

January

2022



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

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

Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service., MLK Service

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!/Next Dor

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

10:00 AM Orli Cook Bat Mitzvah

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

Join us for
Shabbat.



His Dream: Ideals Worth Fighting For

A Celebration of the Community's Commitment to the Dream of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sunday, January 16, 2022 at 4:30 PM

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts*
500 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Featured Keynote Speaker: Dr. Derek Barber King, Sr., son of Reverend Dr. Alfred Daniel Williams King, Sr., the only brother of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For more information go to <https://diversity.illinois.edu/diversity-campus-culture/campus-mlk-celebration/>

Proof of COVID vaccination required to enter the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. [For details, please see the Krannert Center COVID-19 Safety Protocols page.](#)

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

Friday, December 31, 2021

Monday, January 17, 2022

Blood Drive

Sunday, January 9, Davis Chapel



Sign-up HERE https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/108903

Masks are required.

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

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



A new [secular] year is upon us.

Much as our Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, inspires us to take account of our past and map out our aspirations for the future, so too can the turning of the page in the Gregorian calendar move us to take stock of the years gone by, and feel an air of excitement for what the coming year may have in store.

It has been said that “Everything old is new again.” Rav Kook (no relation), an Ashkenazi Jewish leader in Israel prior to statehood, expressed a similar sentiment when he wrote, “*hayashan yitchadash, v’hechadash yitkadash*- the old shall be renewed, and the new shall be sanctified.” However we phrase it, these expressions seem to me to be reminding us to find value and meaning both in what has come before and in what is yet to be.

Here at Sinai Temple, we enter the new year on the cusp of a transformative renewal for our sacred home. Our Yesod LeAtid Foundation for the Future renovation project is moving forward with exciting progress; we hope to return to worship in the sanctuary sometime this month. We are grateful for the tremendous support from the Sinai community in helping to bring the visions of the architects and designers to fruition; if you’ve not yet had the opportunity to contribute, or your circumstances allow you to increase your gift, please contact the Temple office. Together we can build for a bright future.

I am confident our future as a congregation will indeed be bright. With the beautiful Jerusalem stone on the east wall, new windows on the north and south sides of the sanctuary, and new lighting fixtures, combined with a stunning ark designed by artist Amy Reichert, we have brought light and brightness into the sanctuary space. Accessibility to the bima has been improved with the addition of a ramp, and other improvements (some readily visible, some in behind-the-scenes infrastructure) are helping us prepare for the needs of Sinai Temple congregants in the 21st century.

But none of these exciting changes are intended as a repudiation of our past. We are so grateful to the leaders and visionaries of past generations who gave time, money, and talent to build and sustain our “little shul on the prairie” into the vibrant community that it is today. For more than 115 years, Sinai has served the Jews of East Central Illinois, providing a locus for spiritual, educational, and social expressions of our faith. Our eight Torah scrolls, each with

their own story, are a testament to our history. The wooden doors that formerly graced our ark, designed by Rosalind Weinberg (z”l), now hang in the Ezra and Helen Levin lounge, as yet another testament to our history. We continue to make memories; we continue to build upon the legacy of those who came before. *L’dor va-dor*, from generation to generation, we are grateful that God has blessed, and continues to bless, these endeavors, and we are grateful to all who share in the vision of what Sinai Temple has been, and what it can yet become.

As we celebrate this new year 2022, may we all know peace and health, happiness and blessing. May we strengthen our connections to one another. May we lift each other up in times of hardship or sadness, and may we rejoice with one another in our seasons of gladness. May we continue to build together for an ever-brighter future.

L’Shalom,


Rabbi Alan Cook



From President Julia Rietz



Sinai Temple Board Meeting December 2021

 Rabbi Alan provided a moving D'var Torah on the final parshat of Genesis, in which Jacob blesses the multiple members of his family prior to his death. Rabbi articulated a wonderful metaphor in which every group, or family, requires a good team with appreciation of all members' talents, input and ideas. Our Temple community represents just such a good team.

The Temple continues to be “doing really well” financially. Art Siegel as Treasurer anticipates we will stay on track with our financial projections.

Renovation committee chairperson, Sanford Hess, provided an update on all the wonderful progress with the Temple renovation. The Board also received financial updates on the renovation from Art Siegel, Treasurer, regarding ongoing expenses, reserves, and pledges.

