

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



As many of you know, ordinarily as the weather turns warmer, Rabbi Jody and I and our family begin making preparations to spend a portion of the summer in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin at the Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI). That won't be happening this summer, as the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) has decided to forego all in-person camping as a precaution against the possible spread of COVID-19; most other summer camping programs have made similar decisions.

Certainly, this represents a loss on many levels—not only of the fun and relaxation that our family has come to associate with camp, and not only a loss of revenue for OSRUI and others who run these summer programs. It also represents lost opportunities to make memories, forge connections, gain new skills, and explore new possibilities. Thanks to Rabbi Jody, plans are already underway for Sinai Temple to work in partnership with OSRUI leadership and to offer our own innovative online programming to capture much of the spirit of the summer. But I'd like to explore a bit about what camp can offer to all of us, even if we happen to have "aged out" of its formal programming.

Demographic studies of the Jewish community continually show that participation in a Jewish summer camp experience is one of the leading indicators of whether an individual seeks out Jewish communal involvement in adulthood. That is to say, if a person goes to summer camp during childhood, he or she is more likely to have positive feelings about sticking with the Jewish community later in life. That's because camp instills Jewish literacy, Jewish pride, and Jewish connections.

Many of us know the informal Jewish parlor game called "Jewish geography." For the uninitiated, that's when someone you meet tells you where they're from, or where they went to school, or where their in-laws live, and you find yourself searching your personal memory banks because you

are certain you must know somebody who belongs to a synagogue or attended the Hillel or had a summer internship or married a person in that community. Playing Jewish geography awakens one to the broad web of Jewish interconnectedness. The rabbis of the Talmud voiced it as, "*kol Yisrael areivin zeh-ba-zeh*—all Jews are responsible for one another." Rabbi Larry Milder set the sentiment to music in his song, "Wherever You Go, There's Always Someone Jewish." However you parse it, the realization of kinship with other Jews all over the world is significant as we navigate our way through Jewish life in a society where we find ourselves in the minority. Being able to spend a concentrated period of time with fellow Jews can heighten one's appreciation for what it means to live a Jewish life.

When one spends a summer at Jewish camp, one gets to explore modes of worship, prayers and songs, and Hebrew vocabulary on a more regular basis than the rest of the year. And whether you retain all of that information when you get home—whether you can tell a *tapuach* from a *tapuz* (an apple from an orange) or can still remember the twelve different melodies you learned for *Oseh Shalom*, you've still vastly broadened your Jewish knowledge.

Camp will return. It will continue to give the young people in our congregation and our community opportunities for exploration and growth. In that way, it will continue to yield benefits for our entire congregation. And until we can safely return to our summer homes, be they in Oconomowoc or elsewhere in the camping world, we are grateful for creative programming and indelible memories that we can capitalize upon to help see us through.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

June/July 2020 Bulletin

Bulletin Submission: The deadline for **August Bulletin** is **July 15th**. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Kathy Douglas stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.

From President Jacob Sosnoff

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds you and yours well.

It is clear that the uncertainty that the pandemic has caused is unsettling. As we plan for the near and long term future of Sinai Temple we recognize that each of us has particular needs and concerns. Although we are all experience the pandemic, its impact on each of us is unique. Some of us are more vulnerable than others to physical, psychological, and financial demands and stress.

Despite the ongoing crisis we continue to operate the Temple and serve the congregation. Soon after the stay at home order was provided, Rabbi Alan organized a small group of volunteers to call each and every member of the congregation to check in on their well-being and offer support. Rabbi Jody has continued to engage our youth of all ages and continues to offer Hebrew education over the summer. The confirmation class led (virtual) Shabbat services as culmination of their religious school education. The last week of May we had a series of Shavuot offerings including our first (and hopefully last) drive-up ice cream social (a special thanks for Bart Greenberger and Ben LeRoy for organizing). This multipronged and creative outreach has continued as the pandemic continues.

We are able to offer this programing and outreach because of your continued generosity and investment in Sinai Temple. Due to your generosity, and the fiscal management of the board, we are in a strong financial position as we head into the next fiscal year. Our congregation is growing, a total of 17 new member units – comprising ~30 new people – have joined Sinai and there have been several recent births (Mazel Tov!). For the first time in over a decade we are projecting a budget surplus for the current fiscal year.

