



# Sinai Temple Bulletin

*Take Back Your Time:  
Rediscover Shabbat*

*May / June 2014  
Iyar – Tammuz 5774*

## **For Your Consideration**

*Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro*

Thank you! The first words that come to mind when I think about our Celebrate Today/Create Tomorrow campaign are thank you.

You, the members of Sinai Temple, have been so generous during this campaign. When it already costs a great deal to belong to the Temple on an annual basis, so many of you have stepped forward to make your commitment even larger with a campaign gift. You've clearly understood that the congregation was approaching a budgetary crisis one year from now, and you have said you didn't want that to happen. So you have pledged gifts that were meaningful for each of you and you have actually helped us exceed our campaign goal.

Thank you for your devotion to the congregation.

Thank you for providing the funding that will give us the time we need to return to the drawing board and plan for Sinai Temple's future.

This is important because there is something so meaningful about what the Temple does. To be honest, a lot of congregants don't exactly drop by on a regular basis. Choose a Shabbat and you're guaranteed to find empty seats in the sanctuary. Nevertheless, I know you believe something significant takes place here.

Last year I heard the message in a series of coffees I conducted for Baby Boomers. I still recall the way people described the synagogue. They said, "The Temple is an anchor. The Temple is a community with an extra dimension. It's not just a place where lots of Jews hang out; the Temple is the place where we come in touch with the big questions of life. It's the place where life and death and meaning and purpose are in the air."

You could say that, without even mentioning these mega issues, the synagogue has an aura. Simply entering the building brings to mind ultimate concerns. We consider ideas here that are not discussed anywhere else. There is something "supercharged" about the synagogue.

Friends, we have an exciting May and June ahead of us. We also have an exciting long range future ahead. I am so thankful for your belief in Sinai. I now look forward to exploring what Sinai can mean for you in the years ahead.

Synagogues do have an "aura." Sinai can be a "supercharged" place.

Join me as we continue to refine and build the future of this very "super" congregation.

## **Friday Evenings May 2014**

**May 2 at 6 p.m.**

Kabbalat Shabbat Honoring our Teachers  
We will honor our teachers – preceded by a memorial for Israel's fallen soldiers created by Daniel Inbar, our Israeli Emissary.

**May 9 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Service  
Take back your time. Refresh.

**May 16 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Service  
Honoring new members. Honoring High School seniors. With an aufruf for Jeff Cossin and Karen Mendelsohn.

**May 23 at 6 p.m.**

Tot Shabbat for families with children under five years of age.

**May 23 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Service  
Happy Long Weekend and Shabbat Shalom

**May 30 at 7:30 p.m.**

Make music; make happy. Celebrate Shabbat

## **Friday Evenings June 2014**

**June 6 at 7:30 p.m.**

CONFIRMATION SERVICE  
Honor our finest High School students. Terrific Tenth Graders on the bimah. With special recognition of the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

**June 13 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Shalom – with special recognition for youngsters going off to Jewish camp this summer.

**June 20 at 6 p.m.**

Tot Shabbat for families with children under five years of age.

**June 20 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Service  
Celebrating Sinai's successful fundraising campaign PLUS Installation Service for incoming Temple Leadership.

**June 27 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Service  
Look at the weekly Torah portion.

*Continued on page 2*

## Message from Jeff Cossin

### Temple President

As of April 11, 2014, I am thrilled to announce that our Celebrate Today... Create Tomorrow Campaign is a complete success! We have had a large number of congregant donors participate in this campaign. This has been one of our goals all along. Of course the contributions are important for the long term health of Sinai Temple but the involvement of the larger Sinai community proves that the Campaign was a worthwhile endeavor. The original goal of the Sinai 2015 Planning Group was to develop a plan to keep us financially healthy beyond June of 2015. That has been accomplished but we will not stop with the end of the financial campaign. We are now challenged with an historic opportunity to "Create Tomorrow" for Sinai Temple, the Greater Jewish Community, and the generations which follow the Baby Boomers. I am very happy to announce that former president Mark Stone will be chairing the "Long Range Planning Committee" and I expect exciting results from his committee.

