

## Schedule of Services

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service & Dinner

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

10:00 AM Religious School Service

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks! / Next Dor  
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan



### THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THESE DAYS:

Monday, December 25  
*Christmas*

Monday, January 1  
*New Year's Day*

## COMMUNITY CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

**Wednesday, December 13th at 5:30 PM**

*Fill the room with laughter, warmth and light,  
as we celebrate the 2<sup>nd</sup> night of Chanukah at Sinai Temple!*

Please **RSVP** to the Sinai Temple office (352-8140)  
or through SignUp Genuis

(<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aa8a929a20-community>).

Each family is asked to bring a potluck food item  
(salad, side dish, dessert or fruit) and to  
contribute \$5 per person/\$20 maximum per family.  
You are also invited to bring a hanukkiyah (menorah) and candles to  
participate in the candle lighting.

### NEW THIS YEAR!

Menorah Building Contest!

Build a menorah and bring it to the event to be judged  
in the categories of RECYCLED MATERIALS, HIDDUR MITZVAH  
(enhancing the mitzvah) and CREATIVITY.

A small prize will be awarded to each of the winners!

*See insert for details on the Gift Shop Chanukah Showcase  
and more . . . .*

## 3rd ANNUAL MOVIE/CHINESE EVENT



Please join us on **Monday afternoon, December 25th**  
as we gather to enjoy a movie and Chinese food. This  
has become a popular annual event as we enjoy  
delicious food and fun entertainment. Adults will  
watch the classic Israeli film "Salah Shabbati" (and we  
guarantee that the movie will work this  
year!); we'll have a family-friendly  
movie option for the kids as well.

*Please watch your weekly email blast  
for details about signing up for this  
fabulous event.*





## *From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk*

Writer-director-producer Dore Schary had an illustrious career in Hollywood, eventually becoming president of the Metro-Goldwyn Mayer movie studio. But Schary has an additional claim to fame.

In about 1950, Schary created a collection of mini-essays on Chanukah. He assigned a different value to each night: faith, freedom, courage, love, charity, integrity, knowledge, and peace. In the post-war years, these were particularly resonant themes to Hollywood Jews, many of whom were being called before the House Un-American Affairs Committee (HUAC) at this time, they took on extra importance. (Schary was initially a supporter of HUAC's activities, but later came to vehemently reject them)

Each night's essay contains two or three paragraphs on the given subject. For instance, Schary writes on the topic of "Courage," "Part of the word 'courage' comes from the French word, *coeur*, which means heart. We find references to this in our everyday speech. We speak of a person's strong heart, stout heart, plenty of heart, and so on." On "Love," he opines, "Love is a beautiful word. It is soft and warm to the ear. Love is a beautiful feeling. And there are all kinds of love for so many different things. We love our children and our parents. We love our mates. We love God by enjoying and appreciating the miracle of life bestowed upon us. We love friends and relatives. We love a holiday or a rainy day. We love the sound of children laughing, of a family melody, of a wave upon the shore."

Chanukah is a celebration of light, and indeed light plays an important role as, in the midst of winter, we kindle the candles in our *chanukiyot* and help to illuminate our darkened world, both literally and figuratively. But Chanukah is also a reminder of the triumph of the Maccabees over the Seleucid Empire. The weak defeated the mighty; the few defeated the many; those who worshipped God defeated those who idolized the wicked Antiochus. It seems wholly appropriate, therefore, that we reflect on themes such as the ones Schary highlighted in celebration of these key lessons of Chanukah.


Peter Yarrow composed the song "Light One Candle" because he was similarly inspired by the messages of the Maccabean victory. In the final verse of the song, he states, "We have come this far always believing that justice would somehow prevail. This is the burden, and this is the promise, and this is why we will not fail."

Let us continue to embrace the justice that the Maccabees envisioned and for which they fought. Let us continue to serve as lights of freedom and hope for all the citizens of the world.

I wish you and your family a bright and festive Chanukah, and a joyous new (secular) year.

L'Shalom,

Alan Cook



*Happy Chanukah*

Let us continue to serve as lights of freedom and hope for all the citizens of the world.