Religious School teacher Ranon Herman and the current B’Nai Mitzvah class joined part of the Board meeting to provide an important presentation and request to the Board for enhanced technology in classrooms. The students have worked hard as a class learning about Tzedakah, working together as a group, as they researched prices and costs to update equipment in classrooms as suggested by results from a survey of Religious School students. The Board greatly appreciated their excellent presentation and are actively considering the request and ways to use technology for optimal learning within current budget and timelines.



Announcements

YESOD LE'ATID
יסוד לעתיד

Foundation for the Future

YESOD LE'ATID
יסוד לעתיד

Foundation for the Future

Yesod Le'Atid Development Committee

As you can see from Sanford's update, our Renovation is moving rapidly toward completion. We are able now to think of the ways we will celebrate together the return to our sacred, and social, spaces.

Sanford notes that there will be a 'punch list' - all the final fixes that need to happen. I know from experience, those will continue for awhile.

We also have a fundraising punch list. So many of you have made meaningful contributions. We need you now to give more so we can finish strong and without debt.

Please go online, make a gift or additional pledge. <https://sinaitemplecu.org/foundation-for-the-future-donation-form/>

Wynne



Pod lighting and partition glass

See bima build on page 8.

The renovation's final stages are going quickly, a pleasant change after months of slow movement! The new operable partitions are hung, and much of the electrical wiring fixtures are now in place. Chairs arrived and (thanks to several Sinai volunteers!) moved into temporary storage locations around the temple. Painting should be completed and new tackable wall boards installed by the time you read this.

The most significant remaining work to be done is completion of the bema and laying of the new floor (carpet in the sanctuary and luxury vinyl tile in the pods). The bima has been enlarged from the original design by extending it an additional foot, and electrical and AV connections were upgraded to accommodate the new location of the lectern. Also, under construction now is the millwork (wood) cabinets that go along the lower part of the east wall. The most recent design now includes a lighted niche, to be used as the Torah holder during services.

The ark and bima furniture are also moving forward. Designs were finalized, and the fabrication will hopefully be completed early in 2022. The Ark won't be in place for the first use of the sanctuary, but we hope it won't be long after. Some of the final steps to come include construction inspections by the City and by the architects. City inspections are required to receive permits to use the space, and the architect's inspection will find a "punch-list" of minor repairs to finalize. Also, planning is now underway for several events to commemorate our new sacred spaces, including a ribbon cutting, a lecture by the Ark designer, and a dinner-dance!

Sanford Hess



Announcements

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

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

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

Book Club

The Book Group meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM. Our next meeting is Sunday, January 9, 2022: Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, The Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America by Gilbert King.

Host: Reva Eggherman, 1816 Augusta, Champaign, (217) 356-3243

Facilitator: Judy Ullom

We meet in a hybrid format, both in person and via Zoom.

MARTIN LUTHER KING SCHOLARSHIP

Mark & Frances Ansel
Allen Avner
Robert Bedows
Carl & Carol Belber
Elaine Bruner
Annette & John Buckmaster
Ronald Chabot
Bill & Reva Eggherman
Ann Einhorn
Walter & Eleanor Feinberg
William & Phyllis Gingold
Elizabeth Goldwasser
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Michael Jay
Paula Kaufman
Julia Kling

Charles & Joan Kozoll
Benjamin & Jessica LeRoy
Leslie & Gary Mason
Lee & Evan Melhado
Joan Miller
Barbara Orden
Bruce Reznick & Robin Sahner
Richard and Jacqueline Ross
Alex Scheeline & Alice Berkson
Paul & Susan Schomer
Joy Thornton-Walter
Judith & Steve Ullom
Michael Vodkin
Barry & Linda (z"l) Weiner

Green Team Tip

Even with relatively warm temperatures to start out the winter, we'll be spending extra time inside. One of our concerns is air quality, especially in confined spaces. Remember the many benefits of plants for your household and work place -- plants are recognized as improving the air quality by acting as natural air purifiers and humidity regulators. Many folks find it psychologically beneficial to have greenery in sight every day.



You can find plants in several locations, but keep in mind that along with the plant sections at grocery stores and the large garden centers, there are two plant stores in downtown Champaign. If you patronize them, you'll be supporting local small businesses!

