

June/July 2023

Bulletin



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

June/July 2023

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

Dues Reminder

We are grateful for your generous financial commitments to Sinai Temple. A gentle reminder that as the end of the fiscal year approaches, please fulfill any pledge you made no later than June 15. If you have not made a pledge of payment please do so to continue being an active member of Sinai Temple.

June

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service &
First Friday Dinner

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional
Minyan Service

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional
Minyan Service

FRIDAY, JUNE 30

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

July

FRIDAY, JULY 7

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service &
First Friday Dinner

SATURDAY, JULY 8

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional
Minyan Service

FRIDAY, JULY 14

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, JULY 21

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

FRIDAY, JULY 28

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 29

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional
Minyan Service

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



When I was working as a teacher, some of my friends and acquaintances would occasionally remark, “Oh, it must be nice to have your weekends and summers completely free.”

Similarly, once I became a rabbi, people would sometimes say, “You’re so lucky you only have to work on Fridays and Saturdays.” While I think (I hope) that these comments were mostly made in jest, I can understand how the misconceptions might arise. After all, to an outside observer, weekdays in a classroom are when a teacher is most visibly occupied, and Shabbat (or holiday) services are when the greatest percentage of the congregational membership sees a rabbi in action.

But the busy-ness and business of being a rabbi of course extends beyond moments on the *bima*. There are services to be planned, classes to be taught, pastoral conversations to facilitate, and so forth. In the same manner, though our temple calendar may be more sparsely populated during the summer months, there is still a great deal of activity taking place throughout the summer as we prepare for the coming programmatic year.

Lil Levant, our new congregational president, will be working with the board of trustees to set goals for the coming year. Rabbi Jody and I have recently created a preliminary calendar for the year. Rabbi Jody will work on making preparations for another fabulous year of learning and growth at Sinai Temple Religious School, and will provide a week of summer day camp for a number of our younger students. We will each serve two weeks in late July on faculty at the Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI), which many of our students will attend. There will be a flurry of activity going on “behind the scenes” throughout the summer.

In the midst of it all, we will be planning for the busy

season that accompanies the High Holidays. This includes arranging childcare options for those families who require it, programming for Jewnior Congregation, and organizing our annual Yom Kippur food drive to benefit the Eastern Illinois Foodbank. Of course, I am also working to prepare for the services themselves.

Over the past several years, Cantor Jennifer Seeger from Minneapolis has joined us to enhance our High Holiday worship with her beautiful voice. We have appreciated the energy and talent she has brought to this role, and enjoyed a number of memorable services with her, including the virtual High Holiday service held during the pandemic. Unfortunately, due to a number of circumstances, Cantor Seeger has informed us that she is unable to be with us this year. We wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

We are pleased to welcome Cantor Marty Steinhouse to Sinai Temple for our upcoming High Holiday season. Cantor Marty and his wife, Rachel, from Toronto will join us and will be with us for the entire High Holiday period. He served a Reform congregation in Toronto for more than thirty years, and recently has served congregations in Waco, Texas and in Singapore, as well as in his home community. I have enjoyed planning with him, and know that his baritone voice and pleasant manner will be a wonderful fit for Sinai Temple. Watch for a more detailed biography of Cantor Marty in the coming months.

As I begin my eleventh (!) year at Sinai Temple, I am honored to be your rabbi, during the summer and throughout the year. I hope that you have a wonderful summer, filled with warmth and happiness.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

From President Lil Levant

I became a member of Sinai Temple about 11 years ago, shortly after I first arrived here from Chicago. Like many of us, I never thought I would end up staying in C-U for more than a few years. Without a doubt, the extraordinary friends I have made, as well as my spiritual connection to this congregation are the reasons I call C-U my home. One thing led to another, and I found myself serving as a board member for several years. Now I am starting a new role, filled with opportunities as well as some challenges.

As I begin my presidency, I want to thank Julia Rietz for her leadership over the past two years. I also want to thank our talented and dedicated board members for agreeing to serve. We have three new members this term - Art Siegel, Ben LeRoy and Sam Bernstein. Welcome! Additionally, Bob Smith, who has most recently served as our Financial Secretary, will stay on as a trustee, and Shari Fox has moved from her trustee position to Vice President.

