**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 2**
7:30 PM - Erev Shabbat Service

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 9**
7:30 PM - Erev Shabbat Service

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 16**
5:30 PM - Shabbat Rocks!
7:30 PM - MLK Remembrance
   Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17**
10:00 AM - Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 23**
5:30 PM - Art Robinson Recognition
7:30 PM - Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**
10:00 AM - English Service

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30**
7:30 PM - Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31**
10:00 AM - Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

**OFFICE HOURS**
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sinai Temple Office
Will Be Closed
Thursday, January 1\textsuperscript{st}
Monday, January 19\textsuperscript{th}

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**Art Robinson Recognition**

We will have special dinner to honor Art Robinson before the Erev Shabbat Service, January 23, 2015. Please join us in recognizing Art for his more than 40 years of service as head usher at Sinai Temple and his many contributions to the Jewish community in Champaign - Urbana.

*Look for your invitation in the mail.*

Our new sign was completed in December - just in time for Chanukah and Rabbi Emeritus Isaac Neuman’s z’l memorial.

**BAM - DOT - CRACK!**

Saturday, February 14th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Join us for a whole day of Mah Jongg, schmoozing and lunch! PRIZES! There is a $10.00 charge which includes lunch and games all day.
Email: mahjongmadnesscu@gmail.com to sign up.
Fifty years ago this March, protestors gathered in Selma, Alabama, with the intent of walking fifty-four miles from Selma to Montgomery in order to protest segregation. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lent his name and prominence to the event, but there were many others who found their faith calling them to lift up the banner of social justice and participate in this movement. Many Jewish leaders joined the cause (including our rabbi emeritus Isaac Neuman, z”l), and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel remarked that it was as though protestors were “praying with our feet.”

Those who were involved in these marches recognized that the time for change had come. Though persistently turned back and abused under the orders of Governor George Wallace and other Alabama state officials, they clung firmly to their cause and helped to pave the way for the 1965 Voting Rights Act and other pieces of civil rights legislation. They refused to settle for the continuation of the status quo that held blacks to be inferior to whites. As Dr. King said, they refused to abandon Alabama and allow it to return to its normalcy of segregation. Dr. Martin Luther King, and may we continue to join hands with our brothers and sisters of every race, nation, and religion, marching together toward peace.

We have one other honoree here at Sinai Temple during the month of January, and that is our longtime head usher and shammes, Arthur Robinson. Since the days of the old Temple building, Arthur has capably assisted in the execution of ritual tasks and organizational logistics that ensure that each of our services run smoothly. From turning on the lights to preparing the Shabbat candles and Kiddush cups, to handing out aliyyot in the Egalitarian Traditional Minyan, Art has been an invaluable asset for our Temple and our community. As he “retires” from regular engagement in these tasks, it is fitting that we pay tribute and offer thanks. As of this writing, precise plans are still being solidified, but please watch for your invitation, and plan to join us for a Shabbat celebrating Arthur, on Friday, January 23.

From the Cook family to your family, we wish you much health and happiness in the (secular) New Year. May we each find strength, purpose, and meaning in the year ahead.

L'Shalom,

Alan Cook

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

If you celebrate a birthday or anniversary in January, please join us at our services on Friday, January 9, at 7:30 PM. Rabbi Alan will invite all those marking a milestone to join him on the bimah for a special blessing. After the service, we’ll have cake in your honor at the Oneg.

No RSVP is necessary to participate!

SAVE THE DATE!
Israel Trip
June 7th - 18th, 2015

Sinai Temple is going to Israel! Our trip is scheduled for June 7-18, 2015 and has an itinerary appropriate for all ages and all types of travelers. Whether you are a first-timer or an Israel veteran, you’re invited to join the Cook family on this fun and educational exploration of Israel. Please contact Rabbi Alan for more information.

May the memory of the Exodus inspire us to honor the memory of Dr. King, and may we continue to join hands with our brothers and sisters of every race, nation, and religion, marching together toward peace.

As we prepare to commemorate the birth of Dr. King (which we will mark at Sinai Temple with a special service on Friday, January 16), we know that the struggle for equality has not ended. We continue to pray for the fulfillment of Dr. King’s dream, that day when all will recognize “the dignity and worth of all God’s children.” We are pained by incidents in Ferguson, Staten Island, Cleveland, and throughout our country, which highlight the ongoing racial divisions within our nation. We hope that Dr. King’s commitment to nonviolence will prevail, and that people of all races and religions will work together to bring his dream of equality and compassion to fruition.

