Sinai Temple Bulletin

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

Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
5:30 PM Erev Shabbat First Friday Service & Dinner

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
7:00 PM Selichot

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Selichot

An opportunity for fun, reflection, and introspection

Saturday, September 21st, 7:00 PM

Please join us on Saturday, September 21st beginning at 7:00 PM for our Selichot program. As Rabbi Alan describes in his article, Selichot is a time for preparing ourselves mentally and spiritually for the High Holiday season.

We will begin at 7:00 PM in the Davis Chapel with a viewing of the Israeli comedy/drama Maktub (rated TV-MA). When two criminals survive a terrorist attack, they reexamine their purpose in life. What is it that God expects of them? Refreshments will be available during the movie. Following the film, we’ll have a brief discussion of some of the moral questions raised by the actions of the characters.

At 9:30 PM, we will move to the sanctuary for Havdalah and our beautiful Selichot service, during which our Torah covers will be changed to white.

Rosh Hashanah Services

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
4:00 PM Mt. Hope Cemetery Visit & Memorial Service

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
7:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30—1st Day
9:30 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service
10:00 AM Reform Service
10:00 AM Jewnior Congregation (Community Reception at the conclusion of each morning service)
2:30 PM Children & Family Service
5:00 PM Tashlich (Location to be announced)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1—2nd Day
9:30 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service

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

Sinai Temple Bulletin

September 2019 ~ Elul/Tishrei 5779–5780
Summer has drawn to a close, and so many of us are returning to our routines of school and work in preparation for another great year. Here at Sinai Temple, it is no different as preparations for a new school year coincide with preparations for our new Jewish year 5780.

September aligns with the month of Elul, which serves as a precursor to the High Holy Days. In Sephardic tradition, the entire month is spent adding prayers of selichot (penitence and introspection) to the liturgy. For Ashkenazim, this has been streamlined to a single evening. On the close of the Shabbat one week prior to Rosh Hashanah (this year, that’s September 21), the Selichot service gives us an opportunity to reflect and prepare ourselves mentally and spiritually for the awe and splendor of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Please see elsewhere in the bulletin for a detailed description of our activities for that evening. We hope you will make plans to join in!

As we prepare for this New Year, it is hard for me to believe that I have the honor of beginning my seventh year as a rabbi at this holy congregation. I am so proud of the sacred community that we continue to build with one another, and I am grateful for the trust and love and partnership that makes this possible.

In honor of this milestone, the board has graciously granted me a six-month sabbatical. This time will be taken in one month increments spread out over the next three years. As we approach the first sabbatical period, more information will be made available about what you can expect. I am grateful for the opportunity to spend time in concentrated study so that I can return to Sinai Temple armed with new information and insights.

In the New Year, we continue to plan for our usual mix of engaging worship, meaningful educational experiences, and exciting programming. I want to call your attention to two interesting upcoming events taking place in our broader community.

In November, Sinai Temple will join with the university community and other faith organizations to present a four-day program of interfaith exploration called “Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times.” The program will run from Thursday, November 7- Sunday, November 10. It will kick off with a presentation by author and educator Eboo Patel, founder of the Interfaith Youth Corps. It will conclude with a performance from the theatre troupe Ted & Co. Theater Works, who use humor and professional storytelling to address issues of faith and social justice. Please mark your calendars for this exciting weekend.

Another exciting opportunity is coming up on December 11-15, as thousands of Jews from across North America and Israel descend on McCormick Place in Chicago for the URJ (Union for Reform Judaism) Biennial convention. This is a fabulous program featuring learning opportunities, outstanding keynote speakers, and opportunities to share in worship and song with a broad Jewish community. Sinai Temple can be particularly proud that one of our alumni, Ambassador Daniel Shapiro, and his wife Julie Fisher will be featured at the convention as they receive the Alexander M. Schindler Award for Service to World Jewry.

Registration for the convention is now open at www.urjbiennial.org There are three options for registration: the full convention (Wednesday through Sunday); partial registration (either Wednesday through Friday or Friday through Sunday); and an option that will be available soon for Illinois residents to attend all day Saturday at a special rate.

We hope to have good representation from Sinai Temple; if you are considering attending and would like further information, please contact me.

Wishing you all the best.
L’Shalom,
Rabbi Alan Cook

Mazal tov to Bernice and Larry Lieberman on the birth of their first great-grandchild, Yosef Woodward.

