



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

Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, MARCH 12 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, MARCH 13 10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

6:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SUNDAY, March 28

10:00 AM Pesach, Egalitarian Traditional Minyan





Passover is around the corner!

First seder this year is on Saturday, March 27.

There are a number of options being planned that you can utilize for your Passover seder, including:

- the opportunity to join with the Cook Family (via Zoom) in real time for a seder
- the opportunity to access recorded segments for use in conducting or augmenting your seder
- the opportunity to order a Passover-style menu from our friends at Michael's Catering
- the opportunity to view a virtual Interfaith Seder

We are looking for families and individuals to participate in some segments of our Seder. If you would like to participate, please visit <u>https://sinaicu.wufoo.com/forms/zsbl2h31mab8ar/</u>

Watch for more details about Sinai Temple's Passover programming, coming soon!



Begins Sunday March 14^h



From Rabbí Alan Cook's Desk



The talmudic sage Rabban Gamliel taught that our experience of Passover is not complete unless we have taken the time to reflect on the meaning of three items found on our *seder* table: the *pesach* (shankbone), the matzah, and the *maror* (bitter herbs). We know from the Torah that these were elements of Passover celebrations dating back to the first

festival meal that the Israelites prepared immediately prior to experiencing the Exodus. This historical link certainly may have informed Rabban Gamliel's teaching. But perhaps there's something more about these three symbols.

The *pesach*, a vestige of the lamb sacrificed as part of Passover celebrations during the time when the Temple in Jerusalem stood, can be seen to remind us of God's protection. Another name for the *pesach* is *z'roa*, which is the same word the Torah uses when it speaks of God's outstretched arm guiding the Israelites from slavery. Perhaps this imagery of God's outstretched arm can remind us to stretch out our own arms—literally and figuratively—to those whom we hold dear in our lives. As our present circumstances living under COVID compel us to once again spend Passover physically distanced from others in our community, it is important that we seek to bridge that isolation by finding other ways to connect and to celebrate our ties to one another.

The *matzah* according to the Passover story, was baked as an unleavened bread because the Israelites departed in such haste that they did not have time for their bread to rise. Enjoying

matzah throughout the holiday (though some might argue that "enjoying" is too broad a terminology) helps us to project back in history and relive the experience of our ancestors during the exodus. Yet maybe it can also remind us to slow our own tendence toward hastiness. As spring approaches, may the *matzah* inspire us to slow down and appreciate the natural world's rebirth happening all around us.

The *maror* is said to again out us into the shoes (or sandals?) of our ancestors who experienced great bitterness during slavery. This is certainly significant, but I'd argue that the horseradish or romaine lettuce or chili peppers or whatever your family uses as bitter herbs hasn't done its job if it clears our sinuses without stirring our hearts. While the *maror* calls us to remember the bitterness of the past, we cannot turn a blind eye to the bitterness of the present. The sharpness of the *maror* teaches us to avoid resting comfortably while others are in pain. We must work to end the injustices that still plague our world in our own day, and to aspire to a day when all shall truly know freedom.

We will have a number of opportunities to gather (virtually) for Passover. Further information will be coming soon; please watch your weekly email blast for details.

May your Passover celebrations be meaningful and sweet. Today there are those who still live under bondage of the mind, body, or soul; next year, may all truly be free.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

GREEN TEAM TIP

Wondering about Community Solar? Will it really save you money and/or be good for Earth? How do you choose among the offers in your mailbox?

Join online for a Community Solar edition of **Climate Solutions**, co-hosted by the **Green Team of Sinai Temple** and **Faith** in **Place.** Together, we'll discuss solutions that address climate change AND help control energy costs year round.

The Zoom session will take place at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Register at this link. https://secure.everyaction.com/YOPaATIK2US70_vr5tI9SA2_

If you have questions, please get in touch with Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com.



From President Jacob Sosnoff

Dear Friends,

I hope you were able to enjoy the recent sunshine. I always find it rejuvenating when the weather starts to (finally) warm. Speaking of rejuvenating, the temple the renovation is in full swing. By the time this bulletin is printed the demolition will be nearly done. Art Siegel along with others have been providing pictures to document the many changes. (Please see Sanford Hess report on the renovation in the bulletin for full details). There is almost a daily discovery of – did you know "that" was underneath "there". One of the many discoveries was that all of the sunlight that was partially blocked by the organ speakers on top of the ark. The addition of the natural light is already breathing new life into the space. I am excited to see all of the changes that the renovation will bring. We are lucky to have such dedicated volunteers who are helping shepherd the renovation along.

I hope you had a great Purim. My family had a wonderful time delivering Purim baskets. Not only is the Purim basket program the largest fundraiser for the religious school, but it also a wonderful way for the entire congregation to be involved. There is no doubt that we missed visiting our friends at Clark Lindsey (our normal Purim basket route), but we made the best of it. We even managed to have a few driveway (socially distant) smoozes as part of our deliveries. Rabbi Jody mentioned to me that all of the 20 routes had volunteers delivery folks. I am thankful we live in such a generous community. I hope you were able to enjoy the Purim spiel. Rabbi Alan once again did a wonderful job entertaining us with the video spiel. I am very thankful that not only are we lucky enough to have such a talented Rabbi, but he manages to get a full contingent of the congregation involved in the Spiel. I am sure that the virtual interface created several challenges, but from an outsiders perspective it went wonderfully.

