

# Sinai Temple

## BULLETIN



### For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

The boat ride across the Sea of Galilee may have been the highlight of Sinai Temple's recent trip to Israel. It was Thursday, July 5 for our group of 36 travelers. We had visited the Golan Heights that morning followed by touring the city of Sfat and then kayaking on the Jordan River. The group had even celebrated the beginning of the day with a Bat Mitzvah ceremony in the ancient synagogue of Katzrin.

All this was on the printed itinerary. The big surprise came when the group made a last minute decision to go to Tiberias for dinner by traveling on a boat!

The sun was getting ready to set. The hills around the water were beginning to soften as evening approached.

The boat itself had a big open area around which the group members took seats. And then came the surprise:

The Israelis navigating the boat loved music. They especially enjoyed loud recorded music, which they began to play as the boat left the shore. One of the crew grabbed a Middle Eastern tof/drum, placed it between his legs, and began to beat out the rhythm for each infectious song.

Without even realizing it, everyone on board began to clap. A few people got up to dance. Then more began dancing. Then the drummer brought out several drums so that group members could bang away to the music.

It was a magnificent moment. Joyful. Total. It was as if the boat was flying on its own magical path toward Tiberias. The boat ride captured all the emotion and excitement of a perfect day on what was a fabulous experience in Israel.

Of course, lots more took place on our trip to Israel, but the Tiberias evening captured so much of the trip's spirit. The glow still remains with me. I'll have more to say when we all meet for the New Year in a few days.

Meanwhile, my sincere wishes for a New Year that brings all of us sweet and enriching memories. Shana tova - A good year for us, our community, and, most certainly, for our brothers and sisters in Israel.

### Saturday Torah Study

Saturday Mornings  
Torah Study  
At 9 a.m.  
Every Week

### Saturday Services

Services at 10:30 a.m.  
Mazal Tov to our Bnai Mitzvah

September 8 – Matthew Slitzky  
Son of Margaret and Barry Slitzky

September 29 – Daniel Ehrlich  
Son of Sharon and David Ehrlich

### Selichot

Saturday, September 8 at 8 p.m.  
At Sinai Temple  
  
Selichot Themes, Dreams, and Hopes  
  
An Evening of Stories, Music, & Prayers  
  
Introducing the High Holidays

### Friday Evenings – Remember How To "Remember" Service Times – 76-88

**FAMILY SERVICE** at 7:00 p.m.

September 7

August and September birthdays too!

**KABBALAT SHABBAT** at 6:00 p.m.

September 14

You deserve a break. (Veggies and snacks at 5:30 p.m.)

**KOL NIDRE** at 8:00 p.m.

September 21

Gmar Chatimah Tova – May you be sealed in the Book of Life for a good year.

**FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSIC** at 8:00 p.m.

September 28

Shabbat Shalom – We join together as the month of Tishri unfolds.

## **Selichot Themes, Dreams, and Hopes**

An Evening of Stories, Music, & Prayers

Introducing the High Holidays

Saturday, September 8 at 8 p.m.

Selichot evening is our annual pre-holiday warmup for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This year's "warmup" will feature Rona Leventhal, storyteller and dramatist.

### **EREV ROSH HASHANAH**

Wednesday, September 12

Evening Service ..... 8:00 p.m.

### **ROSH HASHANAH DAY**

Thursday, September 13

First Service..... 8:45 a.m.

Second Service..... 11:00 a.m.

Tashlich ..... 4:30 p.m.

### **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Sunday, September 16

Sinai Temple Cemetery ..... 2:00 p.m.

### **KOL NIDRE**

Friday, September 21

Evening Service ..... 8:00 p.m.

### **YOM KIPPUR DAY**

(Times approximate)

Saturday September 22

Morning Service ..... 10:00 a.m.

Musical Interlude ..... 12:30 p.m.

Study Options ..... 1:30 p.m.

Afternoon Service ..... 3:00 p.m.

Yizkor Service ..... 4:45 p.m.

Neilah/Closing Service..... 5:45 p.m.

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published monthly by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 1 for the year 2007-2008.

