

# Voice & Generations

Congregation Dor Tamid 11165 Parsons Road Johns Creek, GA 30097

February 2024 Shevat—Adar I 5784

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## **Cantorial Soloist's Message**



Shalom Chaveirim - hello my friends,

I hope you are all doing well. This past week, on January 27th, we marked International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This day is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, and has been designated by the United Nations General Assembly as a time to remember the six million Jewish innocents slaughtered during the Holocaust and the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution. Every year, this day takes on great significance (though it is different than our *Yom HaShoah*), as countries

around the world take pause to remember and educate. This year, particularly, International Holocaust Memorial Day is remarkable because of the massive uptick in worldwide antisemitism. By now, we are all well aware of the continuing rise in antisemitic occurrences ignited by the horrible acts perpetrated against Israel by the terrorist organization Hamas, and the subsequent war Israel continues to fight to defend itself. To this point, the worldwide Jewish community has been vocal in bringing attention to the growing antisemitic activity. We continue to aggressively battle the war of misinformation and propaganda relating to the war in Israel. Though it is heavy going, this last week it seems that we may have won an important victory here in our wonderful home state of Georgia with the passing of House Bill 30.

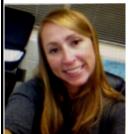
HB 30 places into Georgia law a definition of antisemitism that closely mirrors the definition adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. Sponsors of this bill say a definition would help prosecutors and other officials identify hate crimes and illegal discrimination targeting Jewish people, and then require such identification to be considered when applying other laws in Georgia. While the passing of HB 30 was not unanimous, as there were some concerns about this law possibly tamping down on free speech as it relates to the criticism of the Israeli government, most legislatures saw the bill as a way to combat the rise in antisemitism. In addition to Georgia, there are at least eight other states working on similar legislation. Unfortunately, it is clear that the impetus for the success of these bills is the horrendous war in Israel. Similar bills have failed to even make it to the floor in the past. Would that such tragedy not be required in order for antisemitism to be protected against by laws. Still, that our voices are being heard is no small thing.

As we begin the month of February, it will be 117 days since October 7th. 117 days of war in Israel. 117 days of captivity. 117 days of increasing antisemitism. While the passing of HB 30 is important, we must continue to press on, making our voices heard...making sure no one forgets.

With prayers for Israel, the Jewish community around the world, and for all the innocent lives lost- *Shalom*,

Mike Zuspan Cantorial Soloist

# President's Message



Hello to my CDT Family!

I hope that you have had a good start to 2024! From crazy cold temperatures to rainy days, January seemed to move at the speed of light. And we have been busy as ever at CDT!

I just wanted to thank the Social Action Committee, Sisterhood, Men's Club, Jessica Grabowski and all of our amazing volunteers for organizing and running such a wonderful CDT Cares Day. From blanket making, to capes for kids, and lasagnas for families, our

students learned about the *mitzvah* of helping those in need. We collected food for Homes Against Hunger, and the blood drive was a huge success. I even donated blood for the first time and hope to continue to donate on a regular basis.

If you didn't get to join us for our SINGO social event this month, I hope you will consider joining us next time. Ashley and Tyler Chenault led us in a fun filled musical bingo game. We had amazing food, good music, prizes, some awesome dancing, and an overall good time!

On Wednesday, 1/24, we celebrated *Tu BiShvat* with a beautiful *Tu BiShvat Seder* led by our very own Mike Zuspan. It was a beautiful evening celebrating the seasons, the trees and the fruit that they bear. Thank you to Mike, the ritual committee, and Barri Gertz for making this event happen. We have not had a *Tu BiShvat Seder* at CDT for many years and successfully had over 60 members attend!

I hope that if you had a chance to join us for musical *Shabbat Shira* that you enjoyed the service as much as I did. Musical *Shabbat* is one of my favorite services at CDT and I hope that you will join us for a musical *Shabbat* in the future. Please make sure to take a look at the flyer below or on our website <a href="www.cdt.org">www.cdt.org</a> for dates of our upcoming events. And finally, as you saw in my email, we are excited to welcome Rabbi Jordan back from his Sabbatical. He will be very busy over the next few weeks getting caught up, so please be patient.

As always, do not hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions or concerns or if you would just like to chat.

Thank you,

Rachel



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## Our Bar Mitzvah Student



**Dylan Herman** is a 7th grader at River Trail Middle School in Johns Creek. He is an A student in advanced and honors classes. When not in class he participates in the school's spring musical, Chinese yo-yo performance team, Jr. Beta Honors Society, technology help, and plays baritone saxophone in the Symphonic Band. Outside of school, Dylan is involved in the martial arts, riding his skateboard, playing soccer, reading every book he can get his hands on, and hanging out with friends on and offline.