I want to thank Ruth Weiss, David Katz, Peggy Grodd, Seth Roberts, Robyn Newhouse and Susan Cash Cannizzo for their tireless efforts in carrying out this Campaign. Special Kudos to former president Steve Sussman who has been the administrative coordinator of the Campaign and to Rabbi Shapiro. Their relentless attention to detail has been invaluable and has allowed the Campaign to be carried out without having to hire a special outside Fundraising Consultant.

Now for me! You probably have heard by now that our Membership Chairperson, Karen Mendelsohn and I are getting married. The English component of our Ketubah will say in part, " May we always share these blessings with our family and community." We are thrilled to be able to share our wedding with our entire Sinai Community on Sunday, May 25, 2014. Please see the details in this Bulletin. All that we ask is that you RSVP so we know how many people to expect!

As I complete the third year of my Presidency of Sinai Temple, I have all of you to be thankful for. It has been and will continue to be a wonderful journey. Thank you for all that you do for our Community.

Jeff Cossin, President

---

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published every other month by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 6 for 2013-2014.

Mark Dov Shapiro .....Rabbi  
Martin Levson .....Cantor  
Heather Sullivan .....Director of Education  
Jeff Cossin .....President  
Bruce Leshine .....First Vice President  
Steve Kessler .....Vice President  
Laurie Weinberg .....Vice President  
Alan Goldsmith .....Treasurer  
Susanne Simon .....Financial Secretary  
Buff Maniscalco .....Recording Secretary  
Phil Lesser .....President, Men of Sinai  
Ron Weiss .....Cemetery Chair  
Karen Mendelsohn .....Membership Committee Chair  
Matt Bertuzzi .....Youth Director  
Visit our website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

Dear Sinai Temple Friends –

It is our honor to invite you to share in our happiness this month. We have only one request, and that is that you RSVP to let us know if you will be joining us on either Friday, May 16 or Sunday, May 25 as we become husband and wife.

Your RSVP will help us be able to receive you as graciously as we can.

**Karen Mendelsohn and Jeffrey Cossin**

invite you to their aufruf (wedding blessing)  
as part of Shabbat Services

**Friday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m.**

RSVP to Robin in the Temple office 413-736-3619.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Karen Mendelsohn & Jeffrey Cossin**

invite you to share in the blessings and  
joy of their marriage ceremony

**Sunday, May 25**

**at eleven o'clock in the morning at Sinai Temple**

Reception immediately following

Please RSVP by May 16 to Robin in the Temple office  
413-736-3619

In lieu of gifts we would be honored if you would contribute to the **Mendelsohn/Cossin Atid (Future) Fund** to help us create the future of Sinai Temple's Community. Please access the Fund via the Temple website. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

### Continued from page 1

#### Saturday Mornings

#### Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.

Weekly Shabbat Service at 10:15 a.m.  
(BBM Services at 10:30 a.m.)

#### Mazal Tov to B'nai Mitzvah

May 3 – Adam Kugelmass, son of Ari Kugelmass and Karen Ambrose

May 10 – Maiah Brush, daughter of Charles and Wendy Brush

May 17 – Abby Lu Simon-Plumb, daughter of Susanne Simon and Janet Plumb

May 31 – Noah Kantor, son of Bryan and Brenda Kantor

June 7 – Adam Sergentanis, son of Jason and Andrea Sergentanis

June 14 – Millie Kochman-Sabbatino, daughter of Fran Kochman and Lisa Sabbatino

June 21 – Julia and Zach Wright, children of Kevin and Jill Wright.

# Celebrate Today Create Tomorrow

.....●●●●●●●●●●  
*The Plan for Sinai Temple*

## **Congratulations and Thank You for a Great Success \$1,492,939 Pledged from 161 Households!**

Dear Sinai –

Thank you so much to all of you who responded so generously to the fundraising campaign for Sinai's future. Your belief in Sinai and your hope for the future have allowed us to achieve our goal in a campaign that has taken only six months. We are so pleased and proud. We hope you will now mark your calendars for an opportunity to celebrate the Temple's success. Please join us on Friday, June 20 at the Temple.

Shalom,

*Ruth Weiss, Honorary Campaign Chair*

*Robyn Newhouse and Seth Roberts, Campaign Co-Chairs*

*David Katz, Campaign Advisor*

*Peggy Grodd, Campaign Advisor*

### **You Are Invited to a Sweet Success Celebration**

**Friday, June 20 at Sinai Temple**

Congregational Annual Meeting  
At 7 p.m.

