



Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 7:00 PM Selichot Program & Service

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

11:00 AM Mt. Hope Cemetery Visit & Memorial Service

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 7:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 ROSH HASHANAH

9:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service First Day
10:00 AM Reform Service
10:00 AM Jewnior Congregation
2:30 PM Children & Family Service
5:00 PM Tashlich at Maynard Lake

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 ROSH HASHANAH

9:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service Second Day

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 EREV YOM KIPPUR (KOL NIDRE) 6:15 PM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan 7:30 PM Reform Service

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 YOM KIPPUR

9:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan
10:00 AM Reform Morning Service
10:00 AM Jewnior Congregation
1:30 PM Yom Kippur Study Session
2:30 PM Children & Family Service
4:00 PM Reform Neilah & Yizkor
4:45 PM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 5:30 PM Sukkot Dinner, Service & Celebration

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan First Day Sukkot

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 10:00 AM Gabe Cook's Bar Mitzvah

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1 10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Shemini Atzeret Service w/ Yizkor 5:30 PM Simchat Torah Dinner, Service, Celebration & Dinner



THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON:

Mon, Sept 3—Labor Day Mon, Sept 10—Rosh Hashanah Tue, Sept 11—Rosh Hashanah Wed, Sept 19—Yom Kippur Mon, Sept 24—Sukkot Tue, Sept 25—Sukkot Monday, October 1—Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah





The blood drive at Sinai Temple on Aug 19th was a great success! We collected 33 units for the local blood supply. New this year was the double red machine. Thanks to Dov Cohen for being our first double red donation. This process allows for two units of packed red blood cells to be collected but the donor gets back their plasma so they are less dehydrated. Red cells are given mostly to newborn babies and cancer patients who cannot tolerate or do not need the volume of whole blood. The family that donates together award goes to Mike and Monique Tsipursky who were well supervised by their children during their donation time.

Thanks from the social action committee to everyone who donated and participated!

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

www.sinaitemplecu.org September 2018 ~ Elul 5778/Tishrei 5779

Sinai Temple Bulletin



Rabbi Benay Lappe is a Conservative Rabbi, the founder and executive director of SVARA, a self-described "radical Yeshiva" based in Chicago. One of Rabbi Lappe's most famous lessons, which has been widely shared on the internet, begins with a quote from Rabbi Lisa Edwards. It states, "If a donkey were to read the Torah, it would focus on all of the donkey stories."

What Rabbi Edwards (and Rabbi Lappe) mean by this quote is that it is natural for a reader to identify with those individuals in a text with whom we can most easily find sympathy. Like seeks out like. So, a donkey would read the "donkey stories" and say, "Hey, that's me! I can relate to that!" In a similar manner, those who have experienced, for instance, sibling rivalry might find that the Joseph narrative or the story of Cain and Abel particularly resonates with them. Those who see in themselves a rebellious streak might identify with Korach and his band.

We don't always allow ourselves the opportunity to take a step back and think about what stories are most meaningful to us, which narratives bring meaning to our lives or heighten our sense of connection to God and to the world in which we live. Indeed, much of our liturgy is grounded in the language of plurality, taking worship as a shared experience. We don't say, "Avi Malki" (my parent, my ruler), but rather "Avinu Malkeinu" (our parent, our ruler). In that subtle linguistic distinction, we link ourselves to the others in the congregation.

To a degree, I think that's a good thing. We are taught "Al tifrosh min ha-tzibbur, do not separate yourself from the community," and I think that shared prayers—both of atonement and of praise—can help to strengthen communal

bonds. But it's also important that we pause from time-totime to delve into the personal rewards that we can derive from reading a traditional text or encountering a liturgical passage through the lens of our own self-interests. What are your "donkey stories?" What elements of our tradition inspire you, make you want to strive harder, give you hope for the future?

The story is told of a teacher who encountered one of his students a few days before the High Holidays. The student seemed eager to be on his way, while the teacher wished to chat. "What's your rush?" the teacher asked. "I'm sorry, sir," the student replied, "The holidays are nearly upon us and I must go home and review my *machzor*." The teacher answered, "Ah. No need to worry. The *machzor* has not changed since last year. But you likely have. Instead of reviewing the *machzor*, you would do well to review yourself."