In the next few weeks, the nomination committee will be meeting to fill the various board positions. The temple can only function with the dedicated volunteers. Please keep this in mind if you are asked to serve on the board. It is a fulfilling experience and I hope you each have the opportunity to enjoy it.

Cheers,

Jake

SINAI TEMPLE FEBRUARY 2021 BOARD MEETING

Rabbi Alan provided a moving blessing for the start of the Temple renovation.

Much of the Temple Board meeting was spent discussing the renovation, including what is being updated and worked on as part of the official renovation project, as well as different options and estimated costs for updating other parts of the Temple that are not explicitly included in official renovation plans as of now.

Reports from key committees show the Temple's operations continue to progress well. Financially the Temple has been managing fairly well during the expected economic downturn, and obligated funds are likewise faring positively. Once again, the Religious School did its fabulous Purim basket fundraiser and baskets have been delivered.

Nominations for the Board, including some executive positions, will be needed to replace those members who are completing their service. Please contact President Jake Sosnoff if you are interested in serving.

Bulletin Submission: The deadline to submit information for the April Bulletin is March 15th. All submissions may be edited for length and content. EMAIL submissions to: Kathy Douglas, stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org.

Announcements

Renovation Pictures



Eagle Scout Project

My name is Eli Hess.

Recently I have begun to work on my Eagle Scout project. The goal of my project is to collect as many needed supplies for the C-U at Home homeless shelter. C-U at home's mission statement is "C-U at Home engages and mobilizes our community to house and support the most vulnerable homeless on their journey of healing and restoration.", and I could use your help in fulfilling that mission. During the winter, specifically, the shelter has more people arriving than at any other time of the year. This makes it extra important for them to stock up on supplies.

To get involved follow this link:

https://www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood/c2c759d6-44a0-4745-b360-523103f394a7/view



Announcements

BOOK GROUP

March 15, 2021

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).

March 15: Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

For those who would like to do chair yoga, online, with Robin, while in your home, please contact her at <u>robinfans1@gmail.com</u>. She is leading two classes, on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 9:30 through the Zoom website or app.

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

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

Passover is coming!

Even in the midst of construction and COVID, Sinai Temple Gift Shop is still here to serve all of your Judaica needs! Keep an eye on Sinai's weekly email and Facebook page for more info about shopping for Passover or, as always, contact Jessica Kopolow (jessicakopolow@yahoo.com) to make an individual appointment.

The Gift Shop is open by appointment only. Please contact Jessica Kopolow (417-8699) to schedule an appointment.



Foundation for the Future

Sinai Renovation Committee

Renovation has begun! During the month of February the work crew: removed the old partition doors, disassembled the bimah, peeled up the carpeting, and carefully

removed the existing pieces of art - including the wooden Ark doors. This work followed a major clearing out of items from the sanctuary - thank you to all of the volunteers who did the work! You'll also be happy to know that the pews are getting a wonderful second life with a Bloomington charity that provides food to the needy, providing seating at their facility.

Some of the next phases of work will focus on infrastructure. There will be work to reinforce the structural steel that holds the partition doors, all-new heating and cooling ductwork, and at some point large new windows will be cut into the brick walls on the North and South walls. Later phases of the project will proceed to the details, some of which the SRC is still in the process of deciding. For example: a group of SRC members is checking out the chairs that were shipped to Sinai for the all-important "sit test" for comfort.

Stay tuned on Facebook, and future newsletters, for more updates on the progress!

Chair Sanford Hess

has begun! During the ebruary the work crew: a ald partition doora

Much thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Yesod Le'Atid campaign. But we are not finished - you can still make an additional investment in our future. The Renovation committee is making final decisions on furniture and finishings. Every dollar will help enhance our spaces.

Chair Wynne Korr

Development Committee





BUILDING FUND

William & Phyllis Gingold Judith Siess & Stephen Bremseth Amy Wolff & Aaron Smith

FRIENDS OF THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Linda Bauer Carl & Carol Belber Julian & Susan Cook Joyce Eisenstein, in memory of Sophia Lambert Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Sophia Lambert Joan Friedman & Charles Blair William & Phyllis Gingold Frances & Mitchell Harris Charles Kahn & Jennie France John & Benita Katzenellenbogen, in memory of Sophia Lambert Paula Kaufman Wynne Korr, in honor of Rabbi Jody Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky Ben & Jessica LeRoy Richard & Shirley Newman Diane & Rob Ore **Richard & Jacqueline Ross** Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of Sophia Lambert David & Jan Sholem Art & Marcia Siegel Anthony & Penelope Soskin Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff Emily Stone & Chris Napolitano William & Fran Strauss Buddi Tepper Judith & Steve Ullom Bette & John van Es, in memory of Sophia Lambert Barry & Linda Weiner

