

Sinai Temple

BULLETIN



Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat

For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

I heard a story about Longmeadow High School. It may not have happened, but it's the kind of thing that could very well happen.

Around the time of the High Holidays (LHS closes on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur), a teacher handed out an assignment. A student said it would be hard for the Jewish students to do the assignment because of the holidays. The teacher replied, "Most of the Jewish kids are secular; they won't be at services anyway."

Whether or not an LHS teacher actually said those words, I suspect a good many teachers and other Longmeadow residents who are not Jewish must wonder about Jews and how we live our Judaism. As some of you know, one of the football leagues for younger students pretty comfortably scheduled games this past Rosh Hashanah on a Saturday. Last year, I think it was an LHS team that had an unofficial practice on Rosh Hashanah.

And the problem is twofold: On the one hand, we Jews expect not to be put in a situation where our kids are expected to break away from family (and synagogue) on our holy day. On the other hand, there always are Jews who do play the game or do the homework on the holy day. Non-Jews looking at our community can fairly be confused by the mixed messages our community sometimes sends.

You'll see this same phenomenon when Passover arrives and some Jew want to attend services on Tuesday morning, March 30. Many Jews will at minimum ask that there be no major tests on March 30 because their children will have been at the First Seder the previous evening.

One problem - There will be other Jews in our community who see no conflict. Some children will dare to ask teachers for consideration because of the Seder; other Jewish children in the same classroom will say they have no problem either because they have no Seder or their families move it to the weekend or their families don't attend synagogue on Passover.

What's a non-Jewish person supposed to think? Actually, I'm proud of our Jewish diversity. Jews come in all shapes and sizes and with all varieties of belief. It's just that non-Jews have a hard time understanding a particular brand of Jew who claims the title but manifests virtually no involvement in Jewish living.

If you belong to Sinai Temple, the good news is that you are already not one of those Jews. Your belonging and your commitment do us proud. With so much history and so much wisdom in our tradition, you already know that we Jews are remarkably blessed.

We do ourselves a favor (and the larger community as well) when we take ourselves seriously and live full Jewish lives that are worthy of the title - Jew.

November and December Friday Evenings

Service with a Story at 7:00 p.m. November 6

It may look like a Family Service, but it's more than that. It's a "family friendly" service aimed at all age groups.

Service with a Band at 7:30 p.m. November 13

In honor of Veteran's Day, we are hosting Springfield's Jewish War Veterans. Temple member, Dr. Frank Cannizzo, a major in the Army Reserve, will be speaking. Extra instruments will make this a special service.

Kabbalat Shabbat at 6 p.m. November 20

This month's early service will be followed by dinner and a "virtual campfire." See page 3.

Service with the Torah at 7:30 p.m. November 27

We'll look at the weekly Torah portion and Rabbi Shapiro will teach.

Service with a Story at 7:00 p.m. December 4

A "family friendly" service aimed at all age groups.

Service with a Band at 7:30 p.m. December 11

The first night of Chanukah.

Saturday Mornings

Every Saturday Morning

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.

Service at 10:30 a.m.

Mazal Tov to our Bnai Mitzvah

November 14 - Jessica Schwartz

Daughter of Daryl and Lynn Schwartz

November 21 - Rachel Michaelson

Daughter of Steve Michaelson and Julie

Michaelson

December 12 - Casey Coen

Daughter of Scott Coen and Merle

Zamansky-Coen

Message from President Mark Stone

So here we are. It's November, and many of us have not talked since Rosh Hashanah morning when I spoke about retention, connection and recruitment for Sinai. Some of you, however, have communicated with me about your own Sinai connection or that of a friend. A few have come forward in other ways to assist our congregation financially. To all of you I say "Thank You!"

And where do we go from here? My goal over the next year is to reduce the number of congregants we lose. At the same time, I would like to focus on reaching out to unaffiliated Jews in the greater Springfield area. To do this, I need your help!!