SAVE THE DATE! The Auschwitz Experience in the Art of Prisoners January 27-February 3

(weekend excluded) GRAND OPENING EVENT: January 27, 6:00 -8:30 p.m. Sponsored by The Holocaust Education Center of CUJF and Illini Hillel Location: Illini Hillel, Cohen Center for Jewish Life, 503 E. John Street, Champaign

Please join us to view this prominent exhibition comprised of artwork by 12 survivors of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp who documented their experiences during the Holocaust. This exhibit featuring 59 pieces of art is on loan from the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum in Poland. It is our honor to premier this exhibition in the U.S. "By observing life in the Auschwitz Concentration Camp through the memory of its inmates, you will have the opportunity to increase knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust and learn about the daily struggle for survival by the camp's prisoners," says Robert Lehmann, co-chair of the CUJF's Holocaust Education Committee.



Join a docent-led tour of this exhibit where you can learn more about each artist. You'll be able to examine each of the artworks in detail to better understand the way of life in the concentration camp and the experiences of each individual who faced exhausting, long-lasting work and constant humiliation.

For more information, including dates and times, please visit our webpage, <https://cujf.org/programs-and-services/holocaust-education-center>. HEC Co-Director Brian Kahn, 217-369-5039 Email: cujf_HolocaustEdCtr@volomail.net

Bat Mitzvah

Bat
Mitzvah



Orli Ruth Cook, the daughter of Rabbis Jody and Alan Cook, will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on January 22, 2022. Orli's proud brother, Gabe, and favorite sister, Eden are excited for Orli (and are also excited to not have to talk about the Bat Mitzvah anymore). Orli's Bat Mitzvah date is the perfect date for her - the weekend of her Hebrew birthday, the English birthday of her maternal grandfather, for whom she is named and the weekend after Tu Bishvat - the Birthday of the Trees. Orli is passionate about the environment and loves trees.

Orli is a seventh grade student at Franklin Steam Academy. She is a competitive gymnast at Champaign Gymnastics Academy, enjoys drawing and painting and almost always has a book in her hand. Orli also spends her summers at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI) which might be her favorite place on earth. Orli spends a lot of time at Sinai Temple and is lucky to have grown up in this wonderful congregation and community. Orli has developed so many special relationships with our Sinai Temple family.

Orli would like to thank Rob and Diane Ore for making each tutoring session so wonderful. She looks forward to BOTH the treats and the Torah. She also would like to thank Eden, Gabe and Oogie for supporting her as she has been preparing as well as her mom and dad.

As we plan Orli's Bat Mitzvah, we are well aware of the situation related COVID and the renovation at Sinai Temple. Please watch for updates regarding location and streaming links. Presently, we are hoping to celebrate in person with anyone who is comfortable with gathering in a larger group. We will also stream the service and will absolutely feel your support if you join online. Although we won't be able to celebrate with a large group for a meal, we will have an open house style gathering in the evening that everyone is welcome to come to. Service will begin at 10:00 at Sinai Temple or online. Evening party will begin at 7:30 at Sinai Temple - this will not be streamed. We ask that if you come to in person events that you are vaccinated or show proof of a negative test taken on 1/10/22. PLEASE RSVP for the service and or the party to Rabbijodycook@gmail.com by January 16, 2022 so we can ensure that we have seating for all guests. We are so proud of Orli and we can't to celebrate - and we will continue to be flexible but please save the date!



Giving

BIRNBAUM CAMP FUND

Julia Kling, in memory of Freda Birnbaum

BUILDING FUND

Brenda Berg
Peter & Judy Braunfeld
Ann Einhorn
June Gronik
Sandy Helman
Tania Ionin & Timur Oikhberg
Joan Miller
Yoram & Carol Mizrahi
Alison Rosenblum & Yonatan Kahn
Susan & Paul Schomer
Tauby Shimkin
Robert Silverman
Rae Spooner
Kenneth Stolarsky & Andrea Beller

EGALITARIAN TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Ann Einhorn

EINHORN GARDEN

Ann Einhorn

GENERAL FUND

John & Annette Buckmaster, in memory of Ralph Weinstein
Sue Brim, in memory of Henrietta Schwartz and in memory of
Abraham Lapedes
Lee & Lisa Greenstein, in memory of Orie and Helen
Greenstein
Richard & Judith Kaplan
Richard Pikowsky, in memory of Harry Pikowsky
Marc & Avigail Snir, in memory of Sara Goldring
Ira & Lynn Wachtel, in memory of Rosalind Weinberg
Paul & Linda Weichsel, in honor of Linda Weiner
Nancy Greenstein Worsley & David Worsley

