



# Sinai Temple Bulletin

*Take Back Your Time:  
Rediscover Shabbat*

*March / April 2016  
Adar II / Nisan 5776*

## For Your Consideration

*Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro*

We're building! Yes, we're building at Sinai in a number of ways.

First, we are quite literally about to join ten other houses of worship to build a Habitat for Humanity home. "Our" house, which will become the home for a needy family in Springfield, will be at 479 Allen Street in Springfield.

If all goes well, permits should be issued this month and building should begin in May. We will be in touch to welcome your participation in many ways in the near future.

Of course, building means more than what you and I will be doing at a literal level with hammers and nails via Habitat. We are also "building" the future of Sinai with our Solel initiative. This is the process by which we are planning to create a new educational enterprise for our children from Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade. Solel means "trailblazer," and the goal is for Sinai and Temple Beth El to merge our two schools into a new entity. We have been dialoguing with Beth El for over a year about this project. We are reaching out to families in both congregations for ideas and feelings. If not this September of 2016, then come September 2017 we will see something brand new in our midst. We will be "building" a new way for Jewish youngsters to learn and thrive in Springfield.

And looking into the future, building can mean still more.

Building can refer to the new chapter of congregational life that will arrive when I am no longer Rabbi of Sinai. We can't predict how Sinai will look then. Although I will be Rabbi Emeritus, I will play a more limited role in the Temple's life.

Leadership will fall to my successor Rabbi and, to be honest, to you.

You will be in charge of the future.

You - the members of Sinai - will build the congregation. That means young parents will bring their energy to the Temple. Seniors will continue to support the Temple as they have for decades.

And my friends - dear baby boomers who form the largest demographic group at Sinai - you will be especially important. Some of you are retired; some are about to retire; many of you wonder how Judaism fits into your lives. You've got one foot in Sinai and one foot sort of elsewhere. You may not be so sure.

Friends, there couldn't be a better time than now to think about Sinai and to dig deep when it comes to your Jewish selves. As our Temple Mission Statement says, all of us "pursue a continuing journey of Jewish growth."

We have made the journey together for many years. Let's continue to do so together at Sinai as we really do "build" a community for the future.

## Friday Evenings in March

**March 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

Extraordinary. Food, Friendship, and filmmaker, JULIE MINTZ. See Page 3.

**March 11 at 6:00 p.m.**

Kidz Kabbalat - Shabbat dinner and service for families with children in Kg and Grades 1 and 2. See Page 9.

**March 11 at 7:30 p.m.**

Congregational Shabbat Service

**March 18 at 7:30 p.m.**

Congregational Shabbat Service

**March 25 at 7:30 p.m.**

Congregational Shabbat Service

## Friday Evenings in April

**April 1 at 6 p.m.**

Kabbalat Shabbat - Sixty delicious minutes preceded by snacks at 5:30 p.m.

**April 8 at 6:00 p.m.**

Tot Shabbat for families with children under five years of age.

**April 8 at 7:30 p.m.**

Unplug from your week. Renew yourself at Sinai.

**April 15 at 7:30 p.m.**

Men and Women of Sinai will participate in the service as we honor this year's recipient of the Rabbi Herman E. Snyder Award. See page 8.

**April 22 - The First Seder**

**Chag Sameach - Happy Passover**

**No service at Sinai this evening.**

**April 29 at 7:30 p.m.**

Passover has "passed" when Shabbat arrives today. Visual Worship tonight. No prayerbook. In the Auditorium all prayers projected on a screen. Honoring special Wedding Anniversaries. Mazal Tov.

## Saturday Mornings

*Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.; Shabbat Service at 10:15 a.m. (Bnai Mitzvah services starting at 10:30 a.m.)  
Mazal Tov to Bar Mitzvah*

*April 9 - Jack Byrne, son of Lori Novak and Jim Byrne*

**PASSOVER BEGINS FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 22 &  
CONCLUDES AT SUNDOWN FRIDAY, APRIL 29.**

## From the Temple President, Bruce Leshine

Friends - I'm out for my regular Saturday morning run. But this Saturday morning and this run are both very different. Just before dawn, I've run down through the Kidron Valley and the Palestinian village of Silwan. Climbing back up the hills through the City of David, I pass through the southeastern gate to the Old City of Jerusalem. A giant orange sun is now rising, peeking over a great stone wall that, until now, I've only seen in pictures. I stop to take a breath, and I'm not sure whether it's because I've been running, or it's because of where I am right now...

