

# Sinai Temple Bulletin



*Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat*

## For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

Dear Friends – Compliments of Judaism’s lunar calendar, Passover comes “early” this year. It happens this way because the lunar months are 29 or 30 days in length. On average, then, they are “shorter” than the months of the secular calendar, which means the Jewish holidays tend to creep earlier each year. In 5773/2013, for example, the holidays have slid about as early as they can go. To prevent Passover from slipping into February, there will be an adjustment next year 5774/2014. We’ll have a Jewish leap year, which will add a month to the calendar and push the holidays back to their more familiar time.

Be that as it may, this year’s Seder arrives on Monday, March 25. It’s time to begin your Pesach Countdown:

**Three weeks before the Seder** – Find and count last year’s Haggadahs. If they look bad or if you suddenly remember how inappropriate they were, visit the Sinai Gift Shop and consider buying new Haggadahs.

OR take advantage of the offer inside this bulletin. We do have a lending library of Reform Haggadahs. You can borrow some of them to freshen up this year’s Seder.

Don’t stop there, however. Visit our Sinai website where you’ll discover multiple readings and ideas for enhancing your Seder. Some will work for families with adults around the Seder table; some will work for families with children. Go online and discover a fabulous resource that has been growing for many years. [www.sinai-temple.org/passover](http://www.sinai-temple.org/passover).

**Two weeks before the Seder** - Talk with your Seder guests and decide who is cooking, baking, or bringing which part of the Seder. (Sharing the preparations makes life easier and also involves more people.) Buy some of the products you’ll need for Passover: new ketchup, new coffee. A full list is available at our website [www.sinai-temple.org/passover](http://www.sinai-temple.org/passover).

*Also two weeks before Passover* – Make your chicken soup and matzah balls (then freeze them), and, while you’re in the kitchen, clean your cupboards. Clean your car. (It’s probably got crumbs from chametz scattered around from a year’s worth of snacking.) Have you decided yet which Haggadah to use? Have you considered what parts to give to your guests? Think about some relevant themes for the 2013 Seder. Check for additions to the website which I usually make as my own preparations proceed.

**One week before-** Buy horse radish root for the maror on the Seder plate. Buy a shankbone and Passover wine. Do place cards for your guests. Get out your Seder dishes. (Change to Passover dishes the night before if you do so.) Move aside those “chametz” cereal boxes and crackers. Watch the news to see how your Seder can reflect 2013 most powerfully.

Monday, March 25 - Enjoy one of our people’s greatest evenings. Passover has arrived! (And don’t forget....TUESDAY, MARCH 26...Join me at the Congregational Passover Morning Service.)

## Friday Evenings in March

### March 1 at 6:00 p.m.

National Day of Unplugging – Take back your time – Let’s talk peace.

### March 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Kidz Kabbalat – A service for families with children in Kg and Grades 1 and 2.

### March 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service – Still Unplugged (See March 1)

### March 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service – Unplugged and Refreshed (See March 1)

### March 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service – Take back your time

### March 29 at 6:00 p.m.

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

### March 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries – Honoring couples married in 2008, 2003 and back to 1958 and 1953. Also honoring the first graduates of our Leadership Development corps.

## Friday Evenings in April

### April 5 at 6:00 p.m.

SPFTY, our High School Youth Group, creates and leads this fabulous Friday evening experience.

### April 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Happy Birthday, Israel 65. A blue and white celebration of Israel with photography, music, dance, and cake!

### April 19 at 6:00 p.m.

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

### April 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service

### April 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Men of Sinai will participate in the service as we honor this year’s recipient of the Rabbi Herman E. Snyder Award. MAKHELA – THE JEWISH CHORUS OF WESTERN MASS will perform.

