

2021

*Holla,
November*

SINAI
TEMPLE

Rabbi Alan Cook
Rabbi Emeritus Norman Klein
Rabbi Emeritus Isaac Neuman Z"l

Schedule of Services

Friday, November 5, 7:30PM Shabbat Service

Friday, November 6, 10:00AM Noah Tsipursky
Bar Mitzvah

Friday, November 12, 7:30PM, Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 13, 10:00AM, Egalitarian
Traditional Minyan

Friday, November 19, 5:30PM, Shabbat Rocks!/Next
Dor Service

Friday, November 19, 7:30PM, Shabbat Service

Friday November 26, 7:30PM, Shabbat Service

Welcome to Sinai Temple

*Amanda Fein, Jacob Sherkow, Lilah, Caleb
& Zora*

Alysha, Sean, Tawny, Izaak & Myles Purcell



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.

YESOD LE'ATID
יסוד לעתיד
Foundation for the Future



The Bimah is being built!

Sanctuary ceiling at night.



The office will be closed Thursday, November 25
and Friday, November 26 for Thanksgiving.



From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



As we enter November, we can definitely sense—at least in our corner of East Central Illinois—that autumn is upon us. The leaves have turned and are falling in greater numbers now as temperatures turn colder and darkness descends earlier in the evening.

In our evening liturgy, we praise God for the cycle of seasons in the prayer *Ma'ariv Aravim*. We acknowledge

that God makes the seasons alternate in their due time: “*u'vit 'vunah m'shaneh itim*—through Your wisdom, You change the seasons.” Even those of us who do not set our clocks by the arrival of Pumpkin Spice goods on store shelves, can nevertheless express gratitude that nature follows semi-predictable patterns. Even if fall is not our favorite time of year, we recognize that it must come in its appointed moment in order that winter, spring, and summer may follow.

Rabbi Chaim Stern, one of the key liturgists of the Reform movement in the last generation (he was the editor of the movement's previous prayerbook, *Gates of Prayer*) put it thusly:

O give thanks that spring will always come to make the heart leap,
That your winter ear remembers a summer song,
And autumn returns to the jaded eye.
O make song for lucid air of morning,
Bright blood's beating, life's flow deep and swift,
A kingdom of joy and awe for us to dwell in.
O be glad for eye and tongue to see and taste the common of our days.

Our eye may be jaded in autumn, but then the brisk air brings change, and color, allowing us to see things through a new lens, and allowing hope to perhaps express itself anew.

Another poet, Emily Dickinson, famously wrote that “Hope is the thing with feathers,” suggesting that hope never fades away, and is never subject to the vicissitudes of the seasons.

Indeed, one of the images that I think of when I consider autumn is Charlie Brown and Lucy gathered on a play field amid the fallen leaves. Lucy has her football, and Charlie Brown, despite previous failures, tricks, and disappointments, maintains faith that this time she will hold the ball steady, his foot will connect with it, and he will finally be able to celebrate a successful kick.

Some view Charlie Brown as the embodiment of failure; they see that he is destined continually to be outsmarted by Lucy. But I think we can also recognize him as embodying hope and optimism. He believes that somewhere within Lucy is an innate goodness that will lead her to cooperate with him. He believes that he possesses the skills needed to kick the ball. He believes, despite prior evidence to the contrary, that he can succeed.

To maintain hope, even when other factors challenge our beliefs and wound our spirits, is deeply meaningful. I'd argue that it's also deeply Jewish; we profess that the patterns of the universe will continue in some semblance of order even as we acknowledge that the God upon Whom we count to maintain this order is unseeable and unknowable. But even in the cold and darkness, as autumn gives way to winter, we continue to believe. We continue to reach for light. We continue to hope.

L'Shalom,
Rabbi Alan Cook

Sinai Temple Board Meeting October 2021

The Board is delighted to welcome new members, the Purcell family (Alysha and Sean with children Tawny, Izaak & Myles) and the Sherkow/Fein family (Jacob and Amanda with children Lilah, Caleb, and Zora). Please join the Board in welcoming them to our Temple community!

A new fiscal year has started, and several members have pledged and paid dues. The Board requests that members remember to pledge and send in payment for continued excellence in the Temple, as there are many exciting new updates and positive energy in our community and spaces.

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

An updated purchase policy was discussed and approved. The main idea is to update the dollar amounts to current day for purchase of items and to use best practices in purchasing for the financial well-being of the Temple.