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Ann Einhorn
Sandy Helman
Tania Ionin & Timur Oikhberg
Alison Rosenblum & Yonatan Kahn
Susan & Paul Schomer

LEWIS FAMILY FUND

Sonya & Myron Sholem, in memory of Ruth B. Ades

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Elliot Weinberg, in appreciation of Rabbi Cook

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Ann Einhorn

SECURITY FUND

Brenda Berg
Peter & Judy Braunfeld
Ann Einhorn
June Gronik
Sandy Helman
Tania Ionin & Timur Oikhberg
Lilyan Levant
Joan Miller
Yoram & Carol Mizrahi
Alison Rosenblum & Yonatan Kahn
David & Jan Sholem
Susan & Paul Schomer
Robert Silverman
Kenneth Stolarsky & Andrea Beller

YESOD LE'ATID

Harvey Choldin & Marianna Tax, in memory of Joli Ginsberg
William & Reva Egberman, in memory of Joli Ginsberg
Ann Einhorn, in memory of Joli Ginsberg
Paula Kaufman
Julia Kling, in memory of Joli Ginsberg
William & Eileen Kohen, in memory of Joli Ginsberg
Charles & Joan Kozoll, in memory of Anthony David
Kaufman, husband of Achsa Guibbory
Leslie & Gary Mason, in memory of Freda Birnbaum, in
memory of Joli Ginsberg, in memory of Rosalind
Weinberg, in memory of John Walter, in memory of Linda
Weiner and in honor of Eileen Kohen, Janie Yairi, &
Cecile Levenson on the occasion of their birthdays
Mary Perlstein, in memory of Joli Ginsberg
Susan & Paul Schomer
Rae Spooner, in honor of Paul Weichsel's 90th birthday
Kenneth Stolarsky & Andrea Beller, in memory of Joli
Ginsberg
Bette & John van Es, in honor of Carol Belber's birthday
Vic & Barbara Weisskopf

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



Mazal Tov to Richard and Judith Kaplan on the birth of their granddaughter, Rebecca Rose Kaplan. Parents are David Kaplan and Leigh Gershman. Rebecca was given the Hebrew name of Rivka Shoshana during Shabbat services at Congregation Agudas Achim in Austin. Judith chanted the Torah portion for the new parents' aliyah.

Joshua and Emily Weichsel have become members of Congregation Shir Tikvah in Minneapolis, MN, where they reside in their new home



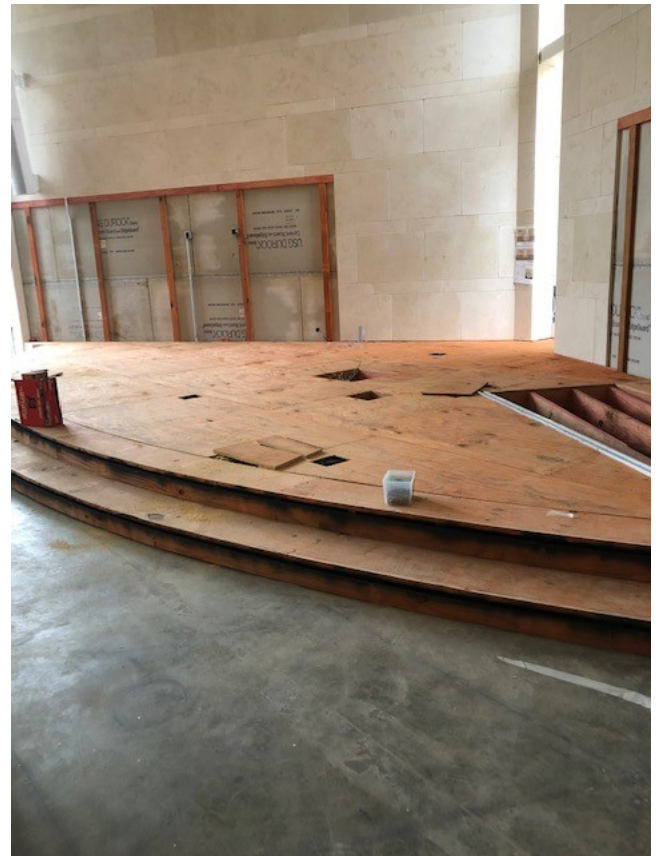
NEW MEMBER PROFILE

Jake Sherkow, Amanda Fein, and Lilah (8), Cal (5), and Zora (3), Sherkow moved around quite a bit before landing in Champaign-Urbana. Amanda grew up in Potomac, Maryland, and Jake grew up in Los Angeles. They lived in California, New Jersey, and Boston before they settled in Champaign in July 2020. Jake and Amanda met at the University of Michigan for law school. He is a law professor at the U of I, and Amanda is an attorney with FINRA.

