

# TEMPLE SINAI BULLETIN

Volume LV, No. 9

May 2021



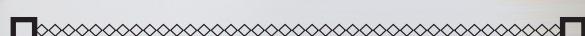
The Temple Sinai Confirmation Class  
Invites you to their Service of Confirmation on

## Erev Shavuot

Sunday, May 16, 2021  
6 Sivan 5781  
6:00 p.m.

(Please refer to the temple website for Zoom information)

Lukas Ebner  
May Fastaia  
Jarryd Lax  
Josefina Leit  
Rose Libman  
Harrison Lundquist  
Saskia Owen  
Ivry Shafrir



## SHAVUOT SERVICE

Monday, May 17, 2021  
10:30 a.m.



Hearing Loop

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Handicap Accessible

*"On the third day, as morning dawned, there was thunder, and lightening, and a dense cloud upon the mountain, and a very loud blast of the horn; and all the people who were in the camp trembled. Moses led the people out of the camp toward God, and they took their place at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke, for the Divine had come down on it in fore, the smoke rose like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled violently. The blare of the horn grew louder and louder. As Moses spoke, the Divine answered him in thunder."*

*-Exodus 19:16-19*

Thoughts about revelation likely differ but imagining the grandeur of that pivotal moment is in part, what the festival of Shavuot invites us to do. Tanhuma Shemot, the midrash on the book of Exodus teaches us that, "The voice reached each Israelite according to his or her ability to hear. The elderly heard according to their strengths and the young according to their strengths, the women according to their strengths. Moses too heard according to his strengths, for it says: Moses spoke, and the Divine answered him with a voice." Rabbi Jill Hammer in The Jewish Book of Days writes that "Midrash Tanhuma shares the surprising midrash that at Sinai, each person heard something different. Each heard the holy voice according to his or her strengths and weaknesses. One imagines Sinai as a little like a United Nations meeting, with each person receiving simultaneous translation into the language of his or her own heart."

How do we understand the concept of hearing Torah according to our own individual ability? Surely it cannot mean the words themselves, neither the language nor their intended meaning but rather hearing Torah, its wisdom and warnings should be heard differently by each of us over time. Each Saturday morning at Temple Sinai those who join for Torah study commit to doing so carefully, critically, and with tremendous diversity of thought. With discussions that are rich, often leading us to unexpected and interesting places as each explores the same foundational text for our people, together and individually, with a translation of their own

choosing. Each chooses a translation that perhaps reflects the language of his or her own heart.

On the evening of May 16<sup>th</sup> Shavuot begins and our 10<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation



students will lead us in prayer and offer us another opportunity to hear Torah from their perspective. They will share with us, as classes before them have, their unique perspectives and how they understand Torah, literally and figuratively.

The festival of Shavuot celebrates the offering of bread on the Temple altar as well as the Revelation of Torah at Mount Sinai. Rabbi Hammer reminds us that the celebration of bread and the celebration of Revelation are similar in theme. The Jewish blessing over bread thanks God for bringing bread from the earth, yet the Divine is only part of the process. Human beings must harvest the grain; winnow it and grind it; use the flour to make loaves, kneading the dough and baking the bread. So too, Revelation is unfinished until humans become part of the process.

This Shavuot, and this year in particular, when much has left us trembling as our ancestors did at the foot of the mountain and we have far greater clarity, let us wonder how best to continue being a vital part of ongoing revelation.

*Rabbi Debbi Till*

### Contacting the Clergy

Please let the temple office (381-6890) know of any illnesses, deaths or joyous occasions so that the clergy and the congregation can respond appropriately. Also, remember not to schedule any life cycle events at which Rabbi Till or Cantor Braun will be present without speaking to them first.

To reach Rabbi Till in an emergency, please call 355-0192. To reach Cantor Braun in an emergency, please call 973-953-2489.

It is a mitzvah to visit those who are ill. Please remember that HIPAA regulations prevent hospitals from alerting us when someone is ill. We ask temple members who are aware that one of our members is in a hospital to please call the Temple Sinai office so that one of our clergy may contact them.





In my years as a school social worker, I had a plaque that hung in my office that said "Parenting a Teen is Like Trying to Nail Jello to the Wall!" I smiled every time I read those words as I always felt that it captured the nebulousness as well as the "am I doing this right" quality inherent in the parenting experience. Over the past months, I have found myself pondering these words on numerous occasions as we have been slowly but surely addressing how to re-open our Temple. Planning for an event that does not have a definitive date on the calendar and is impacted by so many factors has been, to say the least, highly challenging and incredibly frustrating. At the start of April, an email was sent to all congregants from Mary and me, outlining the beginning of our re-opening process. With the High Holy Days in mind, I am hopeful that by the time you read this at the start of May, there will be even greater clarity regarding our steps toward a complete resumption of all building activities. \*\*\*\*\* *Please see Mary Mansfield's article in this bulletin for updates.*

As we shine a light on our initial re-opening action steps and experience the accompanying feelings of hope and joy, I want to take a moment to thank all of the people who have played a significant role in leading Temple Sinai's journey through this past year of difficulty and uncertainty.

Rabbi Till, Cantor Braun and Rabbi Emeritus Katz: Thank you for leading us through this uncharted territory. Week after week, you have set a course that has lovingly invited us to not only remain, but to deepen our connection to Judaism, to meaningful ritual and to each other.

Ilan Adar and all of our amazing teachers: Thank you for both your unparalleled level of creativity and flexibility as well as the way in which you share your love of Judaism with the children of Temple Sinai.

Mary Mansfield, Bobbi Sarnov and Joyce Schachter: Thank you for remaining focused on the mountain of details and logistics that must be attended to for our Temple to move forward.

