



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

April 2023

3104 W. Windsor Road ☆ Champaign, IL 61822 ☆ (217) 352-8140 ☆ [www.sinaitemplecu.org](http://www.sinaitemplecu.org)



# SINAI TEMPLE

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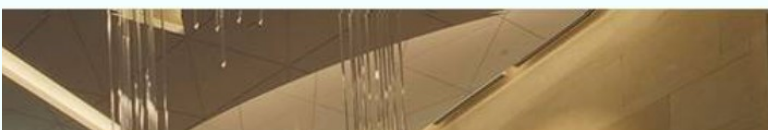
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Tags:   
Person Permissions:   
Admin Permissions:

[MEMBER PORTAL](#) [MY ACCOUNT](#) [DONATE](#) [MY BILLING](#)



*Sinai Temple's new database  
\*ShulCloud\* is up and running!*

*See page 3 for instructions on how to set up your  
account, and the features that ShulCloud provides!*

SCHEDULE OF  
SERVICES

#### THURSDAY APRIL 6

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional  
Minyan Passover Service

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 7

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

#### THURSDAY APRIL 13

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional  
Minyan Passover Service

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 14

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 21

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!  
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 29

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional  
Minyan Service

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## From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



This month, I'd like to offer another reflection from my visit to Israel with the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). Again, I am grateful to the board of Sinai Temple, and to the Barbara and Miles Klein Fund of the Champaign Urbana Jewish

Endowment Foundation, for the logistical and financial support they gave me for this professional development opportunity.

We happened to be in Israel for Rosh Chodesh Adar, the first day of the new Hebrew month. Because this is the month in which Purim occurs, it is meant to be a particularly joyous occasion. We went to the women's section of the Kotel (the Western Wall) where a service was to be conducted by the group Women of the Wall. For thirty-five years, this group has led services on Rosh Chodesh, bringing together women from various religious backgrounds to pray and study as they welcome the new moon. For at least the past ten years, they have made the service more egalitarian, welcoming male-identifying and non-binary individuals to worship with them.

Executive Director Rabbi Anat Hoffman noted before we even approached the wall that increasingly, the Orthodox authorities who oversee the wall have attempted to disrupt the services with jeers, loud noises, and other harassments. Frequently, police forces assigned to keep the peace in the area will refuse to intervene. One of the most recent limitations enacted by the authorities at the wall is to prohibit outside objects, including Torah scrolls, from being brought into the area. Where, then, is one to obtain a Torah scroll for Torah reading days such as Rosh Chodesh? From the existing collection of the Western Wall authority. OK, then please give the Women of the Wall a scroll to use. We're sorry, you are not permitted to apply.

The Women of the Wall (and the Reform movement) are fortunate to have an ally in Rabbi Gilad Kariv, who is a member of Knesset. As such, he attempted to use his diplomatic immunity in order to bring a Torah scroll to the Women of the Wall service.

The Kotel is a high-security area. As we were waiting for screening, Rabbi Kariv's intentions became known to the crowd and to the authorities. A man on a bullhorn began shouting that it was forbidden for him to give the Torah to the Women of the Wall. As we cleared the checkpoint, a group of guards surrounded Rabbi Kariv in a tight circle. Though I was very close to this scene, it was initially difficult to discern exactly what was happening; at first

glance I thought that they were protecting him and the Torah from being harmed by others who didn't want him to be there. I soon realized that they were trying to prevent him from getting the Torah to the egalitarian plaza.

Slowly, a group of us surrounded this circle of guards and used the strength of the crowd to propel them forward, trying to steer them toward the Women of the Wall service. At one point, another member of Knesset entered the circle with Rabbi Kariv and they argued about the permissibility of what Rabbi Kariv was attempting.

Ultimately, after a struggle of over an hour, the Torah scroll did not reach the women. They conducted their service from a *chumash* (with much disruption and disrespect from the surrounding crowd). A separate reading was conducted from where Rabbi Kariv stood.

Throughout the morning, members of our group were continuously harassed: shouted at, pushed, even spit upon. Several young *hareidi* children blew toy whistles to try to drown out our singing and worship. They shouted phrases such as "*Atem Amalek!* (you are Amalekites...the archenemy of the Israelites with who Haman is associated)" and "*Elohim soneh otcha!* (God hates you)."

No matter where one stands on the issues of pluralism and egalitarianism within Judaism, the entire scene is disturbing and disheartening. We are told the Second Temple was destroyed because of *sinat hinam*, the senseless hatred that Jews displayed toward one another. But here we were at the very site of that destruction, witnessing modern-day instances of wanton animosity.

