



Monday, September 5th, 9AM-Noon

Please join us as we spend time together making our building and its grounds look more beautiful than ever. All ages and abilities are welcome to join. We will have indoor tasks such as dusting the sanctuary and going through pamphlets. We will also have more physical outdoor tasks such as pruning bushes, planting flowers, etc. We will have team leaders to work with groups to do certain tasks. Come for the camaraderie and the nosh!

If you intend to work outdoors, please bring gloves and other items for yourself or others' use such as trimmers, etc. We plan on moving a large amount of mulch, so if you own a small tractor and want to help (or let us use it), please contact Art Siegel or Randy Rosenbaum
THANKS.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY, September 2

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, September 16

6:30 PM Shabbat Rocks! & Next Dor

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, September 17

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional
Minyan

FRIDAY, September 23

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, September 30

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services

The Office will be **CLOSED**
Monday, September 5th



HIGH HOLIDAY GREETING CARD ORDER DEADLINE IS SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11TH. (MINIMUM DONATION IS \$18)

The Holidays are Coming!!!

**Order your Lulav and Etrog for Sukkot
now through the Gift Shop**

All sets are Kosher and include the Etrog,
Lulav, Myrtles, Willows and Lulav bag.

4 Choices:

Standard Set: \$38

Prime Set \$50

Deluxe Set \$60

Superior Set \$70

Prices include shipping



**Orders with payment must be received
by September 16th.** (This is a firm
deadline!)

Make checks payable to Sinai Temple
Gift Shop.



OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

3104 W. Windsor Road · Champaign, IL 61822 · (217) 352-8140 · www.sinaitemplecu.org



“Rabbi, the holidays are so late this year!”

It's a common refrain...Of course, while the holidays have moved to a later date on the Gregorian calendar, they are right where they have always been on the Hebrew calendar. Since our Hebrew calendar is lunar-based and our secular calendar is solar-based, the dates of our holidays do seem to move around a bit. But Rosh Hashanah will come, as it always does, on the first of Tishri, with Yom Kippur following ten days later.

So, while it may feel disconcerting to dip apples and honey and sound the shofar in the crisp, late-fall air of October, that is indeed how the dates play out this year. And we can take advantage of this sense that we have “extra time” by taking the opportunity to do some self-reflection and

truly prepare for what the New Year may bring.

September this year will coincide with the Hebrew month of Elul, a time traditionally reserved for introspection. We are called to engage in the act of *cheshbon ha-nefesh*, an account-taking of our lives. When we look at ourselves in the mirror—either literally or figuratively—are we happy with the person whom we see? What changes are necessary to put us back on a path that we will be proud of, and that God will be happy with? How can we work to be our best selves, and to contribute fully to the betterment of the world around us? Even if we've had a fabulous year, Judaism teaches us that we should not rest on our laurels; there is always room for improvement.

The rabbis taught a lesson regarding this, based on the instructions for constructing the Tabernacle, the portable sanctuary used by the Israelites in the wilderness. In Chapter 25 of Exodus, the artisans are told that the Ark of the Covenant should be covered with gold both inside and out. The rabbis marvel at this instruction: it is logical that one would want gold on the outside; it would show all who look upon it that this was a special object worthy of respect. But why take the trouble to put gold inside, where few (if any) would be likely to notice it? The Talmudic sage Raba hinted at an answer when he taught, “Any scholar whose insides are not consistent

with his outsides is not a true scholar.” In other words, just as it would be incongruous for the Ark to be beautifully decorated on the exterior and Spartan in design on the interior, so too should a person's outer image be consistent with what he or she truly feels on the inside. Our open expression of our values should be matched by an inner conviction. So as we make our way through the month of Elul in preparation for the sanctity and awe of the High Holy Days, let us each strive to live lives worthy of blessing. Let us celebrate those qualities in ourselves that bring out the best in us, and let us work to improve where improvement is feasible and desirable.

One meaningful way to begin to prepare mentally and spiritually for the High Holy Days is to participate in our Selichot programming. This year, we are pleased to welcome Rabbi Sally Priesand for the weekend of September 23-24 (see further information elsewhere in the Bulletin). We hope that you will join us!

I wish each of you a meaningful month of Elul, and a *Shanah Tova U'M'tukah*, a good and sweet New Year.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

CEMETERY SERVICE

As the High Holidays approach, we think with loving tenderness about those who came before us. Though they are no longer a physical presence in our lives, they have made an indelible impression upon our hearts.

