



Agudath Achim
Shreveport
Est. 1902

9401 Village Green Drive, Shreveport, LA 71115
agudathshreveport.com

Tamuz - Av 5783

July 2023

The Shul Spiel



*Goodbye Rabbi Sydni and family,
We are sad to see you go. but yet so
happy for you and your family!
Many Blessings!*

Rebecca Austin, President

318-464-4926

President@agudathshreveport.com

Office Email

office@agudathshreveport.com

Shabbat Services:

Friday Evening Services

Streaming and In-Person
at 7:30pm

Saturday Morning Services

Streaming and In-Person at 10:00am

Streaming at

<http://agudathshreveport.com/live-stream>



From our President ...

As you read this, Rabbi Sydni and her family are headed to their next community. **We are still here and will continue to be here for you!** Change is hard, but we are resilient.

Starting Wednesday, July 5, the building will be open from when I get off work (let's say 6pm to be safe) until 9pm. If you have a code, it will work. If you do not have a code, please let me know that you want to come. If you can't come in person, zoom will also be an option but there will be a new link - watch your email.

This is an opportunity to visit the gift shop, browse the library, prepare food for onegs and kiddush, or just visit.

During this time, (or anytime by email), I want to know what we can do better. Crazy ideas are welcome!

Fun things are coming up too. At the end of the month, we will have a game afternoon, I'd love more ideas for social activities.

If you want to learn more about a specific topic, I'd love to learn with you. If you want to practice Hebrew or prayers, I look forward to hearing your voice.

Rebecca Austin,

President
Agudath Achim Synagogue

Rabbi Sydni Rubinstein

[Rabbi Tarfon] used to say: It is not upon you to finish the work, but you are not free to desist from it... (Pirkei Avot 2:16).

During the past four years at Agudath Achim, I hope that I have built upon the efforts of my predecessors to help enhance the experience of a congregation that prides itself on care for one another and passionate Jewish learning and prayer. While I feel like I am leaving too much unfinished, I am trying to remind myself that so much of the work I have started and continued can never truly be completed. I know that tasks like teaching Jewish text and tradition, conducting life cycle events, guiding new Jews, shaping prayer services to the needs of our time, and creating welcoming space are never-ending. I am confident that with creativity and commitment, our community will be able to continue each of these tasks for the next 120 years, just as we have for the 120 years before now.

While maintaining this community may seem exhausting, please know that that exhaustion is not an excuse for throwing our hands up and abandoning the work completed by so many generations of Agudath Achim before us. I am continually impressed with the work of the rabbinic search committee, who know their role is not to find the first person to fill a vacant space, but rather, to find the spiritual leader who will best fit the specific flavor of our congregation. At the same time, every member of the rabbinic search committee is involved in several other regular congregational tasks. They know they are not free to desist from the work. However, please remember, it is not upon them alone to finish the work!

If you are reading this and are not involved in some committee or volunteer action for this synagogue, now is the time not to desist from the work. If you'd like to start out by dipping your toe in the water, please volunteer to lead one prayer on Shabbat, purchase and prepare the food for one Kiddush lunch, attend a gardening or clean-up day, or speak up about what frustrations are keeping you from activity in this Agudath Achim space. Yes, the synagogue needs to be a place where people feel they can come for a service or event, sit back, and soak in words of Torah, but everyone needs to step in at least sometimes in order for that passive space to be available.

To every single one of you, regardless of how you have specifically contributed to Agudath Achim, thank you for teaching and supporting me every day for the past four years. Thank you for welcoming my furry family members, Buddy and Jax, from the beginning, and at least pretending to care deeply when I shared about their antics. More recently, thank you for helping Shalom grow into the social, joyful child he is becoming. And thank you

for checking in on Rabbi Feivel and me in the happiest and most challenging of times. In this synagogue space, thank you for offering real encouragement and criticism, showing me how much I have left to learn and grow.

More specifically, I want to offer my gratitude to a few individuals who have been anchors of Agudath Achim and my life over the past four years. Since my very first interview with them in Los Angeles, it has been clear that David and Sandra Ginsburg are the glue that holds so many different aspects of Agudath Achim together. Beyond that, with the articles they recommend and their attention to our personal lives, they have made our transition to and stay in Shreveport all the more positive.