Mark Dov Shapiro ..... Rabbi

Emily Sleeper Mekler ..... Cantor, Music Director

Sheila Shear ..... Director of Education

Stacey Osowski ..... Community Coordinator

Andy Chaet ..... SPFTY Advisor

### **Officers**

David Roberts ..... President

Rina Miller ..... Vice President

Jeff Cossin ..... Vice President

Roberta Gang ..... Vice President

Joel Bertuzzi ..... Treasurer

Bobi Steingart ..... Financial Secretary

Ann Jacobs ..... Recording Secretary

Mike Bader ..... Membership Chair

Ron Weiss ..... Cemetery Chair

Dan Cohn ..... Brotherhood

*The publication of the Sinai Bulletin is made possible in part by a gift to our Endowment Fund from Ruth and Fred Weiss.*

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

## **Selichot Themes, Dreams, and Hopes**

**An Evening of Stories, Music, & Prayers**

### **Introducing the High Holidays**

**Saturday, September 8 at 8 p.m.**

**At Sinai Temple**

Selichot evening is our annual pre-holiday warmup for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This year's "warmup" will feature Rona Leventhal, Storyteller, Environmental Educator, and Specialist in Improvisational Theatre. Rona Leventhal is an exuberant artist with a specialty in storytelling. She tours internationally and teaches storytelling as Adjunct Faculty with Lesley University (Cambridge, MA) and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Selichot evening will begin with a dramatic presentation of "themes, dreams, and hopes" relevant to the holidays. Our Selichot service will follow with its own unique prayers and musical accents.

A reception with home baking will culminate the evening. Special thanks go to Joel Cohen for underwriting this Selichot evening through a gift in memory of Marilyn Cohen.

## **Welcome to Sinai!**

*We're so glad the following people have decided to join Sinai Temple in the last several months:*

Gabe Auerbach

Barbara and Richard Brody

David and Jodie Burstein with Leah and Lavra

Cary Dash and Vivian Miller with Julia and Emily

Richard and Betsy Gaberman

Seth and Jennifer Goodman with their children

Lawrence and Diane Goodman

Susan Goodman

David and Ruth Katz

Eyal and Sonin Markman with Sol and Gil

Mark Newman

Ann Rosenfield

Ellen Rowles

Sumner Saffer

## **Ticket Requirements**

- Tickets will be required for admission to each service.
- Tickets will be checked at the Temple entrance.
- Each member of the family should have his/her own ticket.

## **Tickets will be mailed automatically if any of the following are satisfied:**

- A minimum of 2/3 of this year's dues, plus any past due amounts, have been paid.
- A payment schedule has been arranged with the treasurer or financial secretary.
- Arrangements have been made for credit card payments.

## **30 and Under membership category**

- In order to open the Temple as much as possible to young Jews, we gladly welcome members who are 30 years of age or under.
- Individuals 30 or under may become members at no cost..

## **Out of Town Guest policy**

- Members of other congregations affiliated with the URJ should ask for a seating request from their home temple for seating at Sinai Temple.

- Members may request complimentary tickets for out of town guests by completing a request form obtained from the Temple office. *Guest's home addresses must be supplied.*

- Households new to the Western Mass/ Northern Connecticut area, not affiliated with a synagogue, may receive complimentary High Holiday tickets once upon request.

## **Childcare**

- Children under 5 must be left with babysitting services provided by Sinai Temple.

- Reservations are required.

**REMEMBER: No one will be admitted without a ticket.** The office will be closed for all business at 3:00 p.m. the day before the holiday.

### **Attending Services on the Telephone**

Do you know someone who misses out on High Holiday Services because they are physically unable to attend? This year it will be possible to hear live Sinai Temple services by telephone from home or even from a hospital room. Sinai's Caring Community and TRZ Religious Services will be making this wonderful opportunity available.

This service is free of charge to members and will not be limited to the High Holidays. It can also be used to listen in on any service (i.e. Bar/Bat Mitzvah, wedding or funeral) that Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Mekler lead from the bimah.

### **Allergy-sufferers Request**

Please refrain from excessive use of perfumes and colognes when attending services and events at temple especially on the High Holidays.

Those with allergies can be adversely affected and become uncomfortable when exposed to strong scents.

When purchasing bima flowers for special occasions please be considerate of allergy-sufferers and order only non-scented arrangements.

Thank you so much for your understanding.

### **Mission Statement**

Sinai Temple is a welcoming and inclusive Reform Congregation where our members pursue a continuing journey of Jewish growth. We are guided by the history and traditions of the Jewish people as we encounter the challenges of the modern world. We encourage participation in prayer, lifelong Jewish learning, and social justice within a joyful, creative, and compassionate community.

### **State of Israel Bonds**

## **A Bond of Solidarity**

## **A Promise for the Future**

To celebrate the New Year, forge a financial bond with the State of Israel and a personal bond of solidarity with the Israeli people. Let an Israel Bonds purchase be one way you keep a promise for the future—Israel's future as the eternal homeland of the Jewish people.

