

October 2024

Bulletin



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

0

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



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, OCT 2

7:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

THURSDAY, OCT 3 (ROSH HASHANAH)

9:00 AM 1st Day ETM Service

10:00 AM Reform Service

and Jewnior Congregation

2:30 PM Children & Family Service

4:30 PM Tashlich at Maynard Lake

FRIDAY, OCT 4 (ROSH HASHANAH)

9:00 AM 2nd Day ETM Service

4:00 PM Shofar Experience at Carle Park

7:30 PM Shabbat Shuva Service

Note: There is no First Friday Dinner in October

SUNDAY, OCT 6

7:00 PM October 7th Commemorative Program

FRIDAY, OCT 11 (YOM KIPPUR)

6:00 PM ETM Kol Nidre Service

7:30 PM Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) Reform Service

SATURDAY, OCT 12 (YOM KIPPUR)

9:00 AM ETM Service with Yizkor

10:00 AM Reform Morning Service
and Jewnior Congregation

1:30 PM Yom Kippur Study Service

2:30 PM Children & Family Service

4:00 PM Reform Neilah and Yizkor

5:00 PM ETM Mincha and Neilah

WEDNESDAY, OCT 16

5:30 PM Sukkot Dinner and Program

THURSDAY, OCT 17

10:00 AM ETM Sukkot Service

FRIDAY, OCT 18

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

THURSDAY, OCT 24

10:00 AM ETM Shemini Atzeret Service

5:30 PM Simchat Torah Pizza Dinner

FRIDAY, OCT 25

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, NOV 1

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service and First Friday Dinner

SATURDAY, NOV 2

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



Many of you know that I “collect” interesting facts. At least, I find them interesting, but I suppose beauty is in the eye of the beholder!

I recently learned that in the United Kingdom,

where Value Added Tax (VAT) is charged on luxury goods, frequently the distinctions between a necessity and a luxury are difficult to discern and may feel arbitrary. This is most evident when it comes to foods: snack foods, chips, carbonated beverages, and the like are deemed to be luxuries and have VAT added to them, while more nutritionally dense foods do not. With baked goods, there is evidently an even finer line, wherein the percentage of sugar in the item determines whether or not it is subject to VAT.

Here is where my newfound piece of trivia comes in: because of this dividing line determined by sugar content, one may purchase a gingerbread cookie that has only eyes as its decoration, and pay a certain price. But, if the gingerbread person is adorned with a smile and other features, it will cost you an additional 20% in VAT, because the additional icing qualifies it as a “luxury.”

In our own lives, we can't afford to dismiss smiling, and happiness as luxuries. We should

strive to find regular opportunities to appreciate the world around us and imbue our lives with joy. To be sure, we know that our human existence is occasionally taxed by worries. We may feel anxiety about unknown paths that lie before us, upset about the constant instances of human cruelty that unfold within our society, concern for loved ones who face illness or hardship. But to experience joy, to exert a bit more of ourselves to bring light and elation to a dark corner of our world, does not require that we shut ourselves off from the sometimes unhappy realities that we witness.

Life is a series of balancing acts. We pray that the sweet times will, in the final analysis, outweigh the sad ones. We hope that the support of family and community can help us navigate through the challenges we do encounter.

Therefore, when we have the opportunity, let's spring for the cookie every now and then. And in this New Year 5785, let us strive toward the luxury of greeting each moment with a smile.

I wish you and your family a Shanah Tovah U'Mt'ukah, a sweet and happy new year.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook



Marking One Year

On Sunday evening, October 6, all in the CU Jewish community are invited to a program of reflection and commemoration as we mark the first anniversary of October 7. The program will be held at Sinai Temple. Doors will open at 6:30 PM; program begins at 7:00 PM.

From President Lil Levant

As we approach the High Holidays, many of us seek comfort and reflection. Recently, I delved into “Amid the Alien Corn” once again. It is a compelling chronicle of Sinai Temple's first century. As we now mark Sinai Temple's 120th anniversary, the insights from this book resonate more than ever, highlighting how our community and society have evolved over time.

