Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1
10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Service

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7
5:30 PM Shabbat Shira: Erev Shabbat First Friday Service & Dinner

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15
10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

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

MUSEUM DISPLAY
We would like to thank our Museum volunteers
Joyce Francisco and Pam Olson for their
dedication and creativity of the Museum Exhibits
in the Levin Lounge. Stop by and see the newest
Shabbat Exhibit.

***See Insert for RS Purim Project Form &
February Adult Education Flyer

Purim is Coming!

Please see elsewhere in this bulletin for news about the Purim Baskets fundraiser and our always-popular Purim Carnival. Our celebration of Purim will take place on Erev Purim, Monday, March 9. We will begin at 5:30 PM with a potluck dinner. Temple will provide the entrée; you provide a dish to share! Please visit https://tinyurl.com/cupurim2 to RSVP and sign up for what you plan to bring!

Following dinner, we will gather for a fabulous Purim Shpiel, based on the popular musical, “Annie.”

After the shpiel, stick around as the ETM conducts a reading of the full Megillah!

We hope you can join in celebrating this joyous festival.
By the time you read this, I will be in the midst of my second month-long sabbatical period for 2019-2020. I am grateful to the board for having generously granted me this time for intensified study, writing, and professional growth. I am also thankful to the many individuals who gave of their time and energy during my first month of sabbatical in November/December, and extend my gratitude to those who will take on roles during my February absence.

During my February sabbatical, I will once again be engaging in reading, writing, and studying. I also will have the opportunity to visit Israel. It is hard for me to believe that this will be my first trip in almost eleven years!

I choose to go to Israel because of the historic ties between our people and this sacred land, attested to in our scriptures. To walk and study where our patriarchs and matriarchs are said to have lived, and where pioneers of more recent generations built and innovated and dreamed is an awe-inspiring experience.

I choose to go to Israel for the opportunity to interact with all of her wonderfully diverse citizenry: Jews, Muslims, Christians, Baha’I, and Druze. I look forward to conversations with those who profess a faith that connects them inextricably to this complicated place and with those who adhere to no particular faith but nonetheless recognize the deep and complex beauty of this country.

I choose to go to Israel to remind myself that Jews are not monolithic, that in this unique Jewish country I will encounter progressive Jews like myself living and working alongside Orthodox Jews and chiloni (“secular”) Jews who each parse their heritage in different ways. The students and I will see Ashkenazim, Sephardim, and Mizrahim—Jews of every skin tone, gender identity, socio-economic class, and national origin.

I choose to go to Israel so that I can continue to better be able to explore and articulate the complex issues driving Israeli politics. I will speak out about the missteps I perceive on the path towards peace, and on my personal disagreement with Israel’s leaders and their policies. I will continue to lift my voice in support of Israel living up to the highest potential of its founders’ ideals and dreams.

These are but a few of the goals that will be on my heart and mind as I take this trip. I look forward to sharing my reactions with you, and to our students sharing their responses as well.

L’Shalom,
Rabbi Alan Cook

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**GREEN TEAM TIP** The best action we can take with regard to household materials is to **reduce** our use. After that, we can seek to **reuse** items to avoid obtaining more new stuff, and in the end, **recycle** whatever we can.

**When we recycle:**
- Make sure items are rinsed out and dry
- Don’t put recyclables (paper, cardboard, plastic containers, cans, glass, etc.) into plastic bags
- Plastic bags, (especially those with #2 and #4 in the recycle symbol) can be put into household recycling only if bagged separately. Also, take them to your local grocery store
- Check with your waste hauler for details

Here are some local recycling links:
- [https://champaignil.gov/public-works/recycling/](https://champaignil.gov/public-works/recycling/)
- [https://www.urbanaillinois.us/recyclables](https://www.urbanaillinois.us/recyclables)
- Illini Recycling at 420 Paul Ave., Champaign accepts some drop-off recyclables, check for details:  [https://illinirecycling.com/recycling/recycling-center/](https://illinirecycling.com/recycling/recycling-center/)
Dear Friends,

I hope the start of 2020 is going well.

As I am writing this bulletin letter, I am listening to music playing on one of the three smart speakers that occupy our home.