**Shana Tova!**



Development Corporation for Israel/State of Israel Bonds  
740 N. Main Street, Suite D • West Hartford, CT 06117  
800-914-1918 • 860-236-4523  
[www.israbonds.com](http://www.israbonds.com)

## Notes about the Holidays

### Prayers and Blessings for Your Home

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur begin at home with family meals. Your meal can become more than a pleasant dinner by making it a sacred occasion with the appropriate blessings for the holidays. Our website has everything you need in English, Hebrew, and transliteration. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

### Two Rosh Hashanah Morning Services

8:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. .... 11:00 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.

Although the first service is definitely NOT going to be a Family Service, it will be a service that welcomes school age children because it will be briefer. The second service will be identical to our usual holiday morning services with Rabbi, Cantor, and the full liturgy.

### Babysitting for Children through Kindergarten

Babysitting for small children ages two through Kindergarten (no infants) will be available during Rosh Hashanah morning and Yom Kippur morning services. Please contact Stacey Osowski to reserve a spot for your child...736-3619, ext. 13.

### Child Programming for Grades One & Two

An age appropriate program for children in Grades 1 and 2 will be available during both Rosh Hashanah morning services and Yom Kippur morning. (The program is being offered parallel to the first Rosh Hashanah morning service for parents of these young children who do not think the children would feel comfortable even in the shorter first service format of 90 minutes.) Please contact Stacey Osowski to reserve a spot for your child...736-3619, ext. 13.

### Children in Grades Three through Six

On Yom Kippur morning, we will be offering a service designed for this intermediate age group. Too old for a children's program; often too young for the full adult service. More information will follow.

### Are you 18 - 30?

Do you know anyone who is 18 - 30?  
I need your help. As Community Coordinator, it is my pleasure to keep the Alum of Sinai Temple connected. I send out different mailings throughout the year to update those 18 - 30 year olds who are at college or on their own. To do this, I need ADDRESSES. Please e-mail me [perlski@verizon.net](mailto:perlski@verizon.net) with a current address. You can also check out our website to send in an address.

Thanks, Stacey Osowski

### From Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler

What a wonderful summer it's been! I was privileged to attend the annual combined convention for the American Conference of Cantors and Guild of Temple Musicians. I also attended the 18th Annual North American Jewish Choral Festival. Both of these events were held in the Catskills.

The ACC/GTM convention was, as always, professionally and personally enriching with workshops for Cantors, music directors and accompanists; spiritually uplifting daily worship services; delightful nighttime concerts of various Jewish music genres; opportunities for connecting and sharing with colleagues.

I also attended the North American Jewish Choral Festival which is sponsored by the Zamir Choral Foundation under the direction of Matthew Lazar. If you enjoy singing in choruses or choirs, first of all, join the Sinai Temple choir!! Secondly, you should definitely consider attending this annual event held in the Catskills. Attendees are members of volunteer synagogue choirs from across the country and Canada. They/we were pre-assigned to various choruses at the Festival based upon abilities and spent 4 days rehearsing 3 pieces each that were later performed for those in attendance. Guest choruses are invited to perform during the festival. This year special performances were presented, to name a few, by the Zamir Chorales of New York and Boston, a Yiddish Chorale from New York. I was so proud and delighted that Mak'hela, the Western Massachusetts Chorus, was invited to perform. Several members of the Springfield Jewish community are members of Mak'hela, including Sinai's own Bonnie Mikesh. Very special guest star at the Festival was Theodore Bikel, who sang "Edelweiss" from his role as Captain von Trapp in "The Sound of Music" and, in his role as Tevye in "Fiddler on The Roof", he sang "If I Were a Rich Man". Bikel has been a social activist throughout his life and is well known for singing folk songs in various languages, especially Hebrew and Yiddish. He is now 83 years old and is as engaging as ever!

As we look toward our upcoming High Holidays, special thanks are due to Leah and Jerry Gottlieb who generously sponsored the production and shipment of Sinai Temple's High Holiday CD and booklet which you received in the mail. We are also very grateful to Howard Kalodner who recorded the CD of Sinai's accompanist, John Gerry-Karajanes and "yours truly" and designed the layout of the booklet. We hope that it will be helpful to you with learning some of the most common melodies of the High Holiday liturgy that we use at Sinai Temple.

Thank you very much, too, to George Dickstein who helped to make the Yom Kippur Afternoon Musical

**The Caring Community of Sinai Temple  
cordially invites you to attend  
A Sukkot Luncheon  
for Sinai Senior Members  
With Guest Speaker,  
Rabbi Dennis Ross  
Thursday, September 27  
12:00 noon**

*Rabbi Dennis Ross will speak on  
"The Wonder of it All: How We Can  
Have Faith in the Bible and Believe in  
Evolution"*

Please note that Sukkot morning services will take place in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. You're welcome to join us at services or simply arrive in time for our luncheon.)