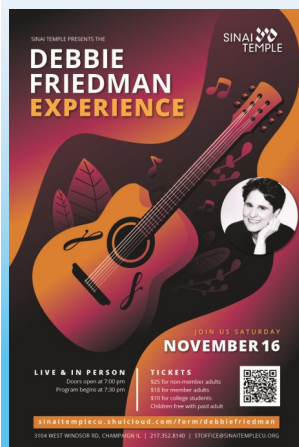
An item about Isaac Kuhn, a pivotal figure at Sinai Temple, is particularly striking. Kuhn's father, Joseph Kuhn, as you are most likely aware, was one of our founders, and among the first Jews to settle in Champaign-Urbana. Isaac, served as Temple President from 1926 until 1934. On the side, he continued to play a large role in running the family clothing business. But notably Isaac was also a staunch advocate for democratic values and free enterprise. His 1946 book on his hero, Abraham Lincoln, reflects his belief in democracy's promise and the responsibility it entails. Kuhn wrote, “Democracy meant and means that the American future is in our hands. The spirit of Lincoln can be our guide. It is our obligation and privilege to shape that future in his spirit.” Well said, Isaac!

These words underscore a timeless truth that is strikingly relevant now: our democratic ideals and communal values are interwoven with our identity and purpose. At Sinai Temple, we have long embraced principles of democracy, the strength of our diverse community, acceptance of one another despite our differences, and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world). In these very uncertain and stressful times, these principles offer solace and direction.

As we reflect on these values during the High Holidays, it is also a time for action. Many of us are engaged in writing postcards, knocking on doors, and making phone calls to ensure our democracy prevails. This season calls not only for introspection but for active participation in shaping our future. By engaging in these efforts, we honor the legacy of leaders like Kuhn and continue Sinai Temple's tradition of civic engagement and communal support. Now is the time to reaffirm our commitment to justice and democratic ideals and to make a tangible difference in our community and beyond.

Take good care
Lil

The Debbie Friedman Experience Saturday, November 16



Save the Date! Saturday evening, November 16, Sinai Temple will host **The Debbie Friedman Experience live in concert!** In the 1970s, Debbie Friedman helped to transform Jewish music by applying folk melodies to classic texts. Since her passing in 2011, her legacy has continued to resonate, with her compositions heard in worship throughout the Jewish world. This special concert unites her original band members with acclaimed Jewish musician Shira Kline to share Debbie's melodies and explore her lasting impact.

Tickets will be \$18 for Sinai members, \$25 for non-members, and \$10 for college students. Children in high school or younger will be admitted free with a paying adult. For tickets: Scan the QR Code or go to <https://sinaitemplecu.shulcloud.com/form/debbiefriedman.html>



From Board of Trustees

Sinai Temple Board of Trustees

Septemember 09, 2024

Summary of Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting

Attendance: Richard Akresh, Justin Aronoff, Andy Bernstein, Sam Bernstein, Rabbi Jody Cook (ex-officio), Shari Fox, Ben LeRoy, Mariel Middlebrook, Michael Parrish, Amy Roady, Art Siegel, Audrey Thompson, Stacy Trager.

Staff: Gary Bernstein

Absent: Sarah Bleill, Rabbi Alan Cook (ex-officio), Lil Levant, Julia Rietz, Bob Smith