Many years before King there was another who struggled to liberate his people. We celebrate Moses and the Exodus on the weekend of Shabbat Shira (Friday, January 30), as we recall the song of rejoicing that Moses, Miriam, and all the Israelites shared at the shore of the sea, as they recognized their freedom from Egyptian bondage. The Exodus is so pivotal to the Jewish experience that it has tended to inspire us toward engagement in social justice causes. We recognize that we can only truly celebrate freedom when all are indeed free.

Standing on the parted shores of history, we still believe what we were taught before ever we stood at Sinai’s foot: that wherever we go, it is eternally Egypt; that there is a better place, a promised land; that the winding way to that promise passes through the wilderness; that there is no way to get from here to there except by joining hands, marching together.

The only normalcy that we will settle for is the normalcy that recognizes the dignity and worth of all of God’s children. The only normalcy that we will settle for is the normalcy that allows [justice] to run down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream. The only normalcy that we will settle for is the normalcy of brotherhood, the normalcy of true peace, the normalcy of justice. (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., “Address at the Conclusion of the Selma to Montgomery March,” March 25, 1965)
The New Year is upon us. It is a time when many people make resolutions - those statements of intent to make changes in our lives. It's a secular tradition that started not too many years ago. But Jews have been doing it for thousands of years during the High Holidays! We are urged to take stock of our lives and to commit to acts of tikkun olam, repairing the world. I have always understood the purpose in Jewish resolutions at the High Holidays but I never really understood secular New Year resolutions - these have always intrigued me so I took it upon myself to learn more about them.

According to researchers, the most common resolution is to lose weight; other common resolutions include becoming more organized, saving more money, and volunteering more. Those same researchers determined that after one week, only 75% of us have kept our resolutions. By year's end, only 8% of people achieve their resolutions. Researchers have speculated as to the reasons for this drop-off. The research gets quite complicated and confusing so I only read about half of the articles. (One of my resolutions for next year will be to be more patient!). The research can be boiled down to two concepts: take small steps and know why you want the change. For example, if you resolve to lose 50 lbs, you will likely fail because it is so much weight and it seems unattainable at the start. But if you resolve to lose 1 lb. a week, it is more achievable because it is easier to see progress and success along the way to keep you motivated. It is fine to lose this weight to fit into a dress or suit but once you achieve the weight loss, you will likely gain it (and perhaps more!). Think about losing weight for your health - so you can live a longer and better life. That is what will keep off the weight.

Why do I mention this? Whether we admit it or not, many of us make secular New Year’s resolutions. I sincerely hope that one of yours will be to get more connected to Sinai Temple. If it is, please listen to the researchers - take small steps and know why you want the change. You will then have a greater likelihood of success. Do not resolve to go to services every week because there will be times when you cannot go – that will only discourage you. Start with smaller steps such as resolving to go to services at least once a month or to join a committee or to volunteer with an oneg. By getting involved in small ways, you will be able to see the difference that you make and keep you motivated throughout the year (without getting burned out). As you are doing this, reflect on why you want to connect more with Sinai. I hope it is not out of a sense of guilt or duty but because you believe in our mission – to be a place where Jews come together to worship, to cultivate a love and understanding of Judaism and to stimulate and strengthen the bond of fellowship. If you take these steps, you are well on your way to becoming part of that 8% that can achieve your resolution.

May 2015 be a year of prosperity and happiness to you and your family.

~Randy Rosenbaum~
From Our Educator

Rabbi Jody Cook

As the new (secular) year is upon us, I find myself pausing to reflect on the year that has just past. Many events in my life are determined by the Jewish calendar. Weekly Shabbat, many holidays, yahrtzeits of loved ones all happen according to Jewish time. Having the opportunity to live life according to two calendars affords me a chance to redo certain things. If I didn’t get enough time to rest on Shabbat, I have Sunday—a second day, to catch up on things. If the High Holy Days pass too quickly, as they often do for me, I can stop and consider changes that I might want to make as I celebrate the secular New Year. And so, I reflect and think mostly about the last four months and the incredible opportunity I have been given to lead the Sinai Temple Religious School. I want to highlight some of the great things that have happened so far and hope that it inspires you to become involved in the religious school.

Ramot System for Hebrew learning. Students have clear goals and expectations for 17 different Hebrew ramot (levels). Each child can work at his/her own pace to accomplish the tasks. The ramot give students an opportunity to have more control over the material that they learn. Once a student has mastered all expectations, he/she is recognized at tefillah and is given a certificate. A teacher is able to teach students who are studying different ramot by designing stations. Students are responsible for finishing work and projects. Teachers have more time to assess student progress.