Welcome to Sinai Temple
Jose Rodriguez & Lauren Goldstein-Rodriguez
Judith White & Benjamin White
Dear Friends,

Although I might not be ready to admit it, summer is finally over. The local kids are back in school and the University students have returned. This last weekend (before I am writing this) was religious school registration and the pancake breakfast. It was delightful to see fifty plus families energetic for the new school year. Not surprisingly, Rabbi Alan’s pancakes were delicious and it was nice to see a group of religious school students eagerly serve pancakes to our community. Alice Berkson, representing the Green Team highlighted re-use, reduce and recycling to our temple families.

Coinciding with the religious school registration was also the annual Sinai Temple blood drive. It served as just another way that our temple community highlights our commitment to improve the world. As I sat on the chair, I couldn’t help but realize that several board members, members of the renovation committee, members of the building committee give not only their time, but literally give themselves to help others. It is at times like these that I am truly grateful for our temple community.

If you are looking for a way to help out at temple we are having our fall cleaning event (Labor of Love) on Labor Day, September 2, from 9–12 pm. This is when we spruce up the temple for the High Holidays. There are tasks for every ability and skill set ranging from raking and weeding to dusting and vacuuming. Maybe this year you will be the lucky one to uncover the reserved parking sign or see what the top of the ark looks like. If you are going to be able to join us, feel free to bring yard tools or cleaning supplies.

During the August board meeting we formally approved three new families as members of temple. If you see any new faces during the high holidays, please take a moment and say hello. At the board meeting we also had a preliminary discussion regarding Rabbi Alan’s sabbatical. As Rabbi Alan mentions in his article this month, the board has granted him a total of six months of sabbatical over the next three years. The sabbatical committee, led by Ben LeRoy, is busy working with Rabbi Alan to figure out the best way to implement this. Please continue to watch the bulletin for further details. The renovation committee has been making steady progress and is excited about the possibility of sharing the design during the High Holidays. Please check out the board minutes published in the bulletin to get a better sense of what we have been up to.

Some important dates to keep in mind include that the first day of religious school is Sunday, September 8th. Other dates to mark in your calendar are Erev Rosh Hashanah on Sunday September 30, Rosh Hashanah on October 1, 2nd Day observances on Oct. 2, and Erev Yom Kippur on Tuesday October 8 and Yom Kippur on October 9.

By now you have all received your pledge letters in the mail. If you are anything like me and my family, the pledge letter has migrated over to the overflowing important mail pile. Please make your best effort to complete your pledges and send them back to the temple soon. As you know, the temple relies on our financial pledges to operate. New this year—thanks in large part to Gary Bernstein—you can securely complete your pledge online at the temple website (https://sinaitemplecu.org/menu-membership-pledges/). If you have any questions on pledges feel free to contact me or Kathy Douglas in the temple office.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming First Friday feast on September 6.

Cheers,
Jake Sosnoff
President, Sinai Temple
Please Remember . . .

We had a wonderful Religious School registration event, and I can’t wait for the first day of Religious School! Here is a reminder about a few things that might be different this year!

✧ Your 8th and 9th graders will be able to SLEEP IN on SUNDAY! After 5 years of early mornings for Hebrew, Hebrew High students will have class at the same time as Confirmation. They will all begin with a Lunch and Learn (BYO or buy from Sinai Café) and will break into two separate classes for part of their Sunday session. Class for Hebrew High and Confirmation will be from 12:30–2:30 on Sundays.

✧ Boker Tov, Morning Assembly! All grades (Hand in Hand through 6th Grade) will start on Sunday morning in the sanctuary for a morning assembly. Each week will feature a variety of material, including songs, tefillah (prayer), short presentations and schtick (fun sketches performed by teachers). Parents are ENCOURAGED to come as often as possible. This is part of class and students are expected to be in the building, in the sanctuary, by 10:00.

✧ IVRIT, IVRIT, IVRIT DABER IVRIT! Primary grades will have a new special this year! They will add IVRIT (Hebrew) to their weekly learning. Most students will have a better connection with Hebrew and more success with decoding if they are exposed to Hebrew at an earlier age. This special will focus on building usable vocabulary rather than recognizing letters.

✧ Greeters! Each Sunday morning, when you come to Sinai Temple, there will be a Sinai Temple community member to greet you and your children at the door. If you have not signed up to be a door greeter, Rabbi Jody will be in touch with you. We appreciate your help and support, as we take measures to welcome members and guests while also securing our building. Each family is asked to take at least one shift (8:45–10:45 or 10:45–12:45) on a Religious School morning.

