Ritual	Peter Rubenstein; Alan Weinstein	At Large 2	Curtis Braverman
Religious School	Chuck Friedman	At Large 3	Bob Wallace