Shabbat Service  
At 7:30 p.m.

*To be followed by a Fabulous Oneg Shabbat*

*\*The numbers reported here represent our totals as of April 16. Donations are continuing to arrive.*

---

### **Notes from the Cantor**

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 20, when we will officially mark the conclusion of our campaign, "Celebrate Today, Create Tomorrow." To mark this auspicious occasion, I will be assembling a LARGE group of Sinai Temple singers and musicians to make the evening particularly festive! Rehearsals will be (mostly) Wednesday evenings, May 28, June 4, *Tuesday June 10*, and June 18, from 7:30 to 8:30. Even if you have never sung in the volunteer choir before, please join us! You don't have to be able to read music (although you will learn a little bit), you just need the desire to sing and learn. I will provide a CD or mp3 files of your vocal part to anyone in the choir who would like to have them, so you can practice the music at home or in the car. The music will be fun, upbeat, and celebratory, as we "Make a Joyful Noise unto Adonai!" Please join us!

Spring has sprung here in Springfield, but I am already looking ahead to... autumn. A big part of the High Holidays here at Sinai Temple is our tradition of lay Torah readers. It is my intention to have all the Torah readers chosen, and for everyone to have their portions and CDs or mp3s

by the middle of June. This will give readers more than 3 months to practice! If you would be interested in chanting Torah for the High Holidays, please let me know soon! Spaces are limited!

And speaking of the High Holidays, Rabbi Shapiro and I would once again like to have a literal chorus of shofarot at the very end of Neila services on Yom Kippur day, Saturday, October 4. If you would like to be part of this cacophonous endeavor, please join me on the final day of Religious School, Sunday, May 18, right after the Men of Sinai BBQ, for a brief shofar blowing workshop. This opportunity to blow shofar is for Sinai members Grade 6 through adults. Bring your own shofar if you have one, or you can borrow a shofar from Sinai Temple's collection to practice over the summer. (First come, first blown, so please RSVP to the Temple office if you would like to borrow a shofar from the Temple.) "T'keeah!"

Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha! Serve the Holy One with Joy!  
(Psalm 100:2)

## Adult Opportunities

### Loose Ends: May's Book Club Selection

**Monday, May 19 at 7 p.m.**

#### **Sinai joins with the whole Community**

Our May book discussion will feature Anastasia Goodman speaking about her novel, *Loose Ends*. The book is about a NYPD detective and the beach communities destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. The detective is the son of a Jewish dissident and the grandson of a hero of the Battle of Stalingrad. This tangled web of history follows him to America.

*The May 19 meeting will also be attended by the book groups of Hadassah, Temple Beth El, and Congregation B'nai Torah.*

### Monthly Morning Service

**Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30 a.m.**

A chance to start your day with a different focus. We meet on the bimah for a service of 20 minutes. Breakfast follows. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

The "morning minyan" for June falls on the morning of Shavuot. The service will take place at 10:30 a.m.

### Shavuot Services

**Tuesday, June 3 at 7 p.m.**

The evening will begin "On the Chocolate Trail" and continue with a service and chocolate Oneg. See page five.

**Wednesday, June 4 at 10:30 a.m.**

Celebrate the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai PLUS a Yizkor Service. We will worship in the Oneg Shabbat Room with luncheon to follow.

### A Family Trip to Israel? A Trip for First Timers to Israel?

**Information Meeting...**

**Let's Talk Details**

**Tuesday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m.**

Rabbi Shapiro is interested in putting together a Sinai Temple trip to Israel. Probably during the opening weeks of July 2015, although some people have requested that the trip take place in April 2015. Are you interested?

If you would like to learn more, contact the Rabbi soon AND come to the information meeting on June 17. The Rabbi will have a possible itinerary plus prices. The trip is still an idea at this point. Your interest will help make it happen.



### Summer Services

**Every Friday in July and August**

Please join us throughout the summer for services that are brief, spirited, and full of joy. Services begin at 7:30 p.m.