✧ Main Door Access: Please help us by ONLY using the main door on Sunday. All students should be dropped off at the main door, where they will be greeted. It will help if you park and pick up your students in the building. If your plan is to use the pick up line, this will be at the main door as well. Please be patient in the parking lot so we don’t have any accidents.

DATES TO KNOW

September 2—Labor of Love, ending with CUTY Ice Cream Social
September 5—CUJF Magic Show Fundraiser
September 8—FIRST DAY of Hebrew School and Religious School
September 15—Family Apple Picking at Curtis Orchard, 3:00
September 20—Shabbat Rocks/Next Dor
September 21—Selichot Services
September 22 (Tentative) - CUTY U of I Scavenger Hunt Program
September 29—10:30–12:00 TBD—New Year @ Noon KIDdush Club Program

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES:
Sundays: September 8, 15, 22
Wednesdays: September 11, 18, 25

HIGH HOLY DAYS FOR YOUTH

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

Please help out by signing up! Some of the child care providers are not familiar with our members and it is challenging when kids try to come in and out. A parent needs to come to the room to check a child in and to check a child out.

Don’t forget about our Family Services on Rosh Hashana afternoon and Yom Kippur afternoon. If you/your child would like to participate, please email Rabbi Jody.
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!

BOOK GROUP
Monday, September 16, 7:30 PM
The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM. We will be reading Washington Black by Esi Edugyan. Host and Facilitator: Susan Cohen, 3506 S. Vine, U. (384-7871) 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 by phone 217-898-9953 or email robindans1@gmail.com.

VIMs
Thursday, September 5 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.

CHAI LUNCHEON
Tuesday, September 17, at 11:30 AM
Sinai Temple
(North & South Pods)
Guest speaker is Frances Harris. She will be doing a presentation about klezmer music.
Lunch will be served and the cost is $5.00. Please RSVP by Friday, September 13 by contacting the CUJF office, 367-9872 or cujf@cujf.org. Transportation is available upon request.

Over the summer, your Sinai Renovations Committee continued to meet with our architects and review iterations of the designs. Because the architects were asked to look at a Master Plan for Sinai, there will be different options in the design that include changes going beyond the original work of the Sanctuary, Pods, Levin Lounge and entrance lobby. Now the Board will consider other changes such as a more secure front entrance vestibule, updates to the restrooms and an overhaul of the Library space. How much of this work will occur in the current project is an important decision that awaits the Board.

Focusing on the Sanctuary, the changes proposed are not radical; they are a series of small adjustments to improve lighting, accessibility, sound and safety. Drawings will be available during the High Holidays to show the design. When you see them, please keep in mind that a later design phase will finalize decisions about materials, colors and finishes—the ones in the pictures are a proposed scheme, but could change due to budget or later decisions. The next phase of the work will produce detailed drawings by the architects that will be used by builders to plan the work. In addition to clarifying the price, those drawings (and builders’ availability) will help us determine the timeframe for construction. So, it’s an interesting and busy period of work for the SRC in the next few months.
BUILDING FUND
Brian & Terre Braun
Michael Finke & Elizabeth Oyler
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Marshall & Karen Lee Garrick
William & Phyllis Gingold
Jeffrey & Carmen Glezer
Michael & Peggy Grossman
Stephen & Anita Hamburg
Wynne Korr
Benjamin & Jessica LeRoy
Greg Muchnik & April Keaton
Barbara Nelson
Jeffry & Claire Newman
Rob & Diane Ore
Julia Rietz & Al Johnston
Jay Rosenstein
David & Carole Sinow
Gary & Beth Slotnick
Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff
Edward & Nancy Tepper
Judith & Benjamin White
Jacob & Suzanne Woolfson

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND
Andrew Bernstein & Tamarra Rennick
Brian & Terre Braun
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Marshall & Karen Lee Garrick
William & Phyllis Gingold
Jeffrey & Carmen Glezer
Michael & Peggy Grossman
Stephen & Anita Hamburg
Wynne Korr
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Greg Muchnik & April Keaton
Barbara Nelson
Jeffry & Claire Newman
Rob & Diane Ore
Julia Rietz & Al Johnston
Paul & Susan Schomer
David & Carole Sinow
Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff
Jacob & Suzanne Woolfson

