



# Sinai Temple Bulletin

*Take Back Your Time:  
Rediscover Shabbat*

*May / June 2016  
Iyar / Sivan 5776*

## **Celebrating Our Years Together: Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro and Sinai Temple**

### **Overview**

A generation has gone by since Sinai and Rabbi Shapiro began the connection that has meant so much to all of us. That is why we are coming together for wonderful occasions in May and June. It's time for some laughter, perhaps a tear, and a grand party.

### **Friday evening, May 20**

Join the Religious School in honoring our fabulous teachers and Rabbi Shapiro! There will be fun for the whole family- bounce house, photo booth, face painting, and an awesome cookout! The fun begins at 5:00 p.m., with service & presentations at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner and continued fun.

### **Friday evening, June 10**

This Special Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m. will be unique and heartfelt as we express our gratitude to Rabbi Shapiro. This is a service to celebrate and reminisce over some highlights and memories. A special elaborate dessert Oneg will follow.

### **Saturday evening, June 18**

Please join us for an elegant dinner party to honor Rabbi Shapiro on the occasion of his retirement. The celebration begins at 5 pm at Sinai. Formal invitation to follow.

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## **For Your Consideration**

*Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro*

I love spring. It's about anticipation: longer days, better weather, being outside. It's a wonder.

Except this spring is different for me. It's bittersweet.

On the one hand, I am full of anticipation for a new chapter in my life. Marsha and I will happily stay right here in this community. I see myself exploring new ways to become involved in tikkun olam. I don't have specifics yet, but I am eager to see how a number of possible projects unfold.

On the other hand, there is a touch of sadness to this spring. A chapter of my life that I adore is coming to a close. In the future, I won't be doing the same kind of teaching, leading, pastoring and caring that are so precious to me.

That saddens me, although my predominant feelings are broader than that.

As June 30 approaches, I think I'm mainly feeling pride and affection for the work we've done together, the lives we've built, and the community we have shared.

What a grand and loving journey we have had!

It's been nothing short of a blessing for me and I hope that is true for you.

May and June - That's what we've got for now.

May and June - Several parties planned. Several amazing services. Opportunities to be together.

And...then...? Well, friends, then summer arrives and Sinai Temple rightly moves on. New days. New horizons. It's what has to happen.

Please, come visit in these next two months. Please be present too in the months that follow.

It is and will be Sinai Temple. See you - always - at Sinai.

## Friday Evenings in May

May 6 at 6 p.m.

For Everyone at Sinai - From 3 to 93

Two services in one! Snacks at 5:30 p.m. Pre-schoolers, their families, and other adults join together for 30 minutes of spirited prayer and music. (Then the kids and families move to dinner; adults continue for a final focused service with Kaddish.)

May 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Sinai heads to Temple Beth El where we welcome Shabbat with Israeli musical artists, Nava Tehilah.

May 20 - Starting at 5 p.m.

Honoring our Teachers and Rabbi Shapiro. See page 3.

May 27 at 7:30 p.m.

SPFTY - Our Senior Youth Group will create and lead tonight's service.

## Friday Evenings in June

June 3 at 7:30 p.m.

**CONFIRMATION SERVICE**

Honor our finest High School students. Terrific Ninth and Tenth Graders on the bimah.

June 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Sinai Temple's Annual Meeting - Short BUT 30 important minutes

June 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Honoring Rabbi Shapiro with a delicious service and Oneg.

June 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Unplug from your week. Renew yourself at services.

June 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Not quite an "exit interview." The Rabbi's last Friday evening. Steve Sussman, past president, will "interview" Rabbi Shapiro on the bimah. What was it like to be Sinai's rabbi? Highs? Lows? Surprises? Plus what lies ahead for our Temple.

## Saturday Mornings

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.

Weekly Shabbat Service at 10:15 a.m.

(B'nai Mitzvah at 10:30 a.m.)

Mazal Tov to Bnai Mitzvah

**May 28** – Matthew Sullivan, son of Patrick and Heather Sullivan

**June 2** - Makayla Mirkin, daughter of Andrew and Susan Mirkin

**June 11** - Laura Burstein, daughter of Jodie Burstein and David Burstein

**June 18** - Karena Stern, daughter of Miles and Melissa Stern

**June 25** - Jacob Goldman, son of Mark and Lisa Goldman (Special start time 11 a.m.)

Friday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m.