Over the winter your Board will be reaching out to the entire congregation through a program we do every year called Panim el Panim, which means "face to face." During the past three years, we have attempted to contact all members of the congregation just to say hello and to listen to anything you have to say.

Here is where you come in!! This year when we call I'm asking if you could consider a few things.

First, do you, or anyone you know ever question your connection with Sinai?

Second, do you know of any unaffiliated friends that might consider a connection with Sinai?

We are working on how we can gather this information without making you feel uncomfortable. For those who have unaffiliated friends, perhaps before our calls in December you could ask your friends if it would be OK for us to contact them. Another option is we could send you some information on membership that you could pass along to your friends. We would follow up with you at a later date.

Whichever way works best for you please let us know and please start thinking about this now!

These are critical times and I ask that you consider helping this way if you can. Remember it was congregants like us who built Sinai from nothing. Now it needs to be congregants again who must get involved to ensure Sinai thrives into the future!!

In addition to what I am asking you to do, I want to update you on one project of my own. If you recall, during my Rosh Hashanah speech I mentioned a survey about the significant number of Jews who do not belong to a synagogue. Days after that I started to consider how we might reach out to these people. I pondered this for a while and came up with an idea. WE ARE NOT ALONE IN THIS QUEST. All the area synagogues are faced with this very same issue. So, I have reached out to the Presidents and Rabbis of both Conservative and Orthodox synagogues in the Springfield/Longmeadow area and asked them to get together so we can jointly address this issue. My feeling is that together we have a better chance of getting our message out to those who have no connection than to try individually. As I write this article, the other congregations have responded enthusiastically. We are hoping to meet together before the end of October. I will report back to you in the coming months.

Thank you for considering what you can do for Sinai. My hope is that together you and I will ensure that Sinai thrives for future generations.

Welcome to Sinai!

We're so glad you decided to join Sinai Temple in the past month.

- Susan and Andrew Bauer
- Phyllis Goldblatt
- Leslie and Scott Kittredge
- Jennifer and Louis Santos and their three children Gerald, Olivia and Sydney.

Mission Statement

Sinai Temple is a welcoming and inclusive Reform Congregation where our members pursue a continuing journey of Jewish growth. We are guided by the history and traditions of the Jewish people as we encounter the challenges of the modern world. We encourage participation in prayer, life-long Jewish learning, and social justice within a joyful, creative, and compassionate community.

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published monthly by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 1 for the year 2009-2010.

Mark Dov Shapiro Rabbi
Martin Levson Cantor
Sheila Shear Director of Education
Lisa Gittleman Udi JOY and SPFTY Advisor

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Visit our website: www.sinai-temple.org

Big Questions: Jewish Answers

Second Thursday Every Month

How do God & the Holocaust co-exist?

Thursday, November 12

Besides Jesus, are Judaism and Christianity really that different?

December 10

From 6 to 7:30 p.m.

(With a "lite bite" available each evening)

Are you curious about the biggest kinds of questions we Jews ask?

This year Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson will offer some answers. On the second Thursday of each month, we'll feed you a light dinner and take on one topic per month.

You can come once, all the time, or once in a while. Each Thursday conversation will be self-contained.

Coming in January...

January 14 How can I get my prayers answered: Is anyone listening?

We're very grateful to Leah and Jerry Gottlieb for underwriting this series of dinner conversations.

DINNER AND "CAMP FIRE" AT SINAI:

**SOME "HOT" FUN
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
STARTING AT 6 P.M.**

The evening will begin with
Kabbalat Shabbat service **at 6 p.m.**

At 7 p.m., dinner

At 7:45 p.m., your Rabbi and Cantor perform as you've never seen them before.

At 8:30 p.m., S'mores and other desserts around Sinai's indoor, "virtual" campfire.

Summer has gone, but not the fun. Imagine a campfire. Imagine the flames, guitar music, and stories. After dinner on November 20, you are invited to gather round as Rabbi Shapiro tells adult stories and Cantor Levson performs and leads adult songs. The stories will come from the huge repertoire of stories based on Jewish history and Jewish values. The music will be both historically Jewish and modern. (Although this is an evening for adults, children are totally welcome and encouraged.)