Liz, Shelby, Abby and I were part of that amazing Sinai Temple trip in July, 2007. I tell you this not because it was the journey of a lifetime (although it was!), but because it set me on another "journey" that I never would have imagined myself taking almost nine years ago. Before this, I'll confess that my participation at Sinai Temple consisted mainly of paying our family dues, dropping kids off at religious school, the High Holidays and occasional attendance at Friday night services, and our friends' life cycle events. But after this, something changed for me. I was suddenly and overwhelmingly "hooked" on my heritage and my faith--- and this newly discovered and incredibly strong connection to my religion quickly grew into a desire to not just participate at Sinai Temple periodically, but to become "a part of" Sinai Temple.

Throughout our lives, we become a part of Jewish relationships without which we could not survive. From our first moments to our last, we Jews value life among other human beings, life made richer by irreplaceable relationships and our belonging to a community. I believe that our principal goal for Sinai Temple is to make our temple not just a house of worship, not just a place of learning for our children, but a greater and more dynamic Jewish community for us and all of our family and friends.

Our Long Range Planning Committee is hard at work exploring and thinking about what Sinai Temple may be and should look like ten years from now and beyond that. Part of this long range planning involves changes to and the evolution of Sinai Temple. And of course, change and evolution require new leadership for Sinai Temple, and more of our members moving from merely participating at Sinai to becoming a greater "part of" Sinai Temple. Are you ready?

For me, a trip to Israel was the moment that changed me. Of course, it may be something entirely different for you. But whatever it is that keeps you at Sinai Temple, I'd ask you to think about what might "change" you to make Sinai a bigger part of your life. Community. Leadership. I never thought that I'd be here, doing what I'm doing now, nine years ago, but I am thrilled that I am. How about you?

Be well...Bruce Leshine

## Fabulous Farewell to Rabbi Shapiro

### SAVE THE DATE.

**Saturday evening, June 18**

**Here at the Temple - both inside  
and outside.**

**Details to follow.**

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published every other month by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 5 for 2015-2016.

Mark Dov Shapiro .....Rabbi  
Martin Levson .....Cantor  
Heather Sullivan .....Director of Education  
Bruce Leshine .....President  
Steve Kessler .....Vice President  
Laurie Weinberg .....Vice President  
Susan Cash Cannizzo .....Vice President  
Buff Maniscalco .....Treasurer  
Susanne Simon .....Financial Secretary  
Karen Mendelsohn .....Recording Secretary  
Jack Henrie .....President, Men & Women of Sinai  
Ron Weiss .....Cemetery Chair  
Maggie & Sarah Cohn .....Membership Committee Chairs

Visit our website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

## JUIDAICA GIFT SHOP CORNER

This month we'll have fun with our Purim Spiel, dressing up and making noise!

Then, in early April, we'll start preparing for Passover. We will have many Seder plates to choose from, including NEW DISPOSABLES!!!! There will be a full selection of Haggadas, serving items and, of course, many toys and games for young and old.

We'll have extended hours and days for shopping, still to be determined.

Call Us.

**Thais Fischel 786-9577**

**Slightly Crazy Jewish Style  
Purim Arrives  
Wednesday, March 23 at 6 p.m.  
Laughs, History, and Dinner Included**

# Laughter and Libations!

An evening of mischievous music, decadent drinks, and desserts!

Featuring **Cantor Elise Barber,**  
**Adrian Durlenster,** and **Cantor Martin Levson,**  
performing the songs of Allan Sherman,  
Tom Lehrer, Gene Raskin, and others!

**Saturday, March 19, 8:00 P.M.**  
**\$10 per person**

*RSVP on the Sinai Temple website, [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)  
or call the Temple Office, (413) 736-3619*



## Partisan Fighters of the Holocaust Food & Film Festival

**Friday, March 4**

**Service at 6 p.m.**

**Dinner & Film at 7 p.m.**

**With filmmaker, Julia Mintz**

*Reservations Required (Even though this event is free)*

**[www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)**

Who fought back? How did they fight back?