Although I am sure smart speakers can do a lot of interesting things, I mainly use it to play music when I am at home (and to get the weather forecast). One unique aspect of the smart speaker (as compared to a good old fashioned radio) is that it keeps track of the all the various music that has been played and uses this information to select other music to your liking. In concept, this is a great idea and should lead to only hearing music in line with my unique taste being played. However, living in my house – the smart speaker gets inundated with musical requests from five different people, who have varying tastes including jazz, country, classic rock, ‘90’s R&B, new rap, etc. The end result is an eclectic mix of music bellowing from the smart speaker, although there is some comfort knowing that the music that is playing is a true representation of my family’s combined taste.

Although it is not a perfect analogy, its similar to the wide variety of music offerings at temple. At many Friday night services we are fortunate to have Martha Alwes and one of several talented singers lead us in more classic Jewish melodies. First Fridays often feature the music of our very own Shir Electricity band (consisting of Jessica Koplow, Larry Adelston, Jake Rosenbaum and Djavid Novrouzov), or the Shir Unplugged ensemble (Larry and Jessica). We also are blessed with the Shabbat Family Folksingers (Larry Adelston, Andrea Klein, and Barbara Orden), the music heard at our Shabbat Rocks and Next Dor services, and occasionally other musical guests. We are fortunate to live in such an eclectic and vibrant Jewish community. We are grateful to Sinai’s music committee, which helps to plan for this musical variety.

We are emerging from what was a relatively slow period to begin the new year with a few exciting upcoming events. As I am sure you are aware, the trivia night is quickly approaching (Saturday Feb 22) – always a great time. I am thankful to Bart Greenberger, Gary Bernstein and Dan Kopelow for organizing this great event that truly puts the “fun” in fundraising.

In addition to these events a sub-committee of the board is starting the budgeting process. The nominations committee, which will be chaired by past-president Gary Bernstein is starting to consider candidates to fill upcoming vacancies on the board. If the nominations committee reaches out to you, please consider helping the temple continue to flourish.

Cheers,
Jake

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**SINAI TEMPLE JANUARY 2020 BOARD MEETING**

- Please join us in welcoming Margaret Saks to our Temple community.
- The architects, LZ, have the contract for Temple renovations, and we are awaiting their final signature.
- Two key contracts are presently being worked out for consultants who will assist with renovations: Structural engineers and Mechanical/electrical/plumbing services.
- It is anticipated that near the end of January, or early February, that LZ architects and these two consulting groups will visit the Temple.
- Some Temple Board members will be completing their service and time on the Board. If you have interest in contributing to the Temple by serving on the Board, please contact a Board member or the Rabbis.

**Bulletin Submission:** The deadline to submit information for the March Bulletin is February 15th. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Roxanna Davison, assistant@sinaitemplecu.org.
Although we are just starting the second book of the Torah, the book of Shemot (or Exodus), I wanted to give you some significant NUMBERS related to Sinai Temple Religious School. We will actually read from the book of Numbers (bamiidbar) over the summer—but numbers and counting are important in the Jewish world.

1. In about a month, we will deliver over 300 shalach manot, Purim Gift Baskets. This fundraiser will (hopefully) generate over $10,000 in sales, but more importantly, it will connect our membership and Jewish families in CU. I encourage you to participate and support Sinai Temple Religious School by sending a greeting to friends!

2. I just received confirmation that we have 20 children going to OSRUI this summer and several other students are attending different Jewish summer camps. This is HUGE for a small community. Informal Jewish education is beneficial for so many reasons, and I can’t wait to hear about the experiences that these kids have!

3. Later this month, 2 students from our Hebrew High program will participate in an 8th grade peer trip to Israel. Last year, when we introduced the program, one student was able to participate. We will send Nessa Bleill and Gabe Cook off on a journey with a blessing for safe arrival and return and a for a trip of spiritual growth, learning and friendship making.

4. 3,996—the number of small, square stickers our community members put onto a mosaic poster. It is still hanging in the foyer—because it is fun to look at and talk about. It was started and completed by people in our congregation who were at Sinai Temple to celebrate Hanukkah! What a fun community building activity!

Tu B’shevat—Birthday of the Trees

This wonderful holiday is celebrated on Tu (the Hebrew number equivalent of 15) B’shevat (the month of Shevat) and is a holiday that celebrates trees. We use trees in so many ways, but often don’t think about how they are part of nearly all aspects of our lives. Tu B’shevat is on February 9–10 and we will celebrate with a seder! All primary students will participate in a seder on Sunday, February 9.

If you are able to help, please contact Rabbi Jody. I will share a sign up to help serve fruits and to donate fruits. Intermediate students (grades 3-7) will have an opportunity to taste varieties of fruits on Wednesday, February 12 after Hebrew School. Please watch for an RSVP for this program!