The board discussed and voted to approve proposal from CUJF to share and engage in parallel, cooperating fundraising for the area Jewish organizations.

From President Julia Rietz

In university towns across the Midwest fall means it is time for barn dances. If you are going to have a barn dance, you have to have things that might be in a barn. Our friends at Hillel decided to have a barn dance in a tent outside the Hillel building. They needed hay, otherwise it would just have been a dance in a tent. So Erez Cohen knew exactly where to go and called me asking if they could borrow hay bales, as I am the local country Jew. My response was of course, but you have to bring some students out to carry the hay. Later he told me one of the students, wondering why they were driving out to “the country” to get hay, asked who I was. Erez told the student that I am the State’s Attorney, and a member of the local Jewish community. The student responded, “we are getting hay from the State’s Attorney? And she is Jewish?” Erez then went on to tell the student about a variety of the Jewish community members here, and the student said “I did not know there were so many Jews in Champaign Urbana.” There is a lesson in this story for all of us, both to be active and involved with the students who are here for a short time, and to be aware of the variety of people with interesting backgrounds who make up our Sinai Temple and CU Jewish community. (And also to join in on the fun things happening at Hillel, as I know CUJF Director Linda Bauer did because Erez showed me a picture of Linda at the barn dance!)

We lost one of those amazing people last week with the passing of Rosalind Weinberg. Rosalind was a scientist, an artist, a wife and mother, an active member of the Egalitarian Traditional Minyan, a scholar, and a woman who broke barriers throughout her lifetime. Rosalind left her mark on Sinai Temple in so many ways, most

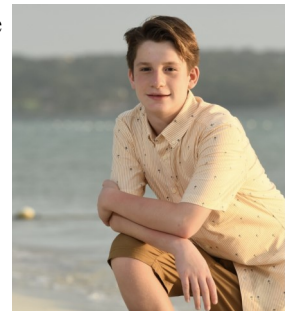
notably in designing our Torah covers and Ark doors. More recently, Rosalind was an active member of the Sinai Renovation Committee. When Covid and her health issues prevented her from being able to attend meetings in person to make decisions on color or finishes, Rosalind attended virtually so that she could express her opinion. I had the honor of Facetiming Rosalind during those meetings so she could see the samples of flooring or fabric, and many times she would direct me to carry the pieces and Rosalind on my cellphone to different places so she could see them in different lighting. She had strong opinions and a keen eye, and her guidance directed many of the decisions we made. I am grateful that before she passed Rosalind was able to see a picture of the Ark doors she designed now hung on a Jerusalem stone background in the Levin Lounge as a lasting reminder of the value of our past being an important part of our future.

I hope that we all take the opportunity to look around our Jewish community at all we have to offer and that we make an effort to get involved and get to know each other. Sinai Temple and the Champaign Urbana Jewish community is a vibrant, interesting, varied, generous and caring group. I look forward to gathering together at Sinai once the renovation is complete and appreciating both the new and the old aspects of our building. Perhaps we will have a barn dance....I will bring the hay bales!

Julia Rietz, Sinai Temple President

Mazel Tov
on your
Bar Mitzvah

Noah was born at Prentice Women’s Hospital in Chicago on Oct 26, 2008 to parents Monique and Michael Tsipursky. He was a precocious toddler with a love for letters and learning. He spent his first years living in Downtown Chicago and Phoenix Arizona before moving to Champaign with his parents in the fall of 2011. He has been a great older brother to his younger siblings Leo and Layla. Noah has spent the past 7 years at Next Generation School and attended Sinai Temple Sunday school. He has been involved in various activities over the years, Taekwondo, soccer, Russian School, basketball, Scholastic Bowl team, and wrestling. But his passion for playing the piano and swimming for the YMCA Heat team have been the longest enduring. Noah enjoys traveling and hopes to one day visit Israel and also Russia, where his father was born. For Noah’s Mitzvah project, he has spent the last several months volunteering his Saturdays at the C-U Korean Language School where he works with the elementary school children by creating activities, playing games, and preparing and serving their lunch. Noah will be called to the Torah on November 6th for his Bar Mitzvah. He has been diligent in his Hebrew studies over the years and in the past 6 months he has been hard at work learning Torah/Haftarah portion under the guidance of his tutor Norah Kopolow. As his parents, we are extremely proud of our oldest son Noah and grateful for the opportunity to share this momentous occasion with C-U Jewish community. The congregation is cordially invited to join Noah’s service on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d660xaArJ1M>



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Renovation Pictures



Old ark doors on the Levin Lounge east wall



North wall of the sanctuary



Ceiling of the sanctuary



New pod lights

Announcements

BOOK GROUP

The Book Group has reorganized! We will meet on the second Sunday of each month from 2:00-4:00 PM in the afternoon. We will continue to meet in a hybrid format, both in person and via Zoom.