**Sinai Temple at Temple Beth El for a Musical Service & Concert**

**Featuring Nava Tehila**

Nava Tehila is a Jerusalem-based ensemble creating music to nourish the soul and heart. Their music is influenced by east and west, incorporating reggae, folk, Moroccan, Arabic and Hasidic styles. Rabbis Shapiro and Katz and Cantor Levson and Barber will lead this exciting evening. (p.s. Nava Tehila has performed to standing ovations twice before at Sinai.)



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
CONFIRMATION 2016/5776  
FRIDAY, JUNE 3 AT 7:30 P.M.  
AT SINAI TEMPLE**

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE OUR  
LEARNING WITH YOU!**

Leah Burstein, daughter of  
Jodie Burstein and David Burstein

Rachel Freedman, daughter of  
Tricia and Michael Freedman

Noah Kantor, son of Brenda and Bryan Kantor

Nathan Krevolin, son of Robin Fein-Krevolin  
and Adam Krevolin

Adam Kugelmass, son of Karen Ambrose and  
Aaron Kugelmass

Joshua Lesser, son of Lynn and Phil Lesser

Aarin McCormick, son of Shira and Alan McCormick

Sarah Metsch daughter of Jennifer and  
Adam Metsch

Ranen Mirot, son of Christine and Adam Mirot

Livia Shelasky, daughter of Marla Shelasky

Zachary Steinberg, son of Allison and  
Adam Steinberg

Nathan Sullivan, son of Heather and Patrick Sullivan

Hannah Wald, daughter of Gloria and Michael Wald

# Friday, May 20th

Teacher Appreciation Night and Honoring Rabbi Shapiro

Shabbat Service!

The Fun Begins at 5 O'Clock  
\$18 Per Family

Bounce Houses!

Face Painting!

Cookout Dinner!

Send in your check to the Temple office  
to reserve your spot or  
contact Robin for more information, 736-3619

*With special funding by the Family Education Fund in Memory of  
Buster and Shirley Stahl*

# Shabbat Shalom

*As Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro has sheltered us with Shabbat for 27 years  
Let us Delight with him.*

*Special Retirement Service in his honor  
Friday, June 10th at 7:30pm*

*All are welcome  
Elaborate Dessert Oneg to follow*

Please join us in celebrating the retirement of

*Rabbi Mark Shapiro*

Saturday, June 18, 2016

5:00 pm Cocktails  
6:00 pm Dinner

Formal invitation to follow

While we love to watch the children run and play, this is an adults only kind of day

## Adult Opportunities

### **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.



### **Above and Beyond: It wasn't their country but they made it their war**

**Wednesday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m.**

**Celebrating Israel Independence Day with an  
Incredible Film**

In 1948, just three years after the Holocaust, Israel came into being with no air force and a minimal army. How would the new state survive? This is the story of the American-Jewish pilots who smuggled planes into Israel and helped create what would become the Israeli Air Force. True. Fascinating. Come honor their deeds as we celebrate Yom Ha-atzmaut 2016.

### **Our Annual Bike Ride for Tzedakah**

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**

**Supporting HABITAT FOR HUMANITY you choose:**

**29 MILES (Departing at 9 a.m.),**

**18 MILES (Departing at 10 a.m.),**

**OR 10 MILES (Departing at 10:15 a.m.)**

Get in shape and let's get rolling. A donation of \$25 (payable on May 15) will be used to underwrite building our Habitat for Humanity home in Springfield. We'll end with food and sociability back at Sinai around 11:30 a.m.

**To register, contact Richard Segool. [SEGOOL@aol.com](mailto:SEGOOL@aol.com)  
OR David Morse. [dmorse50@aol.com](mailto:dmorse50@aol.com)**

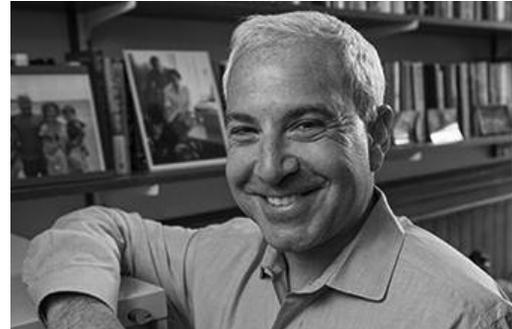
### **Shavuot Services**

**Saturday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m.**

The evening with Temple Beth El members begins with teaching by Professor Justin Cammy followed by a festival service and desserts. We are meeting at Sinai Temple.