I am very lucky to have Rabbi Alan and Rabbi Jody as partners as we work together to further deepen the connections within our community. And, wow, I am very excited that Sinai Temple member Gary Bernstein, newly retired from the University, has accepted the Administrative Coordinator position starting July 5. Special

thanks to Kathy Douglas for helping us get through the gap until then.

I'd like to put in a plug for volunteering. Even if your time is limited, a couple of hours here and there can help us to revitalize committees and complete projects post-COVID. Please let me know if you are interested in exploring further what volunteer opportunity might be the right fit for you.

I hope you will reach out to me whenever you have questions, comments or ideas. You can best reach me by emailing me at ljlevant@gmail.com

Take good care,

Lil

Green Team

Sinai Temple Green Team 2023 Yard Visit

Sinai Temple members and the C-U Jewish community had the opportunity this spring to visit homes that are landscaped with native plants and pollinators. Visitors on May 9 ranged from younger than 9 years old to more than 90, and everyone enjoyed viewing and talking about the plants.

Hosts included Alice Berkson & Alex Scheeline, Sara & Eric Benson, Rae Spooner, Mitch & Frances Harris, and Jennie France & Charlie Kahn. In addition, Steve Dolan (not a C-U Jewish community member), showed us the entry area to Yankee Ridge subdivision where native trees and shrubs are planted.

We had the able assistance of East Central Illinois Master Naturalists Amanda Fox, Elizabeth Kirby, and Karen Pollard. Sinai Temple members and community members who served as greeters were Linda Bauer, Moss Bresnahan, Robin Goettel, Marcey Goldstein, Jim Imlay, Kari Imlay, Eileen Kohen, Holly Labisky, Bob Smith, Lynn Wachtel and Kathryn Weisbaum (who is a Master Gardener). Faith in Place Green Team Director Cindy Shepherd also joined us.

Marcey Goldstein worked with Green Team Chair Alice Berkson on advance publicity through Sinai Temple and the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation.

We hope that this enjoyable afternoon will lead more C-U Jewish Community members to incorporate native plants and pollinators into their home landscape. Imagine what Champaign-Urbana would look like if all the homeowners went native!





Sinai Temple Announcements



Paul and Linda Weichsel are overjoyed to share the news of the birth of their granddaughter, Eliana Marie Weichsel. Eliana and her proud parents, Emily and Joshua Weichsel live in Minneapolis, where they both work as attorneys.

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.

Peter & Judy Braunfeld wish to thank the congregation for the beautiful and thoughtful gift we have just received from our friends at Sinai Temple. It was brought to us by Robin Gottheil, just as we were finishing our dinner at the Windsor of Savoy. The gift is an absolutely gorgeous bouquet of flowers that we hope we will continue to enjoy for a long time, as it brightens our apartment, and reminds of all our wonderful friends at Sinai Temple. We feel blessed to be members of such a caring Jewish community. We hope that, as summer settles in, and the daylight hours lengthen, we will be able to join more events in person at the Temple.

Rebecca Shankman received her master's degree in Sociology from Ohio State University on May 7, a major step in working towards her doctorate. She graduated from the University of Maryland in Sociology, and was selected for Phi Beta Kappa. **Joshua Shankman** received his bachelor's degree in economics on May 20 from The College of William and Mary in Virginia, magna cum laude. Proud parents are Marcy and Brett Shankman and grandparents Joan and Stan Levy, former long time members of Sinai Temple

Mira Hamburg Unveiling and Burial Service

Susan Sarapin and family will have an unveiling and burial service for Mira Hamburg on Friday, June 16. It will take place at 10 AM at Mt. Hope Cemetery at 611 E. Pennsylvania Avenue in Champaign, IL 61820. We are inviting anyone in the congregation to come.

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 only during the summer months**

Please contact **Jessica Kopolow** to set up an appointment. You can reach her by phone at **417-8699** or email at **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.



June & July 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.

Sunday, June 11th Book: Anxious People by Fredrik Bachman.

Facilitator: Joyce Francisco

RSVP's required by Friday, June 9th to nataliefr@comcast.net

Sunday, July 9th Book: Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead.

Facilitator: Susan Cohen

RSVP's required by Friday, July 7th to nataliefr@comcast.net

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.



