**Schedule of Services**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1**
5:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service & Dinner

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8**
Service will not be held at Sinai
Join us at CIMIC (the Central Illinois Mosque and Islamic Center), 106 S. Lincoln, U, for dinner and a panel discussion beginning at 5:15 PM; Shabbat evening services will be held at CIMIC beginning at 7:30 PM. Please see the insert in the bulletin for further details.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9**
10:00 AM  Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15**
5:30 PM  Shabbat Rocks! / Next Dor
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**
10:00 AM  Religious School Service

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22**
7:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**
10:00 AM  Egalitarian Traditional Service

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29**
5:30 PM  Erev Shabbat Service

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**A Time To Give Thanks**

Sinai Temple would like to thank the following individuals for helping to setup and take down the Sinai Temple Sukkah:

**SETUP**
- Ben Hankin
- Sanford Hess
- Dan Koplov
- Ben LeRoy

**TAKE DOWN**
- Sanford and Eli Hess
- Dan Koplov
- Rob Ore
- Art Siegel
- Tony Sosnoff

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**Thank you** to everyone who helped make our Simchat Torah celebration a huge success!

Joan Kozoll and Cecile Lebenson set up festive tables in the Davis Chapel where we enjoyed pizza and salad donated by Ralph Senn from Garcia’s. Charles Kozoll manned the front door.

Rabbis Alan and Jody led a meaningful service accompanied by our talented musicians, Larry Adelston and Jessica Koplov.

Hakafot were beautifully sung by Paul Weichsel. Joyous music and dancing were led by Mitchell Harris with music by Frances Harris and Larry Adelston.

And thank you to all the Sinai Temple members who showed up to celebrate together. We had a great turnout of all ages!

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**Cultivating HOPE in Anxious Times Events**

Please save the date(s)! November 7–10, Sinai Temple is partnering with UIUC, community members, and other faith organizations for a series of programs under the heading of “Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times Events include a keynote by Eboo Patel, founder and president of the Interfaith Youth Core, on Thursday, November 7; and a panel of faith leaders (including Rabbi Alan) discussing “Beyond Tolerance” on Saturday, November 9 following the ETM service. All are welcome; for further details please visit [http://go.illinois.edu/CultivatingHope](http://go.illinois.edu/CultivatingHope).

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**See Insert for Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times & President Jake Sosnoff’s Yom Kippur speech**
From Rabbi Alan Cook’s Desk

The Ohio State University has a great deal of school spirit, so much so that administration and alumni alike tend to emphasize that they are not merely “Ohio State University,” but they are “The Ohio State University,” with an emphasis on the definite article. In fact, they have cultivated this naming convention so enthusiastically, that they recently attempted to file a trademark registration on the word “the,” so that they could have exclusive use of the term for merchandise, memorabilia, and the like.

The powers-that-be in the trademark office rejected this application, recognizing that “the” must remain in the public domain for all speakers of English. They understood that our language works best when all people have equivalent access to its words. In a similar fashion, communities are stronger when all share equally in the maintenance of the community, and all reap equally from the benefits provided. We can be proud that Sinai Temple functions in this manner—our congregational family involves itself in our various activities and opportunities, which enriches and strengthens our spiritual home.

I am pleased and honored to now be entering my seventh year of serving Sinai Temple. As I have mentioned over the past several months, I will be taking some sabbatical time, spread over the next several years, which the board has generously allotted to me so that I may pursue some personal and professional growth.

My first month of sabbatical time will be from November 11-December 9. For the most part, Temple activities will continue to function without any noticeable disruptions.

Shabbat evening services will be conducted by a number of guest leaders. The ETM will continue to conduct occasional Shabbat morning services according to their calendar.

Adult education classes will continue to take place on those weeks when Religious School is in session (November 17 and 24, December 8), taught by guest instructors from the community.

Confirmation students will also be taught by guest instructors during those weeks when school is in session.

I will not be responding to email or phone messages during this time; any messages will be archived and I will respond upon my return.

If you or a loved one should encounter an emergency that requires rabbinic attention, the Temple office will have a full list of resources in order to assist you. Rabbinic colleagues in C-U, Bloomington, and Springfield have agreed to be on call and will be able to assist in any situation that may arise.

Again, I am grateful for this opportunity. I am confident that throughout this period and well into the future, through the strength of our community, and the talents of our dedicated staff and board, Sinai Temple will be able to maintain its high level of religious, educational, and social programming that make us a true kehillah kedosha, a holy congregation.