### Sinai Temple's Annual Meeting

**Friday, June 20 from 7 to 7:30 p.m.**

***(The shortest Annual Meeting ever run at Sinai!!)***

The Annual Meeting is the place where congregants review the Temple's budget and assets. The Board of Directors is also voted into office. This year's meeting will take place before Shabbat services. Thirty minutes will prepare us to welcome Shabbat and then celebrate the coming year as well as the success of the Celebrate Today/Create Tomorrow Campaign.

### Have You Got an Idea? Have You Got a Suggestion?

As the programming year draws to a close, June becomes our most important month for planning next year's happenings at Sinai. Almost every one of our committees will be meeting to think about next year.

So...If you have an idea or a suggestion...Please call the office, Temple President, or the Rabbi and let us know.

Better still...Watch E-VENTS for the dates of committee meetings and come share your ideas. Each committee would love to hear from you.

### Erev Rosh Hashanah

**Wednesday, September 24, 2014**

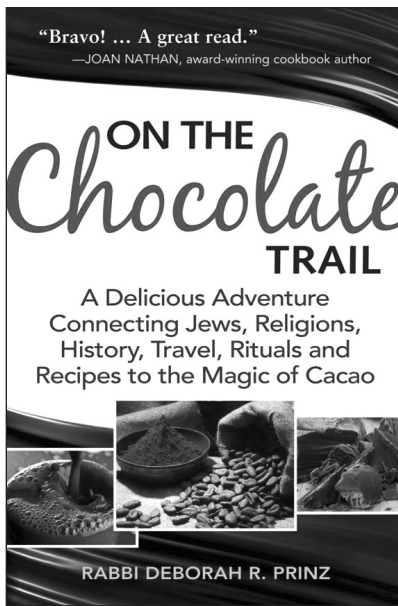
### A New Way to Welcome the New Year

What if we could show ourselves to those many Jews who don't belong to synagogues? Many unaffiliated Jews are interested in the High Holidays. What if we could find a way to open up one of our fabulous holiday services to the unaffiliated?

We are working on that process and planning to experiment with an "open" service this coming Erev Rosh Hashanah.

A service like this will require careful coordination and extensive publicity. A special committee is doing the planning right now. Contact the co-chairs if you have ideas or if you want to help with the planning. Jodi Maniscalco at 562-3633 or Richard Friedman at 301-6638.





## **On the Chocolate Trail: The History of Jews & Chocolate**

### **A Shavuot Exploration for Sinai Temple and Temple Beth El**

**Tuesday, June 3 at 7 p.m. at Sinai Temple**

### **Learning, Worship, AND Sumptuous Chocolate Desserts**

Please join us as Sinai Temple and Temple Beth El welcome the holiday of Shavuot. Deborah Prinz, author of the remarkable book telling the tale of Jews and chocolate, will be our guest scholar.

Rabbi Prinz serves as Director of Program for the Central Conference of American Rabbis. She has traveled the world to research the fabulous story of cacao.

After learning together, we will turn to the prayers and themes of Shavuot followed by a Chocolate Oneg in honor of the holiday.

*A "taste" of Jewish history. A "taste" of chocolate.*

Please join us we celebrate the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai plus the sweet way in which Jews have journeyed through time.

## **PLEASE JOIN US FOR CONFIRMATION 2014/5774**

**Friday, June 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Sinai Temple**

### **WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE OUR LEARNING WITH YOU!**

*Jesse Cohen-Lindfors, son of Bernard Cohen and Jane Lindfors*

*Craig and Seth Conklin, sons of Michael and Ilene Conklin*

*Julia Dash, daughter of Cary Dash and Vivian Miller*

*Noah Kalman, son of David and Pamela Kalman*

*Alexander Kugelmass, son of Aaron Kugelmass and Karen Ambrose*

*Benjamin Skiest, son of Daniel Skiest and Suzette Damboise*

*Abigail Solomon, daughter of Joel and Lynn Solomon*

*Lauren Stone, daughter of Mark and Melanie Stone*

NOTE...SINAI IS PRINTING ONLY SIX BULLETINS THIS YEAR. THIS IS A VERY STRONG REASON FOR OUR WANTING TO STAY IN TOUCH VIA E-MAIL. PLEASE SEND US YOUR E-MAIL.

