

Sinai Temple Bulletin



Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat

For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

I received a phone call from Omaha the other day. A Christian who works at an interfaith campus combining a church, synagogue, and a mosque wanted to talk about last year's God Survey.

She wanted to know how and why we created the survey at Sinai. She was planning to use our survey in her "tri-faith" community.

A fascinating idea, I thought. But as we talked, I suggested that she read over our Sinai questions very carefully. My advice was that she shouldn't plan on simply transferring our vocabulary over to a multi-faith population. As "neutral" as I believe our survey wording was, I'm quite sure that faith and belief have very different nuances in different traditions. Christians and Moslems use many of the same words we Jews do, but the context and the understanding aren't the same.

Which leads to an interesting question for us at Sinai: What will the results of our new survey on Israel reveal about our own community?

Will we largely agree on the meaning of Israel in our lives? Will some of us be passionate supporters of Israel while others find Israel quite inscrutable? Will most of us be "pro-Israel?" or will we speak about Israel in cautious or even negative terms?

This Friday, November 2 after the 6 p.m. service and the dinner that follows I want to share the preliminary results of our Israel Survey with you. I'm eager to do so because, when we talk about Israel, we explore a different dimension of Jewish identity. If the God Survey focused on the spiritual, this Israel Survey takes us over to the ethnic, cultural side of Jewish life. For many Jews, this latter expression of Judaism is what works best. As you've probably said yourself many times, "I'm proud to be a Jew. I'm proud of our history."

Israel and its almost 65 year history may be a large or small aspect of your Jewish pride. On November 2, let's see what over 225 congregants think.

Let's consider what role Israel plays in making us the kind of Jews we are in 2012.

Friday Evenings in November

November 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Come view the results of the Israel Survey

Kabbalat Shabbat service will be followed by a "lite" dinner at 7 p.m. Rabbi Shapiro will present the Israel survey results with opportunity for plenty of conversation.

November 9 at 6:00 p.m.

For STUFF – Sinai Temple under five families. Bring your littlest kids to Sinai.

November 9 at 7:30 p.m.

In honor of Veteran's Day, we host Springfield's Jewish War Veterans.

November 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Kidz Kabbalat – A brand new service for families with children in Kg and Grades 1 and 2. See page 7.

November 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service.

November 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service.

November 30 at 7:30 p.m.- Sababa Returns

Sababa is an exuberant trio of musicians. They've been brilliant at Sinai before. Their return is made possible by a gift from the late Ed Wallace. See page 3.

Friday Evenings in December

December 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat sixty minute service. Veggies and snacks available at 5:30 p.m.

December 14 – It's Chanukah

We start at 6 p.m. Bring your chanukiah (menorah) with 8 candles. Dinner follows. Reservations required. See page 6.

December 21 and 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Shabbat Service

Saturday Mornings in November and December

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.

Service at 10:30 a.m.

Mazal Tov to our Bnai Mitzvah

- November 2 – Jayne Chanin Daughter of Sue and Jeff Chanin
- November 17 – Hannah Wald Daughter of Gloria and Michael Wald
- November 24 – Oron Steingrub Son of Milagros Rosal and Jay Steingrub
- December 8 – Gabby Garibian & Griffin Percy Daughter of Dianna Goldberg and Kevin Garibian, Son of Susan and David Percy

A Message from President Jeff Cossin

There is nothing more invigorating for me than observing and Kvelling over the youngsters and children in our STUFF program, TOT Shabbat, Shir Fun and Religious School. They are not only having fun but are actually enjoying Judaism. I was very proud of Shir Fun's singing during the Rosh Hashanah morning service. One could observe that there was spirituality in their participation. The STUFF kids danced around Cantor "Bim Bam" even as early as 8:30 am on Rosh Hashanah Morning! And then there was Erev Sukkot. We had nearly 140 people decorating our Sinai Sukkah. I thoroughly enjoyed being advised by many of the children as to where to hang the decorations! Kudos to Jennifer and Adam Metsch and Karen Mendelsohn and their teams for planning and carrying out that evening.

