**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**
5:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service, followed by dinner

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**
10:00 AM  Grace Adelston Bat Mitzvah

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**
10:00 AM  Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**
5:30 PM  Shabbat Rocks! / Next Dor
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**
7:30 PM  Selichot Program & Service (movie: Groundhog day)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**
3:30 PM  Mt. Hope Cemetery Visit & Memorial Service

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**
7:30 PM  Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**
9:00 AM  1st Day Rosh Hashanah-Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service
10:00 AM  Reform Service

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**
9:00 AM  2nd Day Rosh Hashanah-Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**
6:00 PM  Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Kol Nidre
7:30 PM  Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) Reform Service

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**
9:00 AM  Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service w/Yizkor
10:00 AM  Reform Morning Service

**THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING . . .**

order your **LULAV & ETROG** for **SUkkot Today**!

Order your Lulav and Etrog through the Gift Shop. All sets are kosher and include the Etrog, Lulav, Myrtles, Willows, and a Lulav bag.

- Standard Set: $40
- Deluxe Set: $60
- Superior Set: $70

Prices include shipping.

Orders with payment must be received by **SEPTEMBER 5th. (This is a firm deadline)**

Please email your orders to: giftshop@sinaitemplecu.org; indicate payment type. Checks should be made payable to "Sinai Temple Gift Shop"; please email the gift shop or contact Jessica Kopolow at 217-417-8699 to arrange for credit card payment.

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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 vacuuming, dusting, polishing silver and going through pamphlets. We will also have minor physical outdoor tasks such as pruning bushes and trees, planting flowers, etc. (nothing too labor intense). 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 rakes, trimmers, etc. If you have any questions or would like to be a leader, please contact Art Siegel at amsiegel@illinois.edu. Thank you.

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*Look for the full High Holiday Schedule and Roll of Remembrance form coming in the mail soon.*
From the Rabbi’s Desk

Rabbi Alan Cook

Mishkan Tefillah, our Reform prayerbook, offers this meditation (originally by Rabbi Robert Kahn; adapted by Rabbi Chaim Stern) as a possible introduction to Shabbat worship:

Each of us enters this sanctuary with a different need. Some hearts are full of peace and gratitude, Overflowing with love and joy. They are eager to confront the day, to make the world a better place. They are recovering from illness, or have escaped misfortune. We rejoice with them.

Some hearts ache with sorrow; Disappointments weigh heavily on them. Families have been broken; loved ones lie on a bed of pain; Death has taken a cherished loved one. May our presence and caring bring them comfort.

Some hearts are embittered; Ideals are betrayed and mocked, answers sought in vain, Life has lost its meaning and value. May the knowledge that we, too, are searching Restore our hope, and renew our faith.

I know that Sinai Temple friends and congregants have several different touchpoints by which you connect to this community. Some seek spiritual fulfillment; others look to us for Jewish education for themselves and their children. Some appreciate our social programming and family activities; some seek opportunities to engage in tikkun olam, acts of social justice. Some worship with us frequently; some find meaning in attending High Holiday worship.

Whatever your connection to Sinai Temple, however frequently or infrequently you may find yourself in the building, the staff and leadership of Sinai Temple continue to strive to make Sinai a place that meets a multitude of needs. Our diversity of beliefs and practices enrich and strengthen us as a kehillah kedosha, a holy congregation.

I’ve been thinking a bit about this diversity, particularly as it applies to our individual approaches to theology and spirituality. Just as each of us expresses our Judaism in a different manner, each of us also approaches God in a different manner. For some, it’s easy to think of God as a nurturing parent. Others see God as a powerful ruler. Some have no relationship with God at all.

As we approach the High Holidays, our liturgy famously invokes God as Avinu Malkainu (our Parent, our Ruler). It asks us to imagine that during these Days of Awe we are each called to stand in judgment before the Divine throne. But maybe these are not the ideas of God that resonate with you. Maybe you have an approach to your personal theology that varies from the classical rabbinic notions espoused in our liturgy.

A few years ago, Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro created a “God Survey” for his congregation in an effort to explore the prevailing attitudes that his congregants held regarding God. I’ve adapted Rabbi Shapiro’s questions and added a few of my own. I invite you to take a few minutes to respond to the survey (questions can be answered anonymously); I’ll share some of the results in a Yom Kippur sermon.