Julia Mintz will be our guest on March 4. Mintz, is a producer and director of documentary films whose work focuses on inspiring narratives of bravery and resistance—despite unimaginable odds.

Her current work focuses on the Jewish Partisans, featuring those who fought back against the Nazis from the primeval forests of Eastern Europe.

Her previous films have included Soundtrack for a Revolution, which told the story of the Civil Rights movement through music plus Nanking, which won the editorial award at Sundance about the Japanese takeover of Nanking, China.

*This evening's speaker is made possible by a gift from the children of Arthur and Arline Rogers..*





**Faith and Doubt:  
Jewish Poetry Asking the Great Questions  
Wednesday, March 2, 9 & 16 from 7:30 – 9:00 pm  
Sponsored by Sinai Temple and Temple Beth El  
Taking Place at the JCC**

Jewish sources have always expressed both belief in God's protection and struggled with that belief, expressing anguish and anger over God's absence. We will engage in a close reading of biblical, medieval and modern poems that wrestle with faith.

Rabbi Ed Feld will teach this 3-session class, co-sponsored by Sinai and Beth El. This class will be held at the Springfield JCC. The cost is \$25 for members of Sinai and Beth El; \$50 for non-members. To register, please contact the Temple office at 736-3619.

Rabbi Ed Feld is senior editor of the two new prayerbooks published by the Conservative Movement. The Forward Magazine lists him as one of the Forward 50 – the 50 outstanding American Jews.

Best of all, Ed lives in Northampton. He is our neighbor!

**The Caring Community of Sinai Temple Invites  
all Sinai Senior Members To a Passover Luncheon**

**Tuesday, April 26 at 12:00 noon**

Featuring a movie about movies!  
HOLLYWOOD - AN EMPIRE OF THEIR OWN  
*(With a conversation led by Rabbi Shapiro)*

"Hollywood was a dream dreamt by Jews who were escaping a nightmare."

Although the Caring Community Fund underwrites this lunch,  
a donation of \$5 at the door would be welcome.

*RSVP to the Temple office, 736-3619, no later than Wednesday, April 20.*

**Champagne, Chocolate, and Blessings**

**Friday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.**

Sinai Temple's Caring Community happily invites you to a ceremony celebrating your special wedding anniversary in 2016!

If you were married in 2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981,  
1976, 1971, 1966, 1961, 1956

Please join Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson

**On Friday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.**

The Rabbi and Cantor will honor you as a group with blessings, sweet wine, & chocolates.

RSVP to Robin Blanchette Gage, Rabbi's Assistant,  
736-3619, ext. 100





**The Honorable Prime Minister of Persia, Haman,  
is commanded by His Majesty, King Achashverosh,  
to invite you to a Royal Banquet  
Celebrating PURIM 2016  
Dinner and Festivities to be included  
Wednesday, March 23 - From 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

Your attendance is "commanded" in costume.  
Prizes to be awarded for the best "costumed" family.  
Celebrity Judge Senator Eric Lesser

Make your reservation through the Temple office by e-mailing Princess Robin at  
rblanchettegaga@sinaï-temple.org or by calling 736-3619, ext 100.  
His Majesty expects your reservation no later than March 16!!!!  
Thanks to the Religious School Special Projects Fund for underwriting our feast!

**PLUS THREE ADDITIONAL PURIM OPPORTUNITIES  
DURING THE BANQUET**

Bring a box of Macaroni and Cheese for your gregger/noisemaker.  
(Whatever we collect at the King's Banquet  
will later be given to the hungry in Springfield.)

**AFTER THE BANQUET**

Everyone at Sinai is invited over to Temple Beth El at 7:30 p.m.  
for games, activities, and more food. All ages. Everyone is invited.