**Sunday, June 12 at 9 a.m. NOTE THE EARLIER TIME**

Celebrate the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai PLUS a Yizkor Service. We will worship in the Oneg Shabbat Room with luncheon to follow. **THE SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT 9 A.M.**



### **How Can a Story Win a Nobel Prize?**

**Shavuot on Saturday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m.**

Professor Justin Cammy of Smith College will introduce the holiday of Shavuot with the presentation of a short story by the Hebrew author, Shai Agnon. Agnon's writing was complex and fascinating. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1966. Professor Cammy will take us on a journey into Agnon's literary creation as we prepare ourselves to commemorate the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.

### **Let's Get Together! Sinai and Beth El!**

**Tuesday, June 21 at Noon**

**You are invited to a Combined Luncheon For Senior  
Members of Sinai Temple & Temple Beth El**

The luncheon will take place at Temple Beth El.

*Guest speaker - Rabbi James Greene, Assistant Executive  
Director at the Springfield JCC.*

*Rabbi's topic - Moral Courage and the AJWS Rights-Based  
Approach*

The American Jewish World Service is a global leader in social justice advocacy. They work across the developing world, mostly in the global south, helping people gain access to their human rights. Rabbi James Greene just completed the Global Justice Fellowship for Rabbis with AJWS. Come hear about his experience working on issues of Statelessness in the Dominican Republic for Dominicans of Haitian Descent.

Please make your reservation for \$10 through the Sinai Temple website ([www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)) or the Temple Beth El website ([www.tbesspringfield.org](http://www.tbesspringfield.org)) or send your check to Sinai at 1100 Dickinson Street or Temple Beth El at 979 Dickinson Street, MA 01108.

## Adult Opportunities

### Sinai Temple's Annual Meeting

**Friday, June 10 - 7 to 7:30 p.m.**

*(The shortest Annual Meeting ever run at Sinai!)*

The Annual Meeting is the place where congregants review the Temple's budget and assets. The Board of Directors is also voted into office. This year's meeting will take place before the Special Shabbat Retirement Service. Thirty minutes will prepare us to welcome Shabbat and then celebrate our gratitude to Rabbi Shapiro with a unique service you won't want to miss.



### Habitat for Humanity - Circle of Faith

*Robin Dunn*

Wow, this is a fabulous opportunity for Sinai Temple congregants to participate in Tikkun Olam. Sinai along with ten other houses of worship will be building a home at 479 Allen St, Springfield. Habitat will be hosting a House Wrapped In Love event (where we decorate with paint the plywood that will be used on the house's walls) on Wednesday, June 1. The time and location have not been determined as of this writing, however the time will be in the early evening – probably around 7p.m. This event will be for everyone. This event will be followed four days of building to get a nice kick-start on the project. That is when adult volunteers will have the opportunity to frame this home.

In May, prior to our build, there is an opportunity to "get our feet wet" and see what a Habitat House looks like when nearly finished. If this interests you, I will be taking a small group to the 87 Mass Ave Habitat House. Please contact Robin Dunn by email [dunn0414@comcast.net](mailto:dunn0414@comcast.net) for details. In the subject line please put Habitat.

Please consider volunteering your time throughout the build. As of now, I will be looking for volunteers for the following dates....

**Thursday, June 2...8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 5...8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 26...1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Friday, July 15... 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

If you are interested in making a donation, you can do so by logging onto Sinai's website. There you will find our Habitat link or you can send your donation to the Temple office.

AND MANY THANKS TO ARTHUR GRODD WHO IS DONATING THE ROOF FOR THE HABITAT HOUSE. ARTHUR'S CONTRIBUTION IS GOING A LONG WAY TOWARDS ASSURING THE SUCCESS OF OUR "BUILD." THANK YOU, ARTHUR.

By the way, no experience or tools necessary! All you need is "YOU". Did I mention if you work a full day, they will feed you? More dates will become available as the build moves forward.