You can find the survey at http://tinyurl.com/ST5778. Responses are appreciated by September 8.

I wish you and all your loved ones a sweet and healthy New Year.

L’Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

Mazel Tov to Ira and Lynn Wachtel for completing their cross country ride to raise money for MDA/ALS in honor of Ray Spooner. Below is the News-Gazette article link about their trip. http://www.news-gazette.com/blogs/starting-line/2017-08/weathering-challenges.html

Mazel Tov to Richard Kaplan, who will be invested as the Guy Raymond Jones Chair of Law on September 6th.
From the Board

SINAI TEMPLE AUGUST 2017 BOARD MEETING

- The Board voted to do some maintenance in the kitchen; cleaning and replacing the grease traps, replacing some of the pilot lights on the stove, and repairing some plumbing in the classrooms.
- Labor of Love is September 4th, from 9 AM–12 PM. This is a great opportunity to help get the building ready for the High Holidays.
- Three dying Ash trees were removed.

Tekiah!
The sound of the shofar announces the coming of the High Holidays, the holiest season of our yearly lives, when we reconnect with our faith, our fellow Jews and our fellow humans. It is a time of introspection, of questioning our conduct and our values, of recognizing and cleansing our sins, of realigning our lives with G-d and Torah. What a precious gift it is to all of us!

I hope you will have the opportunity to join the rest of the Temple community in experiencing these Days of Awe. The schedule of services is contained in this newsletter and a separate mailing. A variety of services for people of all ages is planned. Babysitting will also be available. In preparation for the holidays, we’ll be doing our annual clean-up on Labor Day, September 4, the “Labor of Love.” This is a chance to do some much-needed freshening of the Temple interior as well as some gardening outside. The work begins at 9 am, and food and hydration will be provided. Hope to see you there!

There are also opportunities to help with the set-up and other preparation for the various holiday services, and we welcome your help. We’ll set up chairs for Rosh Hashanah on Sunday, September 17. For each service, we’ll need to put out books before the service and collect them again after the service. The day after Yom Kippur, Sunday, October 1, we’ll be setting up the sukkah behind the Temple in preparation for Sukkot. If you’re available to help with any of these activities, let Rabbi Alan know.

While we’re talking about volunteer opportunities, there are several Temple committees that need people and some that need chairpeople. If you think you’d like to participate, you can contact me.

If you have not yet sent in your pledge materials for FY 2018, please do so at your earliest convenience. We need to know what funds we will have available for this year to do all we’ve planned. Our Temple building is aging and sometimes needs unexpected repairs, so any extra financial help you can manage will not go to waste! Along with the pledge materials, you received a sign-up form for onegs. Please choose dates when you would be able to help. If you have never done an oneg, please feel free to contact Diane Ore for tips. See you in Temple! L’shanah tovah!

From Social Action

We will be collecting non-perishable food items once again for the Eastern Illinois Food Bank. Please pick up your bag after Rosh Hashanah services on Thursday, September 23rd, if you would like to make a monetary donation there will be envelopes available also. Please return all donations on Saturday, September 30th.

Thank You! We collected 25 units of blood at our drive. Thank you to all who participated. If you still wish to donate you can go to the blood bank this week and tell them you are donating for Sinai Temple before you sit in the chair and they will give us credit for that unit.

The Office will be CLOSED on Monday, September 4th

Labor Day

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

September 2017 ~ Elul/Tishri 5777/5778
From our Educator

Rabbi Jody Cook

Shortly after my return from two weeks at OSRUI, a colleague shared an article in which the author questioned the importance of religious school. The author’s child was spending time at a Jewish summer camp, and she felt that the Jewish connection developed at camp was powerful enough to last until next summer. Certainly, this article was met with much controversy, particularly amongst my friends/colleagues, many of whom work in the field of Jewish education. I think that it is clear that I believe that attending Jewish summer camp is one of the most valuable ways to foster a Jewish identity. Whether your child attends OSRUI, Tavor, Ben Fankel, Beber, Chi or any of the other Jewish summer camps, it is likely that he/she/they will come home transformed in some way, will go through a adjustment period or “re-entry”, and will start counting down the days until opening day of next summer. That being said, Jewish summer camp is not a substitute for religious school, holiday observances and year long Jewish involvement. Jewish summer camp is one piece of the puzzle, one experience parents can provide their children, one leg of the foundation.