Sunday, November 14th: The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story by Hyeonseo Lee

Host and Facilitator: Sherry Helfer, 401 Arbours Drive, Savoy (217) 351-1723

Contact Person: Susan Schomer (217) 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. She is leading two classes, on Tuesdays at 9:30 through the Zoom website or app.

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 will be sent soon outlining the scholarship's scope. Please make out checks to Sinai Temple with MLK Fund in the memo line.

*Mazal
Tov*

Mazal Tov to Rabbi Norman and Dr Andrea Klein on the ordination of their son, Rabbi Samuel Klein, May 23, 2021, at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles campus and his first pulpit at Temple Israel, Columbus, Ohio.

Board Introductions

Celia Arnold

My husband Paul and I moved back to Champaign three years ago. We had met as freshman at the University over 40 years ago. We both grew up in the Chicago area and lived in Kansas City for about 25 years. We have two children: Helen (married to Matt Alvis), a lawyer in Chicago, and Joshua (engaged to Sydney Horen), a resident in Internal Medicine at University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago, where Paul began his career years ago. My degree from the University was in Music Education and I have played and taught cello professionally for years. I also studied and worked in accounting in Chicago before moving to Kansas. I have always been a volunteer, most recently as an Educational and Special Advocate for children in the foster care system in Kansas. I enjoy reading, playing chamber and Jewish music, gardening and crocheting. We also travel as much as possible, and of course spend as much time as we can with our extended family in Chicago. We joined Sinai Temple soon after we moved here and have enjoyed getting to know the warm and friendly people at Temple and in the community.



Jennie France

Jennie has been a Jew since 1985, and a Jewish mother and Sinai Temple member since 1989. A retired finance professor, she spent most of her working life trying to teach her students not to get in trouble with derivatives and portfolio management. She has two feisty children, R. Jay Kahn and R. Emmett Kahn, both of whom are perfect in every conceivable way. She has served at Sinai as Board member, Religious School Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer. Her current board project is trying to sort all our ancient boxes of paperwork into either "useless" or "historical archives." Wish her good digging...



Giving for November

BIRNBAUM CAMP FUND

William & Reva Egherman, in memory of
Freda Birnbaum
Tony & Penelope Soskin, in memory of
Freda Birnbaum
Ira & Lynn Wachtel, in memory of Freda
Birnbaum

BUILDING FUND

Annette & John Buckmaster
David & Sadie Braun
Richard Cooke
William & Reva Egherman
Yael Gertner & Mahesh Viswanathan
Mimi Greenberg-Boby
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Francis & Mitchell Harris
Marjorie Harris
John & Benita Katzenellenbogen
Michael & Janet LeRoy
Amy Roady
Margaret Saks
Jacob Sherkow & Amanda Fein
Alegra Smith
Bette & John van Es

EINHORN GARDEN

Alegra Smith

GENERAL FUND

Murray & Sheila Baumgarten, in honor of
Wynne Korr
Diane Gottheil, in memory of Hormozd
Gahvari and in memory of Loretta
Dessen
Amanda Fox & Daniel Katz
Rabbi and Andrea Klein, in memory of
Thelma Rubinstein, in honor of the
birth of our granddaughter, Fiona
Kearns (daughter of Sarah and
Brendan), in honor of the ordination
of our son, Rabbi Sam Klein, and in
honor of the birth of Alice Miriam
Robinson (parents Aaron and Diana,
grandparents Gene & Julia)
Julia Kling, in memory of Leah Norian
Mary Perlstein, in memory of Ron Levy

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Annette & John Buckmaster
David & Sadie Braun
William & Reva Egherman
Mimi Greenberg-Boby
Francis & Mitchell Harris
John & Benita Katzenellenbogen
Amy Roady
Margaret Saks
Jacob Sherkow & Amanda Fein
Bette & John van Es

LIBRARY FUND

Michael & Janet LeRoy

MUSEUM FUND

Steve & Alice Hansen, in honor of Pam
Olson

MUSIC FUND

Samuel LeRoy

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Estate of John Walter, in appreciation to
Rabbi Cook for his support and
leadership