And now we are looking forward to our Chanukah celebration on December 14, 2012. Our community has a wonderful opportunity to reach out to our unaffiliated Jewish friends and invite them to Sinai on that evening. It promises to be lots of fun. We will have a wonderful opportunity to honor Howard Kalodner as he "retires" from his eight year stint as Bulletin Editor and nine years as Webmaster. Chanukah has become THE holiday to honor those individuals who have worked tirelessly for Sinai over many years as "unsung heroes."

As we go to deadline for this Bulletin I am thrilled to announce that there will be a very special show on December 16 starring many of the children in our Religious School. Sheri Levson has asked for our blessing to go ahead with this project and I was excited to say "YES". Our kids are learning new skills as well as experiencing Judaism. This is wonderful!

We will be interacting with the Baby Boomers over the next 2-3 months. Our goal is to engage with this very important cohort of individuals as they transition to new generational activities to see how Sinai can fit into their evolving lives. Calls from the Board and from Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson as well as a written invitation will precede a series of Coffee Conversations. I will report on our experience later in the year.

Our Leadership Development initiative for 2012-2013 is well on its way. We are looking for congregants who would like to get more involved in the life of our Sinai Temple community. This does not necessarily mean we are only searching for future Presidents and Vice Presidents although that would be wonderful! I started 25 years ago on the Membership/Shalom Committee and then evolved to my current role as President. If you would like to play a small part in our Temple's life contact Michael Freedman at mikeandtricia@hotmail.com and tell him of your interest.

Our Raise the Roof Campaign has raised over \$37, 300 from ONE HUNDRED and TWENTY TWO families as of October 5. I am thrilled with your response. We have more to raise so please send us your checks. ANY amount is welcome. Be part of this campaign: Help us raise the roof!

And finally, the Sinai 2015 Planning Group is meeting regularly and I will update you later in the year. Thank you for all of your positive compliments after my Rosh Hashanah remarks. Everyone seems to understand the seriousness of our situation. You can help by recruiting new members to our Congregation. Call our Temple office at 736-3619 with names of prospective members and we will take over from there!

Welcome to New Members:

Richard and Schmuel Condon

Please note - This bulletin is an eight week bulletin
- covering November AND December 2012.

JUDAICA SHOP CORNER

Chanukah is coming early in December and we will have a wonderful, innovative selection of toys, games and novelties for all.

Lovely menorahs, traditional, modern and themed are on the way to us!

Do stop by and see our changing displays as all the new items come in.

—Thais Fischel, 786-9577

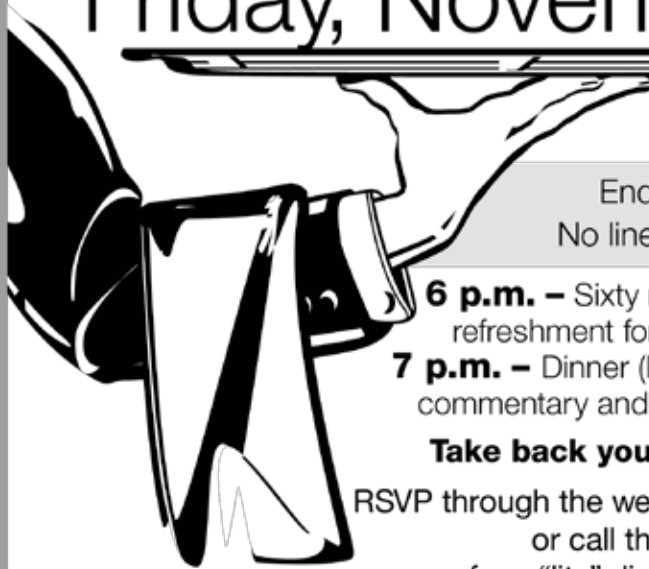
The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published every other month by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 3 for the year 2012-2013.