Thank you, too, to the other two Presidents with whom I have had the pleasure to serve - Bob Lachman and Rebecca Austin. Both of you have put your personal flair into the countless hours you have contributed to the synagogue, and I have truly enjoyed the time we have spent in conversation. For the vitality she gives to the Shreveport Jewish community as a whole, thank you to Barbara Joseph. Through both the religious school and the Jewish Federation, your energy lets our community know that we are worth the time, creativity, and effort; our Shreveport Jewish community is here to not just stay, but to thrive! And finally, I have been blessed to have my time here bookended by the service of Joyce Bailey, our Office Manager. Thank you, Joyce, for not only sharing your wisdom and laughter throughout the work day, but also, thank you for showing the deep care you hold for our community, the people in it, and our God.

For the past four years, it has been an honor to teach and to learn with you, to help keep you company through your life transitions, and to guide you through Jewish ritual and conversation with God. I look forward to seeing how Agudath Achim continues to change and grow in its many decades to come.

Todah rabah,

Rabbi Sydni Rubinstein



Camp Chai was established as a Jewish day camp in Shreveport in 1982, and registration is open for Summer 2023!



Who: All kids age 3 (out of diapers) to age 13

When: Monday July 10 – Friday July 14, 9:00 am to 2:00 p.m.

Where: B'nai Zion, 245 Southfield Road, Shreveport

What: Arts & crafts, water play, drama, music, a field trip and more!

Cost: \$125 for Federation members, \$160 for non-members

(Payment can be submitted [HERE](#) or mailed to the Federation Office)

Not yet a member of Federation, or need to renew?

Any Jewish person age 18 or over who has pledged a minimum of \$25 can be a member.

Register here: <https://jewishnla.org/camp-chai-registration-2023/>

Pay here: <https://north-louisiana-jewish-federation.square.site/product/camp-chai-registration-fee/12?cs=true&cst=custom>

Join now: <https://north-louisiana-jewish-federation.square.site/product/become-a-federation-member/9?cs=true&cst=custom>

Yasher Koach to our Oneg and Kiddush Sponsors

Friday/Saturday	June 30/July 1	Peanut butter & jelly
Friday/Saturday	July 7/July 8	Dr. Strain in memory of his mother
Friday/Saturday	July 14/July 15	Peanut butter & bananas
Friday/Saturday	July 21/July 22	Peanut butter & raisins
Friday/Saturday	July 28/July 29	Rebecca Austin and family

WANTED!!!

Oneg/Kiddush Hosts

If you enjoy the camaraderie after the Friday night and Saturday morning services, Please sign up to be a host . Depending on your menu, you can do an oneg and luncheon for approximately \$36 or more if you want fancy.

If you're not able to prepare the luncheon in the synagogue kitchen during the week (M-F-9am 1pm); you can drop off the ingredients and recipe for Julie. She's a gem!!

Cookies and crackers with hekhshers are available even in the dollar stores. Feel free to use items in the refrigerator, such as salad dressings.

If you are not sure of our kitchen policies... there are **Yellow Folders with all the "how to", menu suggestions, etc. are in the kitchen and office.**

Our tummies thank you!

Agudath Achim Life

Monday, July 17
Board Meeting 7pm



Offices will be CLOSED

**We thank our veterans and
active military for protecting
our Freedom in America!!!**

Thank you to
Luke Muslow -
His Eagle
Scout project
really amps up
our Biblical
Garden.



Sisterhood

For your summer travels - bring back
any complimentary toiletries for the
Joint Sisterhood Social Service Project

For your Summer salads and picnics - be
sure to use your Kroger Community
Rewards for us.

For you to think about - ideas for
programs and projects and participation
for Sisterhood, not just the Kitchen, but
also closets, the library, garden, etc.

Call, text or email me for your thoughts
or questions.