Ryan Woodard: Thank you for your taking such loving care of our building.

The Temple Sinai Executive Committee and Board of Trustees: Thank you for being a consistent source of wisdom, guidance and support. Our congregation has been blessed to

have had all of you at the helm of our lay leadership during this crisis.

Esther Brill and the Congregant Connections group of Friday Phoners: When we made the decision to close our building, our primary concern was how to remain connected to our congregants. Thank you for sharing the joy of Shabbat with our congregants and ensuring that "connection" remained one of our most closely held values.



All Individuals/Groups/Congregants who created programs/events: Thank you for sharing your artistry and passion with our congregation in the form of deeply meaningful, entertaining and thought-provoking programs.

Lindsey Hagan, Susan Rizzo, Rick Rizzo and others: Thank you for your creative and technical brilliance in leading an evolution that is here to stay...our use of technology to enhance our connection to Temple Sinai.

The Temple Sinai COVID Task Force: From the initial decision to close our building to present day, this group has passionately taken on the task of digesting and evaluating the ever-changing landscape of COVID related information. Thank you for your dedication to the health and welfare of our congregation.

Meredith Dragon and the Jewish Federation: Thank you for both your financial generosity as well as the guidance you provided, especially early on in the pandemic, in the form of regularly scheduled zoom meetings highlighting up to date health and financial information.

The Farash Foundation: Thank you for responding to the needs of our congregation in your usual thoughtful, compassionate and generous manner.

The Congregants of Temple Sinai: Thank you for your patience! Thank you for your understanding! To those that have called me, thank you for trusting me with your feelings of frustration and disappointment! Thank you for your flexibility! Thank you for your creativity! Thank you for exemplifying all that is special about our congregation! It will now be sooner than later that we will be physically together!

*Keith Greer*

### School of Jewish Life & Learning Pinat Ha-Talmid (The Student Corner)



The last number I heard: above 16 . . . yes, this is the age group eligible to receive the vaccine. That means that we begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel . . .

I hope that you and your families had joyous and meaningful celebrations of Passover.

#### Programs and Events During April

On Sunday, April 11, we joined with TBK for a program dedicated to Israel Memorial and Independence Day. We began the day with a short memorial ceremony that included a

moment of silence to honor all who gave their lives for the establishment of the State of Israel; and for keeping it secured. We then “turned the page” to celebrate its independence.

#### May Schedule of Events

Saturday, May 1: 6<sup>th</sup> grade leads Shabbat morning services  
 Sunday, May 2: Zoom Mitzvah Day  
 Friday, May 14: 5<sup>th</sup> grade leads Erev Shabbat service  
 Sunday, May 16: Erev Shavuot service; Confirmation Ceremony (6:00 p.m.)  
 Monday, May 17: Shavuot service (10:30 a.m.)  
 Wednesday, May 19: Last midweek classes  
 Sunday, May 23: Last day of school; special assembly; 7<sup>th</sup> grade Advancement

*Ilan Adar*



## Adult Education



*Adult Education in the Temple Sinai School of Life and Learning invites learners at all stages, novice to “seasoned,” to forge connections through group exploration of Jewish texts and topics.*

#### AdultED Learning This Spring is Easy as 1-2-3

If you grew up on Schoolhouse Rock like I did, you know that THREE is a magic number. That's certainly true at Temple Sinai this spring, where, at the risk of making a pop culture reference that dates me even further, learning is “easy as 1-2-3.” Three is the number of presenters in the AdultED series sponsored to honor the memory of Dennis Goldsmith, z”l. In April, Dr. Joel Hoffman gave ONE fabulous talk, “The Mystery and Majesty of the Dead Sea Scrolls.” This month, Temple Sinai native son Rabbi Joshua Garroway delights us with TWO intriguing talks: “Inside the Mind of God: Plato’s Influence on Ancient Judaism and Christianity” (Sunday, May 2, 7:00 p.m.) and “Making Meaning in Ancient Alexandria: Jews, Christians, and Allegory” (Sunday, May 23, 7:00 p.m.). And if you guessed that Rabbi Lawrence Englander’s June series “Judaism and Science: What Can They Learn From Each Other?” will have THREE parts, you guessed right!

But actually, AdultED learning at Temple Sinai this spring is really easy as 1-2-3-4. Why four? Easy! Rabbi Till’s Maimonides “Lunch & Learn”

series, which began last month, continues this month with its final two installments (Mondays, 12:00-1:00 p.m., May 3 and 10), bringing its total number of sessions to FOUR. That's four opportunities for learning in addition to the six (= 1+2+3) in the series described above. Of course, add four and six and get TEN, which happens to be the number of classes in Liz Ornstein’s “Prayerbook Hebrew - and More - the Easy Way!” series. Liz’s class, which launched Mondays, 8:00-9:00 p.m., in early April, continues through May and into June, affording us ongoing opportunity to better engage with our liturgy while uncovering resonances in conversational Hebrew.

If you’re like me, by now you’re thinking that maybe our next AdultED offering might have to be one on Jewish numerology! All jest aside, the AdultED Committee is always looking for ideas for our next offerings, so please don’t be shy about reaching out with your suggestions. See you in a class or talk in the meantime!

*Susan Rizzo, chair, Adult Education  
 adulted@tsinai.org #GetAdultED*





Thank you for your patience throughout this challenging year. We have learned much about the bond between congregants, clergy, and leadership at Temple Sinai. Despite the absence of physical togetherness, we have seen immeasurable commitment to maintaining our connection.

As the rates of infection are declining and vaccinations increasing, the COVID-19 Task Force has approved a plan to gradually reintroduce in-person services at Temple Sinai.