Just a little more than fifty-four years ago, those of us who are old enough to remember experienced a great shock when we watched as the youthful then-President, John F. Kennedy, was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. His death set in motion many events that have shaped our world ever since. In his iconic inaugural address of 1961 he threw down a challenge to the idealism of Americans to discover what “we can do for our country.” His message still resonates today.

I invite you to consider how you can apply his challenge to serve not only your country, but also your Temple community. As we approach the season of Chanukah the Festival of Lights, let us find ways to illuminate our Temple and our world. The world has never been more in need of repair, and it is our sacred responsibility to engage in Tikkun Olam. The eight days of Chanukah are a great opportunity to brainstorm what we can all do. Why not think of one action for each of the eight days? They don’t need to be large. We just need to focus our creativity on ways to help.

There are many ways in which we all can make our Temple more welcoming. Aside from the planned temple renovation, which will be designed to improve the look and feel of our physical spaces, we should also seek to be more welcoming on a personal level. When we see someone we don’t know in

services, let us each make an effort to say hello. They may be shy and not want a lot of contact, but we should make sure that we give them the option of getting to know us. This is our spiritual home, and we’d like to share it with whoever might want to join us.

With the end of the year fast approaching, it is a good time to plan for end - of - tax - year donations you may want to make to the Temple. As you know, we are preparing for a capital campaign to fund the proposed renovations. I have been informed of a contribution possibility that you may not be aware of. Some retirees are required to take mandatory distributions from their IRAs before the end of each year. It may be possible to roll over some of these distributions into charitable contributions. If you are interested in exploring this method of donation, I urge you to consult with your tax professional, as Temple is not equipped to provide specific tax advice. Discussions of the specifics of our capital campaign will be starting soon.”

See you in Temple!



### SINAI TEMPLE NOVEMBER 2017 BOARD MEETING

#### Pledge update:

We are doing very well on receiving dues this year. So far this year, we have received more than we had last year by this time. The Board wishes to thank everyone who has pledged or paid so far, either in part or total. The pledges help us to know what our operating budget will be for the year. Typically, at this time of year, we begin following up with letters and phone calls to people who have not yet responded. If you’ve not yet taken the opportunity to submit your pledge or fulfill your commitment, we encourage you to do so as soon as you are able.

### FEATURED FUNDS OF THE MONTH

Wanting to make a contribution to a Temple or Temple owned fund but need more information? Each month we will highlight two funds. One is owned and administered by Sinai Temple and the other is owned by Sinai Temple but managed and dispersed by the Champaign Urbana Jewish Endowment Funds (CUJEF).

#### **Dr. Martin Luther King Scholarship Program**

The MLK Jr. Advocacy for Justice Committee awards renewable monetary awards to worthy high school seniors in the Champaign-Urbana area. Your scholarship contribution allows awards of \$1000 annually for up to four years of each recipient’s college education.

#### **CUJEF Fund**

#### **J. Ben Hamburg Early Childhood Education Fund:**

This fund provides Jewish educational materials for kindergarten through grade three.

**Bulletin Submission:** The deadline for **January Bulletin** is **December 15th**. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** [Roxanna.Davison@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:Roxanna.Davison@sinaitemplecu.org).





Just a few weeks ago, we had a family education program dedicated to exploring the Jewish ritual of burying books and other sacred items in the geniza. Some students and families met with Lee Melhado to learn about Jewish burial customs. Some students examined books that had Jewish content, Hebrew letters, names of synagogues and Jewish authors. All students and parents had a session with Rabbi Alan where they learned the number of letters in a sefer Torah, saw a scroll opened the length of the north and south pods and saw how the Torah is stitched together. The experience of actually putting the books into the geniza was fascinating. Many people shared emotions ranging from sadness to amazement.

Like many people, I love books. I don't actually read a lot, but when I have a Jewish book in my hands, I think of the story behind it and not just the story between the covers. We buried treasured books that are no longer usable. We buried old editions of siddurim and chumashim with inscriptions and names and dates written in the cover. We buried these books with respect and in keeping with Jewish tradition, but that does not mean it was an easy thing to do. We will mark the geniza, which is to the west of the shed in the back of Sinai Temple,

and we will always remember that these sacred texts are part of our synagogue.

