

Sinai Temple Bulletin



Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat

For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

Yom Kippur is coming, and this year it falls on a Saturday. That means our biggest day of the Jewish year takes place on Shabbat this year.

Four years ago when Yom Kippur and Shabbat also came together, I gave a sermon called "Next Friday Night." In my remarks I talked about what we all might be doing seven days later. I suggested that, as important as Shabbat Yom Kippur was, our involvement with the next just plain Shabbat (seven days later) might be even more significant for us as Jews and human beings.

A year later I returned to the theme of Shabbat when we gathered for Yom Kippur. I asked you to imagine how much less frenzied our lives might be if we "pulled the plug" every seven days. I even distributed a booklet with no fewer than 52 creative ways to reframe the celebration of Shabbat. That sermon was called "Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat."

Perhaps you recall that a poster with these words stood in the Temple hallway for several months after Yom Kippur. That Fall we also began to dedicate a sizeable amount of space on our Temple website to Shabbat.

And what has happened since then?

The slogan (Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat) has remained on our bulletin masthead. On a periodic basis, I've included reflections on Shabbat in the bulletin. Each of these pieces has subsequently been added to the website.

And now comes Yom Kippur 2011 coinciding with Shabbat. To be honest, it's quite tempting to revisit Shabbat in one of my sermons this year. After all, Shabbat is probably the single most obvious and powerful focus for us if we want to enrich our lives as Jews. Shabbat comes around every seven days. 52 times a year we are given a chance to encounter candles, wine, Torah, spirit, and refreshment. It doesn't get better than this!

On the other hand, I think almost every one of us already knows that a modern Shabbat does make sense in our lives. That means that my telling you about Shabbat once more will probably not make as much of a difference as I might wish.

So, let's make a deal. I promise to barely breath a word about you, me, and Shabbat this Yom Kippur if you promise to check out our website on Shabbat this month. Visit. Read. Consider. Engage. Try it out. www.sinai-temple.org

Remember what the 19th century teacher Ahad Ha-am said, "More than the Jews have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jews."

And just for now, let me anticipate Friday/Saturday October 7/8 by wishing you....Shabbat Shalom. I really mean it.

Friday Evenings

KOL NIDRE at 8 p.m.
October 7

KABBALAT SHABBAT & DINNER at 6 p.m.
October 14

A beautiful service followed by Dinner. See page 5.

TOT SHABBAT at 6 p.m.
October 21

For families under five years of age!

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE at 7:30 p.m.
October 21

Music and spirit enhanced.

COMMUNITY SHABBATON
October 28

We join together for worship and Shabbat dinner with Beth El and Bnai Torah. See page 5.

Saturday Mornings

YOM KIPPUR DAY
October 8

PIZZA IN THE HUT
October 15

Congregational Worship
October 22

Mazal Tov to Hannah Calabrese, daughter of John and Lori, as she becomes a Bat Mitzvah.
October 29

A Message from President Jeff Cossin

I am proud to announce that Sinai Temple has received the Shutfim (hebrew for "Partners") Award from the Union of Reform Judaism for its work in the Try A Synagogue initiative first conceived of and established by our previous president, Mark Stone. Our Temple will be honored for its "Exemplary collaboration with the Greater Springfield Synagogues and the Greater Springfield Jewish Federation" at the Washington, D.C. URJ Biennial in December 2011. I hope to be there (along with other Sinai members) and "Qvell" as Rabbi Shapiro takes part in a panel discussion on our accomplishments. But this is only the first step as we promote Try A Synagogue to our unaffiliated friends and neighbors in the Greater Springfield community. Be Proud of Sinai Temple and encourage your friends to join our Community.

During the September 2d Service with a Story, I was proud to watch our young children in Shir Fun thoroughly enjoy our Shabbat Service. They were totally engaged in the liturgy as they enthusiastically davened through the Amidah. Kudos to the Cantor who is their inspiration and to their parents who encourage them to be involved in that musical community.

