

May 2024

Bulletin



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

May 2024

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

May

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY, MAY 03

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service and
First Friday Dinner

FRIDAY, MAY 10

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, MAY 11

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service

FRIDAY, MAY 17

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

FRIDAY, MAY 24

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, MAY 25

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service

FRIDAY, MAY 31

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Sinai Temple Hosts Community Yom HaShoah Program

On Monday, May 6, at 7 PM, Sinai Temple is honored to welcome activist Terry Swartzberg speaking on *“Living Visibly and Joyously Jewish After the Shoah”*

Terry Swartzberg is a journalist and public affairs campaigner from Munich, Germany. For more than 25 years, he has been an active member of the Munich Jewish community, helping to establish its Reform synagogue. Terry is active in the Stolpersteine (stumbling-stone) movement, which places commemorative stones at places where Jews once lived and worked, and has worked tirelessly to overturn Munich’s ban on these stones. Since 2001, he has worn a kippah publicly in order to counter antisemitism and gauge Germans’ reactions. He has been lauded by the German government for his “civic courage,” and is recognized as “the force for a joyous, proactive and vigilant Judaism in Germany.”



Following the program, attendees are invited to the Davis Chapel for a light reception and an opportunity to view “Through Their Eyes,” presenting artwork and writing by local students, inspired by their study of the Shoah. This exhibit is curated by the Holocaust Education Committee of the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation.

Our program is generously supported by the Jack and Sadye Marco Fund of the Champaign Urbana Jewish Endowment Foundation.

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



I've had the pleasure during my career of working with a number of people who, having grown up in another faith tradition—or without any such tradition at all—have chosen to align themselves with the Jewish people. We celebrated the most recent such addition to our congregational family and community at our First Friday service in April.

There are any number of reasons why one might choose to engage in such study and pursue conversion. Sometimes a student is pursuing a heritage that has roots in their family's lineage, but has lain dormant for a generation or two. Some pursue this path because they are marrying into a Jewish family. Some find themselves on a theological quest, and appreciate progressive Judaism's encouragement of asking questions when their previous faith has been didactic and doctrinaire. And a number of students have expressed that they were inspired to join the Jewish community because, seeing our people facing adversity or challenges to our right to live and worship freely, they felt a sense of kinship and solidarity. When Schindler's List exposed a broader audience to the horrors of the Shoah, for instance, there was a spike in conversions to Judaism within the United States. In the moment in which we find ourselves currently, when the Antidefamation League (ADL) reports a significant rise in antisemitism, I find myself welcoming a large number of prospective students.

The traditional conversion ceremony outlined in Reform Jewish practice calls for prospective converts to be asked a series of questions. One such query essentially asks the students, "Do you really know what you're getting into?" (I'm paraphrasing). Being Jewish in this day and age is not easy, and we want to be certain that those who make this commitment come in with their eyes open to the challenges as well as to the rewards.

On Monday night, May 6, at 7 PM, Sinai Temple will invite the CU community to join in our annual commemoration of Yom HaShoah. We are honored to welcome activist Terry Swartzberg from Munich,

Germany. Terry is an exemplar of how to lead a Jewish life while remaining ever-cognizant of its challenges and rewards. Terry has been active in the Munich Jewish community, committed to living his Jewishness openly and proudly in a country where that is not often seen. Since 2021, he has been regularly wearing his kippah in interactions throughout Germany, and has been pleasantly surprised that his reception has been largely positive. Terry is also involved in the Stolpersteine (stumbling-stone) movement, which seeks to place sidewalk-level inscribed commemorative bricks in front of buildings where Jews once lived and worked. Terry will speak about both of these aspects of his activism. We are grateful to the Jack and Sadye Marco Fund of the Champaign Urbana Jewish Endowment Foundation for their generous support of this program.

Throughout the week of May 6, Sinai Temple will also host "Through Their Eyes" in the Davis chapel. This is an exhibit curated by the Holocaust Education Committee (HEC) of the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation, featuring artwork, poetry, and writing from area students, Jewish and non-Jewish, inspired by their in-school study of the Holocaust. We are grateful for the work of the HEC which works closely with schools throughout East Central Illinois to ensure that the state mandate for Holocaust and anti-hate education is taken seriously through quality and meaningful lessons featuring survivor testimony, artifacts, and other resources.

Shining a light on the lessons of the Shoah and working to combat antisemitism and other forms of hate is a challenging part of Jewish existence in the 21st century. But by keeping such topics at the forefront, we attune others to the richness of our tradition and heritage, and help to ensure its vibrancy for future generations.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

From President Lil Levant

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation (and Brunch) on Sunday, May 19.

