

# Sinai Temple Bulletin



*Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat*

## For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

Rosh Hashanah is in the air. Time for reflection. Time for Temple. Time to remember what Sinai Temple means in our lives.

Here are my responses to the question: What is Sinai Temple?

Sinai is parents anticipating their child's marriage and then joyously holding their first grandchild.

Sinai is a teenager searching for his place in Judaism, asking questions, and beginning to find answers.

Sinai is a young couple planning to raise their children in a community that welcomes and nurtures them.

Sinai is a congregant who becomes ill and receives the support and concern of the congregation.

Sinai is a 13 year old girl becoming a Bat Mitzvah and proudly marching with the Torah next to her parents and grandparents.

And Sinai is also the sound of the shofar, the solemnity of Kol Nidre, the dancing of Simchat Torah, and the warmth of Passover.

Sinai is where we pray. We search for meaning through words and melodies as old as Jerusalem but as new as today.

Sinai is where we learn. Children encounter the stories and festivities of Jewish life for the first time while adults explore the meaning of Torah as it pertains to real life in the modern world.

Sinai is social action. Throughout the year, we are dedicated to fixing our world for the sake of justice.

Sinai is community. We share sorrows and triumphs. We delight in children and take pride in members who maintain their commitment to us for a lifetime.

Sinai is an address for Reform Judaism. It is an approach that combines modernity with tradition.

Sinai is our anchor for the values of Judaism, for caring, moral vision, and hope.

Sinai Temple is about living. It is about living our lives as Jews with joy.

I'm so proud to be rabbi of this congregation. I look forward to being with you "at Sinai" in the holiday season that begins this month.

## Friday Evenings –

**First Fridays at 6 p.m.**

**All Other Fridays at 7:30 p.m.**

**September 7 at 6:00 p.m.**

Kabbalat Shabbat. A beautiful brief service. Come early for veggies and snacks. Home by 7 p.m.

**September 14 at 7:30 p.m.**

Shabbat Service.

**September 21 at 7:30 p.m.**

The Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is called Shabbat Shuva – The Sabbath of Repentance.

**September 28 at 7:30 p.m.**

Sukkot is in the air. Come get ready with the Rabbi and Cantor.

**Every Saturday  
Morning Starting  
September 8  
Services at 10:30  
a.m.**

**Mazal Tov to our Bar  
Mitzvah**

September 8 – Noah Skole, son of Laurie Skole

**Serving Life: Oprah Winfrey with Life Lessons from Prison  
A Coffeehouse and Film Exploring our Ability to Change  
Saturday, September 8 from 8 to 9:30 p.m.**

You are invited to a pre-High Holiday coffeehouse and service featuring a documentary film developed by Oprah Winfrey. "Serving Life" takes viewers inside a Louisiana maximum security prison where inmates volunteer to serve in the prison's hospice. Criminals become caregivers as we consider whether human beings can ever truly change.

Narrator Forest Whitaker asks, "Can a killer (can any of us) learn compassion and ultimate redemption?"

The Rabbi and Cantor have shaped an evening for conversation featuring classic and modern Selichot music.

Coffee & desserts will be served.

## A Message from President Jeff Cossin

It has been a hectic summer here at Sinai Temple! Please notice a new feature in this first bulletin of 5773: Advertisements! We are one of many Reform Congregations doing this. During spring and summer we have been very successful in recruiting 22 Advertisers for a net income of \$5600.00. I want to thank Gary and Pat Gootzit, and Ilene and Michael Conklin, for taking charge of this professional effort. Howard Kalodner, our Bulletin Editor, was immensely helpful both with his ideas and legal expertise as well as his skill in laying out the ads for publication. PLEASE acknowledge our advertisers as well when you frequent their businesses... AND again thanks to Pat and Ilene and their families for spending much of their summer organizing the TAG / Rummage Sale. This was a monumental undertaking. Their effort along with many other Temple members brought in \$5400.00. And Todah Rabbah to all of our members who led Shabbat services and Torah Study during the summer months. And finally Thank you to all of you who manned the Temple office while Robin Blanchette-Gage was on vacation.

Before I leave Spring and Summer, I want to mention that on Confirmation night I was honored to present some remarks to our Confirmands and their families. I suggested that every September before the High Holidays our families should send or present a Jewish Calendar (paper or "app") to each of their children so that they are aware of the multiple Jewish Cycles through the year. NOW is the time! Our Gift shop has them for you. Please try this out and let me know their reaction. My daughter Elizabeth already has hers and she was delighted!