## A Message from President Jeff Cossin

The most important interpersonal act which we can do at Sinai Temple is to welcome the stranger into our religious home, for once we were strangers ourselves in the land of Egypt. The guiding principle of the Membership Committee is to follow in the footsteps of Abraham who in Genesis 18 welcomed three strangers into his and Sarah's tent. How do the large Christian megachurches manage to incorporate tens of thousands of people into their congregations? They welcome the stranger into their midst and make him feel at home. We have come a long way over the past two years at Sinai Temple. A majority of congregants wear name tags at Shabbat services and as I look around the Oneg Shabbat room, I see everyone engaged in conversation leaving no one out. New members tell me that they have felt welcomed and guests in the community compliment us on our "Greeters Program" and want to emulate us in that regard. Please continue to do this.

However, it is vital that we expand the Greeters Program and reach outside our congregation to individually invite one or two of the 2600 unaffiliated Jewish households in the Greater Springfield area to join with us on joyful Jewish experiences at Sinai. Let's start on Passover morning, March 26. Ask Belle Rita Novak how she does it. She has invited dozens of people to our Temple over the years and many have become active members of our community.

When I first started to imagine what this congregation could accomplish during my two years as President, I had many conversations with Rabbi Shapiro around the issue of Social Justice, change that would create "real and permanent good" as stated by Andrew Carnegie over 100 years ago. I thought that we could start the process of societal change while at the same time strengthen our Sinai community and individually create a sense of accomplishment and pride. Sadly, I will need to pass on my dream to the next generation of Temple leaders. Unless we have congregants who not only have the dream and passion for Social Justice but also the time and energy, we will not accomplish anything. We cannot expect those young families with both parents working and with young children and teenagers who need parenting to dedicate large blocks of time and energy to Social Justice issues. But I am going to challenge my own generation, the Baby Boomers, to lead the fight for Social Justice. Just like we did in the 1960s and 1970s when many fought the good fight from returning our soldiers from Vietnam to defending civil rights, Our generation once again must turn from introspection to reengagement with the outside world and create social justice and do Tikkun Olam, the core of our Jewish values.

The future of our Temple and the Jewish community depends not only on enjoying our rich Jewish heritage in

## Notes from Cantor Martin Levson

Following the success of our new Adult Volunteer Choir rehearsal paradigm (Two QUICK practices and then we sing!), I am pleased to announce not one, but two opportunities for adults who like to sing to raise their voices in song with minimal time commitment required. Tuesday morning, March 26 is the first day of Pesach, which is always a big event here at Sinai Temple. We will have our two quick rehearsals on Wednesday March 13 and 20 at 7:00 P.M. After Pesach, we will have another two quick rehearsals on Wednesday March 27 and April 3, to prepare for the Springfield Jewish Community Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) service, which this year will be held at Sinai Temple on Sunday evening, April 7. Please come and sing with us for either "gig" or for both. Two quick rehearsals! It doesn't get any easier than that!

On Friday evening, April 26, it will be my pleasure to welcome Mak'hela to Sinai Temple. Mak'hela, whose name means "chorus" in Hebrew, is a Jewish choral group dedicated to performing works from all facets of the Jewish world. Founded in 2003, the 50-voice chorus has performed in many New England venues. The chorus plays an educational role in promoting Jewish music of all types and eras, as well as Jewish values, building sacred bridges to understanding and respect, using the most universal of languages: music. Director Kayla Werlin is an accomplished conductor and soloist, and choral music teacher at Longmeadow High School. If you would like to get a taste of what Mak'hela sounds like, you can hear some clips on their website, <http://makhela.org/listen/> Some of our Sinai Temple congregants sing with Mak'hela, so you will see some familiar faces as you hear some wonderful Jewish music on this Friday evening.

—*Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha! Serve the Holy One with Joy!*

## Saturday Mornings

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.

Service at 10:30 a.m.

*Mazal Tov to B'nai Mitzvah*

April 6 – Emily Dash, daughter of Cary Dash and Vivian Miller

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many diverse ways but also working together to heal the world through Social Justice.