Please take note of a wonderful greater Jewish community opportunity to celebrate Shabbat with all of our fellow Try A Synagogue friends on the weekend of October 28 and 29. Look carefully in this Bulletin for details.

Tekiah Gadolah! Remember my call to action during Rosh Hashanah. Community is the glue that will strengthen our Temple. Get involved with the Chavurot program. Greet the stranger in the parking lot and inside the Temple and include him in your conversations. Make new friends in the Oneg Shabbat Room. Put on a name tag and greet others by their name. Do not let anyone stand by him or herself.

If you have any concerns or suggestions or compliments, email me at PHOhead@aol.com or call me at 567-7320.

L'Shalom

Jeff Cossin

Welcome to New Members. We are so glad you have decided to become part of Sinai:

- Gene and Carol Skiest
- Richard and Nancy Friedman
- Maurry and Julie Tamarkin

Notes from Cantor Martin Levson

My thanks to the members of the 5772 Sinai Temple High Holiday Adult Volunteer Choir: Marilyn Amster, Cyrus Cartwright, George Dickstein, Bonnie Gibson, Jack Henrie, Robin Henrie, Margie Klein, Sheri Levson, Sandi Lotterman, Bonnie Mikesh, Robyn Newhouse (our wonderful rehearsal accompanist!), Miriam Pilver, Ann Rosenfield, and Sheila Shear. We always welcome new members who enjoy singing (no previous choral experience is necessary), so please let me know if you would like to join us in the future! Thanks also go to the many other musicians and Torah readers who participated during the High Holidays. Your efforts and dedication helped to enrich our worship services in so many ways!

One of my favorite phrases at this time of year is "chadeysh yameinu kekedem." Instead of translating these words as "renew our days as of old," I prefer to read them as: "Don't traffic in false nostalgia, let's make these days the ones we will want to remember!" In that spirit Sheri, Alec, Liz, Candy, Shir (our Israeli houseguest) and I wish you all a "Shana tovah u'mitukah," a good and a sweet New Year!

Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha!

Serve the Holy One with Joy!

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Sharon and Bob Leff in honor of the birth of our little granddaughter, Rochell Leff.
- Mom, Dad and Shelley Ziff Happy Birthday Lane and Alan with bundles of love.
- Shelley, Alan and Lane Ziff Happy 60th anniversary Mom and Dad. We love you.
- Hillary Weinroth in appreciation for my mom, Rita Nuger's unveiling.
- June Schreyer and grandchildren in memory of my dear daughter, Susan.
- Ruth Seldin in appreciation.
- David and Carol Roberts in memory of Geoff Berman's father, Louis Berman.
- The following donations were made in memory of Oscar Seldin.
- Melvyn W. Altman

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published six times a year by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 2 for the year 2011-2012.

Mark Dov Shapiro Rabbi
Martin Levson Cantor
Sheila Shear 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
Jack Henrie President, Men of Sinai
Ron Weiss Cemetery Chair
Karen Mendelsohn Membership Committee Chair
Visit our website: www.sinai-temple.org

The Fall Holidays

Cemetery Memorial Service

Sunday, October 2 at 1 p.m.
At the Sinai Temple Cemetery

KOL NIDRE

Friday, October 7 at 8 p.m.

YOM KIPPUR DAY

Saturday, October 8

(Childcare & program 10:00 to 12:30 p.m.)

Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Musical Interlude 12:30 p.m.
Study Options 1:30 p.m.
Family Service 2:00 p.m.
Afternoon Service 3:00 p.m.
Yizkor Service 4:45 p.m.
Neilah/Closing Service 5:45 p.m.
Break Fast 6:15 p.m.

EREV SUKKOT

Wednesday, October 12

We gather together at 6 p.m.
Sukkah decorating and outdoor service.

SUKKOT DAY

Thursday, October 13

At 10:30 a.m.

Lulav and etrog. Kiddush and lunch in the sukkah.

EREV SIMCHAT TORAH

Wednesday, October 19

At 7:00 p.m.