**DRESSING KINGS AND QUEENS AROUND SPRINGFIELD  
DONATING SPECIAL OCCASION DRESSES, SUITS, AND OTHER CLOTHES**

Starting March 1, you are invited to search your closets for semi-formal or formal dresses worn by  
your daughters and now just gathering dust. How about shoes too? And how about men's suits  
or ties that are also just hanging out in your closet.

We are collecting all these clothes for a project called FITTING FOR THE FUTURE that will get  
these clothes to young women and men in Springfield who will proudly wear them for their  
own special occasions this Spring. Bring what you have to the Temple TODAY.

## Adult Opportunities

### Monthly Morning Service

**Wednesday, March 2 at 7:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday, April 6 at 7:30 a.m.**

A chance to start your day with a different focus. On the bimah for a service of 20 minutes. Breakfast follows. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m. Future "morning minyan" services on Wednesdays, May 4 and June 1.

### Crafts at Sinai: Do You Do Crafts?

**Would you like some company?**

**Thursday, March 17 at 7 p.m.**

We are experimenting this Thursday, March 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. If you do a craft and would like to have some company while you are "crafting," would you consider coming to the Temple this Thursday evening?

Any craft is perfect! Quilting, crochet, scrapbooking, knitting, jewelry making, needlepoint. Bring your work and we'll have a great time talking while creating.

Information/Ideas? Contact Ronnie Leavitt...567-0558...  
ronnie.leavitt@gmail.com

### Hunger Outreach - About 90 Minutes -

**April 4, 5, 6**

**Sinai to Serve at Friends of the Homeless**

This past Fall 36 Sinai members served several meals to the homeless at Friends of the Homeless (501 Worthington Street in Springfield). It was an extraordinary experience for all. If you have approximately 90 minutes to volunteer in April, let Susan Shepherd know. We only have room for a few volunteers. Susan can be contacted at SHEPSUSAN@aol.com

**Monday, April 4 - Serving Dinner**

6 volunteers from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 5 - Serving Lunch**

6 volunteers from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 6 - Serving Lunch or Dinner**

6 volunteers from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. OR

6 volunteers from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Sign up today. SHEPSUSAN@aol.com**

### Sinai Reading Partners (aka Sinai book group);

**Wednesday, March 16 at 7 p.m.**

**Pirates!!!?**

On Wednesday, March 16, we will discuss: "Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean: How a Generation of Swashbuckling Jews Carved Out an Empire in the New World in Their Quest for Treasure, Religious Freedom--And Revenge" by Edward Kritzer. No arrgh, just solid history about Jews who turned to the Caribbean to escape the Inquisition and expulsion from Spain in 1492.

### Israel as Target: BDS - Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions. Disaster or Opportunity on Today's College Campus?

**Featuring Rabbi Bruce Bromberg  
Seltzer of Amherst College,**

**Sunday, March 6 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Men and Women of Sinai offers breakfast & learning**

Rabbi Bruce Bromberg Seltzer will let us know how Israel is seen and understood on the college campus. How do our Jewish kids respond to attacks on Israel?

Seltzer is the Jewish Religious Advisor at Amherst College. He has worked at Hillels at Drew, Hofstra, Duke University and Smith College. He teaches Modern Israel in the Cultures Program at Western New England University.

*Rabbi Seltzer's appearance at Sinai is made possible by gifts given in memory of Ben Rosenthal.*

### Going Green Expo Responding to Climate Change Right Here...Right Now

**Sunday, April 10 from 1 to 4 p.m.**

**At Sinai Temple for the Whole Community**

Sinai volunteers have joined with First Church of Longmeadow (UCC), St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Longmeadow Transition, and the Unitarian-Universalist Society of Springfield to plan an area-wide Going Green Expo for the afternoon of April 10 at Sinai Temple.

Free and open to all, the Expo will feature exhibits and workshops designed to educate and motivate area residents to address the effects of climate change and to take action to mitigate those effects.

There will be a variety of floor exhibits on such topics as MassSave Energy Audits, Backyard Gardening and Composting, Green Energy Appliances and Tools, and the importance of the local food movement. Several floor exhibits will be child-oriented and participatory in nature. Parking lot exhibits will also feature a number of electric vehicles and a solar home cooking demonstration.

