



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

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

# Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

5:30 PM First Friday Erev Shabbat Service followed by dinner

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7** 

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21** 

10:00 Aм Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Please join us on the weekend of April 20th, as we welcome Rabbi Ed and Merle Feld back to the CU Jewish community. Rabbi Feld and Merle Feld lived in Champaign from 1969-1973, when Rabbi Feld served as the Director of the Hillel Foundation at the University of Illinois. Please see the Felds' full biographies on pg. 6.

On **Friday, April 20**, Merle Feld will speak to us at our **7:30 PM** Shabbat evening service on the topic "Being a Feminist."

On **Saturday, April 21**, at **10:00 AM**, there will be an Egalitarian Traditional Shabbat morning service in the sanctuary. During the service, Rabbi Feld will share a bit about his experience editing *Siddur Lev Shalem*, the prayerbook we use during ETM services.

Following the service, there will be a Kiddush luncheon, at which Rabbi Feld will speak on the topic of "What's a Rabbi."

Please plan to join us for these special events as we welcome the Felds.

## Commemoration of Yom Hashoah

Sunday, April 8, 2018, 7:30 DM

A program of music, liturgy and reflection



Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, Ph.D. is our Keynote speaker and will speak on the "The Power of Memory and the Redemption of Our Future."
Rabbi Sabath serves the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion as President's Scholar and the National Director of Recruitment and Admissions. Prior to this appointment, Rabbi Sabath served as Vice President of the Shalom Hartman Institute Concurrently, she also taught liturgy and theology at HUC-JIR in Jerusalem. Ordained at HUC-JIR in New York, Rabbi Sabath also earned a Ph.D. in Jewish philosophy from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

For several years, Rabbi Sabath wrote a monthly column in the *Jerusalem Post* and writes regularly for *The Times of Israel, The Huffington Post* and other publications. Rachel co-authored two books and published numerous articles.

# "Through Their Eyes" Exhibit

Student projects based on the Holocaust exhibit

Immediately following the service on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

On display in the **Davis Chapel** immediately following the service will be student-created work from area schools: Frankllin Middle School, Barkstall Elementary, Southside Elementary and Next Generation, involving their study of the Holocaust, including poster presentations, art work, dioramas, essays, poetry and computer-generated presentations.

# Holocaust Museum Display

The Museum Committee will be installing a Holocaust exhibit in the Levin Lounge on April 7. It will feature new testimony in our ongoing Community Connections to the Holocaust project, as well as Holocaust literature and other items from our collection. Please stop by and see it. In addition, there is a new Pesach exhibit currently on display.



Fifty years ago this month, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was felled by an assassin's bullet while in Memphis, Tennessee. He was only 39 years old.

Dr. King had come to Memphis on behalf of the garbage workers of that city. It was part of his quest for civil rights for African Americans, but it was also a campaign predicated on social justice and economic justice. King was preparing to launch what he called the "Poor Peoples' Campaign," designed to draw national attention for those of all races and creeds who were struggling economically to realize their American dream.

I am sure there will be much written in the weeks and months ahead exploring the degree to which our country has changed since King's death, and the degree to which we are still mired in many of the old injustices. King has his heirs, to be certain—Rev. Dr. William Barber, the former head of the North Carolina chapter of the NAACP, has launched his own version of the Poor Peoples' Campaign. The Women's March builds on King's principles of non-violent protest. The students of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, who are organizing responses to gun violence in our country, are also drawing from Dr. King's playbook. By many measures, there is still a great deal of work to be done in bringing Dr. King's dream of a brighter and fairer world to its full realization. But whatever one's opinion may be about these individual movements currently active in seeking social change, it is clear that Dr. King's legacy continues to resonate.

In the book of Genesis, Joseph's brothers, fed up with his pestering them about his visions, declare, "Come, let us do away with the dreamer, and we shall see what becomes of his dreams." We know how that story ends; the descent into slavery that should have relegated Joseph to spend the rest of his life in anonymity and abject misery instead became a

transformative moment for him as it precipitated his rise to second-in-command of all Egypt. A strong and compelling dream can succeed if it is shared by others who are committed to its success.

What are your passions? What change do you wish to see in our society? Let us resolve to continue to dream, to struggle, to agitate. Let us not presume that injustices in the world are permanently ingrained; let us find ways to correct them.