KIDdush Club—Programming for families with young children has been great fun, and it is clear that there is a need for family friendly programming in the Champaign-Urbana area. Our first two programs included an opportunity to make a havdallah kit and an afternoon at the Staerkel Planetarium learning about the phases of the moon and the Jewish calendar. I look forward to growing our in/outreach programming as we partner with CUJF for future activities.

Family Education—Recently, I led a program for the Kindergarten-Second Grade classes. Following a short skit about Chanukkah, parents facilitated small group study sessions with kids. They were careful to switch to dreidel when they saw a Greek (teacher) approaching! To end the day of learning, parents assisted their children in designing and making chanukkiyot to light during the festival of Chanukkah.

These are just a few highlights. Looking back and reflecting is an important part of growing. As the new year approaches, I have also taken time to envision Sinai Temple Religious School and how changes can improve the educational opportunities offered to our children. I have many pads of paper on my (usually) organized desk, each with lists of ideas, activities and people I would like to become part of our program. Over the next few months, I will concentrate on the curriculum, the structure of religious school, recruiting teachers, training current teachers and creating child-centered programming.

There is a passage in the Talmud that says, “Great is learning that inspires action”. As the Director of Education, it is not my place to know everything. It is my place to continually learn and to act upon that which I learn. I have already learned so much in the few short months of my tenure and I am eager to have more interactions with parents and students and to see the program change in positive ways.

Religious School Calendar—Upcoming Events

School Dates: Wednesdays: January 21, 28, Sundays: January 25

Special Events: January 11 - Ice Skating at Campus Rec (1:30-4) January 16 - Shabbat Rocks! January 17 - Movie Night, 7:00 p.m.

“KID”DuSH CLUB

Our first two programs were huge successes. Each brought 50 members of the CU Jewish community together for learning, activity, food and fun. At the Staerkel Planetarium, we were mesmerized by the stargazing show and had a special viewing of the phases of the moon. Our Jewish calendar is based on the moon’s cycle and we learned what the moon should look like for each holiday. Check out the posters that we made next time you are at Sinai Temple.

PURIM IS ALMOST HERE!

Please remember the mitzvah of mishloach manot, sending gifts. Each year, Sinai Temple Religious School organizes a Shalach Manot fundraiser. Look for information that will arrive in the mail soon—you will have an opportunity to support the religious school and fulfill one of the mitzvot for Purim.

What are the other mitzvot?

1. Giving to the poor
2. Hearing the Megillah (story of Esther)
3. Attending a festive meal
ADULT HEBREW CLASSES
Sundays at 10:00 AM
Join us on Sundays at 10:00 AM and learn to read, write and conjugate verbs, understand basic grammar, comprehend short stories, and speak modern Hebrew. Veteran Hebrew teacher, Iris Band, will be teaching. Please contact Rabbi Jody Cook (352-8654) for more information.

BOOK GROUP
Sunday, January 18th at 2:00 PM
The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM, however during January & February, we will meet on the third Sunday of the month. We will be reading Empty Mansions: The Mysterious Life of Huguette Clark and the Spending of a Great American Fortune by Bill Dedman and Paul Clark Newell, Jr. at the home of Ann Sapoznik, 308 Yankee Ridge Lane, Urbana (367-5262). Facilitator: Natalie Frankenberg; Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

Gentle Chair Yoga
Thursday Mornings, 9:45 AM to 10:30 AM
January 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th
SHAL*OM! Please come and try your first class for free! People have said the class is calming, refreshing and provides a nice, gentle stretch and great start to their day. Be sure to let Robin know that you are coming by email at roBFans1@gmail.com or by phone at 217-367-8053.

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION
Classes Resume January 25th
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Rabbi Alan will offer a series of exciting and engaging Adult Education classes in the North Pod. Classes are designed to generally be self-contained, so feel free to come to one session or all of them. Our next series of classes will consist of an introduction to the Talmud.

TORAH STUDY
Saturdays, 9:00 AM
The Sinai Temple Torah Study Group meets In the Sinai Temple Library, and all are welcome to attend our stimulating lay-led discussions.

Thank you to the following book club members who donated to the Thanksgiving Baskets:
Carol Belber  Sandy Hynds
Sharon Benekohol  Joan Kozoll
Susan Cohen  Toni Lachman
Reva Egherman  Ann Sapoznik
Joyce Francisco  Nancy Schneller
Natalie Frankenberg  Susan Schomer
Phyllis Gingold  Fran Strauss
Sherry Helfer  Buddi Tepper

A special thank you to those who so generously gave their time to deliver meals-on-wheels on behalf of the Temple over the past two weeks. It all went very well indeed, and I am sure was much appreciated by those receiving the meals and Family Service who is responsible.