LIBRARY FUND
Henrietta Schwartz & Sue Brim, in memory of Dora Lapedes

MUSIC FUND
Gene & Julia Robinson, in memory of Bob Harris

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
Benjamin & Jessica LeRoy
Edward & Nancy Tepper, in honor of Eli Hess’ Bar Mitzvah

SECURITY FUND
Brian & Terre Braun
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Marshall & Karen Lee Garrick
William & Phyllis Gingold
Jeffrey & Carmen Glezer
Michael & Peggy Grossman
Stephen & Anita Hamburg
Wynne Korr
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David & Carole Sinow
Gary & Beth Slotnick
Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff
Edward & Nancy Tepper
Judith & Benjamin White
Jacob & Suzanne Woolfson

YESOD L’ATID RENOVATION FUND
Ira & Cecile Lebenson, in memory of Larry Pass
Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of Larry Pass

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.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING ORDER YOUR LULAV AND ETROG FOR SUKKOT TODAY!

Order your Lulav and Etrog through the Gift Shop. All sets are kosher and include the Etrog, Lulav, Myrtles, Willows, and a Lulav bag.

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<th>Set Type</th>
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*prices include shipping*

Orders with payment must be received by SEPTEMBER 20th.
(This is a firm deadline)

Please email your orders to: giftshop@sinaitemplecu.org; indicate payment type. Checks should be made payable to "Sinai Temple Gift Shop". Please email the gift shop or contact Jessica Kopelow at 217-417-8699 to arrange for credit card payment.
# Memorials for September

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<th>William Konick (10 Sep)</th>
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<td>Isadore Jack Levy (7 Oct)</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.

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

CELEBRATE BACK-TO-SCHOOL AND THE COMING NEW YEAR by treating yourself or someone you love to something new from the Sinai Temple Gift Shop!

We couldn’t decide what to put on special this month, so how ‘bout the ENTIRE STORE*??

SEPTEMBER ONLY, ENJOY 20% OFF OF EVERYTHING*!
(*Excludes clearance and previously reduced items)

REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION
Sundays 9:00 AM–12:30 PM (during Religious School)
Wednesdays 4:15 PM–5:30 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.

Would you like to help sponsor our Bulletin? Contact Roxanna in the Temple office for more information!
REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE WITH THE GREEN TEAM THIS FALL

We can build for a sustainable future by working now to lessen our impact on the world’s shrinking resources. Actions we take can have multiple benefits including less energy use and less waste going into landfills.

This fall you’ll have opportunities to learn about reducing use of disposable products, reusing items multiple times, and how to effectively recycle once an item can no longer be used. Families can put the three Rs into action at home as well as when you are at Sinai Temple! Oct. 25-27, 2019 is our 3R weekend.

Here are ways to put your good intentions into actions:

**Participate in our 3R Contest**—submit your Reduce, Reuse or Recycle idea. Vote for the best ideas this fall. **On Oct. 27**, you may win a fabulous basket of reduce and recycle items!

**Bring broken/unused office supplies:** pens, markers, tape dispensers, desk organizers, card/document filers, binders, calendars, labels/label sheet backing, paper cutters, correction supplies, paper clips, staples, and binder clips. We will accept these to fill a carton for the TerraCycle Zero Waste program.

**Bring selected oral/personal care waste and clean polystyrene** (styrofoam) to be recycled. **Accepted items include:** Clean polystyrene AND any brand of mouthwash bottles and caps, toothbrushes, deodorant containers and caps, soap packaging, floss containers, and toothpaste tubes and caps. Please make sure excess product has been removed and that items are dry.

Collection cartons will be placed near the main Sinai Temple entrance the weekend of **Oct 25-27, 2019.** Look for more information on Sunday mornings when Religious School is in session. For updates please check the Green Team page at https://sinaitemplecu.org/green-team/.

We welcome your participation—get in touch with Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com. **Together we can make an impact on conserving the earth’s resources!**
Sinai Temple Museum
Veteran’s Exhibit
Monday, November 11, 2019

The Museum Committee would like to recognize all the men and women in the Jewish CU community who served or are presently serving in both the American and Israeli Armed Forces.

In order to do so, we need your help. Please read below for the particulars of information needed. Please submit the information via Sinai Temple email. (assistant@sinaitemplecu.org)

Name

Branch

Rank

War I, II, KOREA, NAM, STORM ETC. (Whether or not you were overseas, does not matter, just your service.)

Years Served

Story about your experiences

Photo in your uniform and present day

Please submit as soon as you can. Thank you for your service.