Sinai Temple Donations

Temple Donations April 16-May 15

BUILDING FUND

William & Phyllis Gingold
Barbara & Lawrence Gordon
Bob Smith & Elyse Rosenbaum
Cynthia Weintraub

FRIENDS of the RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Ellen Banks, in honor of the Boucek B'nai Mitzvah

GENERAL FUND

William & Phyllis Gingold, in memory of Lillian
Gingold
Julia Kling, in memory of Blair Kling
Diane & Rob Ore, thanks to Shari Fox for pup
sitting while we were gone
Art & Marcia Siegel, in honor of Lil Levant our
new President
Edward & Nancy Tepper, OSRUI Camp Award
Paul & Linda Weichsel

KITCHEN FUND

Richard Cooke
William & Phyllis Gingold

LIBRARY FUND

Sue & David Brim in memory of Bernice Schwartz,
in memory of Henrietta Schwartz,
and in memory of Selig Schwartz

MUSIC FUND

Carl & Carol Belber, in honor of Martha Alwes
Joyce Nagel Eisenstein, in honor of Martha Alwes
Alex Scheeline & Alice Berkson, in honor of
Martha Alwes
Art & Marcia Siegel in honor of Martha Alwes
Paul & Linda Weichsel

RENOVATION FUND

Paula Kaufman
Susan & Paul Schomer

SECURITY FUND

David Dorman & Barbara Jones
William & Phyllis Gingold

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

treasurer@sinaitemplecu.org or (217) 352-8140

Sinai Temple Memorials for June 2023

Friday, June 2

Alfred Beller (17 Siv)
Irvin Bloom (9 Jun)
Naomi Dietchweiler (8 Jun)
Burton H. Fagan (4 Jun)
Irving Kohen (9 Jun)
Alvin Konick (5 Jun)
Sophie Perlman Lenik (14 Siv)

Adele G. Libman (8 Jun)
Ida Libman (5 Jun)
Molly Mayorwitz (6 Jun)
Hyman F. Simonson (3 Jun)
Alfred Smith (6 Jun)
Frederick Sosnoff (9 Jun)
Esther Reizman Steinberg (19 Siv)

Rosalia Blumenfeld Fagan Treuman
(8 Jun)
Amalia Rosenheck Weinberger (16
Siv)
Leonard Weiner (17 Siv)
Lynn Lazarus Weisskopf (8 Jun)

Friday, June 9

Solomon Alpiner (10 Jun)
Nita Aprill (13 Jun)
Elaine Sweital Avner (10 Jun)
Dorothy Bauer (13 Jun)
Celia Blockman (10 Jun)
Donald Brotherson (15 Jun)
Helene Dikelsky (25 Siv)

Hyman Diness (12 Jun)
Samuel Druker (27 Siv)
Judit Isa Halberstam (10 Jun)
Linda B. Harris Hanau (15 Jun)
Robert L. Harris (11 Jun)
Judy Levin (11 Jun)
Phoebe S. Libman (15 Jun)

Arthur Mayorwitz (15 Jun)
Lawrence J. Pass (15 Jun)
Louis M. Schutz (14 Jun)
Harry Siegal (15 Jun)
Walter W. Stern (10 Jun)
Davida Lynda Stotland (22 Siv)
Myron C. Topson (12 Jun)

Friday, June 16

Sumner Thurman Bernstein (23 Jun)
Ronald David Gersten (28 Siv)
Maurice J. Ginsberg (23 Jun)
Manfred Isserman (18 Jun)
Dorothy Krakower (2 Tam)
Dora Lovett Lapedes (19 Jun)

Rose Linowes (1 Tam)
Ellis Lipson (22 Jun)
Herman Mautner (22 Jun)
Harry Robinson (21 Jun)
Sonya Rosenberg (20 Jun)
Milton Rudick (23 Jun)

Isaiah Scheeline Jr. (22 Jun)
Mortimer Stern (23 Jun)
Harry Sudman (17 Jun)
Joseph Towlen (21 Jun)
Eva Vodkin (29 Siv)

Friday, June 23

Sam Barker (26 Jun)
Paul Bercovitz (10 Tam)
Milton Bruner (24 Jun)
Max Caron (29 Jun)
Roy Wesley Downie (27 Jun)
Rose Adler Einhorn (11 Tam)
Estelle Finkelman (29 Jun)

Louis Freudenstein (27 Jun)
Millard Freudenstein (25 Jun)
David Garrick (7 Tam)
Rubin Hamburg (25 Jun)
John Kermit Helgesen (27 Jun)
Raymond L. Holm (30 Jun)
Jerome Kaufman (26 Jun)