New this year, we'll kick off our meeting with a delicious brunch! Brunch will be served at 11 am, at no charge to our members, but **RSVPs are required**. Please RSVP in ShulCloud via <https://sinaitemplecu.shulcloud.com/form/annual-meeting-2024-brunch> or by calling the office, no later than May 9.

The Annual Meeting will begin promptly at noon, immediately following brunch.

A full agenda will be distributed at the meeting; topics will include:

- Approval of the proposed slate of Board Officers and Trustees
- Discussion of the budget
- Proposed increase in member's security assessment, to address the times in which we are living

We hope to have a robust discussion on these and other important issues. I sincerely hope you will be able to attend this important meeting.

Materials for the meeting, including the FY24-25 Budget, will be emailed to you no later than May 9. Limited printed copies will be available at the meeting.

Your membership payments are due now PLEASE.

Thank you again to our members for your very generous and continued support of Sinai Temple. To those of you who still have an outstanding pledge commitment, we would very much appreciate your payment as soon as possible before the end of our fiscal year on June 30. There are also some members, not many, who have not yet pledged or made a financial commitment to Sinai Temple this year. Our goal is to have every member be a member in good standing by June 30.

To remind you, membership dues are the primary and most significant source of revenue for the Temple. We rely on your generosity to maintain our programming, operational costs, and staffing. Membership dues are optimally 2% of your household income.

You can make your payment directly in your ShulCloud account. Or if you need assistance, please contact the Temple office.

Take good care,

Lil



Mazal tov to Ira Lebensohn, who will be called to the Torah at Illini Chabad in honor of his "second Bar Mitzvah."

Mazal tov to Jessica and Ben LeRoy, who welcomed Noah Otto LeRoy on March 28. Noah joins proud big sister Alex. Noah's grandparents are temple members Janet and Michael LeRoy, and Marcia and Jay Zinger.

Green Team and Events

Green Team Tip

A sunny Sunday morning on the Sudman Patio of Sinai Temple was the perfect setting to share the bounty of our perennial gardens! Several people brought a variety of plants, and throughout the morning people stopped by to choose their plants, with expert advice from Green Team member and Master Naturalist Kathryn Weisbaum. At the end of the morning, all the plants found new homes.

If you missed this opportunity and want us to schedule another plant swap, email our Green Team Divide & Conquer organizer Marcey Goldstein at marcey.goldstein@gmail.com. If we get enough requests, we'll do it again!



Sinai Temple Tikkun Olam Committee

Thank you, Sinai Temple Community, for your ongoing support for the Food & More Food Pantry, an interfaith nonprofit our temple belongs to. This year, the pantry has seen a drop in donations from some sources, plus an overall increase in costs due to inflation. The Pantry likes to add a few households every year, if it has the resources to do so, and there is always a waiting list. The end of federal COVID SNAP benefits this year means that our neighbors who experience food insecurity are relying on the pantry more than ever.

Please consider donating (use link below) to keep this great program going strong. The Sinai Temple Tikkun Olam Committee would like to offer a matching challenge: it will match the first \$500 donated in 2024! Thank you for your support!

- Please click the link below.
(It goes to the First Presbyterian Church of Urbana website, where our funds are managed.) Sign in is not required.
- Be sure to select "Recurring" or "One-Time" donation.
- Click the arrow in the "Fund" drop-down box (left), and select "Food Pantry."
- Type "Sinai Temple" in the middle "Note" box. (This ensures we get credit for the donation.)
- Enter the amount you'd like to donate in the "Amount" box (right).
- Select your form of payment, enter your info., and click "Submit."

<https://my.simplegive.com/App/Giving/URBANAConv>

Questions? Contact Katherine Coyle, Tikkun Olam Committee



Sinai Temple Announcements

Host an Oneg!

"Oneg Shabbat" means "Enjoyment of Shabbat," and refers to the reception following services. Sinai Temple congregants are encouraged to help provide onegs, which may be as simple or elaborate as you wish-- challah, cookies, cakes, fruit, cheese and crackers, or other treats give us a chance to enjoy a light snack following services and visit with friends.

To see the calendar and sign up for a date to provide an oneg

<https://sinaitemplecu.org/OnegSignup>

or use your phone to scan the QR Code!



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 email at jessicakopolow@yahoo.com or by phone at 217-417-8699.