There is no charge for this wonderful program. Please RSVP to the Temple Office at 736-3619 no later than Thursday, September 20. Let us know if you need transportation.

## **Rabbi Dennis S. Ross**

Rabbi Dennis S. Ross is director of Concerned Clergy for Choice of The Education Fund of Family Planning



Advocates of New York State and associate rabbi of Temple Emanuel, Worcester, MA. He has served Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester, Chappaqua, NY, Washington Hebrew Congregation in Washington, DC, and synagogues in Massachusetts.

Rabbi Ross earned the Master of Social Work degree from New York University in 1984. Rabbi Ross has

written for The New York Times, The Boston Globe and other publications. His most recent book is God in Our Relationships: Spirituality between People from the Teachings of Martin Buber.

## **Sukkot and Simchat Torah 5768**

**EREV SUKKOT  
Wednesday, September 26  
Starting at 7:00 p.m.**

We start the evening earlier than usual in order to meet outside and decorate the outdoor sukkah. After that, the harvest celebration continues at 7:30 p.m. with a Sukkot Family Service in the sanctuary.

**SUKKOT DAY  
Thursday, September 27  
At 10:30 a.m.**

It's time to give thanks for the natural world around us. Lulav and etrog. Kiddush in the sukkah.

**SUKKOT DAY – CONTINUES...  
Thursday, September 27  
At Noon**

Our Annual Fall Seniors Luncheon will take place after services. The Caring Community will host Sinai's Seniors. Invitations will follow in the mail.

**EREV SIMCHAT TORAH  
Wednesday, October 3  
At 7:00 p.m.**

The entire congregation is invited to one of the year's great celebrations. We will consecrate our First Graders and then march and dance with all five of our Torah scrolls. Special music! Special festivities! Chatan Torah (reading Deuteronomy) will be Mitch Torff; Chatan Bresheet (reading Genesis) will be Sam Torff.

**SIMCHAT TORAH/YIZKOR SERVICE  
Thursday, October 4  
At 10:30 a.m.**

We will mark the conclusion and beginning of the Torah cycle and also conduct a memorial service. Mini-luncheon to follow.

## **The Mitzvah Habit: Help us feed the hungry**

You can't miss it! Every time you enter the Temple, you see the box for THE OPEN PANTRY on the floor outside the Temple office. Sometimes the box is full; sometimes it's fairly empty. But every week the Open Pantry truck comes by to scoop up whatever the box contains and take it back to the Open Pantry.



## **Sinai's Annual Meeting on June 14 was a grand success. Over 100 volunteers were honored.**



Over 50 volunteers sent letters and e-mails to the Roberta Gang, Annual Meeting Chair, telling what they had gained from their volunteer experiences at Sinai. Soon you can read some of their stories on our website. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)



## **From Sheila Shear, Director of Education**

*Shalom Chaverim,*

It's finally here! Single Session Sunday is beginning in just a few days. Here are some of the highlights the children of Sinai will experience this month. Many will have an opportunity to learn in Chugim (special interest groups) that they have selected based on personal interest. During Religious School, on September 30, thanks to the generosity of Joan Katz and family, singers and story sellers extraordinaire Renee Brachfeld and Mark Novak will join us for a very special family program. What's more, activities introducing our celebration of Israel @ 60 will take place in a few weeks. In addition, we will be introducing a new program for girls in 6th and 7th grades called "Rosh Hodesh-It's A Girl Thing". If you have a daughter in those grades, she will soon be receiving information about this program made possible by a gift from Daryl and Lynn Schwartz.

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and I am looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday, September 9th. (And don't forget. Our September Family Service takes place Friday night, September 7th. Hope to see you there.)

*Cantor Mekler - continued from page 4*

Interlude possible. George submitted the winning bid at the Community Music School of Springfield on a chamber music ensemble to play for a "private party". Fortunately for Sinai Temple, he decided to share his good fortune with us. Our guests will be the Community Music School of Springfield Faculty Wind Trio: Mary Ellen Miller, clarinet; Joanne Nelson, oboe; and Rebecca Eldridge, bassoon. I hope you will join us in the sanctuary following the Yom Kippur morning service, for a very special way to continue spending the day at the temple.

This coming High Holidays we will be treated to and will join in singing with our Sinai Temple Women's Choir. There will be a couple of other musical cameos during our services. We know they will enhance our worship and the beauty of the High Holiday music.

ALSO, don't forget to call me at the temple (736-3619, ext. 14) about becoming a part of JUST an 8-week commitment of once-a-week rehearsals in preparation for a BIG CHORAL EXPERIENCE on Friday evening, NOVEMBER 30th. Call me right now! Don't delay!

I hope that this New Year, 5758, will be a good and sweet year for you and those you love.