We are fortunate to be in this position. The Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) message boards paint a stark contrast for the majority of temples and Jewish organizations across the US. Indeed the URJ has had to make the difficult decision to lay off a portion of its workforce. I believe we can weather the challenging economic climate and continue to have a vibrant congregation.

Taking into consideration the current and projected economic outlook and uncertainty, the board has prepared a relatively modest budget for the next fiscal year with significantly reduced expenses. We do however still have obligations to meet and know that we are not alone in that reality. Like most non-profits, over 60% of our budget is tied to staffing salaries and 20% is related to maintaining the building. We can only

continue to offer the innovative programming and help our community with the support of our congregation. We completely understand and anticipate that some of you will not be able to be as generous as you once were. If you in the alternate position and are able to give more at this time, and have the resources to carry some of what others may not be able to pick up right now, your additional help will go a long way.

Keep in mind that the financial climate also has potential implications for the renovation as well. To remind you the goal of the renovation is to increase the accessibility of the temple and add to our welcoming environment. Many of you have already made significant gifts/pledges to the renovation. I am thankful for your continued generosity. To date over a million dollars has been pledged and nearly eight hundred thousand has been paid. The development committee with approval of the board has increased the goal to 1.2 million dollars. Our goal is have full participation of the congregation –no gift is too small. If you have not yet made a pledge or would like to increase your pledge, you are encouraged to do so now. Here is the link to the donation/pledge form [insert link]. Ultimately the scope of the renovation will be determined by the amount of money that is raised. We understand that the challenging economic climate may impact your ability to support the renovation. If you feel that you are going to have difficulty meeting your pledge commitment please reach out to Wynne Korr or Rabbi Alan. If you are fortunate to have resources to give more than your original pledge please consider increasing your gift/pledge. The increased amounts will help to secure plans to renovate the sanctuary, pods, and Levin lounge and to extend them to the communal spaces near the entry.

We live in challenging unsettling times, yet I am confident that with the continued support of the congregation, Sinai temple will continue to flourish.

Stay healthy and be well,

Cheers,

Jake

Continued on next page

Announcements

BOOK GROUP



The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we will be meeting via Zoom until it is again safe to meet in person. An email with the Zoom link will be sent the morning of the meeting. If you wish to participate, and are not a regular book group attendee, please email nataliefr@comcast.net

Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

June 15: Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland by Patrick Radden Keefe.

Facilitator: Sue Cohen

July 20: The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion by Fannie Flagg

Facilitator needed.

Mazel Tov!



Audrey Adelston graduated with Honors from Centennial High School. She was also named a State Scholar by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. She will attend the College of Fine and Applied Arts at University of Illinois, Urbana, where she plans to study studio art (drawing and painting). She also graduated from Central Illinois Youth Chorus after singing with them for nine years.

Do you have a 2020 graduate you would like acknowledged? Please send a mazel tov to Kathy at stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

Tuesdays & Saturdays at 9:30 AM - ONLINE

For those who would like to do chair yoga, online, with Robin, while in your home, please contact her at robinfans1@gmail.com.

She is leading two classes, on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 9:30 through the Zoom website or app.



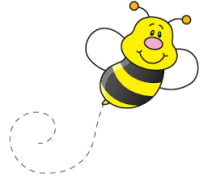
PLEDGE REMINDER

As the 2018-19 Fiscal Year is coming to a close, we would like to remind those with outstanding pledges that they are **due by June 30th**. Feel free to contact Kathy in the Temple Office for balances: 217-352-8140 or stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.

Office CLOSED:

**Friday, July 3rd — in Observance of
Independence Day**

The Green Team *BRINGS THE GREEN TO SINAI TEMPLE*



SINAI TEMPLE 3R PROGRAM COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Green Team is planning to hold an outdoor, socially-distanced recycling collection event at Sinai Temple.

The date of the recycling collection event has not yet been chosen, but will be during Summer 2020.

Please continue to save the following items to bring to the recycling collection event.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

mouthwash bottles & caps
toothbrushes
deodorant containers & caps
soap packaging
floss containers
toothpaste tubs & caps
any personal care packaging and tubes

New for 2020!
shaving razor systems
disposable razors
replaceable blade cartridges
shaving/razor packaging

BABY FOOD PACKAGING

New for 2020!
any flexible or rigid plastic baby food packaging
includes plastic pouches!
NO glass accepted

STYROFOAM

any clean polystyrene (styrofoam)

OFFICE SUPPLIES

broken/unusable office supplies
including pens, markers, tape dispensers
desk organizers, card/document filers, binders,
calendars, labels/label sheet backing, paper
cutters, correction supplies, paper clips,
staples, binder clips, and more!