May the day come soon when all of us will learn to respect the values and beliefs of one another, and learn to live in peace.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook



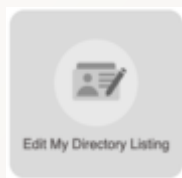
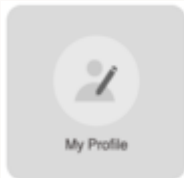
# Sinai Temple Announcements

## Sinai Temple ShulCloud Database Sign-up

We're excited to give you access to your member account on the new Sinai Temple online member system, powered by ShulCloud. With this system (used by over 1300 other congregations), you can connect more easily with other members through the online directory, manage your own information and register and pay for events. ShulCloud is designed to provide a secure and private way to view your transaction history, enter payment methods (you may securely store credit cards or bank information), set up recurring payments and make donations. There is so much you can do when you use your account!

**We need just a little help from you to get started. Please take a few minutes to follow the steps below:**

1. Click this temporary [Set Password link](#) to set your new personal member password (your email address is your user name). Each adult member will be able to set up their own access. This link will expire after 7 days, so we'd appreciate your prompt attention. (If you get a message that your link expired, email your request for a new link to [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org).)
2. Click the **My Profile** tile to verify and edit your profile information.
3. Click the **My Family** tile to verify and edit your family information.
4. Click the **My Directory Listing** tile to change your directory information and set display and sharing preferences. The directory is accessible to all members. Upload a photo of the adult members of your family (recommended).



Now that you have completed the initial set up, it's time to explore! You can access the Temple Dashboard from the Temple's website by clicking on the "Members" link in the upper right corner, or [click here](#), to see a dashboard of options ("buttons") related to your account, including personal and family information, financial information, congregational mailing information, and school and events information.

On the dashboard, you will find an area called **My Financial Information**. We know that this may look a bit different from our statements in the past, but we trust you will find the system user friendly. When you choose to use online payment options, note that the Temple and ShulCloud do not store or have access to your bank or credit card information on its their servers.

We know you may have questions, and we encourage you to explore the new system. If you're having difficulty logging on, please give us a call at the office 217-352-8140 during business hours (9am-3pm) and we'll be happy to help. In addition, we will be available during religious school on Sundays.

If you have comments to share about the new system, please feel free to send us an email at [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org). Thank you for your patience as we all learn a new system, and for partnering with us to make the user experience more efficient for our Temple community!

L'shalom,

*Art Siegel*

*Julia Reitz*



## *Sinai Temple Announcements*

### **B'NAI MITZVAH**

*Elianna Dory & Shiloh Jacob Boucek  
will be called to the torah on  
April 22, 2023, at 9:30 am.*



Shiloh and Elianna are the children of Lauren and Robert Boucek Jr., older siblings of Judah Charles Boucek, Tela “Fishbone” Boucek, Piper Boucek; grandchildren of Ellen & Ronnie Gross, Sue & Robert Boucek.

Shiloh and Elianna have attended Sinai Temple for their Jewish education since they were 3 years old, where they made a lasting impression making their laps around the temple every Shabbat Rocks dinner. Outside of Sinai, they attend Edison Middle School where Shiloh plays basketball for the Comets and Elianna Cheers them on with the Comets Cheer Squad.

Shiloh and Elianna express special appreciation for their Tutors Sara Topolosky and Shira Epstein, who not only helped them to read and make sense of their torah portions, but served as models in our community as teachers, challah bakers, life guards, surrogate parents and friends.

*We hope you can join us in person or on zoom  
on April 22<sup>nd</sup>! (<http://www.youtube.com/sinaitemplecu>)*

## *Sinai Temple Announcements*

### **\*MAZEL TOVS\***

\***Andy & Tamarra Bernstein** are thrilled to welcome our second grandson, **Beau Gaines Bernstein**, born March 20, 2023. Beau, 8 pounds 2 ounces, and his parents Tiffany & Matthew Bernstein, are all doing very well. Brother Brighton Gaines Bernstein, 2, is anxious to meet his younger brother, as is his Labrador brother, Stanley.

\***Sinai Temple** received the “**Earth Champion Award**” for partnering with ***Faith in Place*** to care for the Earth and the community. It was given by the *Faith on Place Organization*, which you can read more about at **faithinplace.org**



### **Ma'achil Re'eivim / Feeding the Hungry**

Sinai Temple is honored to be part of Food & More, a local food pantry that serves over 60 households in our community. The pantry is run by an interfaith consortium of eight congregations. Once a month, over 50 volunteers deliver nonperishable food and household goods to 65 local families. Food & More also provides consumer and nutrition education, and sometimes fills other unexpected needs. The pantry has a waiting list and hopes to serve even more households in the future.