We will conclude (for real) with s'mores and other summer desserts.



Message from Sheila Shear, Director of Education

Thanks to Jennifer Metsch, Bonnie Engleman, Gloria Wald and their committee of volunteers, we began this past month with a successful, all school dinner on Sukkot, that, the many who were in attendance will agree, was a wonderful, celebratory event. It was amazing to celebrate as part of our Sinai school community. I love that we have begun our year in such a way. This event has led me to be thinking about the truth of the importance of providing Jewish education for our children. Is it important for children to learn about Judaism, to learn Hebrew, to learn Jewish values, to learn to live Jewishly? Is it best for children to learn in a communal setting rather than alone, only at home, or only at synagogue?

My thoughts come from this wonderful celebration and in contrast a recent dinner conversation with friends. The conversation began with the question, "Why do so many Jews gravitate to communal activities, but so few, by contrast, gravitate to Jewish communal activities?"

So, my question, why do we, as Jews, so value education, communal belonging and Jewish knowledge, but continue to question the importance of our child's learning as part of a Jewish community? The truth is, most of us can learn by reading a book, watching a video or listening to a recording. But, the bigger truth is that our knowledge and experiences are far richer when we experience these things with others who share our common heritage. The learning that we do as a classroom community, school community, and synagogue community enriches each of us in a way that we could never experience alone.

I hope that as the children continue to learn as part of our school community, that your family will support that learning and sense of belonging by continuing to attend community learning and social activities.

**Tot Shabbat for Preschoolers
Friday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m.**

Jewish Summer Camping and Scholarships

Our Reform movement runs two remarkable summer camps in the Berkshires. One is called Eisner; the other is called Crane Lake. Last year several Sinai students attended each of the camps. Your child would love either camp. Scholarships are available for sessions in July or August. Please speak to Rabbi Shapiro no later than March 1.

The Adult Bat Mitzvah Class of 5770/2009

**Cordially invites the congregation
To join us when we are called to the Torah
As B'not Mitzvah**

**Saturday, December 19 at 10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Miketz**

Cary Dash	Sherry Souliere
Thais Fischel	Diedra Torff
Belle Rita Novak	

**Please join us at a Kiddush Reception
following the service.**

***** A Raffle *****

To Benefit The Religious School

Rebecca Rubin American Girl

1st prize - Doll + accessories

2nd Prize – A set of Rebecca Books

3rd Prize – Meet Rebecca Book

Tickets prices: 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10

Ticket Sales October 4 – December 1

Drawing December 6, 2009

*There will be a tea for Temple girls, dolls, and
Moms in January*

**Jewish and Decent:
Can You Really Love Your Neighbor as Yourself?**

Saturday mornings at 9 a.m.

Saturday morning conversations about living life with decency. "Love your neighbor?" What does that "Golden Rule" mean? Can it ever really apply?

Rabbi Shapiro will lead the journey as we turn to Judaism's hidden treasure - Mussar literature - the practice of goodness.

"Jewish and Decent" is the focus for Torah Study for this Fall.

**Saturday Morning Services
Every Saturday morning
At 10:30 a.m.**

We are experimenting with having a regular weekly Shabbat morning service. Even when there isn't a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, there will be a Saturday morning service (complete with the Yahrzeit list) starting at 10:30 a.m.

**Monthly Morning Service Wednesdays,
November 4 & December 2 at 7:30 a.m.**

Meet in the sanctuary for a service of 20 minutes. Breakfast follows. The feeling of togetherness is wonderful. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

Future "morning minyan" services will take place on Wednesdays, January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2.

**Martinis & Magic:
Saturday night, February 27
At Sinai Temple**

HOLD THE DATE - This is a pure fun evening. We'll be serving martinis of all kinds. Magic will surround the evening. AND, because it's the beginning of Purim, there will be an "adults only" selection of Purim jokes and parodies.