Please feel free to contact Robin Dunn with any questions or concerns, [dunn0414@comcast.net](mailto:dunn0414@comcast.net). Please put Habitat in the subject line.

### Monthly Morning Service

**Wednesday, May 4 at 7:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday, June 1 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. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

### Sinai Readers

**Wednesdays, May 18 and June 15 at 7 p.m.**

Coming in May, we will discuss "Enchantress: A Novel of Rav Hisda's Daughter," by Maggie Anton, author of the Rashi's Daughters books. This is a well-researched and imaginative novel set in the 4th century Jewish community of Babylonia that combines Talmudic lore with astounding aspects of ancient Judaism. On June 15 we return to a more familiar iteration of Jewish cultural history in "Born to Kvetch: Yiddish Language and Culture in All of its Moods", by Michael Wex.

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

as the

**Western MA State of Israel Bonds**

pays tribute to leaders in  
our community

at a Cocktail Buffet.

**Sinai Temple's 2015 honoree is  
SUSANNE SIMON**

**Thursday, June 9 - 5:30 P.M.**

at Chez Josef in Agawam

For reservations & information,  
call the Israel Bonds office at 800-916-1918.

## Notes from the Cantor

"The only thing that is constant in life is change." – attributed to Heraclitus

"Turn and face the strange ch-ch-changes..." – A late 20th–early 21st century Prophet

Change is difficult. Change is necessary. And... change happens, whether we like it or not. The only thing we have any control over is how we choose to react to change. There are big changes in the air here at Sinai Temple, but ultimately, though things will be different, Sinai Temple will continue.

This month, I will be honored by my alma mater, the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion, with the degree of Doctor of Sacred Music, honoris causa. Don't panic; you will not be required to call me "Doctor Cantor!" This degree will be conferred on the occasion of my 25 years of work as a Cantor, almost one-third of which has been spent right here at Sinai Temple of Springfield. It is my fondest desire to continue to serve as your Cantor for many more years to come.

But beginning in July my service to Sinai Temple will be without the collaboration of my teacher, mentor, "partner in liturgical crime," and dear friend, Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro. For the past eight years it has been my extraordinary pleasure to work with him, and while I understand and fully support his decision to retire at this time, I will deeply miss our daily interaction. When I was interviewing for the position of Cantor eight and one-half years ago, I was particularly struck by one sentence describing the job: "We hope the new Cantor will actually have a great deal of fun in becoming part of Sinai." Trust me when I say that this is not a sentence that would be found on the vast majority of Cantorial applications. That word, fun, is circled on my copy of the application. I remember asking the committee about that sentence, and where it came from. It was, of course, written by Rabbi Shapiro. So yes, my friend, the past eight years have been challenging, rewarding, difficult, fulfilling, and... fun! Thank you so much for helping to make that happen. May you continue to go from strength to strength, with your keen mind, your great sense of humor, and an occasional bit of Crown Royal! "L'chayim!" "Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha! Serve the Holy One with JOY!" (Psalm 100:2)

### JUDAICA SHOP CORNER

For Mothers' Day we have lovely jewelry, silk scarves, ceramic mugs for Mom, Mah Jongg novelties and more.

We'll be open Sundays 5/1 & 5/8 9 to 12:30; Tuesdays 5/10 & 5/17 from 2 to 4:30 and Thursday 5/19 2-4:30.

During the summer we won't have regular hours, but will be open at least once a week. Please call.  
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER.

**Thais Fischel 786-9577**

## Letter from Temple President

*Bruce Leshine*

*My Friends,*

*Like many of you, I enjoy reading. As Liz sometimes rolls her eyes about my selections, most of the time I'm reading something about history, politics or religion--- or all three combined. Recently, I came across something about the 1999 Pittsburgh Convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis--- no kidding. The importance of that convention is that during it the Reform Rabbis assembled took it upon themselves to "state a set of Principles that define Reform Judaism in our own time." In its preamble, "this 'Statement of Principles' affirms the central tenets of Judaism - God, Torah and Israel - even as it acknowledges the diversity of Reform Jewish beliefs and practices." The last sentence of the preamble grabbed my attention: "It also invites all Reform Jews to engage in a dialogue with the sources of our tradition, responding out of our knowledge, our experience and our faith."*