L’Shalom,
Rabbi Alan Cook

Mazal Tov to Ruth Sosnoff on being recognized as Illinois Boss of the Year by Illinois Administrative Professionals at UIUC.

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.

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
Monday, November 11—Veteran’s Day
Thursday, November 28 — Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 29

Thank You
for serving our country & protecting our freedoms!
Dear Friends,

I originally thought that I would take it easy with this bulletin letter. I would simply say thank you for the wonderful high holiday services and share my Yom Kippur address in the bulletin. But as I started to write out my thank yous, I realized I had a lot to share. So I ended up doing both!

I hope you had a wonderful and meaningful high holiday observance at Sinai Temple. From my vantage point, all of the varied services went very well. Obviously, the various services and events do not happen haphazardly but with considerable planning and hard work. I would like to thank Rabbi Alan, Rabbi Jody and Cantor Seeger for all contributions to the high holidays and leadership through the process. I would also like to thank Kathy Douglas the temple’s office manager for all of her behind the scenes support at this busy time of year. Art Siegel was as always an expert usher, parking guru and go to guy for all the various needs that pop up. We are lucky to have such a skilled Shofar blower in Rob Ore as well as Diane Ore’s organization of all the New Year foods, and the wonderful musical accompaniment of Larry Adelston and Larisa Chasanov, Thanks are also due to Aaron Smith and the Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Committee for organizing the traditional services. We are truly fortunate to have such commitment and dedicated clergy, staff and lay leadership.

The list of things I am thankful continues to grow. I learned during the Sukkah build that this was Tony Soskin’s 40th year of helping build the Sukkah at Sinai Temple. I appreciate the commitment that Tony has continued to make. Our community is fortunate to have such menches in our midst.

Following Sukkot we celebrated Simchat Torah. This has always been one of my favorite holidays. I imagine it has a lot to do with that it is one of the few times that my unique dancing skills are encouraged. Joking aside, at Sinai Temple it is more than this. It is perhaps one of the most congregant centric observances. Not only is everyone invited to dance with the Torah, but the dinner is hosted by the Music Committee which has a strong tradition of hosting Simchat Torah. (I don’t know the number of years that they have done this but it has been going on for at least 15 years that I have been here). The Klezmer music and Yiddish dancing (excluding mine) are world-class. We are very fortunate to have Frances and Mitch Harris share their talents with us. To top it off, we consecrate our newest Sinai Temple Religious School students. This year we had 19 students consecrated! Seeing new religious students (and their families) run and dance around the temple is a true simcha. Obviously, Rabbi Jody is doing a masterful job leading our religious school!

I am thankful for all that Sinai Temple has to offer and all the wonderful members that make it possible.

To read my Yom Kippur speech please see the bulletin insert.

Cheers, Jake Sosnoff

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**SINAI TEMPLE OCTOBER 2019 BOARD MEETING**

- The Board is delighted to welcome several new Temple Sinai members: Shawn Hannan & Brittnay Hanson, Sara Schwebel, Allison Bernstein & Andrew Garin, Hadar Toledo & Yoni Shalev, Cyndi & Pete Smyser. Please welcome all of them to our community.

- Upcoming events include the URJ biennial convention (December 11–5), close by at Chicago’s McCormick place. There are options to attend and participate, so please contact Rabbi Alan if you are interested.

- Religious education is going very well. There are many students, including younger grades, who are learning from our excellent teachers. In addition, older aged students (later middle school and high school) are joining together and continuing their Jewish education. Sinai Café is also going well, as many students and families get together after Sunday school to eat and spend quality time together.

- The board is preparing for Rabbi Alan’s upcoming sabbatical, which will be November 11 through December 9, 2019. He and the Board have worked to plan for his absence as his work during this sabbatical period will benefit him and our Temple community.

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**Bulletin Submission:** The deadline for December Bulletin is November 15th. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Roxanna Davison, assistant@sinaitemplecu.org.
She conceived again and bore a son, and declared, “This time I will praise the LORD.” Therefore she named him Judah. Then she stopped bearing. (Genesis 29:35)

Judah, the fourth son of Leah and Jacob, was named Judah because Leah declared that she would praise God when he was born. The Hebrew word, o-dah, which takes a slightly different form for the name Yehudah, means “to praise” or “to give thanks.” Yehudah’s name literally means “one for whom thanks was given to God.” Also, Yehudim is the Hebrew word for “Jewish.” Collectively, we as the Jewish people, are credited with giving thanks to God.