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Bette & John van Es

SECURITY FUND

Annette & John Buckmaster
David & Sadie Braun
Richard Cooke
William & Reva Egherman
Yael Gertner & Mahesh Viswanathan
Mimi Greenberg-Boby
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Francis & Mitchell Harris
Marjorie Harris
John & Benita Katzenellenbogen
Michael & Janet LeRoy
Amy Roady
Margaret Saks
Jacob Sherkow & Amanda Fein
Bette & John van Es

YESOD L'ATID RENOVATION FUND

Edward & Nancy Tepper



Giving for Thanksgiving

Eastern Illinois Food bank is sponsoring their **Thanksgiving Harvest of Hope**. Every \$1 given can help provide an entire day of meals for neighbors who would otherwise go hungry. Please consider giving. Send to EIF, 2405 N Shore Dr, Urbana, IL 61802-7221



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 5

Jesse Belber (9 Nov)	Jacob Toby (4 Kis)
Louie Blockman (8 Nov)	Abe H. Waxman (9 Nov)
Eva Cutler (12 Nov)	Lawrence Weingarten (12 Nov)
Molly Denenholz (11 Nov)	Irving Weissman (12 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)	
Jennie Steinberg (8 Kis)	

Friday, November 12

Nathan Berenbaum (12 Kis)	Stuart S. Nagel (18 Nov)
Ruth Koller Berkson (13 Kis)	Molly Newman (16 Nov)
Ann Black (16 Nov)	Lev Oykhberg (13 Nov)
Lawrence Martin Davis (14 Nov)	David Porton (12 Kis)
Florence Goldberg (13 Nov)	Minnie Rosenstein (18 Nov)
Jacob Herman (15 Nov)	Susan Melanie Sirkis (13 Nov)
Fred Hess (16 Nov)	Leo Weisel (13 Kis)
Morris M. Kaplan (9 Kis)	Roslyn Mae Boxerman Woolf (17 Nov)
Rabbi Louis Kaufman (9 Kis)	
Miriam Korogodsky (18 Nov)	
Kate Kuper (18 Nov)	
Rose Weinberger Levy (18 Nov)	

Friday, November 19

Louis L. Bing (21 Nov)	Reatha Hamburg Katz (22 Nov)
Joseph B. Bloomfield (20 Nov)	Della B. Kranson (22 Nov)
Myrtle Berenson Braun (26 Nov)	Bernice L. Lewis (24 Nov)
Julius Cohen (26 Nov)	Samuel Arthur Libman (26 Nov)
Paulette E. Deckard (22 Nov)	Ada Feinstein Roth (25 Nov)
Da'vid Efergan (21 Kis)	William H. Sholem (24 Nov)
Marshall Egherman (16 Kis)	Bessie Siegal (22 Nov)
Bertel Forst (25 Nov)	Estelle Spelke (21 Nov)
Libby Goldberg (21 Nov)	Arthur Allen Telcser (17 Kis)
Alex Goldman (23 Nov)	Jane P. Walter (25 Nov)
Sara Goldring (21 Kis)	
Bernard Hymowitz (20 Kis)	

Friday, November 26

Stephen Henry Bauer (30 Nov)	Harry David Nelson (1 Dec)
Rosa Lee Brill (29 Nov)	Benjamin Pearlstein (2 Dec)
Morton Dunn (30 Nov)	Shirley Senoff (27 Kis)
Lena V. Garfinkel (1 Dec)	Demitri B. Shimkin (26 Kis)
Louis Nathan Glaser (2 Dec)	James Strauch (30 Nov)
Ida Gorodetsky (24 Kis)	
Morris Gottheil (3 Dec)	
Sally Grusby (2 Dec)	
Judith Harrison (24 Kis)	
Lily Helman (23 Kis)	
Beatrice Karan (1 Dec)	
Ben Karol (30 Nov)	
Joseph Linowes (26 Kis)	

Thank You so much!

The taking down of the Sukkah was completed by Gary and Tonya Bernstein, Dan Kopolow, and Sanford and Eli Hess.

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

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



Chanukah Showcase is Back!

November 7 through the 14th in the Sinai Temple Lobby unless otherwise noted. Hours are 9AM to 1PM.

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.

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

The Green Team

Sinai Temple has refreshed landscaping and some new perennials thanks to the work of 2 Girls in the Garden. We need to maintain the plants this fall before the very cold weather sets in by making sure they stay watered. Could you help with a task that takes around 1/2-hour of your time? Maintaining the plants now will bring us a spectacular spring and summer next year! Send an email to Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com.

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.

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