~Tony Soskin~

There’s No Place Like... OSRUI!!

URJ Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute, the Reform Movement’s camp in Wisconsin, offers a unique environment for campers in grades 2-12. We combine creative and innovative Jewish experiences with all the fun of summer camp - swimming, sports, drama, dance, archery, boating, horseback riding, visual arts, campfires, photography, waterskiing, high and low ropes, biking, camping trips, caring counselors and, most importantly, lifelong friendships.

OSRUI! A Summer of Fun! A Lifetime of Friends.

For information on Summer 2015, contact us: osrui@urj.org 847-509-0990
Register Now at www.osrui.org

Significant scholarships available for first-time campers attending 3 weeks or more.

Bulletin Submission: The deadline for the February Bulletin is January 15th at 9:00 AM. All submissions may be edited for length and content. EMAIL submissions to Kathy Douglas at: stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.
Giving

ALPINER STERN FLOWER FUND
Todd Barnett, in honor of Joyce & Bob Eisenstein’s marriage

FRIENDS OF THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
Ann Einhorn
Marsha Michaelson, in honor of the Kanfer family

GENERAL FUND
Annette & John Buckmaster, in memory of Ralph Weinstein
Loretta Dessen, in honor of Joyce Nagle & Bob Eisenstein’s marriage
Gayle Kopin, in memory of Eli Mandei
Bernice & Laurence Lieberman, in memory of Suzanne Shapiro
Barbara & Penn Nelson, in memory of Graeson Rutmann and
in memory of Steven Michael Gould
Richard & Shirley Newman, in memory of Harold Miller and in
memory of Molly Newman
Jean Siegel, in memory of Manuel Gomez
Veronica Shavitt, in memory of Professor Isaiah Shavitt
Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Graeson Rutmann and
in memory of Steven Michael Gould
Richard & Shirley Newman, in memory of Harold Miller and in
memory of Molly Newman
Jean Siegel, in memory of Manuel Gomez
Veronica Shavitt, in memory of Professor Isaiah Shavitt
Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Ruth Ades
William & Fran Strauss, in memory of Linda Weiner’s mother, Ann
Black
Marcia & Jay Zinger, in honor of Garth Gersten, Paul Weichsel and
Ray Spooner for leading the service at the Aufruf for Jessie Zinger
and Ben LeRoy
Ira & Lynn Wachtel, in honor of Linda & Barry Weiner’s 135th birthday
celebration

Please send your donations made payable to Sinai Temple. Only donations of $15.00 or more per fund and honoree will be listed in the Bulletin.

RABBI NEUMAN FUND
Jim & Annie Ashby
Hilda Banks
Todd Barnett
Stephen & Linda Bauer
Carl & Carol Belber
Catherine Bertini
Dee Dee Wilson-Barton
Mary Lou Brotherson
Annette & John Buckmaster
Stacy Deckard
Loretta Dessen
Susan & Stanley Dilley
William & Reva Egerman
Natalie Frankenberg
Michael & Catherine Gildenhom
Harold & Leah Gluskoter
Marlene Goodfriend
Madeleine Hymowitz
Charles & Joan Kozoll
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Bernice & Laurence Lieberman
Stanley & Joan Levy
Leslie Lurie & Clifford Gilbert
Leslie & Gary Mason
Barbara & Penn Nelson
George & Mary Perlstein
Sheldon & Charlotte Rudnick
Paul & Susan Schomer
James Schwartz
Seidler Foundation
Miriam & Stephen Singer
Robert & Sherry Steigmann
Kenneth Stolarsky & Andrea Beller
William & Fran Strauss
Blanche Sudman
Buddi Tepper
Ira & Lynn Wachtel
The Whitaker Group, Inc.
Leslie White
Gary & Connie Wikoff
William D. Youngerman
Abby Zanarini

Toni Lachman
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Ronald & Joyce Levy
Daniel & Eileen Lichtblau
Richard & Shirley Newman
Diane & Rob Ore
Gary & Fraeda Porton
Randy & Jill Rosenbaum
Myron & Sonya Sholem
Robert & Marion Smith
Robert & Sherry Steigmann
Blanche Sudman
Edward & Nancy Tepper
Ira & Lynn Watchel
Jon & Kathryn Weisbaum
William D. Youngerman