I am happy to announce that Jodi Burstein is our new chair of the Committee on Youth Engagement (CYE), Beth Chafetz is the chair of the Baby Boomer Outreach Effort for 2012-2013, and Ronnie Leavett

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The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published six times a year by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 1 for the year 2012-2013.

Mark Dov Shapiro ..... Rabbi  
 Martin Levson ..... Cantor  
 Heather Sullivan ..... Director of Education  
 Lisa Gittleman Udi ..... JOY and SPFTY Advisor  
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 Ron Weiss ..... Cemetery Chair  
 Karen Mendelsohn ..... Membership Committee Chair

Visit our website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

The publication of the Sinai Bulletin is made possible in part by a gift to our Endowment Fund from Ruth and Fred Weiss.

### **Serving Life: Oprah Winfrey with Life Lessons from Prison** **A Coffeehouse and Film Exploring our Ability to Change** **Saturday, September 8 from 8 to 9:30 p.m.**

A pre-High Holiday coffeehouse and service featuring a documentary film developed by Oprah Winfrey. "Serving Life" takes viewers inside a Louisiana maximum security prison where inmates volunteer to serve in the prison's hospice. Narrator Forest Whitaker asks, "Can a killer (can any of us) learn compassion and ultimate redemption?"

Coffee & desserts will be served.

### **Erev Rosh Hashanah**

#### **Sunday, September 16**

Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.

### **Rosh Hashanah Day**

#### **Monday, September 17**

Children's Service ..... 8:30—9:15 a.m.

(For families with children from infant to 7 yrs)

Congregational Service ..... 10:00—12:15 p.m.

(Childcare & program ..... 10:00—12:15 p.m.)

Tashlich ..... 4:30 p.m.

### **Cemetery Memorial Service**

#### **Sunday, September 23 at 1:00 p.m.**

At the Sinai Temple Cemetery

### **Kol Nidre**

Tuesday, September 25 at 8 p.m.

### **Yom Kippur Day**

Wednesday, September 26

(Times approximate)

Morning Service ..... 10:00 a.m.

(Childcare & program ..... 10:00—12:30 p.m.)

Musical Interlude ..... 12:30 p.m.

Study Options ..... 1:30 p.m.

Family Service ..... 2:00 p.m.

Afternoon Service ..... 3:00 p.m.

Yizkor Service ..... 4:45 p.m.

Neilah/Closing Service ..... 5:45 p.m.

Break Fast ..... 6:15 p.m.

## Sinai Temple High Holiday 2012 Ticket Policy

### **Ticket Requirements**

- Tickets will be required for admission to each service.
- Tickets will be checked at the Temple entrance.
- Each member of the family should have his/her own ticket.

### **Tickets will be mailed automatically if any of the following are satisfied:**

- A minimum of 2/3 of this year's dues, plus any past due amounts, have been paid.
- A payment schedule has been arranged with the treasurer or financial secretary.
- Arrangements have been made for credit card payments.

### **Childcare**

- Please see page four.

### **Visiting the Sinai Temple Cemetery**

It is traditional to visit the cemetery during the High Holiday period. Temple members with loved ones buried at Sinai's cemetery are welcome to visit the cemetery for a service conducted by the Rabbi and Cantor on Sunday, September 23. **This year's service will take place at 1:00 p.m.**

### **30 and Under membership category**

- In order to open the Temple as much as possible to young Jews, we gladly welcome members who are 30 years of age or under.
- Individuals 30 or under may become members at no cost.

### **Out of Town Guest policy**

- Members of other congregations affiliated with the URJ should ask for a seating request from their home temple for seating at Sinai Temple.
- Members may request complimentary tickets for out of town guests by completing a request form obtained from the Temple office. Guest's home addresses must be supplied.
- Households new to the Western Mass/ Northern Connecticut area, not affiliated with a synagogue, may receive complimentary High Holiday tickets once upon request.

### **Attending Services on the Telephone**

Do you know someone who misses out on High Holiday Services because they are physically unable to attend? This year it will be possible to hear live Sinai Temple services by telephone from home or even from a hospital room. Sinai's Caring Community and TRZ Religious Services will be making this wonderful opportunity available.

This service is free of charge to members and will not be limited to the High Holidays. It can also be used to listen in on any service (i.e. Bar/Bat Mitzvah, wedding or funeral) that Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson lead from the bimah.

## Try a Synagogue Offers Temple Membership \$365 a Year: A Dollar a Day

As an incentive to grow our membership, Sinai is joining with Temple Beth El and Congregation B'nai Torah for a unique offer.

Join a synagogue this year for \$365.

Share the news with a friend. Bring a friend.

Help grow Sinai.



This High Holy Day Season, stand up for Israel. Invest in Israel Bonds.