Please join Rabbi Alan for a brief service at Mount Hope cemetery on **Sunday, September 25th at 3:30 PM** as we pay tribute to loved ones from our families and our Jewish community. Following the service, you are invited to stay for the unveiling of a stone in memory of Arthur Robinson.

Birthday & Anniversary



BLESSINGS



If you celebrate a birthday or anniversary in September, please join us at our services on **Friday September 9th 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 will enjoy treats at the Oneg in your honor!

No RSVP is necessary to participate!

Pet Blessing

The rabbis of the Talmud identified four New Years in our calendar. The beginning of Elul is the New Year for animals. On **Wednesday, September 7th, from 10 AM–Noon and from 3–4:30**, you are invited to bring your pets to Temple for a treat and a special blessing from Rabbi Alan in honor of their New Year. No RSVP is necessary.



SINAI TEMPLE BOARD MEETING, AUGUST 2016

There are no new members to vote on this month.

Rabbi Sally Priesand will be visiting our congregation the weekend of Sept. 23 and 24.

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, Sept. 18 with a walk through of the building to begin getting ideas for renovation.

Habitat for Humanity will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in the Champaign-Urbana area. They are planning to do an Interfaith build and are asking faith groups in the area to contribute and also to help with the building of two homes. A **Motion** was made by Randy Rosenbaum that we take \$1000 out of the Social Action Fund for this project. 2nd by Art Siegel. All in **Favor**. We will be pooling resources with Hillel to jointly give \$2000 toward this project, which is an outstanding example of Tikkun Olam.

Art made the **Motion** to take \$1000 out of the Building Fund as a contingency expense for Labor of Love. 2nd by Randy Rosenbaum. All in **Favor**.

There was an electronic board vote in July. The **Motion** was to hire John Thompson to provide janitorial duties for 20 hours per week at a salary of \$13.50 per hour. 2nd by Sena Cooper. All in **Favor**.

HELP PLAN OUR FUTURE

“For over 110 years, Sinai Temple has been a hub of Jewish activity in East Central Illinois. For more than 40 years, our home on Windsor Road has allowed us to gather as a community for worship and celebration, and to comfort one another in times of sorrow. Our beautiful physical space has not received significant updates since 1999, and is showing signs of wear and tear and its age. We wish to begin discussions about how to preserve our past heritage, while preparing for our future.”

On Sunday, September 18 at 10:15 AM, there will be a discussion of proposed improvements to the Temple building, including the Sanctuary, Pods, Cohen Garden, and infrastructure needs. This discussion is a first step to share with the congregation the ideas suggested so far, gather input and feedback, and plan for next steps.

The meeting will take place by visiting the various locations and discussing the changes proposed for each. The discussion is expected to go for no more than 90 minutes. There will be additional meetings as the process goes on, culminating in a larger plan for renovations throughout the temple. We hope that as many of you as possible can attend.

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and had the opportunity to do something that gave them joy and some needed rest and relaxation. By now, many of us are getting back into the swing of a regular routine with children/grandchildren headed back to school and summer vacations coming to an end. Growing up, this was the time of year that we were asked in school to prepare a brief presentation to the class about what we had done during summer vacation. I have to admit that I never enjoyed standing up and reading a paragraph about going to a camp at the local pool for 8 weeks. However, I would like to share with you a little bit about my summer.

This past summer, OSRUI (a URJ sponsored Jewish overnight camp in Wisconsin) invited approximately 60 temple presidents to pick a weekend to come to camp and experience Shabbat. Having sent my eldest daughter to OSRUI for the past 3 summers, I thought it would be interesting to experience a summer camp Shabbat; so my wife and I decided to go up for a weekend. The weekend that we were able to attend, I was the only temple president to attend. We decided to attend Shabbat services at our daughters unit, Chalutzim, which is a Hebrew immersion unit that 3 other Champaign-Urbana youth had decided to attend.

I have to admit that it is hard to find the words to explain what a Shabbat experience is like at camp. We watched as approximately 80 youths came together to celebrate Shabbat. They chanted, they sang, and they led prayers. What was exciting to see was how they did it. They were excited about Shabbat, there were having fun and they showed respect and most importantly they were enthusiastic. While there was laughter and clapping and smiles, there was, at the same time, respect for the traditions of our faith.