And here's the Principle that I find to be of tremendous significance to all of us as the work of our Long Range Planning, Rabbi Search and Project Solel religious school committees converge over the next two years and we shape what Sinai Temple will be over the next twenty years: "We are an inclusive community, opening doors to Jewish life to people of all ages, to varied kinds of families ... who strive to create a Jewish home. We believe that we must not only open doors for those ready to enter our faith, but also to actively encourage those who are seeking a spiritual home to find it in Judaism. We are committed to strengthening the people Israel by supporting individuals and families in the creation of homes rich in Jewish learning and observance. We are committed to strengthening the people Israel by making the synagogue central to Jewish communal life, so that it may elevate the spiritual, intellectual and cultural quality of our lives."

The next several months will see our Long Range Planning, Rabbi Search and Project Solel religious school committees doing some "heavy lifting." Please don't be a bystander--- all three committees will be reaching out to everyone in our Congregation for your thoughts on the Principle I've highlighted above, and your help in our success in achieving this Principle as stated in the Preamble. That's what it's all about. Thank you...

Be well...

Bruce Leshine

### Thank you to:

Jayne Berman and Dianne Snieder for the gift from the Berman/Snieder Fund for Israel Education allowing Sinai's participation in the Israel Emissary program.

## **Message from Jack Henrie** *President, Men and Women of Sinai (MWOS)*

On April 15th, MWOS provided a dinner at 6:00 followed by an Erev Shabbat service honoring Michael Gordon and David Roberts as deserving recipients of the Rabbi Herman Eliot Snyder Service Award. As I am writing this, reservations are still being accepted for the dinner through the Sinai Temple office or website. I hope that you got to join us in honoring Mike and Dave for the quality of their many years of service to Sinai Temple and the community. The service included a blessing for the honored recipients of the Snyder Award the past 22 years and a presentation by the Consul General to Israel. Please see a separate insert for another important honor that MWOS is bestowing.

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to offer our Annual Evenings with the Rabbi and with the Cantor this year. As participation in MWOS activities is renewed, it is hoped that we will return to a more robust schedule of events; it is simply not possible with the current level of active support.

We will be providing our end of the Religious School year annual BBQ on Sunday, May 15th (starting about 11:15) with free hamburgers, Hebrew National hot dogs, potato chips, perhaps watermelon, and good company! I hope that you will be able to join us!

Many thanks again to all who have joined the Men and Women of Sinai and to all who have pitched in to help us in any way. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in our support of the Sinai community.

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## **Message from Heather Sullivan** *Director of Education*

We wind down this year with a little different feel than usual. As we reflect, we think of the special times we've come together this year as a school. We think of our Sundays and Tuesdays and other special occasions. When we remember our opening day with Amy Meltzer, Sukkot sandwich making, hora dancing with Na'ama, Purim celebration, whole school seder/ or matzah factory with Rabbi Kosofsky, or any other school-wide event, it's hard to not smile. But this year our smiles are a tad bit bittersweet, as we prepare to bid a farewell to Rabbi Shapiro. This year we will be celebrating our teachers and Rabbi Shapiro's years of dedication to the religious school at our annual Teacher Celebration Dinner on May 20. The carnival-themed event will begin at 5:00, with our service and presentations taking place at 6:00. Dinner and further festivities will follow the service. We hope all school families will be able to join us as we say thank you to our teachers and Rabbi Shapiro on this very special evening.

Please call the Temple office at 736-3619 or email Samantha Schragger [sjschragger@gmail.com](mailto:sjschragger@gmail.com) for more information or to reserve your spot.

L'Shalom, Heather

## **Men and Women of Sinai Honoring Rabbi Shapiro Through Habitat for Humanity**

In honor of Rabbi Shapiro's retirement and his active involvement in social action and social justice, including in Habitat for Humanity, the Men and Women of Sinai are offering a MATCHING GIFT.

**MWOS will be match all donations to Sinai's Habitat for Humanity project up to \$1,000.**

This will apply to Habitat donations made between May 1 and May 31, 2016. Please join with MWOS in honoring Rabbi Shapiro and in supporting this wonderful cause.

