

Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

6:30 PM Shabbat Rocks! / Next Dor

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service



And then there was light!

Sanctuary North Wall

Welcome to Sinai Temple

Mimi Greenberg-Boby, and Michelle and Troy
Werner and their daughter, Brianna Bielanski

Please remember to send in your pledge forms for 2021-2022. Knowing what families are pledging makes it possible to budget properly for Temple operations.



Bulletin Submission: The deadline for **November Bulletin** is **October 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



On Rosh Hashanah, I spoke about the Binding of Isaac, known in Hebrew as the *Akeda*, as a rumination on love. If you're interested in the text of the sermon, it can be found on the Temple website at www.sinaitemplecu.org/sermons.

As often happens in writing, my thoughts took a few turns as I edited, and pieces that I initially thought would be central were relegated to the background, or cut completely. One piece that ended up not fitting the finished sermon was an exploration of a New York Times series called "Tiny Love Stories."

I stumbled upon these stories a few months ago; perhaps some of you have read some of the essays in this series, or heard the accompanying podcast. They are reader-submitted thoughts on loving relationships: love found, missed opportunities, love lost, realization that love exists in unusual ways and in unusual places. Each essay is 100 words or fewer, but in their brevity, the pieces are beautiful reflections on the power of human interactions.

Many of the stories focus on romantic love between partners. But some go beyond this common understanding of love in order to explore what is gained when we open our hearts to one another in acts of caring, compassion, and companionship. One recent piece, for instance, painted a picture in just a few sentences of a relationship between a middle-aged woman and her toddler neighbor. Another recounted how, in the aftermath of a failed romantic encounter, the writer had discovered an incredible outpouring of love from others in his circle of friends, who embraced him—literally and figuratively—to assist him in mending the pieces of his broken heart.

Most of the month of October will coincide with the Hebrew month of Cheshvan. The rabbis nicknamed the month Marcheshvan, or "bitter Cheshvan," because during this month there are no holidays or observances on the traditional Jewish calendar. Perhaps the month itself is

"bitter" because it got left out of the holiday supply lottery that favored the other 11 months instead. But I can tell you that clergy, having just completed the High Holidays along with Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah, welcome the respite that Cheshvan brings.

But it is important to reflect on the fact that this possibly bitter mood accompanying Cheshvan does not connote an absence of love. In a similar vein, the absence of holidays or any specialized liturgy underscoring our relationship with God should not be seen to imply that God is not constant in our lives. Love, and God, endure, even when we may not notice ourselves directly experiencing their presence.

Having just completed my 9th (!) High Holidays with this congregation, I continue to be awed and humbled by the grace and love and collective spirit and passion that we share as a Sinai Temple community. Looking into the congregation over the High Holidays, looking at those assembled on the Sudman patio or in the Davis Chapel for Shabbat worship, looking at participants joining programming via a Zoom screen, I feel God's presence among us and I feel love reflected and refracted in beautiful ways among us all. I am grateful for the resilience of our community and the way we have persevered through the challenges of the pandemic. I am immensely thankful for the love and support that we show to one another. Many have referred to Sinai Temple as "a family of families" and I think that descriptor is quite apropos: like a family we love, we struggle, we support and sustain.

May we continue to hold one another in our hearts in this coming year, may we each find the love we need and so richly deserve, and may we all know much happiness, success, and blessing.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook



From President Julia Rietz

Happy Fall everyone! Fall is my favorite season, even though it seems to sweep through Central Illinois faster than I would like. Fall brings beautiful colors as the leaves change from green to vibrant yellows, reds and oranges. Fall brings a variety of Midwest landscapes as the farmers work to harvest fields of beans and corn. Fall brings the annual wardrobe rotation from summer short sleeves to layers of long sleeves and sweaters. Fall brings back warm, spicy beverages and comfort foods, apples and noodle kugel and stuffed veggie dishes in the Sukkah. What is not to like about fall in the Midwest?

