Sinai Temple is having a **Trivia Night**

Get your table reserved now because seating is limited!

**WHEN**  Saturday, February 23rd, at 7 PM. The program will begin 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.
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 if you want a table or a sponsorship. You can also call the office with the information, 352-8140.

34th Annual Dr. MLK, Jr. Service of Celebration
Sunday, January 20, 2019, 5:00 PM–7:00 PM
Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
Foellinger Great Hall
500 South Goodwin, Urbana

Since 1988, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Advocacy for Justice Committee has awarded over 200 scholarships to local students attending colleges such as Parkland College, University of Illinois, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This year we honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with Reverend C.D. Stuart addressing the theme: **His Dream: A Way to Overcome** and music from the community choir.

**Schedule of Services**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4
5:30 PM  Erev Shabbat First Friday Service & Dinner

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11
7:30 pm  Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12
10:00 AM  Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18
5:30 PM  Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service celebrating Shabbat Shira and commemorating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26
10:00 AM  Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

The Office will be CLOSED

Tuesday, January 1st
Monday, January 21
I write this message as I sit with more than 100 of my rabbinic colleagues at a two-day conference on moral leadership through the rabbinate. We are exploring how the voices of prophetic Judaism can continue to inspire us in modern times to engage in tikkun olam. In this context, we might define tikkun olam as “making the world a better place by working in partnership with God.”

My colleague, Rabbi Seth Limmer, reminded all of us that we must remember that the task of the classic prophets whose writings are recorded in the Tanach was often a thankless one. Though those prophets of the Northern Kingdom preached against the Assyrians, and the prophets of the Southern Kingdom preached against the Babylonians, none of them were able, through words alone, to stave off the threats posed by these outside empires. It was only through building coalitions, bringing others on board, convincing others to embrace the visions that they were espousing.

As we enter a new secular year, we have the opportunity to envision a world of justice and compassion, and to build coalitions of power that will bring such visions to fruition. For some of us, this will be new work; for others, it will be the continuation of a passion that has commanded our attention for weeks, or months, or years, or a lifetime.

There are some who may feel that some of the issues that present themselves are political in nature. Indeed, as our nation has become increasingly polarized politically, some people have shied away from expressing their visions and embracing their passions for fear that their taking a position on the topic will be construed as a political expression. But I believe that we are called, both as ethical individuals and as Jews hearkening to the wisdom of our ancient tradition, to take a stand on the pressing moral issues of our time.

It is a moral imperative (and a Jewish one) to help people worldwide (including those in our own country) have access to clean drinking water.

It is a moral imperative (and a Jewish one) to support the right of all students to learn in a comfortable and safe environment, irrespective of sexual orientation, race, or socioeconomic class.

It is a moral imperative (and a Jewish one) to protect those who are ill from becoming financially insolvent while they undergo medical treatments.

It is a moral imperative (and a Jewish one) to ensure safety and security in our schools, places of worship, and other gathering places, so that we do not stand idle while our neighbors bleed.

It is a moral imperative (and a Jewish one) to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and provide shelter for those who lack.

This list, of course, is not exhaustive. You may have other passions or discover other unmet needs toward which you can contribute your time and energies in order to create a more just and fair society.

The Mishnah tractate Pirke Avot teaches us, “You are not required to complete the task, but neither are you free to abstain from it.” It will take many minds, hands, and hearts working together to fulfill the mission of tikkun olam. But if we collectively begin to address the world’s moral needs, together we can make a difference in this new year.

L’Shalom,
Rabbi Alan Cook

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Mazal tov to Rebecca and Scott Simmons, on the birth of their son Maverick Jack Simmons. He joins older sisters Isabella, Scarlett, and Lorelai. Mazal tov also to proud grandparents Louis and Shirley Liebovich.

Mazal tov to Sadie and David Braun, on the birth of their son Naftali (Tal). He joins older sisters Sam and Ari. Mazal tov also to proud grandparents Terre and Brian Braun.

Mazal tov to Linda and Rabbi Brad Bloom on the birth of their first grandchild, Wesley Gabriel Miller. Rabbi Bloom served as Sinai Temple’s rabbi from 1984-1995.

**Bulletin Submission:** The deadline to submit information for the February Bulletin is January 15th. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Roxanna Davison, assistant@sinaitemplecu.org.
Several members of the Sinai Temple congregation recently attended a breakfast held at the I-Hotel, an annual fundraising event sponsored by Faith in Place, an organization uniting faith groups with the common goal of improving our environment. Rabbi Alan presented the convocation for the meeting, discussing passages from Torah and Midrash. I’d like to tell you a little about this group.

