

# SHAAREY TZEDEK



Conservative Jewish Synagogue

Montgomery Co. | Texas-

26615 Oak Ridge Rd. 77380 Texas

## Save the Dates

**July 7, 2023**  
**Shabbat Services & Oneg Sponsored by Ruty Loupo Byron**  
**In memory of her parents and brother Eitan, Flora & Aries Unger z'l**  
**7:00 PM**

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**July 22, 2023**  
**Shabbat Kodesh Minyan & luncheon**  
**Sponsored by Vickie & Robert Strong**  
**9:30 AM**

## WELCOME~ בְּרוּכִים הַבָּאִים

Came across a quote that sparked our attention:

*"If you experience a lack of community, it may mean that you are called upon to build one."* Sherri Mandell

How appropriate for our *Shaarey Tzedek* Synagogue community! We are all indeed now part of our community that is warm & inviting. Where everyone knows our names and we serve as an extended family to all of us. Examples of this came after our general meeting where several of you gave from the heart! From helping out after *Onegs*, bringing an incredible *challah* for all to share and the amazing generosity of so many as well as attending the *Shiva Minyan*.

We all have become indispensable pieces to our community where we are showing up with our time, our talents and treasures to assure that Conservative Judaism in Montgomery County continues, our legacy of bringing Conservative Judaism through quality religious and social events.

As we begin to gather all our attention and energies to approach the High Holiday season, we wanted to share that Rabbi-Soloist David Kay from Orlando Fl. will be joining Rabbi Deborah Schloss to bring for all of us an incredible High Holiday experience. *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Shenandoah including luncheon after the first day of *Rosh Hashanah* and Break Fast. The second day of *Rosh Hashanah* will be held at our Oak Ridge location. Additional information will be forthcoming.

**MyTree**   

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Promote Israel and support our community by investing in an Israeli farmer who will produce for you **six bottles of award-winning wine with your private label** in return, all while preserving the meaningful feeling of support for Israel.



A portion of the proceeds are donated back to our community!

ORDERS ACCEPTED UNTIL THE END OF JULY. LIMITED GRAPEVINES AVAILABLE

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<https://www.mytree.org.il/shaarey-tzedek-tx>

# Havdalah, Social, Sunday Brunch & General Meeting



We are about to begin an extended Jewish time of mourning. The 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz, which falls on July 6<sup>th</sup> this year, ushers in a 3 week period of mourning through the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, better known as Tish B'Av, on July 27<sup>th</sup>. The Romans

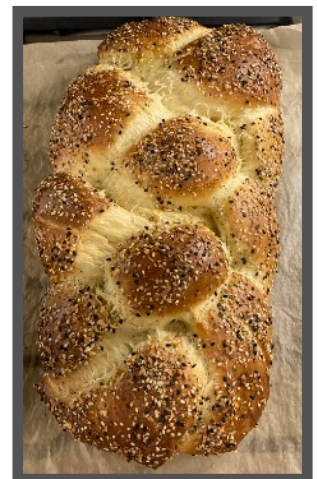
breached the walls of Jerusalem on the 17<sup>th</sup> of Tamuz in 68 A.C.E. Our ancestors were able to defend the Temple Mount for 19 days, until sadly it fell on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Av. Two days later the Romans destroyed the Second Temple. On the same day, the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, back in 422 B.C.E., the Babylonians destroyed the First Temple.

The Temple was both the focus of worship and identity for our ancestors. Its destruction tore a hole deep into essence of who we were. Uncannily, a number of other tragedies also occurred on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av. Several Shabbatot ago, I spoke about 10 out of the 12 spies returning from Canaan with a bad report. This happened on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av in 1313 B.C.E., leading to our ancestors wandering for 40 years in the desert. Fast forward to the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av in the following years: in 1290 the Jews were expelled from England, in 1492 our ancestors were expelled from Spain, in 1942 Treblinka began operating as a death camp, and in 1994, the deadly bombing of the Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires.

On a happy note, perhaps you have noticed some of us sporting bright, pretty necklaces and bracelets made by Miriam Fabrick (please see picture below). If you too would enjoy wearing one of Miriam's beautiful creations, please reach out to her mom Amie at [Afabrick1@icloud.com](mailto:Afabrick1@icloud.com) to place your order and Miriam would be delighted to make one for you too!

With heartfelt condolences to Sandy and Andy Remson on the recent passing of their brother and brother-in-law Mitchell Brachman,

Rabbi Deborah





Thank you for your donations!

**Summer Rebiebot Golden**

*Anna Stone*

*Ruty Loupo Byron*

**Sheryl & Wally Riffle**

*In memory of  
Fran Spector z'l*

**Sheryl & Wally Riffle**

*In memory of  
Mitchell Brachman z'l*

**Miriam & Alan Leitko**

*In memory of  
Mitchell Brachman z'l*

**Vickie & Robert Strong**

*In memory of  
Mitchell Brachman z'l*

**Soli & Danny Schmulson**

*In memory of  
Mitchell Brachman z'l*

**Soli & Danny Schmulson**

*In honor of  
Ellie Leitko's Graduation*

**Sandy & Andy Remson**

*In gratitude to everyone at  
Shaarey Tzedek*



*Thank you to all our  
**generous individuals**  
who anonymously contribute  
to our tzedakah box.*



**My Jewish Journey**

*By Janessa Welch*

Judaism has always and continues to be very important to me. I was not raised in an extremely religious household, but our Jewish faith and values were always present. I grew up on the east side of Houston with my sister and I being the only Jewish children in the area. Our family was members of Congregation Beth Israel where we attended religious school. It was quite a drive, so I am very thankful that one of the teachers, Lois Tennen, offered me private Hebrew lessons so that I could have a Bat Mitzvah.

During college, I joined Hillel and started to really feel a connection that I never had before. While attending Texas State University, I met the love of my life, Thomas Welch. He did not know very much about Judaism, but was eager to learn. When we decided to marry, it was extremely important to me to have a Jewish wedding and be married by a rabbi and Thomas agreed. We eventually met Rabbi Monty Eliasov in Austin and he was happy to marry us. As I started my teaching career and Thomas finished his degree, I took a break from attending services. It wasn't until our move to Conroe with our new baby, Autumn, that we decided to seek out our local Jewish community.

I was quite surprised by how thriving the local Jewish community seemed to be especially when compared to my neighborhood growing up. During our search, we were introduced to Chabad of the Woodlands. Our family began attending many of the wonderful programs that they offered including Mommy & Me, Camp Gan Israel, JLI courses, JWC, Torah & Tea, and Hebrew school. I also met a wonderful group of women that were trying to start a Hadassah group in The Woodlands and I was very excited to be a part of it. Since the Aviv Group officially began in 2015, I have been a board member and am currently serving as president.

We were still, however, searching for the right place for our family to regularly attend services. It seemed like we couldn't quite find the right fit until Sheryl Riffle emailed me to see if I would be interested in attending a new Conservative Synagogue that she and a group of others were starting. We came to our first service at Shaarey Tzedek and it was exactly what we were wanting. Now, over a year later, we love being a part a such a wonderful community.



**Mazel Tov!**

To Sandy and Andy Remson,  
on the birth of their grandchild:  
Enzo Mathew  
Born to  
Ian and Katri Remson