Thanksgiving is one of the holidays most celebrated by Jews living in the United States. Although not a Jewish holiday, the essence of Thanksgiving is deeply connected to Judaism and Jewish principles. Consider the prayer that we say upon waking up each morning, Modeh Ani—I am thankful. We are encouraged to begin each day thanking God for renewing our soul each day. We can take this practice of giving thanks further. The Rabbis teach us that we should be able to find 100 opportunities each day to say thank you or to show appreciation for what we have. We offer praise to God or recite blessings for three general reasons. We are offering a petitionary prayer, we are offering praise or we are offering thanks. Our siddur, prayerbook, is filled with one line blessings that show our gratitude to God. We offer thanks for things that may seem small, such as seeing a rainbow, being able to get dressed, waking up and even recognizing that our bodies function in a specific way. It is so easy to take these seemingly small, mundane things for granted and to not really think about how complex the systems that we have are.

We just recently finished up the High Holy Day season. I am thankful for the opportunities I have at Sinai Temple and for daily interactions I have with Jewish members of our community as well as staff at Sinai Temple. Summer offers me somewhat of a break, and my energy has definitely been restored by the enthusiasm and excitement that fills our space on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Among many other blessings that I say, I add my appreciation for each of you, for Sinai Temple, and for our greater Jewish community. I offer thanks to God for being part of Yehuda.
ADULT EDUCATION
Sundays, 10:30–11:30 AM,
Our theme for our Sunday morning Adult Education classes this year is "Unsung." We’ll explore the personalities, stories, and events in Jewish history that rarely make headlines or inspire books or movies. Sundays when Religious School is in session, Rabbi Alan or other local scholars and lecturers will lead a presentation and discussion from 10:30-11:30 AM looking at one of these topics. Come grab a cup of coffee and a nosh from Sinai Cafe, and join the fun!

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 5780, we will begin exploring the entirety of the Tanakh, not just the Torah. Newcomers are welcome to come study with us!

BOOK GROUP
Monday, November 18, 7:30 PM
The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month. We will be reading Warlight by Michael Ondaatje. Host and Facilitator: Carol Belber, 2105 Mills Dr., U. (384-3030). 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 robinfans1@gmail.com.

VIMs
Thursday, November 7 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.

GREEN TEAM TIP
With November upon us, it’s a good time to think about energy conservation measures we can take during the winter and continue year-round.

At Sinai Temple, members who are volunteering at events should remember to turn out lights and close interior doors before leaving the building. It’s especially important to close the sanctuary doors and doors to the pods that might have been propped open. Small actions can make a big difference!

CHAI LUNCHEON
Tuesday, November 19, at 11:30 AM, Sinai Temple
Lunch will be served and the cost is $5.00. Please RSVP by Thursday, November 12 by contacting the CUJF office, 367-9872 or cujf@cujf.org. Transportation is available upon request.

Presentation by Lisa Ainsworth on Preparing Agriculture for Global Climate Change, at 12:00 PM.
BUILDING FUND
Richard & Ilana Akresh
Peter & Judy Braunfeld
Stephen & Anita Hamburg, in memory of
Loretta Dessen
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Shawn Hannan & Brittany Hanson
Faye Jones & Joseph Taylor
Brian & Jacque Kahn
Perry & Kathi Kohn
Lyle Konigsberg & Susan Franken berg
Louis & Shirley Liebovich
Jeff & Jacki Loewenstein
Alan & Jane Nathan
Mildred Rosenberg
David Shapiro
Mark Strauss & Tana Willaredt
Michael & Monique Tsipursky
Steve & Judith Ulom

FRIENDS OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of
Loretta Dessen

FRIENDS OF SINAI TEMPLE
Arnold & Rita Blockman

GENERAL FUND
Allison Fromm
Jolli Ginsberg, in memory of Ali
Goldenfeld
Sandra Hynds, in memory of David
O’Connor Shoresman and in memory of
Ruth Hiller
Julia Kling, in memory of Leah Norian
Richard Pikowsky, in memory of Harry
Pikowsky
Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff, in honor of Diane
Ore’s birthday
Alan & Judith Weinstein, in honor of
Russell Weinstein & the Haftarah
Reading

HIGH HOLY DAYS FUND
Allen Avner, in memory of John Boby,
and in memory of Loretta Dessen
Natalie Frankenberg, High Holy Day
flowers in memory of Julian
Frankenberg and in memory of Max
& Gertrude Kushner, husband and
parents to Natalie Frankenberg
Jaclyn Laber