I don't believe it is appropriate to try and recreate the camp experience at our weekly services, and I believe that certain elements of a camp-style experience are unique to the setting and environment. However, there are things that we can do to bring even more enthusiasm, engagement, and joy into our weekly services. As many before me have noted, today's youth are tomorrow's congregants. We need to continue to seek ways to engage our youth and young families and provide services that speak to them. I am glad that both Rabbi Alan and Rabbi Jody have begun to implement creative ideas to accomplish some of these goals, and that our worship is constantly evolving. I also applaud Martha for bringing in some different variations to some of our traditional songs and prayers, while remaining true to some of our beloved traditions. However, changes from the bimah are not the only ways to create excitement around services at Temple. Engagement and excitement is contagious. I am encouraging all of YOU to come to services excited and ready to participate. I encourage everyone to clap along, snap your fingers, or whatever is appropriate when you see others remembering how they did it at camp or in their youth. I encourage everyone to get involved (by volunteering, donating, and by attending with your enthusiasm) and experience the excitement of Sinai Temple.

Gary Bernstein



It's hard to believe, but the school year is here! The 2016-2017 (5777) Religious School year will start on September 11. I am excited that we are welcoming back many of our wonderful teachers and I am confident that the new teachers are eager to join the school.

Please join us on September 11 at 11:45 for an Opening Day Assembly
(Hand in Hand families are welcome to stay in the Hand in Hand room until the assembly)



Religious School: September 11, 18, 25
Hebrew School: September 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28
Next Dor and Shabbat Rocks: September 16



High Holy Days

The High Holy Day guide will be arriving soon! Please read through it and decide what services/activities are most fitting for you and your family. We will be offering the Jewnior Congregation (service for children in Kindergarten–6th grade along with activities to help celebrate the chaggim). Please sign up by the deadline listed in the material so we can plan accordingly!

We will also continue to have the Family Service for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. If your child would like a reading part, please contact Rabbi Jody at educator@sinaitemplecu.org by September 20.

Next Dor, Shabbat Rocks! and More

Please add the dates for Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor to your calendar! Each month, on the 3rd Shabbat of the month, we have a community Shabbat dinner followed by two Shabbat services (Next Dor and Shabbat Rocks!). These family oriented services are perfect for children and there is always great energy in the room. Kids (and adults) learn a lot about Judaism, prayer and responsibility by experiencing Shabbat with a larger community.

We hope to see you at services throughout the year!

Announcements

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

Sundays, 10:30 AM–11:30 AM

Adult Education and Talmud Study will resume in the new school year. We are planning a great calendar of learning opportunities, which will take place concurrent with Religious School sessions.

BOOK GROUP

Monday, September 19th, 7:30 PM

We usually meet on the third Monday of the month. We will be reading *The Bridal Chair* by Gloria Goldreich at the home of Janis Topolosky, 5009 Sandcherry Dr, C. (356-7868). Facilitator: Susan Schomer. Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

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.

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

Thursdays, 9:45 AM to 10:30 AM

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 robinfans1@gmail.com or by phone at 217-367-8053.**

VIMs

Thursday, September 1st at 11:45 AM

Calling all women 55 and older, come join us for lunch and fellowship at the Urbana Country Club in Urbana. We meet the first Thursday of the month. If you would like to join us, please email Astrid Berkson at astridjb@comcast.net

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SET UP CHAIRS FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

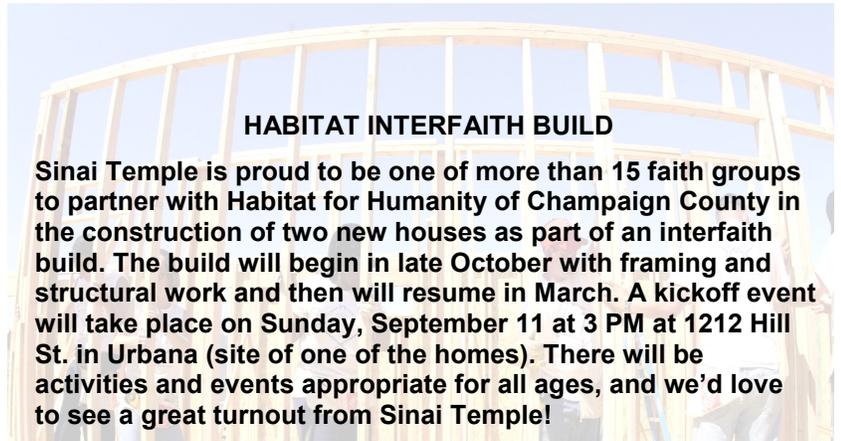
We are sad to share that longtime Sinai Temple member Ellen Handler passed away in January of 2016 in New Jersey. Her daughter-in-law wrote a tribute to her, which appeared in the Washington Post: <http://tinyurl.com/hhmuqfc>



Mazel Tov to **Mark & Ann Sapoznik** on the marriage of their son Andrew to Colette Beausoleil on July 31st.