One of my favorite quotes from Jewish literature reads, "It is not up to you to complete the task, but neither are you at liberty to abstain from it" (Pirke Avot 2:15). It is incumbent upon every individual to engage with the world in a manner that he or she finds meaningful, in order to partner with God in the sacred task of *tikkun olam*, bringing the world nearer to perfection. There's actually another part to the quote. It states, "The day is short; the task is long; the workers are lazy; yet the reward is great. And the Master of the House is pressing." This is seen to be a metaphor for God (the Master of the House) and the expectations that God has for us. We often, unfortunately, are the lazy workers, choosing to go about our daily business without fully engaging in the broader needs of society. But God reminds us that though the task is long and challenging, the reward is immense.

May we each draw inspiration in our own way from Dr. King and build the society of which we dreamed—one in which all can know peace, security, and opportunity.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook



Mazal Tov to **Ethan Soloveychik**, who was elected as the RCVP (Religious and Cultural Vice President) for the Chicago region of NFTY (the North American Federation of Temple Youth.).

Mazal Tov to **Isaac Soloveychik**, who competed with the Centennial High School Scholastic Bowl team to win the regional championship. Mazal Tov also to **Kayla Israel**, who is also a member of the team.

**Bulletin Submission:** The deadline for **May Bulletin is April 15th**. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Roxanna Davison, assistant@sinaitemplecu.org.



"April is the cruellest month," says T.S. Eliot, but I beg to differ. For me, April is the month of hope, when we dig out of our shelters of Winter and breathe the fresh air of Spring, when we reexamine the habits we've fallen into and make our life anew. This is symbolically what we do when we celebrate Pesach. We clean our homes and take stock of our lives. Although I eat matzah all year round, I always look forward to the first taste of matzah in the Seder, just as I look forward to the first glass of wine, the charoset, the maror and all the other ritual foods we enjoy. These are the foods of freedom, and when we eat them we join the unbroken chain of our ancestors and experience for ourselves freedom from bondage. One of the most meaningful parts of the Seder for me is the remembrance that, even as we celebrate our own freedom, there are many today around the world and even in our own country who experience forms of slavery, and it is our duty as Jews to work for their liberation. May our feelings of empathy with those who are not free endure long after Pesach is over and spur us to action throughout the year!

I mentioned last month that a committee of our peers will be meeting soon to consider new members of the Board of Trustees and Temple officers. We recently announced the makeup of the Nominating Committee for this year. If you receive a phone call or message from members of this committee inviting you to fill one of these positions, please open your heart and mind to the possibility. These positions are vital to the future of our Temple. Without dedicated people serving the congregation in this way, we cannot continue to thrive or even to exist. If you have doubts about what is entailed, why not talk to your friends who have served in the past? Everyone I've spoken to about service on the Board has related stories of connections they've made with others and memories of good fellowship. And what does it really ask of you? Perhaps a few hours of your time and energy each month.

Speaking of things vital to the future of our Temple, I am beginning to get excited about the plans for our Sanctuary Renovation. The Sanctuary Renovation Committee is still exploring details of the proposed design. There will be ample opportunity for congregants to provide input on the design proposal before we approve a final plan and commence construction. Watch for announcement of upcoming gatherings at which feedback will be sought. I'm particularly looking forward to some of the welcoming aspects being considered: Better and warmer lighting, more comfortable seating, modern sound, improved accessibility, etc. Since our sanctuary was built in the 1970's, great strides have been made in interior design, uniting architecture, art, science and engineering, to create spaces that people want to inhabit, and I can't wait to see what we can do to make that happen in our Temple! Doing this renovation is what we owe to our children and those who will be here to enjoy Sinai Temple long after we have gone.

As I write this, many of us are gearing up for this year's Interfaith Seder on March 25. By the time you read this, the event will already have concluded. It's looking like we may be able to welcome around 140 people this year, both from our congregation and from allies in other faith communities. If last year's Seder is any indication, I know we'll have a great time again this year! In some ways, getting to work with so many others in the congregation who lend their time, efforts and expertise to put it all together can be more fun than attending the actual Seder, so I encourage you to get involved next year.