**Kabbalat Shabbat:
A Terrific Time for a Service!**

**6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Third Friday of the month**

If you're too tired after a week in the office, don't go right home after work. Come to services first. Starting at 5:30 p.m., we'll feed you veggies and snacks. The service that follows will refresh you for a wonderful weekend.

Check the Sinai Website

The Rabbi's High Holidays sermons plus Shabbat music for home and Temple services plus much more can be found by visiting our Temple website. www.sinai-temple.org

**Hebrew Free Loan Association of
Greater Springfield
Elaine Geha, Executive Director**

Committed to the dignity of individuals, the Hebrew Free Loan Association provides interest-free loans to those in the Jewish community otherwise unable to obtain loans. Learn more about the Jewish tradition of helping others stand on their own two feet...with optimism, dignity, and hope. HFLA@springfieldjcc.org

**You May Be Missing Important
Information**

Many Sinai households "out of the loop." We can't communicate electronically. It's not efficient and it's not green. So...Please...Share the wealth.

One communication a week. It will be short and sweet and attractive too!

Send us your e-mail right away.

We really mean it and we really want it.

Plus we'll reward you.

On November 5, we will hold a drawing among those who have added their e-mail address to our list between September 18 and November 5.

First prize - a \$100 gift certificate to the Springfield Symphony Orchestra.

Second prize - a \$50 gift certificate to the Majestic Theater.

Please e-mail your e-mail to Robin Blanchette-Gage, the Rabbi's assistant, at

rblanchettegage@sinai-temple.org

Ten Minutes of Torah
From our Reform Movement
The Union for Reform Judaism

Study that Matches Your Lifestyle - Sign up at www.urj.org/ten for a brief daily teaching or reflection. Each day has a different theme:

Monday – Reform Ideas about the Weekly Torah Portion

Tuesday – Mishnah Day

(Easy intro in English to that “book” you’ve always heard about.

You can learn Mishnah!!!)

Wednesday – Israel Connections

Thursdays – Delving into the Prayer Book

(Step by step introduction to how our prayers came to be!!!)

Friday – Jewish World and Social Action

Thank you to:

- Evan Souliere for designing our Taste of Judaism newspaper ads
- The anonymous donor who made it possible for us to have our new, vastly improved sound system!! Thank you for your vision and generosity.



“In this picture I am watching the sunrise at the top of Masada in Israel. Even though the journey up was difficult, the ending reward was striking and well-worth the hike. The view from the top was absolutely exquisite and breathtaking and will be forever stuck in my memory. The experience I had traveling for the first time to Israel this past summer had such a phenomenal and positive impact on me that I hope to be spending at least a year there in the future.”

—Alesha Levenson

Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat in November & December

Last year Sinai distributed a booklet with 52 ideas for “tasting” Shabbat. Here is an encore presentation of some of those ideas.



“I always have clean sheets on the bed for Erev Shabbat.”

“I save any new clothing I buy for its first wearing on Shabbat. That gives more meaning to the acquisition, and it enhances Shabbat.”

“Even when it’s just the two of us, we have dinner in the dining room and set the table with china and crystal.”

“When my children were young, I kept aside two boxes of toys just for Shabbat. As they got older, they chose certain games they would play only on Shabbat.”

“On Shabbat morning we always eat challah French toast which my three year old daughter helps make. While I’m at Shabbat morning services my two daughters and my husband have time together. We then spend the afternoon together going to the playground or park or doing a family art project.”



Atlee Chait is pictured here (center) last spring when she attended High School in Israel. Atlee writes: “This picture was taken during dinner at a Druze home. The food was amazing but we also were able to learn about their way of life. To be a Druze, one has to be born into the religion. They also believe they have many lives and will remember past memories if they ever return to a place from their past.”