Our *machzor* has not changed. Nor has our Torah or any of the other sacred texts of our tradition. But since we have each changed, it behooves us to review and think about where we will find meaning and purpose in the stories and writings of our people. As we approach these *Yamim Nora'im*, these Days of Awe, I encourage you to look for your "donkey stories" and see where you can find inspiration for the coming year.

Shanah Tovah U'M'tukah, A Good and Sweet New Year From Our Family to Yours,

Rabbi Alan Cook



Mazal Tov to **Robin & Bruce Goettel** on the birth of their second granddaughter, Raina June Sobh, born July 27th to Jennifer Goettel & Imran Sobh. They also are looking forward to welcoming another granddaughter due in January whose parents are Lauren & Corey Levin.

Mazal tov to Joyce Meyer and Faye Lesht's dog, Buddy, and to Lil Levant's dog, Miggy, who were each recently featured in a News-Gazette contest for favorite pets.

Mazal Tov to **Max Libman**, whose short film about the Holocaust, "A Star," was a winner of the "Pen to Lens" competition and was screened recently at the Virginia Theater. **Jacob Epstein** also was honored with an "Excellence in Screenwriting" Award for his script, "Heaven World."

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



From the Board

We've all returned from our travels of the summer, ready for a new year. I'd like to share an experience Diane and I had during our recent trip to the west. Part of our tour involved a visit to the Heritage Park in Calgary, Alberta. In a place where we did not expect to encounter many Jews, we discovered a little gem in the form of a small early 20th century synagogue, where a woman was demonstrating the art of challah braiding and a man was sharing a Czechoslovakian Torah that had been rescued from the Holocaust. It made us feel at home and remember how important our Temple—and our heritage—are to us. And now we're excited to be back in C-U and ready to begin all the activity that September has to offer at Sinai Temple!

September is the month of the High Holidays this year, starting on September 1 with Selichot. Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, Yom Kippur and the first part of Sukkot all come in September this year. The whole community convenes on Erev Rosh Hashanah to kick things off, before the Reform and Traditional congregations hold individual services for the remainder of the holidays. We thus celebrate our unity and diversity. Whichever group you worship with, Sinai Temple provides a space for your commemoration of these holiest days of our calendar.

The Board decided this year to waive all expenses for youth programming during our holiday services. There are several options for our younger congregants. Babysitting is available each day of the holiday services for the youngest children. In addition, Rabbi Jody will be leading Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning services for kids who wish to attend. There are also special family services in the afternoon on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on the day of Yom Kippur. Everyone is invited to join us at Maynard Lake on the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah for a Tashlich ceremony in which we symbolically cast off our sins.

The High Holidays are a time of personal reflection and community involvement. We as Jews are encouraged to deepen our commitment to G-d and humanity, and this is the time of year when we all renew our commitment to the Temple, both in service and financial support.

On Monday, September 3, the Labor of Love is an opportunity for everyone to come to the Temple to help with some much-needed TLC to get our worship spaces and grounds ready for the holidays. Please plan to come and lend a hand between 9 am and noon.

We've all received our letters from the Temple office asking us to decide on our level of financial support for the coming year. As you consider your level of support, please bear in mind: many temples require their members and visitors to buy tickets for the High Holidays, often at great expense. We don't do that at Sinai, because we rely on our members to recognize their own responsibility to support the Temple and its activities. When you are deciding on your voluntary contribution for the year, please take a moment to reflect on what a wonderful community you belong to and how much that community needs your help and support!

I'll close with an update on our renovation project. The Board voted in August to work with Ratio Design of Champaign to complete our renovation. The entire Temple community will be called upon to get involved, both with respect to design ideas and financial backing for the project. With everyone's help, we can make the redesign of our sacred and social spaces something we can all be proud of for many years to come.