Development Corporation for Israel  
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This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before investing to fully evaluate the risks associated with investing in State of Israel bonds. Issues subject to availability. Photos: ©stockphoto.com

# Notes about the Holidays

## Prayers and Blessings for Your Home

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur begin at home with family meals. Your meal can become more than a pleasant dinner by making into a sacred occasion with the appropriate blessings for the holidays. Our website has everything you need in English, Hebrew, and transliteration. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

## Music for Your Home

High Holiday melodies that appear in our services are now available on the website. Listen and learn! [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

## For Young Families

### Rosh Hashanah Morning at 8:30 a.m.

If you have children 7 years and younger down to infancy, we've got something NEW for you in the Magen David Room. Come join the Rabbi and Cantor for a service designed to meet your young family's needs. We'll be sitting in a circle of chairs. Apples and honey will close the service around 9:15 a.m.

### ONE Rosh Hashanah Morning Service

#### 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

As was the case last year, there will be ONE morning service starting like Yom Kippur at 10 a.m. and ending at lunch time (!) around 12:15 p.m.

## Babysitting for Children through Kindergarten

Babysitting for small children ages two through Kindergarten (no infants) will be available *during the 10 a.m. services* on Rosh Hashanah morning and Yom Kippur morning. We would also like to offer babysitting for infants IF there is real interest. Please contact the Temple office to reserve a spot for your child...736-3619. We will hire babysitters based on the prior reservations.

## Child Programming for Grades One & Two

An age appropriate program for children in Grades 1 and 2 will be available *during the 10 a.m. services* on Rosh Hashanah morning and Yom Kippur morning. Please contact the Temple office to reserve a spot for your child...736-3619.

## Children in Grades Three & Four

On Yom Kippur morning, we will be offering a service/program, designed for this intermediate age group. Too old for a children's program; often too young for the full adult service. More information will follow.

## Children in Grades Five & Six (PLEASE NOTE)

We will NOT be offering a service/program for this age group. Experience from previous years and conversations with parents indicate that most parents believe their 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grader can attend the adult services. We welcome and encourage that!

## For Young Families

### Yom Kippur Afternoon at 2 p.m.

If you have young children (7 years and younger down to infancy), we've got something for you in the Magen David Room. A brief service for the Day of Atonement. PLUS if you've got the energy, bring your kids back (all ages) to the Neilah/Concluding Service. Be there around 6:15 p.m. We'll end the whole day by inviting all children onto the bimah for a final blast of the shofar.

## Allergy-sufferers Request

Please refrain from excessive use of perfumes and colognes when attending services and events at Temple especially on the High Holidays. Those with allergies can be adversely affected and become uncomfortable when exposed to strong scents.

When purchasing bimah flowers for special occasions please be considerate of allergy-sufferers and order only non-scented arrangements.

## Tashlich – For Everyone –

### An Outdoor Rosh Hashanah Celebration!

### With kids...without kids...with grandchildren!



Tashlich is a totally festive, happy opportunity. Based on the custom of "casting our sins" away, we gather at Laurel Pond in Longmeadow for 30 informal minutes. It's Rosh Hashanah in jeans and with a large smile. We sing. Share original prayers and poems. Taste challah dipped in honey.

Tashlich is an active, joyful way of celebrating Rosh Hashanah outdoors.

## A Message from President Jeff Cossin

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and Michael Freedman are cochairs of our Leadership Development initiative. The CYE is charged with overseeing all of non-Religious School youth social activities from babies age one day to our young adults in twelfth grade. I am thrilled that these very capable individuals are leading these priorities for Sinai this year.

The Membership Committee needs your help in recruitment. It is time to share our great Sinai Community with all unaffiliated Jews in the Greater Springfield Community. Let us not remain a well hidden secret any longer! Tikeah! If you know of anyone who may be a prospective new member, please email that information to Cheri Mustain, our Membership Coordinator at [cherimustain@comcast.net](mailto:cherimustain@comcast.net). We will be inviting the entire community to a special Jewish Harvest Festival celebration (Sukkot!) on September 30, 2012. This promises to be a fun, exciting, and tasty experience from beginning to end (wink wink!!) Please find details in this bulletin and on the web site.

During September we will be welcoming our new Religious School Director, Heather Sullivan, and we look forward to her ideas, enthusiasm, and wonderful rapport with our children and our teachers. She has been working hard during the summer to make our school year a great success.

L'Shanah Tova, Chag Sameach and Tikeah Gadolah are three phrases that we will hear many times during this very busy month of September. I hope to greet many of you before and after the High Holiday services and Sukkot.