For his *mitzvah* project, Dylan collected numerous boxes of books for children ages 0-5. Dylan's explicit love of reading translated into helping make a difference in the lives of other children who may not have the vast exposure to literature he is grateful for in his life. Dylan hopes to continue to help support the area's youth by collecting and distributing books to free little libraries around the metro area. Dylan will celebrate becoming a *bar mitzvah* on February 10, 2024.



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# **Interim Director of Jewish Life & Learning**



Jessica Grabowski

Religious School 2024 is back in session! January has been a month choc' full of learning, connecting, and most importantly having fun! Our students learned about the concept of humility, Moses, slavery in Egypt, and the importance of standing up for others. As a school, we learned about the importance of "Tikkun Olam" and what we as a school are focusing our Tzedakah efforts on, The Lone Solider Center. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mitzvah class had the honor of meeting a real Lone Soldier via Zoom! Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Comparative Religion class has switched gears from learning all about different types of Judaism to focusing on Christianity, Buddhism and many other types of religions.

The highlight of our month was our CDT Cares Day dedicated to honoring MLK Day, the civil rights movement, and the connection between Judaism and the importance of equality for all! Religious School, Sisterhood, Social Action, Men's Club, and Prime Timers all participated in various DIY community action projects benefiting populations such as: homeless children and families, seniors, food insecure families, sick children, immigrants at the border, the Lone Solider Center, and so many more! We came together with volunteers and staff producing hundreds of items made with purpose and love! January winds down with learning about *Tu Bishvat*. Our 1st and 6<sup>th</sup> graders had their own *seders*. Pre-K/K and 5<sup>th</sup> grades planted their own seeds of parsley, that will hopefully be ready to harvest for Passover. Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders went off site, volunteering as part of a collaboration between Trees Atlanta and the Jewish Environmental Group, Adamah, by planting, pruning and nurturing the land in a much needed area of the metro.

### So many exciting and creative ways we are connecting with our Judaism!















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# Many Thanks — תודה רבה

### **General Fund**

Larry & Jodi Benator
-in memory of Zelda Benator

### **Rabbi Discretionary Fund**

Jim & Pam Ottenstein

-in memory of Ethel Ottenstein

-in memory of Norman Noun

Daniel & Cathie Bigman

-in memory of Carmelo Del Valle

### **Cantorial Soloist Fund**

Larry & Jackie Berger

-in memory of Victor Brenner

-in memory of Jeanne Bernstein

Daniel & Cathie Bigman

-in memory of Carmelo Del Valle

Jason & Julie Epstein

-Thank you for your help with Sherrie Bernsohn's funeral arrangements

### **Caring Committee**

Lois D. Salter

-in memory of Scott Brown

Sheldon & Sherry Fages

-A Speedy Recovery for Ethel Rubenstein

**Beverly Mahone** 

-in memory of Michel Dumes

Anita Walters

-Thank you

Susan Klein

-in memory of Carmelo Del Valle

### **High Holy Day Appeal**

Jeff & Ruth Siegel

### **Oneg Fund**

**Beverly Mahone** 

-in memory of Tom Mahone

### Plant a Tree

Linda Galler

-in memory of Richard Jeline

### Sandwich Fund

**Sheldon & Sherry Fages** 

-in memory of Michel Dumes

### **Scholarship Fund**

Anthony & Susie Gioia

-in memory of Jordan Golding

### **58th Superbowl Squares**

Dan & Wendy Rosen

### **Yahrzeit Fund**

Jon & Michelle Popler

-in memory of Abraham Cohen

Ron & Betty Kurtz

-in memory of Jacob Kurtz

-in memory of Ida Kurtz

Steve & Jodi Wolfe

-in memory of Herman Wolfe

Ron & Bonnie Harvey

-in memory of Hilda Harvey

Ruthie Cohen

-in memory of Jack Goldberg

-in memory of Eddie Goldberg

### We Remember...

### Jay Binder

Step-Father of Scott Grunwald

### Sherrie Bernsohn

Mother of Julie Epstein

### Jordan Golding

Brother-in-Law of Susie Gioia

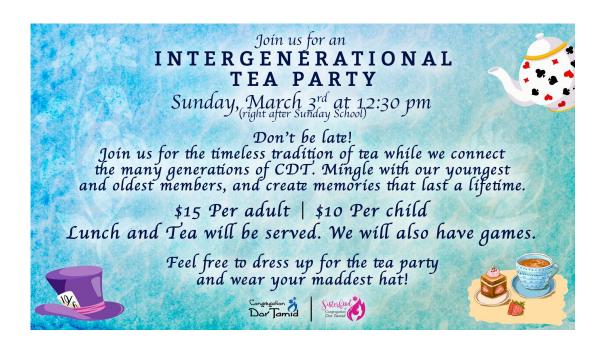
May their memories be a blessing

# **February Happenings**





# March Happenings





## **Social Action and Tikkun Olam**







### January was an amazing month for CDT and Social Action Tikkun Olam Initiatives!

CDT Cares Day during the MLK weekend was extraordinary. Committees including Social Action, Sisterhood, Men's Club, Prime Timers, and of course the Religious School teachers and students, came together to work on projects for people in our community. A blood drive, food donations, student activities including birthday cards for AVIV (older Jewish adults through JF&CS), decorating water bottles for refugee and Homeless kids, making blankets, capes, dog toys, Joy Jars for kids in the hospital and more....It was great seeing the adults and kids come together, have fun, and do so much good.