See you in Temple!

of the

SINAI TEMPLE AUGUST 2018 BOARD MEETING

- Sinai Temple will host and participate in the "Union of Reform Judaism Day of Learning" on October 28. This is an event held at various locations around the country led by facilitators from URJ that makes available knowledge about good governance practices for synagogues. We hope to welcome interested people from across Illinois and Missouri in addition to our own Temple members to participate in this forum. Participants pay a nominal fee, which covers all expenses for the event. Board members and other curious congregants are encouraged to attend. Let Rabbi Alan know if you are interested.
- The Board voted not to charge for any youth activities during the High Holidays this year, including babysitting.
- The Board voted overwhelmingly to hire Ratio Design of Champaign to do the renovation of our sacred and social spaces.
- Sinai Temple will be a sponsor of a block party at Hillel on August 30 to celebrate Rabbi Benjamin Frankel, former Sinai Rabbi and founder of the first Hillel in the United States. The City of Champaign voted to give the block of John Street in front of Hillel the designation "Honorary Rabbi Benjamin Frankel Way."

From our Educator

During the course of my rabbinate, I have been asked so many times if I was prepared. When I officiated my first wedding, was I prepared? Was I prepared to provide counsel to an elderly widow when his wife of 57 years passed away? At my first pulpit, did I complete my sermons in time? Was I prepared mentally for the challenge of going from a brit milah to an unveiling to a wedding, all in the course of a day?

I am a planner. I research, practice, make lists and cross items off. I compare, consider pros and cons, organize and reorganize. And I learn, over and over, that no matter how much time and energy I spend preparing, I can't anticipate how every detail will play out and therefore, I need to improvise. Thirteen years ago, Rabbi Alan and I were preparing to welcome our first child, Gabe. We didn't know that Gabe would be Gabriel, and not Gabriella, which seemed to be more stressful to family members who wanted to be in Denver with us for a brit milah than it was to us —the ones planning for a brit milah that might not happen. We, two pulpit rabbis, were planning for a baby who was expected to arrive on Yom Kippur. We had volunteer sermon readers in place, cue sheets were shared with alternates who could lead the congregations in

prayer and sermons were written well in advance. And then Gabe waited until the middle of Sukkot to enter the world.

Rabbí Jody Cook

Thirteen years later, I am still working on finding the right balance, and this time of year is my biggest reminder that I can't always prepare for everything! Each August, I need to finalize my hiring for the religious school, print registration forms and teacher handbooks. I have programming to plan, class lists to type, High Holy Day activities to develop. I have to get Gabe, Orli and Eden ready for another secular school year, check school supply lists and clothes, sign up for activities. And I face a personal challenge of finding time to prepare myself for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. Finding time for introspection and reflection tends to be last on my list, even though it should be first. I can find time to bake honey cake and slice apples, but I don't succeed at finding enough time to truly consider changes I would like to make in my life. Perhaps this year will be different, but if not, I know that selfreflection is at least on my list of things to do to prepare for the new year and one year, I will be able to cross it off!



HIGH HOLY DAYS FOR YOUTH

JEWnior Congregation and Babysitting will be offered again this year. Please sign up in advance. Information was included in the High Holy Day mailing. If you need a new copy of the form, please contact Rabbi Jody.

Babysitting will be offered during erev (evening) services. During daytime tefilot (prayer services) we will offer babysitting (through PreKindergarten) and JEWnior Congregation for kids in grade K-6. For the safety of your children and other worshippers, children will need to be signed in and out of the programming by a parent or other designated adult.

CURTIS ORCHARD-KIDDUSH CLUB EVENT

Our kick-off KIDdush Club event is scheduled for September 2. We will meet at Curtis Orchard for storytelling, crafts and time to explore the farm with friends. There is no cost for the program but some activities at the farm do have a cost associated with them. Come and dip apples in honey! The start of the New Year will be a (shofar) blast!

September 2—11:00-12:30—Curtis Orchard

KIDdush Club is a joint program between Sinai Temple and CUJF's PJ Library initiative. All families are invited to join us for this program. Please RSVP to Rabbi Jody (educator@sinaitemplecu.org)



DATES TO KNOW:

September 2—KIDdush Club at Curtis Orchard (11:00-12:30) September 9, 10, 11—Rosh Hashanah September 16—FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL September 18, 19—Yom Kippur September 23—Religious School September 26 - Hebrew School

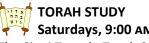


4 Sinai Temple Bulletin

Announcements



The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM. Due to the High Holidays, we will not meet in September. The October book is Travels with Myself and Another by Martha Gellhorn. Contact person: Susan Schomer 359-2938.