I am looking forward to presenting my remarks on Rosh Hashanah morning and experiencing this New Year 5773 with all of you. May it be a sweet year for all of us.

L'Shanah Tova  
Jeff

### **What Time are Friday Evening Services? A New Answer to an Old Question 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.**

Friday evening services take place at only two times: either 6 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. Our Kabbalat Shabbat service is now the first Friday of every month. Kabbalat Shabbat starts at 6 p.m. All other Friday evening services start at the same time, 7:30 p.m.

### **Saturday Morning Services**

Every Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. (Starting September 8)

A regular weekly Shabbat morning service. Even when there isn't a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, we meet at 10:30 a.m. complete with the Yahrzeit list.

## Notes from Cantor Martin Levson

It's a New Year filled with new possibilities and opportunities! I am pleased to offer three different ways to strengthen your personal connection to Judaism in this coming 5773. Use your hands, your breath, your mind, and your heart in new Jewish ways this New Year!

First, have you ever built a Sukkah in your backyard? Well, you CAN build a Sukkah, and you SHOULD build a Sukkah! Please join me on Sunday, September 9 at 11:30 A.M; immediately after the opening session of Religious School, for the Great Sukkah-Building Demo! You will learn that building a Sukkah is a fun activity for the entire family, that it doesn't cost very much for the materials, and that you don't need to have great skill with power tools. Detailed plans and a handy "Sinai Sukkah Kit" shopping list will be available. Build a Sukkah at your home with your family this New Year! It's a great Jewish thing to do!

On the following two Sundays, September 16 and 23, at 11:30 A.M; I will be hosting "The Shofar Blowers Workshop" for Sinai members Grade 5 through adults. Rabbi Shapiro and I would like to have a literal chorus of shofarot at the very end of Neila services on Yom Kippur day. If you would like to be part of this wonderfully cacophonous endeavor, please join me for these workshops. Bring your own shofar, or you can borrow a shofar from Sinai Temple's collection. (First come, first blown, so please RSVP to the Temple office if you would like to borrow a shofar from the Temple.) Learn to blow the shofar this New Year! It's another great Jewish thing to do!

Finally, after the holidays, I would like to offer a Torah chanting class, provided there is sufficient interest. The class would meet weekly over a period of about 10 weeks, and will culminate with the graduates chanting some verses of Torah during a Shabbat service. If you can "decode" Hebrew (reading letters and vowels, but not necessarily with comprehension), and would like to learn the sacred art of chanting Torah, please let me know soon that you would be interested! If I get enough of a response, I would be delighted to offer the class this autumn. Learn to chant Torah this New Year! It's an amazingly wonderful Jewish thing to do!

Sheri, Alec, Liz, Candy and I would like to wish our entire Sinai Temple family a Shana Tova Umitukah, a Good and a Sweet New Year!

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

### **Welcome to our New Members:**

Mirian Detres-Hickey and her children Krystin and Daniel.  
Sarah and Arnold Shtrax.  
Harry Chandler.

## Got Hammers? Got Lips? – Two Opportunities for a spirited September

**Sunday, September 9 at 11:30 a.m.**

**The Great Sukkah-Building Demo!**

**You CAN build a Sukkah! You SHOULD build a Sukkah!  
And we'll show you how!**

**(Immediately after the opening session of Religious School)**

Building a Sukkah is a fun Jewish activity for the entire family!

The materials don't cost very much!

You don't need to have great skill with power tools!

Detailed plans and a handy "Sinai Sukkah Kit" shopping list will be available. Learn how to build your very own Sukkah at home this New Year! (Men of Sinai will even be offering a BBQ while we build a sukkah before your very eyes.)

**Sundays, September 16 & 23 at 11:30 a.m.**

**Shofar Workshop**

**You can learn to blow the shofar this year!**

You can blow the shofar at the end of the Yom Kippur service!

Bring your lips to Cantor Levson's office on two Sundays this month. If you own a shofar, bring it along. If you would like to use a shofar owned by the Temple, contact the Cantor asap. We have a limited number to lend. You can do this! Adults are welcome. Children in fifth grade and older.

## **Israeli Literature as a Window to Israeli Society**

**Taught by Rabbis Amy Katz and Mark Dov Shapiro**

**Nine fabulous weeks - October - December**

Who could ask for more? Katz and Shapiro....Shapiro and Katz. Learning and teaching together.

This course of study offers a fresh and fascinating examination of Israeli society since the birth of the State in 1948. Through the pens of its leading writers, participants encounter an Israeli society that is original, contemporary, honest and proud. Reflections of the mythic Israel are matched by poetry and prose that is challenging and self-critical, and both offer profound insight into the Israeli national psyche.

