

# Voice of Generations

Congregation Dor Tamid 11165 Parsons Road Johns Creek, GA 30097

October 2023

Tishrei 5784—Cheshvan

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#### **Rabbinic Reflections**



Dear friends,

Shul or School?

Shanah tovah. I hope you all had a spiritually uplifting holy day season and that you will continue celebrating with us as we celebrate the Torah on Simchat Torah on October 6th at 6:30pm.

Each year, as we approach the High Holy Days, many of our young people are faced with a difficult decision: come to services and celebrate two of our tradition's most important days; or go to

school so that they do not feel the pressure of missing work and falling behind. While my own children were in services these past two weeks, I do admit that I feel the tension and understand how any individual family or student might choose either option. However, for some of our students, there is a possibility that this dilemma will not exist next year.

Gwinnet Schools has given parents, students, and staff in the district the opportunity to vote on next year's academic calendar. At least one of the options (including option 2), will allow families of Jewish, Muslim, Catholic, Hindu, Sikh, and other faiths to observe some major holidays without the stress of having to miss work or school, assignments/tests, and/or field trips, etc. due to religious observation.

While I am aware that this proposal only has the possibility of affecting a small portion of the CDT community, this is an amazing step forward for religious diversity of acceptance in Georgia, because, if the religiously tolerant option is chosen, our students will be able to attend services and not miss important lessons or homework. Furthermore, it is an important step towards accepting the religious beliefs of many different faith traditions and not just those of the majority.

While I do not often urge you to take political stands, I urge those of you who this does affect to make sure to vote before October 22 to open up your district to more religious tolerance. Furthermore, for those of us who do not live in Gwinnett, I would like to encourage you (whether you have students at home or not) to request that the districts you live in do the same.

Hopefully, we will arrive at a time when our students will no longer have to make the difficult decision of shul or school.

B'ahavah,

Rabbi Jordan

#### President's Message



Rachel Allen

Shanah tovah! What a wonderful month we have had at Congregation Dor Tamid celebrating the High Holy Days and the New Year. It was such a pleasure and honor to see and hug so many of you at CDT over the last few weeks. As I reflect on the holidays, from the beautiful Selichot service where we had the chance to see the new Torah covers and meet the artist, to our Rosh Hashanah service filled with beautiful music and meaningful teachings, and ending with the ability to meditate, reflect and remember during our meaningful and beautiful Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services, I was overwhelmed with the warmth, caring and joy that I felt within our home. I hope that you all enjoyed the holidays and were able to spend time with family and/or friends whether it was here at

CDT or away. I have heard so many positive comments and thoughts about this year's High Holy day services and would love to hear any thoughts that you might have so please feel free to reach out to me.

Personally, one of my favorite parts of the holiday was hearing our congregants share their CDT stories. It can be so difficult to get up in front of hundreds of people and share very personal and meaningful stories of the impact CDT has had on someone or their family and I think that each and everyone of us can relate, at least in part, to these stories. I want to thank David Pomerantz, Charla Weinsier, Jessica Grabowski, Jack Kingston, Debra Kerr and Landy Gonzalez for being brave and honest and sharing your stories with us. What a family we have here at CDT!!

As you probably know, our High Holy Day Appeal began after Yom Kippur and I hope that you all had the chance to take a look at my e-mail or the website to learn about our appeal and the 10 Mitzvot of Giving. We are so fortunate to have been challenged to match the generous \$36,000 donation from the Fox and Skyer families and I know that if we work together we can absolutely make this a reality. I am hoping that each of you will consider making a donation from each side of the 10 Mitzvot of Giving with a gift of time and a financial donation. Remember, no gift is too large or too small. It could be as simple as bringing a friend to a service or making a donation from our giving page. Please make sure to check out <a href="https://www.dortamid.org/giving">www.dortamid.org/giving</a> to learn more about our appeal and the ways that you can make a difference. We are a family and I am positive that we can get 100% participation in whatever way that you feel that you can help out.