As we enter a new school year, and a new Jewish year, take some time to think about what you want your children to learn and why being Jewish is important. I understand that families are asked to rearrange schedules to make sure children are at Sinai Temple 1-2 times each week. I understand that there are youth group events for kids from birth-18 already on the Religious School calendar, asking you for even more of your time. I understand that Shabbat is a holiday that happens each week. Being Jewish is a big responsibility. Being part of this amazing religion takes time and involves work. Your involvement, encouragement and effort is recognized. Perhaps you can’t measure the success right now, but I am confident that your children will carry our traditions forward and will have an appreciation for their heritage if Judaism is part of their everyday experiences.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, engagement, community, values and fun . . . and hope that you are too!

Calling All Kids Who Like to Build

KIDdush Club is having a SUKKAH building Pop Up Playdate!
Supplies will be provided and kids (and adults) are free to build and create anything they imagine!

Sunday, October 1st
10:00–12:00 @ Sinai Temple

** NO Hebrew/Religious School on this day

Shabbat ShaSukkah ShaSleepover

Just a night of friends and family come and sleep in the sukkah, on the lawn or in the Davis Chapel.
Bring all of your own gear,
no tents or sleeping bags provided!
We will provide snacks and activities.

More information will be provided soon!
Grace Adelston will be called to the Torah on Sept. 2, 2017. Grace is entering 8th grade at Jefferson Middle School, where she plays clarinet in band, and has performed as a chorus member in school musicals. She also plays piano and ukelele. At home, she enjoys playing computer games and cuddling her cat, Bitty.

For her Bat Mitzvah project, Grace is raising money for the Champaign County Down Syndrome Network: she is selling "warm fuzzies," and on Saturday, October 7th, she will walk in the Buddy Walk at the Champaign County Fairgrounds in Urbana, as she did last year. Grace wants to stop bullying, and to support people with special needs. If you'd like to donate to the Champaign County Down Syndrome Network, you can visit Grace’s personal web page and go to the link below to make a donation.


If you would like to walk with Grace and her family, we can send you information on how to register.

BOOK GROUP
No Book Group for September
The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM. Since Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are in September around the time we usually meet, we will not meet in September.

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
Tuesdays, 10:45 AM to 11:30 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 robinfans1@gmail.com or by phone at 217-367-8053.

VIMs
Thursday, September 7th at 11:45 AM
Calling all women 55 and older, come join us for lunch and fellowship at Milo’s 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.

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings
If you celebrate a birthday or anniversary in September, please join us at our services on Friday, September 8th 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!

MEAL PUNCH CARDS
You can now pay for multiple Shabbat Rocks! and Friday Night Feasts in advance by purchasing a Meal Punch Card. You can purchase one meal or as many as you want, even for the whole year.
You can purchase them through the Religious School or Temple office. The cost is $5 per meal punch.

Fall begins September 22nd
Happy Fall
BUILDING FUND
Carl & Carol Belber
Sarah & Eric Benson
Erez & Dana Cohen
Sena Cooper & Howard Gerwin
Ron & Leanna Cossman
Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler
Ben & Shari Fox
Minna Friedman
Melissa Frydman
Kazuko Goodman
Eugene Yefim & Yana Grinberg
Loren & Maya Israel
Benjamin LeRoy & Jessica Zinger
Toni Lachman
Emily Levin
Lee & Evan Melhado, in memory of Elaine Avner and in memory of Esther Steinberg
Diane & Rob Ore
Edward & Nancy Tepper
Vera Waivisz

CONDOLENCE FUND
Joyce Nagel Eisenstein in loving memory of Bob Eisenstein

FRIENDS OF THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
Paul & Linda Weichsel, in memory of Joe Rotman