Mazel Tov to **Peter Braunfeld**, who is featured in a new Ken Burns documentary, "Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War." This film documents the life of Waitstill and Martha Sharp, who worked to save Peter's family and hundreds of others during the Holocaust. The documentary, narrated by Tom Hanks, is scheduled to debut at 8 PM September 20 on WILL.

Mazel Tov to **Leanna Cossman**, who has been selected as the recipient of a Champaign-Urbana International Humanitarian Award (CUIHA) in the area of Humanitarian Relief. She will be honored on September 8th at the Hilton Garden Inn. For tickets call 403-8830.



HABITAT INTERFAITH BUILD

Sinai Temple is proud to be one of more than 15 faith groups to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County in the construction of two new houses as part of an interfaith build. The build will begin in late October with framing and structural work and then will resume in March. A kickoff event will take place on Sunday, September 11 at 3 PM at 1212 Hill St. in Urbana (site of one of the homes). There will be activities and events appropriate for all ages, and we'd love to see a great turnout from Sinai Temple!

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Giving

ALPINE FLOWER FUND

Bernice & Laurence Lieberman, in honor of Diane Ore for her boundless help with our oneg

BIRNBAUM CAMP

Freda Birnbaum family, in loving memory of Ray Spooner and in memory of Gerald and Carol Held

BUILDING FUND

Carl & Carol Belber
Sena Cooper & Howard Gerwin
Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler
Michael Grossman
Kate Kuper & Rocky Maffit
Ruth Morhaim, in memory of Ray Spooner and in memory of Bob Eisenstein
Jeffrey & Claire Newman
Michael Parrish
David Scherba & Rebecca Swartz
Paul & Susan Schomer, in honor of Natalie Frankenberg and in memory of Blanche Sudman

GENERAL FUND

Jane & John Colman, in memory of Jerry Kaufman
Paula Kaufman, in memory of Harry Kaufman
Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of William Sholem

INTERIOR FUND

Judith Siess & Stephen Bremseth, in memory of Samuel Kranson, Rubin Cohen and Ezra Levin

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Aaron & Trudy Averbuch
Allen & Elaine Avner
Carl & Carol Belber
Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler
Marshall & Karen Garrick
William & Phyllis Gingold
Wynne Sandra Korr
Jeffrey & Claire Newman
David Scherba & Rebecca Swartz
David & Carole Sinow
Edward & Nancy Tepper

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Robert & Marion Smith

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

William & Reva Egherman,
Congratulations to Ann & Mark Sapoznik on their son Andrew's marriage

SIEGEL SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Jessica Bartlett & Ezra Finkin, in memory of Blanche Sudman

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

(All Gift Shop profits go to support the Religious School)

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL

20% OFF All In-Stock Apple & Honey Plates and Shofars

CHECK OUT THE CLEARANCE TABLE BARGAINS

40% OFF (or reasonable offer) merchandise on our inventory clearance table!

We cleared our shelves to make room for new items from the New York Gift Show.

UPCOMING BAT MITZVAH

Elyse Prgent
September 3, in Cincinnati Ohio

Regular hours of operation resume Sunday, Sept 11th, first day of Religious School

REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION

Sundays 9:00 AM–1:00 PM
(during Religious School)
Wednesdays 4:00 PM–6:00 PM
(during Hebrew School)

We are ALWAYS open by appointment.

Email: nataliefr@comcast.net or call Natalie Frankenberg (390-4168), Jessica Kopolow (344-6683) or Pam Olson (384-4335). Cash or checks are always welcome. Credit cards accepted for charges over \$25. We now accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover using SQUARE.

PLEASE NOTE: The Gift Shop is staffed by volunteers. Occasionally, we are unable to be open as planned (especially on Wednesdays), so we suggest that you call the Temple Office (352-8140) to make sure that someone is in the shop.

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.

This listing only reflects donations received through mid-August. Donations received after this date will be acknowledged in future Bulletins.