**Yerushalayim in Hebrew; Jerusalem in English**  
**In Honor of Israel's 60th Anniversary,**  
**Give Yourself the Gift of Hebrew!**

Building on our success with Hebrew last year, the Adult Education Committee is pleased to offer you more Hebrew at several time slots at several levels.

Classes start in October.

Please register by filling out the form on this page!

**Let THIS year be YOUR year for the GIFT OF HEBREW!**

**Schedule of Hebrew Classes for Fall 2007 on the following dates:**

	Sunday 11-12:00 a.m.	Wednesday 7:30-8:30 p.m.	Thursday 7:30-8:30 p.m.
October	14, 21, 28	10, 17, 24	4, 11, 18, 25
November	4, 11, 18	7, 14, 28	1, 8, 29
December	2, 9, 16	5, 12, 19	6, 13, 20

We'll celebrate all the Hebrew learning at Shabbat services on Friday, December 21!!!

*Please enter your first and second choices in the "choice" column.*

	Day	Time	Teacher		Day	Time	Teacher
<b>Beginner Hebrew –For those starting out. Learn to identify Hebrew letters and begin to put words together.</b>				<b>Advanced Beginner – Refresher course. Review the alphabet; improve basic reading; then on to reading &amp; understanding basic prayers.</b>			
	Sun	11:00 a.m. – noon	TBA		Sun	11:00 a.m.– noon	TBA
	Wed	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA		Wed	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA
	Thu	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA		Thu	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA
<b>Intermediate Hebrew – If you refreshed your Hebrew last year or if you're reading pretty well, enrich yourself with more reading and comprehension.</b>				<b>Conversational Hebrew - spoken Hebrew! How do they say it in Israel.</b>			
	Sun	11:00 a.m. – noon	TBA				
	Wed	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA		Wed	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA
	Thu	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	TBA				
				<b>Torah Cantillation – Learn how to chant the Torah!</b>			
					Tue	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Cantor Mekler

.....

Dear Adult Education Committee:

Count me in! I want to be a Hebrew learner.

Enclosed please find my check for \$18 (payable to Sinai Temple) to cover the cost of my textbook.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Sinai Temple, 1100 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108



★ A New Way to Experience Friday Evening ★  
**Friday, October 19, 2007**

*Like a multi-screen theater, Sinai Temple presents a variety of settings for a terrific Friday evening. Stretching, dancing, laughter, food, drumming, prayer, and serious learning will give everyone his or her own way to be at home in the Temple. Adults, teenagers, and children are all invited!!!*

**5:30 p.m.** Wine, cheese, and veggies

**6:00 p.m. YOU CHOOSE...**

*Tai Chi - Stretch your way into the seventh day. (Beginners are welcome.)*

*Israel Folk Dancing as Israel's 60th birthday approaches.*

*A not-your-typical Shabbat Service with an Israeli flair featuring drum and accordion!*

*PLUS one other adult choice and options for children and teenagers*

**7:00 p.m.** All of us together for the candle lighting, Kiddush, and motzi

*Followed by Shabbat Dinner with seating for adults, children, and our youth groups.*

**7:45 p.m. YOU CHOOSE...**

*For Adults – Professor Stephen Berk, our weekend scholar in residence, will begin his presentations on "Israel Turns 60: How did we get here? Why does it matter?"*

*For Kids – The first ever Springfield After Dinner Theater – "You Create It; You're the Star."*

*For our Youth Groups – Activities of all sorts*

**9:00 p.m.** Back together for DESSERTS and COFFEE

★ Dinner reservations please (Deadline October 10. We've only got room for the first 150 people) ★

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

# Adults \_\_\_\_\_ (\$15.00 each) # Children \_\_\_\_\_ (Ages 12-18 \$5.00 each/Under 12 Free)  
(Even for children under 12, we must know the # who will be coming.)

Total enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check to Sinai Temple, 1100 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01118

## **Israel Turns 60: How did we get here? Why does it matter to us?**

**Sinai Temple's Scholar in Residence Weekend  
Friday, October 19 to Sunday, October 21**

**Stephen M. Berk  
Professor of History at Union College**

The Jewish world will be full of stories about Israel's 60th anniversary during the next several months. The general media is always full of news about Israel – much of it negative. And what does this mean to us? What makes Israel important? How shall we celebrate Israel's 60th anniversary?

Stephen Berk is renowned as an inspiring teacher. His course on the Holocaust at Union College is the most popular course offered at Union. Berk will be at Sinai to share his knowledge and good humor for a full weekend as Israel's anniversary approaches.