Consecrate our new learners and then march and dance with our Torah scrolls.

SIMCHAT TORAH/YIZKOR SERVICE

Thursday, October 20

At 10:30 a.m.

Mark the conclusion and beginning of the Torah cycle and also conduct a memorial service. A luncheon for Seniors follows.

NOTE...SINAI IS PRINTING ONLY SIX BULLETINS THIS YEAR. COMING BULLETINS WILL BE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, JANUARY/FEBRUARY, MARCH/APRIL, MAY/JUNE. THIS IS A VERY STRONG REASON FOR OUR WANTING TO STAY IN TOUCH VIA E-MAIL. PLEASE SEND US YOUR E-MAIL.

Visiting the Sinai Temple Cemetery

Sunday, October 2 at 1 p.m. A NEW TIME

It is traditional to visit the cemetery during the High Holiday period. Temple members with loved ones buried at Sinai's cemetery are welcome to visit the cemetery for a service conducted by the Rabbi and Cantor on Sunday, October 2. PLEASE NOTE...In previous years this service has taken place at 2 p.m. THIS YEAR'S SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT 1:00 p.m.

Bring Your Kids Back For Neilah

AS the sky grows dark, we dim the lights and open the Ark and prepare for the closing of Yom Kippur's "Gages." It's a magical moment. We'd love to have you return, along with your children and grandchildren for our concluding Neilah service and one final, awe-inspiring tekiah gedolah on the shofar. Neilah begins about 5:30 p.m. and concludes with the blast of the shofar and a brief Havdalah at 6:30 p.m. You're welcome to come in with your kids at any time.

Pizza in the Hut!

Back to Nature: An Outdoor Shabbat For Adults and Kids can come along too
Saturday, October 15
10:30 to Noon

During the middle of Sukkot, we will really celebrate the gifts of nature. This morning's service will not take place indoors. The "service" will be a hike led by naturalist and educator, Juanita Martinez, along with the Rabbi and Cantor. Rain or shine. We will be outdoors for approximately 60 minutes of exploration and creativity. Back to nature. Followed by lunch in the sukkah. Otherwise know as Pizza in the Hut.

The Caring Community of Sinai Temple

cordially invites you to attend

A Holiday Luncheon

for Sinai Senior Members

Thursday, October 20

12:00 noon

(Following our Simchat Torah/Yizkor Service)

Featuring

FROM POPPYSEEDS TO PICKLES:

AN UNUSUAL AUDIENCE CONVERSATION

ABOUT JEWS AND JUDAISM

You won't want to miss the laughter & the learning!

There is no charge for this wonderful program.

Please RSVP to the Temple Office at 736-3619

Notes about the Holidays

Prayers and Blessings for Your Home

Yom Kippur begins at home with a family meal. The appropriate blessings for the holiday can be found on our website. www.sinai-temple.org

Babysitting for Children through Kindergarten

Babysitting for small children ages two through Kindergarten will be available during the 10 a.m. service on Yom Kippur morning. We would also like to offer babysitting for infants IF there is real interest. Please contact the Temple office to reserve a spot for your child...736-3619. We will hire babysitters based on the prior reservations.

Child Programming for Grades One & Two

An age appropriate program for children in Grades 1 and 2 will be available during the 10 a.m. service on Yom Kippur morning. Please contact the Temple office to reserve a spot for your child...736-3619.

Children in Grades Three & Four

On Yom Kippur morning, we will be offering a service/program, designed for this intermediate age group.

Children in Grades Five & Six (PLEASE NOTE)

We will NOT be offering a service/program for this age group. Experience from previous years and conversations with parents indicate that most parents believe their 5th/6th grader can attend the adult services.

For Young Families

Yom Kippur Afternoon at 2 p.m.

If you have young children (7 years and younger down to infancy), we've got something for you in the Magen David Room. A relatively brief service for the Day of Atonement. PLUS if you've got the energy, bring your kids back (all ages) to the Neilah/Concluding Service. Be there around 6:15 p.m. Noise is welcome. We'll end the whole day by inviting all children present onto the bimah for a final blast of the shofar.