One downside to fall is that as much as we enjoy the beautiful fall days, they do become shorter and shorter, and we lose the light earlier. At Sinai Temple, while the days become shorter, we are well on our way to adding beautiful light, both natural and generated, to our sanctuary and pods as part of our renovation. The Jerusalem stone wall is installed on the east wall. It alone creates beautiful light in our sacred space. We love it so much we put it up in the front entry and are adding it to the main wall in the Levin Lounge. Natural light streams in from the new window on the north wall inside the sanctuary. As you sit in services you will be able to contemplate the blue sky, passing clouds, and the beauty of the trees previously blocked by the brick wall. That natural light shines through to the Levin Lounge with the window created on the south wall, enhancing the stained-glass windows framing that space. Finally, new lights are being installed in the pods and in the sanctuary that will light up the spaces in the evening, making them accessible and welcoming for services and a wide variety of programming. These pieces of the renovation have pushed us forward and we are headed for the finish line. As always, we appreciate everyone's support and contributions, and welcome your continuing involvement in this project. We look forward to a reopening celebration coming soon!

As fall brings combines and tractors to the fields for harvesting Central Illinois crops, fall is also a good time to plant ornamental shrubs, trees and bulbs. The internet tells me that warm soil and cool air are a good combination to establish roots before the ground freezes in the winter. There is probably a sermon in there, but I will leave that up to Rabbi Alan. At Sinai, we are taking advantage of the benefits of fall planting and having our gardens recreated. We have made our property more accessible by adding concrete walkways connecting the parking lot to the Sudman Patio and the

emergency exit in the back to the back sidewalk, and now we are partnering with Two Girls in the Garden to reimagine and renovate our many beds and borders. Again, we welcome your support and contributions to this project. Perhaps you might want to honor your family or memorialize a loved one with a garden dedication. I would be happy to discuss the possibilities.

And while all this work goes on in and outside of the building, our Religious School has gotten off to a great start, our Gift Shop is full of Judaica for all purposes and occasions, Torah study and programming are available for education and social interaction, and our Friday night and ETM services continue in person and virtually. Thanks to all our staff and volunteers who make all of this possible for our Sinai community. I hope your fall is productive, filled with beauty, and satisfying, and that you take the opportunity to explore and enjoy the changes we are making at Sinai Temple!

B'Shalom,
Julia Rietz
Sinai Temple Board President



SINAI TEMPLE SEPTEMBER 2021 BOARD MEETING

The Board is delighted to welcome new member Miriam Greenber-Boby and the Werner Family Please join the Board in welcoming these new members to our Temple community!

High Holiday services came and went in a remarkably successful manner with combined in-person and virtual experiences. We hope it was a meaningful and reflective period for all Temple members and the community. We are particularly grateful to our neighbors in faith, Faith United Methodist Church, and many volunteers who helped make this HHD season successful.

As the renovation of our indoor physical spaces continues, the Board approved a plan from "A Plus Yard Services Inc" for replanting new landscaping and doing the work to maintain and upkeep parts of the outside of our building.

The Temple remains in solid financial shape at this early point in the fiscal year.

Religious School started off with great energy from students and teachers under a lovely welcome back banner. All have signed a covenant to follow public health safety rules to mitigate against Covid. The balance of enhanced safety with a positive, fun learning atmosphere in our community has been going well in this early part of the school year.

YESOD LE'ATID RENOVATION

As we head into October, the activity inside the sanctuary is gaining speed. (See the end of this article for ways to see pictures!) The most noticeable change recently are the windows that are installed in the north and south walls of the sanctuary, allowing so much more natural light. Along with the Jerusalem stone on the east wall, it really brightens up the sanctuary!

Meanwhile, the ceiling of the sanctuary is being created in stages. The first step was hanging the main structure of the ceiling, which will support the lights and paneling. And in the pods, the most noticeable change was the reinforcement of the supporting beams for the new sliding doors. (Unlike the dark brown beams in the past, the updated ones have also been painted white to blend in.) Ductwork in the pods has been a major focus recently, with the goal of getting good air flow while making the ducts as inconspicuous as possible.

During October, we expect for the ceiling work to continue, the HVAC duct work to be completed, the installation of new pendant lights to be completed in the pods, and the construction of the bimah to start.

If you would like to see additional pictures from the renovation, archives of past slideshows and videos can be found at <https://sinaitemplecu.org/renovation2021/>. Often before services on Friday nights you can get a brief tour of the space. Please, ask Art Siegel for a tour.