Mark Dov Shapiro Rabbi
Martin Levson Cantor
Heather Sullivan Director of Education
Lisa Gittleman Udi JOY and SPFTY Advisor
Jeff Cossin President
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Visit our website: www.sinai-temple.org

Dinner's the Deal

Friday, November 2

**That's right!
Dinner's the Deal
Friday, November 2**



End of the week. You don't have to cook.
No lines in a restaurant. Come to Sinai instead.

6 p.m. – Sixty minutes of song, prayer, and refreshment for your soul.

7 p.m. – Dinner (No Charge) is served, accompanied by commentary and song from Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson.

Take back your time. Rediscover Shabbat.

RSVP through the website <http://www.sinai-temple.org/>
or call the Temple at 736-3619
for a "lite" dinner and beautiful evening.

The Israel Survey

**Friday, November 2 – After the Service
and Shabbat Dinner**

**You are invited to see, share, and consider
the results of our Sinai Temple Israel Survey**

Over 225 congregants spoke their minds.

Come see what they said.

Come see how your ideas are a part of the
conversation!

The Adult Bnai Mitzvah Class of 5773/2012

**Cordially invites the congregation
To join us when we are called to the Torah
Saturday, December 22 at 10:30 a.m.**

Shabbat Vayigash

Jay Mustain

Heather Sullivan



Sababa Performs

Friday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m.

**Featuring Robbi Sherwin, Scott Leader,
and Steve Brodsky**

**Songwriters, musicians, and
performers.**

See page 4, for Cantor Levson's
description of the group.

*Sababa's appearance is made possible by a gift from
the late Ed Wallace honoring the parents of Carol
Roberts, Paul and Ruth Feldman.*

Notes from the Cantor

There are two HUGE musical events coming up soon here at Sinai Temple! You won't want to miss these occasions of music and fun!

First, mark your calendars for Friday, November 30, as our friends Sababa! return to Springfield. Sababa! was with us back in the spring of 2010, and I am thrilled to welcome Steve Brodsky, Scott Leader, and Robbi Sherwin back to Sinai Temple! They will help lead our Shabbat worship service with their upbeat, participatory style of music. Joining in on the fun will be our Adult Volunteer Choir, "No Harry, Just Jews," and of course "Shir Fun," who have been singing a number of Sababa! tunes for the past few years. Sababa! will be releasing their third CD very soon. Here is what I wrote a few years ago about their first CD: "Pray for the Peace is truly an example of the whole being greater than the sum of the parts. The individual parts, mind you, are excellent: Robbi, Scott, and Steve are each talented, accomplished musicians and songwriters in their own right. The songwriting and the production values on this CD are of the highest quality. But it's those beautiful 3-part harmonies that truly take Sababa! to another level. Sababa! is the "Crosby, Stills, and Nash" (circa 1969) of the Jewish music world today." You can hear samples of their music on their website: <http://sababamusic.com/>

Second, make plans to be here in the Sinai Temple auditorium on Sunday morning, December 16 (the last day of Chanukah) for the musical theater adaptation of Eric Kimmel's beloved story, "Hershel and the Chanukah Goblins!" This delightful stage production will be performed by students of the Sinai Temple Religious School, and will be co-directed by myself and my talented wife, Sheri! This performance will be fun for the entire family, ages 2 to 102. Can the clever Hershel of Ostropol defeat the evil goblins who are threatening to end Chanukah forever? Can he outwit the terrible King of the Goblins? Come and find out on this last day of Chanukah 5773!

Ivdu et Hashem B'simcha! Serve the Holy One with Joy!

Hershel and the Chanukah Goblins!



A musical comedy based on the book by Eric Kimmel



Performed by students of Sinai Temple
Sunday, December 16th 11:00 am



Message from Heather Sullivan Director of Education

Shalom,

One of the goals that I had set out for myself when I accepted the position as the Director of Education was to build upon the sense of camaraderie at Sinai Temple. This spirit of community is what makes Sinai unique and inviting. A poignant moment for me occurred this summer. A mother came to me and said, "My daughter wants to do more here. My family is not religious but we are Jewish and my daughter asked to come to Hebrew School last year so I signed her up. Now she wants to join Shir Fun and attend services more often." Moments like these encapsulate why I have chosen to become more involved at Sinai.