### **Friday, October 19 at 8 p.m. (after dinner as part of Synaplex)**

**Zionism:** Where did it come from? What does the term mean for today?

### **Shabbat Morning Study Sessions (Come to one or both sessions):**

#### **Saturday, October 20 at 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.**

**Zionism:** A study of some classic texts before and after Theodor Herzl

#### **Saturday, October 20 at 10:15 to 11:45 a.m.**

**Arabs and Jews:** A history of the encounter between Islam and our people

#### **Sunday, October 21 at 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.**

#### **Breakfast and Learning**

##### **Zionism Going Forward:**

What lies ahead for Israel?

Why should it matter for us?

Why should it matter for our children?

*A heartfelt thank you to Joel and Betsy Bertuzzi for underwriting the scholar in residence weekend.  
For more information, please Laurie Weinberg, Adult Education Chair - 599-1978.*

**76-88**

## **The Sinai "Code" for Friday Evening Service Times**

On the first Friday of every month, come pray at 7:00 p.m. On the second Friday of the month, services start at 6 p.m. On the following two Friday evenings, please join us at 8 p.m. Remember – 76-88!

## **Kabbalat Shabbat: A Terrific Time for a Service!**

**6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

If you're too tired after a week in the office, don't go right home after work. Come to services first. Starting at 5:30 p.m., we'll feed you veggies and snacks. The service that follows will refresh you for a wonderful weekend.

## **Monthly Morning Service Wednesday, September 5 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. The spirit is unique. 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, October 3, November 7, December 5, January 2, February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4. The Morning Minyan is underwritten through our Endowment Fund by a gift from the Family of Richard Lavin.

## **First Thursdays (mostly): Lunch and Learn Thursday, September 6 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.**

Bring your lunch to the Oneg Shabbat room for a discussion of contemporary Jewish concern with Rabbi Shapiro. . Future discussions are October 11, November 1, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1, and June 5.

## **You've always wanted to learn Hebrew? Fall 2007 is your chance!!!!**

The Adult Education Committee is continuing our very successful Hebrew learning from last year. Last year we had over 75 adults learning Hebrew. You're invited now to continue the process. Classes will be offered at different levels and different times starting in October. Please register by filling out the form elsewhere in the Bulletin.

### **Torah Study Saturdays at 9 a.m.**

Why do we call the Torah "a tree of life?" Is it "true?" Is there more to the stories than I recall from when I was a child? How do adult Jews use the Torah as a source of adult values? These are the questions that Torah Study answers every week. During the month of September, we will read the Torah Portion of the week. BUT, starting in October, we'll approach two new topics...

### **Should Sinai Temple Adopt a New Prayer Book? Saturdays, October 6 & 13 at 9 a.m.**

As the Reform movement introduces a new prayer book called Mishkan Tfilah, Sinai Temple will sample and experiment with the new book. Rabbi Shapiro will offer background and insight into the new book on these two Shabbat mornings in October. To understand what makes a prayer book "tick," please come to Torah Study on October 6 and 13.

### **Why Should God Care What We Eat: Could Being "Kosher" Mean Something New for a 21st Century Reform Jew? Torah Study on Saturdays in October and November Starting Saturday, October 20 at 9 a.m.**

Ham and cheese. Lobster. Veal. Fruit sprayed with pesticides. Coffee grown by poverty-stricken peasants. Ice cream for dessert after a Shabbat chicken dinner at Temple.

What's kosher? What's not? What's "eco-kosher?"

What's ethical? What's an appropriate way to consume food on planet earth in 2007?

Come join Torah Study for a unique 8-week exploration into the history and meaning of kashrut in Jewish tradition. Why did early Reform Judaism move away

from kashrut? Is it time to think differently about kashrut? What should Sinai Temple's kashrut policy be? Should Sinai even have a kashrut policy?

Come learn and join the discussion this Fall.

### **Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Are You Interested in Starting a New Class For A New Year?**

Dear Congregants:

As many of you know, it has been my privilege to work with four groups of men and women who have chosen to become Bar/Bat Mitzvah as adults. I think each group of learners will tell you we had a wonderful time together. We were not attempting to become Harvard graduates. We were only attempting to grow and explore ourselves as Jews. If you are at all interested in helping form another Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah class that could start meeting this coming spring, please contact me. No commitments. Just call and we can see if it's right for you. Rabbi Shapiro

### **And Coming on October 5 - Starry Nights... Shabbat Services at the Planetarium of the Springfield Science Museum**

Friday, October 5 the Jewish world will begin reading the Torah from "the beginning" with the story of creation! What better way to celebrate the awe and grandeur of our universe than to pray and read Torah in the Science Museum's Planetarium! After our Torah reading, we will turn out the lights and take a tour of the stars. A billion stars for the billion ways in which our universe is a marvel.

