



Schedule of Services

All services are online at this time.

Friday, November 6, 7:30PM Shabbat Service

Friday, November 13, 7:30PM, Shabbat Service

**Saturday, November 14, 10:00AM, Egalitarian
Traditional Minyan**

Friday, November 20, 7:30PM, Shabbat Service

**Friday, November 20, 6:30PM, Shabbat Rocks!/
Next Dor Service**

Friday November 27, 7:30PM, Shabbat Service

**Saturday, November 28, 10:00AM, Egalitarian
Traditional Minyan**

Renovation Development Committee

We are an amazing congregation. We have raised close to \$1.2 million dollars. While this is well over the original fundraising goal initially set for this project, as the potential scope of the project has widened, the potential price tag has also increased. In the past few months, in response to additional appeals, many have stepped up to make new pledges or increase previous pledges. This is, of course, greatly appreciated; the more we raise, the more goals we can realize.

As Sanford reports, the Temple Board has directed the Renovation committee to plan according to the amount of money raised or pledged. At the moment, this means that the Renovation committee has been making tough decisions to scale back on certain components of the project based on the budget. As Sanford reported, one such revision is to exclude the renovation of the bathrooms near our entrance from our current plans. If enough donors come forward to support the goal of making these restrooms fully accessible, we may still be able to undertake this component of the project.

Every gift is important because it signifies how important Sinai Temple is to each member of our community. Thank you for your continued support.

As always, please feel free to ask me any questions.

Wynne Korr, wynne.korr@gmail.com Development Chair



Sinai Renovation Committee

As the SRC has worked with the architects on envisioning this renovation, we have seen many beautiful design proposals, and the scope of the project has shifted a bit. Updating the sanctuary and pods continues to be at the center of any design plan, but there are other elements that have been considered that would update and enrich our Temple for future generations.

Last month, the Board of Trustees made the difficult decision to set a budget based only on funds that have been raised or pledged. Thus the SRC has worked to make changes to the proposed design with an eye to reduce the list to fit within the funding.

One change was to remove the renovation of the south bathrooms - the ones closest to the lobby entrance from Windsor Road-- from the current project. The bathrooms had been added to the project over and above the original scope of the renovation, with an eye towards making more of the facilities accessible, but a discussion with the city clarified that updating them is not required for code compliance. It is hoped that additional fundraising will allow for changes to the bathrooms, but since they are not part of the "core" project they are currently considered to be an optional component. Other modifications were made to the plans to cut costs where possible, such as by removing proposed ceiling covering in the pods, removing some proposed decorative coverings on the side walls, and re-thinking the replacement of some windows on the North and South walls of the Sanctuary. Again, as funds continue to come in, it may be feasible to restore some of these items. Every contribution makes a difference for this project, and the SRC is working closely with the Development Committee so that all can be engaged in the planning and execution of a beautiful space that will serve us well into the future.

In the next steps, the SRC will finalize some design decisions and the architect will create the final "Construction Documents" that will be submitted to the city for permits, and to the general contractor who will use them to line up sub-contractors. We are excited that as we near this stage, we will soon have artists' renderings of the proposed designs to share. (Keep in mind that the General Contractor has been part of the design process since the spring, so they are very familiar with the decisions that have been made so far.) The SRC is dedicated to moving forward with the next phase of the project, now that the Board has clarified the scope of the work.

Chair Sanford Hess

Bulletin Submission: The deadline for **December Bulletin** is **November 15th**. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **Email submissions to:** Kathy Douglas at stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



According to the *Farmer's Almanac*, November is marked in the United States as "National Pomegranate Month." Pomegranates are a symbolic fruit in Jewish tradition; they are one of seven species named in the book of Deuteronomy as being indigenous to the land of Israel, and the decorative covers that adorn the handles of many Torah scrolls are known as *rimmonim* (the Hebrew word for pomegranates) and are often

shaped like the fruit.

Pomegranates are also said to contain 613 seeds. The number 613, of course, is symbolic because it is the same number that the scholar Moses Maimonides, also known as the RaMBaM, came up with when he enumerated all of the mitzvot in the Torah. So, perhaps National Pomegranate Month can remind and inspire us to seek out and perform acts of social justice, mitzvot that contribute to the betterment of our community.

November is also the month set aside in our country for elections. It is possible that by the time you read this, we will already know the results of the various races and ballot measures for which we have had the opportunity to make our opinions heard. I pray that every eligible voter in our congregation has exercised their civic duty to participate in this important election. I pray that you have supported candidates and issues that you find to be consistent with your personal values and your understanding of Jewish expectations for how we treat others, care for our community and environment, and build a bright future for the generations who will come after us.

