From the Study of Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus:

TAKING THE (Ritual) Plunge

“When God spoke these words, it was to organize the waters and create dry land as part of the creation story. The waters were gathered into one place, makom, and God saw this was good.

A few miles north of here, there is a different gathering of waters called MACoM: Metro Atlanta Community Mikvah. MACoM’s brand-new building will reside on the campus of Congregation B’nai Torah. Much like the makom of the creation story, MACoM hopes to be a gathering place based upon water: a place of healing, celebration, and welcoming.

The concept of mikvah, ritual bath, has its origins in the purification rituals introduced in Torah. Over time, the mikvah became an important institution in Jewish communities as it allowed for ritual transitions. A woman could, after menstruation or childbirth, immerse in the mikvah and be considered tahor (spiritually pure). A person could immerse as part of conversion, emerging as a Jew. Men could immerse as part of their ritual and spiritual practice. As with many rituals, the mikvah remained part of traditional Jewish observance but largely fell out of use in Reform congregations as people chose not to observe the rules of family purity (immersion after menstruation). Today, most Reform Jews associate mikvah with conversion.

Yet the mikvah provides an opportunity for creative and resonant rituals at all transitional moments. It is no longer something just for traditional Jews or only for conversion—anyone who seeks to Jewishly acknowledge a transition in his or her life could find a place at MACoM. With the help of clergy or with the assistance of specially-trained mikvah guides, a person can go to MACoM and immerse for any number of reasons: struggles with fertility, completion of cancer treatment, before a wedding, before a bat mitzvah, before the birth of a baby, to welcome a newly-adopted child, to celebrate weaning, to acknowledge a milestone birthday, to celebrate an anniversary, to acknowledge a divorce, to mark the end of a period of mourning, and more. By immersing in the waters of the mikvah, one can participate in a ritual act which marks the transition from one spiritual state into another.

What is particularly exciting for me is the idea that this will also be a place where the many streams of Judaism can gather in one makom, one place. All Jews, regardless of denomination or affiliation, have a place at MACoM. This ritual transcends our various denominations and has the potential to bring many aspects of our community together.

Rabbi Alvin Sugarman has been instrumental in making this mikvah a reality, and I, along with our Temple member Caryn Hanrahan, am serving on the MACoM board. We hope you will join us in celebration of the ribbon-cutting for MACoM on November 15 at 1:00 PM (700 Mt Vernon Highway), a ceremony co-chaired by our own Ronnie van Gelder. Even more, I hope that you will consider ways that mikvah could be meaningful to you or a member of your family. I am happy to discuss with you the many reasons you might want to immerse at MACoM and all of our clergy are delighted to help you craft a meaningful experience, whether or not we accompany you. It is our prayer that MACoM will truly be a gathering place for our entire community.

RABBI LAPIDUS CAN BE REACHED AT: LLAPIDUS@THE-TEMPLE.ORG

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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<th>FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6</th>
<th>Shabbat Worship Service</th>
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<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td>Chapel Worship Service</td>
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<td>Mini Shabbat Morning</td>
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<td>Bat Mitzvah of Lauren W. Eastman</td>
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<td>Mincha Bat Mitzvah of Lucy Strohl</td>
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<td>SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td>Chapel Worship Service</td>
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For a full listing of services & other programs: WWW.THE-TEMPLE.ORG
B’nei Mitzvah

NOVEMBER 14
LAUREN EASTMAN
Daughter of Jennifer & David Eastman

NOVEMBER 21
ANSEL LEWIS
Son of Alisa & Andrew Lewis

NOVEMBER 21
LUCY STROHL
Daughter of Juliet Buchwalter & Doug Strohl

Mazal Tov to...

