

# Schedule of Services

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2** 5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3** 10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9** 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10** 10:00 AM Isaac Fisher's Bar Mitzvah

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 165:30 PMShabbat Rocks!/Next Dor7:30 PMErev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17** 10:00 am Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23** 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30** 7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service



THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED November 12 for Veterans Day November 22 & 23 for Thanksgiving





Rabbi Alan Cook Rabbi Emeritus Norman Klein Rabbi Emeritus Isaac Neuman Z"L

# Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Sinai Temple Social Action Committee in cooperation with Stone Creek Church of Urbana is collecting non-perishable food such as canned vegetable, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing and instant mashed potatoes, for distribution to families for Thanksgiving. By partnering with Stone Creek Church, over 1200 families in the Champaign-Urbana area are served. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Please leave items in the Box of Many Colors located in the lobby no later than **Sunday, November 11th**. You may also drop them off in the Office foyer during the week.



## First Friday Returns!

#### November 2, 2018

After a brief hiatus, we are pleased to announce the return of our popular First Friday format. Join us for a special early Shabbat service at 5:30 PM, followed by a delicious dinner and a chance to visit with all of your Sinai Temple friends. Your RSVPs are requested by Wednesday, October 31 to help ensure that we have sufficient food. Please RSVP at https://sinaicu.wufoo.com/forms/ w1e16iid1nwg13z/ or call the Temple office at 352-8140.

If you can assist Rabbi Alan in the kitchen and/or with setup during the day on Friday, Nov. 2, please let him know by emailing him at rabbialan@sinaitemplecu.org.



## Museum Exhibit

The exhibit honoring our veterans has been installed in the museum case outside the Sanctuary in the Levin Lounge. Please stop by and read these heroes' stories and thank them and their families for their dedication, sacrifice and patriotism.

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

Sinai Temple Bulletin

## From Rabbí Alan Cook's Desk



There are many significant things to look forward to in this month of November. November is when we honor our veterans; it is when we give thanks for the many blessings that we and our friends and family enjoy. Of course, as we make our way through November, we are mindful of the fact that Chanukah and the conclusion of the secular year are on the horizon. But perhaps the most significant event

of the month occurs on November 6, when we have the opportunity to exercise our right to vote for the issues and candidates who matter most to us and best reflect our personal values.

It is not my place to tell you how to cast your vote; I simply hope that everyone who is eligible will do so on (or before) November 6. The gravest danger to our democracy is an apathetic public who does not exercise this right.

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, a Jewish scholar of the last century, expressed the importance of voting when he taught:

On reaching the shores of the United States; Jews found a safe haven. The rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights have allowed us the freedom to practice our religion without interference and to live in this republic in safety. A fundamental principle of Judaism is hakarat hatov — recognizing benefits afforded us and giving expression to our appreciation. Therefore, it is incumbent upon each Jewish citizen to participate in the democratic system which safeguards the freedoms we enjoy. The most fundamental responsibility incumbent on each individual is to register and to vote ... By this, we can express our appreciation and contribute to the continued security of our community. (Feinstein, 1984)

Centuries before Rabbi Feinstein, the prophet Jeremiah proclaimed, "Seek the welfare of the city" (Jeremiah 29:7), which later rabbinic authorities interpreted as encouraging engagement in politics to ensure the well-being of the community. For instance, the great sage Hillel taught, "Do not separate yourself from the community," (Pirke Avot 2:4) admonishing us—as Jeremiah did—that we must feel concern not only for ourselves and our own livelihood, but for society as a whole.

Neutral is a fine and safe position for a car to be in; it's a dangerous position for a person in a democratic society. Each of us who are eligible to vote must embrace that power and privilege in order to secure a meaningful future for ourselves and for the generations who will follow us.

If by chance your voting eligibility is called into question at your polling place, you have the right to request a provisional ballot, with receipt, as provided for by law. If you've requested a mail-in ballot, make sure that you complete and return it. If you need to check your voter status, or view a sample ballot, you may do so at: <u>https://</u> www.champaigncountyclerk.com/elections/voter-information

Our democratic institutions function best when we ALL participate. May the candidates selected on November 6, work for a just and fair society, and may they bring peace and blessing to our community, to our state, and to the United States of America.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

Mazel T

Mazel Tov to **Professor Dana Rabin** on the publication of her book *Britain and Its Internal Others*, 1750-1800, Under rule of law.