## Message from Heather Sullivan

Director of Education

Jewish tradition has always integrated learning and action. Study is integrated into prayer, and prayer and study are sustained by work and action. As it is written in Pirkei Avot: "The world stands on three things: Torah (study), Avodah (worship), and Gemilut Chasidim (acts of loving kindness)..."

Any of you who have ever spoken to me about Sinai's post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah curriculum have heard me rave about our programming for grades 8-10. I truly feel that what our students gain post B'nai Mitzvah in religious school is as important as what they gain when they begin their lifelong journey of Jewish education in grades K-7.

The SPARK *Heart Action* program is just one of the many reasons that I am absolutely crazy about our post Bar/Bat Mitzvah curriculum.

On April 6th, several of our SPARK *Heart Action* participants from this past fall and from years past, got together for a reunion breakfast. The SPARK *Heart Action* program, which we usually refer to as SPARK is a program that provides our eighth grade students with the opportunity to visit and socialize with senior adult members of our congregation. Each fall semester, through text study and conversation, relationships grow. Students are given a chance to gain a new perspective on their place within their world, and what they can do to improve it. This spring was the first time that we had a reunion for this group. It was so nice to see this group gather together. It was like watching old friends reunite. There was talk about heading to college for the first time and what college was like during World War II. There were announcements of new grandchildren and announcements of making a high school sports team. We all agreed that we were glad our winter was over and that it was nice to catch up with some pals. And in typical Sinai *Heart Action* fashion, the students got pancakes, fruit, and beverages and served their adult friends. I hope this is the first of many reunions that we hold for our SPARK participants.

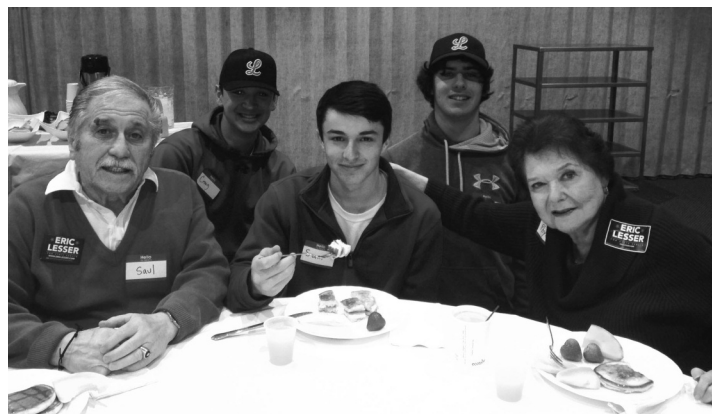
All returning students: Please get registration forms returned by June 1, so that you do not accrue a late fee of \$36.

L'Shalom, Heather

This year, funding from the ***Sinai Temple Religious School Special Projects Fund*** was able to support the following programs:

- Kidz Kabbalat dinners for students and their families in grades K-2
- A Holocaust play performed by the Living Voices theater group of Seattle, called "Through the Eyes of a Friend" for students in grades 7-10
- SPARK breakfast reunion for grade 8 students and senior members of the congregation

## SPARK *Heart Action* Breakfast, April 2014



## Message from Philip Lesser *President, Men of Sinai*

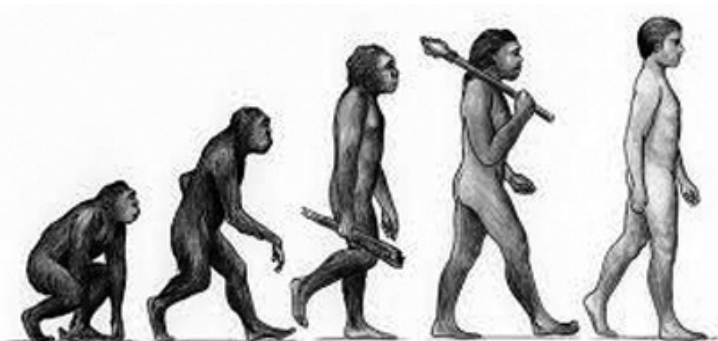
The time has flown by! I am closing in on the last two months as president of Men Of Sinai. We have had two wonderful Snyder dinners, celebrating amazing people. Our service to the Synagogue is strong. Our "breakfast club" has seen many wonderful speakers with increased numbers. Our last breakfast with Gary Hochman had almost eighty people in the audience. We have had family nights such as movie night and Hockey and Havdallah. Together we have done great things. All this is not possible without a great group of supporting cast members. Where ever the future brings us, as times are changing, we will be there to service the community that is Sinai Temple.