Monday evenings (October 15 to December 17) from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (Rabbi Katz is the primary teacher for Monday.)

The same course Wednesday mornings (October 17 to December 19) from 9:30 to – 11:00 a.m. (Rabbi Shapiro is the primary Wednesday teacher, although both rabbis will be teaching at both times during the nine weeks.)

This course is part of the Melton Program.

There is a registration fee.

For details on cost, please contact Robin at Sinai's office. (736-3619) Pre-registration is a requirement. Sinai members must register through Sinai's office for either the Monday or Wednesday sessions.

## **Sinai Temple's Book Club: New Year...New Books**

**Wednesday October 3** - Friendly Fire by A.B.Yehoshua, a contemporary Israeli novelist very widely read in Israel; "...a rich, compassionate, rewarding novel in which sharply rendered details of modern Israeli life and age-old mysteries of human existence echo one another in complex and surprising ways."

**Wednesday November 7** - Talking to the Enemy, short stories by an Israeli/Canadian. Short, easy to read but very thought provoking stories, covering a range of human experience, "that offer a rich multigenerational chronicle of Israel since its birth."

**Wednesday December 5** - To The End of the Land by David Grossman, a long, dense, challenging but poetic novel that is both universal and very particular to Israeli life.

## **Torah Study Returns:**

### **Bagels & Brains**

**Saturdays in September at 9 a.m.**

No guarantee on the brains, but the bagels are excellent and the conversation is open-ended and participatory. If you want to touch base with Judaism's basics, Torah Study is for you. Newcomers welcome. No prior knowledge necessary.

## **Monthly Morning Service**

**Wednesday, September 5  
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. The feeling of togetherness is wonderful. The spirit is unique. 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, October 3, November 7, December 5, January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5. The Morning Minyan is underwritten through our Endowment Fund by a gift from the Family of Richard Lavin.

# Sinai Temple Chavurah!

**What is a Chavurah?** A Chavurah is a group of approximately 12 to 16 Temple members who gather on a regular basis to share Jewish experiences, study, celebrate life and spend time together.

**Who can join?** All Temple members are invited to join. Just fill out the application and return it to the Temple office. The application can also be found at

[www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

**Are there different kinds of Chavurot?** Chavurot may consist of families, individuals on their own, or couples. Some may be limited to a given age group. Other Chavurot can include a diverse cross-section of the congregation. One Chavurah may concentrate on Jewish study, while another may mostly celebrate and socialize.

**Who runs the Chavurah?** Each Chavurah will be autonomous. The Chavurah will organize its own leadership. There will be a Chavurah Coordinator. She will be receiving the applications and completing the matching process that will create the Chavurot. There is a Chavurah committee that will also make sure each group is running smoothly.

**Questions?** If you are interested, please contact the office. We'll get back to you with all your questions answered.

## Chavurah Application

Please fill in the information that best reflects you and return to the Temple office. This application can also be completed on the Temple website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Your Age (Circle)

Under 30 30-40 40-50 50-60 60-70 70-80 Over 80

Children (if participating)

| Name  | Gender | Age   |
|-------|--------|-------|
| _____ | _____  | _____ |
| _____ | _____  | _____ |
| _____ | _____  | _____ |

Type of Chavurah (number in priority order)

Family (including preschool and younger aged children)

Family (including school aged children)

Family (including teens and older children)

Couples

Singles

Women only

Men only

Other (fill in) \_\_\_\_\_

Number in your order of preference the following Chavurah activities:

Study Discussions, e.g. Jewish history, values, Israel, etc

Celebrations, e.g. Jewish holidays/ Shabbat

Social, e.g. cooking, outdoors, crafts

Social Action activities

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Would you feel comfortable hosting a chavurah gathering in your home? Yes No (circle)

If you were to create your own chavurah, what would its focus be?

Is there any other information that may be helpful in the matching process?

## Message from Director of Education

Heather Sullivan

*Shalom!*

I can't believe the 5773 school year is just around the corner. I am so thrilled to join you this year as the Director of Education. We have some exciting news to share from the Religious School.

I am happy to welcome aboard Loren Hutner and Jay Mustain, who will both be teaching on Tuesday afternoons. Sherry DelGallo and Nina King, are also two new teachers that we welcome to Sunday mornings. Each new staff person brings his/ her own unique Jewish experience. That is what makes Sinai Temple so wonderful.

This year we will try to transition the Madrichim Program (the program for high-school aged aides in our classrooms) into a true leadership program. Our hope is that students, aged 14-17, who join us as aides will learn and grow in such ways that they may become teachers with the Religious School while still in high school. I am pleased to announce that Liz Levson and Rachel Sherman, two well-seasoned 11th grade Madrichot, will be co-teaching one of our Tuesday afternoon Hebrew classrooms.