As a new member of this group, our first step is to request volunteers. Currently, Food & More needs:

- 3-4 drivers to deliver food to Partners (recipients) once a month
- 2 people to place groceries in vehicles once a month
- 1 person to help unload a truck occasionally, when the regular volunteers aren't available

For more info and to volunteer, please contact Katherine Coyle: [katherinecoyle2@gmail.com](mailto:katherinecoyle2@gmail.com). Thank you!

# Sinai Temple Announcements



## Sinai Temple

### Gift Shop

***\*All Gift Shop profits go to support the Religious School\****

The Gift Shop is now open **by appointment & during Sinai Temple Religious School Hours!**

Please contact **Jessica Kopolow** to set up an appointment. You can reach her by phone at 417-8699 or email at [jessicakopolow@yahoo.com](mailto:jessicakopolow@yahoo.com)

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

## Gentle Chair Yoga

**Tuesdays at 9:30 AM—ONLINE**

For those who would like to do chair yoga online with Robin Goettel while in your home, please contact her at [robinfans1@gmail.com](mailto:robinfans1@gmail.com).



## April Book Group

**The Book Group meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM.**

We meet in a hybrid format, both in person in the Sinai Temple Library and via Zoom. The Zoom link is provided for those who are outside the C-U area.

**RSVP's required by Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> to [nataliefr@comcast.net](mailto:nataliefr@comcast.net)**

**April 9<sup>th</sup>: Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead  
Facilitator: Susan Cohen**





# Sinai Temple Green Team Invitation



## View Pollinators and Native Plants in the Home Landscape

2:00pm – 4:00pm, Sunday, May 7, 2023

Rain Date: Sunday, May 14, 2023

***April Showers bring May Flowers*** – but did you know some of the most compelling are those native to this area? You are invited to take a journey through six neighborhood locations that are landscaped with native plants and pollinators along with more familiar garden plants.

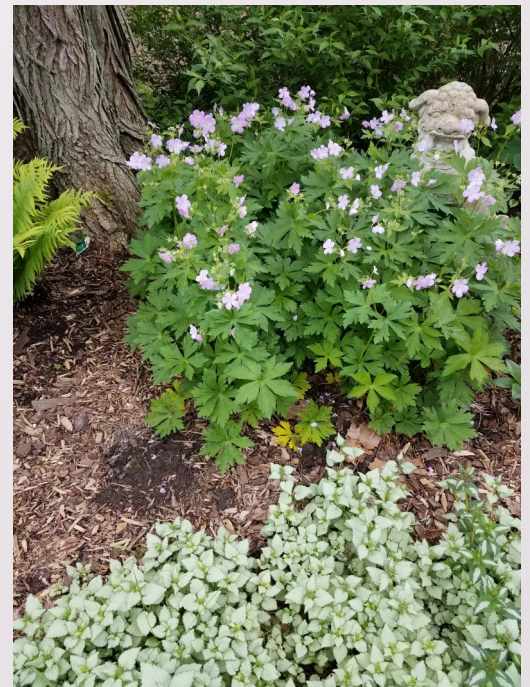
***There will be no cost to participate.*** Visit as many as you like, each at your own leisure. There's no set route or timetable – anytime between 2pm and 4pm.

A Master Naturalist at each site will provide information and answer your questions, such as “How do I start my own native landscaping?” “Which plants thrive in sunny areas?” “How can I attract butterflies and hummingbirds to my yard?” “What are those plants?”

***Are you a Social Butterfly?*** We need volunteers for each of the sites to greet visitors, show them around the yard, manage the flow of people so everyone can get a chance to see that one amazing bush everyone is gawking at. You don't need to know anything about plants – just show up and talk with folks.

We will not publicize the Yard Visit afternoon beyond Sinai Temple and CUJF announcements. While you're welcome to bring along a friend or neighbor, we are not extending the invitation broadly to the public so that we can enjoy the visit along with C-U Jewish community members.

***Detailed information on the May 7 Yard Visit will be available later in April.*** If you are able to volunteer as a greeter, please get in touch with Marcey Goldstein ([Marcey.goldstein@gmail.com](mailto:Marcey.goldstein@gmail.com)) or Green Team Chair Alice Berkson at [berksonalice@gmail.com](mailto:berksonalice@gmail.com). Plan to join us on May 7, 2023! Come to get ideas for your yard, view the plants in varied settings, and enjoy interacting with folks who love native plants.