Message from Men of Sinai President Jack Henrie

MOS just had our BBQ for about 150 people in our Sinai Temple community in conjunction with the beginning of Religious School...many compliments on the burgers and dogs and watermelon...a great time had by all! The Men of Sinai's mission is in support of Sinai and we love to provide this kick-off to the Religious School year and for our community. Thanks to all those who pitched in to make this event a success. We look forward to our BBQ in May!

We are celebrating Sinai's 80th anniversary this year! As a special and personal way of learning more of the history of Sinai through the eyes of our members, Liz Leshine and Fran Scheckter have agreed to speak with us on Sunday, October 16th following our breakfast which begins at 9:30. It should be a marvelous event in celebration of our 80th. As always, MOS breakfasts are open to all members of Sinai and to our community at large. MOS members are free and a donation of \$5 (unchanged for the past decade at least) is suggested for all others. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this.

MOS will have a special men's night meeting with the Rabbi at 7:00 on Wednesday evening, October 26th. Based upon prior such meetings, and knowing our Rabbi, there is a personal message for Sinai men, and this is another event not to be missed. On Sunday, November 13th the presentation following our breakfast will be on the ultimate mitzvah—organ donation.

MOS is off to a great start for the year. We anticipate having a number of additional activities beginning with a golf outing at Elmcrest (date to be finalized, but soon... watch on the MOS bulletin/blue board and in the e-events). We will have seven breakfasts, two BBQs, and will again provide menus for the Chanukah dinner (December 23rd) and for our Purim Party (March 7th). The Rabbi Herman E. Snyder Award Dinner and Presentation will be April 27th. There will be more to come, including a Sinai fundraising event for February, more on that next letter.

I want to thank all of you who have already joined MOS for this year and all those who have pitched in to help us in any way. If you have not yet joined, we would love to have you. We look forward to another great year of celebration and support of our Sinai community!!!

Jack Henrie
President, Men of Sinai

Volunteer Opportunities Fair Tuesday, October 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the JCC

You are invited to attend the Jack Robinson Volunteer Opportunities Fair on Tuesday October 25, from 6-8 pm. The fair, which is co-sponsored by Rachel's Table and the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts. The purpose of the fair is to introduce potential volunteers to a wide range of volunteer opportunities. Agencies from across Western Massachusetts, including food pantries, hospitals, tornado relief and charitable organizations, will be represented. Please drop by, even if only for a few minutes, to learn more about how you can help strengthen your community.

For more information, please contact (413)733-0084, or satik@jewishwesternmass.org.

Dinner's the Deal

Friday, October 14



That's right!
Dinner's the Deal
Friday, October 14.

End of the week. You don't have to cook.
No lines in a restaurant. Come to Sinai instead.

6 p.m. – Sixty minutes of song, prayer, and refreshment for your soul.

7 p.m. – Dinner is served, accompanied by commentary and song from Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson.

Take back your time. Rediscover Shabbat.

RSVP through the website <http://www.sinai-temple.org/>
or call the Temple at 736-3619
for a "lite" dinner and beautiful evening.

Future evenings for "Dinner's the Deal" are Friday, November 11 and Friday, December 9.

A COMMUNITY SHABBATON
A SHARED EXPERIENCE FOR OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY
SINAI TEMPLE
TEMPLE BETH EL
CONGREGATION BNAI TORAH
JOIN TOGETHER FOR THE WEEKEND OF
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30
With Scholar in Residence, Dr. David Elcott.

Friday, October 28

Joint worship for Sinai & Beth El followed by a community dinner at Bnai Torah.
Dr. Elcott will speak after dinner.

Saturday, October 29

Services at each congregation followed by a community luncheon at Beth El.
Dr. Elcott will speak after lunch.

Sunday, October 30

Breakfast and learning together at Sinai Temple.