Empty Bowl Fundraiser



2021 Benefit and Raffle for the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, Wednesday, October 6, 3—5:30 PM

Silvercreek Restaurant (outside in the greenhouse)
402 N Race St, Urbana

\$25 Adults / \$10 children, 12 and under (cash or check only) Tickets available at the event. Includes handcrafted bowl with gourmet soup and bread.

Contact: susangarner1@hotmail.com

Development Committee

Have you looked at pictures of the progress of the renovation? Maybe you peaked in the building and saw the progress through the construction dust?

It's not too late to contribute to, or increase your contribution to, the Yesod LeAtid campaign. Your contributions will help make the renovation as complete and beautiful as possible.

I love services on the Sudman patio, but I can't wait to be back in the new sanctuary with its light and Jerusalem stone and accessible bimah - and the joy of being with everyone.

Wynne Korr

Amazon Smile

If you are a regular Amazon user, Sinai Temple is an organization you can choose while using Amazon Smile. A percentage of your purchases will go to the Temple. It is easy to join by going to smile.amazon.com.



Unbelievably, the High Holy Day season has just ended. The marathon of Selichot, Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, break-fast, tashlich, shofar blowing and sukkah building, dancing with Torah scrolls and welcoming new students at Sinai Temple Religious School surround the start of our school year. We are close to entering the Hebrew month of Cheshvan, known as Mar Cheshvan (bitter Cheshvan) because the only holiday celebration during the month is Shabbat. I don't think Cheshvan is bitter – instead, I think Cheshvan is glorious. It gives the Jewish community a chance to take a breath! During Cheshvan, we will continue to be busy, but we can focus on life without a weekly holiday observance (aside from Shabbat).

Sinai Temple Religious School had a tremendous start. We returned to in person learning and our classrooms are full! Learners and teachers are remembering what it is like to share a space with others and teachers are working hard to learn about the kids in their classes. We are cautious and aware of the current pandemic and families signed a BRIT (sacred agreement, like the brit between God and Noah and between God and Abraham) to acknowledge that we all need to make an effort to keep our community safe. It is wonderful to see so many people in the building on Sundays and we continue to use indoor and outdoor spaces for learning.

Please enjoy a few pictures of some of the STRS happenings! Thank you to the larger community for your continues support of Sinai Temple Religious School – through fundraisers, shopping at the Sinai Temple Gift Shop, teaching, serving on the Religious Education Committee, sharing a kind word and asking about the school.



Announcements



BOOK GROUP

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

October 18: [The Weight of Ink](#) by Rachel Kadish

Facilitator: Tamarra Bernstein

Hostess: Carol Belber, 2105 S. Mills Dr., Urbana (217) 384-3030

We will provide a Zoom link for those who are unable to join in person.

Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

ONLINE: Tuesdays at 9:30 AM

For those who would

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

Robin leads classes, on Tuesdays at 9:30AM through the Zoom website or app.

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

Now open for in-person shopping! Come visit us in our temporary home in the Religious School hallway, and shop for **BIG BARGAINS** in our Inventory Reduction Room! All merchandise in this room is 40% off—it's great stuff, we're just trying to make room for even more fabulous new things when we move back into our refreshed Gift Shop space. Shop to your heart's content on Sundays during Hebrew and Religious School—9:00am-12:30pm, or contact us for a private appointment.

Please call or email Jessica Kopolow at 217-417-8699 or jessicakopolow@yahoo.com.

The Building Committee would like to thank all those who gave of their time and energy to a very successful Labor of Love this past month

Many thanks to all who helped with Labor of Love! The grounds and flower beds look great!



The Green Team

We can all foster reduction in disposables by making small changes in our habits.

A lot of us are familiar with taking along a reusable thermal mug for purchasing coffee, but you can also take a cold beverage cup for purchasing a drink from self-serve dispensers.

We checked with the CU Public Health District -- it is OK (and even recommended) that we take our own cup for self-serve soda dispensers as well as coffee!

You don't have to purchase a special container -- we used the same cup from a convenience store 5 times so far.

Just remember to change this habit and you can have an impact on waste reduction!

Special thanks to those that built the Sukkah this year.