A special thank you to Susan and Brian McQuaid, Art Siegel and Jake Sosnoff.



## DECEMBER SCHOOL DATES

Sunday, Dec. 3 ..... HS/RS  
Wednesday, Dec. 6 ..... HS  
Sunday, Dec. 10 ..... HS/RS  
Wednesday, Dec. 13 ..... HS  
Sunday, Dec. 17 ..... HS/RS  
Wednesday, Dec. 20 ..... HS

## OTHER EVENTS

Friday, Dec. 1 ..... First Friday AND Hebrew School Lock In  
Saturday, Dec. 2 ..... Religious School Shabbat Service  
Saturday, Dec. 9 ..... KIDdush Club Havdallah  
Sunday, Dec. 10 ..... BOWLING (anyone enrolled in Religious School)  
Wednesday, Dec. 13. Community Hanukkah Celebration  
Friday, Dec. 15 ..... SHABBAT ROCKS!/Next Dor—OSRUI visit  
Sunday, Dec. 17 ..... MACCABEE FLATS perform at Clark Lindsey  
Dec. 21-January 16... No School—Winter Break

## IMPORTANT:

If you are a Religious School parent and you are not receiving the weekly email blast with Religious School updates, please send an email to Rabbi Jody!  
([educator@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:educator@sinaitemplecu.org))

# Announcements



## BOOK GROUP

**Monday, December 18th, 7:30 pm**

The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM. We will be reading, *The Nightingale*, by Kristen Hannah. Host & Facilitator: Toni Lachman, 2311 Galen Dr., Unit 11, C. (419-8696). 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. With the start of 5778 we will begin exploring the entirety of the Tanakh, not just the Torah. Newcomers are welcome to come study with us!

## 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](mailto:robinfans1@gmail.com) or by phone at 217-367-8053.



## VIMs

**Thursday, December 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](mailto:astridjb@comcast.net).

## BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

If you celebrate a birthday or anniversary in December, please join us at our services on **Friday, December 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

## FIRST FRIDAY FEAST

Our January First Friday will take place on Friday, January 5th. Ring in the New Year with all of your Sinai Temple friends with an early worship service at 5:30 PM. Following the service, we'll join together for a delicious dinner and an opportunity to visit together. RSVPs are strongly encouraged to ensure we have sufficient food.

RSVP at <https://sinaicu.wufoo.com/forms/r1uahpn20utdygc/>

COMING  
SOON!

TRIVIA  
Night

**Sinai Temple is having a Trivia Night!**

Get your table reserved now because seating is limited!

**When:** Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM. The program will begin promptly at 7:15 sharp!

**Where:** Sinai Temple, North and South Pods

### Prices:

A table of 8 for \$96.

A single seat for \$12.

Category Sponsorship is \$125. There are 10 categories with 10 questions each.

Sponsorship and a Table of 8 for \$200.

It is BYOB but soft drinks will be provided. Each table is asked to bring a dessert (or two) to share. There will be more information to come concerning food, prizes, and categories.

Please contact Bart Greenberger at 217-597-1357 or email Bart at [bart.greenberger@yahoo.com](mailto:bart.greenberger@yahoo.com) if you want a table or a sponsorship. You can also call the office with the information, 352-8140.

*This listing only reflects donations received through **mid-November**. 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.*

## **BUILDING FUND**

Andrew Gerwith  
Ben & Michelle Hankin  
Tania Ionin & Timur Oikhberg  
Judy Lachman  
Leslie & Gary Mason, in memory of  
Wiley Deckard  
Stephen & Kathryn Marshak  
Greg Muchnik & April Keaton  
Richard & Shirley Newman  
Zeev & Shoshana Rutenberg  
Art & Marcia Siegel  
Mitchell & Ann Sussman  
Monique & Michael Tsipursky

