

August 2023

Bulletin



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

August 2023

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August

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service & First Friday Dinner

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service & First Friday Dinner

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



Each August, as the Hebrew month of Elul approaches, I find myself confronted with feelings of both anxiety and

anticipation. Elul is the Hebrew month immediately preceding the High Holidays; this year it begins on August 18. To be sure, a portion of the anxiety is related to all of the tasks that I know must be accomplished prior to Rosh Hashanah: sermons written, liturgy reviewed, readings assigned, and so forth. And part of the anticipation is also linked to the eagerness to be together once again as a large and joyous community, to welcome our new cantor, to hear the plaintive call of the shofar, and to experience the majesty of the liturgy.

But beyond the logistics and the familiar rubrics, there is the knowledge that preparation for Tishri and these Days of Awe asks us to engage in significant introspection and make changes to our behavior and character where warranted. And let's be honest, at least some degree of personal makeover is always warranted; we can always strive to be better. How blessed we are that we have been granted a chance to engage in course correction. It is in our best interest to act on this opportunity and not to squander it.

As we prepare for the arrival of Elul—with 5783 following close behind, we see a blank canvas laid out before us. The question arises: what will we place upon this canvas for all those within our orbit to see? What images will we allow to unfold? What colors will we use to tell the story of our lives within the coming year? With what brushstrokes will we describe our hopes and aspirations?

Elul invites us to be the artists of our own destinies. Let us work thoughtfully and lovingly in the coming year to create a masterpiece for all to enjoy.

L'Shalom,
Rabbi Alan Cook

From President Lil Levant

Dear friends,

Here is some of what is happening these days at Sinai Temple:

Gary Bernstein has joined us as our Administrative Coordinator, and we are already reaping the benefits of both his professional experience and his deep connection to Sinai Temple. As a former Temple President and a long-time congregant, Gary's unique perspective allowed him to "hit the ground running." He is working on many fronts, but mostly, he is aligned exactly with our vision to focus over the next several months on improving best practices. Art Siegel and Jennie France are spending time with Gary to work with him on ShulCloud and on QuickBooks to enable us to have a better handle on our day-to-day finances. In addition, Gary will be deep-diving into our email system and our electronic filing system, both of which may need an overhaul. I am so pleased that Gary has taken on this role. I think we are in very good hands.

You should have received a letter and pledge form in the mail recently. We are delighted that we are already having a good response to this mailing. Many of you have again indicated your generous support for Sinai Temple and I want to thank you sincerely for your ongoing commitment. For those of you who have not yet sent in your pledge form, I hope you will do so in the coming weeks. It is vital for our budget planning purposes to get a sense of what revenues we will be receiving when. Also, please note that ShulCloud will generate an immediate invoice once your pledge has been input into the ShulCloud system, regardless of when you plan to make your first payment. The invoice is for your records. Again, thanks to all of you for your generous membership commitments.

In June, the Board of Trustees held its first meeting since I became President. It was a lively meeting, to say the least, with lots of good ideas and enthusiasm expressed. We spent some time simply getting to know each other and welcoming our newest board members. In accordance with Sinai Temple's bylaws, we did not meet in July, so our next meeting is scheduled for August, and we are currently in the process of assembling the August agenda.

In the coming months, we will be holding some new events and opportunities for our community to get together and become involved. We have lots of good ideas on the table and we are looking forward to implementing them! In the past few weeks, I have been reaching out to some of you to help us organize events, and I hope to tap many more of you for help in this effort. Please let me know if you are interested. I would love to hear from you!

And lastly, if you haven't had the chance to attend a First Friday service and dinner, please consider doing so. The service is wonderful, thanks to Rabbi Alan and the musician(s). And the dinner is so much fun and a great way to meet other congregants and their guests. I do ask that if you attend, please make sure to RSVP ahead of time; we never want to run out of food!!

Take good care,

Lil

Religious School News

Saturday, August 5 @ 5:30 p.m. – Splish Splash Shabbat

The outdoor play area at Sinai Temple will be filled with sprinklers, inflatable pools, bubbles, stomp rockets and more. Bring your kiddos in swim suits and be prepared to get wet! We will provide a BBQ dinner and will end the night with a slightly early Havdallah.

Please sign up through ShulCloud by clicking on this link - <https://sinaitemplecu.shulcloud.com/form/SplishSplashShabbat>. You can also contact Rabbi Jody directly (educator@sinaitemplecu.org). Cost is \$15 per family.

All ages are welcome, recommended for kids entering 6th grade and younger. Please encourage friends to come – this event is open to the CU Jewish community!

Friday, August 18 @ 5:30 – Shabbat Rocks!

The third Friday of every month is our Shabbat Rocks! family service. We start with dinner (optional) at 5:30 and continue with services starting around 6:15. Watch for RSVP for dinner by emailing Rabbi Jody (educator@sinaitemplecu.org). Dinner is \$5 per person.