First, a little history. In 1998, an organization called Interfaith Power & Light was formed to address climate and environmental concerns from the perspective of religious practice. All religions call upon their adherents to be good stewards of the earth, so this was a natural point of confluence on which people of many faiths could agree and work together. Within a year, an Illinois affiliate was created, called Faith in Place. The efforts began in the Chicago area, but it wasn’t long until the movement spread downstate. In Illinois, there are now 110 faith communities involved. Sinai Temple is one of the newest.

As reported on during our breakfast meeting, several congregations in Central Illinois have taken steps to make their communities “greener.” For example, during the past year, McKinley Foundation on campus created raised gardens on their property to grow vegetables to donate to the food pantry at Garden Hills School. This project required the participation of hundreds of volunteers. Other efforts have included installation of solar panels and reduction of landfill waste.

So how does a faith community join this effort? The first step is to form a “Green Team” to gather together people in the congregation interested in environmental matters. Our Green Team, which was started last year, meets regularly with the Faith in Place group of Champaign-Urbana.

Our Green Team has been working on several initiatives. The Board of Trustees recently approved Sinai Temple’s participation in a local “Solar Farm.” The idea is to create a large-scale “farm” of solar panels that would provide extra energy to the electrical grid, thereby lessening the need for energy coming from fossil fuels. Those who participate are being offered lower cost electricity by Ameren. Initially, the program is being made available to area faith communities, and Sinai will be one of them. It is estimated that by joining this effort, we can save up to 20% on our electric bills.

The Green Team is sponsoring a “Green Oneg” after Friday night services on January 18. This oneg will feature locally produced foods served on non-disposable dishes. There are some common-sense steps all of us can take to be greener, and our team will help us learn about some of them. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet the members of our team and find out more about their activities.

The Team has been working with Rabbi Jody and the Hebrew High students to distribute recycling containers in all the classrooms. Our kids can teach us all how to live more sustainably. Being aware of what we’re doing is the first step to reducing our footprint on Earth.

So, I encourage everyone to find out what we can do to reduce our impact on the Earth’s resources. With everyone’s help, we can make sure that the Earth we leave to our descendants will nurture them as it has nurtured us.

See you in Temple!

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**SINAI TEMPLE DECEMBER 2018 BOARD MEETING**

The rabbi's D'var Torah this month reminded us of the Joseph narrative. He’s known for being a big dreamer, and we know that in various times in his life, Joseph’s brothers and others tried to diminish the power and purpose of his dreams. Nevertheless, he persisted and didn’t give up in the power of his dreams—we should also be persistent in our desires and our vision.

- **Upcoming events of interest to the community:** Sinai Trivia Night coming up on Feb. 23, and a Yiddish song evening on February 2. Both will take place at the temple.
- The board approved a new membership application from Tamarra Rennick and Andrew Bernstein.
- Sanford Hess from the Sinai Renovation Committee updated us on renovation progress. Ratio Design is no longer available to work with us. The board voted to request a concept design from LandauZinder, a firm known for its synagogue design work that we had been considering previously.
- The Sinai Security Committee met again after Thanksgiving. The committee recently sent out a survey by email to the congregation. The survey had questions around security features we could implement, costs, and whether people in our community feel safe at the temple. The results will inform the next stage of medium-to-long-term planning.

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3 Sinai Temple Bulletin  January 2019 ~ Tevet/Shevat 5779
TU BISHVAT AND MLK—YOUTH DAY OF ACTION

On January 21, we have a great opportunity to engage the children in our community in learning about TIKKUN OLAM—repairing the world. On a day when several area secular schools are not in session, Sinai Temple Religious School will sponsor a Youth Day of Action. Kids in Kindergarten through 8th grades will come together to learn about Tu BiShvat—the Jewish holiday celebrating the birthday of the trees, and Martin Luther King Jr. Activities will focus on ways that we can improve our world. We will learn through doing and will emphasize the importance of acting justly and taking responsibility for our world.

Please sign up by emailing Rabbi Jody by January 14. Please include the following information in your sign up email: Name and grade of child/children and any relevant medical or behavioral information.

Cost: The program will be $30 per child. Open to families who are not enrolled in Sinai Temple Religious School—cost is $40 per child. Payment due at check in for the program.

Please send a lunch (no tree nuts or peanuts please, no mixing of dairy/meat) and a bag of clean, “found items” for our maker space/recycled goods project.

Check in will be from 8:30-9:00, all participants need to be picked up by 4:30.