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

May Book Group

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

During May, we will meet the 3rd Sunday because of Mother's Day.

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.

May 19:

Circe

by Madeline Miller

Facilitator: Justin Aronoff

RSVP's required by Friday, May 17 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 March 16, 2024, to April 15, 2024

BUILDING FUND

Diane Gottheil
Michael Parrish
Jenny Schwartzberg & Dennis Wilson
Audrey Thompson & Matthew Goldman

FRIENDS OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Norman & Andrea Klein in Honor of the engagement of
Rabbi Sam Klein and Elana Tobin
Norman & Andrea Klein in Memory of Tauby Shimkin,
Barbara Orden, Eva Neuman, Charles Kozoll,
Elizabeth Glaser, and Marianna Choldin
Valerie Munson in Honor of Noah Otto LeRoy

GENERAL FUND

Lee Feldman
Paula Kaufman
Lawrence & Karen Konick in Memory of Tauby
Shimkin
Gayle & Ira Kopin in Memory of Eli and Bebbe Mandel
Rob & Diane Ore in Memory of Tauby Shimkin
Susan & Paul Schomer in Memory of Tauby Shimkin
Carmen Ugarte in Memory of Tauby Shimkin
James Whisenand in Memory of Tauby Shimkin
Marcia and Jay Zinger in Honor of Noah Otto LeRoy

KITCHEN FUND

Diane Gottheil
Michael Parrish
Rae Spooner in Honor of those who were Shomrim and
attended Shiva for Tauby Shimkin
Audrey Thompson & Matthew Goldman

MLK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Diane Gottheil

MUSIC FUND

Ira & Cecile Levenson in Memory of Tauby Shimkin

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Frances & Mitchell Harris in Memory of Tauby Shimkin
Rabbi Samantha Shabman in appreciation of the Purim
shpiel
Rae Spooner

SAFETY & SECURITY FUND

Diane Gottheil
Michael Parrish
Arthur & Marcia Siegel
Audrey Thompson & Matthew Goldman

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Ann Einhorn in Memory of Tauby Shimkin and Eva
Blum
Natalie Frankenberg in Memory of Tauby Shimkin