Wishing y'all a relaxing summer,

Sandra Ginsburg,
Sisterhood President



Special Thanks to Ellen Soffer and
Lindy Alberts for donations made to our
pantry.

Gift Shop

Our Gift Shop is open Monday -
Friday, 9:00am to 1:00pm. Please
stop by to see our new items soon.



COMING SOON

Make some noise about our Silent Auction

Agudath Achim has made it to (and beyond) the proverbial 120! But we're shooting for at least another 120 years!

Help to ensure that our heroic Conservative congregation continues to thrive, by supporting our new fundraiser. This fall, our Fundraising Committee will host a silent auction. Please consider donating new (or well-preserved) items of value, such as:

- o Jewelry
- o Antiques
- o Restaurant and store gift certificates
- o Tickets to entertainment and sporting events
- o Vacation rentals
- o Household goods
- o Clothing and accessories
- o Fine art
- o Unique items and experiences

Your participation is a win-win! The synagogue gets the opportunity to raise much-needed funds, while you potentially create a little extra space in your home and convert unneeded items into a tax deduction.

We are also soliciting items from businesses. If you have a special relationship with a business that might be able to donate, please reach out and let us know what you come up with!

Donations may be dropped off at Agudath Achim between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. weekdays. Or, to arrange a pick-up, please call Susan Gross at 318-617-8162. Also let Susan know if you'd like to join the team for helping to put on this fun event.

Todah rabbah



Carla Herniter

July 16

Randi Shiffman

July 25

Judy Leblang

July 29



Happy Anniversary

Belated - Dr. Karen and Bob Gordon
June 10th



Mazel
Tov!

Andrea
Elisheva
Casteel
Plunkett



Richard
Charles
Plunkett, Jr.

May 28, 2023



Rabbis Sydni and Feivel



Bob and Deena Lachman

Shabbat Shalom

July Schedule of Readings



Saturday July 1	Torah Haftarah	Shabbat <i>Parashat Hukat Balak</i> Numbers 19:1-25:9 Micah 5:6-6:8
Saturday July 8	Torah Haftarah	Shabbat <i>Parashot Pinehas</i> Numbers 25:10-30:1 Jeremiah 1:1-2:3
Saturday July 15	Torah Haftarah	Shabbat <i>Parashat Mattot Masei</i> Shabbat <i>Mevarekhim Hahodesh</i> Numbers 30:2-36:13 Jeremiah 2:4-28; 3:4
Saturday July 22	Torah Haftarah	Shabbat <i>Parashat Devarim</i> Shabbat <i>Hazon</i> Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22 Isaiah 1:1-27
Saturday July 29	Torah Haftarah	Shabbat <i>Parashat Va'et-hannan</i> Shabbat <i>Nahamu</i> Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11 Isaiah 40:1-26

Exploring Judaism (on Zoom)

NEW TIME **Thursdays at 6:00pm**

Exploring Judaism is a course for people of all backgrounds - Jews who want to learn more about their religion and heritage, community members who want to learn more about their Jewish friends and family, and people who want to walk on the path towards Jewish conversion.

This year, we'll meet on Zoom only, Thursdays at noon. As in past years, we'll learn with the Miller Intro to Judaism (American Jewish University) curriculum. Agudath Achim members may attend the course for free. Non-members will pay \$180 for the full 19 weeks and a print textbook or \$60 per 6-week section. Please contact Joyce at office@agudathshreveport.com to sign up or learn more information! Cost should not be a barrier, so please join us, whether or not these numbers are within your ability.

929 Learning : Age Old Text, New Perspectives

Saturdays, 1:30 pm

Each week, we learn through five chapters of Tanakh, with the goal of completing all 929. After Shabbat lunch, a different teacher each week will present some of the ideas they found most interesting from this portion.



The schedule for July will be:

Isaiah 27-31	July 1	Rebecca Austin
Isaiah 32-36	July 8	Jason Oller
Isaiah 37-41	July 15	
Isaiah 42-46	July 22	
Isaiah 47-51	July 29	

We need 929 Learning Leaders!

We still need leaders for June and July.