NON-EVENT FUNDRAISER
CONTRIBUTORS
Allen & Elaine Avner
Hilda Banks
Carl & Carol Belber
Rabbi Alan & Rabbi Jody Cook
Jon & Patricia Dessen
Natalie Frankenberg
William & Phyllis Gingold
Robin Goettel
Stephen & Anita Hamburg
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Sanford & Elizabeth Hess
Charles Kahn & Jennie France
Jennifer Klatsky
Charles & Joan Kozoll

Challah Bakers: Rabbi Jody,
Nurit Davis, Adena Wilson
Room Set-Up: Melanie Dankowicz,
Adena Wilson
Latke Batter Makers: Rabbi Jody,
Kari Inlay, Pam Olson
Diane Ore
Latke Fryers
Kari Inlay, Kirstin Wilcox

It takes a lot of people to host the Chanuakah Cabaret. I would like to give special thanks to those who made this year’s event possible.

Challah Bakers: Rabbi Jody,
Nurit Davis, Adena Wilson
Room Set-Up: Melanie Dankowicz,
Adena Wilson
Latke Batter Makers: Rabbi Jody,
Kari Inlay, Pam Olson
Diane Ore
Latke Fryers
Kari Inlay, Kirstin Wilcox

Thank you to all who brought food. The buffet was wonderful and plentiful.
Happy Chanuakah to my whole Temple Family,
~Diane Ore~
### Memorials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday, January 2</th>
<th>Walter H. Abelmann (6 Jan)</th>
<th>Viola Koenigsberg (9 Jan)</th>
<th>Sol Tax (4 Jan)</th>
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<td>Morton A. Blum (8 Jan)</td>
<td>Rachel Korman (14 Tev)</td>
<td>Nellie Gertrude Terry (8 Jan)</td>
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<td>Johanna Braunfeld (3 Jan)</td>
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<td>Boris Brotherson (4 Jan)</td>
<td>Dr Isaac Morhaim (16 Tev)</td>
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<td>Abe Egherman (16 Tev)</td>
<td>Ruth A. Robinson (7 Jan)</td>
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<td>Ruth Herman Garfinkel (3 Jan)</td>
<td>Mildred Nandel Senn (8 Jan)</td>
<td>Jacob Wigoda (7 Jan)</td>
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<td>Fanny Goldberg (7 Jan)</td>
<td>Sadie Yavner Small (13 Tev)</td>
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<td>Herbert Gruenstein (9 Jan)</td>
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<th>Friday, January 9</th>
<th>Jacob Berland (11 Jan)</th>
<th>Alfred Heumann (16 Jan)</th>
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<td>Abraham Braverman (20 Tev)</td>
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<td>Sylvia Burszyn (23 Tev)</td>
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<th>Friday, January 16</th>
<th>Vivian Adelston (19 Jan)</th>
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<td>Lillian Berland (18 Jan)</td>
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<td>Howard Birnbaum (23 Jan)</td>
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<td>Mort Heller (27 Tev)</td>
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<td>Isaac Kuhn (21 Jan)</td>
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<th>Morris Saporznik (30 Jan)</th>
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<td>Louis Rudolph (29 Jan)</td>
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<td>Rosalie Goodfriend Rudolph (30 Jan)</td>
<td>Sam Weingarten (27 Jan)</td>
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<th>Iosif Ionin (1 Feb)</th>
<th>Rufina Vyshedskaya (3 Feb)</th>
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<td>Helen Kuhn Wiese (2 Feb)</td>
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<td>Benjamin Davis Braun (31 Jan)</td>
<td>Mischa Mischakoff (1 Feb)</td>
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<td>Elwood L. Fabert (2 Feb)</td>
<td>Edward Louis Roth (6 Feb)</td>
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<td>Phyllis Terry Gillies (3 Feb)</td>
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<td>Zelda Ginsberg (2 Feb)</td>
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<td>Charles Hammer (6 Feb)</td>
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Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office (or email us at assistant@sinaitemplecu.org) and let us know the name of the deceased, their relationship to you, and the secular or Hebrew date you wish to observe their yahrzeit. If you are unable to attend services and wish to reschedule the observance, please let us know a few days in advance.
The purpose of Sinai Temple is to worship God in accordance with the Jewish faith; to cultivate a love and understanding of Jewish heritage through education; to stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community; to strengthen bonds of loyalty with Jewish people everywhere; and to bring nearer the Dominion of God on earth through an emphasis on righteousness (tzedakah), commandments (mitzvot), and goodwill (gemilut hasidim) to one another and to society at large.