If you are interested in hosting the oneg on August 18, please contact Rabbi Jody! We appreciate help with the onegs and know it is a great way to involve your children in Sinai Temple and Jewish life.

Sunday, August 20 from 9:00-12:00 – Sinai Temple Religious School Registration, CUTY Pancake Breakfast and ImpactLife Blood Drive

You won't want to miss being at Sinai Temple on August 20! Sinai Temple volunteers will be here to help members of the community complete membership pledges and to set up their ShulCloud accounts. We will also have a CUTY (Champaign-Urbana Temple Youth) Pancake breakfast. This is open to all – no cost, although we certainly appreciate donations ("tips") that will go toward CUTY programming. Please sign up in advance using this link:
<https://sinaitemplecu.shulcloud.com/form/CUTYPancakeBreakfast>.

In addition to the Pancake Breakfast, August 20 will be our Religious School Registration event. We haven't had this event in person for several years, but it is a great way to reconnect with Sinai Temple families, complete your registration via ShulCloud, sign up for Shabbat Rocks onegs and be part of the excitement and fun with the community. Finally, on August 20, we will have ImpactLife on site for a blood drive. So many activities – come for one or all!

Green Team

GREEN TEAM TIP

What is your favorite Sinai Temple Green Team activity? We certainly enjoyed our summer Yard Visit afternoon; since then, we've seen similar programs around town. Along with increasing the amount of native plantings, we're always seeking ways to incorporate waste reduction and reuse into our household and Sinai Temple routines. What is your favorite idea for reuse or repurposing? Would you like to go on tours similar to our Koss Family Farm/aquaponics tour? Send your ideas to Green Team Chair Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com.



Joe-Pye Weed anchors our pollinator area in the Neuman Garden



**Rae Spooner's verdant back yard.
(photo credit: Eileen Kohen)**



We toured the Koss Family Farm where lettuce and fish are produced in a greenhouse just 20 minutes away.



Green Team is ready to collect your recyclables in 2020!

Sinai Temple Announcements

Mi Shebeirach list

Sinai Temple maintains a Mi Shebeirach list, in order that we might lift up the names of those facing illness or hardship in our weekly healing prayers. This list has grown in the past year, and we are no longer certain that every name on it is current.

Starting with the first Shabbat after the High Holidays (Friday, Sept. 29), we will begin our Mi Shebeirach list anew. Rabbi Alan will maintain the list with the name of the individual, the name of the person who requested that they be added to the list, and the date that they were added to the list. Names will be removed from the list after one month (four Shabbatot), unless a specific request is made to maintain them. Thank you for your understanding.

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 **217-417-8699** 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.

August 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.

**August 13th:
The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich
Facilitator: Lil Levant**

RSVP's required by Friday, August 11th to nataliefre@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 May 16 to July 15, 2023

BUILDING FUND

Marshall & Karen Garrick
Sheryl Goldberg
Stacy & Jason Trager

FRIENDS of the RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Natalie Frankenberg in Memory of Alissa Eisenstein
and Brian Braun
Art & Marcia Siegel in Honor of Natalie
Frankenberg's upcoming birthday

GENERAL FUND

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle in Memory of
William Adelston
Sam & Judith Bernstein in Memory of Luda
Zharnitsky
Garth Gersten in Memory of Brian Braun
Elaine Katz in Honor of Steven Downie and Deborah
Katz-Downie Anniversary
Lilyan Levant in Memory of Rhoda Solomon Levant,
Scott Kozoll, & Gary Mason
Lois Meyer in Memory of Joyce Meyer
Richard Newman in Memory of Pearl Miller
Edward & Nancy Tepper in Memory of Brian Braun
Michael Vodkin in Memory of Eva Vodkin
Ira & Lynn Wachtel in Memory of Brian Braun
Paul & Linda Weichsel in Memory of Alissa Einstein

KITCHEN FUND

Marshall & Karen Garrick
Sheryl Goldberg
Richard Newman in Memory of Beverly Newman
Susan & Michael Roughton in Memory of Norma
Silverman Nathanson

LIBRARY FUND

Sue Brim in Memory of Dora Lovett Lapedes

MUSIC FUND

Natalie Frankenberg in Honor of Martha Alwes
Charles Kahn & Jennie France in Honor of Martha
Alwes
Judith & Richard Kaplan in Honor of Martha Alwes
Rob & Diane Ore in Honor of Martha Alwes
Edward & Nancy Tepper in Honor of Martha Alwes

PLAYGROUND FUND

Ted and Frona Kahn in Honor of the birthdays and
wedding anniversary of Yoni Kahn and Alison
Rosenblum

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ted and Frona Kahn with deepest thanks to Rabbi
Alan and family and the entire congregation