If you would like to sign up using the website, go to:

<https://agudathshreveport.com/929-class-leading.html>

July Yahrzeits

Week of

July 2-8

Vivian Leblang
Margaret Elizabeth Strain

Week of

July 9-15

Charles Tebele
Elaine Toys
Myrna Herniter
Tommy Chapell
Ivan Lustberg

Week of

July 16-22

Fay Barsky
Shirley Ann Strain-Vaz
Isaac Ain
Tzipa Rubenstein
Sarah Goodman

Week of

July 23-29

Larry Sussman
Isadore Rubinstein
Clifford Bayer

Week of

July 30- August 5

Jerome David Herniter
Bryant Davis
Hazel Diebner
Sarah Yellen
Sidney Rochelson

Donations

In Beloved Memory of:

Louis Lobel
Charles Tebele
Ivan Lustberg
Elaine Toys
Ed Diebner

By:

Bernard and Dorothy Lobel
Sara Tebele
David and Sandra Ginsburg
Elliott and Sharon Goldman & Goldy Marrus
Gloria Rosen

In Honor of:

Dr. Karen and Bob Gordon's
50th Anniversary

Rabbi Sydni Rubinstein

By:

Dr. David and Susan Gross
David and Sandra Ginsburg
Bernard and Dorothy Lobel
Allen Organick and Ellen Soffer
Joanne Adler (grandmother)

For recovery of:

Bob Gordon
Bob Lachman

In Honor of:

Bob and Deena Lachman

By:

David and Sandra Ginsburg
Tammy and Paul Willson

Allen Organick and Ellen Soffer


Additional Gifts and donations made to Synagogue:

By:

Tina Salley
Luke Muslow
Lindy Alberts
Ellen Soffer

While every effort is made to provide accurate and current information, if there are any omissions or errors, please advise the office so that corrections can be made. Thank you.

July 2023 Tammuz - Av 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					30 11 Tamuz	1 <i>Chukat-Balak</i> 12 Tamuz 10:00am Shabbat Shahrith 1:30pm 929 Learning 9:16pm Havdalah
2 13 Tamuz	3 14 Tamuz	4 15 Tamuz 	5 16 Tamuz	6 17 Tamuz Fast of Tammuz 6pm Exploring Judaism (on zoom)	7 18 Tamuz 7:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 8:07pm Candle Lighting	8 <i>Pinchas</i> 19 Tamuz 10:00am Shabbat Shahrith 1:30pm 929 Learning 9:15pm Havdalah
9 20 Tamuz	10 21 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i>	11 22 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i>	12 23 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i>	13 24 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i> 6pm Exploring Judaism (on zoom)	14 25 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i> Monroe Shabbat with NLJF 7:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 8:05pm Candle Lighting	15 <i>Matot-Masei</i> 26 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i> Monroe Shabbat with NLJF 10:00am Shabbat Shahrith 1:30pm 929 Learning 9:13pm Havdalah
16 27 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i>	17 28 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i> 7pm Board Meeting	18 29 Tamuz <i>Camp Chai</i>	19 1 Av <i>Camp Chai</i>	20 2 Av 6pm Exploring Judaism (on zoom)	21 3 Av 7:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 8:02pm Candle Lighting	22 <i>Devarim</i> 4 Av 10:00am Shabbat Shahrith 1:30pm 929 Learning 9:10pm Havdalah
23 5 Av	24 6 Av	25 7 Av	26 8 Av Erev Tisha B'av 8:00pm	27 9 Av Tisha B'Av 6pm Exploring Judaism (on zoom)	28 Av 10 7:30pm Shul led Shabbat 7:58pm Candle Lighting	29 <i>Shabbat Chazon</i> 11 Av 10:00am Shul led Shabbat 1:30pm 929 Learning 9:05pm Havdalah
30 12 Av	31 13Av	1 14 Av	2 15 Av	3 16 Av 6pm Exploring Judaism (on zoom)	4 17 Av 7:30pm Kabbalat 7:52pm Candle Lighting	5 <i>Eikev</i> 18 Av 10:00am Shabbat Shahrith 1:30pm 929 Learning 8:59pm Havdalah