To prepare the building, we have scheduled an upgrade to the air filtration system to utilize MERV 13/UV filters, created a plan to change over prayer books after each service to avoid shared contact surfaces, and drafted preliminary operating procedures to promote social distancing and limit the number of visitors to the sanctuary.

Beginning in May, the clergy will return to stream and zoom our Erev Shabbat services from the Sanctuary without guests. Invitations will be sent for Shabbat morning services in May to congregants observing a Yahrzeit or who are in a period of Shloshim only.

In June, Erev Shabbat services will remain streamed and zoomed from the sanctuary with no guests in attendance. For Shabbat morning services, invitations will be sent only to families celebrating B'nai Mitzvah to offer an in-person service in the sanctuary with immediate family and a limited number of guests.

Invited guests will be required to register, and all vaccine-eligible guests must be fully vaccinated or have a negative COVID-19 test result within five days of their service. Masks are required for all, and registered guests will be checked in at the

door and assigned a pew. There will be no food or use of the social hall.

Please do not visit temple grounds if you are experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19.



All services will continue to be available via Zoom and/or StreamSpot.

We are planning to hold our Get S'more Shabbat Service on June 18<sup>th</sup> in person, open to all, in the Joel Bloom Garden with no tables or chairs set up. Guests will provide their own seating, i.e., chairs, blankets, etc. to be placed in designated socially-distanced sites throughout the garden. Although there will be no food at this event, attendees will receive a S'mores goodie bag.

Should community indicators shift to indicate another surge is beginning, we will notify you and resume fully remote services offered via Zoom only.

We are working to finalize fully detailed information letters and registration forms for invited guests to prepare them to visit the temple, and we will update the congregation as we continue to progress.

Once again, thank you for your patience and your overwhelming support of Temple Sinai as we have navigated these uncharted waters together. We truly look forward to the day that we can all be together, safely, in person again.

*Mary Mansfield*

## Save the Date: Temple Sinai Annual Meeting

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, you are invited to attend the Temple Sinai Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 17, 2021. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The agenda for the evening:

- Opening Prayer
- Rabbi's Report
- Education Director's Report
- President's Message
- Presentation of the Temple 2021-2022 Budget
- Nominating Committee Report
- Election of Officers and Trustees

# Within Our Family Tell Your “Sinai Story”

## *In Memoriam...*

*Temple Sinai notes with sorrow the passing of:*  
 Joan Harf, mother of Michael (Susan) Harf  
 Howard Michael Saidel, brother of Grace  
 (Leonid) Wlasowicz  
 Eileen Kaplan, cousin of Arlene (Jerry)  
     Wiesenberg  
 J.D. Wiesenber, cousin of Jerry (Arlene)  
     Wiesenberg  
 Stanley Tim Funk, cousin of Arlene (Jerry)  
     Wiesenberg  
 Mark Scherer, uncle of Eric (Beth) Brewer  
 Blossom Voldman, mother of Jeffery (Lili)  
     Voldman, grandmother of Mandi (Paul)  
     Warner  
 Mary Piekunka, mother of Tom (Joy) Piekunka  
 Rick Staenberg, brother of Marsha (David)  
     Boelio  
 Barbara Dechario, temple member  
 John Borek, uncle of Diana (Joe) Seroski  
 Ruth Schildkraut, step-mother of Jay (Deniz)  
     Schildkraut  
 Marjorie Scheier, mother of Ann (Bruce) Leonard  
 Harold Brownstein, brother of Jim (Renee)  
     Brownstein  
*The Temple family extends its heartfelt sympathy to the families.*

## *Mazal Tov to...*

Bruce Rosenbaum on the birth of grandson  
     Eion, son of Shana and Steve Dunn  
 Judy & Arthur Weinstein on the birth of  
     granddaughter Rosalie McFall Weinstein,  
     daughter of Marc Weinstein & Allison  
     McFall  
 Vicki & Tom Finnefrock on the birth of  
     granddaughter Mia Rose, daughter of  
     Megan & Chris Antonucci. Mazal Tov also to  
     great-grandfather Seymour Weinstein  
 Ellen Bevan on the Bat Mitzvah of  
     granddaughter Claire Sherwin, daughter of  
     Laurie Sternberg & Josh Sherwin

Your ‘nachas’ is our ‘nachas’. Email any  
 good news you would like to share with the  
 congregation to [jschachter@tsinai.org](mailto:jschachter@tsinai.org). *The Temple family extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families*



By all historical accounts, the world has always connected through stories. After all, the Torah itself is a wondrous collection of them. Now it's time for our congregation to share its stories—with each other and with the rest of the outside world. In case you've missed it, Temple Sinai has an incredible new website. It also features our new mission statement: Temple Sinai is an inclusive Sukkat Shalom—a shelter of peace—where seekers connect, pray, learn, pursue justice, and lift each other up.

Now the Mission and Vision Task Force needs your help. We decided that the best way to breathe life into this succinct and aspirational statement is through the voices of our congregants, telling their stories about how they've connected, prayed, learned, pursued justice, and been lifted up at Temple Sinai.

What makes you passionate about Temple Sinai? How did you get here? What drew you in? What keeps you coming back? We'd like to present these stories—“Sinai Stories”—on our new website as short videos. There are no right or wrong answers, and sharing your experience will only take a few minutes of your time (really, we promise!). To schedule a brief interview and share your Sinai Story, email Scott Newburge at [orangeman138@yahoo.com](mailto:orangeman138@yahoo.com) by June 1, 2021.