In 1988, George H.W. Bush lifted up the idea of "a thousand points of light," symbolizing how those who engage with civic organizations to work to improve our society for all bring light and hope into our world. During his inaugural address in January of 1989, President Bush again spoke of timeless ideas of "duty, sacrifice, commitment, and a patriotism that finds its expression in taking part and pitching in." President Bush could just as easily used the metaphor of the pomegranate instead of the points of light. The message would have endured: it is incumbent upon all of us to lift others up and make our country the best it can be. This is a responsibility that falls to all of us as Americans, regardless of political affiliation, race, gender, class, sexual orientation, etc.

At the end of the month, when we sit with the results of our elections and we are satiated in our celebration of the pomegranate, we will gather to give thanks. I pray that we will all know gratitude for our many blessings. I pray that we will appreciate the many blessings of freedom and justice that are core values of our nation. I pray that we will be inspired to roll up our sleeves and take action to do mitzvot, to perform the important work necessary to show love to our neighbors, to strengthen our community, and to ensure that each of the thousand points of light can shine fully and brightly.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

Memorial Service for Mira Hamburg

It is with great pride and abiding love that the Hamburg-Huelsing-Missler-Sarapin family announces that on **Sunday, November 1**, we will honor the life of Mira Hamburg, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, and friend. Due to the coronavirus, which took her life on May 16, 2020, this will be an online (ZOOM) service scheduled for **3:30 p.m.** If you would like to view and hear the memorial service, please [e-mail Susie \(Hamburg Huelsing\) Sarapin](mailto:Susie.Huelsing@sinaitemple.org) or [click here to access the service on Zoom](#). There will not be an interment at this time. We hope to gather in person for the unveiling and interment at a later date. Password: 8VScFg

**Sunday, November 1, 2020
at 3:30 PM**





From President Jacob Sosnoff

Dear Friends,

I hope you all had a wonderful Sukkot and are slowly getting used to the darker nights. Did you get a chance to use the Temple sukkah? (A huge thanks to Gary, Tanya, and Abby Bernstein as well as Dan, Jessica, and Ava Kopolow for building and taking down the sukkah this year). I didn't realize how much I missed building the temple sukkah –until I saw the Bernsteins and Kopolows taking it down. At first, I thought it was just another event that I lost to COVID-19, but the more I thought about it, I realized that there was more than a general 'it would have been nice' feeling. There is something special about working together to literally build something – even if it is a temporary shelter.

Although there are some challenges with building the sukkah (cryptic directions being one), there are plenty of bright spots. I have fond memories of Tony Soskin being the only one of the Sukkah crew able to reach the roof while standing on the ground, while the rest of us have to scurry up the ladders. Gary Bernstein told me it took the same amount of time to build the sukkah – roughly 3 hours – with the skeleton crew as it usually does when we have a crew of a dozen or so. Realistically, I am not that surprised; there tend to be a few of the crew who tend to kibitz a little bit more than work, and we always lose a few to the baked goods and coffee in the pods!

I realized that missing the Sukkah building is a broader symptom of my missing temple. Not only has it been 8-9 months since we last were physically in the temple, but Ruth and I have made the difficult decision to move to Kansas City- I have a professional opportunity at the University of Kansas Medical Center that is too good to pass up. So I have been thinking a lot about the Sinai temple community and all of the friends and "family" that Ruth and I and the boys have made over the years. We will miss many things about the community – the ability to wear bright orange outside of hunting season and the 6-minute commute to work, but top among them will be Sinai Temple. Indeed, friends who have previously moved away have already told me – "you aren't going to find another Sinai." Fortunately, I am not starting my new position until February (remotely), and we will not be moving until June, and the board is willing to allow me to continue until the end of my term (May 2021). Thank you for allowing me and my family to be part of this congregation. I am humbled to be part of an innovative congregation that continues to thrive and be a Jewish home for so many of us.

As we talk about building, I also want to share some good news: the temple has a brand new roof! And in even better news, insurance paid for the vast majority of the repair. The renovation committee continues to meet and align the renovation scope with our fundraising. It looks like we do not have the funds to renovate the bathrooms near the sanctuary. Be assured that the development committee, the renovation committee, and the board are working together to develop innovative solutions.

Religious school is continuing to excel with remote instruction. Rabbi Jody and the religious education committee has adopted a new curriculum focusing on health and safety from a Jewish context. Not only do the students engage with their teachers and classmates during weekly virtual classes, but they are also doing at-home projects and sharing virtually. Although the curriculum was not necessarily designed to promote intergenerational interaction, we have found it a great way to involve grandparents across the miles!