Finally, the Sinai 2015 Planning Group soon will invite all of our congregants to one of three meetings during the month of May to help the members of that group envision the Temple of our Future. Please look for further information and be sure to attend. This is your congregation. You must participate.

Happy Birthday Israel 65  
Friday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m.



A unique service featuring photos, videos, and memorabilia of Israel.  
Folk dancing performed by Sinai kids and adults.  
Honoring those who are on their way to Israel with the community trip.  
A gala birthday cake for Israel's 65th.  
Wear blue and white if you can.  
This is YOM HA-ATZMAUT....ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY at Sinai.

### Champagne, Chocolate, and Blessings Friday, March 29

At the 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service

Sinai Temple's Caring Community happily invites you  
To a ceremony celebrating

Your special wedding anniversary in 2013!

If you were married in 2008, 2003, 1998, 1993,  
1988, 1983, 1978, 1973,  
1968, 1963, 1958, 1953

Please join Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson

On Friday, March 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. 10

### We're all Dying: What Happens Next?

Conversations about Judaism's attitude and  
practices at the End of Life

Wednesdays, May 1, 8, 15, 22

7:30 to 9 p.m. with Rabbi Shapiro

What happens after we die? How do we  
respond as death approaches? How does  
Judaism respond to the end of life? How  
do non-Jews and Christians fit into the Sinai  
Temple picture?

Four conversations on these great questions  
and more. Please register by contacting the  
Temple office. [rblanchettegage@sinai-temple.org](mailto:rblanchettegage@sinai-temple.org)

### JUDAICA SHOP CORNER

This month we talk about Passover! The shop is ready to  
meet all your needs.

There are Seder plates, Elijah and Miriam cups, special serv-  
ing pieces, Haggadahs, books., matzoh covers and plates - and of  
course - TOYS and GAMES for old and young.

Please see our enclosed flyer for more days and longer hours  
to make your shopping easy.

Thais Fischel, 786-9577

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published every other month by Sinai Temple,  
Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 1 for the year 2012-2013.

Mark Dov Shapiro ..... Rabbi  
Martin Levson ..... Cantor  
Heather Sullivan ..... Director of Education  
Lisa Gittleman Udi ..... JOY and SPFTY Advisor  
Jeff Cossin ..... President  
Bruce Leshine ..... First Vice President  
Bobi Steingart ..... Vice President  
Alan Goldsmith ..... Treasurer  
Laurie Weinberg ..... Financial Secretary  
Patricia Gootzit ..... Recording Secretary  
Phil Lesser ..... President, Men of Sinai  
Ron Weiss ..... Cemetery Chair  
Karen Mendelsohn ..... Membership Committee Chair  
Visit our website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

# Passover Highlights 2013

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

**Tuesday, March 26 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**

Monday April 1 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 March 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.

### **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. The Hunger Fund is our way of responding to local hunger. You can 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.

### **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 20 copies of a NEW HAGGADAH, also published by the Reform movement. It's called THE OPEN DOOR. 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.

Come see what's available for free.

## **The Caring Community of Sinai Temple**

Invites all Senior Members

to a

### **Passover Luncheon**

12:00 noon,

Friday, March 29, 2013

Sinai Temple

**With Special Musical Presentation by our Cantor,**

**Martin Levson**

Invitations are on their way. RSVP required.

The Passover Luncheon is sponsored by Selma Cooley in memory of her husband, David M. Cooley, and Thelma S. Mather in memory of her parents, Morris and Stella Snyder.

**Back to the Future:  
Where is Sinai Temple Going?  
Where is American Jewry Going?  
Listening Conversations and Learning  
May/June 2013**

**Where is Sinai Temple Going?**

**Three Opportunities to Speak Your Mind**

- Thursday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 18 at 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m.

As Sinai approaches major changes in 2015, the 2015 Planning Group invites your participation. We need your input.

Where are we today? What makes Sinai important to us?

What do we want Sinai 2020 to look like?

