

Shaarey Tzedek



Conservative Jewish Synagogue Montgomery County Texas

Entrance at 26510 Oak Ridge Rd. Building B, Suite 100 77380

WELCOME~ בְּרוּכִים הַבָּאִים

What a Year It Has Been

When we gather, I find myself pausing to marvel at the journey we've shared. And every year, I ask myself the same question: *Can we possibly top last year?* And every year, somehow, some way, we do. We rise. We create. We build something vibrant, something alive, something that beats with the heart and soul of this community.

This year asked a lot of us. We said goodbye to our dear friends Sol Sachs and his beloved wife, Arlene. Sol was a light in our lives; a light that still glows in the way we carry ourselves, in the way we keep showing up for this small but mighty synagogue he loved so much. Grief and gratitude have walked hand in hand with us this year, because even in our sorrow, we celebrated. We welcomed Lev Benperlas and Asher Schmulson into the world. We stood tall and proud as Autumn Welch became a bat mitzvah. Life and loss, side by side; that is the story of a community that is truly alive.

And let me tell you something about this community: it runs on love. Every donation you make, every dollar given with sincerity and heart is the lifeblood that keeps these doors open. But it's not just the dollars. It's you singing from the bimah. It's you reading Torah and haftarah. It's you in the kitchen baking, setting up, and staying late to clean up. That is what fuels this place. That is what makes us who we are. And for every bit of it: thank you!

From the beginning, we made a choice not to have a traditional membership model, no mandatory fees, no pressure, just an open door and an open invitation to give from the heart, when and how you can. That choice is who we are.

From the very beginning, we chose quality over quantity, and this year proved that choice right, again and again. We held Shabbat morning services filled with beautiful Torah readings, led by our very own community members. We marked our very first bat mitzvah. Our very first bris. Milestones that filled this sanctuary with joy and meaning. And as we welcomed new faces into our family, we also paused, as we do now, to honor those we've lost, Betty Friedman z"l, Robert Strong z"l and Sol Sachs z"l. Their spirit, their laughter, their contributions remain woven into the fabric of this place, forever.

So as we step into this new year, I ask you: keep giving from the heart. Give in honor of someone you love. Give in memory of someone you miss. Give simply as a gift to this community that has given so much to you. Every contribution, large or small, adds meaning to who we are and helps us carry this mission forward.

Let's spread the word about our little Conservative shul in the woods, because the world needs more places like this one.

And now, a few thank-you that are long overdue. To Rabbi Deborah and Cantor David, thank you for the soul and the song you bring to every service. To our Torah and haftarah readers, our shofar blowers, and every hand that has touched this community this year; thank you. You are Shaarey Tzedek.

Wishing each and every one of you a sweet, healthy, and peaceful new year. Let's keep building this beautiful home of ours; together, with love, with dedication, and with open hearts.

Save
the
Date!

**Saturday
October 3**

6:30 PM

**Havdallah,
Shemini Atzeret
Simchat Torah
Followed by a
celebration Oneg**



**Friday October
23**

7:00 PM

**Shabbat Services
Followed by a
Parashat themed
Oneg**

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Entrance at : 26510 Oak Ridge Dr. Building B Suite 100 77380
Mailing Address: 206a S Loop 336W PMB 272 Conroe Tx 77304





It takes a village, and we appreciate everyone who made our High Holy Days together so special... from Cantor David to our *Torah* chanters and shofar blowers to each person who accepted an honor... and to our founding members, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes.

With *Rosh Hashana* and *Yom Kippur* in our rearview mirror, may we bask in the joy of *Sukkot*, a holiday in which we are commanded to be happy, not once, but three times in the *Torah*... Leviticus 23:40, Deuteronomy 16:14, and one verse later in 16:15. Shout out to Nathan and Charles who put together our sukkah, and to Soli, Sheryl, and Nathan for decorating it.

Saturday night October 10th begins the Hebrew month of *Heshvan*, also known as *Marheshvan* in the Talmud. *Mar* means bitter and since there are no holy days this month, many believe that is why it is called *Marheshvan*. Another reason, according to *Esther Rabbah* (7:13), is that our foremother Sarah died in this month, although there are conflicting sources that say she died in the month of *Nissan*, immediately following the *akedah*, the binding of Isaac. Notwithstanding the bitter associations of this month, my hope is each of us find multiple reasons to be happy during this time.

Warmly, Rabbi Deborah

Thank you to our High Holiday Sponsors & all contributors

Torah Readers:

Anita Gurwitz
Summer Golden
Sandy Remson
Cantor David Kay
Rabbi Deborah Schloss
Janessa Welch
Emily Sparks

Haftarah Readers:

Rabbi Deborah Schloss
Andy Remson

Shofar:

Cantor David Kay
Andy Remson
Janessa Welch

Ritual Liaisons:

Phil Goldfeder
Danny Schmulson
Rabbi Deborah Schloss
Cantor David Kay
Sandy Remson

Founding Members:

Betty Friedman z"l
Jerry Friedman
Sheryl Riffle - Secretary
Soli Sachs - z"l
Danny Schmulson - Vice
President
Soli Schmulson
Maura Shapiro
Nathan Shapiro
Robert Strong z"l
Vickie Strong-Financials
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Maura Shapiro, Sheryl Riffle
and Miriam W. Leitko

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Manny Slomovits



Selihot & High Holidays