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND
Adrenne Dietchweiler

Ben & Michelle Hankin
Shawn Hannan & Brittany Hanson
Faye Jones & Joseph Taylor
Lyle Konigsberg & Susan Franken berg
Louis & Shirley Liebovich
Yoram & Carol Mizrahi
Alan & Jane Nathan
Michael & Monique Tsipursky
Steve & Judith Ulom

LIBRARY FUND
Michael & Janet LeRoy

PRAYER BOOKS (ETM)
Allen Avner, in honor of Gene & Julia
Robinson and in honor of Paul &
Linda Weichsel

PRAYER BOOKS (REFORM)
Allen Avner, in honor of Natalie
Frankenberg and in honor of Pam &
Ken Olson

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Natalie Frankenberg
Marshall Greenberg & Lee Egherman
Miriam Greenberg, thank you to Rabbi
Cook for performing John’s Shiva
service
Rob & Diane Ore, in honor of Rabbi
Cook’s Rosh Hashanah Sermon
George & Mary Perlstein, in memory of
Loretta Dessen

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
Adrenne Dietchweiler
William & Reva Egherman, in memory of
Loretta Dessen
Joli Ginsberg, in memory of Loretta
Dessen
Ira & Cecile Lebenson, in memory of
Loretta Dessen
Michael & Janet LeRoy
Kim Robeson, in memory of Loretta
Dessen, a beautiful lady, a wonderful
friend, a great life
Anthony & Penelope Soskin, in memory of
Loretta Dessen

SECURITY FUND
Richard & Ilana Akresh
Peter & Judy Braunfeld
Adrenne Dietchweiler
Stephen & Anita Hamburg
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Shawn Hannan & Brittany Hanson
Faye Jones & Joseph Taylor
Brian & Jacque Kahn
Perry & Kathi Kohn
Lyle Konigsberg & Susan Franken berg
Louis & Shirley Liebovich
Jeff & Jacki Loewenstein
Yoram & Carol Mizrahi
Alan & Jane Nathan
Mildred Rosenberg
David Shapiro
Mark Strauss & Tana Willaredt
Michael & Monique Tsipursky
Steve & Judith Ulom

YESOD L’ATID RENOVATION FUND
Allen Avner, in honor of Lee & Evan
Melhado, and in honor of Alex
Scheelie & Alice Berks on
Shira & Dan Epstein, in memory of
Robert Harris and in memory of
Loretta Dessen
Miriam Greenberg, thank you for Temple
kindness
Paula Kaufman, in memory of John Boby
Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of
John Boby and get well wishes to
Joan Kozoll

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.
Memorials for November

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<th>Friday, November 1</th>
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<td>Ann Aprill ( 3 Nov)</td>
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<td>Louie Blockman ( 8 Nov)</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.
Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times

The CU Campus/Community Interfaith Exploration involves people of varied religious perspectives in building relationships, deepening understanding, discovering common ground, and promoting collaboration on the significant issues of our time.