TOV Mazel Tov to **Pam and Ken Olson**, whose daughter Kristina was awarded a MacArthur Genius Grant for her work on the social and cognitive development of transgender and gender-nonconforming youth. Here is the News Gazette link to read the full article: http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2018-10-05/urbana-native

-recipient-macarthur-foundations-genius-grant.html.

Mazel Tov to **Bill and Eileen Kohen** on the birth of their grandson Isaac Rempel Kohen who was born on September 22nd to parents Stephen Kohen and Jane Rempel.

Mazel tov to Arielle and Russell Weinstein, and big sister Beatrice, who recently welcomed Juliette Aravah Weinstein, born during Sukkot.

### From the Board





#### Modim anachnu lach!

This phrase, included as part of our *A midah* or standing prayer, thanks God for the many blessings bestowed on us. When the Temple still stood, Jews offered sacrifices to God in thanks for these blessings. In our day, we must find different ways to show our gratitude to God.

I recently attended lectures given by Rabbi Steven Sager while he was visiting Champaign-Urbana, all concerning the practice of *tzedakah*, variously translated as justice, righteousness or charity. We usually think of *tzedakah* as monetary donations given in support of people or institutions, but Rabbi Sager discussed a wider interpretation of the term and practice. *Tzedakah* can be any number of acts of kindness that benefit life.

We teach our children at an early age to practice *tzedakah* in different ways: Putting coins in a *tzedakah* box, bringing canned goods to donate to the Food Bank, making sandwiches for the homeless shelter, doing volunteer work as part of their mitzvah project when preparing for bar or bat mitzvah, and many others. Service to the Temple and to the broader community also constitutes *tzedakah*. What do all these forms have in common? Quite simply, they are the right thing to do, because you know it when you feel it. In the Torah, God wanted Abraham to do *tzedakah* without ever defining what that meant. We as humans are expected to discover what *tzedakah* means for ourselves, because we instinctively *know in our hearts* what is right. We are only limited by our own creativity.

I am reminded of a story about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the author who created the Sherlock Holmes character. Once, when Sir Arthur was visiting fellow author George Meredith, the two were out walking in the garden. Meredith suffered from a nervous condition that made it difficult for him to keep his balance. Doyle, who was slightly ahead of Meredith, heard his friend slip and fall. Ascertaining from the sound of the fall that Meredith was not seriously injured, Doyle continued walking ahead without turning around, thus allowing his friend to regain his footing without assistance and saving him from the embarrassment of being helped up. This was an act of *tzedakah*. What form of *tzedakah* is appropriate in any given situation is our task to determine.

Just as all human beings have the God-given privilege and responsibility of performing acts of mercy and compassion, all citizens in a democracy have the privilege and responsibility of choosing their leaders. On Tuesday, November 6, Americans will have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote. This right should not be taken lightly. It is a sacred duty, and I think it is a form of *tzedakah*. This is the season when we pause in our busy lives to consider our blessings. Thanksgiving is a holiday set aside to remind us of all that we can be thankful for in our lives. May the spirit of gratitude stay with us throughout the year.

See you in Temple!

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#### SINAI TEMPLE OCTOBER 2018 BOARD MEETING

- This month's D'var Torah from Rabbi Alan referenced the Tower of Babel. Diversity of thought and opinion is healthy—but in our broader society many people are finding it difficult to have discussions with those who differ. We can work in our temple community to recognize that there is value in diversity and find ways to celebrate that within our congregation.
- The 2018/5779 URJ Day of Leadership Learning will take place on Sunday October 28, 2018 from 2 -5 p.m. This unique project is an opportunity designed for congregational executive committees and senior professional staff for congregations of all sizes. Participants will also have the opportunity to network with leaders from nearby congregations to share ideas and strategies. Sinai and a congregation in Deerfield are the only IL locations, so we may have people from all over the southern part of the state coming to see us. Good opportunity for all of us and people in the congregation who might be interested in leadership roles.
- ✤ Welcome to the Barras, the Temple's newest member family!
- Religious education: Enrollment is up—PreK and Hand in Hand classes are much larger than we anticipated. This year's B'nai Mitzvah class will have 9 kids.