## **Recently, Sinai Temple's youth group, SPFTY, attended NFTY Northeast's Spring Conclavette.**

NFTY is the North American Federation of Temple Youth and is divided into 19 regions. NFTY Northeast includes Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut (excluding Fairfield County), upstate New York, and Montreal, Canada. Spring Conclavette is the Northeast region's three day event held every year in March or April. This year, the theme was summer camp. Three hundred seventy teens in grades 8-12 participated in programs about leadership, played traditional camp games, attended a regional board meeting, and danced all night. Most importantly, they made new friendships and strengthened old ones, enjoying the sense of closeness and connectedness that is a trademark of NFTY.

NFTY tefilah is an experience unlike any other. Praying with hundreds Jewish teens who all share a passion for our religion and culture is certainly life changing. Some services are traditional, with everyone involved in singing, dancing, and fully immersing themselves in prayer. Other services include spiritual hikes, meditation, and discussions. Services have a specific theme such as second chances, peace, joy, friendship, etc. The teens who lead services create unique experiences by including secular songs and readings that relate to the theme. This allows participants to connect ancient Jewish customs and ideas to our modern world.

If you would like a chance to experience the magic of NFTY-style Shabbat services, please join us on Friday, May 27 at 7:30. The teens of SPFTY are hard at work planning and creating a unique and meaningful service for our congregation. This service will be led by SPFTY but it is a regular service for everyone of all ages. The whole congregation is welcome and we would love to see you there!

# The Sustaining Membership Program

Dear Friends –

This year – 2016- we are continuing the “soft-sell” approach we began two years ago.

By the time this bulletin arrives in Sinai homes, separate letters should be arriving in the homes of all those congregants who are currently Sustaining Membership participants. We are hoping you will continue your SMP involvement into the 2016/2017 fiscal year.

*And something new this year –*

*If you are already in SMP, an anonymous donor will match any increase in your participation.*

Add \$25 to your level of support and the donor will match that amount with \$25. Add \$250 to your gift and the donor will match with \$250.

But what if you aren’t already in SMP? What is SMP?

If you are among those congregants who pay full dues in your category, you might consider becoming a Sustaining Member of Sinai.

A Sustaining Member is someone who chooses to offer Sinai an extra amount of funds beyond dues. During the current fiscal year, 92 Sinai households became Sustaining Members and contributed \$59,000 to our budget.

By doing this, Sustaining Members help 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 allow Sinai to continue to offer a full and varied menu of programs.

The levels of involvement are below. Each level assumes a member paying his/her dues and then adding on to those dues the following amounts. (AND...this year...remember...an anonymous donor will match all new funds to the Sustaining Membership Program.)

Leader	\$3,000
Pillar	\$2,500
Chai Friend	\$1,800
Friend	\$1,500
Benefactor	\$1,000
Chai Sponsor	\$720
Sponsor	\$500
Chai Supporter	\$360
Supporter	\$250

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. You can also join SMP by visiting our website.

Shalom,  
Armand Souliere, Sustaining Member Chair

## We've Got History! A Report from the Archives Committee:

The upcoming retirement of our long-serving Rabbi, Mark Dov Shapiro, seemed a good time to step back and take a long view of the Temple; to organize and preserve the Temple archives. The Temple president, Bruce Leshine, constituted an Archives Committee and asked that the Committee organize and preserve any Temple documents which shed light on the history, organization, and operation of Sinai since its founding. He also asked the Committee to make recommendations for procedures going forward for access to these materials and for their preservation.

Over the last several months the committee members, Esta Sobey, Barbara Fitzgerald, Tina deMeza, Laurie Weinberg, and Jim Gordon, have been inventorying and organizing these documents, while taking steps to preserve them for future generations. In the process, the Committee has been working its way through these documents, blue prints, photographs, and DVDs, trying to capture the history and life of the congregation. Tina deMeza is working diligently



**Cornerstone ceremony for our 1100 Dickinson Street building. November 20, 1949. Left to right: Bea Klempner, Larry Sisitsky, Abe Simons, Rabbi Snyder, Monte Feinstein**



**Rabbi Herman Eliot Snyder is joined by a visiting priest on the bimah of our first building on Sumner Avenue. The photo dates back to the late 1940's.**

at collecting, digitizing, inventorying, and organizing thousands of photographs and DVDs of Temple events and celebrations, and preserving them on a new Archives computer and on external hard drives.