There is so much more to celebrate and join us for in the next month. I hope that you are planning to attend our Simchat Torah service on October 6th. It is absolutely my favorite holiday of the year where we get to celebrate the Torah, dance with Torahs, and see the Torah in its entirety (something I never had the chance to personally experience until I was a member at CDT). There are a number of men's club and sisterhood events occurring and an upcoming CDT Trivia Night (more information to come soon) that I am so excited about! Please make sure to check our website, blasts and calendar for all of the upcoming events, dates and times! I hope to see you at CDT soon!!

Rachel

#### **Cantorial Soloist's Message**



Mike Zuspan

Shalom chaveirim – Hello, my friends!

I hope you and your loved ones are doing well. I so enjoyed celebrating *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* with you. Every year as I am teaching *B'nai Mitzvah* students during the *Aseret Y'mei T'shuvah*, the Ten Days of Repentance that occur between *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, I ask those students who are closest to their *Shabbat* service date if they are going to try and fast for *Yom Kippur*. Sometimes they reply with a "yes" or a "no", but usually a discussion ensues reminding me that while most everyone seems to agree that becoming a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* is very important, not everyone agrees on why or, for that matter, what becoming a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* actually means.

"Bar Mitzvah" means "son of the commandment". "Bar" is the Aramaic word for "son" (in Hebrew, the word is "Ben"). "Bat" is both Hebrew and Aramaic for "daughter". The term first appears in the Talmud (compiled during the first millennium of the Common Era), though the modern concept of the term cannot be traced back farther than the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Some scholars believe a public ceremony began during the middle ages. There are also Talmudic references to celebrating this rite of passage with a religious ceremony. The age of thirteen is mentioned in Mishnah and is also referred to in various Midrashim as the age at which a boy should either study the commandments or is responsible for keeping the commandments. The first Bat Mitzvah ceremony belonged to Judith Kaplan in the 1920s. Until only recently, the age of Bat Mitzvah was recognized as twelve.

One becomes a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* at the age of thirteen whether he or she spends their birthday in the synagogue chanting Torah or sitting at home on a couch playing video games. At the age of *Bar Mitzvah*, children are simply obligated to observe the Commandments. The age of *Bar Mitzvah* is an age of commencement, where one begins to observe the Commandments due to personal obligation rather than parental direction. No ceremony is required for this to take place. In fact, the current practice of elaborate religious ceremonies and celebrations that are so commonplace today were nonexistent as recently as a century ago.

Contrary to popular notion, *Bar Mitzvah* is not about reaching full adulthood in every sense of the word. The *Talmud* states in *Pirkei Avot* (Wisdom of our Ancestors) that thirteen is the age for fulfillment of the Commandments, while eighteen is the proper age for marriage and twenty is the proper age for earning a living. In other texts, different ages for marriage are indicated. The actual aspects of adulthood that reaching the age of *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* marks are the obligation to study and observe the Commandments, to count in a *Minyan*, to form binding contracts, and to testify before religious courts...and fasting (or doing the best that a thirteen year can do!) on *Yom Kippur*.

L'Shalom, Mike Zuspan Cantorial Soloist

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



Jessica Grabowski

Shana Tova! We ushered in the New Year by learning new things about Jews all around the world and having a blast with our families and friends. CDT held its first annual Family Learning Day on the 2nd day of Rosh Hashanah for all CDT families. We "travelled" around the world" learning about different Rosh Hashanah customs in countries like; Uganda, India, Israel, Lithuania, Tunisia and more. We learned about some of the oldest Jewish communities in the world. We crafted paper beads from Uganda and we wrote down our prayers and put them in the Wailing Wall in Israel, for real. We created handmade tiles from Tunisia and made candles for our celebration from the USA. We learned about and ate Halwa Milk which a staple food for the Rosh Hashanah sedar in India. We had so much fun learning about other

Jewish customs around the world and most importantly understanding that we as Jews are everywhere and connected no matter where we live.



#### **CDT Community Giving**



#### Congregation High Holy Days Food Drive

Dor Tamid Donations to JF&CS Kosher Food Pantry

Most Needed (No Glass Please):

- \* Kosher Canned Items O PAREVE (Tuna, Fruit, Vegetables, Tomatoes)
- Dry pasta and Rice



Drop off at CDT Patio Doors Sept. 15 - Oct. 10

Questions: email socialaction@dortamid.com

Non-Kosher items will happily be accepted and donated to other families in need.







Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am - 1:30 pm @ CDT

**Click Here for Appointment** 

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### Many Thanks

#### **General Fund**

Dan & Wendy Rosen

-in memory of Jodi Brooks

Scott & Dana Rothenberg

-in memory of Jodi Brooks

Ira & Janet Mann

-in memory of Jerry Cutler

#### **Rabbi Discretionary Fund**

Gary & Penny Blitzer

-in honor of the wedding of Jack & Elyse

Barry & Dore Kaiser

-in memory of Irving Kaiser

#### **Caring Committee**

Linda Malin

-in memory of Jennifer Trow

Irwin & Ethel Rubenstein

-in memory of Sheila Shuch

#### **Garden Fund**

**Beverly Mahone** 

-in memory of Sue Olson

Lesley Radov

-in honor of Bev Mahone's 80th Birthday

Larry & Jackie Berger

-in honor of Bev Mahone's Birthday

#### **High Holy Day Donation**

Ron & Bonnie Harvey

-in honor of opening the ark on Rosh Hashanah

#### **Sandwich Project**

Ruthie Cohen

-in memory of Jodi Brooks

#### Sisterhood

Ira & Janet Mann

-in memory of Jodi Brooks

#### **Tzedakah**

**Anita Walters** 

-in memory of Sylvia Becker Stone

#### Tree of Life — Leaf

Gary & Penny Blitzer

-in honor of the wedding of Jack & Elyse

#### **Yahrzeit Fund**

Ron & Bonnie Harvey

-in memory of Sue Olson

Irwin & Ethel Rubenstein

-in memory of Louis Shumsky

Glen & Sheri Lew

-in memory of Jodi Brooks

Sheldon & Sherry Fages

-in memory of Abraham Fages

Ron & Bonnie Harvey

-in memory of Max Harvey

#### **Yizkor Book Donation**

Ron & Bonnie Harvey

-in memory of Sue Olson

Elaine Blitzer

-in honor of the personal Yizkor experience

#### **Social Action and Tikkun Olam**



Blood Drive – RESCHEDULED until October 15th (9:30-1:30)



Paula Bloom

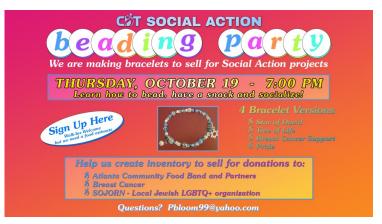
We have rescheduled our Blood Drive for October 15th starting at 9:30 and there are still a number of time slots available. There is a desperate need so please consider joining us. Teens 17 and older (or 16 with a signed permission form from parents) can also donate. Sign up to give blood on October 15th.

#### High Holiday Food Drive for Kosher Food Bank – until October 10th

JF&CS provided containers for our High Holiday Kosher Food Drive (at front doors). They will pick up the containers on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The primary goal is to collect Kosher Food, but any food donations will be given to needy people in the area. Thanks to all those who have already donated!

#### Beading Party – Make Bracelets for Social Action Causes – October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00

We are gathering men and women to make bracelets on October 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be a fun evening – learn how to bead, have some snacks and socialize with some great people! Bracelets will be sold with all proceeds going to Hunger Walk (Atlanta Community Food Bank and Partners), Breast Cancer and SOJOURN (local Jewish LBGQ+ organization).) We will make 4 bracelet versions – Star of David and Hamsa, Tree of Life, Breast Cancer and Pride. Let us know if you plan on coming. (Walk-ins are welcome but we need an idea of how many people are attending for beading supplies and snacks). If you have any questions, please contact Paula Bloom (pbloom99@yahoo.com)/770-570-8059.



#### October 15<sup>th</sup> – Atlanta Pride Parade



CDT is proud to sponsor SOJOURN (SOUTHERN JEWISH RESOURCE NETWORK FOR GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY) at the Atlanta Pride Parade. Come and connect with 40+ Jewish groups from all across Metro Atlanta as we march to show Jewish and LGBTQ+ pride! If you would like to walk, it is a 2.5-mile route (approximately 2 hours). We will meet at the Civic

Center Marta Station at 12:00 PM.