Please share your thoughts and feelings at one of the above listening conversations.

RSVP to the office (736-3619) or through the website [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

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**Where is American Jewry Going?**

**Tuesday, June 4**

**Starting with Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**

**Rabbi David Wolfman will keynote our Annual Meeting**



As Sinai faces the challenges of a new future, Rabbi Wolfman will paint a picture of the larger American Jewish scene: How is America's Jewish landscape changing? What will the Jewish world look like 5 and 10 years from now? How do we respond to the changes that are coming?

David S. Wolfman is an expert in organizational change and transition. He was Director of the Reform movement's New England region. He was also Director of the Commission on Rabbi-Congregational Relations. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation and has been involved in synagogue life throughout the USA.

## Should my child miss school on the first morning of Passover?

*Dear Parents: I know attending the Passover Morning Service on Tuesday, March 26 means having your child miss school, but having your child miss school for the sake of this positive Jewish experience can make a difference in his/her life. I offer you the following letter for expressing your commitments to your child's teacher.*

—Rabbi Shapiro.

Dear Teacher:

Please excuse my child from school for tomorrow morning, Tuesday, March 26. He/She will be attending services at Sinai Temple.

As you know, tomorrow marks the first full day of Passover, and it is customary for the Jewish community to assemble together. Passover's morning service is not unlike the Rosh Hashanah morning service for which my child was also absent. I hope there will be no extra work assigned for March 26. Since my child enjoys our Temple services so much, I know he/she anticipates a wonderful learning experience on Passover morning.

Yours truly,  
A concerned parent

## For High School and College students A Summer Program Making Money; The Susan M. Broh Tikkun Olam Award Applications due Tuesday, April 2

This summer Sinai Temple invites students to get involved with tikkun olam – repairing the world. We would like to underwrite students who choose to spend their summer in a project that enriches the world. Interested students can get involved by thinking of a project or an area of interest related to tikkun olam/fixing the world. Applications should be in the mail. Call the office if you haven't received one. Those who are selected will be paid a salary of approximately \$8.00 an hour. (College students living outside the Pioneer Valley are welcome to find a project wherever they'll be spending the summer.)

Why is the Temple offering this program? We began this program to honor the memory of Susan M. Broh, a Temple member who died in September 2001. Susan began her career of "tikkun olam" by dedicating two years of her life to the Peace Corps. After that, Susan devoted her professional and volunteer life to making this world a better place. She believed passionately in the Jewish obligation of pursuing justice. Susan's friends and family have created this program to honor her memory and to encourage other Jews to strive for holiness as Jews must always do.

## Message from Director of Education

Heather Sullivan

What an exciting time of year. We have so many wonderful upcoming events planned for our students. Check our Religious School bulletin board or your school calendar.

On March 24, we will once again celebrate Passover at our annual school seder. Please feel free to reach out to Jennifer Metsch, Religious School Committee Chair, or me, if you are interested in volunteering your time, efforts or both for this fantastic school event.

We are lucky enough to have Dalia Davis, who is an Israeli dance instructor, join us for two mornings during Religious School in late March/ early April. Dalia will be teaching our students some Israeli dances to be performed at Israel Night on April 12. Hope you can join us that night to see our students' performances.

Congratulations to three amazing Sinai teachers, who were nominated for the Harold Grinspoon Awards for Excellence in Jewish Education. Bonnie Gibson, Hebrew teacher; Debra Cohen, Grade 2 teacher; and Gloria Wald, Grade 1 teacher, were nominated for this distinguished honor in January. Such an honor is just one example of how truly spectacular our Sinai teachers are. Mazel Tov to Bonnie, Deb and Gloria!