Megan Kemp (26 Jun)
Rhoda Solomon Levant (25 Jun)
Ernest E. Pombert (29 Jun)
Seymour Robinson (27 Jun)
Rose Wolf Rotman (7 Tam)
Edward Weinberger (6 Tam)
Virginia Williams (27 Jun)

Friday, June 30

Alvin Berland (2 Jul)
Hersz Yidl Bursztyn (12 Tam)
Julius X. Davis (5 Jul)
Dorothy Eisen (2 Jul)
Nathan Ferrer (16 Tam)
Rachel Filinson (7 Jul)
Samuel Goldstein (3 Jul)

Edythe Goodman (5 Jul)
Edythe Klavans Goodman (5 Jul)
Joseph Hamburg (4 Jul)
Lauren Beth Katz (13 Tam)
Leon Korr (14 Tam)
Donald Lachman (6 Jul)
Lois E. Mecklenburger (3 Jul)

Libby Miller (3 Jul)
Rebecca Evelyn Shapiro (12 Tam)
Irving Z. Sherman (4 Jul)
James R. Smith (18 Tam)
Frederick Steigmann (4 Jul)
Victoria Sunshine (6 Jul)

Sinai Temple Memorials for July 2023

Friday, July 7	<p>David Gordon Goodman (23 Tam) Jack Grusby (21 Tam) Ella R. Hauptman (11 Jul) Harry Kaufman (25 Tam) Kathleen Kohn (8 Jul) David Saul Lavey (11 Jul) Toby Lebenson (9 Jul)</p>	<p>Ben Libman (11 Jul) Florence Korr Lurie (21 Tam) Frank Monahan (10 Jul) Justin Rachamim Pregent (21 Tam) Joseph Reiss (25 Tam) Maurice Rosefelt (10 Jul) Renee Soskin (8 Jul)</p>	<p>Hattie Ross Sturmthal (13 Jul) Hyman Vodkin (22 Tam) Eugene A. Weinberg (9 Jul)</p>
Friday, July 14	<p>Jean Libman Davis (16 Jul) Marvin Samuel Didech (28 Tam) Solomon William Herman (1 Av) Lotta Rosenberg Kling (1 Av) Henry Levin (15 Jul) Anita Cohen Lieberman (18 Jul) Oscar S. Loeb (19 Jul)</p>	<p>Birdie Moritz (20 Jul) Albert W. Stern (18 Jul) Irvin Levitch Wasserman (28 Tam) Marion Waxman (29 Tam) Freddie Fabert Witte (21 Jul) Jon David Worsley (15 Jul)</p>	
Friday, July 21	<p>Michael Dietchweiler (26 Jul) Sidney Faiman (7 Av) Inge Sender Glezer (24 Jul) Herbert Goldberg (7 Av) Emmy L. Holm (22 Jul) Stanley Louis Kaufman (22 Jul) Louis Levitt (28 Jul)</p>	<p>William Libman (26 Jul) Sam Rudnick (27 Jul) Cantor Moses Schwimmer (8 Av) Malka Shklair (10 Av) Ray Spooner (4 Av) Hilda Damick Weiss (24 Jul) Jeffrey Wiese (25 Jul)</p>	
Friday, July 28	<p>Miriam Lasker Appelbaum (31 Jul) Elizabeth F. C. Aub (3 Aug) Beverly Brown Caron (2 Aug) Norma Dodge (2 Aug) Arthur Gitler (4 Aug) Arnold Goodman (16 Av) Carlyn Gottschalk (30 Jul) Dora Kalis Joffe (4 Aug)</p>	<p>Daniel Katz (17 Av) Dorothy Rosenbloom Kaufman (14 Av) Harry H. Kozoll (30 Jul) Josie Loeb (29 Jul) Yetta Marco (1 Aug) M. Richard Mehl (4 Aug) Sidney Newman (1 Aug)</p>	<p>Betty Shapiro (29 Jul) Abraham Stern (31 Jul) Harriet Solomon Stern (2 Aug) Muriel Branson Stolarsky (2 Aug) Ruth Reyman Tager (3 Aug) Mikhail Tsipursky (31 Jul) Fanny A. Wagman (3 Aug) Bernice Weinstein (31 Jul)</p>