GENERAL FUND
Mary Lou Brotherson, in memory of Estelle Nelson, and in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Merle Levy’s granddaughter, Nina Rau
Annette & John Buckmaster, in memory of Bernice Weinstein
William & Reva Egherman, in memory of Elaine Avner
Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Esther Steinberg
Lilyan Levant, in memory of Rhoda Levant
Leslie & Gary Mason in memory of Esther Steinberg Scholar-in-Residence
Ruth Morhaim in memory of Esther Steinberg Scholar-in-Residence
William & Fran Strauss
Ron & Leanna Cossman
Adrenne Dietchweiler
Joyce Nagel Eisenstein
Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler
Natalie Frankenberg
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Ben & Shari Fox
Melissa Frydman
Marshall & Karen Lee Garrick
Robin & Bruce Goettel
Helen Greenstein
Eugene Yefim & Yana Grinberg
Kazuko Goodman
Ted Hymowitz
Paula Kaufman
Miles Klein
Wynne Korr
Toni Lachman
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Benjamin LeRoy & Jessica Zinger
Emily Levin
Merle Levy
Daniel & Eileen Lichtblau
Lee & Evan Melhado
Jeffry & Claire Newman
Diane & Rob Ore
Richard & Jacqueline Ross
Mark & Ann Sapoznik
Alexander Scheeline & Alice Berkson
Paul & Susan Schomer
David & Jan Sholem
David & Carole Sinow
Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff
Edward & Nancy Tepper
Judith & Steve Ullom
Elliot & Rosalind Weinberg
Barry & Linda Weiner
Amy Wolf & Aaron Smith
Jacob & Suzanne Woolfson

LIBRARY FUND
Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Elaine Avner
Henrietta Schwartz & Susan Brim, in memory of Dora Lovett Lapedes

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler, in honor of Rachel Finke’s Bat Mitzvah

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

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.

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.

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

Order your LULAV & ETROG sets for Sukkot TODAY!
DEADLINE for orders is SEPTEMBER 5th!
All sets are Kosher and include the Etrog, Lulav, Myrtles, Willows and Lulav bag.

Three styles to choose from:
Standard—$40 per set
Deluxe—$60 per set
Superior—$70 per set
Prices include shipping

To order email giftshop@sinaitemplecu.org or call Jessica Kopolow at 217-417-8699.

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### Memorials

**Friday, September 1**
- Harold Black (15 Elu)
- Beatrice Cossman (3 Sep)
- Joseph Freudenstein (4 Sep)
- Florence Nagel Howard (2 Sep)
- Jerry Levant (8 Sep)
- Minnie Levin (3 Sep)
- Blanche Loeb (8 Sep)
- Sadye Zimmerman Marco (4 Sep)

**Friday, September 8**
- Carrie Wiener Adler (15 Sep)
- Annette Bernstein (9 Sep)
- Daniel K. Bloomfield (12 Sep)
- Jorge Covarrubias (11 Sep)
- Jerome Ex (12 Sep)
- Dorothy Ferrer (20 Elu)
- Leonard Heumann (13 Sep)
- William Konick (10 Sep)

**Friday, September 15**
- Alejandro Victor Medina Abulafia (16 Sep)
- Gloria Liss Bortman (18 Sep)
- Donald Brieland (2 Tis)
- Bertha Freudenstein (19 Sep)
- Steven Gingold (18 Sep)
- Pauline Gitler (18 Sep)
- Max Greenberg (17 Sep)
- Dorothy Katz (1 Tis)

**Friday, September 22**
- Lucille J. Birkett (24 Sep)
- Florence Braverman (4 Tis)
- Solomon Bernstein Cohen (29 Sep)
- Ralph L. Dietchweiler (25 Sep)
- Marion G. Eskow (23 Sep)
- Sol Goldberg (27 Sep)
- Beatrice Herman (5 Tis)
- Marvin N. Lesht (5 Tis)

**Friday, September 29**
- Dr Richard Back (5 Oct)
- Mathilde Back (5 Oct)
- Fela Bankier (5 Oct)
- Sali Wintner Blum (3 Oct)
- Alvin Friedman (13 Tis)
- Hormozd Gahvari (3 Oct)
- Lewis Ginsberg (3 Oct)
- Ann Braun Goldfein (30 Sep)

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<td>Harold Black</td>
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<td>Samuel Slutsky</td>
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<td>(15 Elu)</td>
<td>(4 Sep)</td>
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<td>Beatrice Cossman</td>
<td>Albert E. Rigberg</td>
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<td>Joseph Freudenstein</td>
<td>Arthur David Savran</td>
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<td>Marco (4 Sep)</td>
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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.
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.

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

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THESE HIGH HOLY DAYS:

ROSH HASHANAH    Thursday, September 21st
ROSH HASHANAH    Friday, September 22nd
SUKKOT          Thursday, October 5th
SUKKOT          Friday, October 6th
SHEMINI ATZERET/SIMCHAT TORAH    Thursday, October 12th