Gary Bernstein

Tonya Bernstein

Sanford Hess

Dan Kopolow





Giving for September

**BIRNBAUM CAMP FUND**

Ann Einhorn, in memory of Freda Birnbaum
 Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Freda Birnbaum
 Janice Grossman, in memory of Freda Birnbaum
 Stephanie Grossman, in memory of Freda Birnbaum
 Edward & Nancy Tepper, in memory of Freda Birnbaum
 Rick Weinstein, in memory of Freda Birnbaum

BUILDING FUND

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle
 Sara & Eric Benson
 Samuel & Judith Bernstein
 Richard Cooke
 Natalie Frankenberg
 Tamra Gingold
 Anne Heiles
 David Helman
 Marc Hertzman & Ikuko Asaka
 Perry Kohn
 Andrew & Lisa Libman
 Lee & Evan Melhado
 Greg Muchnik & April Keaton
 Alan & Jane Nathan
 Richard Newman
 Arne Pearlstein & Elizabeth Stern
 Julia Rietz & Al Johnston
 Elyse Rosenbaum & Robert Smith
 Mildred Rosenberg
 Gary & Beth Slotnick
 Emily Stone & Chris Napolitano
 Mitchell & Ann Sussman
 Judith & Steve Ullom
 John Walter & Joy Thornton-Walter
 Jacob & Suzanne Woolfson

GENERAL FUND

Faye Lesht, Joyce Meyer, Lois Adele Meyer, and Bess R. Meyer in memory of Paul Hyman Meyer
 William & Lisa Lane Libman
 Mark Spear

HIGH HOLIDAY FLOWERS

Natalie Frankenberg, in memory of Julian Frankenberg, and in memory of her parents, Gertrude and Max Kushner

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle
 Sara & Eric Benson
 Samuel & Judith Bernstein
 Natalie Frankenberg
 Anne Heiles
 David Helman
 Marc Hertzman & Ikuko Asaka
 Lee & Evan Melhado
 Greg Muchnik & April Keaton
 Richard Newman
 Arne Pearlstein & Elizabeth Stern
 Julia Rietz & Al Johnston
 Elyse Rosenbaum & Robert Smith
 Emily Stone & Chris Napolitano
 Mitchell & Ann Sussman
 Judith & Steve Ullom

MUSIC FUND

Anne Heiles, in memory of Hortense Mischakoff and in memory of Birdie Moritz

NAOMI SIEGEL SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Faye Lesht & Joyce Meyer, in memory of Lisa S. Busjahn

SECURITY FUND

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle
 Sara & Eric Benson
 Samuel & Judith Bernstein
 Richard Cooke
 Natalie Frankenberg
 Tamra Gingold
 Stephen & Anita Hamburg
 Anne Heiles
 David Helman
 Marc Hertzman & Ikuko Asaka
 Perry Kohn
 Andrew & Lisa Libman
 Lee & Evan Melhado
 Greg Muchnik & April Keaton
 Alan & Jane Nathan
 Richard Newman
 Arne Pearlstein & Elizabeth Stern
 Julia Rietz & Al Johnston
 Elyse Rosenbaum & Robert Smith
 Mildred Rosenberg
 Gary & Beth Slotnick
 Emily Stone & Chris Napolitano
 Mitchell & Ann Sussman
 Judith & Steve Ullom
 John Walter & Joy Thornton-Walter
 Jacob & Suzanne Woolfson

TREE OF LIFE

Rae Spooner

YESOD LE'ATID

Natalie Frankenberg, in honor of Susan Schomer's birthday
 Stephen & Anita Hamburg
 Paula Kaufman
 Leslie & Gary Mason, in memory of Freda Birnbaum, in honor of Paula Kaufman's birthday and in honor of Bill Kohn's birthday

Eastern Illinois Food Bank High Holiday Food Drive

As everything else this year, the Holiday Food Drive is virtual! Please, send your monetary donation directly to the food bank at 2405 N Shore Dr, Urbana, IL 61802. Put Sinai Temple in the memo line so we get credit for the donation. Thank you for your generous support of this *Tikkun Olam* effort.