Services will start at the Museum at 7 p.m. Arrive early. (For those who wish to pray more traditionally, a service will take place in our Sinai sanctuary starting at 7 p.m. as well.)

### **A New Class Forming for Florence Melton Adult School**

The Springfield Jewish Community Center presents a new year of the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School. The Florence Melton Adult Mini School offers weekly meetings for 30 weeks and is offered at the Springfield Jewish Community Center, Mondays at 7:00 p.m. beginning October 22.

To register, contact Rabbi Micah Becker-Klein at the Springfield JCC, (413) 739-4715 ext. 344, or mbeckerklein@springfieldjcc.org.

## Judaica Shop Corner

We're back! Starting Sunday, September 9, our regular hours will be Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

In August, we had a most successful New York buying trip with lovely new items arriving daily. Do stop by for High Holy Day Gifts: apple and honey sets, challah boards and knives, Kiddush cups and candlesticks. We have a fine selection of Rosh Hashanah cards, too.

Thais Fischel 786-9577  
Bobbie Cossin 565-9970

## The Great Shofar Blast at the JCC Sunday, September 9, 1:30 PM

Join together with the Greater Springfield Jewish community for one incredible communal shofar blowing. Sign up TODAY by calling Cantor Mekler and you can receive your own genuine shofar, free of charge! (One per household, please.) You can also bring your own shofar from home and be a part of The Blast or just come and be a part of the audience! Everyone is welcome, families and people of all ages. No previous knowledge is necessary. You can also contact the Jewish Federation for more information and to reserve your shofar (737-4313 x138.)

A program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Springfield sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

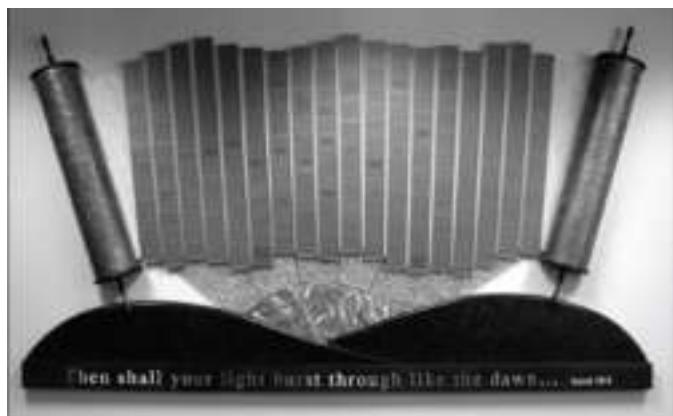
## Ride to Provide

Sunday, September 30, 2007, is the date for what is sure to be a new fall tradition for the New England Jewish Community, 5 College Collaborative and bike riders from all parts. UMass Hillel is sponsoring its first annual "RIDE TO PROVIDE" to support the community service programs and environmentally friendly projects of UMass Hillel.

Riders will collect sponsors and pledges to participate in either a 10-mile or 23-mile bike ride through the autumn foliage of Amherst, Hadley and Sunderland, with rest stops and snacks at neighboring Sukkot. The event will culminate with a post-ride festival on the grounds of the UMass Hillel House at 388 North Pleasant Street, Amherst.

People interested in riding, supporting or volunteering for the "RIDE TO PROVIDE" can go online to [www.umasshillel.org/ridetoprovide](http://www.umasshillel.org/ridetoprovide) or call the Hillel office at 413-549-1710.

## 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.

## The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing

Beginning with this issue of our Temple Bulletin, we plan to print the names of those who pass away. Their memories are precious to their relatives, their friends and to each of us who form the community of Sinai Temple.

On the occasion of this first listing, we begin with those who have passed away since June 1, 2007 and up until August 14, 2007.

We remember:

Jessie Swelius, mother of Karen Bader  
Sherman Rome, husband of Evelyn Rome, father of David Rome, Andrew Rome and Susan Rybak  
Beatrice Midas, mother of Elaine Geha  
Albert Wattenberg, father of Beth Green  
Isaac Glazer, father of Stanley Glazer  
Lillian Mazer, mother of Linda Goldman  
Harriet Pinsky, mother of Charyne Cordeiro  
Lawrence Gang, brother of David Gang  
R. Goudchaux, cousin of Anne Cooley  
Deborah Tuttle, mother of Sheila Shear  
Estelle B. Wenner, mother of Steven Wenner



Scenes from Sinai's Trip to Israel



## **News for High School Kids!**

Shalom,

My name is Andy Chaet and I have accepted a new challenge this year at Sinai Temple.