#### Family Education Day is ALMOST HERE!

In my article last month, I wrote to invite each of you to spend a Sunday morning at Sinai Temple. It was fantastic to see so many of you come in to spend at least part of your morning in the building. Whether you shopped in the Sinai Temple Gift Shop, volunteered at Sinai Café, sat in the South Pod enjoying a conversation and coffee, helped in a classroom or came to the Adult Education sessions, I hope you found that coming in for part or all of the morning added something positive to your day.

Each year, I plan one family learning program. This program will take place on November 18. This is a unique opportunity for parents or special adults to learn alongside children. It certainly requires a little bit of flexibility, as I am sure you can imagine a program for kids ages 2-16 would, but you are encouraged to come to this morning of learning. This year, the theme will be Blessings and Prayers and each participant will

#### **ELEVATE FOR GRADES 3-8**

**Wednesday, November 7**, Grades 3-8 will be going to ELEVATE after Hebrew School. Kids not enrolled in Hebrew School are welcome to meet us at ELEVATE at 6:30. Kids must be picked up by 8:30. RSVP to Rabbi Jody (<u>educator@sinaitemplecu.org</u>). This is open to the community, but we need to have a list of attendees in advance! Cost is \$20 and will cover socks, two hours of active play time and snacks.

Please send a dinner with your child—we will eat after Hebrew School and leave for Elevate around 6:00. I will need some volunteers to drive students. If you can drive, please email Rabbi Jody with the number of students you can take IN ADDITION to your children. All students must sit in the back seat and must have a seatbelt. Your own child can ride in the front of your vehicle only, if you allow this. Please sign your child in and out at Elevate—Rabbi Jody will have a list of participants!

#### THREE AND UNDER CHAVURAH

**Next Meeting:** November 29 from 5:30–7:00. We had a great time with our young friends! Please join us in November for our second play date! If you have a topic that you would like to be highlighted, please let Rabbi Jody know.

#### **MENORAH CONTEST**

Sinai Temple Religious School will sponsor our second Creative Menorah Contest at the Sinai Temple community Chanukah event (December 2). All are welcome to build a Chanukah menorah that shows creativity and DEDICATION (Chanukah celebrates the rededication of the Jewish temple that was destroyed). Small prizes will be available—please bring your handmade menorah to the celebration to participate.

study different blessings, write a blessing, learn the role of blessings in Judaism and Build a Prayer!

Did you know that there is a blessing to say when you have a confusing dream, when you see a beautiful creature and when you see a rainbow? The rabbis teach us that we should say 100 blessings a day—think about how many times you stop to consider the sanctity of small things in life or the significance of larger moments.

You will see more information about this program in the religious school email blast—please watch for it and be sure to RSVP! Also, please note that Adult Education will move times starting in November. If you come to Adult Ed on Sunday morning, the new start time will be 11:30.

#### DATES TO KNOW:

RELIGIOUS/HEBREW SCHOOL DATES:

Sundays: November 4, 11 Please Note: No Hebrew on Nov. 18 Wednesdays: 7, 14, 28

#### **ELEVATE**:

Wednesday, November 7 for grades 3–8

THREE AND UNDER CHAVURAH: Thursday, November 29

#### SHABBAT ROCKS!/NEXT DOR:

Friday, November 16 THANKSGIVING SHABBAT ROCKS







#### ADULT EDUCATION

Sundays, 11:30 AM–12:30 РМ (note new time beginning in November)

On most Sundays when Religious School is in session, we are pleased to offer our Adult Education classes from 11:30–12:30 am. Classes are open to the entire community, regardless of whether you have a student enrolled in Sinai Temple Religious School. Come grab a cup of coffee from Sinai Cafe, and enjoy learning with your friends. Our next series will be "Jeremiah Was a Prophet" exploring the prophetic tradition in the Hebrew Bible.

#### **BOOK GROUP**

#### Monday, November 12th, 7:30 РМ

The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM. In November, we will meet the second Monday, due to Thanksgiving. We will be reading *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. Host and Facilitator: Buddi Tepper, 304 E. Holmes, U. (367-4152).Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

#### 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 217-367-8053.

#### TORAH STUDY Saturdays, 9:00 ам

The Sinai Temple Torah Study Group meets in the Sinai Temple Library, and all are welcome to attend our stimulating lay-led discussions. Throughout 5779, we will begin exploring the entirety of the Tanakh, not just the Torah. Newcomers are welcome to come study with us!