- Ian David Fralick and Melissa Joy Weinman on their marriage, and to Melissa’s parents, Becky and Richard Weinman
- Isaac Jonathan Habif and Alexandra Paige Goldman on their marriage
- Monica Jeannie Chau and Brandon Andrew Miller on their marriage
- Myron & Cheryl Bloom on the birth of their granddaughter Maya Rosa Bloom
- Dr. Marjorie Blum and Mr. Doug Roberto and the birth of their granddaughter, Caroline Elizabeth born to Alex & Anne Roberto

Our Newest Members

- Stacey Appelson & Steve Phillips
  Zoey Phillips
- Kana & Richard Caplan
  Ellis and Ruby Caplan
- Sharon & Stuart Cott
- Jennifer Flaum
- Melissa Golden & Hutton Brown
  Lily Brown
- Leah Goldman
- Kimberly & Daniel Huddleston
  Teddy and Betsy Huddleston
- Diane Lowenstein Mulvey
- Aurora Mintz & Joshua Silver
- Jennifer & Michael Pardee
  Ben and Jake Pardee
- Sarah & Michael Porat
- Robin Robboy
- Cynthia & Howard Steinberg
  Halle and John Steinberg
- Emily Williams & Brad Leshnower
- Sam Wiskind

May Their Memory
Be For A Blessing

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to the Families of:

- Donald Myron Mendel (uncle of Larry Mendel)
- Morton Kirsch (uncle of Greg Kirsch)
MAFTY Merry Mitzvah

MAFTY (our high school youth group) is gearing up for our annual social action initiative! Each December our teens host a Shabbat dinner and shopping evening for the residents of the Zaban Couples Center. Teens will serve dinner, celebrate with the residents, and then give them an opportunity to go shopping in the MAFTY Mall for a gift for their spouse or partner. This can't happen without help from you. There are two ways you can help:

MAFTY MERRY MITZVAH CARNIVAL
Sunday, November 1 • 12:00 PM

Join us in the motor lobby right after religious school for a special lunch, face painting, decorate your own cupcakes, and more! Ticket packages range from $5-20 and all proceeds go to run MMM in December.

DONATIONS

We need donations of the items listed below. Bring items to The Temple from November 1-20. Items should be brand new.

- Robe
- Slippers (mens and womens)
- New picture frames
- Boxed/packaged bed linens (queen)
- New neck ties
- New boxed costume jewelry
- Throw blankets, snuggies
- Boxed alarm clocks, clock radios
- Boxed irons
- Full sets of pots and pans (boxed)
- 4 place settings of dishes (boxed)
- Boxed set of water glasses (not wine or alcohol related)
- Boxed blender
- Boxed table lamps or floor lamps
- Boxed tool sets

For more information, please contact Rabbi Steven Rau (srau@the-temple.org) or Elizabeth Foster (efoster@the-temple.org).

Infant-Toddler Programs at The Temple:

MINI SHABBAT MORNING
Saturday, November 14 @ 9:30 AM

Looking for something to do with your little one on a Saturday morning? Infants through preschoolers and their families are invited to join us on the second Saturday of every month at 9:30 AM in the Covenant Chapel for singing and a story with our puppets, followed by a bagel snack and then playground time. We’ll play on our beautiful outdoor Sonia's playground or if it rains, we’ll play on the WELC’s two indoor playgrounds. Please come dressed casually. There is no fee or RSVP required. Questions? Please contact either Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus at llapidus@the-temple.org or Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org.

THE BREMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2015

1    Fall Back—End of Daylight Savings Time
    Religious School    9:30 AM
    3rd Grade Family Education    9:30 AM
    MAFTY Merry Mitzvah Carnival    12:00 noon
    Project Tolerance Rehearsal    12:15 PM
    Religious School Committee Meeting    12:15 PM
8    Religious School    9:30 AM
    4th Grade Family Education    9:30 AM
    Tzadikim Meeting    12:15 PM
13-15   Confirmation Trip to New York City
15    Religious School    9:30 AM
    Madrichim Meeting    12:15 PM
22    No Religious School
    EDC Teacher Kallah at Temple Sinai
23-25   No Midweek Hebrew
29    No Religious School

ABOVE: 2nd grade students in Mrs. Harrison’s class learn to read and write the word ‘Shabbat’. BELOW: 7th Grade Trip to the Paper Clips Exhibit in Whitwell, TN and Chattanooga.
“From Pushcart to Macy’s”  
**Monday, November 2 • 7-9 PM**  
Joan Adler, Executive Director of the Straus Historical Society, will be in Peachtree City on Monday evening, November 2 at the home of Jim and Judy Freeman, 102 Rosemont Dr., Peachtree City, between 7-9 PM.