## Report from SPFTY

SPFTY has been very busy lately with winter activities! On the last weekend in January was the MICAH dinner, and a group of SPFTY-ites volunteered. On Friday February 1st, SPFTY had their first service of the year. The theme was choices and decisions planned by Casey Coen, musical arrangements by Liz Levson, and led by the rest of SPFTY. JOY members also participated by reading different quotes. We will be leading the congregational service on Friday April 5. For 7th and 8th graders and high school students, there will be a lounge night on Tuesday March 19 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Have your child drop in before or after their Tuesday class for a slice of pizza or a game of ping pong.

The same weekend as our service was the JOSTY Shul-In (Junior Ohabei Shalom Temple Youth) an event for 7th and 8th graders. Sinai Temple's Shoshana Maniscalco and Hannah Wald attended this event. Liz Levson and Hannah Rembrandt were also there with other NFTY-ites from our northeast region. Our last event which was Winter Wonderland in Manchester, NH was sadly canceled due to the storm Nemo. We can't wait till Spring Conclavette, our next regional event, which will be held in Schenectady, NY by teen youth group, GOHTY (Gates of Heaven Temple Youth). The WESTY Dance will be held in Worcester April 6th as a TYGOR event, meaning it is open to select youth groups in the region. SPFTY looks forward to attending!

—Elizabeth Metsch, Communications VP and  
Shaina Gootzit, Communications VP and interim President

## The Andy Berger Art Contest 2013 For Young People Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade

All subjects in all areas of Judaism from holidays to the home to Israel are welcome. Possible media include water colors, paint, markers, collage, clay, or photography.

Submit your work by Friday, April 12.

Prizes awarded at our Kabbalat Shabbat Service on Friday, May 3.

## Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) Sunday, April 7 at 7 p.m. At Sinai Temple

The annual community commemoration of Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) will take place April 7 at Sinai.

This event is co-sponsored by the Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center and the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts.

## A Home Ceremony For Remembering The Holocaust From Rabbi Shapiro

Dear Friends:

When Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) starts on the 27th of Nisan, **the evening of Saturday, April 6**, there is something simple and beautiful which you can do to commemorate the Holocaust. You can purchase and light a Yahrzeit/Memorial Candle in your home.

At that time, you might want to have a moment of silence, use the prayer that follows, or create something of your own. A limited number of candles will be available at the Temple office if you wish to pick one up there. You can also purchase a candle at a grocery store.

### **A Prayer for Lighting the "Holocaust Candle"**

*I/we light this memorial candle in order not to forget the lives of the Jewish men, women, and children who are symbolized by its flame. They were brutalized for no reason; their lives were taken in cruelty. May we be inspired to learn about our six million brothers and sisters as individuals and as communities; and may we recall not only the terror of their deaths, but the splendor of so many of their lives. May the memory of their lives inspire us to hallow our own lives, and to live meaningful Jewish lives so that we may help to ensure that part of who they were always endures.*

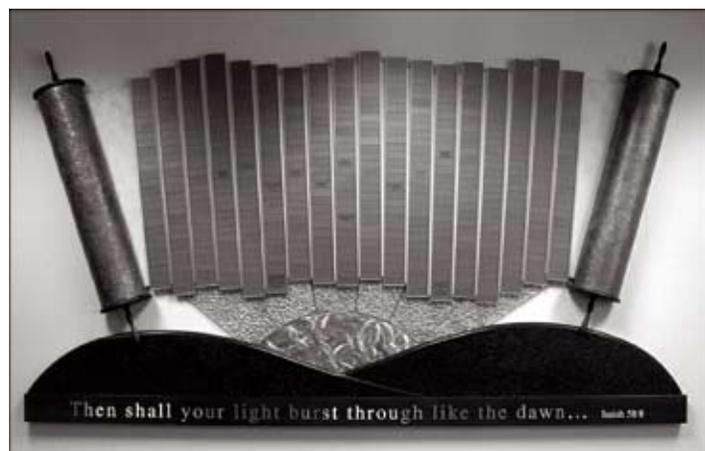
## Message from Men of Sinai President Phil Lesser

Spring is coming, and all of us know what that means! That's right . . .the Snyder Awards are here. We were pleased to see so many nominations this year. There were many qualified people, and that made the choice difficult. How wonderful to have this type of problem! We are pleased to announce that Beth Chafetz is our honoree this year and she will be honored at the annual Snyder Award dinner on April 26, 2013. Please join us as we honor Beth and applaud her outstanding achievements.