#### VIMs

#### Thursday, November 1st at 11:45 AM

Calling all women 55 and older, come join us for lunch and fellowship at Houlihan'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.



### Isaac Fisher Bar Mitzvah



Isaac Elias Philip Fisher will be called to the Torah on Saturday, November 10. Isaac is an 8th grade student at Edison Middle School. He enjoys soccer, running, basketball, hanging out with his friends, traveling, and playing Fortnite with friends and family from the Midwest and West Coast. For his Mitzvah project, Isaac will be working with a local animal shelter to care for animals in need. Isaac has three younger siblings who

also attend the Hebrew and Religious school: Moses (5th), Helen (4th), and Aaron (1st).

### See Insert for Chanukah Showcase

ADDITIONAL Chanukah Showcase HOURS

Wednesday, November 14, 4:00–5:30 PM Sunday, November 18, 10:00 AM–1:00 PM Wednesday, November 28, 4:00–5:30 PM

### Gívíng



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#### **BUILDING FUND**

Jaime & Michael Barra Sena Cooper & Howard Gerwin Arne & Deborah Levin Fliflet Sheryl Goldberg Hagit Itzkowitz Leslie & Gary Mason

#### **EINHORN GARDEN FUND**

Michael & Peggy Grossman, in memory of Horrie Einhorn

#### **GENERAL FUND**

- Phillip & Jerri Hertzman, with thanks for the lovely services and in honor of Rabbi Cook
- Richard &Marcia Kaplan, in memory of Glenn Middleton
- Jordan & Judy Konisky, in honor of High Holiday Services
- Ruth Morhaim, in honor of Gabe Cook's Bar Mitzvah Eria & Holly Thompson
- Eric & Holly Thompson

#### HIGH HOLY DAYS

Carmel & Inbal Elazar Lisa Murphy, Yom Kippur offering Margaret Saks, thank you for creating such a warm and welcoming community

#### KITCHEN/ONEG FUND Gary & Tonya Bernstein Stephen Downie & Deborah Katz-

Downie Arne & Deborah Levin Fliflet Leslie & Gary Mason Randall & Jill Rosenbaum John & Bette van Es

#### **MUSIC FUND**

Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Curtis Coyle and in memory of Sandra Mae Berkman Fromm

#### PLAYGROUND FUND

William & Reva Egherman
John & Benita Katzenellenbogen, in honor of Gabe Cook on his Bar Mitzvah
Toni Lachman
David Scherba & Rebecca Swartz
Robert Silverman
Paul & Linda Weichsel

#### **PRAYER BOOK FUND**

Stephen Downie & Deborah Katz-Downie, in honor of Gabe's Bar Mitzvah

#### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

- Ann Einhorn, in honor of Gabriel Cook's Bar Mitzvah
- David & Sowattey Grimley, in honor of our new son, Howard
- John & Benita Katzenellenbogen, with thanks for the meaningful High Holiday services and sermons
- Jeffrey & Harriet Kopolow, in honor of Norah Kopolow reading torah on Rosh Hashanah

#### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

William & Phyllis Gingold, in memory of Steve Gingold

SIEGEL SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Joyce Nagel Eisenstein, Thanksgiving Baskets

#### TRADITIONAL MINYAN FUND

Ann Einhorn, in honor of Zachary Dankowitz's Bar Mitzvah

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-October. Donations received after this date will be acknowledged in future Bulletins.

#### MLK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Each year, the Dr. King scholarship committee awards renewable scholarships to worthy high school seniors in the Champaign-Urbana area. Your contribution allows for ten \$1,000 scholarships each year for up to four years per student. Please, consider making an investment in the lives of others, to join in as we remember our past, celebrate the present, and eagerly embrace the future. Your support makes it possible to continue to award scholarships to worthy candidates.

Checks should be made payable to Sinai Temple with "MLK Fund" in the memo line. Thank you for helping us fulfill Dr. Martin Luther King's mission and for supporting local education.