This conversation will act as a follow up to the Daytime Discussion Group’s topic “Jew Store to Department Store” and continue the rich dialogue and research some have already participated in. We hope to see you there! Please RSVP to Don Thomas (jdonthomas@comcast.net) to confirm your attendance.

**First Fridays**  
**Friday, November 6 • 8:30 PM**  
Join Rabbi David Spinrad and musicians Sammy Rosenbaum, Eli Sperling, and Samara Katz for an evening of soulful spirituality as we come together for an evening of prayer and music. First Fridays has become known for fun socializing and for services that feel inclusive for people of all levels of familiarity and comfort with the service and with Judaism and is a time to unwind from the week with conversation, inspiring music and meaningful words of prayer. To RSVP, email our Engagement Associate Summer Jacobs: sjacobs@the-temple.org and for questions for more information email Rabbi Spinrad: dspinrad@the-temple.org.

Follow us on Twitter: @FirstFridaysATL

**Library News**

Thanksgiving in America is traditionally traced to 1621—and we were here. Check out the following titles in our 973 section:

- **973 SAC**  
  A History of the Jews in America

- **973 LEB**  
  Pilgrim People

- **973 LIB**  
  We Lived There Too 973 LIB

- **973 LEB**  
  A History of the Jews in America

Happy Thanksgiving from your Library/Media Center!

**Daytime Discussion Group**  
**Wednesday, November 18 • 10:30-12:00**  
Library/Media Center

“Native or Newcomer?” Native Atlantans are outnumbered by newcomers from other places. Come and tell what brought you here. How did you know Atlanta was the right place for you? If you’re a native, tell us what you think about these “strangers.”

**ModernTribe @ The Temple**

Java Nagila gets even better as the Temple Gift Shop space reopens... in a new and exciting way with ModernTribe@The Temple! The Temple is partnering with ModernTribe to offer unique and useful Judaica for the modern Jewish home. Check out the ModernTribe website (moderntribe.com) or visit the store, located in the Sweet Auburn district of Atlanta to see the full array of merchandise. Grand Opening—Sunday, November 1st!

**Temples Connect**

Temple Connect Groups are the best way to get to know a small group of people well. These are groups of 8-12 people who want to do the same kinds of things you do, and who want to know other Temple members better. There are over 25 different groups from cycling to antiquing to Jewish study to Sunday morning bootcamp - you are sure to find something you are interested in doing and a great group of people along with it. Visit our website (www.the-temple.org/getconnected/templeconnect) for a full list of options. The groups are almost done forming so let us know TODAY which group you want to join (lmedwin@the-temple.org) or email the group leader directly from the website.

**Support The Temple When You Shop at Kroger**

Enroll your Kroger Plus card in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Enrollment is easy and does not impact your savings. Visit www.kroger.com to sign in to your account and enroll using our NPO number: 75313.

You must go through the online enrollment process. Have your Kroger Plus card handy. Once you have created an account, scroll down to the bottom of the page to the Community Rewards section. Put your information in and the search for the NPO number. The name you will see will be listed as “The Temple: THE HEBREW BENEVOLENT CONGREGATION”.

Every time you shop for groceries and swipe your card, The Temple automatically starts earning a rebate. You must swipe your registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to the registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count.

To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see The Temple’s name on the right side of your information page when applying the NPO number. Enrollment takes up to 7 days to start earning money towards The Temple community rewards.

**Caring at The Temple**

Our Caring at The Temple program reaches out to fellow congregants during times of hardship or pastoral need, providing homemade chicken soup and challah to members who are bereaved, ill, recently discharged from the hospital, or are celebrating the arrival of a new child. We have delivered more than 500 soups, and nearly every step of the program—from soup preparation, to delivery (within your zip code), to letting us know about fellow congregants in need—is led by members of our congregation.