Men of Sinai News

The year 5770 is off to a wonderful start for the Men of Sinai (formerly Sinai Temple Brotherhood). On Sunday, October 4, we were honored to have Steve Weiss, a former President of Sinai Temple, speak after our breakfast. Steve brought a very interesting perspective on the economic meltdown and the “fall out” from the subprime mortgage mess. Steve lent his special humor and knowledge to both the presentation and the Q&A session which followed.

Breakfasts are open to men and women. The Men of Sinai will host its next breakfast at 9:00 on Sunday, November 1st. Jim Gordon, another former President of Sinai Temple, will speak. Jim is a scholar of Justice John Marshall Harlan who served on the United States Supreme Court from 1877 until 1911.

Justice Harlan was born in 1833 and raised in Kentucky, a slave-holding state, in a slave-holding family. In the late 19th century, the Supreme Court became more and more insensitive to discrimination against African-Americans, ultimately abandoning Black civil rights. Harlan became known as the “Great Dissenter” because he opposed these developments. Jim has written on Harlan’s career and will share his learning at breakfast on November 1.

Men of Sinai look forward this year to Sunday breakfasts on December 6, January 17, March 7, April 4, and May 2. There will be a “Men’s only” meeting with the Rabbi on January 27, and the Rabbi Herman Snyder Award dinner and service will be on March 26th.

Also, Board meetings are in the library the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. monthly. All Men of Sinai are invited to “break bread” and meet with us. Join Men of Sinai for an active 5770!

L’shalom, Jack Henrie, Board Member Men of Sinai

Notes from Cantor Martin Levson

Last month I thanked the members of Adult Volunteer Choir for their beautiful singing during the High Holidays. This month, let me take a moment to thank the excellent instrumental musicians who volunteered their time and talent during the High Holiday season. Dave Tivoli played guitar during the Selichot Coffee House, Joe Whalen played upright bass during Rosh Hashanah morning (late service), and “Harry and the Jews,” our high school Jewish rock band, played for the Renewed Shofar service and Simchat Torah! “Harry and the Jews” are: Anthony Barbieri (Electric Bass), Celia Gibson (Flute and Vocals), Sarah Klein (Percussion), Spencer Locke (Baritone), Harry Miller (Euphonium), Brian Plumb (Electric Guitar), and Ilanna Tariff (Vocals). “*Tzur Al!*”

The Adult Volunteer Choir’s next “gig” will be for the 8th night of Chanukkah service on Friday, December 18. Rehearsals will be Wednesday evenings at 7:30, December 2, 9, and 16. Please let me know if you would like to join us, we would love to share the fun with more members!

Finally, a number of people have asked me about some of the music they heard during the High Holidays. On Yom Kippur morning, I sang a song called *The Moment Slipped Away*. It was written by a wonderful New York singer-songwriter named Christine Lavin. I highly recommend her work. The rousing closing song at the late Rosh Hashanah morning service was an Iraqi Jewish melody, *Hallelu Avdey Adonai*, which was recorded by my friend Cantor Richard Kaplan (with Michael Ziegler) on his outstanding CD *Tuning the Soul*. Both Christine Lavin’s and Richard Kaplan’s music are available on iTunes, and their CDs can be purchased online at Amazon and CDBaby.

Ivdu Et Hashem B’simcha! Serve the Holy One with JOY!

What makes me happy to be a member of Sinai Temple?

Sinai is a place for self-growth, reflection and personal development. Sinai exhibits a willingness to change and always addresses the needs of our surrounding community. Sinai is extremely accepting of families of all kinds and makes everyone feel welcome. —*Submitted by Jill Goldstein*

I belong to Sinai for community. I like the ethics and values of Reform Judaism. —*Submitted by Belle Rita Novak*

The mission statement says it all: “Sinai Temple is a welcoming, inclusive Reform Congregation where our members pursue a continuing journey of Jewish growth... within a joyful, creative, and compassionate community.” I am happy to be part of such a community. —*Submitted by Judy Aronson*

Being a Reform Temple, I find the services to be meaningful and enjoyable. Also, at Sinai Temple, I am able to participate in a variety of important activities that are helpful to the congregation and the community. These are just two of the reasons why I enjoy being a member of Sinai Temple. —*Submitted by Saul Finestone*

Sinai Temple is enriching my Jewish education which has always been important to me. There is a very strong sense of community, people helping each other. I find that it is extremely important to attend Yom Kippur and other High Holiday services. —*Submitted by Matthew Cooper, age 13*

CHANUKAH!! CHANUKAH!!