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:
Tu BiShvat (Birthday of the Trees) seder
Make recycled seed paper to plant in a garden or pot
Cupcake Competition—Social Action themed decorating
Art Projects
Choice of Board Games or Movie for a bit of down time
Yoga
MLK focused activity

KIDDUSH CLUB—HAVDALLAH UNDER THE STARS
Saturday, January 26th
We will go to the Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland to see the 7:00 PM show.

Please meet at 6:30, and we will end Shabbat with Havdallah before seeing the stars overhead in the planetarium show, “One World, One Sky, Big Bird’s Adventure”

Cost: $10 per family

RSVP to Rabbi Jody by January 20. Open to the community—please spread the word!
ADULT EDUCATION
Sundays, 11:30 AM–12:30 PM
On most Sundays when Religious School is in session, we are pleased to offer our Adult Education. 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. Classes resume January 20th.

BOOK GROUP
Sunday, January 20th, 2:00 PM
The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM, however during January and February, we will meet on Sunday at 2:00 PM. We will be reading *Radio Girls* by Sarah-Jane Stratford. Host: Joan Kozoll, 1108 Plymouth Dr., C. (356-8554) Facilitator: Sherry Helfer. Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA
Tuesdays, 10:45 AM to 11:30 AM
Classes resume on January 15th

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 5779, we will begin exploring the entirety of the Tanakh, not just the Torah. Newcomers are welcome to come study with us!

VIMs
Thursday, January 3 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.

DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER, please call ahead for office & event closings and watch for email updates.
Giving

BUILDING FUND
Andrew Bernstein & Tamarra Rennick
Leslie Rose Cooperband & Wesley Jarrell
Tania Ionin & Timur Oikhberg
Art Siegel & Marcia Monaco Siegel
Vitaliy & Anna Soloveychik

EGALITARIAN TRADITIONAL MINYAN FUND
Melanie & Harry Dankowicz, in honor of Frances Harris

GENERAL FUND
Lee & Lisa Greenstein, in memory of Orie Greenstein
Judith Kaufman
Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Ruth Ades

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND
Andrew Bernstein & Tamarra Rennick
Faye Lesht & Joyce Meyer
Barbara & Penn Nelson
Maury & Janis Topolosky

MARTIN LUTHER KING SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Carl & Carol Belber
William & Phyllis Gingold
Diane Gottheil
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Bernice & Laurence Lieberman
Leslie & Gary Mason
Richard Pikowsky
Richard & Jacqueline Ross
Paul & Susan Schomer
Anthony & Penelope Soskin

SIEGEL SOCIAL ACTION FUND
Daniel Klaiman, men’s shelter

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

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

January Special
20% OFF all in-stock tallitot and accessories (including sets, bags and clips) kippot and yadayim

Please Note: The Gift Shop will be closed during the Religious School Winter Break and will resume normal hours on Wed., Jan. 16th

REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION
Sundays 9:00 AM–12:30 PM (during Religious School)
Wednesdays 4:00 PM–5:30 PM (during Hebrew School)

But we are ALWAYS open by APPOINTMENT.
Email: nataliefr@comcast.net or call Natalie Frankenherg (390-4168), Jessica Koplow (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.

UPDATE FROM SINAI RENOVATION COMMITTEE
The month of December was an eventful one for the Sinai Renovation Committee (SRC). The local architecture firm that was selected to design the changes had a staff departure and decided that they have too many work projects pending, so they have chosen not to continue working on Sinai’s renovation.

This change has brought about an opportunity to return to another architect option that the SRC like a lot: Landau|Zinder—a firm out of New Jersey who specialize in synagogue architecture, with many examples of synagogue renovation and construction in their portfolio. Despite the change in plans, we hope that the schedule will be impacted by only a few months. We are already underway planning for their first visit, which will begin an intense period of design that will last through the Spring of 2019. During this design phase there will be opportunities for everyone to offer their input.

In the meantime, the SRC has continued to clarify our design priorities and prepare ourselves for the process ahead. While we are disappointed at the time we’ve lost getting started, we are excited to work with Landau|Zinder and look forward to a productive 2019.