Amy Roady called the meeting to order at 7:00

- The Board discussed responsibilities for greeters and parking assistants at High Holiday Services. We also discussed efforts to secure membership pledges from congregants.
- The Board unanimously approved the minutes of its meeting on August 12 following a motion by Michael Parrish, seconded by Stacy Trager.
- Rabbi Jody presented a report on Religious School, which starts on September 15. All students from last year returned along with a few new families. There is a confirmation class this year.
- The Board approved new membership applications from three households following a motion by Shari Fox that was seconded by Andy Bernstein. We welcome Sophia and Yoni Segev; Rabbi Gabriel Miner and Rachelle Grossman; and Avital Livny
- Gary Bernstein presented the administrator's report and discussed preparations for High Holidays, plans for the Sukkah build, and implementation of background checks and sexual harassment prevention training for all employees.
- The Board reviewed reports from the treasurer, financial secretary, and membership committee, chaired by Amy Roady, Vice President. Amy reminded the Board that there will be a brunch for new members on September 22.
- Art Siegel updated the Board on the solar energy project. Work will begin in mid-October. The Board approved an allocation of funds for related payments to be made as we continue to collect loaned and donated funds from congregants.
- Amy Roady reported on a successful Labor of Love event. The Board expressed its appreciation to Sanford Hess for leading the event this year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22.

Submitted by Shari Fox, Secretary

Green Team and Events

Solar at Sinai

We will have Solar at Sinai by the end of October! Route 66 Solar will start installing our 300-panel solar array on October 14, 2024, immediately after Yom Kippur. The solar panels will be delivered on October 28, just after we remove the Sukkah. If the weather cooperates, the construction will be complete by Nov. 1.

Thanks to the generosity of Sinai Temple members, we have most of the funding in place for the upfront costs. We are still seeking a limited number of loans, and donations in any amount are always welcome. We will be happy to answer your questions. Contact Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com, or Art Siegel at building@sinaitemplecu.org, or Bob Smith (of Champaign) at elboco@comcast.net for more information.



Update on Historical Archives

Our cup overfloweth. We had paper. Lots of paper. Boxes in the garage, boxes in the attic, boxes in the copier room. With the loan of a classroom from Rabbi Jody and muscles from Art Siegel and the Building Committee, we centralized them in a classroom. We sorted. We invited in the U of I's East Central Illinois Jewish Archives to add them to their existing related collections where they will be organized and available to anyone who wants to see them. They took a large amount of material. The financial files had to be sorted (old checks, bank statements, donations, bills). In addition, we sent 22 boxes and two garbage bags of materials to be shredded.

The Archives are now working on processing a huge batch of Temple Bulletins, Annual Reports, Board Meeting Minutes, etc., etc., etc. Gary Bernstein is working with them, and with a group dedicated to archiving online material.

We still have about 30 linear feet of music. We're not sure what to do about that. But we will figure it out.

If you have things at home that might belong in the archives, please bring them to Temple. We are *gluttons for punishment*, happy to sort through them.



Thank you to our Labor of Love volunteers!

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who helped prepare and clean our physical spaces ahead of the High Holiday!

Volunteers included: **Alice Berkson; Laura and Sarah Bleill; Leia, Cammie, and Ivy Flure; Robin Goettel; Marcey Goldstein; Sanford Hess; Sarah Kwilecki; Wynne Korr; Judy Lachman; Lil Levant; Amy and Jake Roady; Jill and Randy Rosenbaum; Jenny Schwartzberg; Emile and Leon Schwartzberg-Wilson; and Dennis Wilson**

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 as 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.



October 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.

**October 13:
Dinners with Ruth
by Nina Totenberg**

RSVP's required by Friday, October 11 to nataliefr@comcast.net

*We will be choosing New Books
at the October 13 meeting!*

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 August 16, 2024, to September 15, 2024

ALPINE STERN FLOWER FUND

Gary & Tonya Bernstein in Memory of
Annette Bernstein

BUILDING FUND

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle
Mari & Joseph Altshuler
Carl & Carol Belber
Gary & Tonya Bernstein
in Memory of Ken Spector
Terre Braun
Joshua Camins & Unnati Narang
Erez & Dana Cohen
Shira & Dan Epstein
Mitch & Kim Fisher
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Melissa Frydman
Miriam (Mimi) Greenberg-Boby
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Faye Lesht
Lilyan Levant
in Memory of Ken Spector
Emily Levin
Avital Livny
Richard Pikowsky
Carrie Schaffner
Pete & Cyndi Smyser
Marc & Avigail Snir
Rae Spooner
William & Fran Strauss
Stacy & Jason Trager