I will be the advisor for SPFTY(Springfield Federation of Temple Youth). SPFTY is our local chapter of NFTY(National Federation of Temple Youth). Membership is for 9-12 graders who share a desire to broaden their Jewish experience outside the classroom in a more social setting.

SPFTY has had some exciting programming and events. Museum trips and field trips that encourage Tikkun Olam and the act of Tzedekah. There are sleepovers and hayrides. Spfty also lends a hand when Sinai presents a Temple-wide event such as our 75th anniversary gala or Synaplex..

SPFTY also takes part in regional and national con-clavettes and dances. We are always well represented and the friendships that are made become strong and lasting.

This new position excites me greatly..I know most of these young adults, as I have had the pleasure of teaching them through the years. This is an enthusiastic group of kids that want to see SPFTY succeed. I am personally aware of the demands put upon teenagers today. This world can be very confusing. All I ask is that your child make every effort to attend our meetings to get an idea of what we are about and what we have planned. This is a chance to reacquaint with me and their friends.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me at Temple or drop me an email.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andy Chaet  
SPFTY Advisor  
736-3619 ext 20  
[aechael@yahoo.com](mailto:aechael@yahoo.com)



## **Congratulations to our New SPFTY Leadership:**

Emma Klein - President

Mariah Brockway- First Vice President

Kyle Thomas- Vice President of Social Action

Ted Katz-Membership Outreach Chairman

Maddy Miller- Secretary

Harry Kalodner-Webmaster

Joshua Fisher-Tenth Grade Representative

Sarah Klein-Ninth Grade Representative

Elise Balaban-NFTY Representative

## **Sinai has a Community Co-ordinator: Stacey Osowski**

We've made a change. As she did last year, Stacey Osowski.will be working 15 hours a week leading our Caring Community, our Alumni, public relations, and the various "clubs" we have for young people in our school.

Something has changed, however, in how we define the purpose of Stacey's position. For many years, that osition has been referred to as Program Director. As a result of conversations at the Board level and among our staff last spring, we came to the realization that Sinai's goal is not to multiply programs. Sinai's purpose with Stacey's position is to build community within our congregation. Some programs may help build community; simply highlighting our goal of building community may also lead us to think more and more in terms of community.

Therefore, a change in Stacey's title. She'll continue to do fine programming, but we'll bear in mind that our larger purpose is to program for community. As our Mission Statement says, "Sinai Temple is a welcoming and inclusive Reform Congregation...We encourage participation in prayer, life-long Jewish learning, and social justice within a joyful, creative, and compassionate community."





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## **Mazal Tov to:**

Candy and Stanley Glazer on the birth of a granddaughter, Marin Elyse Gephardt. Proud parents are Laura and Dr. James Gephardt. Big brother is Edgar.

Nathaniel Kornet on his graduation from High School last June.

Nancy Gladstone and Alan Goldsmith on their marriage July 1, 2007.

Ruth Brasser on becoming a great-grandmother. The new baby's name is Madalyn Gwen, and she is the daughter of Stephen and Alissa Abelson.

Susan Ehrlich Gaynor on the marriage of her son, Bradley Scott Gaynor, to Amy Moro.

Marilyn and David Amster on the birth of their granddaughter, Miriam Lily Amster, born on June 25, 2007. Her parents are Rebecca and Matthew Amster and big brother is Jacob.

Marin Elyse Gephardt. Proud parents are Laura and Dr. James Gephardt. Big brother is Edgar.

# Sinai Temple

BULLETIN



1100 Dickinson Street  
Springfield, MA 01108  
(413) 736-3619  
<http://www.sinai-temple.org>

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*I have children in college...*

*No longer at home*

*Learning...changing*

*Asking great questions*

The Temple would like to stay in touch with our youngest alumni. They've grown up under our roof. They've begun to learn what being Jewish means.

Now - in the crucial college years - we don't want to lose contact.

Students on the ALUMNI LIST receive the Temple bulletin plus special updates, holiday gifts, and newsletters from the Rabbi.

*My children are college graduates*

*Living in Boston*

*Working in Manhattan*

*Still learning...still changing*

Just when they look all grown up is precisely when we don't want to lose contact with these young adults. From ages 22 to 30, they are on the move in thousands of ways. Help us stay in touch!

Students on the 22 - 30 ALUMNI LIST receive the Temple bulletin plus special updates, holiday gifts, and newsletters from the Rabbi.

**PARENTS – Please fill out the bottom of this ALUMNI FORM and return it to the Temple. Thank you. You may also receive a phonecall from our Alumni Committee requesting this information. You may instead fill out this form online at [www.sinai-temple.org/alumni.html](http://www.sinai-temple.org/alumni.html).**

Young Adult Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

College Address or Present Residential Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent(s) Telephone \_\_\_\_\_