Workshop topics will include How to Solarize Your Home, Carbon Pricing Legislation in Massachusetts, and Climate Issues and Social Justice.

In addition to Senator Eric Lesser and Representative Brian Ashe, Senator Mike Barrett will attend and talk briefly about S1747, his carbon fee and rebate bill.

We invite Sinai members to participate in planning this exciting event. We are looking for workshop and exhibit presenters as well as volunteers to function as ushers and direct our guests to specific site locations. In you would like to join the effort, please contact Michele Marantz at mb.marantz@comcast.net.

# Passover Highlights 2016

## **COME PRAY...COME FILL THE SANCTUARY PASSOVER MORNING**

**Saturday, April 23 at 10:30 a.m.**

*(Luncheon to follow.)*

This grand service will include special holiday music and an extra opportunity to explore the appeal of our great spring festival.

## **YIZKOR AND CONCLUDING SERVICE**

**Friday, April 29 at 10:30 a.m.**

We dedicate new plaques on our yahrzeit board and bid farewell to Passover. A luncheon follows the service.

## **Are you getting bored with the same old prayers at your Seder?**

Starting April 1, visit our website. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org) Rabbi Shapiro has collected and added on to a large Sinai collection of readings, games, and ideas that can bring new life to your Seder.

## **Never Too Early for Passover**

The Ritual Committee wants to offer local college students who are away from home the opportunity for a home seder on Friday evening, April 22. If you would be willing to host a student (or two) from Springfield College, Baypath, or Western New England, please call the Temple office. 736-3619.

## **Starting Sunday, March 27...Looking for a new App?**

### **Sinai has the Haggadah App for Your Seder This year! And it won't cost you a cent!**

We've got over 100 copies of the Reform movement's modern Passover Haggadah just waiting for you to borrow and use. It's like a library. PLUS we have a family Haggadah and 20 copies of a NEW HAGGADAH, also published by the Reform movement. We've got them all. We want you to use them. Borrow 5, 10, 15 or as many as you need for your Seder. Visit the Temple office Monday to Friday or see Tina in the Library on Sunday mornings.

## **Would you like to be known as someone who enjoyed a good meal, or as someone who helped provide others with something to eat?**

As the Passover Seder approaches with all of its food, food, food, would you consider sharing some of your good fortune with others? Your Passover contribution to the Temple's Isaiah Hunger Fund will be forwarded to people in Springfield who do not have enough money to eat at all. Feel better over your matzah balls by remembering tzedakah. All funds donated to the Isaiah Hunger Fund go directly to the hungry in our community. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

## **Making Meaning, Finding Hope Our Community Commemoration of Yom Hashoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day Thursday, May 5 at 7p.m. - Here at Sinai Temple**

Join the Jewish Community of Springfield as we gather to remember those who died in the Shoah and to honor those who still "made meaning and found hope." Rabbi Shapiro has prepared a brand new "service" for this special evening.

*It is with great pleasure  
that the Men of Sinai  
announce the recipients  
of the annual*

*Rabbi Herman Eliot Snyder  
Service Award for the year 2016/5776  
Michael Gordon & David Roberts*

*Please join us on  
Friday night, April 15th, 2016*

*for Dinner provided by the  
Men and Women of Sinai*

*Followed by Erev Shabbat Service*

*As we honor the recipients for the quality  
of their many years of service to  
Sinai Temple and the community*

**Dinner: 6:00 PM - Service: 7:30 PM**

**Cost: \$10**

*Reservations Required by Tuesday, April 12th  
Call the Sinai Temple office at 413.736.3619 or  
Use the Sinai Temple website at [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)*

## Notes from the Cantor

I remember a conversation I had many years ago with a young Conservative Rabbi, Adam Kligfeld. He told me that one of his congregants had said to him "Rabbi, I know that I don't come to shul often, but I assure you that I bring my son to Yom Kippur services every year." Rabbi Kligfeld's response was brilliant. He said, "That's ridiculous. If you are going to bring your son to one service a year, bring him to Purim."