# Yahrzeits

*The departed live on in the hearts  
of those who cherish their memory*



## April 30 & May 1

Betty Benjamin  
Polya Berenbaum  
Lillian Blankfein  
Margaret Faber  
Barbara Fleischer  
Harvey Gage  
Arlyn Grossman  
Marcia Gurwitz  
Elaine Hacker  
Samter Horwitz  
Ethel Katz  
Abba Lekakh  
Thelma Marcus  
June McDonnell  
Lawrence Robert Moser  
Pearl Parnes  
Barbara Phillips  
Thomas F. Reinke, Jr.  
Murry Reiss  
Jacqueline Richter  
Arthur Rosen  
Philip Salit  
Rose Tabb  
David Trien  
Kenneth Weaver  
Freda Wilson  
Jack Yellen  
Morris Zand

## May 7 & 8

Miriam Altman  
Ruth Baker  
Ruth Belinoff  
Saundra Braitman  
Gerald Cooper  
Kenneth Cramer  
Michael Dijulio  
Mary Jo Ebner  
Thomas J. Finnefrock  
Shirley Jacobson  
Ruth Kadelbach  
Hilda Keil  
Anna Kolman  
Simeon Kruzhkov  
Steven Lapin  
Catherine Lebman  
Peter Manisewitz  
Mildred Manisewitz  
Teri Merliss Mendelson  
Howard Newman  
Faye Perlman  
Murray Pess  
Thelma Sarnov  
Susan Wendie Schiffrin

## Joanne G. Schoenfeld

Naum Vovchick  
Irving Weiner  
Morton Weitman  
Liette Moge Wilson  
Lev Ziskin

## May 14 & 15

### Frances B. Abrams

Betty Brown  
Suzanne Cameron  
Phyllis Cohen  
Philip Cytryn  
Angelo DiMatteo  
Frank Donsky  
Steven Drexler  
Sanford Elwitt  
Bessie Fenster  
Rose Goldensher  
Maria Gouzy  
Jerry Greenfield  
Lawrence Greer  
Elaine Hoffman  
Harry G. Horwitz  
Lillian Kleinberg  
Samuel Leonard  
Abraham A. Liff  
Anthony Menin  
Saul Moress  
Jamie Nussbaum  
Bruce Rosen  
Kathryn Schwartz  
Bessie Snyder  
Morris Sporn  
Marion Stern  
Evelyn Stoler  
Marcia Weiner

## May 21 & 22

Albert Barnett  
Morton Berger  
Marian Berlowitz  
Pauline Block  
Neale Bogardus  
Harvey Denis  
Patrick Dougherty  
Elya Farbenblum  
Sheindel Farbenblum  
Pesl Farbenblum  
Morris Feldman  
Sylvia Sue Friedlander  
Sam Goldensher  
Mitchell Goldman  
Bernard Golub  
Shirley Hart

## Alexander Harter

Carol Lederman  
Ruth Lipton  
Ruth Malett  
Irwin Metzger  
Jack Morse  
Anthony Price  
Helene Rothschild  
Jeffrey Rubel  
Gary D. Sandler  
Judith Schneider  
Joseph Shattan  
Barbara Shavick  
Hyman Shiffrin  
Benjamin Staenberg  
Martin Stark  
Ita Stark  
Phillip Stein  
Charles Eliot Steinberg  
Arlene Stern  
William Waddell, Sr.  
Martha Polly Wheeler  
Pearl Zwart

## May 28 & 29

Ethel Agins  
Edwin Alpert  
Leonard Ball  
Evelyn Berlowitz  
Nathan Biren  
David Bodner  
Rovi Faber  
Helen Feldsott  
Arthur Fink  
Judy Green  
Alan Green  
Julia Guttman  
Betty Hecker  
Anna Hiller  
Eleanor Howitt  
Florence Hutkoff  
Stephen Jacobs  
Joseph Kolman  
Jacqueline Levine  
Rhoda Long  
Arleigh Marks  
Eric Pash  
Sophie Potraker  
Jewel Scheller  
Ruth Schildkraut  
Maishe Schuster  
Manuel Schwartz  
Minnie Spector  
Riva Vovchick  
Jerome Wagner

Joseph Weiner  
Mildred Weiner  
Fanny M. Weinstein  
Abraham Weinstein  
Bernard Yellen  
Samuel Yessenow  
Estherbelle Land  
Zacher

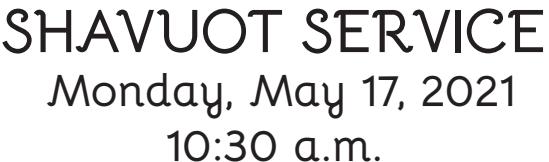
## June 4 & 5

Joseph Altman  
Richard Ambush  
Julian Aroesty  
Rose Badaines  
Rena Barkin  
Ruth Battler  
Max Blankopf  
Molly Bodner  
Fannie Brener  
Arlen Brodsky  
S. George DiGiovanni  
William Feldman  
Maurice Fleysher  
Ed Frindel  
Sally Gerard  
Jeanne Goldberg  
Albert Golden  
Rose Goodman  
Marshall Gordon  
Cecile Gross Fried  
Ruth Grossman  
Benjamin Katzel  
Jonathan Kessler  
Isaac King  
Lois Levin  
Sidney Meyers  
Bernard Miller  
Carole Nahmias  
Andrew Neisner  
Eileen Oseroff  
Harold Rib  
Arthur Scheier  
Max Schnoll  
Mildred Schrage  
Sarah Schwartz  
Marsha Silberman  
Abraham Silver  
Belle Stein  
Pearl Stone  
Robert Wagner  
Jack Weinstein  
Dick Wittink  
Allan Zeldman