Thank you to our Caring at the Temple volunteers who delivered soup this month: Lara Geller Church, Lisa Katz, Belinda Morris, Susan Roseman, Jill Slavin, and Lisa Vayle.

To be a part of this program and to fulfill the mitzvah of bikkur cholim (visiting the sick) or to let us know who needs soup, please contact Rabbi David Spinrad at dspinrad@the-temple.org or 404-873-1731.

**Temple Tailgate @ UGA**

**Saturday, November 7 vs. Kentucky**

Calling all UGA students, alumni, and fans! The Temple is headed to Athens for our first Temple Tailgate party—tell your undergrad and grad students to meet up with other alumni in the parking lot of the Law Offices of Benjamin Gerber, our amazing host! (525 South Milledge Avenue, Athens, GA 30605) Time to be announced when published by the networks. RSVP to Joya (jschmidt@the-temple.org or 404.873.1731) so we can get a few burgers for you. Go Bulldogs!
Upcoming Events for Interfaith Couples & Families:

HOW-TO SHABBAT: MAKING SHABBAT DINNER SPECIAL

Friday, November 6 at 7:15 PM at The Temple
Learn more about the beautiful, warm traditions around the Shabbat dinner table and creative ways to personalize it for you and your interfaith family. Services are at 6:00 PM and for young professionals, there is the option of attending the First Friday service at 8:30 PM. This dinner is subsidized to make it only $10/person. To RSVP, please email Cherie Winsett at cwinsett@the-temple.org.

DESSERT AND CONVERSATION FOR PARENTS OF INTERMARRIED CHILDREN

Saturday, November 21 at 7:30 PM, address provided with RSVP
Join other parents whose children are in interfaith relationships to share the ways you navigate your role as parents and grandparents and support your children in this journey. As part of this evening, we will celebrate havdalah, the ceremony to end Shabbat. To RSVP, please email Cherie Winsett at cwinsett@the-temple.org.

CHANUKAH AT THE ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN’S “GARDEN LIGHTS, HOLIDAY NIGHTS”

Wednesday, December 9 5:30-9:30 PM
Join your Temple family as we light the Chanukah menorah, sing songs, and celebrate this season of lights together. For more information, please contact Laurie Simon at lsimon@the-temple.org.

Commemorating Leo Frank’s Death

Sunday, November 22 • 4:00 PM • The Temple sanctuary
Kennesaw State University will present a concert version of the show Parade—book by Alfred Uhry, music by Jason Robert Brown. The show presents the story of Leo and Lucille Frank leading up to the lynching in Marietta, and is the final part of a series of presentations commemorating the 100 year anniversary of this event. It is a free event, and is musically directed by our own staff pianist, Judy Cole. Please plan to attend!

92Y is Back for a New Year!

92Y@92
This program is made possible by Marc Weinberg in honor of Chuck and Lisa Taylor. Each broadcast will be followed by a discussion relevant to the topic. All technological issues have been properly addressed and enhanced. Save the date for our November program:

THE LURE OF THE CATSKILLS: THEN AND NOW
Sunday, November 15 • 2:00pm
The past and the future come together to revisit the Catskills’ storied past and its burgeoning food and artisan culture, thriving tourism industry, and bustling second-home market. Owner of the legendary Grossinger’s Resort, Elaine Grossinger Etess, and iconic Borscht Belt comedian Stewie Stone will bring the historical perspective, while three leaders of the area’s revitalization (Hudson Woods architect Drew Land, and North Creative Director Emma Tuccillo, and hotelier Mitchell Grossinger Etess) represent its promising future. Cat Green-Leaf, host of NBC’s “Talk Stoop” moderates, and panel discussion will follow with Bob Bahr. Bob is a former documentary producer and executive with CBS News in New York, and CNN in Atlanta. He currently lectures on media, spirituality and communication at adult learning programs in the Atlanta metropolitan area and at Mercer and Emory Universities.