# Sinai Temple Announcements

## Temple Donations February 15-March 15

### GENERAL FUND

The CUJF Klein Fund Disbursement  
Jon & Tracy Gunderson in Memory of Scott Kozoll  
Ira & Gayle Kopin in Memory of Jenny Mandel  
Ken & Linda Hoffman in Memory of Scott Kozoll  
Gene & Julia Robinson in Memory of Scott Kozoll  
David Scherba & Rebecca Swartz in Honor of Yael  
Scherba becoming Bat Mitzvah!  
Barry Sholem and the Sholem Family in Memory of  
Myron & Sonya Sholem  
Paul & Linda Weichsel in Honor of Joshua Weichsel

### RENOVATION FUND

Paula Kaufman

### PLAYGROUND FUND

Michael & Janet LeRoy in Honor of their their  
Grandaughter Alex's 4th Birthday

### KITCHEN FUND

Richard Newman in Memory of Shirley Newman

### SECURITY FUND

Richard Newman in Memory of Ralph Newman  
Dan Goldwasser & Rachel Fundator

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sean Kelley in Honor of Rabbi Alan Cook

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Pamela Adelman in Memory of Scott Kozoll  
Alan & Linda Kurtz in Honor of Joyce Eisenstein  
Allen Avner  
Judy Lachman in Memory of her father, Malcolm  
Lachman  
Joyce Eisenstein  
Steve & Judith Ullom  
Cynthia Weintraub



~If you would like to know  
more about the individual  
funds that Sinai Temple  
maintains, please contact  
our office at:

[treasurer@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:treasurer@sinaitemplecu.org)  
or (217) 352-8140



## *Sinai Temple Announcements*



### TREE OF LIFE LEAF

Our synagogue is proud to possess the EitzChaim, a “Tree of Life”. This beautiful sculpture, given to us by the Hymowitz family, is permanently displayed in the Sinai Temple lobby. The branches of the tree contain leaves which can be inscribed to highlight or commemorate such joyous events as births, weddings, anniversaries, B’nai Mitzvah, graduations or simply to honor parents, family or friends. Share your happy occasions by inscribing your family “Simchas” on our synagogue’s “Tree of Life”. This will be a permanent dedication to the meaningful and happy events that touch our lives. The price per leaf is \$250. For more information, please call the Temple office at (217) 352-8140.

### MEMORIAL PLAQUES \*

Honor the loving memory of a departed family member or close friend by having his or her name inscribed on a solid brass Memorial Plaque for placement on our Memorial Wall outside of the Sanctuary. Sinai Temple affords those who have lost a loved one the opportunity to perpetuate the cherished memory of their departed by donating a Yahrzeit Memorial Plaque. Each nameplate is inscribed with the name of the departed along with the English or Hebrew date of death. The name of the departed inscribed on the Memorial Plaque is also published annually at Yom Kippur in the Sinai Temple Roll of Remembrance. Cost: \$325.00 each. Contact the Temple office if you would like to order a Memorial Plaque.

**\*Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office 217-352-8140 or email us at [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto: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.**