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

### Memorials

Friday, November 2

Ann Aprill ( 3 Nov) Jesse Belber ( 9 Nov) Louie Blockman ( 8 Nov) Nathan Brusiloff ( 3 Nov) Milton Glaser ( 4 Nov) Ruth Jacobs Gordon ( 7 Nov) Louis Greenstein ( 3 Nov) Andrew Mark Isserman ( 4 Nov)







Ruby Kanfer ( 7 Nov) Jerry Keller ( 1 Kis) Meyer Klorfine ( 7 Nov) Joseph Lasker ( 5 Nov) Sylvia Leary ( 7 Nov) Dr Eli B. Mandel ( 3 Nov) Aili Bykkonen Monahan ( 5 Nov) Solomon Rosenberg ( 5 Nov) Morris G. Rosenstein ( 3 Nov) Melvyn Silver (30 Che) Jim Stewart ( 4 Nov) Susie Stewart ( 8 Nov) Arlen Tepper ( 5 Nov) Abe H. Waxman ( 9 Nov) Gertrude Wolf (29 Che) Reba Wolf (25 Che)

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Friday, November 9	Ann Black (16 Nov) Eva Cutler (12 Nov) Lawrence Martin Davis (14 Nov) Molly Denenholz (11 Nov) Florence Goldberg (13 Nov) Jenny Gottheil (10 Nov) Elinor Wildstein Harris (12 Nov) Jacob Herman (15 Nov)	Fred Hess (16 Nov) Molly Newman (16 Nov) Lev Oykhberg (13 Nov) Susan Melanie Sirkis (13 Nov) Jennie Steinberg ( 8 Kis) Jacob Toby ( 4 Kis) Jane P. Walter ( 4 Kis) Lawrence Weingarten (12 Nov)	Irving Weissman (12 Nov)
Friday, November 16	Nathan Berenbaum (12 Kis) Ruth Koller Berkson (13 Kis) Louis L. Bing (21 Nov) Joseph B. Bloomfield (20 Nov) Paulette E. Deckard (22 Nov) Libby Goldberg (21 Nov) Alex Goldman (23 Nov) Morris M. Kaplan (9 Kis) Reatha Hamburg Katz (22 Nov)	Rabbi Louis Kaufman ( 9 Kis) Miriam Korogodsky (18 Nov) Della B. Kranson (22 Nov) Kate Kuper (18 Nov) Rose Weinberger Levy (18 Nov) Isadore Meyerson (15 Kis) Victorya Meyerson (14 Kis) Stuart S. Nagel (18 Nov) David Porton (12 Kis)	Minnie Rosenstein (18 Nov) Gerti Shalev (13 Kis) Bessie Siegal (22 Nov) Estelle Spelke (21 Nov) Leo Weisel (13 Kis) Roslyn Mae Boxerman Woolf (17 Nov)
Friday, November 23	Stephen Henry Bauer (30 Nov) Myrtle Berenson Braun (26 Nov) Rosa Lee Brill (29 Nov) Julius Cohen (26 Nov) Morton Dunn (30 Nov) Da'vid Efergan (21 Kis) Marshall Egherman (16 Kis) Bertel Forst (25 Nov)	Sara Goldring (21 Kis) Bernard Hymowitz (20 Kis) Ben Karol (30 Nov) Bernice L. Lewis (24 Nov) Samuel Arthur Libman (26 Nov) Ada Feinstein Roth (25 Nov) William H. Sholem (24 Nov) James Strauch (30 Nov)	Arthur Allen Telcser (17 Kis) Jane P. Walter (25 Nov)
Friday, November 30	Philip Applebaum ( 4 Dec) Sidney Feinberg ( 6 Dec) Lena V. Garfinkel ( 1 Dec) Louis Nathan Glaser ( 2 Dec) Ida Gorodetsky (24 Kis) Morris Gottheil ( 3 Dec) Sally Grusby ( 2 Dec) Judith Harrison (24 Kis)	Lily Helman (23 Kis) Beatrice Karan (1 Dec) Abraham Lapedes (6 Dec) Fred Lewin (4 Dec) Joseph Linowes (26 Kis) Herbert Elsworth Lyon (5 Dec) Harry David Nelson (1 Dec) Benjamin Pearlstein (2 Dec)	Shirley Senoff (27 Kis) Demitri B. Shimkin (26 Kis)



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**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.





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