## **GENERAL FUND**

Arnold & Rita Blockman, Friends of  
Sinai Temple  
Harvey Choldin & Marianna Tax, in  
memory of Wiley Deckard  
Carol Cornell, Sam & Gail Goldfarb  
and Linda & Mark Siegel, in honor  
of Wynne Korr's retirement  
Julia Kling, in memory of Leah Norian  
Gayle & Ira Kopin, in memory of Eli  
Mandel  
Richard & Shirley Newman, in  
memory of Molly Newman and in  
memory of Harold Miller  
Gary & Fraeda Porton, Friends of  
Sinai Temple

Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory  
of Isaac Neuman, in memory of  
Bessie Sholem and in memory of  
William H. Sholem II, and in  
memory of Bessie Siegel  
Judy Siess & Stephen Bremseth, in  
memory of Della Kranson, in  
memory of Milton Glaser and in  
memory of Julius Cohen

## **HAMBURG EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FUND**

Ron & Joyce Levy, in memory of  
Phyllis Van Buskirk and in  
memory of Mary Horwitz

## **KITCHEN/ONEG FUND**

Andrew Gewirth  
Jeffrey & Carmen Glezer  
Ben & Michelle Hankin  
Lyle Konigsberg & Susan  
Frankenberg  
Judy Lachman  
Robert & Sondra Libman  
Yoram & Carol Mizrahi  
Barbara & Penn Nelson  
Elyse Rosenbaum & Robert Smith  
Art & Marcia Siegel  
Tony & Penelope Soskin  
Mitchell & Ann Sussman

## **LIBRARY FUND**

Henrietta Schwartz & Sue Brim, in  
memory of Henrietta Israel  
Schwartz

## **SIEGEL SOCIAL ACTION FUND Thanksgiving Food Baskets**

Carl & Carol Belber  
Susan Cohen & George Monahan  
Natalie Frankenberg  
Don & Joyce Francisco  
Ben & Michelle Hankin  
Sherry Helfer  
Sandra Hynds  
Jennifer Klatsky  
Charles & Joan Kozoll  
Toni Lachman  
Faye Lesht & Joyce Meyer  
Leslie & Gary Mason  
Mark & Ann Sapoznik  
Paul & Susan Schomer  
William & Fran Strauss  
Buddi Tepper

**THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING.** All donations to Sinai Temple postmarked December 31, 2017, will be credited to your account for the 2017 tax year. In January, the office will mail out IRS contribution letters for all contributions made during 2017. If you have not yet made a pledge for FY2017-18, it would be greatly appreciated. Knowing how much people plan to donate helps us meet our budgetary goals. We wish you and your family a joyous New Year!

**THERE IS STILL TIME** to donate to the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Program Fund.

If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile and local cause, please make your check payable to Sinai Temple and indicate "Dr. Martin Luther King Fund in the memo."

The 29th "Living the Dream" celebration will be held on Sunday, January 14, 5:00 PM at Krannert.



# Memorials

Friday, December 1

Philip Applebaum ( 4 Dec)  
Annette Sudman Baich ( 8 Dec)  
Marshall Eggherman (16 Kis)  
Sidney Feinberg ( 6 Dec)  
Louis Nathan Glaser ( 2 Dec)  
Morris Gottheil ( 3 Dec)  
Sally Grusby ( 2 Dec)

Bernard Hymowitz (20 Kis)  
Alan Birk Kuper (16 Kis)  
Abraham Lapedes ( 6 Dec)  
Fred Lewin ( 4 Dec)  
Herbert Elsworth Lyon ( 5 Dec)  
Isadore Meyerson (15 Kis)  
Victorya Meyerson (14 Kis)

Benjamin Pearlstein ( 2 Dec)  
Isaiah Shavitt ( 8 Dec)  
Arthur Allen Telcser (17 Kis)

Friday, December 8

Harriet Mae Davis (12 Dec)  
Da'vid Efergan (21 Kis)  
Doris Dorman Feinberg ( 9 Dec)  
Jewel Berenson Friend (12 Dec)  
Sara Goldring (21 Kis)  
Ida Gorodetsky (24 Kis)  
Jacob Benjamin Hamburg (15 Dec)  
Judith Harrison (24 Kis)