To the extent possible, the committee has collected and organized governance documents, Board and Committee minutes, bulletins, memorial books, endowment reports, and reports of annual meetings, as well as all of the other papers that are the primary sources for Sinai's history. It is a big task and the work is ongoing.

When the Committee finishes its work, we should have a file-specific inventory of what we have and we will have taken preliminary steps to preserve and make accessible what we have found.

The photographs on this page of the bulletin are but two of the many historic images we now have at our fingertips.

## Thanks to the Hospitality Circle

Over the last year a broad and diverse group of congregants have volunteered their kitchen talents for an occasional cooking or baking assignment. A salad or a dessert. Once or maybe twice in the year. It has been a tasty and delicious experience. Thank you to SARAH SHTRAX who organizes and chairs the Circle. Thanks to these members of our "hospitality circle." If you would like to help out on a very occasional basis, let the office know: [rblanchettegaga@sinai-temple.org](mailto:rblanchettegaga@sinai-temple.org)

Judy Aronson, Salena Blake, Claire Cohen-Stelzer, Ilene Conklin, Robin Dunn-McDonagh, Bonnie Engelman, Ellen Follet, Nancy Friedman, Marilyn Gitlen, Marlene Gordon, Beth Green, Janice Greenberg, Linda Kay, Zel Lavin, Jodi Maniscalco, Vivian Miller, Jackie Neiman, Robyn Newhouse, Belle Rita Novak, Kathy Roberts, Rachel Sampson, Helene Segool, Judy Seldow, Livia Shelasky, Shtrax, Sarah, Elaine Shusterman, Carol Tivoli, Bonnie Thomas, Laurie Weinberg.

## Yom Ha'atzmaut Family Picnic Sunday, May 15

Come join the JCC for an Israeli themed picnic. Enjoy Israeli-style meal, fun Israel-themed activities, and even try out the zip line on the JCC's high ropes course!

Bring your own picnic blanket or lawn chair and celebrate Israel's birthday as a community.

**Date: Sunday, May 15th**

**Time: 3:30pm-5:00pm**

**Location: Springfield JCC**

**Cost: \$10 / \$7 for children 12 and under**  
(includes a kosher Israeli-style meal)

*RSVP required by May 9*

## Rabbinic Search Congregational Survey

The selection of our Interim Rabbi, Howard Kosovske, is complete! Now, the Sinai Temple Rabbinic Search Committee is back in full swing, and starting the search for our next permanent Rabbi. Our committee wants its work to be informed by a solid understanding of our congregants' feelings about the role of the temple in their lives, and thus we are now asking for your input into the kind of temple we want Sinai to be going forward, so that we can pick the right rabbi for the long term. To that end, we are hoping you could think a bit about these four questions. If you would, please answer from your own very personal perspective, i.e., not trying to guess what others in the congregation might think or want. You can either drop off this completed form to Sinai Temple (survey box in the main office) or fill out the same form online which you can access from the link on the Sinai Temple Website homepage.

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

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**Name** (optional):

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**Demographic** (please circle those that best apply)

**Age Range:** Under 30, 30-49, 50-69, 70+

STUFF (children under age 5)

Religious school parent

Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah parent

Empty Nester

1. What things do you appreciate most about Sinai Temple? (What do you value?)
2. Is there anything about Sinai that disappoints you? (How does it fall short of your needs?)
3. What personality traits would be important to you in our new Rabbi?
4. What would the perfect Sinai be like?

Thank you for your thoughtful answers. Anything else you would like to add?

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### After We Say Farewell to Rabbi Shapiro...

Rabbi Howard Kosovske will serve as our interim rabbi for one year. He will begin in early July. More details will follow at the end of June.

**EISNER AND CRANE LAKE** | **6 POINTS SCI-TECH**  
UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM CAMPS

## TOUR CAMP THIS SUMMER!

Meet "real-live" staff and campers in action!  
See our facilities open and operating,  
instructors instructing, coaches coaching,  
and campers learning, playing and laughing!