Within Our Family



# May 2021 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK THE TEMPLE WEBSITE FOR CHANGES AND FOR LINKS TO SERVICES THROUGH ZOOM.				 June Erev Shabbat Services PLEASE CHECK SNIPPETS AND OUR WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE SERVICE TIMES		Torah Study- 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service with 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade participating- 10:30 a.m. Torah Portion: <i>Emor</i> Leviticus 21.1–24.23
School in Session MITZVAH DAY T'filaton- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Parent Lounge- 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Class- 11:00 a.m. Kesher- 11:00 a.m. Torah Chanting Club- 11:00 a.m. Adult Ed-Rabbi Joshua Garroway- 7:00 p.m.	2 Lunch & Learn –The Search for Truth: the Essential Teachings of Moses Maimonides- 12:00 p.m. Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	3 Lunch & Learn –The Search for Truth: the Essential Teachings of Moses Maimonides- 12:00 p.m. Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	4 School in Session Virtual Parent Lounge- 5:00 p.m.	5 School in Session Virtual Parent Lounge- 5:00 p.m.	6 Accessibility & Inclusion Committee Meeting- 6:30 p.m.	7 Erev Shabbat Family Service with Birthday Blessings, Celebration of Jan Katz's Ordination- 6:00 p.m.
9 School in Session T'filaton- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Parent Lounge- 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Class- 11:00 a.m. Kesher- 11:00 a.m. Torah Chanting Club- 11:00 a.m.	10 Lunch & Learn –The Search for Truth: the Essential Teachings of Moses Maimonides- 12:00 p.m. Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	11 School in Session Virtual Parent Lounge- 5:00 p.m. Life & Legacy Team Meeting- 7:00 p.m.	12 School in Session Virtual Parent Lounge- 5:00 p.m. Life & Legacy Team Meeting- 7:00 p.m.	13 Religious Practices Committee Meeting- 7:00 p.m.	14 Erev Shabbat Service with 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade participating- 6:00 p.m.	8 Torah Study- 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service- 10:30 a.m. Torah Portion: <i>Behar- Bechukotai</i> Leviticus 25.1–27.34
School in Session T'filaton- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Parent Lounge- 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Class- 11:00 a.m. Kesher- 11:00 a.m. Torah Chanting Club- 11:00 a.m. Erev Shavuot & Confirmation Service- 6:00 p.m.	16 OFFICE CLOSED Shavuot Service with Yizkor Memorial Prayers- 10:30 a.m. Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	17 OFFICE CLOSED Shavuot Service with Yizkor Memorial Prayers- 10:30 a.m. Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	18 School in Session Virtual Parent Lounge- 5:00 p.m. Women's Chavurah – Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body- 7:00 p.m.	19 School in Session Virtual Parent Lounge- 5:00 p.m. Women's Chavurah – Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body- 7:00 p.m.	20 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 p.m.	21 Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.
23 School Last Day T'filaton- 9:30 a.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advancement- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Parent Lounge- 10:30 a.m. Kesher- 11:00 a.m. Bogrim- 11:00 a.m. Torah Chanting Club- 11:00 a.m. Adult Ed-Rabbi Joshua Garroway- 7:00 p.m.	24 Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	25 AdultEd Committee Meeting- 7:00 p.m.	26 Congregant Engagement Committee Meeting- 7:00 p.m.	27 Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.	28 Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.	15 Torah Study- 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service- 10:30 a.m. Torah Portion: <i>Naso</i> Numbers 4.21–7.89
30 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.	31 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED Prayerbook Hebrew and More, the Easy Way- 8:00 p.m.					

## Captioning Temple Sinai Events for Greater Accessibility

The Accessibility & Inclusion Committee is committed to making all Temple events - in-person and on-screen - as accessible as possible to all who wish to participate in them. Toward that end, we are currently auditing the accessibility of our events to people who are deaf and hard-of-hearing. Our focus right now is on captioning our live-streamed and recorded materials. Ultimately, the lessons we learn in these domains will be applied to live in-person settings.

Various captioning options exist. Open captions, such as accompany the pre-recorded sermon in the lay-led services, are on the screen for all to see. Closed captions, in contrast, can be turned on or off by the viewer. It is our vision at Temple Sinai to ensure that closed captions are available across all "gatherings," including, for example, services, classes, and committee meetings.

Captions are generated in one of two basic ways: (1) using automatic speech recognition (ASR); and (2) via the talents and efforts of a live captionist. As you can imagine, there is a scale of cost, depending on the level of expertise demanded by the service. Zoom, our most frequented meeting platform, recently enabled professional account users to turn on closed captioning, either using ASR or integrating third-party live captioning.

At present, we are experimenting using the free ASR-based captioning offered by Zoom. We are assessing speed and, importantly, accuracy. We recognize that the mixing of English and

Hebrew in many Jewish settings presents limitations to ASR accuracy. However, we are experimenting with ways to make it work nonetheless - e.g., by including Hebrew text in slides and turning the captioning off during "Hebrew-heavy" portions.

We are looking to you to help us gather the data needed to decide whether ASR-based captioning adequately meets the needs of our community (both present congregants and those who might feel welcomed by our accessibility). Please, therefore, both enable captioning in your own events, and invite feedback about the captions from those in attendance. (Was it helpful? Fast enough? Accurate enough? Distracting? etc.)

If it is determined that Zoom's free captions are inadequate for our purposes, we will explore paid options, including ASR-based services with customizable dictionaries, as well as live captionists with Jewish communal experience and expertise. However, we'd like to start with the easiest, least costly option and proceed from there.

Proper decision-making will depend on your feedback! Please contact us with questions, suggestions or concerns.