GENERAL FUND

- William & Phyllis Gingold, in memory of David Gingold
- Doreen Halberstam, in memory of Heine Halberstam
- Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Faye S. Sholem, in memory of Ruth B. Ades and in memory of Jerome M. YESOD LE'ATID Sholem
- Iris Swanson, in memory of Sophia Lambert

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

William & Phyllis Gingold

CLARENCE AND ADELE LIBMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of **Richard Lane**

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. FUND

Garth Gersten & Janet Bercovitz Stephen & Anita Hamburg Jacob & Ruth Sosnoff

MUSIC FUND

- Judy Bach, in memory of Sophia Lambert
- William & Eileen Kohen, in memory of Sophia Lambert
- Charles & Joan Kozoll, in memory of Sophia Lambert
- Leslie & Gary Mason, in memory of Sophia Lambert
- Claire Skaperdas, in memory of Sophia Lambert

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Stany & Joan Levy, in memory of Sophia Lambert

SECURITY FUND

William & Phyllis Gingold

Barbara Jones & David Dorman Stanley & Joan Levy Leslie & Garv Mason, in memory of Sheila Goldberg, in memory of Al Olefsky and in memory of Gail Dowd

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

INTERESTED IN GENEALOGY, FAMILY HISTORY, AND THE EARLY C-U JEWISH COMMUNITY?

The Sinai Temple Cemetery Committee is looking for volunteers to research early C-U Jewish community members. Some of the families who purchased plots in our older sections no longer have local residents, and we would like to re-establish contact with descendants of these early families. This will involve work with census data and local archival resources. If you are interested, please get in touch with Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com.

Memoríals

Friday, March 5

Mack Bernard Braun (8 Mar) David S. Choldin (6 Mar) Stanley Depper (24 Ada) Oscar Einhorn (25 1Ad) Arthur Fagan (7 Mar) Murray Friedman (9 Mar) Zola Joseph Goodfriend (12 Mar) Rita Mae Goodman (22 1Ad) Ethel Hymowitz (22 Ada) Bernard Karsh (7 Mar) William Klaiman (6 Mar) Sam Klugman (8 Mar) Harriet Mildred Lavey (10 Mar) Mollie Leavitt (9 Mar) Paul Michael Mischakoff (12 Mar) Solon Aaron Reyman (9 Mar) Edith Sapoznik (10 Mar) Ted Sher (11 Mar) Charles O. Silverman (25 Ada) Hiram Gene Slottow (11 Mar) Minnie Slutsky (8 Mar) Ruth Marieke van Es (6 Mar) Rosetta Kuhn Victor (9 Mar) Jerome S. Wachtel (28 1Ad) Colonel Uzi Yairi (6 Mar)

Friday, March 12

James Adler (17 Mar) Fritz Braunfeld (18 Mar) Sylvia Kadish Cohen (13 Mar) Sidney S. Feldman (19 Mar) Bess Frankenberg (15 Mar) Carl Greenstein (15 Mar) Martin H. Katz (4 Nis) Sarah Westerman Konick (15 Mar) John P. Melhado (1 Nis)

Raymond Perlov (15 Mar) Pauline Lou Rabin (15 Mar) Delores Jean Rosenbaum (15 Mar) Daniel Terry (19 Mar) Anne B. Weisel (3 Nis)

Friday, March 19 Bag U Bag D B

Edwin M. Banks (24 Mar) Edward L. Edlitz (26 Mar) Gary Fromm (23 Mar) Annette Lewis Glaser (20 Mar) Harry Hirshenson (25 Mar) Christopher Kanis (21 Mar) Ben Kaufman (24 Mar) Clara Kaufman (10 Nis) Joyce Levy (22 Mar)

Harry Lipson Sr (20 Mar) Charles F. Loeb (25 Mar) Charles Miller (26 Mar) Alan Pall (22 Mar) Sonya Pearlman (23 Mar) Sonja Robinson (10 Nis) Myer Joseph Rosenfield (13 Nis) Evan Gordon Sarney (25 Mar) Edward I. Siegal (25 Mar) Helen Tepper (22 Mar) Bill Wiese (21 Mar)

Rose Shore Applebaum (30 Mar)Isadore Ginsburg (29 Mar)Beverlee Mirell (1 Apr)Phillip Bedein (28 Mar)Emanuel Heller (14 Nis)Jack Robinson (14 Nis)Dr Samuel Bojar (17 Nis)Paul Karsh (1 Apr)Anna B. Vineberg (27 Mar)Henia Shifreh Bursztyn (19 Nis)Ida Klugman (28 Mar)Anna B. Vineberg (27 Mar)Samuel Cossman (28 Mar)Arthur Lerner (31 Mar)John Porter Davis (29 Mar)Fania Levin (30 Mar)Edward Epstein (16 Nis)Wolf Lewis (2 Apr)Gertrude H. Francisco (19 Nis)Rose (Bebbe) Mandel (29 Mar)Bertha Ginsburg (28 Mar)Harry Miller (28 Mar)

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.