Dr. David Elcott is the Henry and Marilyn Taub Professor of Practice in Public Service and Leadership at NYU's Wagner School of Public Service.

He is interested in the intersection of community building, cross-boundary engagement, and interfaith and ethnic activism. He is a national expert on Jews and the Baby Boomer cohort, encore careers, and public service. He was previously Interreligious Affairs Director of the American Jewish Committee.

Message from Director of Education Sheila Shear

Shalom Chaverim

As I write this the first day of Religious School was yesterday. I am so pleased to say, it was a wonderful day full of smiles and learning. I am willing to bet that the average growth rate over the summer was at least 2". As we thought about the new year we also spent some time thinking of those who lost their lives on 9-11. On this 10th anniversary it was special that we were all together and moving forward. That is how it should be.

This coming weekend we will read Parsha KiTavo. Here we learn that when we follow God's commandments that we will be blessed. For me it is a lesson on mutual commitment. My commitment to you is that we will do our best to make certain that the children here at Sinai receive the best we can offer. Please make the commitment to your children to give us that opportunity by getting them here regularly. I am looking forward to a wonderful 5772 with the children of Sinai Temple.

L'Shanah Tova

Do our teenagers feel at home at Sinai Temple? Can we do better for them...and for their future? Parents – What do you think?

The Temple has created a task force to assess how we engage teenagers at Sinai. The first order of business is to request your ideas and feelings. Teenagers are a #1 priority at the Temple, but we want to know where we may be succeeding and where we can do better.

We hope you'll give us your input,

Parents of teenagers (Grades 8 to 12), will you please join us at a focus group on teens?

Tuesday, October 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Please join us...whether or not your child currently attends Religious and/or Hebrew school.

For a Great Summer....Eisner, Crane Lake, Six Points, & Israel!

Young people entering grades 2-12, from Reform synagogues throughout the Northeast, are now being enrolled for the coming summer program at our regional URJ camps (Eisner Camp, Crane Lake Camp, and 6 Points Sports Academy) as well as the "NFTY in Israel" summer travel experience. Eisner and Crane Lake are located in the Berkshire mountains (Eisner in Great Barrington, MA and Crane Lake in West Stockbridge, MA), and 6 Points is in Greensboro, NC Include your child (or grandchild!) in the excitement and friendship of a Reform Jewish summer camp. Give your teen the Israel experience of a lifetime!

A four-week session (two-weeks for 2nd and 3rd graders) provides an amazing, fun-filled and unique experience, during which campers participate in a full range of sports, arts, and Jewish programs, all offered within the creative, dynamic and caring atmosphere of a Reform Jewish community of young people, counselors and rabbis.

And then, there's Israel. The dream is real! Spend the summer in Israel with NFTY, the North American Federation of Temple Youth! Of course, you can go to Israel any summer you like, but why not go with your friends THIS summer!?

Contact the Eisner/Crane Lake office (212-650-4130, necamps.urjcamp.org), or 6 Points Sports Academy (561-208-1650, 6points.urjcamp.org) to find out more about this wonderfully enjoyable summer opportunity for your child or grandchild. Contact Rabbi Shapiro, Cantor Levson or Sheila Shear for additional information.

Scholarships for Free

If your son or daughter is planning to attend any kind of Jewish program this summer, please take advantage of the Temple scholarship program. Thanks to the Joseph Emanuel, Rabbi Herman Eliot and Adele Biederman Snyder Memorial Fund, scholarships are available in small and larger amounts. We are also thankful to the family of Edna Simon and Judy and Michael Cohen who support summer scholarships as well.

Your confidential request should go to Rabbi Shapiro no later than March 1.

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 will receive "care" packages and occasional messages from the Temple and the Rabbi. We want to reach out to students in their first three years of college this coming year. Please send your child's snail mail college address to the office c/o rblanchettegaga@sinai-temple.org

Sinai Temple Chavurah!

What is a Chavurah? A Chavurah is a group of approximately 12 to 16 Temple members who gather on a regular basis to share Jewish experiences, study, celebrate life and spend time together.