Thank you,  
Accessibility & Inclusion Captioning  
Subcommittee  
*Joel Shamaskin* (joel.shamaskin@gmail.com)  
*Susan Rizzo* (post2rizzo@gmail.com)  
*Lauren Lieberman* (llieberman@brockport.edu)

### Temple Contacts

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Alan Katz

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**Caring Community & Social Action** Abby Urban-Rifkin



## Women's Chavurah

The Women's Chavurah invites you to attend a Zoom session,  
**HEALTHY LIVING FOR YOUR BRAIN AND BODY**  
presented by the Alzheimer's Association  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

Please register by contacting [nfriedman@alz.org](mailto:nfriedman@alz.org) with your name, address, e-mail address, and phone number. Be sure to register by May 5<sup>th</sup> if you would like to have a workbook sent to your home address. The ZOOM link will be sent to registrants directly from the Alzheimer's Association.

## HEALTHY LIVING FOR YOUR BRAIN AND BODY

### TIPS FROM THE LATEST RESEARCH

An education program presented by the Alzheimer's Association®



For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and the body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how lifestyle choices may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age.

Join us to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging.

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Please contact Nan Friedman at [nfriedman@alz.org](mailto:nfriedman@alz.org) or 585.358.4943 with any questions, or for more information..

14012685



### Inclusion at Temple Sinai

*From the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee*

Our wonderful newly designed website says that Temple Sinai is:

A Reform congregation affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), we count among us Jews raised in Orthodox, Conservative, humanistic, and other traditions, in addition to the Reform tradition; interfaith families; Jews of Color; LGBT Jews; singles, couples, and families; Jews with disabilities; and Jews across the age span and from many backgrounds.

In sum, we embrace Jews of all ages and backgrounds, as well as those curious about Judaism.

This could not be more welcoming and inclusive.

Inclusion is integral to Jewish principles. Numbers 15:15-16 states “You and the stranger shall be alike before the eternal: the same ritual and the same rule shall apply to you and to the stranger who resides among you.” Further, and perhaps better known, Leviticus 19:34 provides: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Nevertheless “otherness” rears its head all too often. It is the basis of biases that have rent apart our society. Racism is perhaps the most obvious of these, but biases against those who are not like “us” in almost any way, sadly, exist. These biases can be deeply buried, and we may exhibit them so unconsciously, so unwittingly, and so subtly that we don’t recognize we are doing so.

Although we may not be able to recognize these biases in ourselves, those who are subjected to them do. The Accessibility and Inclusion Committee believes that we should test our articulated values of inclusion by asking our congregants whether at times or in situations they have felt unwelcomed at Temple Sinai. We will do this by emailing to each of you a questionnaire that can be answered anonymously to help us understand where we may need to improve.

From these responses we hope to learn how we can truly abide by our inclusive ideal.

### Contributions

*Todah Rabah to all those who remembered Temple Sinai when they remembered others*

#### ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION FUND

*In Memory of*

**Beverly Sadwith Schiffрин**, by Liz Steinberg  
**Samuel Klau**, by Karl Auerbach

*With Loving Wishes to*

**Elaine Simon** on her birthday, by Liz Steinberg  
**Leonard Simon** on his special birthday, by Liz Steinberg

A donation has been made by Lauren Lieberman & Katrina Arndt

#### ADULT EDUCATION FUND

*In Memory of*

**Simon Braitman**, by David & Carole Teegarden  
**Samuel Mazur**, by Marcia Elwitt

*In Appreciation of*

The wonderful **Scholar in Residence** program with **Danny Maseng**, by Vicki and Tom Fnnefrock

A donation has been made by Edward Muszynski & Bonnie Hughes

#### BUILDING FUND

*In Honor of*

**April Simchas** & the birthday of **Stuart Schweid**, by Marla Allentoff

*In Memory of*

**Stanley Tim Funk**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz  
**J.D. Weisenberg**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz  
**Eileen Kaplan**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz  
**Anna Joel**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz  
**Marjorie Scheier**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz

#### CANTOR BRAUN DISCRETIONARY FUND

*In Memory of*

**Saul Schutzer**, by Harrison Schutzer  
**Marion Brownell**, by Jay Supnick & Gail Brownell  
**Ethel Katz**, by Allan Skerker  
**Blossom Voldman**, by Lili Voldman

*Wishing Mazal Tov to*

**Elise & Joe Wojciechowski** on the birth of grandson **Jonah**, by Noreen Salerno



**FLORAL FUND***In Memory of*

**Blossom Voldman**, by Blanche & Ed Fenster

**GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND***In Appreciation of*

**Iris Giancola and Dorise Honorat** - for their talented efforts and leadership in Congregant Engagement initiatives, by Esther Brill

*In Honor of*

The birth of **Elise & Joe Wojciechowski's** grandson **Jonah**, by Alan & Judy Wertheimer, Carol Goldsmith, Joyce Schachter, Lester & Monika Katzel, Vicki & Tom Finnefrock

The engagement of **Leslie Algase & Gary Dudek's** son **Joe** to **Christine Yang**, by Ann & Bruce Leonard, Remy & Marilyn Fenster

The birth of **Barb & Al Mendler's** grandson **Cameron**, by Carol Goldsmith, Joyce Schachter, Vicki & Tom Finnefrock

**Monika & Les Katzel's** birthdays, by Stephen & Mimi Greenfield

The birth of **Judy & Art Weinstein's** granddaughter **Rosalie**, by Stephen & Mimi Greenfield, Lester & Monika Katzel

The engagement of **Howard & Sue Weiner's** son **Eric** to **Jessica Stekloff**, by Remy & Marilyn Fenster