The last day of Sunday school is May 18th and, of course, it will end with a BBQ sponsored by the Men of

Sinai. Come to pick up your child and bring your appetite! May 3rd will be our movie night. Which super hero will it be this time? On Mitzvah day May 4th, we will have June Leduc speak from Cancer Free Kids. We also are planning a trip out to see a baseball game this summer. All events are open to everyone and are designed to bring families and our entire community together. Come and enjoy! All events are open to everyone and are designed to bring families and our entire community together. Come and enjoy!

Philip Lesser, President  
Men of Sinai

### The Evolution of Man



### What took you so long?



*"It is not the strongest or the most intelligent who will survive but those who can best manage change." Charles Darwin*

### **"Men" of Sinai is Going Co-Ed**

For years, you have known us as the men in the kitchen. Perhaps you have attended our monthly speaker's breakfast or join us for our biannual BBQ's. We also sponsor the annual Rabbi Snyder Awards Banquet honoring a distinguished Temple member and organize Purim and Chanukah dinners.

What makes these exclusively "Men" events? NOTHING!

So we are opening our membership and leadership to everyone.

We are a service group with a mission "To serve and promote Sinai Temple and Reform Judaism in Springfield". Our finances are strong and with 80 current members our membership is already 25% of the congregation.

If you are looking for opportunities to enhance your connection to Judaism and the Jewish Community of Springfield, join us. We meet the first Tuesday of each month.

For more information contact me at [lesserpl@yahoo.com](mailto:lesserpl@yahoo.com) or Buff Maniscalco at [jodiman@comcast.net](mailto:jodiman@comcast.net). Yes a name change will be coming soon.



## Spring has Sprung at Sinai Temple for the very Young!

*Submitted by Lindsey Weber, mother to Jack (4) and Emma (2)*

Our STUFF (Sinai Temple Under Five Families) families have been busy celebrating our spring holidays. At our March Shalom Sunday, we made greggers (because everyone under 5 loves noise!!) and drowned out Haman's name while listened to a Megillah reading of the story of Purim. Some of the children wore their Purim costumes and we all marched in a Purim parade. We also kept our fingers and imaginations busy by using play dough to "make" hamantashen with several choices of filling. Great practice for baking at home!

At our March Tot Shabbat, we learned about Passover with Rabbi Shapiro and enjoyed singing with Cantor Bim Bam. Families were able to preview the Temple's collection of haggadot for young families and borrow them for upcoming Seders. We also sat together and enjoyed pizza, salad, pasta, and challah for dinner.

We continued to learn about Passover traditions at our April Shalom Sunday. We read several books about Passover and we sang some lively Passover melodies with Cantor Bim Bam. We learned about the different foods on the Seder plate in both Hebrew and in English. We used some real food and some pretend food to see how the Seder plate is arranged. We also used clear plastic plates, glue, and colorful tissue paper to construct our own Seder plate to bring home and use at our family seders.

At our STUFF events, you will find a casual, relaxed group of parents and young children. We sit on the floor, eat snacks, and are always engaged with stories, songs, and craft projects. We welcome all families with young children. Older siblings are welcome too! Please join us for an upcoming event to see what we're all about!

### **Our next events are:**

**Tot Shabbat/Dinner at 6:00pm: Fridays, May 23, June 20**

**Mitzvah Day at 9:00am: Sunday, May 4**

**Shalom Sundays at 10:00am: Sunday, May 18**

For more information, please contact our coordinators Melanie Courtemanche (mnkle17@gmail.com) or Leslie Kittredge (ljkrell@gmail.com).



**Ninth Graders recently visited the Religious Action Center in Washington DC. Here they are in Congressman Neal's office.**



**Next year's Bnai Mitzvah getting ready for their teenage years.**





## Happy Graduation!

Mazal Tov to the following Sinai teenagers who have grown up at Sinai and are now graduating High School. Remember, we can stay in touch with our young people via our ALUMNI program. When next year's addresses are confirmed, please let the Temple office know. Packages and reminders from home will follow!