Chanukah Lights Night: Service, Dinner, & Contests: Friday, December 18 at 6 p.m.

Bring your chanukiah (menorah) and candles to the service.

After the service, dinner will be served.

Then comes the Chanukah T-Shirt Contest for kids and adults of ALL AGES. Plus a second contest: Bring us your best joke or riddle.

There will be an open mike. Different categories for different ages. Prizes for all.

SUPER TZEDAKAH SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2009



It's Your Jewish Community. Be Part of It.

On Super Tzedakah Sunday, more than 100 volunteers come together to build a community based on compassion and justice. The Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts will kick off its 2010 Annual Campaign with a phone-a-thon.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Debbie Peskin at the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, 737-4313 x121. When a volunteer phones to ask you for a contribution, please answer the call and give generously.

**One people. One community. One day.
Live Generously. It does a world of good.**

Chanukah T-Shirt Contest

Design a T-Shirt that depicts Chanukah and what it means to you. Wear your T-Shirt to our Chanukah Lights Night on Friday, December 18. A single T-Shirt for each household would be fine, but you may choose to have a shirt for every family member too. PRIZES for all.

Get On Board!

Do you have any children's board games or puzzles that could be given away to needy children? The Springfield YWCA is thrilled to have as many games, puzzles and Lego as we can give them. They have a shelter for women/girls who are victims of domestic violence and their children; teen programs; programs for women/girls who are victims of sexual assault and their children. Bring your gifts to the Temple any time before Friday, December 18.

Chanukah in the School: Sunday, December 13

A fabulous morning (including a student/teacher basketball game). Totally full of learning and excitement.

Chanukah Tzedakah: Ner Shel Tzedakah, Tuesday, December 15

Don't buy presents on December 15. On the FIFTH night of Chanukah, December 15, the Social Action Committee encourage families to donate the value of the gifts they would ordinarily exchange (or the gifts themselves) to local or national organizations assisting the poor. Let this be an evening for NER SHEL TZEDAKAH - THE LIGHT OF TZEDAKAH

Geoffrey Canada Head of the Harlem Children's Zone To Speak at Springfield Forum, Symphony Hall Wednesday, November 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Revolutionary educator Geoffrey Canada, President and CEO of the Harlem Children's Zone, has had real success in helping impoverished, at-risk youth beat the odds through a comprehensive approach to education and poverty eradication. Geoffrey Canada will bring his ideas and inspiration to Springfield on November 4. This is an evening not to be missed.

Blessings for Chanukah

- ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם. אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who has sanctified us with commandments and commanded us to light the Chanukah candles.

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik neir shel Chanukah.

- ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם. שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who performed great wonders for our ancestors in those days at this season.

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, sheh-ah-sah nee-seem la-vo-tay-nu ba-ya-meem ha-haim baz-man ha-zeh.

- ברוך אתה יי אלהינו. מלך העולם. שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this moment.

Ba-ruch a-ta A-do-Nai e-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-che-ya-nu ve-ki-ye-ma-nu ve-hi-gi-a-nu laz-man ha-zeh.

I-Touch Raffle To Benefit the Religious School

Tickets Sales November 3rd – December 1

Tickets Prices 1 for \$10 and 3 for \$25.

Drawing December 6, 2009

LEGACY

WHAT WILL YOURS BE?

What will you bequeath to future generations? How will the ideals you cherish now be sustained then? Who will articulate your principles for the sake of your grandchildren, your faith, your community and your country?