*For all items, please
remove excess product
and allow to dry*

Together we can make an impact on conserving the earth's resources!

QUESTIONS? Email berksonalice@gmail.com

Giving

BUILDING FUND

David & Sadie Braun
Susan Cohen & George Monahan
Mitch & Kim Fisher
Sheryl Goldberg
Lilyan Levant
Barbara Orden
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky

GENERAL FUND

Julia Kling, in memory of Blair Kling
William and Lisa Lane Libman
Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Flora Sholem

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

David & Sadie Braun
Brian & Jacque Kahn
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky
Barbara Orden
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky

MARTIN LUTHER KING., JR, FUND

Leslie & Gary Mason

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Edward & Nancy Tepper, in appreciation of Rabbi Alan and Rabbi Jody during the lockdown

SECURITY FUND

David & Sadie Braun
Mitch & Kim Fisher
Sheryl Goldberg
Nigel Goldenfeld & Joan Campagnolo
Brian & Jacque Kahn
Michael & Shari Langendorf
Barbara Orden
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky



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

Memorials for June

Friday, June 5

Solomon Alpiner (10 Jun)
Elaine Sweital Avner (10 Jun)
Alfred Beller (17 Siv)
Celia Blockman (10 Jun)
Irvin Bloom (9 Jun)
Naomi Dietchweiler (8 Jun)
Hyman Diness (12 Jun)
Judit Isa Halberstam (10 Jun)
Robert L. Harris (11 Jun)

Irving Kohen (9 Jun)
Sophie Perlman Lenik (14 Siv)
Judy Levin (11 Jun)
Adele G. Libman (8 Jun)
Molly Mayorwitz (6 Jun)
Alfred Smith (6 Jun)
Frederick Sosnoff (9 Jun)
Esther Reizman Steinberg (19 Siv)
Walter W. Stern (10 Jun)

Myron C. Topson (12 Jun)
Rosalia Blumenfeld Fagan Treuman (8 Jun)
Amalia Rosenheck Weinberger (16 Siv)
Leonard Weiner (17 Siv)
Lynn Lazarus Weisskopf (8 Jun)

Friday, June 12

Nita Aprill (13 Jun)
Dorothy Bauer (13 Jun)
Donald Brotherson (15 Jun)
Helene Dikelsky (25 Siv)
Edward Dolgin (19 Jun)
Linda B. Harris Hanau (15 Jun)
Manfred Isserman (18 Jun)
Dora Lovett Lapedes (19 Jun)
Phoebe S. Libman (15 Jun)
Arthur Mayorwitz (15 Jun)
Lawrence J. Pass (15 Jun)

Louis M. Schutz (14 Jun)
Harry Siegal (15 Jun)
Davida Lynda Stotland (22 Siv)
Harry Sudman (17 Jun)
Murray Trupin (14 Jun)

Friday, June 19

Sam Barker (26 Jun)
Sumner Thurman Bernstein (23 Jun)
Milton Bruner (24 Jun)
Millard Freudenstein (25 Jun)
Ronald David Gersten (28 Siv)
Maurice J. Ginsberg (23 Jun)
Rubin Hamburg (25 Jun)
Jerome Kaufman (26 Jun)
Megan Kemp (26 Jun)

Dorothy Krakower (2 Tam)
Rhoda Solomon Levant (25 Jun)
Rose Linowes (1 Tam)
Ellis Lipson (22 Jun)
Herman Mautner (22 Jun)
Harry Robinson (21 Jun)
Sonya Rosenberg (20 Jun)
Milton Rudick (23 Jun)
Isaiah Scheeline Jr. (22 Jun)

Mortimer Stern (23 Jun)
Joseph Towlen (21 Jun)
Jack Wolf (4 Tam)

Friday, June 26

Paul Bercovitz (10 Tam)
Alvin Berland (2 Jul)
Max Caron (29 Jun)
Roy Wesley Downie (27 Jun)
Rose Adler Einhorn (11 Tam)
Dorothy Eisen (2 Jul)
Estelle Finkelman (29 Jun)
Louis Freudenstein (27 Jun)