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 October



Friday, October 1	Jerome Aprill (3 Oct)	Merle Garber Hamburg (6 Oct)	Norma Rosenberg (5 Oct)
	Dr Richard Back (5 Oct)	Max Kushner (8 Oct)	Ceil Rubinstein (3 Oct)
	Mathilde Back (5 Oct)	Estelle Langendorf (3 Oct)	Henry Sapoznik (7 Oct)
	Fela Bankier (5 Oct)	Isadore Jack Levy (7 Oct)	Abraham Simon (7 Oct)
	Sali Wintner Blum (3 Oct)	Dorothy Lowenstein (5 Oct)	Victor Stolarsky (29 Tis)
	Rose Creinin (28 Tis)	Mortimer Merkel (4 Oct)	William Martin Youngerman (8 Oct)
	Hormozd Gahvari (3 Oct)	Leah Norian (7 Oct)	
	Lewis Ginsberg (3 Oct)	Emily Sara Peterman (6 Oct)	
	Shirley Zibel Gunther (2 Oct)	Charles S. Prince (8 Oct)	

Friday, October 8	Gertrude Bach (12 Oct)	Jack Kemp (11 Oct)	Ida Spatt (10 Oct)
	Morris B. Berenbaum (11 Oct)	Max R. Klein (12 Oct)	Jason C. Stone (14 Oct)
	Morris Berg (13 Oct)	Miriam Lipson (15 Oct)	June Wolbach (11 Oct)
	Sarah Blockman (5 Che)	Rachel Frank Litman (10 Oct)	
	Pearl Tepper Feldman (15 Oct)	Aaron Edward Markoff (11 Oct)	
	Sylvia Gordon (11 Oct)	David Adam O'Connor-Shoresman (10 Oct)	
	David Z. Hamburg (13 Oct)	Bernard Sharp (13 Oct)	
	David Herman (3 Che)		

Friday, October 15	Harold Jay Cohen (17 Oct)	Leroy Kopolow (21 Oct)	Samuel Meyer Schwartz (16 Oct)
	Milton Stephen Cohen (17 Oct)	Nathan Lieberman (21 Oct)	Rima Siegel Fox (16 Oct)
	Anne Corman (22 Oct)	Harry Pikowsky (18 Oct)	Sylvia Levin Silver (22 Oct)
	Craig Gastwirth (14 Che)	Florence Starobin Reyman (21 Oct)	Dorothy Silverman (15 Che)
	Bonnie Gordon (17 Oct)	Arthur Robinson (16 Oct)	Louis Isaac Steinberg (11 Che)
	Robert E. Green (20 Oct)	Robert Rosenbaum (19 Oct)	
	Frederick H. Kanfer (18 Oct)	Ely Rotman (15 Che)	
	Friedrich Katz (16 Oct)	Joseph Rotman (16 Oct)	
	Eleanor Banks Kawin (22 Oct)	Henrietta Israel Schwartz (22 Oct)	

Friday, October 22	Paltiel Bach (28 Oct)	David F. Linowes (17 Che)	
	Lucie M. Field (24 Oct)	David Rabin (26 Oct)	
	William Francisco (22 Che)	Ida Rosenblum (20 Che)	
	Lester Frankenberg (23 Oct)	Herman Sweital (24 Oct)	
	Kurt Gottschalk (26 Oct)	Lisa Ellen Weichsel (18 Che)	
	Martha Kaplan (17 Che)	Eugene H. Wollstein (23 Oct)	
	Sara Kuhn Kaufman (27 Oct)	Sylvia Zinger (20 Che)	
	Myra Kopolow (25 Oct)		
	Myron Korry (26 Oct)		

Friday, October 29	Ann Aprill (3 Nov)	Louis M. Mashkes (2 Nov)	Morris Solomon (30 Oct)
	Nathan Brusiloff (3 Nov)	Harold Miller (2 Nov)	Bernard Spitzer (2 Nov)
	Milton Glaser (4 Nov)	Aili Bykkonen Monahan (5 Nov)	Arlen Tepper (5 Nov)
	Louis Greenstein (3 Nov)	Michael Neuwirth (31 Oct)	Hannah Libman Weiner (31 Oct)
	Andrew Mark Isserman (4 Nov)	Solomon Rosenberg (5 Nov)	Llional Wheeler (4 Nov)
	Jerry Keller (1 Kis)	Morris G. Rosenstein (3 Nov)	Gertrude Wolf (29 Che)
	Fannie Kurland (30 Oct)	Lester G. Seligman (2 Nov)	
	Joseph Lasker (5 Nov)	Suzanne Shapiro (1 Nov)	
	Dr Eli B. Mandel (3 Nov)	Melvyn Silver (30 Che)	