See you in Temple!



### SINAI TEMPLE MARCH 2018 BOARD MEETING

Report on Purim: Our Purim celebration this year was attended by almost 150 people, who enjoyed the meal, the Shpiel and the Megillah Reading. The congregation was wonderfully generous in Purim Greetings (Sh'lach Manot), with nine congregants sending greetings to everyone in the Temple and many other individuals and groups also contributing. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Religious School, and Rabbi Jody wishes to thank everyone for participating!

**Nominating Committee:** The Board has approved this year's Nominating Committee. The committee will invite congregation members to serve on the Board. It will also fill two vacancies among the Board officers: Treasurer and Secretary.

**Website Committee:** After consultation with several members of our congregation who are knowledgeable about website design, the committee has chosen a template known as "Batya" from among the available themes for our new website, hosted by the URJ. There are still some options we can choose to personalize the site. The new site should be up and running by August.



### Jewish Time . . . What is on the Calendar?

There are many holidays and special events on the calendar during the month of April (starting in the Hebrew month of Nisan). Here is a quick reference to upcoming days that have significance.

**Passover/Pesach**—First Night Seder is on March 30. Different movements have seven or eight day holiday. You can learn about the different customs here: <a href="https://reformjudaism.org/passover-7">https://reformjudaism.org/passover-7</a>—or-8-days and use the information as well as your personal practice to determine whether or not you observe the holiday for seven days (as it is explained in the Torah) or eight days (a result of living outside of the Promised Land).

Counting the Omer—from the second night of Passover until Shavuot, (50 days) we recite a blessing and a formula for counting the days between these two festivals. This represents the commandment to bring offerings of sheaves of barley. You can read more about this here:

https:www.myjewishlearning.com/article/how-to-count-theomer/. It is also a great opportunity to work on counting up or down with younger children. The omeris also a period of time when we refrain from certain celebrations and festivities. Some people observe the custom of not shaving or cutting hair, not listening to live music, not getting married and not purchasing new clothes. This is to remember the lives of 24,000 disciples of Rabbi Akiva who perished during the omer period.

We also have modern (not Biblical) observances during this time. There are three special days in April—Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom HaZikron (Israeli Memorial Day/Day of Remembrance) and Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day). All three fall in the beginning of April and we will have local community observances for each.





Religious School: April 8, 15, 22, 29

Hebrew School: April 4,8,11,15, 18,22, 25, 29

### Other Events:

April 6 First Friday Shabbat

April 8 Community Yom HaShoah Service

April 19 Community Yom Ha'Atzmaut Event

April 20 Shabbat Rocks! and Next Dor

April 13–15 Family Camp at OSRUI

April 22 Family Mini Golf (program needs to be

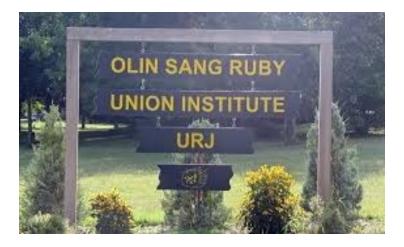
confirmed—watch for more information!)

May 2 Middle School/High School Lag

B'Omer Celebration

### Please Note:

Although the original school calendar does not list May 2<sup>nd</sup> as a Hebrew School date, we will have school that afternoon. Thank you for updating your calendar and accommodating a change in plans!





# Announcements



### **ADULT EDUCATION**

Will resume on April 8th



The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM. We will be reading, *Lilac Girls*, by Martha Hall Kelley. Host: Joan Kozoll, 1108 Plymouth Dr., C. (356-8554) Facilitator: Toni Lachman. 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. Throughout 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 or by phone at 217-367-8053.

### **VIMs**

### Thursday, April 12th at 11:45 AM

Our regular meeting date is the first Thursday of the month, but because of Passover, our next VIMS lunch will be on April 12th. Calling all women 55 and older, come join us for lunch and fellowship at Baxter's in Champaign. 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 April, please join us at our services on Friday, April 13th 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!

### The 10th Anniversary of Illini Hillel's Cohen Center

will be celebrated on **Sunday**, **April 29**, **beginning at 1 PM** in Urbana-Champaign.