CONDOLENCE FUND

Marcia and Jay Zinger
in Memory of Barbara Brown

GENERAL FUND

Lotan Band & Candace Garland
David Berkson & Reut Halevy-Berkson
Samuel & Judith Bernstein
in Memory of Ken Spector
Lee Feldman
Paula Kaufman
Jennifer & Melanie Pridemore

KITCHEN FUND

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle
Mari & Joseph Altshuler
Carl & Carol Belber
Gary & Tonya Bernstein
Laura & Anthony Bleill
Terre Braun
Joshua Camins & Unnati Narang
Shira & Dan Epstein
Robert & Patricia Ferrer
Mitch & Kim Fisher
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Melissa Frydman
Miriam (Mimi) Greenberg-Boby
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Faye Lesht
Emily Levin
Avital Livny
Carrie Schaffner
Marc & Avigail Snir
Rae Spooner
Stacy & Jason Trager

MUSIC FUND

Stephen Downie & Deborah Katz-
Downie in Honor of Julia and Gene
Robinson

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Larry Adelston & Katherine Coyle
in Memory of Curtis Coyle
Mari & Joseph Altshuler
Carl & Carol Belber
Gary & Tonya Bernstein
Laura & Anthony Bleill
Terre Braun
Joshua Camins & Unnati Narang
Erez & Dana Cohen
Shira & Dan Epstein
Robert & Patricia Ferrer
Mitch & Kim Fisher
Nathaniel & Eliza Forsythe
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Melissa Frydman
Miriam (Mimi) Greenberg-Boby
Ben & Michelle Hankin
Faye Lesht
Emily Levin
Avital Livny
Richard Pikowsky
Carrie Schaffner
Marc & Avigail Snir
Rae Spooner
William & Fran Strauss
Stacy & Jason Trager

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Myrna Goldman
in Honor of Alex Scheeline and
Alice Berkson
Arielle & Russell Weinstein

Solar At Sinai

The Solar at Sinai Fund received generous and timely donations and loans from Sinai Temple members beginning in mid-summer 2024. We plan to list the supporters in a future Sinai Temple Bulletin, and further recognize them at a celebration of our solar array installation in 2025

Sinai Temple Memorials for October 2024

Friday, Oct. 04

Alejandro Victor Medina Abulafia (3 Tish) Dr. Richard Back (05 Oct) Mathilde Back (05 Oct) Fela Bankier (05 Oct) Jayne Barnett (06 Oct) Morris B. Berenbaum (11 Oct) Howard D. Cannon (07 Oct) Steve Davidson (11 Oct) Minnie Horwitz Fox (07 Oct) Harry Friedman (07 Oct) Leon Glattstein (11 Oct) Sylvia Gordon (11 Oct) Bette Green (09 Oct)	Merle Garber Hamburg (06 Oct) Jack Kemp (11 Oct) Max Kushner (09 Oct) Marvin N. Lesht (5 Tish) Isadore Jack Levy (07 Oct) Rachel Frank Litman (10 Oct) Dorothy Lowenstein (05 Oct) Aaron Edward Markoff (11 Oct) Richard Newman (08 Oct) Leah Norian (07 Oct) David Adam O'Connor-Shoresman (10 Oct) Emily Sara Peterman (06 Oct) Dovid Piesner (07 Oct)	Charles S. Prince (08 Oct) Louis Roddis (7 Tish) Norma Rosenberg (05 Oct) Gertrude Rudick (06 Oct) Mildred K Saks (10 Oct) Henry Sapoznik (07 Oct) David Sherman (07 Oct) Abraham Simon (07 Oct) Ida Spatt (10 Oct) June Wolbach (11 Oct) William Martin Youngerman (08 Oct)
---	--	--