Great food, great friends, great speakers! If you haven't been to any of our Men of Sinai Sunday morning breakfasts, that's what you have missed. We are pleased to present the next forum of speakers for our last breakfast of the year. We have Sinai's own Dr. Martin Lesser, Ron and Noam our local Young Emissaries from Israel, and another former Emissary who now lives in Rhode Island. This will be a fast moving, high energy, fun event! Each breakfast this year has sold out, so please make your reservation with the temple office early, and don't be left out! Cost \$5 per person, free for members.

Hockey night with the Whalers and Falcons in January was a great success with over 60 people attending. More events like movie night are coming soon! Come join us!

## 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.

## Adult Opportunities

### The National Day of Unplugging

Friday/Saturday, March 1 – 2

If you are hyper-connected, if you are hyper, if you are over-extended, the National Day of Unplugging is for you. We'll be celebrating NDU at Sinai when March arrives.

Unplug...Rediscover Shabbat

### iEngage...Video Conversations

Reimagining our Relationship with Israel

Wednesday evenings March 6, 20; April 3 at

7:30 p.m.

What happens when previously powerless Jews become Jews with power and a country of their own? Who defines what Judaism means when Jews run their own country? Why should American Jews care about Israel?

Pre-registration required. Call the Temple office.

### Sinai Book Club

**Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic Roots**

Our March book is written by Deborah Feldman. The date for our conversation will be set soon. Please e-mail suggestions for April/May to Laurie Weinberg. [sagecitrus@aol.com](mailto:sagecitrus@aol.com)

### Easter Egg...Roasted Egg:

Where Do I Fit In?

A Discussion for Interfaith Families of All Kinds on Sunday, March 10, 9 to 10 a.m.

With Rabbi Shapiro at the Temple

(Childcare available)

Late March arrives and two holidays arrive at almost the same time: Easter and Passover. For interfaith families, two holidays may raise questions that aren't always easily answered.

Sinai's Interfaith Matters Committee welcomes you to an open conversation on the spring holidays of Christianity and Judaism. How do Easter and Passover connect? Where do the holidays come from? A little bit of history followed by a discussion about our own lives and our own families. All questions are welcome!

RSVP to Erica Brunette...[ericalbrunette@gmail.com](mailto:ericalbrunette@gmail.com)... 413-754-3139

### Congratulations to Sinai's Leadership Development Group

On Friday, March 29 at services, we will be honoring Temple members who have taken a leadership volunteer course over the last few months. Four sessions of learning about Sinai were involved. Thanks to chairs, Michael Freedman and Ronnie Leavitt. Our participants were: Larry Bernstein Kim Black, Alan and Leslie Brown, Robert Chasen, Jeffrey Green-Gray, Michael Hirshberg, Ellen Rowles, Jay Steingrub

### Israeli Folk Dancing

Right Foot...Left Foot...You Can Do It

Wednesdays, April 3 and 10 at 7:15 p.m.

We need 20 adults who can tell their right foot from their left foot. Not hard. This terrific group of volunteers will learn two dances to present at the Friday, April 12 celebration of Israel's 65th birthday. No prior experience needed. Dalia Davis will be teaching. RSVP to Reva Kleppel at 567-8116 or [rkleppel@hotmail.com](mailto:rkleppel@hotmail.com)

### What Time are Services at Sinai Temple?

A New Answer to an Old Question

6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services take place at only two times: either 6 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.

Our Kabbalat Shabbat service is on the first Friday of the month. Kabbalat Shabbat starts at 6 p.m. All other Friday evening services start at the same time, which is 7:30 p.m.

6 p.m. and then 7:30 p.m. for the rest of the month.