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#### Sisterhood





Our Mission: The Women of Congregation Dor Tamid's primary function is to support the synagogue through Judaism, Community Service, Friendship & Fundraising.

Janet Mann



Finally the weather is beginning to feel like fall... so it's the perfect time to get together and go outside to walk! I'm excited to share with you that CDT Sisterhood will be participating in the Sharsheret Summit for the month of October! Sharsheret is a national non-profit organization, which improves the lives of Jewish women and

families living with or at increased genetic risk for breast or ovarian cancer through personalized support and saves lives through educational outreach.

2023 Sharsheret Summit brings together thousands of people virtually and in-person all across the country from October 13th - 31st. Join the national virtual symposiums on the latest hot topics in breast cancer and ovarian cancer, attend awareness-raising programs with community partners, learn about the latest screening guidelines and access the most up-to-date data and materials in the digital resource packet found on their website. https://summit.sharsheret.org/ Look for emails with links to a variety of virtual events

throughout the month!



Here's a few pics from our fun night of bowling with the Men's Club at Main Event in Alpharetta! Thank you to Eric Cole for making this fun event happen for us! We ate! We drank! We laughed! We bowled! and We laughed and laughed and laughed! Some of us bowled like professionals and some of us may have used bumpers, but it didn't matter because we enjoyed every minute of it! Check out the bowling crew!





#### Mark on Your Calendars!

Saturday, September 2nd
Men's Club & Sisterhood Bowling Night
Main Event in Alpharetta

Congregation Dor Tamid

Sunday, October 22nd Fiddler on the Roof City Springs Theater

Tuesday, November 14th

"Friends-giving" Sisterhood Dinner
Thursday, November 16th

"Friends-giving" Sisterhood Lunch

Look for details in the next few weeks!

Questions? Please email Janet Mann at dortamidsisterhood@gmail.com



#### SAVE THE DITE MUNCH, MINGLE, MAH JONGG MADNE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 11:00 - 4:00 PM

CONGREGATION DOR TAMID
11165 PARSONS RD., JOHNS CREEK, GA

MUNCH a lunch!

MINGLE meet old and new friends!

MAH JONGG beginners to advanced!

MADNESS marvelous raffle prizes!

EVENT REGISTRATION OPENS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
CONTACT PLAYEDTMAHJONGG@GMAIL.COM WITH QUESTIONS

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 March I
April 12 May 3 June 7

\*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.









#### **Connecting Young Families**



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 Happenings**



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.



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.







Parents! Help us stay connected with our students and young military personnel through their college years and military service. Communications and gifts are sent throughout the year

Please provide the following information for our College and Military Connect program.

Click here or visit dortamid.org/collegemilitaryconnect to complete the online form with your student's contact information.\*

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





#### Helping Others, cont.





ATLANTA



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Jewish Family & Career Services

JAC is a multicultural Childcare Facility located at Congregation Dor Tamid in Johns Creek.

At JAC students learn about different cultures, languages and traditions. Students learn to be more independent, more creative and social. Though the school year has already started, it's not to late to enroll your child. Call now to find out about any promotions we are running.

At JAC your child will learn in Hebrew and English!

Schedule your tour today at 770.321.8484 (ext:1 or 3)

#### **JAC PRESCHOOL**

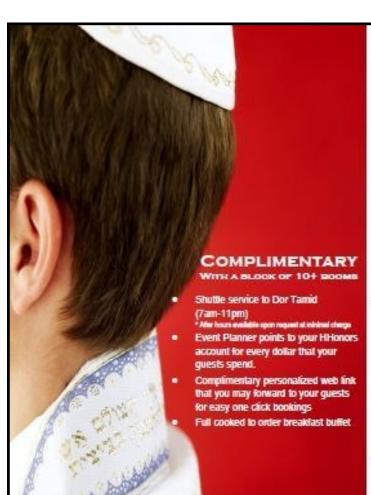












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When tomorrow's a big day, stay HGI tonight.





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