# Sinai Temple Memorials for April 2023

Friday, March 31	<p>Jack Diamond ( 3 Apr) Aida Druker (10 Nis) Edward Epstein (16 Nis) Barbara Ferdman ( 4 Apr) Joshua David Gottheil ( 4 Apr) Louisa Guise ( 7 Apr) Emanuel Heller (14 Nis) Paul Karsh ( 1 Apr)</p>	<p>Clara Kaufman (10 Nis) Adam Koslofsky ( 4 Apr) Ruth Lachman ( 7 Apr) Wolf Lewis ( 2 Apr) Irma Lipson ( 4 Apr) Abraham Loeb ( 4 Apr) Beverlee Mirell ( 1 Apr) Woodrow Pearlman ( 6 Apr)</p>	<p>Jack Robinson (14 Nis) Sonja Robinson (10 Nis) Myer Joseph Rosenfield (13 Nis) Nina Nelson Seidenberg ( 4 Apr) Lenore Levy Simon ( 6 Apr) Marcus Tager ( 4 Apr)</p>
Friday, April 7	<p>Helen Gold Beller (10 Apr) Dr Samuel Bojar (17 Nis) Henia Shifreh Bursztyn (19 Nis) Saerree K. Fiedler (14 Apr) Gertrude H. Francisco (19 Nis) Benjamin Grossman (12 Apr) Donald Imlay (10 Apr)</p>	<p>Edward R. Kerman (12 Apr) Lena Loeb Kuhn ( 8 Apr) Aaron Kurland ( 8 Apr) Helaine Stone Lane ( 9 Apr) Leonard D. Lewis (10 Apr) Ruth Marshak (12 Apr) Alex Rubin (14 Apr)</p>	<p>Thelma Rubinstein (13 Apr) Selig Schwartz ( 9 Apr) Gladys Singman (11 Apr) Abraham Sitron (12 Apr) Ethelda "Tedde" Williams (12 Apr)</p>
Friday, April 14	<p>Joel Lee Agran (21 Apr) Evelyn Nelson Bros (21 Apr) Hannah Choldin (21 Apr) Louis Cutler (19 Apr) Michael Faiman (24 Nis) Fay Ferrer (24 Nis) Wahei Fujimoto (29 Nis) Faye Garrick (24 Nis) Fred Gottheil (19 Apr)</p>	<p>Alvin Hamburg (19 Apr) Daniel Leon Harlib (29 Nis) Sidney Kadish (20 Apr) Miriam B. Kaplan (16 Apr) Clara Koslofsky (16 Apr) Florine Lesht (28 Nis) Gary Lyon (16 Apr) Rose Maus (18 Apr) Mary Ann Nathan (29 Nis)</p>	<p>Ida Reider (30 Nis) Amelia A. Reineberg (16 Apr) Lee W. Reineberg (16 Apr) Natalie M. Smith (21 Apr) Gertrude Katz Tax (21 Apr) Beatrice R. Tepper (21 Apr) Rose Weissman (19 Apr)</p>
Friday, April 21	<p>Leon M. Ades (25 Apr) Molly Belber (26 Apr) Frank A. Berg (27 Apr) Henrietta N. Bloomfield ( 5 Iya) Leah Cohen Bojar ( 7 Iya) Misha Bursztyn ( 4 Iya) Dorothy Diamond Ehrich ( 1 Iya)</p>	<p>Lillian Gingold (22 Apr) Sarah Gofseyeff Heller ( 6 Iya) Alfred Kohn (28 Apr) Lewis Lasker (26 Apr) Dorothy Evelyn Pollard Liebovich (22 Apr) Mathilde Loeb (24 Apr)</p>	<p>Kenneth H. Ober (26 Apr) Joyce Snyder (23 Apr) David Uzrad ( 5 Iya) Rose Weissler ( 4 Iya)</p>
Friday, April 28	<p>Samuel Adleman (30 Apr) Laura Moore Avner ( 4 May) Edward Israel Blum (29 Apr) Isidore Brill (29 Apr) Bertha Craven ( 5 May) Beverly J. Cronin ( 4 May) Bertha Rabinowitz Diness (30 Apr) Della Faiman ( 9 Iya) Herbert E. Francisco ( 8 Iya) Agha-Jan Gahvari (13 Iya)</p>	<p>Abraham Gerald Ginsberg ( 5 May) Philip Horwitz ( 3 May) Raisa Ionina ( 1 May) Blair Bernard Kling ( 2 May) Celia Berman Kulwin (30 Apr) Ethel Uritz Marcus (29 Apr) Ida Levine Markoff (30 Apr) Jacob Royce Nathan (13 Iya) Penn Nelson ( 1 May) Edith Pincus ( 4 May)</p>	<p>Norman Stanley Rosenzweig ( 4 May) Herbert Rubinstein (29 Apr) Naomi M. Siegel ( 4 May) Helen Kranson Siess ( 1 May) Seymour Sudman ( 2 May) Pauline Evenson Tager ( 5 May) Manie Tepper ( 5 May) Theodore H. Zimmerman ( 1 May)</p>
Friday, May 5	<p>William Adelston ( 9 May) Samuel Agran (12 May) Edward Dessen ( 8 May) Sonia Doppelt ( 9 May) Carolyn Kuhn Feffer ( 7 May) Donald M. Ginsberg ( 7 May) Becky Glaser (11 May) Morton S. Glaser ( 8 May) Abraham Goldberg ( 6 May)</p>	<p>William Arthur Graff ( 6 May) Ernest W. Lane (12 May) Harry David Levenson (12 May) Samuel Lenik (15 Iya) Sara Lewis ( 8 May) Simon Litman ( 7 May) Mariane Tager Melnikoff ( 8 May) Pearl Miller (10 May) Beverly Newman (11 May)</p>	<p>Sarah Braudes Olefsky ( 7 May) William Edward Perkel (12 May) Sidney P. Radeloff (12 May) Lee E. Roland (10 May) Lillian G. Stauffer (11 May) Amelia Alpiner Stern (12 May) Herman Edward Waisvisz ( 9 May)</p>