Our session on SPACE (Supportive Parenting for Anxious Childhood Emotions) was very well attended. Parents with minor concerns about children dealing with fears and anxiety to those that had more severe anxiety were all intrigued by the unique approach presented by Marti Mumford, of Anxiety Specialists of Atlanta. Marti outlined the SPACE methodology and gave a number of ways (free and fee) that parents can learn more about this innovative and evidence-based way for parents to help their children, hopefully mitigating the need for children to require therapy and medications.







We also had another **Homes against Hunger** food drive with donations going to **THE PLACE for Forsyth** food Bank. Thank you to Jackie Berger and Lesley Radov for organizing pick-ups. Thanks also to everyone who donated food.

### Coming up...

The Atlanta Hunger Walk/Run is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup>. We won't form a team but we would still like for our CDT Cares Team to make a generous donation of \$2024. Every \$1 can provide 3 meals via the Atlanta Community Food Bank and their partners. We already have a great start with the bracelets that we sold in November and December. Nonetheless, we have a long way to go. Please help the <u>1 in 8</u> food insecure children who don't know where their next meals are coming from.

Of course, you can join the fun on March 10<sup>th</sup> and walk or run. It's a great family activity.











Q&A session bring your questions!



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### Info Session

Date: Sunday, February 11
Time: 10 am - 11 am
Location: Congregation Gesher L'Torah
Register to Attend

### **Resources for Georgia's Jewish families**

- How to increase your family's monthly cash flow.
- Tools to teach your kids financial responsibility.
- Free financial coaching session certificate for all participants.

Questions? JIFLA.org (470) 268-5665





WEARE GESHER



# Sisterhood—Upcoming Events





Dor Tamid

Once a month, we will gather for a Kabbalat Panim, an Oneg Shabbat before services, at 5:45 pm. We will then move to the sanctuary to welcome in Shabbat together at 6:15 pm.

July 7 August 4 September 1 November 3 December 8

January 5 February 2
April 12 May 3 Ju May 3 June 7 Congregation \*

March I

\*Dates subject to change.



# ONEG HELPERS NEEDED

CDT is looking for volunteers on Friday nights to help prep and break down the Oneg.

This is a great opportunity to get involved, especially if you enjoy attending Friday night services.

> It's easy and a mentor will be there to help you your first night.

Click the link below to sign up.











for kids under 4 years old with a parent / guardian attending

Select Sundays from 9:15 - 11 am

Play Tamid is led by Rabbi Jordan and is a FREE Class open to the public (Members and Non-Members of CDT).

Enjoy crafts, songs, fun activities and more!

Contact rabbi@dortamid.com if you are interested or have any questions.

2023 Dates:
August 27
September 17
October 22
November 12



2024 Dates: January 28 April 28

\*Dates subject to change



11165 Parsons Road, Johns Creek, GA 30097 770.623.8860 www.dortamid.org



# **Ongoing**



Join Rabbi Jordan for Tanach Study each Wednesday at 11am at Dor Tamid and on Zoom.

Click Here for Zoom Link

This lively conversation is not to be missed.

# Knit & Crochet Group

Meets in the Conference Room at CDT

We are continuing to crotchet and knit beanies for premature babies from home.

We would love for you to join us on

Every Tuesday 1:00-3:00 pm

to socialize while working on beanies or any project of your own.

TO JOIN US, CONTACT LESLIE AT LJPENUEL1@GMAIL.COM.

For beanie patterns, contact Sharon at srocco1951@gmail.com.





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\*Information must be renewed every year, so we can make sure everyone's contact information is correct

CONGREGATION DOR TAMID



# **Helping Others, cont.**





PAL is Atlanta's only Jewish Big Brother/ Big Sister Program. Part role model, part friend, Big PALs are there to support kids on life's most important journey — growing up.

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quests spend.

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When tomorrow's a big day, stay HGI tonight.





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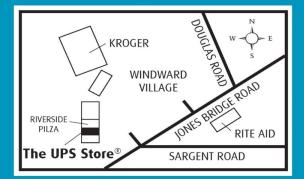
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