We Jews are really good at "Oy." The Temple is full for much of Yom Kippur, and our community Yom Hashoah ceremonies are always well attended. These services are important, of course, but there is much more to Judaism than "Oy." It's important to remember that we are told in Psalm 100 to "Serve the Holy One with JOY!" Purim is one of the most joyful times in our Jewish calendar, and it deserves to be observed just as much as Yom Kippur. (Yes, the two holidays are complete opposites of each other, but their names sound similar. There is a teaching in that!) This year our Purim celebration will be Wednesday evening, March 23, at 6:00, and will begin with dinner. Please join us for the Purim feast, and come to Sinai for some fun and silliness. Even in the darkest times of our people's history, Judaism has never just been about "Oy," Come and experience some "Joy" this Purim!

And...please join me, Cantor Elise Barber, and Jewish musician Adrian Durlister on Saturday evening, March 19, at 8:00 for "Laughter and Libations," an adult evening of mischievous music, decadent drinks, and desserts, featuring the songs of Allan Sherman, Tom Lehrer, Gene Raskin, and others! This evening is guaranteed to get you into the mood for Purim! Please see the ad in this bulletin, and make your RSVPs soon! *Chag Purim Sameyach!* Happy Purim!

"Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha! Serve the Holy One with JOY!" (Psalm 100:2)

### **Camp Shushan Purim @ The JCC!**

**Sunday, March 20th from 12:30-3:00pm**

\$5 per person / \$20 family maximum

Includes:

Indoor Rock Wall

Bounce House

Summer Games

Campfire (with smoresntashen  
and Purim-themed camp fire stories)

Music

Candy Station and more!

*Kosher food also available for purchase.*

## Message from Heather Sullivan

*Director of Education*

I want to share some awesome news from the religious school tzedakah department...

Our K-7 grade students raised \$500 to donate to the AKIM program in Afula, Israel. Na'ama, who is one of our Israeli emissaries, volunteers at AKIM, where her mother works. Our tzedakah donation will help many persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities at the AKIM. The money will be used for field trips, instruments, art supplies and other types of experiential learning. During 2nd semester, students are raising money for an organization in Israel, near and dear to the heart of Tal, who is our other wonderful Israeli emissary.

Thank you to our friends at Temple Beth El, who joined us back in January for our combined Shabbat dinner and service for families of students in grades K-5. We had a delicious pot luck dinner and a lot of fun but most of all we enjoyed getting to know each other a little better. I look forward to more joint experiences together, as we begin to build our school community together.

There are lots of exciting events around here in the coming weeks. Be sure not to miss

- Shabbat services for students' service requirement (6:00 on the first Friday of the month, 7:30 all others)
- Kidz Kabbalat for grades K-2 and their families, Friday, March 11th, 6:00 p.m.
- A Purim feast, fit for a king, on Wednesday, March 23rd, 6:00p.m. We promise this fun evening won't collide with your mid-week bedtime!
- Sixth grade "follow up to the retreat" Shabbat dinner. For 6th graders and their families, Friday, April 8th, 6:00p.m.
- Pesach morning service and luncheon, Saturday, April 23rd, beginning at 10:30a.m.

L'Shalom, Heather

### **Kidz Kabbalat- For families with children in Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade**

- At 6:00 p.m. on March 11th
- Shabbat service followed by dinner
- We take a step up from Tot Shabbat with Kidz Kabbalat. Music and stories continue as we introduce an age appropriate prayerbook. We apply what our youngest students are learning in Religious School to the "real" Jewish world of Shabbat.

## SOLEL means "Trailblazer"

### SOLEL is the name for the joint school at Sinai Temple and Temple Beth El

As we anticipate the rest of 2016, we want to give you a progress update on SOLEL, our exciting partnership with Temple Beth El to create an innovative joint educational program for our children.

The most likely plan is to launch the new venture in Fall 2017, spending the next 18 months preparing to hire an education director, create a new curriculum, train teachers, and expand our ongoing shared activities between the current two schools.

The Boards of each synagogue have endorsed the plan and proposed budget, and we are moving forward to the next steps. This includes seeking broader feedback and input from our parents, families, students, and congregants. We are hosting special forums with our school families for information and feedback, first at our respective synagogues and then jointly bringing together members of both congregations. Sinai's open conversation took place on Sunday, February 7. Temple Beth El will be talking about Solel at its Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 6.