Sinai Temple Memorials for May 2024

Friday, May 03	William Adelston (09 May) Laura Moore Avner (04 May) Henrietta N. Bloomfield (07 May) Sergei Butman (08 May) Bertha Craven (05 May) Beverly J. Cronin (04 May) Edward Dessen (29 Nis) Elizabeth Dybinskaya (10 May) Dorothy Diamond Ehrich (1 Iyya) Carolyn Kuhn Feffer (07 May) Jewel Friedman (07 May) Abraham Gerald Ginsberg (05 May)	Donald M. Ginsberg (07 May) Morton S. Glaser (08 May) Abraham Goldberg (06 May) William Arthur Graff (06 May) Jack R. Green (06 May) Albert Grosz (1 Iyya) Daniel Leon Harlib (29 Nis) Ginger Aplon Kuper (06 May) Hyman Kurtz (09 May) Florine Lesht (28 Nis) Sara Lewis (08 May) Simon Litman (07 May) Mariane Tager Melnikoff (08 May)	Pearl Miller (10 May) Horace Naigles (04 May) Mary Ann Nathan (29 Nis) Sarah Braudes Olefsky (07 May) Edith Pincus (04 May) Gertrude Pollack (10 May) Harry Prashker (09 May) Sidney P. Radeloff (09 May) Ida Reider (30 Nis) Phillip Craig Rodkin (06 May) Lee E. Roland (10 May) Norman Stanley Rosenzweg (04 May)	Lillian Sherman (06 May) Naomi M. Siegel (04 May) Marvin Silver (04 May) Rochelle Silver (06 May) Norma Silverman Nathanson (07 May) Pauline Evenson Tager (05 May) Manie Tepper (05 May) Herman Edward Waisvisz (09 May) David Westel Wax (05 May)
Friday, May 10	Samuel Agran (12 May) Annamarie Mattoon Baker (13 May) Ruth B. Barker (17 May) Barbara Ann Berg (17 May) Henry Jacob Blum (16 May) Leah Cohen Bojar (7 Iyya) Misha Bursztyn (4 Iyya) Doris Denburg (11 May) Marvin Dubin (17 May)	Della Faiman (9 Iyya) Marianne Ferber (11 May) Herbert E. Francisco (11 May) Agha-Jan Gahvari (11 May) Morris Garfinkel (17 May) Becky Glaser (11 May) Dara Goldman (13 May) Alice Grossman (17 May) Mira Hamburg (16 May) Sarah Gofseyeff Heller (6 Iyya)	Jewell D Janoff (17 May) Armin H. Koller (17 May) Ernest W. Lane (12 May) Harry David Levenson (12 May) Samuel Lenik (11 May) Harriette Lewin (13 May) Adele Lipson (15 May) Sadye Morton (13 May) Jacob Royce Nathan (16 May) Beverly Newman (11 May)	William Edward Perkel (12 May) Bernard Regardie Perry (12 May) Jeff Max Scher (15 May) Paul Shoenberg (16 May) Rose Siegel (15 May) Lillian G. Stauffer (11 May) Martin J. Steiner (13 May) Amelia Alpiner Stern (12 May) Josephine Marie Weinstock (12 May)
Friday, May 17	Philip Aronson (24 May) Sol Averbuch (22 May) David Ralph Berkson (24 May) Abe Blockman (21 May) Doris Sweital Brody (23 May) Albert Cohen-Arazi (23 May) Jules Danowitz (18 May) Edyth Ellen Furrh (23 May)	Frank Helman (22 May) Mildred Hirshenson (18 May) Mildred Hochman (23 May) James Rudolph Jones (18 May) Lila Ziven Katz (22 May) Michael Khamarmer (19 May) Florence Haff Messias (21 May) George Miller (21 May)	Rose Lipman Rigberg (24 May) Barak Rosenshine (22 May) Jack Rothenberg (18 May) Harold Morris Schomer (21 May) Myron J. Sholem (19 May) Flora Sholem (22 May) Minnie Stern (23 May) Blanche Berland Sudman (24 May)	Robert Arlen Swartz (23 May) Lewis Tanner (19 May) David Jacob Waisvisz (21 May) Lois Wax (18 May) Jerry A. Weisbach (24 May) Marjorie Katz Weiser (19 May) Rose Weissler (22 May) Morris Zimmerman (21 May)
Friday, May 24	Susan Linowes Allen (29 May) Pauline Brooks (30 May) Addie Bernstein Cohen (25 May) Zelda Trenner Derber (30 May) Sonia Doppelt (20 Iyy) Harriett Feldman (29 May) Kitty Weingrow Greenhaus (26 May) Bessie S. Greenspon (29 May) Yana Grinberg (20 Iyy) Pearle Gruenstein (27 May) Rhunette Haywood (29 May)	Lucille Koenigsberg (30 May) Ida Krieger (30 May) Mary Aberle Levin (30 May) Rachel Lewis (26 May) Wynn Mason (26 May) Elizabeth Meyers (25 May) Ethel Lydia Olson (26 May) Nancy Oyler (29 May) George Perlstein (26 May) Martin Pierce (29 May) Maxine Pombert (28 May)	Grigory Privin (28 May) Sarah Savran (30 May) Michael Shmikler (31 May) Marie Simon Simonson (29 May) Reuben Sonshine (29 May) Moses Guy Soskin (25 May) Jacqueline Stolkin (25 May) Albert Sunshine (30 May) Nancy Weinberg (30 May) Sophie Weinberg (22 Iyy) Emilio Weiss (30 May)	
Friday, May 31	Trudy Averbuch (02 Jun) Mary Brotherson (06 Jun) William Chiarelli (01 Jun) Polina Eydelman-Dybinskaya (02 Jun) Burton H. Fagan (04 Jun) Seymour Ferdman (29 Iyy) Harriet Gant (01 Jun) David Herman (29 Iyy) Ethel Herman (29 Iyy) Lidiya Kocherginskaya (01 Jun)	Katherine Schlesinger Koller (01 Jun) Alvin Konick (05 Jun) Stephen Kotok (02 Jun) Gertrude Kushner (01 Jun) Marsha Levine (07 Jun) Ida Libman (05 Jun) Doris Manaster (01 Jun) Michael Mashkes (07 Jun) Molly Mayorwitz (06 Jun) Samuel Meyerson (01 Jun)	Hortense (Moritz) Mischakoff (02 Jun) Ruby Carol Ginsberg Miskie (01 Jun) Esther S. Mittleman (01 Jun) Abraham L. Rosenfield (04 Jun) Marion Sherman (02 Jun) Rose Simon (01 Jun) Hyman F. Simonson (03 Jun) Alfred Smith (06 Jun) Frank Teitelbaum (06 Jun) William D. Wilson (06 Jun)	

Bulletin Submission: The deadline for the June Bulletin is May 15. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Gary Bernstein at stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org