Bulletin Submission: The deadline for the **October Bulletin is September 15th**. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Kathy Douglas stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.

September Memorials

Friday, September 2

Annette Bernstein (9 Sep)
 Beatrice Cossman (3 Sep)
 Dora Eggherman (1 Elu)
 Joseph Freudenstein (4 Sep)
 Shmariahl Kopelevitch (1 Elu)
 Jerry Levant (8 Sep)
 Ezra Levin (2 Elu)

Minnie Levin (3 Sep)
 Blanche Loeb (8 Sep)
 Sadye Zimmerman Marco (4 Sep)
 Jennie Z. Mashkes (4 Sep)
 William Sholem (4 Sep)
 Yetta Silver (3 Sep)
 Alpiner L. Stern (3 Sep)

Rachel Towlen (9 Sep)

Friday, September 9

Carrie Wiener Adler (15 Sep)
 Daniel K. Bloomfield (12 Sep)
 Jorge Covarrubias (11 Sep)
 Jerome Ex (12 Sep)
 Dorothy Katz (13 Sep)
 William Konick (10 Sep)
 Abe Leavitt (14 Sep)

Abraham Levy (11 Sep)
 Albert Abraham Liebovich (10 Sep)
 Rachel Loeb (10 Sep)
 Anne Linsider Melhado (7 Elu)
 Jack H. Nessel (12 Sep)
 Dorothy Selicovitz Novick (15 Sep)
 Leonard Ross (15 Sep)

Milton Shapiro (11 Elu)
 Samuel Slutsky (11 Sep)
 Sarah Spitzer (11 Sep)
 Benjamin Telcser (7 Elu)

Friday, September 16

Harold Black (15 Elu)
 Gloria Liss Bortman (18 Sep)
 Marion G. Eskow (23 Sep)
 Dorothy Ferrer (20 Elu)
 Bertha Freudenstein (19 Sep)
 Pauline Gitler (18 Sep)
 Max Greenberg (17 Sep)

Penny Elizabeth Magence-Ginsberg (20 Sep)
 Zelda Hamburg Maus (19 Sep)
 Elsie Mautner (23 Sep)
 Sol Orden (20 Sep)
 Rose Rubinstein (19 Sep)
 Arthur David Savran (14 Elu)

Joel Serlin (21 Sep)
 Anna Ruth Steigmann (18 Sep)
 Mildred Topolosky (15 Elu)
 Annette Winakor (23 Sep)

Friday, September 23

Lucille J. Birkett (24 Sep)
 Solomon Bernstein Cohen (29 Sep)
 Ralph L. Dietchweiler (25 Sep)
 Sol Goldberg (27 Sep)
 Ann Braun Goldfein (30 Sep)
 Becky S. Kozoll (30 Sep)
 Allan Levy (29 Sep)

Milton Stanley Schneller (28 Sep)
 Wolf Shklair (26 Elu)
 Ruth Siegle (25 Elu)
 Rachel Sitron (24 Sep)
 Esther Solomon (28 Sep)

Friday, September 30

Dr Richard Back (5 Oct)
 Mathilde Back (5 Oct)
 Fela Bankier (5 Oct)
 Sali Wintner Blum (3 Oct)
 Florence Braverman (4 Tis)
 Donald Brieland (2 Tis)
 Lewis Ginsberg (3 Oct)
 Shirley Zibel Gunther (2 Oct)
 Merle Garber Hamburg (6 Oct)

Beatrice Herman (5 Tis)
 Marvin N. Lesht (5 Tis)
 Isadore Jack Levy (7 Oct)
 Sandra Lipson (1 Oct)
 Dorothy Lowenstein (5 Oct)
 Mortimer Merkel (4 Oct)
 Mordchai Neuman (1 Tis)
 Sara Rachel Neuman (1 Tis)
 Leah Norian (7 Oct)

Emily Sara Peterman (6 Oct)
 Bert Reizman (4 Tis)
 Cecelia Riaff (1 Tis)
 Norma Rosenberg (5 Oct)
 Ceil Rubinstein (3 Oct)
 Henry Sapoznik (7 Oct)
 Abraham Simon (7 Oct)
 David L. Stone (1 Oct)

Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office (or email us at stoffice@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.

SINAI TEMPLE

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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.



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Good bye summer.
Hello autumn.

Friday, September 23rd



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Would you like to help sponsor our Bulletin? Contact Kathy in the Temple office for more information!