Who can join? All Temple members are invited to join. Just fill out the application and return it to the Temple office. The application can also be found at

www.sinai-temple.org

Are there different kinds of Chavurot? Chavurot may consist of families, individuals on their own, or couples. Some may be limited to a given age group. Other Chavurot can include a diverse cross-section of the congregation. One Chavurah may concentrate on Jewish study, while another may mostly celebrate and socialize.

Who runs the Chavurah? Each Chavurah will be autonomous. The Chavurah will organize its own leadership. Temple member, Heather Sullivan will be the Chavurah Coordinator. She will be receiving the applications and completing the matching process that will create the Chavurot. There is a Chavurah committee that will be working with Heather to make sure each group is running smoothly.

Questions? If you are interested but not sure about the Chavurot, please attend an informational meeting on Wednesday, October 5th at 7:30. You can also contact Heather Sullivan at heathsuesullivan@gmail.com or 736-3619 ext. 13.

*The Chavurah Program is made possible by
gifts in memory of Peter Roth*

Chavurah Application

Please fill in the information that best reflects you and return to the Temple office. This application can also be completed on the Temple website: www.sinai-temple.org

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Your Age (Circle)

Under 30 30-40 40-50 50-60 60-70 70-80 Over 80

Children (if participating)

Name	Gender	Age

Type of Chavurah (number in priority order)

___ Family (including preschool and younger aged children)

___ Family (including school aged children)

___ Family (including teens and older children)

___ Couples

___ Singles

___ Women only

___ Men only

___ Other (fill in) _____

Number in your order of preference the following Chavurah activities:

___ Study Discussions, e.g. Jewish history, values, Israel, etc

___ Celebrations, e.g. Jewish holidays/ Shabbat

___ Social, e.g. cooking, outdoors, crafts

___ Social Action activities

___ Other _____

Would you feel comfortable hosting a chavurah gathering in your home? Yes No (circle)

If you were to create your own chavurah, what would its focus be?

Is there any other information that may be helpful in the matching process?

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

Chavurot – Information Session Wednesday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m.

A chavurah is a group of approximately 12 to 16 Temple members who meet on a regular basis to share Jewish experiences, study, celebrate life and socialize. The chavurah application is in this bulletin. To ask questions and to learn if a chavurah is for you, you are invited to an orientation session on October 5. Please bring your questions!

Sinai Book Group Wednesday, October 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Our next meeting will discuss “A Pigeon and a Boy” by Meir Shalev, a contemporary Israeli novelist. It tells two intertwined stories, one contemporary and one during the fight for Jerusalem in the 1948 War of Independence. It is both a uniquely Israeli/Jewish story about yearning for home and homeland and also a universal story about connection and home. Two copies will be in our Sinai library soon. It should be readily available through the usual library and on-line sources. Please join us! Questions, comments, suggestions, contact Laurie Weinberg, sagecitrus@aol.com

Monthly Morning Service Wednesday, October 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, November 2, December 7, January 4, February 1, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6.

Where You Left Me: A Memoir and Book Event Tuesday, November 1 at 7:30 p.m. At the JCC

Sinai Temple is co-sponsoring this important event to launch the Jewish Book Fair. *Where You Left Me* is a memoir of 9/11 and its aftermath written by Jennifer Gardner Trulson, daughter of our Temple members, Ed and Linda Radding. More details about this event will follow.

TGIT Thank God, It's Torah!

Come Learn Every Saturday in September 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.

Saturday Morning Services Every Saturday morning At 10:30 a.m.

We have a regular weekly Shabbat morning service. Even when there isn't a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, there is a Saturday morning service (complete with the Yahrzeit list) every Saturday starting at 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Shapiro's Sermons

If you would like to read or review any of the Rabbi's High Holiday sermons, please visit our website. www.sinai-temple.org The link for the sermons is under “Rabbi.” Sermons and other writings from previous years are all found under that link.