I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday, September 9, 2012 for our first day of school. Be sure to stick around and learn how to build your very own sukkah at our first Sukkah Building Workshop, immediately following school on opening day. Wishing you and yours a happy and healthy 5773.

*L'hitraot,*

Heather

## Welcome Back Barbecue from the Men of Sinai – Sunday September 9

September is the time when the dog days of summer give way to the cool comfortable breezes of autumn. It is also the time for us to return home from our seasonal travels. The Men of Sinai would like to welcome you home. But before the season officially ends please join us for our annual end of summer barbecue. This year's barbecue will be Sunday September 9th at 11:30 a.m., immediately after Religious School. Come share your summertime stories and reconnect with your Sinai family. Everyone is welcome. Food and refreshments will be provided free of charge by Men of Sinai. PLUS you can watch the SUKKAH WORKSHOP. In the time it takes you to eat a burger, we will build a sukkah! Come see it happen on September 9.

## Israel Turns 65 This Year!!!

Our Community is Planning a Trip to Israel...

April 15 to 25, 2013



In April 2013 the state of Israel will celebrate its 65th birthday. This momentous occasion calls for much celebration. For 65 years the State of Israel has not known a single day of peace. It has struggled with the rejection of its neighbors as well as the demons of history. Virtually alone among the nations of the world, old or new, its legitimacy is questioned or simply denied.

That is why it seems especially important for American Jews to travel to Israel to celebrate the accomplishments and successes of the last 65 years. That is why we are also so pleased to announce that our Springfield community is planning an Israel trip from April 15 to 25, 2013! We will be in Israel on Independence Day itself!

While it is important that we celebrate the successes of the state, it is equally important that we explore the social, economic, political and religious challenges that Israel is encountering. In his new work, *Saving Israel*, Dr. Daniel Gordis writes: "The very name 'Israel' connotes wrestling, struggling, grappling, the interaction of the human with what is beyond human. The real challenge facing Israel is to produce a society worthy of its name." To that end, we are also planning a variety of Israel learning opportunities starting right after the High Holidays. We will share the details in upcoming newsletters.

The Israel trip itself is for families and empty-nesters. It will be for individuals traveling alone, or with family and/ friends from near or far. The trip will be for first-timers with unique highlights for those who have been to Israel before.

Please join us on this great adventure. The enclosed brochure will give you details on the Israel 65 Trip.

L'shana ha-ba-a...Next year truly in Jerusalem.

*Shalom,*

Rabbi Max Davis, Rabbi Amy Katz, Rabbi Mark Shapiro

### **PLUS**

DON'T MISS THE JOINT COURSE ON ISRAEL TAUGHT THIS FALL BY RABBI SHAPIRO AND RABBI KATZ....Israeli Literature as a Window to Israeli Society...For details, see page 6.



## From Generation to Generation

### Marc and Susan Goldman

July 2012 marks the 34th anniversary of Marc and Susan Goldman's arrival in Longmeadow. They came with 18-month-old Arielle; within a few years came sisters Mikhaila and Gabrielle.

As their children grew, the Goldmans became involved in many community organizations. Marc became president of Heritage Academy. Marc's Dad spent the last stage of his life in the care of Jewish Geriatric Services.

Susan was a founding member of Hatikvah and its 2nd chair. She became a board member of Sinai Temple, JFS, Federation, Hadassah, and currently the Jewish Federation where she serves as Major Gifts co-chair and board secretary.

The Goldman's commitment to the Legacy Program is about Jewish continuity and it embraces community agencies as well as Sinai. They support Sinai Temple in order to ensure the perpetuity of Reform Jewish life in Springfield. They have also made legacy commitments to Hadassah, Jewish Family Service and Federation. Their goal is to strengthen the entire Jewish community for the future.



If you would like to explore joining Marc and Susan in the Sinai Legacy Society, your first step is to discuss opportunities with Rabbi Shapiro or members of the planned giving committee. Please give the office a call at 413-736-3619. There is no obligation in this conversation, and, of course, a gift of any size is welcome.

*Sinai Temple's*

**L**egacy Society

Our Turn to Create Sinai's Future  
*in Partnership with –*

Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts

## SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH 5773

### EREV SUKKOT

**Sunday, September 30**

**Let's start with a Family Dinner!!!**

For parents and students, Kindergarten through Grade 7  
Starting at 5:30 p.m.

Followed by the sukkah decorating and service at 6:30 p.m.  
Everyone goes home by 7:15 p.m.

