
E-vents from Sinai Temple

Tuesday, August 15, 2017



From Where I Stand...

The horrific events of Charlottesville this past weekend have left us all in a state of shock. Having lived under the delusion that such things cannot happen in America as many of us have, this is a jarring awakening. The fact is that *anything* can happen...anywhere and at any time.

So how should we deal with all of this? And what are lessons we can draw from it?

This week, we shall as a group consider some of the implication of Charlottesville during our Friday evening Shabbat service. Timely, this will be an important discussion for us to have, and I invite you come to services to be part of it. The service will begin at 6:00 PM.

-- Howard A. Kosovske

OUR BOOKKEEPER AND OFFICE MANAGER for several years, Jacki Nareau-Toti, has moved on from Sinai Temple to accept a new, full-time position. We acknowledge and thank her for her years of service to our congregation, and we wish her every success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

DON'T MISS OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE, this Wednesday, August 16th, 4-7 P.M. Meet our wonderful new Religious School Director, **Dasha Baker**. Come hear her plans for the new, engaging and meaningful education program at Sinai Temple, with both religious and Hebrew curricula taught on Sunday mornings, 9 am - noon, optional Tuesday session for Hebrew help or extra Hebrew learning. If you have not already registered your children, you can do so at the Open House. Share a *nosh* with us and reconnect after the summer!

CANTOR EMILY SLEEPER MEKLER, Sinai's Cantor Emerita, invites you to the 4th season concert of the B'Shalom Chorale of the Berkshires **tomorrow, Wednesday, August 16th, at 7 pm**, at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire in Great Barrington. Admission is \$15.

Cantor Mekler is the founder and coordinator of this summer chorus of singers who enjoy exploring the great wealth of Jewish music, sacred and secular. For more information, go to BShalomChorale@gmail.com, or call 413-418-1836,

SHABBAT EVENING SUMMER SERVICES start at 6:00 p.m. on Friday evenings at Sinai Temple. Torah Study, as always, begins on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. (Saturday morning Shabbat Services resume on Saturday, September 9th, the first Saturday *after* Labor Day.)

THE SINAI TEMPLE HIGH HOLY DAY CHOIR has its first rehearsal on **Wednesday evening, August 30, at 7:30 P.M.** in Cantor Levson's office. **Rehearsals will be from 7:30 to 9:00 on Aug. 30, Sept. 6, 13, and 27.** We are always looking for new members to sing with us, and singing in the choir is a wonderful way to experience the holidays in a new way (and meet some fun people as well). The choir sings at the evening services for the holidays, so choir members can sit with their friends and families during the other services. The ability to read music is helpful, but not essential. If you are interested, please call Cantor Levson at (413)-736-3619 or e-mail at mlevson@sinai-temple.org.

HIGH HOLIDAY USHERS ARE NEEDED! Please consider being part of the Usher Team at any of our High Holiday services. Doing so will be a great contribution to Sinai and a chance to meet and greet lots of people. And the flower you ear will be yours to keep. Contact Susan Cash-Cannizzo at susancash9@gmail.com.

THE RABBI SEARCH COMMITTEE wants your input. Please take the survey at <https://goo.gl/forms/Q9Gkm1FmIoWkyUTJ3>.

SINAI READING PARTNERS meets at **noon on Wednesday, August 23rd**, to discuss Yael Neeman's book, [*We Were the Future: A Memoir of the Kibbutz*](#). This book has been widely praised in Israel for its vivid depiction of the communal yet oftentimes claustrophobic life on a kibbutz.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25th we will share Shabbat with Temple Beth El, followed by an **optional** kosher BBQ at TBE. Enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, boneless & skinless chicken breasts, veggie burgers, all the fixings, salads, corn-on-the cob, watermelon, cookies and drinks, from The Crown Market. Dinner is \$18 for age 10 and older (\$20 after August 11th); \$12 for age 5-9 (\$15 after August 11th); free for those under 5, with a household maximum is \$54 (\$60 after August 11th). Please make reservations by Friday, August 18. Send your check payable to Temple Beth El Sisterhood, 979 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108; Attention: Vickie Donovan. **You don't have to attend the barbecue to join us in welcoming Shabbat.**

MAK'HELA, THE JEWISH CHORUS OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS, welcomes new singers to its opening rehearsal on September 12th from 7:30pm to 9:15pm at the Lander-Grinspoon Academy, 257 Prospect Street, Northampton. To check it out, visit makhela.org, or email Lainee123@aol.com or bmikesh@comcast.net, or call Bonnie at 413 567-3927.

THE NEXT URJ (Union of Reform Jews) BIENNIAL CONVENTION takes place in Boston, December 6-10. This is your great opportunity to experience an incredible, transformative event practically in our own backyard. We need eight people to qualify as a delegation. Make reservations by October 10th to take advantage of early registration discounts. The convention runs from Wednesday to Sunday, but Wednesday to Friday or Friday to Sunday registrations are also available. Check out the URJ website or contact Rabbi Kosovske for more information.