We will be honoring the Takiff/Cohen Family, Maury Fertig, and Barry Weiner (pictured) for their outstanding contributions to Hillel.

The event will include lunch, special guest speakers including Dean Brown of the Business School, and Steve Miller of

Origin Ventures. The mayor of Champaign will be giving a proclamation at the event.



### 2018 ANNUAL BENEFIT & RAFFLE

for the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

Wednesday, April 11th 3:30–6:00 PM

Silvercreek Restaurant 402 N. Race, Urbana

Enjoy a delicious bowl of Silvercreek's soup & homemade bread, and take home a locally-made, handcrafted ceramic bowl. All proceeds go to Daily Bread

Soup Tickets: \$25/adult \$10/child 12 & under.

Raffle tickets: \$10/each or 3 for \$20. Tickets available at the

event.



# FUNDRAISER Wednesday, April 25th 4:00–6:00 PM

Eat at Panera Bread Bakery-café at 1765 W. Kirby Ave. Champaign

Bring a flyer with you when you dine and Panera will donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase to Sinai Temple.

You can pick up a flyer on the name tag table or in the office. We will need at least 20 flyers redeemed to qualify.

April 2018 ~ Nissan/Iyar 5778



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

Don & Joyce Francisco

Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Leon Bankier

Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of Leon Bankier

David Sussman & Kirstin Wilcox Inna & Vadim Zharnitsky

### **GENERAL FUND**

Frank Adleman, in memory of Leon Bankier, a great man and good friend Hilda Banks, in memory of David Markoff Minna Friedman, in memory of Murray Friedman

June Gronik, in memory of Milton Gorodetsky, in memory of Ida Gorodetsky and in memory of Jerome Wachtel

Richard & Shirley Newman, thanks to all who remembered us with a Purim Basket

Gene & Julia Robinson, in memory of Sonja Robinson and in memory of Jack Robinson

Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Bessie Siegal and in memory of Faye Sholem

Edward & Nancy Tepper, in memory of Saul Blumenthal

### KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Don & Joyce Francisco William & Phyllis Gingold

David Sussman & Kirstin Wilcox Inna & Vadim Zharnitsky

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Toni Lachman, in memory of Ruth Lachman

### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

Joyce Nagel Eisenstein, thanks to all who sent me a Purim Basket

Konrad & Barbara Heuvers, in memory of Malcom McKenzie McClure for the teaching of Hebrew

### **ROBINSON FUND**

Robert Rosencranz

# More Information About Our Speakers for the Weekend of April 20th



Merle Feld is a widely published poet, award-winning playwright, educator and activist whose writing can be found in numerous anthologies and prayer books including *Mahzor Lev Shalem*, *Siddur Lev Shalem* and *The Torah: A Woman's Commentary* and in her highly acclaimed memoir, *A Spiritual Life* (revised edition 2007, SUNY Press); her most recent book of poems is *Finding Words* (Behrman House). She is founder and

director of the Rabbinic Writing Institute (established in 2005) and, with husband Rabbi Ed Feld, founder of the non-profit organization DEREKH: Pathways to the Heart and Jewish Tradition which offers resources for online learning opportunities, spiritual search and accompaniment to rabbis and seekers across the denominations. She and Ed make their home in Western Massachusetts.



Rabbi Edward Feld is senior editor of the new *Siddur Lev Shalem* and of its sister volume *Mahzor Lev Shalem*, published by the Conservative Movement's Rabbinical Assembly, for which he was listed as one of the Forward 50 – the 50 outstanding American Jews. Of his new book, *Joy, Despair and Hope: Reading Psalms* (Cascade Books) one reviewer wrote, "Rabbi Feld has a profound understanding of the pathways to spiritual striving," and another wrote, "It invites readers to see the psalms as windows into the human condition."

In his distinguished career, Rabbi Feld has served as Rabbi-in-Residence at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America functioning as an advisor and mentor to rabbinical students, Rabbi of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, and Hillel Director of Princeton University. He is a noted teacher, lecturing throughout North America. Rabbi Feld has published widely on halachic and ethical issues, on Jewish theology and on biblical themes and along with his book on Psalms is the author of *The Spirit of Renewal: Faith After the Holocaust* (Jewish Lights).