**Eisner: Camper-Selected Activities**  
**Crane Lake: Cabin-Centered Activities**  
**Sci-Tech: Science, Robotics, Engineering**

**Most Sundays & Thursdays Throughout the Summer!**  
Visit our websites for dates, times and to sign up:  
[eisnercranelake.urjcamps.org](http://eisnercranelake.urjcamps.org) | [6pointsscitech.org](http://6pointsscitech.org)  
[eisnercranelake@urj.org](mailto:eisnercranelake@urj.org) | [scitech@urj.org](mailto:scitech@urj.org)

- Summer Office Phone Numbers -  
Eisner - 413.528.1652 | Crane Lake - 413.232.4257 | Sci-Tech - 857.246.8677

### A SUMMER THAT LASTS A LIFETIME!

wordswithoutspacemakenosense  
wordswithout space makenosense  
words without space make no sense

lifewithoutspacemakesnosense  
lifewithout space makesnosense  
life without space makes no sense

remember the Sabbath

**George White**

## SINAI TEMPLE FUNDS

*Your support of any fund is most welcome.*

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:**

The Rabbi uses this fund for Tzedakah and the general needs of the community.

### **Cantor's Discretionary Fund:**

The Cantor uses this fund to enrich music programming at Sinai.

### **Art Fund in Memory of Andy Berger:**

This fund allows us to organize art contests & art education for children at Sinai.

### **Berman/Snieder Fund for Israel Education in Honor of Our Parents:**

This fund is dedicated to Israel programs for Sinai.

### **Susan M. Broh Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund:**

This fund allows us to provide subsidies for young people spending their summers doing social action.

### **College Outreach Fund in Memory of Shirlee Cardarett:**

This fund enables us to stay in contact with our "Sinai Alumni."

### **Caring Community Fund in Honor of Joan Rosenbaum:**

This fund is a resource for building the feeling of community at Sinai.

### **Temple Beautification Fund in Memory of Bernerd Dunn:**

We use this fund to beautify the gardens around the Temple.

### **Lee and Howard Grayboff "Fix-It" Fund:**

This fund was created by the family of the late Howard Grayboff. The family wants these funds to be used for projects to improve our Temple building.

### **Rabbi Jerome S. Gurland Human Relations Fund:**

This fund distributes an annual award to a project which improves the quality of life in the Greater Springfield area.

### **Isaiah Fund for the Hungry:**

Donations to this fund are distributed annually to local agencies serving the hungry and the homeless.

### **Library Fund (and Library Inscription Fund - \$25):**

This fund enriches our library.

### **Oneg Shabbat Fund:**

We use this fund to sponsor special Oneg Shabbat and Holiday activities throughout the year.

### **Prayer Book Fund (and Prayer Book Inscription Fund - \$25):**

This fund enables us to purchase new prayer books and Torah commentaries.

### **Esther Pachman Fund for Children Under Five:**

This fund is used for special programs and services for children under the age of five.

### **Religious School Scholarship Fund:**

This fund enables all Temple families to be sure their child receives a full Jewish education.

### **Religious School Special Projects Fund:**

This fund enriches the experience of our students with unique holiday programming, school wide events, field trips, and a variety of classroom opportunities taking us beyond the regular school budget.

### **Programming Fund in Memory of Arline and Arthur Rogers:**

This fund is used annually to enrich one or more aspects of Sinai's programming.

### **Abraham and Edna Simons Camp Scholarship Fund:**

This fund enables us to support youngsters who want to attend Jewish summer camp.

### **Joseph Emanuel, Rabbi Herman Elliot and Adele Biederman Snyder Memorial Fund:**

This scholarship fund enables students to attend summer camps, retreats, and study programs.

### **Family Education Fund in Honor of Buster and Shirley Stahl:**

This fund allows us to create new and exciting family education opportunities.

### **Youth Group Fund established by Linda and Jerry Wainick:**

This fund helps support our youth groups from Grades 7 through 12.

### **Helen and Sy Weiner Children's Literature and Photographic Arts Fund:**

Established by Helen and Sy Weiner, this fund is used to purchase materials for the Temple library.

### **World Crisis Fund:**

This is the fund we use to notify congregants about political and moral emergencies in the world. All monies collected are sent to deal with whatever crisis we have as our focus.



# Sinai Temple Bulletin

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



**It was a fabulous Purim. Just ask these Purim Players from left to right...Tom Brunette, Michael Weber, Cantor Levson, Sarah Cohn, Rabbi Shapiro, Dan Weiswasser, Dawn Metcalf, AJ McCormick, Sumner Lewis, Shoshana Maniscalco**