Friday, Oct. 11

Gertrude Bach (12 Oct) Morris Berg (13 Oct) Milton Stephen Cohen (17 Oct) Harold Jay Cohen (17 Oct) Sidney Davidson (12 Oct) Alison Leah Eastman (15 Oct) Pearl Tepper Feldman (15 Oct) Alvin Friedman (13 Tis) Rita Glattstein (18 Oct) Bonnie Gordon (17 Oct) Eva Gotfried (15 Oct) David Z. Hamburg (13 Oct) LaVerne Hearing (13 Oct)	Hildegard Heumann (17 Oct) Frederick H. Kanfer (18 Oct) Edmund Karp (15 Oct) Friedrich Katz (16 Oct) Max R. Klein (12 Oct) Marilyn Langlotz (16 Oct) Mary Linder (17 Oct) Miriam Lipson (15 Oct) Mortimer Menaker (17 Oct) Sol Orden (12 Tis) Harry Pikowsky (18 Oct) Dorothy Resneck (12 Oct) Arthur Robinson (16 Oct)	Joseph Rotman (16 Oct) Sophie Schulman (16 Tis) Samuel Meyer Schwartz (16 Oct) Ronald Senoff (12 Tis) Bernard Sharp (13 Oct) Gilbert Shmikler (14 Oct) Ivens Siegel (14 Oct) Mildred Simon (17 Oct) Jason C. Stone (14 Oct) John Walter (14 Tis) Baruch Yairi (10 Tis)
--	---	--

Friday, Oct. 18

Anne Corman (22 Oct) Arron Fagelson (19 Oct) Louis Ferratier (23 Tis) Lucie M. Field (24 Oct) George Frank (25 Oct) Lester Frankenberg (23 Oct) Jean R. Goldsteen (23 Oct) Robert E. Green (20 Oct) Richard Greenberg (25 Oct) Frederic Cople Jaher (20 Oct) Jeffrey Paul Kaufman (17 Tis)	Eleanor Banks Kawin (22 Oct) Leroy Kopolow (21 Oct) Myra Kopolow (25 Oct) Nathan Lieberman (21 Oct) Elaine Markell (24 Oct) Daniel Mashkes (22 Oct) Marcus Alexander Orlove (25 Oct) Florence Starobin Reyman (21 Oct) Robert Rosenbaum (19 Oct) Ely Rotman (25 Oct) Henrietta Israel Schwartz (22 Oct)	Edith Westel Schwartz (24 Oct) Judith Seligman (19 Oct) Samuel B. Seligman (23 Tis) Sylvia Levin Silver (22 Oct) Victor Stolarsky (19 Oct) Jon Martin Swartz (24 Oct) Herman Sweital (24 Oct) Allen Taylor (19 Oct) Edward Weinbaum (19 Oct) Eugene H. Wollstein (23 Oct)
--	---	--

Friday, Oct. 25

Miriam Cornman Ampolsk (27 Oct) Paltiel Bach (28 Oct) Helen Yedwal Berenbaum (28 Oct) John Berry II (31 Oct) Jacob Bower (01 Nov) Bernice Cohen (28 Oct) Jeannetta S. Cohen (01 Nov) Joli Ginsberg (29 Oct) Kurt Gottschalk (26 Oct) Nathan Gullan (28 Oct) Ann Gullan (30 Oct)	Joyce Hall (26 Oct) Libby Halpern (27 Oct) Esther Cohen Hays (30 Oct) Sara Kuhn Kaufman (27 Oct) Myron Korry (26 Oct) Fannie Kurland (30 Oct) Audrey Libman Leavitt (01 Nov) Nathan Meyerson (26 Oct) Boris Mirensky (26 Oct) Michael Neuwirth (31 Oct) Bernard Press (29 Oct)	David Rabin (26 Oct) Lee Reineberg (31 Oct) Sidney Rosen (27 Oct) Suzanne Shapiro (01 Nov) Ilsie Shure (30 Oct) Larry E. Skinner (31 Oct) Morris Solomon (30 Oct) George Allan Swartz (27 Oct) Richard Weinberg (30 Oct) Hannah Libman Weiner (31 Oct)
---	--	---

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