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 No Class on Tuesday, September 11 & No Class on Tuesday, October 2 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 6 at 11:45 AM

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.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no First Friday in September or October, but it will resume on Friday, November 2nd.

LGGK FOR information on High Holiday receptions & celebrations in an upcoming Email Blast.



Gabe Cook Bar Mitzvah

Gabriel Benjamin Cook will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 29, 2018, Shabbat Chol HaMoed Sukkot. Gabe has been practicing for this moment for many years and is excited to share his first public Torah reading with the CU Jewish community, family members and friends. Gabe is a 7th grade student at Franklin Steam Academy. He enjoys playing guitar, family vacations (especially to Disney), hanging out with his dog, Oogie, and spending time taking things apart and using parts to build new things. Gabe is a great big brother to Orli and Eden. Gabe loves spending time at Sinai Temple and at

OSRUI (overnight camp). It is possible that he spends more time at these two favorite places than at his own home. For his mitzvah project, Gabe decided to focus on food insecurities because it is a link between his Sukkot Torah portion and his passion to help other people. Gabe has been volunteering at Feeding Our Kids, a local organization that provides meals to school age children. Gabe, Orli, Eden, Rabbi Jody and Rabbi Alan can't wait to share this simcha with our community - we hope that you will celebrate with Gabe and our family in September.



Giving

ALPINER STERN FLOWER FUND

Joyce Nagel Eisenstein, in honor of Brenda Berg's birthday

BUILDING FUND

Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe Melissa Frydman Michael & Sheri Langendorf Jacki & Jeff Loewenstein Lois Meyer, in memory of Paul Hyman Meyer Diane & Rob Ore Karen & Geoffrey Ray Veronica Shavitt Mitchell & Ann Sussman Edward & Nancy Tepper Amy Wolff & Aaron Smith

CONDOLENCE FUND

Joyce Nagel Eisenstein, in memory of Bob Eisenstein

FRIENDS OF SINAI TEMPLE

Stanley & Joan Levy

GENERAL FUND

Annette & John Buckmaster, in memory of Bernice Schultz

- Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Herbert Goldberg
- Ruth Morhaim, in memory of Trudy Averbuch and in honor of Adam & Heather Diamond on the birth of baby Madalyn
- Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of William Sholem
- Judith Siess & Stephen Bremseth, in memory of Sam Kranson

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Adrenne Dietchweiler Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler Matthew & Eleanor Finkin Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe Don & Joyce Francisco Melissa Frydman Marshall & Karen Garrick Diane Gottheil Helen Greenstein Michael & Peggy Grossman Miles Klein Lyle Konigsberg & Susan Frankenberg Wynne Korr Jacki & Jeff Loewenstein Diane & Rob Ore Karen & Geoffrey Ray Veronica Shavitt Edward & Nancy Tepper Paul & Susan Schomer Amy Wolff & Aaron Smith

PLAYGROUND FUND

Joli Ginsberg Robin & Bruce Goettel, in honor of the birth of our granddaughter, Raina June Sobh, daughter of Jennifer & Imran, and in honor of Lauren & Corey Levin's pregnancy announcement James & Karin Imlay Paula Kaufman Leslie & Gary Mason Richard & Shirley Newman

Abby Rosenbaum

Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff, in honor of Art Siegal, and in honor of Leah Siegal, and in honor of the birth of Augie Napolitano son of Chris & Emily Napolitano

SUDMAN PATIO FUND

Matthew & Eleanor Finkin Art & Marcia Monaco Siegel

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

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

20% OFF ALL KITCHENWARE

SAVE on High Holiday cooking with our SEPTEMBER SPECIAL on all Kitchenware

Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah:

Gabe Cook, September 29 Zachi Dankowicz, October 6

Regular Hours Resume on Sun, Sept 16

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 will be open during the Labor of Love Mon, Sept 3rd from 9 ам–Noon

But we are ALWAYS open by APPOINTMENT.