Please join the Urbana Yiddish Ensemble on Saturday, February 2nd at 7 PM for a free evening of Yiddish music at Sinai Temple. This cabaret event showcases Yiddish theater songs, Yiddish traditional folk songs, and lively klezmer instrumental music (with dancing!). Watch for more information in upcoming emails.
# Memorials

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<th>Friday, January 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Abelmann (6 Jan)</td>
<td>Viola Koenigsberg (9 Jan)</td>
<td>Babette Bloch Stern (6 Jan)</td>
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<td>Walter H. Abelmann (6 Jan)</td>
<td>David Krakower (5 She)</td>
<td>Nellie Gertrude Terry (8 Jan)</td>
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<td>Jacob Berland (11 Jan)</td>
<td>Cecelia Klein Pearle (28 Tev)</td>
<td>Florence K. Weinberg (8 Jan)</td>
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<td>Morton A. Blum (8 Jan)</td>
<td>Abraham H. Reizman (4 She)</td>
<td>Philipp G. Weisskopf (9 Jan)</td>
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<td>Harry Burack (29 Tev)</td>
<td>Ruth A. Robinson (7 Jan)</td>
<td>Frieda G. Wollstein (5 Jan)</td>
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<td>Fanny Goldberg (7 Jan)</td>
<td>Mildred Nandel Senn (8 Jan)</td>
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<td>Ruth Manis Kahn (8 Jan)</td>
<td>Edward Arnold Shapiro (2 She)</td>
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<td>Hattie Freudenstein Kaufman (11 Jan)</td>
<td>Irving Siegel (28 Tev)</td>
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<th>Friday, January 11</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lillian Berland (18 Jan)</td>
<td>Alma Mautner (18 Jan)</td>
<td>Jessica Tager Underberg (15 Jan)</td>
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<td>Lillian Schuster Braun (6 She)</td>
<td>Aaron Rosenberg (13 Jan)</td>
<td>Herman Weissman (12 Jan)</td>
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<td>Louis P. Fiedler (16 Jan)</td>
<td>David Rous (12 Jan)</td>
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<td>Julian Frankenberg (13 Jan)</td>
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<td>Mariette Gahvari (14 Jan)</td>
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<td>Harold Goldberg (16 Jan)</td>
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<td>Vivian Adelston (19 Jan)</td>
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<td>Herman Bernstein (20 Jan)</td>
<td>Matthew Mischakoff (23 Jan)</td>
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<td>Howard Birnbaum (23 Jan)</td>
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<td>Harry Burack (19 Jan)</td>
<td>Henry W. Schwartz (19 Jan)</td>
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<td>Tanya Estrin (23 Jan)</td>
<td>Mathlia Zimmerman (20 Jan)</td>
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<td>Heini Halberstam (25 Jan)</td>
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<td>Isaac Kuhn (21 Jan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan David Berenbaum (27 Jan)</td>
<td>Mischa Mischakoff (1 Feb)</td>
<td>Louis Spelke (27 Jan)</td>
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<td>Benjamin Davis Braun (31 Jan)</td>
<td>Sultana Morhaim (24 She)</td>
<td>Ruth Weinberg Strauss (27 Jan)</td>
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<td>Sarah Frydman (1 Feb)</td>
<td>Louis Rudolph (29 Jan)</td>
<td>Pearl Seltzer Sweital (30 Jan)</td>
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<td>Orié Earlen Greenstein (28 Jan)</td>
<td>Rosalie Goodfriend Rudolph (30 Jan)</td>
<td>Ruth Waxman (28 Jan)</td>
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<td>Morris Sapoznik (30 Jan)</td>
<td>Sam Weingarten (27 Jan)</td>
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<td>Isosif Ionin (1 Feb)</td>
<td>Jerome J. Sholem (31 Jan)</td>
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<th>Friday, February 1</th>
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<td>Abraham Adler (2 Feb)</td>
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<td>Edward Louis Roth (6 Feb)</td>
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<td>Adolph A. Adler (2 Feb)</td>
<td>Charles Hammer (6 Feb)</td>
<td>Florence Schutz (6 Feb)</td>
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<td>Faye Siegal Sholem (6 Feb)</td>
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<td>Sidney R. Cooperband (30 She)</td>
<td>Ursula Rothfels Königsberg (27 She)</td>
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<td>Max Creinin (28 She)</td>
<td>Herman Lewis (4 Feb)</td>
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<td>Elwood L. Fabert (2 Feb)</td>
<td>Tony Novak (8 Feb)</td>
<td>Florence F. Weingarten (7 Feb)</td>
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<td>Dorothy Finkin (2 Feb)</td>
<td>Ann Brodsky Pass (8 Feb)</td>
<td>Helen Kuhn Wiese (2 Feb)</td>
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<td>Lena Garber (8 Feb)</td>
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<td>Stanley J. Wolowiec (7 Feb)</td>
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<td>Phyllis Terry Gillies (3 Feb)</td>
<td>Channa Reizman (27 She)</td>
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<td>Zelda Ginsberg (2 Feb)</td>
<td>Frances Rosenberg (8 Feb)</td>
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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.