### Monthly Morning Service

Wednesdays, March 6 and April 3

at 7:30 a.m.

A chance to start your day with a different focus. We meet on the bimah for a service of 20 minutes. Breakfast follows. The feeling of togetherness is wonderful. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

Future "morning minyan" services will take place on Wednesdays, May 1 and June 5.

PASSOVER BEGINS MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 25  
PASSOVER ENDS AT SUNDOWN, MONDAY, APRIL 1

## Adult Opportunities

### TGIT

#### Thank God, It's Torah!

Come Learn Every Saturday at 9 a.m.

Exercise your brain. Enjoy the bagels. If you want to touch base with Judaism's basics, Torah Study is for you. Come once or come occasionally. Newcomers welcome. No prior knowledge necessary.

#### Experimenting with a New High Holiday

##### Prayerbook:

##### Sinai is a Test Site

Saturday, April 27 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

The Reform movement is working toward a new prayerbook for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Sinai has become a test site for the new book.

On Saturday, April 27, we will preview a copy of the new book's Yom Kippur Morning Service. We will use the service and then be asked for our feedback. If you would like to be part of this experiment, please join the Rabbi and Cantor in the Oneg Shabbat Room.

If you are a regular at services or if you only visit services once a year, you are welcome. Your input is invited!

#### Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat

Go to [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org). On our home page, you'll see the link Rediscover Shabbat. You'll find the blessings for Friday night, music plus other sources.

#### Coming Soon To Venues Nearby:

##### The Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival!

April 4 – 18

The 8th annual Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival offers a two-week run with 24 film programs. Eight programs and special events are scheduled for Springfield and Longmeadow. This year's crop of films include the premiere showing of Hava Naglia; a family event with last year's favorite, David, and two showings each of three outstanding dramas sure to be audience favorites; The Other Son, A Bottle in the Gaza Sea, and My Best Enemy. A Yom HaShoah film and music program will be offered at Springfield College. Full details at [www.ValleyJewishFilm.org](http://www.ValleyJewishFilm.org)

NOTE...SINAI IS PRINTING ONLY SIX BULLETINS THIS YEAR. THE NEXT BULLETIN WILL BE MAY/JUNE. THIS IS A VERY STRONG REASON FOR OUR WANTING TO STAY IN TOUCH VIA E-MAIL. PLEASE SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

## The Sustaining Membership Program

If you are among those congregants who pay full dues in your category, your telephone may ring this spring. Members of the Sustaining Membership Committee will be calling you to ask that you become a Sustaining Member of Sinai.

### What is a Sustaining Member?

A Sustaining Member is someone who chooses to offer Sinai an extra amount of fund beyond dues. During the current fiscal year, over 90 Sinai households became Sustaining Members and contributed over \$60,000 to our budget.

By doing this, the Sustaining Members helped reduce the need to raise the fees for Temple members who cannot afford full dues. By assuming a kind of "fair share," the Sustaining Members also allowed Sinai to continue to offer a full and varied menu of programs.

Thank you to those who have become Sustaining Members. Thank you now – in advance – to those of you who may choose to join the program for next year.

If you have questions or want to join the program, please call Armand Souliere, SMP Chair at 567-7446 or the Temple office at 736-3619.

## Prospective New Members for Sinai Temple: You Can Help Build the Congregation

Every year people relocate to the greater Springfield area, or people who have lived in the area consider joining a Temple. Often these people, friends, colleagues, neighbors or relatives ask current members about Sinai Temple. You can help the Temple recruit these interested people by referring them to Cheri Mustain, Chair of the Membership Recruitment Committee. We are very interested in recruiting new members....so please speak to Cheri or refer others to Cheri. She can be reached at 754-3106..

## THANK YOU TO...

Ron and Brenna Sadowsky for a special gift to Sinai enabling us to undertake a number of projects enhancing our administrative and communication capacities.

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# Sinai Temple

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