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



Mon.–Sat. 10:00 am – 9:00 pm Sun. 11:00 am – 6:00 pm www.DrGsBrainWorks.com

Memorials

Friday, September 14

Annette Bernstein (9 Sep) Daniel K. Bloomfield (12 Sep) Florence Braverman (4 Tis) Donald Brieland (2 Tis) Jorge Covarrubias (11 Sep) Jerome Ex (12 Sep) Beatrice Herman (5 Tis) Leonard Heumann (13 Sep)

Dorothy Katz (1 Tis) Jana Katz (8 Sep) William Konick (10 Sep) Abe Leavitt (14 Sep) Marvin N. Lesht (5 Tis) Jerry Levant (8 Sep) Abraham Levy (11 Sep) Albert Abraham Liebovich (10 Sep)

Penny Elizabeth Magence-Ginsberg

Dorothy Selicovitz Novick (15 Sep)

Zelda Hamburg Maus (19 Sep)

Sol Orden (20 Sep) Louis Roddis (7 Tis)

Leonard Ross (15 Sep)

Rose Rubinstein (19 Sep)

(20 Sep)

Blanche Loeb (8 Sep) Rachel Loeb (10 Sep) Abaraham Mizrachi (14 Sep) Jack H. Nessel (12 Sep) Samuel Slutsky (11 Sep) Sarah Spitzer (11 Sep) Rachel Towlen (9 Sep)

Ronald Senoff (12 Tis)

Anna Ruth Steigmann (18 Sep)

Joel Serlin (21 Sep)

Baruch Yairi (10 Tis)

Alejandro Victor Medina Abulafia (16 Sep) Carrie Wiener Adler (15 Sep) Gloria Liss Bortman (18 Sep) Bertha Freudenstein (19 Sep) Steven Gingold (18 Sep) Pauline Gitler (18 Sep) Max Greenberg (17 Sep)

Lucille J. Birkett (24 Sep) Marion G. Eskow (23 Sep) Alvin Friedman (13 Tis) Sol Goldberg (27 Sep)

Esther Solomon (28 Sep) Annette Winakor (23 Sep)

September 21 Friday,

Ralph L. Dietchweiler (25 Sep) Jeffrey Paul Kaufman (17 Tis) Elsie Mautner (23 Sep) Milton Stanley Schneller (28 Sep) Rachel Sitron (24 Sep)

Jerome Aprill (3 Oct) Dr Richard Back (5 Oct) Mathilde Back (5 Oct) Fela Bankier (5 Oct) Sali Wintner Blum (3 Oct) Solomon Bernstein Cohen (29 Sep) Louis Ferratier (24 Tis) Behrooz Gahvari (22 Tis)

Hormozd Gahvari (3 Oct) Lewis Ginsberg (3 Oct) Ann Braun Goldfein (30 Sep) Shirley Zibel Gunther (2 Oct) Becky S. Kozoll (30 Sep) Estelle Langendorf (3 Oct) Allan Levy (29 Sep) Sandra Lipson (1 Oct)

Dorothy Lowenstein (5 Oct) Mortimer Merkel (4 Oct) Norma Rosenberg (5 Oct) Ceil Rubinstein (3 Oct) David L. Stone (1 Oct)

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.



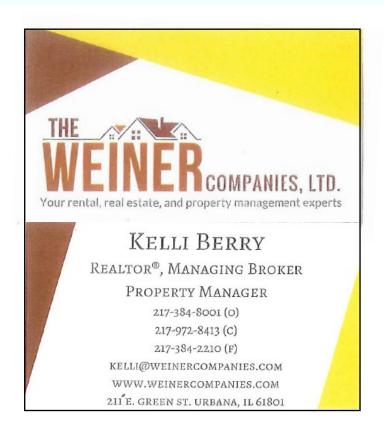
Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage P.A.I.D. Permit No. 298 Champaign, IL 61821

3104 West Windsor Rd. Champaign, IL 61822

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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!