Reservations are required. Stay tuned for details.

### SUKKOT DAY

**Monday, October 1**

**At 10:30 a.m.**

Lulav and etrog. Kiddush in the sukkah followed  
by holiday luncheon for Sinai Seniors. See Caring  
Community invitation.

### EREV SIMCHAT TORAH

**Sunday, October 7**

**At 7:00 p.m.**

Conclude the reading of Torah. Start all over. March and  
dance with our Torah scrolls.

### SIMCHAT TORAH/YIZKOR SERVICE

**Monday, October 8**

**At 10:30 a.m.**

Mark the conclusion and beginning of the Torah cycle and  
also conduct a memorial service.

[www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

The Caring Community of Sinai Temple

cordially invites you to attend

A Holiday Luncheon

for Sinai Senior Members

Monday, October 1

12:00 noon

(Following the Sukkot Morning Service)

There is no charge for this wonderful program.

Please RSVP to the Temple Office at 736-3619

### JUDAICA SHOP CORNER

Your Judaica Shop will reopen with regular hours: Tuesdays  
from 2 to 4:30 P.M. and Sundays from 9 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. start-  
ing on Sunday, September 9, which is also GRANDPARENT'S  
DAY!!!

For the coming High Holidays, we have beautiful apple and  
honey servers, challah plates and knives, kiddush cups, candle  
holders and more.

Thais Fischel, 786-9577

## Joining a Synagogue is Like Getting Married...

So maybe you should go on a couple of dates first!

OR INVITE YOUR FRIENDS WHO DON'T YET BELONG TO SINAI TO VISIT THE TEMPLE ON OPEN HOUSE DAYS...

Tuesday, Sept. 4 – Thursday, Sept. 6  
from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 10 - Friday, Sept. 13  
from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

We'll greet potential members

Show them our building.

Invite them get to know Sinai

Try a Synagogue is sponsoring this event.

Invite your friends to "TRY SINAI."

## Sometimes joining a Synagogue Can be Intimidating

So....

Let's Make It Easy

Tell your friends.

Invite your friends who don't belong to Sinai

To visit us

Sunday evening, September 30 at 5:30 p.m.

It will be EREV SUKKOT, but for those who are new to the synagogue world we are going to call it

THE JEWISH HARVEST FESTIVAL

**Reservations will be required for dinner that evening.**

**But a special welcome will also be extended to non-member guests.**

THIS IS OUTREACH  
SO PLEASE REACH OUT TO THOSE WHO MIGHT FIND  
A JEWISH HOME AT SINAI TEMPLE.

## The Scroll of Life



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.

## Thank you for supporting the Legacy Society

Thanks go to more than 40 Sinai households who have looked into the distant future and decided to include the Temple in their estate plans. We have been promoting our "Legacy Society" for four full years and are about to enter our fifth year. If you would like to learn about giving for the future, please contact the Rabbi.

## The Mitzvah Habit:

### Help us feed the hungry

You can't miss it! Every time you enter the Temple, you see the box for THE OPEN PANTRY on the floor outside the Temple office. Sometimes the box is full; sometimes it's fairly empty. But every week the Open Pantry truck comes by to scoop up whatever the box contains and take it back to the Open Pantry.

You can help keep the box full. Here's how. Whenever you go shopping, buy an extra non-perishable food item. Then whenever you come to the Temple, bring along your food item and drop it in the box. If you're coming to a meeting or services, if you've got business in the office, if your child is coming to Religious School, start a new MITZVAH HABIT. Bring some food along and place it in the box for the OPEN PANTRY.

Preferred foods for the Open Pantry are: Canned tuna, chicken, sardines, cereals, peanut butter and nuts, canned and dried beans, soups, pasta, dry milk, instant formula, and canned food.

## Thank you for supporting the Sustaining Membership Program

Thanks go to the Sinai households who have chosen to offer the Temple an extra amount of funds beyond their dues. During the current fiscal year, over 90 Sinai households became Sustaining Members. Thanks to their generosity, this year's SMP has contributed many thousands of dollars to our budget.