They joined Sinai Temple to meet other Reform families, to make friends, and to expand their children's Jewish education. They're interested in getting to know members at the temple and integrating with the community.

Jake's favorite Jewish holiday is Passover; Amanda prefers Rosh Hashanah, and the kids like Hanukkah the most.

In their downtime, they do a lot of outdoors things, including hikes through the woods (and breweries nearby). They play a lot of board games with the kids and travel when they can.



The bima is being built!

Memorials for January

Friday, January 7

Samuel Jerome Arnold (9 She)
 Aaron Averbuch (10 Jan)
 Jacob Berland (11 Jan)
 Morton A. Blum (8 Jan)
 Lillian Schuster Braun (6 She)
 Julian Frankenberg (13 Jan)
 Mariette Gahvari (14 Jan)
 Ruth Manis Kahn (8 Jan)
 Hattie Freudenstein Kaufman (11 Jan)
 Viola Koenigsberg (9 Jan)

Aaron Rosenberg (13 Jan)
 David Rous (12 Jan)
 Mildred Nandel Senn (8 Jan)
 Herbert L. Shapiro (7 She)
 Chester P. Siess (14 Jan)
 Samuel Small (12 She)
 Neil Underberg (14 Jan)
 Florence K. Weinberg (8 Jan)
 Philipp G. Weisskopf (9 Jan)
 Herman Weissman (12 Jan)

Friday, January 14

Vivian Adelston (19 Jan)
 Lillian Berland (18 Jan)
 Herman Bernstein (20 Jan)
 Harry Burack (19 Jan)
 Louis P. Fiedler (16 Jan)
 Harold Goldberg (16 Jan)
 Isaac Kuhn (21 Jan)
 Alma Mautner (18 Jan)
 Lillian Radeloff (21 Jan)

Henry W. Schwartz (19 Jan)
 Jessica Tager Underberg (15 Jan)
 Mathlia Zimmerman (20 Jan)

Friday, January 21

Alan David Berenbaum (27 Jan)
 Howard Birnbaum (23 Jan)
 Tanya Estrin (23 Jan)
 Orië Earl Greenstein (28 Jan)
 Heini Halberstam (25 Jan)
 Abetta L. Helman (22 She)
 Michael Herman (22 She)
 Mollie Herman (27 Jan)
 Samuel Lachman (24 Jan)
 Matthew Mischakoff (23 Jan)

Harry Sherman (26 Jan)
 Louis Spelke (27 Jan)
 Ruth Weinberg Strauss (27 Jan)
 Ruth Waxman (28 Jan)
 Sam Weingarten (27 Jan)
 Lida Kuhn Wolff (27 Jan)

Friday, January 28

Abraham Adler (2 Feb)
 Adolph A. Adler (2 Feb)
 Benjamin Davis Braun (31 Jan)
 Sidney R. Cooperband (30 She)
 Max Creinin (28 She)
 Herbert Yale Ehrich (1 1Ad)
 Elwood L. Fabert (2 Feb)
 Dorothy Finkin (2 Feb)
 Jean Reitzman France (2 Feb)
 Sarah Frydman (1 Feb)

Zelda Ginsberg (2 Feb)
 Loretta Lee Goldberg (28 She)
 Iosif Ionin (1 Feb)
 Edward P. Katz (2 Ada)
 Ursula Rothfels Konigsberg (27 She)
 Herman Lewis (4 Feb)
 Mischa Mischakoff (1 Feb)
 Shirley S. Porton (29 She)
 Channa Reizman (27 She)
 Louis Rudolph (29 Jan)

Rosalie Goodfriend Rudolph (30 Jan)
 Morris Sapoznik (30 Jan)
 Samuel Shmikler (30 Jan)
 Jerome J. Sholem (31 Jan)
 Pearl Seltzer Sweital (30 Jan)
 Florence Ethel Viscomi (29 She)
 Rufina Vyshedskaya (3 Feb)
 Helen Kuhn Wiese (2 Feb)
 Leon Zibel (4 Feb)