For details and registration information visit

go.illinois.edu/CultivatingHope

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Oct 31, 4p</td>
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<td>“Once Upon a Time in Kathmandu: How Hinduism Made Me a Better Catholic,” a lecture by Dr. Francis X. Clooney, Parkman Professor of Divinity and Professor of Comparative Theology at Harvard University, scholar of Hinduism &amp; Hindu-Christian Studies. @ 1090 Lincoln Hall (702 S Wright St, Urbana)</td>
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<td>Thursday, Nov 7, 12n</td>
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<td>Acts of Faith book discussion with author Eboo Patel. @ University YMCA (1001 S Wright St, Champaign)</td>
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<td>Thursday, Nov 7, 6p</td>
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<td>Keynote address by Dr. Eboo Patel, University of Illinois alumnus and founder and President of Interfaith Youth Core. Dr. Patel was a member of President Barack Obama’s inaugural Advisory Council on Faith-Based Neighborhood Partnerships and was named by U.S. News and World Report as one of America’s Best Leaders in 2009. Reception with light hors d’oeuvres at 6pm; program begins at 6:30pm. Dr. Patel will be introduced with an address by UI Chancellor Robert Jones. @ Alice Campbell Alumni Center Lounge &amp; Ballroom (601 S Lincoln Ave, Urbana)</td>
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<td>Friday, Nov 8, 3:30p</td>
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<td>“From Missionary ‘Focus’ to Neighborly ‘Commitment’: Chicago Lutheran Stories in Christian-Muslim Relations,” a lecture by Dr. Mark Swanson, Harold S. Vogelaar Professor of Christian-Muslim Studies and Interfaith Relations at the Center of Christian-Muslim Engagement at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. @ St. Andrews Lutheran Church and Campus Center (909 S Wright St, Champaign)</td>
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<td>Friday, Nov 8, 5:15pm</td>
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<td>Beyond Tolerance Part 1, dinner &amp; panel presentation on moving towards mutual respect and affection for the people, practices, and convictions of faith traditions different from our own. Panelists are Dr. Mark Swanson, Dr. Marcia Hermansen (Loyola Chicago), Dr. Jennifer Grayson (Hebrew Union College), and Dr. Safwat Marzouk (Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary); moderated by Dr. Michael Dann (University of Illinois). @ Central Illinois Mosque and Islamic Center (106 S Lincoln Ave, Urbana)</td>
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<td>Saturday, Nov 9, 12:45p</td>
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<td>Beyond Tolerance Part 2, lunch &amp; panel presentation on moving towards mutual respect and affection for the people, practices, and convictions of faith traditions different from our own. Panelists are local faith leaders Rabbi Alan Cook (Sinai Temple), Pastor Leah Roberts-Mosser (Community UCC), Pastor Dawn Blackman (Church of the Brethren), Imam Ousmane Sawadogo (CIMIC), and Amy Felty (Baha’i); moderated by Dr. Nicole Anderson-Cobb. @ Sinai Temple (3104 W Windsor Rd, Champaign)</td>
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<td>Sunday, Nov 10, 3pm</td>
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<td>I’d Like to Buy an Enemy 2.0: The Fear Version performance by Ted &amp; Company TheaterWorks. A comedy exploring how fear and &quot;othering&quot; give rise to Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and racism. Note: Campus &amp; street parking is free on Sunday. @ Lincoln Hall Theater (702 S Wright St, Urbana)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Nov 24, 6pm</td>
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<td>Interfaith dinner conversations hosted by the Interfaith Alliance, with facilitators trained in the group discussion model developed by “The People’s Supper.” @ University YMCA (1001 S Wright St, Champaign)</td>
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As I am submitting this bulletin letter, I am hours away from starting my travels to NYC for work. While I am there, Ruth, the boys and I will do some Jewish tourism. We will stop at 2nd Ave Deli with my cousin. Maybe this year we’ll visit the tenement museum – that documents the Jewish immigrant experience and assimilation in the lower East Side. Ruth and her dear friend, Aunt Sandy will tell us countless stories about the Yeshiva’s they visited when they worked in the city. Visiting these Jewish sites allows us to appreciate Jewish life on a broader scale than we get to see in CU. And sometimes it’s important to have that perspective. Despite not being in a big city and despite the fact that we are quantitatively few in number, we have a vibrant engaged community. We might not have a 2nd Ave Deli, but we have some really talented and inspiring cooks!

When we are in NYC, we will even get to see the Avgars. Some of you will fondly remember Ariel and Christie Avgar, Aitan, Ella and Livia from when they lived in town. They were one of the first families I met in hand-in-hand over a decade ago. Ariel actually married Ruth and I in upstate NY, and we signed our marriage license in their living room. For those of you that didn’t have the pleasure of knowing the Avgars, the easiest way to describe them is a family full of menches. In addition to catching up on the latest and greatest, I am sure we will talk about their favorite places in CU. We will talk about the countless holidays, dinners, and shabbats that we shared over the years. Inevitably, Ariel and Christie, will tell us how much they miss Sinai Temple and how special it is. The kids will tell us how much they miss their RS classmates. It’s important to note that the Avgars are world travelers and have lived in Israel and major cities in the US yet they reminisce about how wonderful Sinai Temple is. During my travels and visits, I hear time and time again about how so many alumni still hold those same fond memories. Families with multiple generations are here in our midst, as we saw during Rosh Hashanah Aliyah for Religious School alumni, and the impact our congregation’s education program has had over the years. As a Temple community we know we are not simply building/maintaining the Temple for us, but for our children and grand-children.

For those of you who were here during Rosh Hashanah, you know we are in the midst of our once in a generation renovation, Yesod LeAtid, which seeks to increase the accessibility of the sanctuary. Please consider contributing to the future of our congregation. To remind you we are aiming for 100% participation. If you haven’t had a chance to contribute, please contact the temple office to make a pledge. If you have not made a pledge yet, the development committee chaired by Wynne Korr will be contacting you in the near future.

So once again I want to thank each and every one of you for your commitment to the CU Jewish community and for making this congregation such a welcoming place for the next Avgar-Sosnoffs.

As we enter 5780, thank you for your commitment to the Sinai Temple and the Jewish community. I wish you a sweet, peaceful, and happy new year. La Shana Tova.