Race to Nowhere A film by Vicki H Abeles Monday, October 12 at 7 p.m. At the JCC

Please join us for an exclusive screening of this critically acclaimed documentary followed by a community discussion.

Race to Nowhere addresses the high stakes culture of our children's lives. This film points to the silent epidemic in our schools: Cheating has become commonplace; students are disengaged; stress-related illness and depression are rampant; and many young people arrive at college and the workplace unprepared and uninspired

To Register: Please go to
<http://www.RaceToNowhere.com/epostcard/5165>

Community Caring Fund: Are You in Need of Assistance? A Note from Rabbi Shapiro

Dear Sinai – Over a year ago you very generously helped create the Caring Community Fund through your contributions. We created this fund when the economic dislocations of 2008/2009 were at their worst. The idea was that congregants in financial distress could approach me confidentially for short-term assistance with basics such as food or clothing or rent.

Here's my report back to you: Requests for assistance have been very modest. Even though all requests are totally confidential (no one but me knows about the request), it seems that our congregants are still extremely reluctant about sharing their difficulties.

So, let me reach out and say that I do welcome requests for support. The Caring Community Fund really exists!

If you are someone in a situation you thought you might never encounter...if you are in need of assistance...if you can't make ends meet, contact me.

Belonging to Sinai means that we do want to be there for you in bad times as well as the good times. My very best wishes!

UMass Hillel's 5th Annual Ride to Provide Sunday, October 16

The Ride to Provide is a community bike ride to raise money for UMass Hillel's community service programs and environmentally-friendly projects. This year's ride is on Sunday, October 16 with 9, 18 and 36 mile routes through Amherst, Hadley and Sunderland. Sponsorship and participation of groups from synagogues and other community organizations is encouraged! Incentive option For more information, contact Courtney Pupkin at cpupkin@external.umass.edu.

Transportation Needed?

Maybe you need The Sinai Shul Shuttle

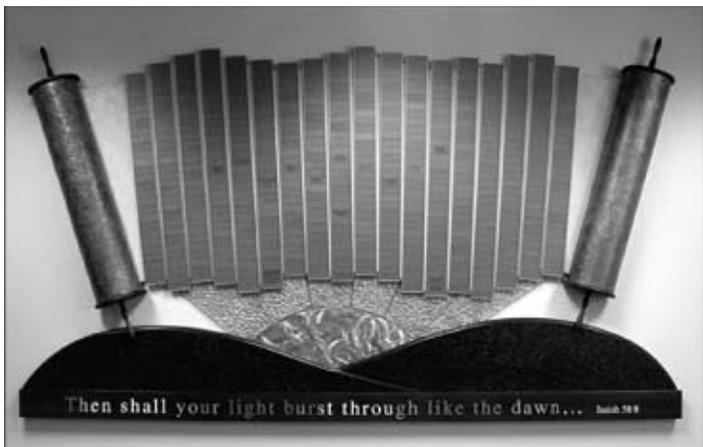


Do you ever need a ride to the Temple? Have you ever missed a service or an adult education class or any other event because you couldn't find a ride?

Call the Temple office at least two business days in advance to make a reservation. The Caring Community Committee will connect you with a Temple member who will happily do the driving.

If you know someone who needs transportation or if you are someone who wants to volunteer as an occasional driver, please call the Temple office as well.

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.

Where are you?

May we talk?

There are still some Sinai households "out of the loop." We can't communicate electronically. It's not efficient and it's not green.

So...Please...Share the wealth.

One communication a week. It will be short and sweet and attractive too!

Send us your e-mail right away.

Best possible scenario: If there is more than one adult in your home, send us both e-mails.

We really mean it and we really want it.

Please e-mail your e-mail to Robin Blanchette-Gage, the Rabbi's assistant, at rblanchettegage@sinai-temple.org

Remember to drink fair trade coffee. It's just as good as any other coffee plus it's not just a cup of coffee. It's a just cup of coffee.