Lily Helman (23 Kis)  
Norma Klein (10 Dec)  
Joseph Kuhn (15 Dec)  
Ethel Lesht ( 9 Dec)  
Joseph Linowes (26 Kis)  
Minnie Lipson (11 Dec)  
Helen Wollstein Loeb (10 Dec)  
Judith Rosencranz (15 Dec)

Sarah Rubinstein ( 9 Dec)  
Rose Sapoznik (11 Dec)  
Shirley Senoff (27 Kis)  
Demitri B. Shimkin (26 Kis)  
Peter James Stolurow (11 Dec)  
Mary Elizabeth Stone (12 Dec)

Friday, December 15

Rebecca Rubenstein Blockman (18 Dec)  
Rosa B. Bower (19 Dec)  
Gilford Currier (17 Dec)  
Frances Dessen (18 Dec)  
Florence Zibel Dooley (18 Dec)  
Frieda Forst (18 Dec)  
Rabbi Benjamin M. Frankel (21 Dec)  
Pesselle Rothenberg Friedman ( 2 Tev)  
Arthur Golub (22 Dec)  
Frada Green (21 Dec)

Audrey Rezits Huber (21 Dec)  
Phillip C. Katz (18 Dec)  
Jewel Kurland (19 Dec)  
Sally Levitt (20 Dec)  
Joseph Levy (19 Dec)  
Natalie Yawitz Levy (16 Dec)  
Marilyn Libman (16 Dec)  
Sarah Meyerson ( 4 Tev)  
Morris Olefsky (18 Dec)  
Clare Herman Perkel (20 Dec)  
Rose L. Prince (16 Dec)

Ben Riaff (28 Kis)  
Sadie Rudnick (22 Dec)  
Yetta Schneider (21 Dec)  
Sylvia Siegel (30 Kis)  
Hyman Simon (18 Dec)  
Jack Aaron Simon (17 Dec)  
Albert Leland Stern (16 Dec)  
Ethel Bower Stern (17 Dec)  
Ida John Terry (22 Dec)  
Charles A. Wolff (19 Dec)

Friday, December 22

Ruth B. Ades (23 Dec)  
Adrienne Merkel Berenbaum (29 Dec)  
Jack Birnbaum (25 Dec)  
Nathan H. Cohen (28 Dec)  
Ethel Depper ( 5 Tev)  
Morris Dessen (24 Dec)  
Bette Jane Dunn (27 Dec)

Nata Fleys (28 Dec)  
Jean Eva Ginsberg (25 Dec)  
Helen S. Golub (25 Dec)  
Evelyne J. Helgesen (23 Dec)  
Bobbie Rudolph Kulwin (25 Dec)  
Ruth Lasker (28 Dec)  
Robert Marshak (23 Dec)

Sandra Molasky ( 5 Tev)  
Isaac Reyman (27 Dec)  
Lena O. Rosenfield (11 Tev)  
Alice Rauh Scheeline (23 Dec)  
Jeanette Schomer (10 Tev)  
Leah Schwartz (10 Tev)  
Ralph Weinstein ( 6 Tev)

Friday, December 29

Joseph C. Aub (30 Dec)  
Johanna Braunfeld ( 3 Jan)  
Boris Brotherson ( 4 Jan)  
Abe Eggherman (16 Tev)  
Ruth Herman Garfinkel ( 3 Jan)  
Stanley Gordon ( 4 Jan)  
Belle Halpern ( 1 Jan)

Elsa Klaiman ( 1 Jan)  
Rachel Korman (14 Tev)  
Jeanette Cohen Levy ( 1 Jan)  
Leo Lewis (30 Dec)  
Dena Linado ( 4 Jan)  
Dr Isaac Morhaim (16 Tev)  
Sidney Sinow (31 Dec)

Sadie Yavner Small (13 Tev)  
Maybelle Solon ( 3 Jan)  
Sol Tax ( 4 Jan)  
Isaac Tepper ( 1 Jan)  
Harry A. Topolosky ( 2 Jan)  
William J. Weiner (16 Tev)  
Frieda G. Wollstein ( 5 Jan)

Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office (or email us at [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto: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.



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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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