David Garrick (7 Tam)
Samuel Goldstein (3 Jul)
John Kermit Helgesen (27 Jun)
Raymond L. Holm (30 Jun)
Lois E. Mecklenburger (3 Jul)
Libby Miller (3 Jul)
Ernest E. Pombert (29 Jun)
Seymour Robinson (27 Jun)

Rose Wolf Rotman (7 Tam)
Melvin Schoenberg (28 Jun)
Edward Weinberger (6 Tam)
Virginia Williams (27 Jun)

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 for July

Friday, July 3

Hersz Yidl Bursztyn (12 Tam)
Julius X. Davis (5 Jul)
Nathan Ferrer (16 Tam)
Edythe Goodman (5 Jul)
Joseph Hamburg (4 Jul)
Lauren Beth Katz (13 Tam)
Leon Korr (14 Tam)

Donald Lachman (6 Jul)
Toby Levenson (9 Jul)
Frank Monahan (10 Jul)
Maurice Rosefelt (10 Jul)
Isadore Schneider (9 Jul)
Rebecca Evelyn Shapiro (12 Tam)
Irving Z. Sherman (4 Jul)

James R. Smith (18 Tam)
Renee Soskin (8 Jul)
Frederick Steigmann (4 Jul)
Carey Elmore Terry (8 Jul)
Eugene A. Weinberg (9 Jul)

Friday, July 10

Frances Reiss Adler (14 Jul)
Jean Libman Davis (16 Jul)
David Gordon Goodman (23 Tam)
Jack Grusby (21 Tam)
Ella R. Hauptman (11 Jul)
Harry Kaufman (25 Tam)
David Saul Lavey (11 Jul)
Henry Levin (15 Jul)
Ben Libman (11 Jul)

Florence Korr Lurie (21 Tam)
Justin Rachamim Prezent (21 Tam)
Joseph Reiss (25 Tam)
Hattie Ross Sturmthal (13 Jul)

Friday, July 17

Marvin Samuel Didech (28 Tam)
Inge Sender Glezer (24 Jul)
Solomon William Herman (1 Av)
Emmy L. Holm (22 Jul)
Stanley Louis Kaufman (22 Jul)
Lotta Rosenberg Kling (1 Av)
Anita Cohen Lieberman (18 Jul)

Oscar S. Loeb (19 Jul)
Birdie Moritz (20 Jul)
Albert W. Stern (18 Jul)
Irvin Levitch Wasserman (28 Tam)
Marion Waxman (29 Tam)
Hilda Damick Weiss (24 Jul)
Freddie Fabert Witte (21 Jul)

Friday, July 24

Miriam Lasker Appelbaum (31 Jul)
Michael Dietchweiler (26 Jul)
Rina Dolgin (25 Jul)
Sidney Faiman (7 Av)
Herbert Goldberg (7 Av)
Carlyn Gottschalk (30 Jul)
Harry H. Kozoll (30 Jul)
Louis Levitt (28 Jul)

William Libman (26 Jul)
Josie Loeb (29 Jul)
Sam Rudnick (27 Jul)
Betty Shapiro (29 Jul)
Malka Shklair (10 Av)
Ray Spooner (4 Av)
Abraham Stern (31 Jul)
Mikhail Tsipursky (31 Jul)

Jeffrey Wiese (25 Jul)

Friday, July 31

Elizabeth F. C. Aub (3 Aug)
Beverly Brown Caron (2 Aug)
Rubin G. Cohn (6 Aug)
Justin Lilbert Cooke (7 Aug)
Norma Dodge (2 Aug)
Rose Hirsch Ducoff (7 Aug)
Arthur Gitler (4 Aug)
Arnold Goodman (16 Av)

Dora Kalis Joffe (4 Aug)
Daniel Katz (17 Av)
Dorothy Rosenbloom Kaufman (14 Av)
Lester Lowenstein (5 Aug)
Yetta Marco (1 Aug)
M. Richard Mehl (4 Aug)
Joseph Mizrahi (7 Aug)
Sidney Newman (1 Aug)

Cantor Moses Schwimmer (6 Aug)
Harriet Solomon Stern (2 Aug)
Muriel Branson Stolarsky (2 Aug)
Ruth Reyman Tager (3 Aug)
Fanny A. Wagman (3 Aug)