RENOVATION FUND

Paul and Susan Schomer in Honor of Natalie
Frankenberg

SECURITY FUND

Marshall & Karen Garrick
Sheryl Goldberg
Stacy & Jason Trager

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Natalie Frankenberg in Honor of Katherine Coyle
Art & Marcia Siegel in Memory of Dooley Ore

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Garth Gersten in Memory of Brian Braun

Sinai Temple Memorials for August 2023

Friday, August 4

Ruth Berkman (22 Av)

Edward Bruner (7 Aug)

Goldie Burack (11 Aug)

Rubin G. Cohn (6 Aug)

Justin Lilbert Cooke (7 Aug)

Jeanette Leavitt Davis (10 Aug)

Rose Hirsch Ducoff (7 Aug)

Simeon Grinshtein (11 Aug)

Harry J. Harrison (21 Av)

Solomon Alexander Klein (8 Aug)

Harry C. Loeb (9 Aug)

Lester Lowenstein (5 Aug)

Arnold L. Miller (8 Aug)

Joseph Mizrahi (7 Aug)

Herman Pincus (11 Aug)

Madelaine Reiss (19 Av)

Gordon Savran (24 Av)

Ray Spooner (8 Aug)

William Taylor (8 Aug)

Byron Weisbaum (11 Aug)

Friday, August 11

Sim N Avner (18 Aug)

Dena Braunstein Brandman (15 Aug)

Percida DelCarmen Chandia (12 Aug)

Gilbert Corman (14 Aug)

Dora Eggherman (1 Elu)

Bob Irwin Eisenstein (17 Aug)

Laura Eisenstein (14 Aug)

Joseph Farag (14 Aug)

Dvorah Leah Hamburg (12 Aug)

Irwin Raphael Konigsberg (26 Av)

Shmariahl Kopelevitch (1 Elu)

Minnie Lachman (14 Aug)

Henny Lewin (17 Aug)

Murray London (17 Aug)

Hyman Marco (17 Aug)

Myra Helman Schwartz (13 Aug)

Warren Stone (12 Aug)

Fannie Sudman (18 Aug)

Abe Weinberg (29 Av)

Friday, August 18

Simon Aprill (24 Aug)

Mollie G. Berg (21 Aug)

Lisa Anne Busjahn (25 Aug)

Norma Florine Deckard (24 Aug)

Sandra Mae Fromm (25 Aug)

Louis Gordon (23 Aug)

Anna Greenstein (25 Aug)

Florence Ethel Klein (22 Aug)

Morris Klein (20 Aug)

Samuel Klein (22 Aug)

Ida Borowsky Klorfine (22 Aug)

Ezra Levin (2 Elu)

Helen Levin (19 Aug)

Anne Linsider Melhado (7 Elu)

Paul Hyman Meyer (20 Aug)

Maurice Robert Morton (21 Aug)

Bernard Pass (22 Aug)

Charlotte Rutmann Rendelman (20 Aug)

Benjamin Telcser (7 Elu)

Michael Tepper (19 Aug)

Haviva Yairi (23 Aug)

Gertrude Rothberg Zveitel (22 Aug)

Isaac Zveitel (21 Aug)

Friday, August 25

Mary Adleman (26 Aug)

Henrietta F. Alpiner (29 Aug)

Harold Black (15 Elu)

William Wiley Deckard (26 Aug)

Howard Ducoff (28 Aug)

Anne L. Flagg (28 Aug)

Edwin L. Freudenstein (31 Aug)

Diane Kaufman (31 Aug)

Fannie Tepper Kohn (26 Aug)

Samuel Kranson (30 Aug)

Jacob Kurland (30 Aug)

Raphael Lemkin (28 Aug)

Malcom McKenzie McClure (30 Aug)

Estelle Nelson (28 Aug)

Arthur David Savran (14 Elu)

Abe L. Selicovitz (27 Aug)

Milton Shapiro (11 Elu)

Melvin Sherman (27 Aug)

Max Tepper (31 Aug)

Friday, September 1

John Boby (6 Sep)

John Joseph Boby (6 Sep)

Lester Burack (3 Sep)

Beatrice Cossman (3 Sep)

Loretta Dessen (4 Sep)

Dorothy Ferrer (20 Elu)

Joseph Freudenstein (4 Sep)

Florence Nagel Howard (2 Sep)

Jana Katz (8 Sep)

Jerry Levant (8 Sep)

Minnie Levin (3 Sep)

Blanche Loeb (8 Sep)

Sadye Zimmerman Marco (4 Sep)

Jennie Z. Mashkes (4 Sep)

Albert E. Rigberg (2 Sep)

Henrietta Schwartz (7 Sep)

William Sholem (4 Sep)

Yetta Silver (3 Sep)

Minnie Sosnoff (2 Sep)

Alpiner L. Stern (3 Sep)

Mildred Topolosky (2 Sep)