Casey Cohen, Matthew Cooper, Andrew Cowan, Zachary Fisher, Olivia Foster, Jacob Freedman, Shaina Gootzit, Hannah Gordon, Liz Levson, Eliana Moskovitz, Michael Mueller, Michael Plumb, Hannah Rembrandt, Rachel Sherman, Casey Simon-Plumb, Andrew Stone, Rachel Wetstone, Julia Winer

## Thirteen Extraordinary Women Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m.

On the heels of the highly successful 2013 inaugural of 13 Extraordinary Women, the Women's Philanthropy Steering Committee of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, announces that Sinai Temple congregants Betsy Bertuzzi, Barbara Sadowsky and Bobi Steingart have been selected to share their secrets to success at 7pm on Thursday, May 1st at Mill One in Open Square, Holyoke. Kosher desserts will be served.

Additional honorees are: Betsy Bertuzzi, Volunteer; Martha Finkel Ceppetelli, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking at Webster Bank; Evie Glickman, retired educator and social service professional; Susan Kimball Halpern, Vice President of Philanthropy at Jewish Geriatric Services; Amy Wallk Katz, Rabbi at Temple Beth El; Susan Kline volunteer and Jewish communal professional; Rochel Leah Kosofsky, Jewish educator; Julia Mintz, filmmaker; Beverly Kimball Pava, educator, writer, advocate and community relations professional at the Harold Grinspoon Foundation; Barbara Sadowsky, community volunteer; Felicia Sloin, Jewish music educator; Bobi Steingart, retired educator and volunteer; and Sara Weinberger, activist, volunteer, social worker and educator. All 13 women will have just three minutes to share their secrets to success.

This event is open to the public and welcomes both men and women but seating is limited. There is no minimum gift required to attend but all guests are asked to make a contribution (of any size) to the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts 2014 Annual Campaign if they have not done so already.

Anyone is welcome to honor one, or more, Extraordinary Women by making a donation of \$18 per honoree, or all 13 honorees for \$180.

For more information, go to [www.jewishwesternmass.org](http://www.jewishwesternmass.org) or contact Amy Nee at [anee@jewishwesternmass.org](mailto:anee@jewishwesternmass.org) or (413) 737-4313 x160.

## SAVE THE DATE!!!!

as the  
**Western MA State of Israel Bonds  
pays tribute to leaders  
in our community  
at a Cocktail Buffet.**

Sinai Temple's 2013 honorees are  
**Geoff and Jayne Berman**

Wednesday, June 11  
5:30 P.M.

at Chez Josef in Agawam

For reservations & information,  
call the Israel Bonds office at 800-916-1918.

## Make donations through Sinai ONLINE!!! [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

You learn about someone's success or someone's sadness. You want to make a contribution but it's so much trouble to write a check.

Now you can skip the check and the snail mail.

Go to Sinai's website [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org) and make the donation to any one of our funds ONLINE.

## Thanks to the Hospitality Circle

Over the last year a broad and diverse group of congregants have volunteered their kitchen talents for an occasional cooking or baking assignment. A salad or a dessert. Once or maybe twice in the year. It has been a tasty and delicious experience. Thank you to these members of our "hospitality circle." If you would like to help out on a very occasional basis, let the office know.  
[rblanchettegag@sinai-temple.org](mailto:rblanchettegag@sinai-temple.org)

Salena Blake, Wendy Brush, Ilene Conklin, Nancy Friedman, Marilyn Gitlen, Leslie Hager, Zel Lavin, Jodi Maniscalco, Leslie Maple, Karen Mendelsohn, Belle Rita Novak, Rachel Sampson, Sarah Shtrax, Elaine Shusterman, Bonnie Thomas, Carol Tivoli, Laurie Weinberg, Jo Anne Zolotor

## The Sustaining Membership Program

By the time this bulletin arrives in Sinai homes, letters of invitation should have arrived in the homes of all those congregants who are currently Sustaining Membership participants. We are hoping you will continue your SMP involvement into the 2014/2015 fiscal year. (Our Celebrate Today/Create Tomorrow Campaign actually depends on the continuing health of the Sustaining Membership Program.)