I look forward to seeing you on one of the many virtual offerings.

Cheers,

Jake

Sinai Temple Board Meeting October 2020

The Board is delighted to welcome new members:

Jeremy Bernstein & Tonia Lopez-Fresquet as well as David Helman.

The Board and the Finance Committee are following the Temple's financial situation in light of economic concerns related to Covid-19 pandemic. For the last several months, the Temple has been doing fine financially. Dues pledged and paid, as well as Temple expenses, are roughly in line with expectations and projections made for the Temple's annual budget.

Plans for the Temple renovation and fund raising continue, as noted by bulletin updates from these committees. For example, the Renovation Committee has been meeting regularly with the architects to provide plans that can be submitted to the city for approval and permits.

Religious Education has recently started, and Rabbi Jody notes that remote learning is expected to go very well. All teachers have had their orientation and are excited to start the Religious School academic year.

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Announcements

ADULT EDUCATION

MONDAYS AT 10:00AM AND THURSDAYS AT NOON

Rabbi Alan will be offering an adult education class twice weekly, on **Mondays at 10 AM** and on **Thursdays at noon**. The overall topic will be the same for each of these sessions, but it is possible that some different material will arise depending on the flow of the discussion. You are encouraged to attend one or both sessions, as your schedule permits. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87493654825>.

Recognizing that some do not have availability during weekdays, sessions will also be recorded for later viewing. The links to the recordings will be posted in the following week's email blast.

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). November 16: The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

ONLINE: Tuesdays and Saturdays

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

Plaszow– Between Memorial and Remembrance

November 10 from 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Register for the program at <https://illinihillel.org/plaszow>

How much do you know about Plaszow concentration camp? The ruins of Plaszow, the forgotten Holocaust concentration camp, currently serve as a community park in the outskirts of Krakow, Poland. Join archaeologist Kamil Karski and historian Karlina Ozog as they uncover 70 year old stories from the Jewish prisoners and work to commemorate the atrocities that happened there.

Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund

Once again, Sinai Temple is collecting funds for the Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund. This is a local scholarship fund for deserving students to attend college. A letter was recently sent outlining the scholarship's scope. Please make out checks to Sinai Temple with MLK Fund in the memo line.

Meals on Wheels

Can you help us facilitate a mitzvah?

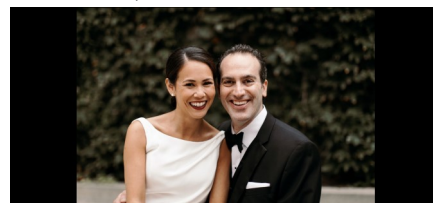


For several years, Sinai Temple has performed an important mitzvah by committing to deliver Meals on Wheels to local homebound individuals for two weeks in December. Tony Soskin has faithfully and capably overseen this project for several years, but now needs to pass on this responsibility to another volunteer. If you can coordinate this project for us this year (helping to find participants and schedule for 3 routes per day over the course of 10 weekdays), please contact Rabbi Alan as soon as **possible**.

Please help our congregation be able to continue helping others!



Daniel Grossman, son of Michael and Peggy Grossman, married Ashley Wong in Minneapolis, MN. They are making their home in Rochester, MN.



Max Leshne, grandson of **Natalie Frankenberg**, won third prize for his essay, "Policy Set Loose in the World: From George Kennan's Long Telegram to the Vietnam War", in the 2020 David McCullough Essay Contest. More than 200 rising 11th & 12th grade student submitted original essays.

Giving for November

BUILDING FUND

Carmel & Inbal Elazar
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Yael Gertner & Mahesh Viswanathan
Julia Kling
Michael & Janet LeRoy
Margaret Saks
Maury & Janis Topolosky
Bette & John van Es
Sadie Vojak

GENERAL FUND

Sandra Hynds, in memory of David Adam
O'Connor-Shorman and in memory
of Ruth Petersen Hiller
Julia Kling, in memory of Leah Norton

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Julia Kling
Margaret Saks
Maury & Janis Topolosky
Bette & John van Es

LIBRARY FUND

Ann Einhorn, in memory of Henrietta
Schwartz

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Vitaliy & Anna Soloveychik, L'Shana Tova
from the Soloveychik Family,
Wishing our Champaign community
a Happy & Sweet New Year.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Steven & Eva Ginsburg Scher, in honor of
Yael Cohen

SECURITY FUND

Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Yael Gertner & Mahesh Viswanathan
Julia Kling
Michael & Janet LeRoy
Margaret Saks
Maury & Janis Topolosky
Bette & John van Es