## Sinai Temple Gift Shop

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

### APRIL SPECIAL

### 20% off the ENTIRE STORE!!

\*Offer valid on in-stock merchandise only; excludes special orders, books and previously reduced items.

### **Upcoming B'not Mitzvah:**

Emma Donnini, May 26 Norah Kopolow, June 2

### **REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION**

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

### But we are ALWAYS open by APPOINTMENT.

Email: nataliefr@comcast.net or call Natalie Frankenberg (390-4168), Jessica Kopolow (417-8699) 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.

6 Sinai Temple Bulletin April 2018 ~ Nissan/Iyar 5778



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Helen Gold Beller (10 Apr) Hermine Ruth Lachman (7 Apr) Michael Faiman (24 Nis) Helaine Stone Lane (9 Apr) Fay Ferrer (24 Nis) Florine Lesht (28 Nis) Faye Garrick (24 Nis) Leonard D. Lewis (10 Apr) Benjamin Grossman (12 Apr) Ruth Marshak (12 Apr) Donald Imlay (10 Apr) Patricia McGinty (11 Apr) Edward R. Kerman (12 Apr) Selig Schwartz (9 Apr) Lena Loeb Kuhn (8 Apr) Gladys Singman (11 Apr) Aaron Kurland (8 Apr) Abraham Sitron (12 Apr)

Henrietta N. Bloomfield ( 5 Iya) Misha Bursztyn ( 4 Iya) Louis Cutler (19 Apr) Saerree K. Fiedler (14 Apr) Wahei Fujimoto (29 Nis) Sadie Goldstein (17 Apr) Fred Gottheil (19 Apr) Alvin Hamburg (19 Apr) Daniel Leon Harlib (29 Nis) Wilhelmine Heumann (14 Apr) Sidney Kadish (20 Apr)
Miriam B. Kaplan (16 Apr)
Clara Koslofsky (16 Apr)
Gary Lyon (16 Apr)
Rose Maus (18 Apr)
Mary Ann Nathan (29 Nis)
Ida Reider (30 Nis)
Amelia A. Reineberg (16 Apr)

Amelia A. Reineberg (16 Apr) Lee W. Reineberg (16 Apr) Alex Rubin (14 Apr)

Lillian Gingold (22 Apr)

David Uzrad ( 5 Iya) Rose Weissler ( 4 Iya) Rose Weissman (19 Apr)

Leon M. Ades (25 Apr)
Joel Lee Agran (21 Apr)
Molly Belber (26 Apr)
Frank A. Berg (27 Apr)
Leah Cohen Bojar (7 Iya)
Evelyn Nelson Bros (21 Apr)
Hannah Choldin (21 Apr)
Della Faiman (9 Iya)
Herbert E. Francisco (8 Iya)

Sarah Gofseyeff Heller ( 6 Iya) Lewis Lasker (26 Apr) Dorothy Evelyn Pollard Liebovich (22 Apr) Mathilde Loeb (24 Apr) Kenneth H. Ober (26 Apr) Natalie M. Smith (21 Apr) Joyce Snyder (23 Apr)

Beatrice R. Tepper (21 Apr)

Gertrude Katz Tax (21 Apr)

Samuel Adleman (30 Apr) Laura Moore Avner (4 May) Edward Israel Blum (29 Apr) Isidore Brill (29 Apr) Beverly J. Cronin (4 May) Bertha Rabinowitz Diness (30 Apr) Agha-Jan Gahvari (13 Iya) Philip Horwitz (3 May) Raisa Ionina (1 May) Blair Bernard Kling (2 May)
Alfred Kohn (28 Apr)
Celia Berman Kulwin (30 Apr)
Ginger Aplon Kuper (13 Iya)
Samuel Lenik (15 Iya)
Ethel Uritz Marcus (29 Apr)
Ida Levine Markoff (30 Apr)
Jacob Royce Nathan (13 Iya)

Norman Stanley Rosenzwog ( 4 May) Naomi M. Siegel ( 4 May) Helen Kranson Siess ( 1 May) Seymour Sudman ( 2 May) Theodore H. Zimmerman ( 1 May)

Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office 217-352-8140 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.

Edith Pincus (4 May)



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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.









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

8 Sinai Temple Bulletin

April 2018 ~ Nissan/Iyar 5778