But what if you aren't already in SMP? What is SMP?

If you are among those congregants who pay full dues in your category, you might consider becoming a Sustaining Member of Sinai.

A Sustaining Member is someone who chooses to offer Sinai an extra amount of funds beyond dues. During the current fiscal year, 100 Sinai households became Sustaining Members and contributed over \$68,000 to our budget.

By doing this, the Sustaining Members helped reduce the need to raise the fees for Temple members who cannot afford full dues. By assuming a kind of "fair share," the Sustaining Members also allowed Sinai to continue to offer a full and varied menu of programs.

The levels of involvement are below. Each level assumes a member paying his/her dues and then adding on to those dues the following amounts.

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Leader         | \$3,000 |
| Pillar         | \$2,500 |
| Chai Friend    | \$1,800 |
| Friend         | \$1,500 |
| Benefactor     | \$1,000 |
| Chai Sponsor   | \$720   |
| Sponsor        | \$500   |
| Chai Supporter | \$360   |
| Supporter      | \$250   |

If you have questions or want to join the program, please call Armand Souliere, SMP Chair at 567-7446 or the Temple office at 736-3619.

Shalom,

Armand Souliere, Sustaining Member Chair

## JUDAICA GIFT SHOP CORNER

Now that the weather is with us, we are happy to offer gifts for Mothers' Day and all the upcoming engagements, weddings and other summer occasions.

Our hours will change for the summer: call the office or me and we'll get together!

**Thais Fischel 786-9577**

## Spread the News: Membership at Sinai Temple

Do you know Sinai Temple's membership incentives? What follows are the incentives developed over the last few years.

### Young Adult 18 – 30

Complimentary

### Ages 31 – 35

Reduced rates to make it easy to belong

### Those who belong to another local synagogue!

Associate Membership reduced dues

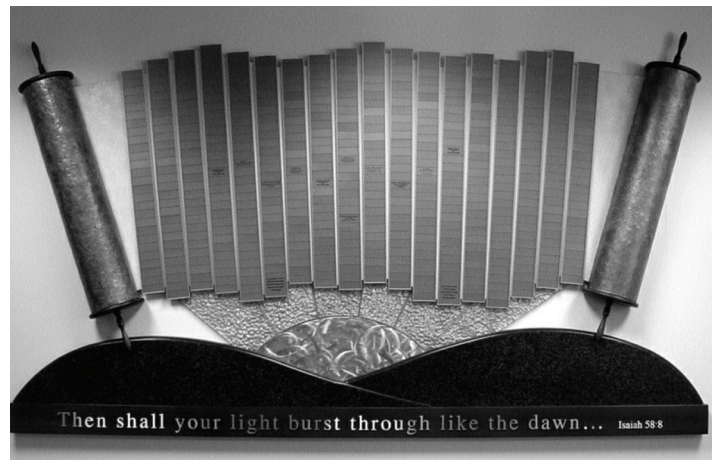
### Those who live out of town!

An "out of town" membership is available

### PLUS TRY-A-SYNAGOGUE OFFERS REDUCED RATES FOR PEOPLE JOINING ANY LOCAL SYNAGOGUE.

*Please reach out. Let your unaffiliated family, friends, and neighbors know about the wonderful world of Sinai. Share the benefits of belonging to our community.*

*And if you refer someone to Sinai who becomes a member at any level, we will most certainly want to thank you.*



The Scroll of Life is a work of art in the Oneg Shabbat Room. It was created by Presentations Gallery of New York. The Isaiah quote at the bottom of the Scroll was taken from the Yom Kippur Haftarah as an expression of hope.

The Scroll has space on it so that Sinai members can commemorate either joyous events or memorialize loved ones. Each contribution of a plaque on the Scroll will be used to enrich the life and strength of Sinai. The cost of each plaque is \$200. The inscription may be 3-4 lines with a maximum of 27 spaces per line.



# Sinai Temple Bulletin

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SPRINGFIELD, MA  
PERMIT NO.537

1100 Dickinson Street  
Springfield, MA 01108  
(413) 736-3619  
[www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



**This year's Passover Morning Service was a delicious, happy success.  
Hope to see you next year when Passover Morning falls Saturday morning, April 4.**