## Campers at Eisner



First row: Hannah Wald, Sammi Mustain, Rachael Maniscalco, Hallie Goldstein, Dani Goldstein

Second row: Maddy Cohen, Cantor Martin Levson, Shoshana Maniscalco, Celia Gibson

## Campers at Crane Lake



Clockwise from top: Cantor Martin Levson, Rachel Freedman, Marjie Black, Jacquie Frank, Josh Lesser  
(Not pictured: Jesse Cohen-Lindfors, Josh Feinberg)

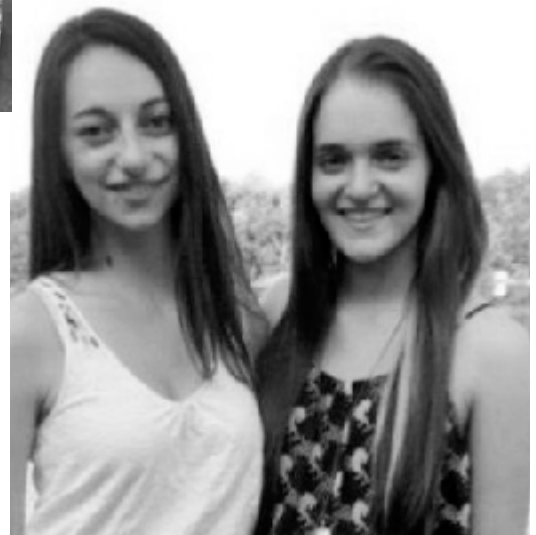


Louis Bordman (Director - Eisner Camp), Liz Levson, Sheri Levson, Cantor Martin Levson, Jodi Maniscalco, Debby Shriber (Director - Crane Lake Camp), Buff Maniscalco.

## Sinai Temple Goes to the Maccabi Games

Congratulations to the following Temple members who recently participated in the Maccabi games: Jesse Cohen-Lindfors, Billy Gordenstein, Harry Gordenstein, Max Schepps, Ben Skiest, Hayden Van Brewer, Travis Van Brewer, Rachel Wetstone, Betsy Bertuzzi, Britt Brewer.

## Campers at Kutz Camp



Hannah Gordon (left) and Liz Levson (right) at Kutz Camp

## Link to Libraries ...Tikkun Olam for the High Holidays

Link to Libraries is a non-profit organization founded in May 2008 by our Temple member, Susan Jaye-Kaplan, along with Janet Crimmins. Link to Libraries collects and distributes new books to public elementary schools and non-profit organizations in Western MA.

Sinai's Social Action Committee is going to "link" up with Link to Libraries this coming Rosh Hashanah evening. The titles of books that you might donate to Link to Libraries will be available on a bulletin board after services that night.

We will, of course, be inviting the congregation to purchase shoes for youngsters in need too. Like last year, we will also be reaching out to the students at the Brookings School in Springfield. We will be purchasing uniform shirts for the children.

## Jewish Geriatric Services

Alzheimers Support Group Meeting

To be held the 1st Wednesday of the Month 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Fill your "toolbox" with monthly resources and ongoing support.

Next meeting Wednesday, September 5th in the JNH Boardroom.

## Mazal Tov To:

- Shirley Hersh her grandson, Alan Hersh, passed the "Bar" as a lawyer in Austin, Texas. He is the son of Stuart and Sharon Hersh of Austin Texas.
- Morgan Terres and Lauren Harvey on the birth of their baby, Geronimo Levi Harvey Terres.
- Linda and Bob Kay on the birth of their granddaughter, Vivian Kay Marchetti. Her parents are Elizabeth Kay Marchetti and Christopher Marchetti of Englewood, Colorado.
- Mel and Beth Chafetz on the birth of their grandson, Benjamin Sperber. His parents are Elana Chafetz and Michael Sperberg.
- Rachel and Alan Sampson on the birth of their grandson, William Asher Sampson. His parents are Laura and James Sampson of Boston.
- Rebecca Cohen and Rachel Wetstone on receiving the Susan Broh Tikkun Olam Award.
- Saul Finestone on receiving the Robert Orenstein Award.
- Fran Ochs on being honored for her many achievements over more than 20 years of teaching. Fran was honored at the recent Heritage Academy Dinner.
- Tony and Marci Jackson on the marriage of their daughter, Lena, to Yaro Taeger.
- Edie Rubin on the engagement of her granddaughter.
- Leslie Hager. Her daughter, Rebecca Land Soodak, recently published her first novel, Henny on the Couch.
- Jeff Novak and Lori Byrne on their engagement to be married.

## Thank you to:

Men of Sinai for underwriting our purchase of a new microwave in the kitchen plus several MP3 players that will be used by the students of our Religious School as part of their Hebrew learning.

## Transportation Needed?

### Maybe you need The Sinai Shul Shuttle



Do you ever need a ride to the Temple? Have you ever missed a service or an adult education class or any other event because you couldn't find a ride?

Call the Temple office at least two business days in advance to make a reservation. The Caring Community Committee will connect you with a Temple member who will happily do the driving.

If you know someone who needs transportation or if you are someone who wants to volunteer as an occasional driver, please call the Temple office as well.

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