It’s always fun to celebrate—this is a perfect holiday to incorporate into your home! Have kids make fruit decorations, dry fruits, pick up fruits and seeds that you haven’t tried before, make a donation to plant trees, sing Happy Birthday to the trees, etc. there are so many ways you can celebrate!
ADULT EDUCATION
Sundays, 10:30 AM–11:30 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. Please see the enclosed flyer about our special sessions in February.

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 continue to explore the weekly Torah portion. Newcomers are welcome to come study with us!

BOOK GROUP
Sunday, February 16, 2:30 PM
The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM, however during February, we will meet on Sunday at 2:30 PM. We will be reading Pachinko by Min Jin Lee. Host and Facilitator: Joan Kozoll, 1108 Plymouth Dr., C. (356-8554) 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 phone 217-367-8053 or robinfans1@gmail.com.

In December, we received bids from consultants on different aspects of the building. After a careful review, the project is moving forward with contracts for Structural Engineering and MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing) design. Both are important for the design phase; Structural Engineers will review the status of the roof over the Library and Levin Lounge, while the MEP consultants will assist with the heating/cooling system and the bathroom renovations. In the next phase of design, consultants will provide input on Acoustics, Audio/Visual, Lighting, and the IT that connects these all together. We are still gathering bids from those consultants and hope to have companies selected by the end of February.

VIMs
Thursday, February 6 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 astridjb@comcast.net.

CHAI LUNCHEON
Tuesday, February 18 at 11:30 AM
Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation CHAI Seniors Program invites you to Lunch Conversation with Local Artists about Their Art, Lives and Businesses.

This will be the first of a series of lunch-and-learn events designed to introduce members of our CU Jewish community who work in the arts, business, services, academia, government and religious organizations. In each meeting, two to four speakers representing one of these areas will share a bit about their lives, experiences and work.

The upcoming lunch-and-learn will be a moderated conversation and Q-and-A session with local artists. Our guests are Jacki Loewenstein (theater), Arielle Weinstein (music), Jon Dessen and Larry Kanfer (photography).

Lunch will be served. Cost of this event is $5.00. Presentation starts at 12:00 pm.
BIRNBAUM CAMP FUND
Freda Birnbaum, in memory of Howard Birnbaum and in honor of Freda Birnbaum

BUILDING FUND
Howard Berenbaum & Megan McLaughlin
Brenda Berg
David & Mary Ann Berg
Ronald Dolgin & Jean Clarkson
Stephen Downie & Deborah Katz-Downie
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Sherry Helfer
Brian & Jacque Kahn
Diana Lenik
Robert Manaster
Arne Pearlstein & Elizabeth Stern
Dattia Rosenberg & Benjamin Bross
Michael & Susan Roughton
Karen Rudolph & David Donnini
Paul & Susan Schomer
Judith Siess & Stephen Bremseth
Sharon Shavitt & Steven Zimmerman
Robert & Marion Smith
Kenneth Stolarsky & Andrea Beller
Buddi Tepper
Paul & Linda Weichsel
Ehud & Janie Yairi

CEMETERY FUND
Phillip Ciralsky, in memory of Beverly Ciralsky

EGALITARIAN TRADITIONAL MINYAN
Arielle & Russell Weinstein

FRIENDS OF THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
Allen Avner
Edward & Elaine Bruner
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Stanley & Joan Levy
Richard Pikowsky
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky
Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff

Emily Stone & Chris Napolitano
Stacy & Jason Trager
Barry & Linda Weiner
Bette & John van Es

GENERAL FUND
May Berenbaum & Richard Leskosky, in memory of my parents, Morris and Adrienne Berenbaum and in memory of my brother, Alan Berenbaum
Ben & Olga Halpern, in memory of Belle Halpern
Judith Kaufman, in memory of Jeff Kaufman
Rabbi Norman Klein & Andrea Klein, in memory of Herbert Rubenstein
Gayle & Ira Kopin, in memory of Dena Linado

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND
Howard Berenbaum & Megan McLaughlin
David & Mary Ann Berg
Ronald Dolgin & Jean Clarkson
Stephen Downie & Deborah Katz-Downie
Natalie Frankenber
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Arne Pearlstein & Elizabeth Stern
Sharon Shavitt & Steven Zimmerman