*In Memory of*

**Simon Braitman**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz, Bev & Morrie Weinstein, Bobbi Simmons-Sarnov, Carol & Michael Yunker, Carol & Keith Greer, Frank & Ruth Sklarsky, Joseph & Elise Wojciechowski, Joyce Schachter, Lauren & Martin Yesowitch, Leslie Algase, Lester & Monika Katzel, Marsha Rifkin & Abby Urban Rifkin, Remy & Marilyn Fenster, Renee & James Brownstein, Ronald & Karen Newman, Ann & Bruce Leonard

**Charlie Schachter**, by Allen & Barbara Mendler, Elise Rosenfeld

**Richard Leonard**, by Ann & Bruce Leonard

**Bev Groden**, by Barb & David Morris

**Susan Spector**, by David Spector

**Rick Staenberg**, by Esther Brill & RJ Ruble

**Joseph Kellerman**, by Joseph & Elise Wojciechowski

**Robert Kellerman**, by Joseph & Elise Wojciechowski

**Turk Morel**, by Lester & Monika Katzel

**Howard Michael Saidel**, by Vicki & Tom Finnefrock

**Harold Brownstein**, by Blanche and Ed Fenster, Joyce Schachter

**Barbara Dechario**, by Joseph & Elise Wojciechowski, Lester & Monika Katzel, Joyce Schachter

**Marjorie Scheier**, by Joseph & Elise Wojciechowski, Joyce Schachter, Rosalyn Algase

The cousins of **Jerry & Arlene Wiesenber**, by Lester & Monika Katzel

**GENERAL OPERATING FUND***In Appreciation of*

**Lindsey Hagan** for co-leading the Lay Led Shabbat service, by Lisa Altman & Elijah Knowlton

*In Honor of*

The birth of **Judy & Arthur Weinstein's** granddaughter **Rosalie**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz

The birth of **Barb & Al Mendler's** grandson **Cameron Joseph**, by Norm & Donna Lederman

*In Memory of*

**Simon Braitman**, by Allan Hymes & Marilyn Rosen, Norman & Donna Lederman, H. Robert & Joyce Herman

**Beverly Groden**, by Eileen Singleton, Judy & Stuart Kaplan, Dyann DelVecchio

**Turk Morel**, by Marcia & Eric Birken, Robert & Merilyn Israel

**Evelyn Paulin**, by Marvin Groden

**Doris Groden**, by Marvin Groden

**Blossom Voldman**, by Marvin Groden, Robert & Merilyn Israel

**Lea Bell**, by Rochelle Bell

**Pesya Gurevich**, by Zina Lyubchanskaya, Grigoriy & Brokha Novozhenets

**Fayva Gurevich**, by Grigoriy & Brokha Novozhenets

**Faivel Gurevich**, by Zina Lyubchanskaya

**Barbara Dechario**, by Mona Miller

**Marjorie Scheier**, by Norm & Donna Lederman

A donation has been made by Cary & Stacey Greenberg

A donation has been made by Mark Winsberg & Diane Morse

**NEXT STAGE FUND***In Memory of*

**Gloria Sarachan**, by Jeremy Sarachan



## JOEL BLOOM FUND

### *In Memory of*

**Blossom Voldman**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz,  
Harriett Shulman  
**Barbara Dechario**, by Donna & Norm  
Lederman  
**Eileen Kaplan**, by Jerome & Arlene Wiesenber  
**Simon Braitman**, by Jerome & Arlene  
Wiesenber

### *In Honor of*

The birth of **Joe & Elise Wojciechowski's**  
grandson, **Jonah Eitan**, by John & Tobie Olsan

### *Wishing Mazal Tov to*

**Elise & Joe Wojciechowski** on the birth of their  
grandson **Jonah**, by Bess & Ed Lewis

## LIBRARY FUND

### *In Memory of*

**Pearl Greene**, by Marlene & Henry Etlinger and  
family  
**Bev Groden**, by the Temple Sinai Evening Book  
Group  
**Helen Hill**, by Allan & Leni Rayburn

## MITZVAH CONNECTION FUND

### *In Appreciation of*

**Dr. Nora Rubel and Professor Jeremy Sarachan**  
for their spirited participation in the First  
Annual Temple Sinai Purim Debate, by The  
Temple Life Committee  
Their kindness following the death of **Myrna  
Weinstein**, by the family of Myrna Weinstein

### *In Honor of*

The marriage of **David Kotok & Wahyu Dilts**,  
by John & Tobie Olsan

### *In Memory of*

**Jerome Louis**, by Carol & Michael Yunker  
**Lea Bell**, by Remy & Marilyn Fenster  
**Edith Zatzkin**, by Sherry & Ronald Schwartz

## MUSIC FUND

### *In Appreciation of*

**Lorri & John Diggory**, by Elise & Ian  
Friedlander  
**Leah Saad Sherman** for co-leading the Lay  
Led Shabbat service, by Lisa Altman & Elijah  
Knowlton

### *In Honor of*

The birth of **Joe & Elise Wojciechowski's**  
grandson **Jonah**, by Carol & Michael Yunker

**Cantor Braun**, the planning committee and  
the participants in the Scholar in Residence  
program, by John & Tobie Olsan

### *In Memory of*

**Barbara Dechario**, by Bonnie Hughes & Ed  
Muszynski, David Yates, Lori & Robert  
Conway, Marcia Elwitt, Marcia & Eric Birken,  
by Allan & Judy Schwartz, Arlene Cooper,  
Irene and Robyn Goodman, Marvin &  
Loretta Friedman