There is an answer.

With your help, Sinai Temple will endure as a powerful voice, sustaining those beliefs you hold dear. Now. And for future generations.

To obtain more information about remembering Sinai Temple in your will or estate, please contact: Steve Sussman, Vice President, Jeff Cossin, Vice President, or Rabbi Shapiro

Chanukah Questions and Answers

When is Chanukah?

Chanukah begins Friday, December 11. The last candle is lit Friday, December 18.

How do we observe Chanukah today?

Chanukah is almost entirely a time for celebration, although it can be more than that. This year, for example, how about implementing the new “tradition” of Ner Shel Tzedakah, which means dedicating one “ner/candle/night” to tzedakah. Make Tuesday, December 15 different by giving gifts of tzedakah.

How do we prepare the candles when Chanukah arrives?

Place the candles in the chanukiah (Chanukah menorah) from right to left.

How many candles are used?

On the first night of Chanukah one light is kindled. On the following night, two lights and so on until on the eighth night, eight lights are kindled. This does not, of course, include the shammas which is the candle used every night to light the other candles of the day.

Where does the chanukiah go?

If possible the chanukiah should go near or at a window. In this way passersby can see the burning candles, which means according to Jewish tradition, that we have helped in the process of Pirsum Ha-nais—the Publicizing of the Chanukah Miracle and Story.

How do we light the candles?

Just after nightfall, say the blessings. The first two are said every night. The third is only said on the first night. After the blessings light the candles by going from left to right so that the additional light of each night is kindled first.

Do we do anything different on Shabbat (Friday evenings, December 11 & 18)?

Yes. On those nights we light the chanukiah first and after that Shabbat candles. For a really good time, don't do your candles at home. Bring yourself and your candles to Temple for a service, good food, and fun.

Judaica Shop Corner

Chanukah is fast approaching and we will have a wonderful selection of menorahs, draydels, candles, novelties, decorations, toys and gifts. Please see our enclosed flyer for ideas.

We're extending our hours for your convenience; check our flyer and do come in to browse.

Thais Fischel 786-9577

Bobbie Cossin 565-9970

The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing

All of us at Sinai Temple extend condolences as we remember the following.

Their memories are precious to their relatives, their friends and to each of us who form the community of Sinai Temple.

We remember those who have passed away from August 12, 2009 to October 18, 2009.

- Alan Burger the father of Dean and Scott Burger, and brother of Ruth Thyberg-Dean.
- Susan Schreyer, the mother of Brenna Sullivan and the daughter of June Schreyer
- Albert Kleiman, father of Richard Kleiman.
- Barbara Resnick, wife of Julius Resnick.
- Michelle Grundy, sister of Harlene Kleiman.
- Sara Feldman, sister of Carol Roberts
- Eileen Weisthal, sister of Richard Tariff

2009 JCC Maccabi Games and Artsfest Sinai Participants

**Mark your calendar for Sunday,
November 8**

We're going to travel again!

Congratulations to Sinai kids who had a fabulous summer and participated in the Maccabi Games: Hayden Van Brewer, Sarah Greenberg, Max Haberman, Sarah Klein, Michael Plumb, Jake Webber. Artsfest: Anthony Barbieri. Coaches: Betsy Bertuzzi, Matt Bertuzzi, Britt Van Brewer.

This past August, Sinai teens and others throughout the Pioneer Valley represented Team Springfield at the JCC Maccabi Games in Westchester County, NY and the JCC Artsfest in Orange County, CA.

If you are a teen who will be between 13 and 16 (Maccabi Games) or 13-17 (Artsfest) as of July 31, 2010 come to the 2010 Kick-off on Sunday, November 8th at 6:30 in the JCC game room. Hear more about sports/activities offered, evening activities and dates/place. For more info contact Betsy Bertuzzi, 567-3524.

Sinai Temple

BULLETIN



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Over 150 of Sinai's young and old had a great time on Erev Sukkot. Guess what we served to end the evening?