The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing

All of us at Sinai Temple extend condolences as we remember the following. Their memories are precious to their relatives, their friends and to each of us who form the community of Sinai Temple.

We remember those who have passed away from August 8, 2011 – September 7, 2011:

- Oscar Seldin, Ruth Seldin's husband.
- Emanuel Claver, Gayle Rediker's father.
- Ann Tyron, Marcia Gordenstein's mother.
- Ruth Webber, (Jayne Shernow and Margot Steinberg's mother and David Katz's sister).
- Helen Tuttle, Sheila Shear's Aunt.
- Styra Louise Tucker, Shelly Fisher's mother.
- Donald Gilman, Bud August's uncle.
- Mauri Louis Stoper, Phyllis Goldblatt's father.

Now you can make donations to Sinai ONLINE!!!

www.sinai-temple.org

You learn about someone's success or someone's sadness. You want to make a contribution but it's so much trouble to write a check.

Now you can skip the check and the snail mail.

Go to Sinai's website www.sinai-temple.org and make the donation to any one of our funds ONLINE.

Mazal Tov To:

- Ron and Janet Weiss on the birth of their grandson, Ian Henry Rubenstein. The proud parents are Katherine and Dustin Rubenstein.
- Sharon and Bob Leff on the birth of their granddaughter, Rochell Leff.
- Ruth Corbert on the birth of her new greatgrandson, Noah Justin Davis. Born August 22. Noah's grandparents are Rita and Richard Corbert. Parents are Amanda and Daniel Davis.
- Mel and Beth Chafetz as the photography of their daughter, Jesse Carleton, is featured at the D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield. An Artist Reception took place on Thursday, August 25.
- Richard and Sherry Leaderman on the marriage of their daughter, Jana, to Jeff Holmes on August 27.

Thank you to:

- The Berman Sneider Fund for underwriting Sinai's participation in the Israel Emissaries program for 2011/2012. We are pleased to be hosting Shir Ricon and Tal Sarig at Sinai Temple.
- The anonymous donor who made it possible for the congregation to purchase 300 new chairs.
- Rich and Bobi Steingart and their many friends for supporting the Michael Steingart Memorial Fund. The fund is being used to purchase the Life Lights pamphlets next to the Temple office.
- Eleanor Dunn whose generosity in memory of her husband, Bernerd, allowed us to plant new evergreens along the side of our Temple building.

LEGACY

WHAT WILL YOURS BE?

What will you bequeath to future generations? How will the ideals you cherish now be sustained then? Who will articulate your principles for the sake of your grandchildren, your faith, your community and your country?

There is an answer.

With your help, Sinai Temple will endure as a powerful voice, sustaining those beliefs you hold dear. Now. And for future generations.

To obtain more information about remembering Sinai Temple in your will or estate, please contact: Steve Sussman or Rabbi Shapiro



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

The “Ten Commandments” for Sinai Temple 2011-2012

Here are our “program priorities” for the New Year.

1. Increase volunteerism through committees
2. Build community through social activities.
3. Continue emphasis on active membership recruitment, integration, and retention.
4. Implement a chavurah program.
5. Continue to build community among our youth: focus on JOY & SPFTY
6. Expand our “Alumni” program...Outreach to Temple “grads” ages 18 to 30
7. Increase attendance at Friday evening and Saturday morning services
8. Expand our I.T. with a focus on our e-mail connections, Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and other electronic means of communication.
9. Create a fundraising committee
10. Focus on “empty nesters”

THE THIRD TABLET FOR 2011-2012

(Consisting of commandments from 2009/2010 & 2010/2011 where progress has been made and continuing attention is important.)

1. Continue to build community through social activities such as Shabbat dinners.
2. Be inclusive of interfaith families
3. Continue to build community within the Religious School
4. Promote Sinai as a Reform congregation
5. Monitor the outreach program for young families – STUFF – Sinai Temple Under Five Families
6. Monitor the development of an outreach program for local unaffiliated young adults (20’s & 30’s)