YESOD L'ATID RENOVATION FUND

Lee & Larry Hankin, in honor of Noah
and Jacob Harkin's haftarah reading
on Rosh Hashana
Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of
Marlene Goodfriend
Miriam Greenberg, thank you for your
High Holiday services! They bring me
joy.
Arthur & Catherine Gross, in
appreciation of High Holiday Day
services
Leslie & Gary Mason, in memory of
Marlene Goodfriend
Mildred Rosenberg, in appreciation of
the High Holidays
Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of
Vera Korry, in memory of Marlene
Goodfriend and in honor of Rabbis
Alan and Jody, and everyone who
helped make our holiday services so
special.
Judith & Steve Ullom, High Holiday Gift



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

Friday, November 6

Jesse Belber (9 Nov)
Louie Blockman (8 Nov)
Eva Cutler (12 Nov)
Molly Denenholz (11 Nov)
William Francisco (22 Che)
Florence Goldberg (13 Nov)
Ruth Jacobs Gordon (7 Nov)
Jenny Gottheil (10 Nov)
Elinor Wildstein Harris (12 Nov)
Ruby Kanfer (7 Nov)

Meyer Klorfine (7 Nov)
Sylvia Leary (7 Nov)
Lev Oykhberg (13 Nov)
Ida Rosenblum (20 Che)
Susan Melanie Sirkis (13 Nov)
Susie Stewart (8 Nov)
Abe H. Waxman (9 Nov)
Lawrence Weingarten (12 Nov)
Irving Weissman (12 Nov)
Sylvia Zinger (20 Che)

Friday, November 13

Ann Black (16 Nov)
Joseph B. Bloomfield (20 Nov)
Lawrence Martin Davis (14 Nov)
Jacob Herman (15 Nov)
Fred Hess (16 Nov)
Jerry Keller (1 Kis)
Miriam Korogodsky (18 Nov)
Kate Kuper (18 Nov)
Rose Weinberger Levy (18 Nov)
Stuart S. Nagel (18 Nov)
Molly Newman (16 Nov)

Minnie Rosenstein (18 Nov)
Melvyn Silver (30 Che)
Jacob Toby (4 Kis)
Jane P. Walter (4 Kis)
Gertrude Wolf (29 Che)
Roslyn Mae Boxerman Woolf (17 Nov)

Friday, November 20

Louis L. Bing (21 Nov)
Myrtle Berenson Braun (26 Nov)
Julius Cohen (26 Nov)
Paulette E. Deckard (22 Nov)
Bertel Forst (25 Nov)
Libby Goldberg (21 Nov)
Alex Goldman (23 Nov)
Morris M. Kaplan (9 Kis)
Reatha Hamburg Katz (22 Nov)
Rabbi Louis Kaufman (9 Kis)

Della B. Kranson (22 Nov)
Bernice L. Lewis (24 Nov)
Samuel Arthur Libman (26 Nov)
Ada Feinstein Roth (25 Nov)
William H. Sholem (24 Nov)
Bessie Siegal (22 Nov)
Estelle Spelke (21 Nov)
Jennie Steinberg (8 Kis)
Jane P. Walter (25 Nov)

Friday, November 27

Philip Applebaum (4 Dec)
Stephen Henry Bauer (30 Nov)
Nathan Berenbaum (12 Kis)
Ruth Koller Berkson (13 Kis)
Rosa Lee Brill (29 Nov)
Morton Dunn (30 Nov)
Marshall Egherman (16 Kis)
Lena V. Garfinkel (1 Dec)
Louis Nathan Glaser (2 Dec)
Morris Gottheil (3 Dec)
Sally Grusby (2 Dec)

Beatrice Karan (1 Dec)
Ben Karol (30 Nov)
Fred Lewin (4 Dec)
Harry David Nelson (1 Dec)
Benjamin Pearlstein (2 Dec)
David Porton (12 Kis)
James Strauch (30 Nov)
Arthur Allen Telcser (17 Kis)



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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)



Open by appointment only: Email or call Jessica Kopolow, jessicakopolow@yahoo.com or 417-8699, to set up an appointment

Cash or checks are always welcome. Credit cards accepted for charges over \$25. We now accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover using SQUARE.

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2020 Mah Jongg Cards

If you forgot to order one or need an extra one, we have a few extra 2020 Mah Jongg cards for sale. The cost is \$8 per card. If you're interested, please contact Natalie Frankenberg (nataliefr@comcast.net)

Would you like to help sponsor our Bulletin? Contact Kathy in the Temple office for more information!