LIBRARY FUND
Henrietta Schwartz and Sue Brim, in memory of Abraham Lapedes

MLK FUND
Carl & Carol Belber
Janet & David Peshkin
Bruce Reznick & Robin Sahner
Sharon Shavitt & Steven Zimmerman
Bette & Jon van Es
Michael & Lila Vodkin
Ehud & Janie Yairi

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Ann Einhorn, in honor of Bill & Reva Sosnoff’s 60th wedding anniversary

SECURITY FUND
Howard Berenbaum & Megan McLaughlin
Brenda Berg
David & Mary Ann Berg
Ronald Dolgin & Jean Clarkson
Stephen Downie & Deborah Katz-Downie
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Sherry Helfer
Diana Lenik
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Karen Rudolph & David Donnini
Paul & Susan Schomer
Sharon Shavitt & Steven Zimmerman
Robert Silverman
Robert & Marion Smith
Kenneth Stolarsky & Andrea Beller
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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-January. Donations received after this date will be acknowledged in future Bulletins.

Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office 217-352-8140 or email us at stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org and let us know the name of the deceased, their relationship to you, and the secular or Hebrew date you wish to observe their yahrzeit. If you are unable to attend services and wish to reschedule the observance, please let us know a few days in advance.
# Memorials

**Friday, February 7**

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**Friday, February 28**

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<td>Colonel Uzi Yairi</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.
February Adult Education at Sinai Temple

During February, please make plans to join these special adult education sessions. Except for February 23 (see below), all sessions take place at Sinai Temple from 10:30-11:30 AM. Come grab a copy of coffee and a nosh from Sinai Café, and join in these engaging presentations.

February 2
Professor Dana Rabin will offer an introduction to the Jews of the Caribbean. Learn what brought Jews to these island nations, and how Jewish life in many of these communities continues to thrive.

February 9
Professor Dara Ellen Goldman shares her presentation “Havana Nagila” on the vibrant Jewish community of Cuba.

February 16
Professor Dana Rabin will teach about Jewish life in Jamaica.

February 23
(Note Special Time and Location)
Please join Erez Cohen, Executive Director of Illini Hillel, for a special B’nai Brith lecture in memory of Arthur Robinson.
Erez recently returned from a trip to Poland, tracing the legacy of his grandmother, a Polish resistance fighter during the Holocaust. Come here his reflections on his grandmother’s fascinating story.
This presentation will take place at the Cohen Center of Illini Hillel, 503 E. John St. (free parking in adjacent university garages) from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM.

All sessions are free and open to the community.
Shalach Manot Greeting Project Worksheet
A project of the Sinai Temple Religious School

If you are unable to/do not prefer to use the Purim Project website, please complete this sheet and return with payment to:

Sinai Temple
c/o Rabbi Jody/Purim Project
3104 W. Windsor Road
Champaign, Illinois 61822

FORM AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY March 1, 2020

Write the names of individuals/families to whom you would like to send a Purim greeting. Each greeting is $4.00. If the recipient is NOT a member of Sinai Temple or enrolled in religious school, the cost is $8.00. Please use the back side to provide name and address for anyone who is NOT a Sinai Temple member.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

You may also select the following groups at a group rate. Please fill in the circle for each group that you are selecting.

○ Hand in Hand Class ($30)
○ Pre-K ($36)
○ Kindergarten ($36)
○ 1st Grade ($18)
○ 2nd Grade ($36)
○ 3rd Grade/Alef ($18)
○ 4th Grade/Bet ($18)
○ 5th Grade/Gimmel ($36)
○ 6th Grade/BBM ($36)
○ Hebrew High ($36)

○ Confirmation ($30)
○ Chavurah (Please list at least 2 members for identification purposes) ($36)
○ Sinai Temple Board ($36)
○ Sinai Temple Staff ($18)
○ Gift Shop Volunteers ($18)
○ STRS Teachers ($36)
○ Music Committee ($18)

○ Education Committee ($18)
○ Shabbat Rocks! ($72)
○ Egalitarian Traditional Minyan ($90)
○ Sinai Temple Membership ($360)
○ New Members ($18)

Please write your greeting as you would like it to appear:

________________________________________________________________________

If you want different greetings for each person, please attach a separate piece of paper.

Calculate Payment:

# of $4.00 MEMBER greetings ________ Amount: $_______________
# of $8.00 NON MEMBER greetings ________ Amount: $_______________
Total cost of GROUP greetings Amount: $_______________
Check/Cash enclosed in the amount of Amount: $_______________

YOUR NAME and PHONE NUMBER ______________________________

______________________________