Thank You to Our Temple Family
Thanks to our fabulous congregants for a very successful food collection and fundraiser. We collected an amazing amount of food thousands of pounds—and we raised over $30,000! A special thanks to everyone who helped unload the truck, sort and stack the groceries at MAC: Lenore Alexander, Maya Alexander, Nolan Alexander, Pamela Alexander, Jonathan Amsler, Daniel Berkerman, Lior Berg, Matan Berg, Noah Berg, Peter Berg, Nikki Berne, Talia Bernhard, Susan Bernstein, Lauren Blazofsky, DeSimone Family, Jane Gole, Marc Goncher, Samantha Horwitz, Brad Kaplan, Cole Kaplan, Ellen Kaplan, Maya Kaplan, Lipsy Family, Maddy Oppenheim, Ella Padawer, Jake Rosmarin, Julia Ross, Kayla Ross, Owen Ross, Peter Ross, Patricia Schiffman, Todd Slutzky, Ari Solomon, Yonah Solomon, Jesse Spolan, Mia Spolan, Mitch Spolan, Rudy Spolan, Doug Strohl, Renee Van Amburgh, Ronnie van Gelder, Josh Whitehead, J. Paul Whitehead.

A Super Special Thanks to Mitchell Wirth & Dorothy Chandler, Executive Director at MAC, and her staff who were with us every step of the way. We apologize if your name was omitted. Please call and let us know so that we can correct our list and thank you appropriately.

Andrew Feiler’s Without Regard to Sex, Race, or Color
Shot over the course of a year, this body of documentary artistic photography illuminates a proud past, a challenging present and an uncertain future, not only for this one institution but for all of America’s historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). More broadly, this work offers a new way into the debate raging in our society about the essential role education has played as the foundation of the American Dream. That tradition and legacy are now at risk. Too many Americans cannot afford to go to college. Too many Americans are being crushed by college debt. Too many of these American dreams cannot be fully realized. Learn more at http://www.andrewfeiler.com/books and visit Andrew’s exhibition at Atlanta University Center’s Robert W. Woodruff Library before November 23.
Contributions of Support

Rabbis’ Discretionary Funds

In Memory of:
Oscar Balamut
Laurence & Marilyn Gross
Sol I. Golden
Jonathan Golden
Beloved husband,
Howard Goodman
Barbara Goodman
Helen Gross
Laurence & Marilyn Gross
Jim Jenkins
Ariela Ehrens
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J. Ben Shapiro, Sr.
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Sanford & Barbara Orkin
In Honor of:
Anniversary of Miriam & Marvin Botnick
Carolyn Wasser
Rosh Hashanah
Janice & Michael Danzig
Big Birthday of Nancy Hirsch
Carol Haber
Berit Mila of Leo Lopez
Janet Lefkowitz
Marriage of Jeffrey Levy & Elizabeth Lapidus
Herbert Stettin
Marriage of Gail Podolsky & Kimberly Fernandez
Gail’s parents
85th Birthday of
Dr. Herbert Spasser
Evelyn Gelman & Jack Topal
Jordan Tucker’s Bat Mitzvah
Evelyn Gelman & Jack Topal
Wedding of our daughter,
Melissa to Ian Fralick
Richard & Becky Weinman
Donations:
Denise Hecht
Susanna & Ryan Sawyer
Cantor’s Discretionary Fund

In Memory of:
Doris Massell
Herbert Cohen
Jean Aronstam Cohen
Herbert Cohen
Albert Gross
Marilyn & Laurence Gross
Elayne Bernstein
Natalie & Matthew Bernstein
In Honor of:
Cantor Deborah Hartman
Marilyn & Josh Shubin
Temple Endowment Fund

In Memory of:
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Insa Abraham
Doris Massell
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Nancy & John Hirsch
Recovery of Mark Jacobson
Ralph Birnberg
Mark Jacobson
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Seena Goldberg
Gussie Jacobson
Seena Goldberg
Temple Singers Fund

In Memory of:
David E. Cohen
Sandy Taffel-Cox
Holland Youth Library Fund

In Memory of:
Betty Weinstock Nathan
Ellen & Jack Holland
Temple Library Fund

In Memory of:
Doris Massell
The Monday Book Club
Edmund Caine
Beatrice Caine

Dream for Tomorrow

The Temple’s Endowment Campaign: Investing for 2017 and Beyond
Thanks to you, this Endowment Campaign will help establish financial stability for future generations. Creating a strong endowment is the most important thing we can be doing for the future of our beloved Temple.