## PRAYERBOOK FUND

### *In Honor of*

The 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of daughter **Rebecca  
Drayer's** Bat Mitzvah, by Marilyn Drayer

### *In Memory of*

**Jacob Friedlander**, by Elise & Ian Friedlander  
**Jack Slawetsky**, by Louis & Harriet Slawetsky

## PRESIDENT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### *In Memory of*

**Simon Braitman**, by Vicki & Tom Finnefrock  
**Marjorie Scheier**, by Randi Forman & Mark  
Anderson

### *Wishing Mazal Tov to*

**Vicki & Tom Finnefrock** on the birth of  
granddaughter **Mia Rose** and to great-  
grandfather, **Seymour Weinstein**, by Randi  
Forman & Mark Anderson

## RABBI KATZ DISCRETIONARY FUND

### *In Memory of*

**Molly Levitt**, by Jane Margolis

## RAIHN FUND (FAMILY PROMISE)

### *In Memory of*

**Maria Madonia**, by Iris & Scott Giancola  
**Simon Braitman**, by Noreen Salerno  
**Jack Meyers**, by Wayne Willis & Susan Medoff  
Willis  
**Harold Brownstein**, by the Mitzvah Connection

## TORAH RESTORATION FUND

### *In Memory of*

**Josephine Abelman**, by Judy Abelman & Barry  
Goldfarb

## TREE OF LIFE LEADERSHIP FUND

### *In Memory of*

**Bev Groden**, by the 2021 Religious Practices  
Committee

**Charlie Schachter**, by the 2013 B'nai Mitzvah Class



RABBI TILL DISCRETIONARY FUND*In Appreciation of*

**Rabbi Till**, by Lauren Lieberman & Katrina Arndt  
With gratefulness for your support and participation in **Turk's Celebration of Life**, by Betty J Mann

*In Honor of*

The birth of **Joe & Elise Wojciechowski's** grandson **Jonah**, by Allen & Barbara Mendler, William Waddell & Linda Rubel

*In Memory of*

**Louis Green**, by Amy Jacobson  
**Florence Rosenbaum**, by Bruce Rosenbaum  
**Eugene Rosenbaum**, by Bruce Rosenbaum  
**Malvin Ring**, by Hilda Ring  
**Rose Yaffee**, by Jane Margolis  
**Marion Brownell**, by Jay Supnick & Gail Brownell  
**Morton Sarachan**, by Jeremy Sarachan  
**Stanley Tim Funk**, by Marsha & Abby Urban Rifkin  
**J.D. Weisenberg**, by Marsha & Abby Urban Rifkin  
**Eileen Kaplan**, by Marsha & Abby Urban Rifkin  
**Ethel Katz**, by Allan Skerker  
**Anneleise Rayburn**, by Allan and Leni Rayburn  
**Majore Scheier**, by Barbara and Gene Schwartz, Bonnie Hughes and Ed Muszynski  
**Rick Staenberg**, by Barbara and Gene Schwartz  
**Irma Lee Rosenthal**, by Bernard Rosenthal  
A donation has been made by Lauren Lieberman & Katrina Arndt

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND*In Appreciation of*

**Ilan Adar** for coordinating creative Purim programming, by Lisa Altman & Elijah Knowlton

*In Honor of*

The birth of **Brian & Renee Mendler's** son **Cameron Joseph**, by the Mitzvah Connection  
**Ilan Adar's** leadership in Jewish education, by Vicki & Tom Finnerock

SOCIAL ACTION FUND*In Memory of*

**Elmer Louis**, by Carol & Michael Yunker  
**Julia Rosenfeld**, by Howard & Arlene Schenker  
**Harry Rosenfeld**, by Howard & Arlene Schenker  
**Robert Silberman**, by Sheryl Lynn Silberman  
**Rick Staenberg**, by Allan & Judy Schwartz

*In Honor of*

**Lindsey Hagan** for her Tech Support during our speaker series, by The Racism and Health Disparities Committee

WEINSTEIN-FINNEFROCK FUND*In Honor of*

The birth of **Vicki & Tom Finnefrock's** granddaughter and **Seymour Weinstein's** great-granddaughter, **Mia Rose**, by Joyce Schachter, Allan & Judy Schwartz, Ann & Bruce Leonard, Lester & Monika Katzel

*In Memory of*

**Myrna Weinstein**, by Allen & Barbara Mendler, Anonymous, David Scott Sloan, Elise Rosenfeld, Remy & Marilyn Fenster, Ann Williams and the Voluntary Legal Service Project of Rochester

YOUTH ENDOWMENT FUND*In Honor of*

The birth of **Brian & Renee Mendler's** son **Cameron Joseph**, by Howard & Susan Itkin

*On Behalf of*

**Special needs kids**, by Habtam Gebi

WOMEN'S CHAVURAH FUND*In Memory of*

**Rick Staenberg**, by Carol & Michael Yunker

For information about these funds, go to our website [tsinai.org](http://tsinai.org) and select the "Donate" tab

Tributes received after April 10<sup>th</sup> will be recognized in the June Bulletin

Donations in honor of Jan Katz's ordination can be made to

- (1) the COVID-19 Renewal Fund for HUC-JIR at <http://huc.edu/donate/covid-19-renewal-fund-huc-jir> or
- (2) a Temple Sinai fund of your choice



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We are so pleased to announce the  
**Ordination of Jan Katz**  
**Sunday, May 2, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m.**

Live – Zoomed from Temple Emanuel in NYC

Registration required by April 30.  
*Please refer to Sinai Snippets for registration link.*

Please join us to honor Rabbi Jan Katz  
at Friday Erev Shabbat Service on May 7 at 6:00 p.m.