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday evening, April 6 at 7 p.m. when we are planning a joint discussion forum bringing together school parents and congregants from both synagogues. More details will follow.

If you have questions or suggestions of any kind, please reach out. Contact Heather Sullivan, our educator, or Rabbi Shapiro or any of the members on the Solel Task Force... Jeff Cossin, Beth Chafetz, Esta Sobey, Billy Snow, Gloria Wald, Samantha Schragar.

**PURIM  
PURMI  
PRUIM  
RIMPU**

**Can you spell fun?**

**Wednesday, March 23 at 6 p.m.**

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

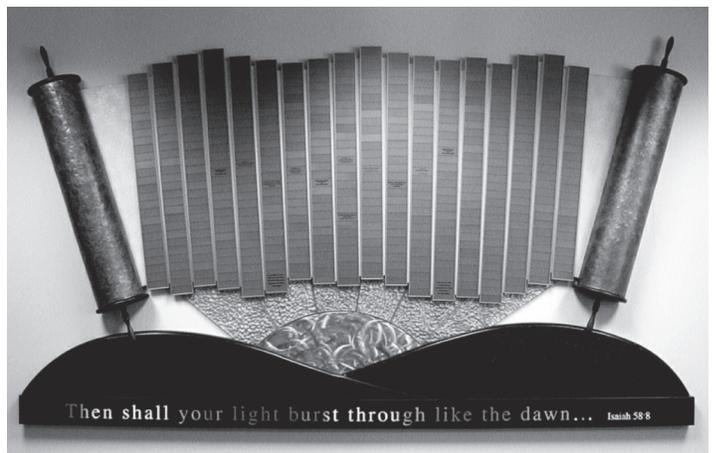
*by Tina deMeza*

Do you have young children? Are you signed up with PJ Library? If not, stop by the library to pick up a brochure. It's easy to enroll. And once you start receiving their great books, come to the Sinai library to pick out another book. Did you enjoy your recent PJ Library book about Purim? The Sinai library has many more! Queen Esther the Morning Star by Mordicai Gerstein is a favorite of many of our children.

And, Passover is coming soon. The Passover Parrot by Evelyn Zusman, Too Many Cooks by Edie Zolkower, and Penny and the Four Questions by Nancy Krulik are just a few of our great books to appeal to children and parents alike.

The library also has books to interest members of all ages. We have an excellent collection of books for interfaith families, books about Israel, history, cookbooks, and much more. The "Current Issues" section includes books about caring for older parents, B'nai Mitzvah planning, grieving, and raising thoughtful teenagers. We even have a book about choosing a Jewish name for your baby!

The library is always open during regular Temple hours, including Sunday mornings when Religious School is in session. Checking out books is easy – just sign your books out in the binder on the library desk. Please return the book to the box on the library desk within three to four weeks.



### The Scroll of Life

The Scroll of Life is a work of art in the Oneg Shabbat Room. It was created by Presentations Gallery of New York. The Isaiah quote at the bottom of the Scroll was taken from the Yom Kippur Haftarah as an expression of hope. The Scroll has space on it so that Sinai members can commemorate either joyous events or memorialize loved ones. Each contribution of a plaque on the Scroll will be used to enrich the life and strength of Sinai. The cost of each plaque is \$200. The inscription may be 3-4 lines with a maximum of 27 spaces per line.



# Sinai Temple Bulletin

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[www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## **Coming Soon To Venues Nearby: The Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival!**

**March 31 to April 14**

The ELEVENTH annual Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival offers a two-week run with fabulous films plus guest speakers.

Films are screened across Western Massachusetts – this year in Amherst, Chicopee, Easthampton, Greenfield, Longmeadow, Northampton, Shelburne Falls, Springfield and West Springfield – in venues ranging from the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield to Smith College in Northampton to the Garden Cinemas in Greenfield, with many stops in between.

For ticket information, schedules, and trailers visit [www.pvjff.org](http://www.pvjff.org) or contact the Springfield JCC, 1160 Dickinson St, Springfield, MA 01108.