– Rabbi Peter S. Berg

For more information on the endowment campaign, please visit the-temple.org/dream or contact Mark Jacobson, Executive Director at 404-873-1731.

We appreciate all donations & suggest a minimum of $10.00 per acknowledgement. Donations can be earmarked to one of our various donations funds. For more information on the various funds and their purpose in funding The Temple’s legacy and operations, please contact Rita Zadoff at 404-873-1731. You can make donations in person, over the phone, or via our website at THE-TEMPLE.ORG.
DENNIS ROSS, Doomed to Succeed: The US – Israeli Relationship from Truman to Obama
In Conversation with Dr. Kenneth Stein, William E. Schatten Professor of Contemporary Middle Eastern History, Political Science, and Israel Studies, Emory University
Monday, November 9 • 7:30 PM at The Temple • Sponsored by Greenberg Traurig
FREE TO THE COMMUNITY (RSVP REQUIRED)

For almost three decades, Ambassador Dennis Ross has been a leading figure in the diplomatic world of Soviet and Middle East policy. During the Reagan administration, he served as director of Near East and South Asian affairs on the National Security Council staff and as deputy director of the Pentagon’s Office of Net Assessment. In the first Bush administration, he served as director of the State Department’s Policy Planning Office, where he played a prominent role in developing U.S. policy toward the former Soviet Union, the unification of Germany and its integration into NATO, arms control negotiations, and the development of the 1991 Gulf War Coalition.

Under President Clinton, he was a special Middle East coordinator. As a point person in America’s ongoing role in the Middle Eastern peace process, Ross was instrumental in assisting Israelis and Palestinians in reaching the 1995 Interim Agreement. He successfully brokered the Hebron Accord in 1997, facilitated the 1994 Israel-Jordan peace treaty, and worked to bring Israel and Syria together. Speaking of Ross, President Clinton said “No one worked harder for peace than Dennis. He gave it everything he had and served our nation very well.”

Now, Ross provides a comprehensive account of America’s complicated history with Israel in his new book, Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama. Beginning with Israel’s inception and working forward administration by administration, Ross chronicles the tense back-and-forth that has existed between our two countries for nearly three-quarters of a century. In clear, direct prose, Ross describes how often America was forced to view Israel as a chess piece in a larger game with forces like the Soviet Union, pan-Arabism, and post-9/11 anti-terror strategy. Indeed, Ross shows how the study of America’s bond with Israel can serve as an outline of American foreign policy in general from 1948 to present. Written with historical precision and exhaustive detail, Doomed to Succeed is a timely, important, and necessary recounting of one of our most significant alliances.

Ambassador Dennis Ross is the Counselor and Davidson Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and a Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown. He was the director of policy planning in the State Department for George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton’s Middle East coordinator, and a special assistant to the president under Barack Obama.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TICKETS:
Tickets are free (two per household) with an RSVP and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. All ticket holders are asked to pick up their tickets at WILL CALL at The Temple, where they played a prominent role in developing U.S. policy toward the former Soviet Union, the unification of Germany and its integration into NATO, arms control negotiations, and the development of the 1991 Gulf War Coalition.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TICKETS:
Tickets are free (two per household) with an RSVP and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. All ticket holders are asked to pick up their tickets at WILL CALL at The Temple, which opens one hour before the program begins.

- If you are a member of The Temple: please RSVP to Rabbi Lydia Medwin, lmedwin@the-temple.org.
- If you are a Book Festival of the MJCCA Pacesetter, Patron, or Sponsor, please RSVP to Bonnie Brodsky at bonnie.brodsky@atlantajcc.org or 678.812.4151.
- All other guests, including MJCCA members, please reserve your tickets online at atlantajcc.org/bookfestival after September 1, 2015.

PLEASE NOTE: This program is general admission seating – we are unable to offer patron seating at this event.

Please contact Kara Hoffman, khoffman@the-temple.org, with any questions or to register.