When I am a student at Sinai, I feel secure in taking risks where my fellow classmates have so much in common with me. When I am a parent at Sinai, I understand my own children's sense of belonging as they become increasingly more involved. When I am a congregant at Sinai, I am amazed to see my peers spend hours of their time, volunteering because they care so much. When I am a teacher at Sinai, I witness the bonding between senior members of our congregation and Grade 8 students. When I am a Director at Sinai, I have pride in watching students and teachers alike laugh and learn together.

When I consider what will help to make this community even stronger, even closer, I can't help but remember my summers spent at a Jewish overnight camp in Maine. Without even attempting, the friendships form, the bonds secure, and the community is united.

That is what we have done at Sinai. Whether intentional or not, the camaraderie that our young people have forged, is from the safe environment and opportunity that we allow them. Being involved at Sinai means being part of that community. That is where the choice lies. How involved you and your family are is up to you. Whether you choose to belong is not up to you. You do belong.

Scholarships for Free

If your son or daughter is planning to attend any kind of Jewish program this summer, please take advantage of the Temple scholarship program. Thanks to the Joseph Emanuel, Rabbi Herman Eliot and Adele Biederman Snyder Memorial Fund, scholarships are available in small and larger amounts. We are also thankful to the family of Edna Simon and Judy and Michael Cohen who support summer scholarships as well.

Your confidential request should go to Rabbi Shapiro no later than March 1.

Adult Opportunities

**The Time Capsules of the Warsaw Ghetto:
On the Seventieth Anniversary -
The Secret Archive Revealed**
Sunday morning, November 4 at 9:15 a.m.
Dr. Samuel Kassow, Trinity College

(Sponsored by Men of Sinai. Breakfast will be served.)



Samuel Kassow is the world's leading authority on Emanuel Ringelblum, who established a secret organization named Oyneg Shabes in Nazi-occupied Warsaw in 1940. Retrieved after World War II from metal boxes and milk cans buried beneath the ruins of the Warsaw ghetto, the Oyneg

Shabes-Ringelblum Archive records and preserves the fate of Polish Jewry.

A prolific author, Professor Kassow's *Who Will Write Our History? Emanuel Ringelblum, the Warsaw Ghetto, and the Oyneg Shabes Archive* (2007) received the Orbis Prize and was a finalist for a National Jewish Book Award. A child of Holocaust survivors, Professor Kassow was born in a Displaced Persons camp in Germany. Kassow is Professor of History in Trinity College, holds a Ph.D. from Princeton University, and is a consultant to the Museum of the History of Polish Jews to be built in Warsaw.

Thanks to Men of Sinai and Michael Harrison for underwriting Professor Kassow's appearance at Sinai.

Sinai Temple's Book Club

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.

Saturday Morning Services

Every Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m.

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

www.sinai-temple.org

**Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, and Transsexual:
How our Culture is Changing**
Jennifer Levi, Professor of Law,
Western New England University
Sunday, December 2 at 9:30 a.m.



On December 2, family rights attorney and GLAD advocate Jennifer Levi will be the featured speaker at the monthly Men of Sinai breakfast.

Professor Levi has dedicated her career to fighting for the rights of women; children; the poor; and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered clients. Most recently, Professor Levi was Senior Staff Attorney for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders in Boston. Levi served as Co-counsel for the seven same-sex couples who sued the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for denying them the right to obtain marriage licenses in *Goodridge et al v. the Department of Public Health*. The appeal led to the landmark Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruling that stated it was unconstitutional for the Commonwealth to deny gays and lesbians the right to marry.

Breakfast is \$5 and free to Men of Sinai members.

TGIT...Thank God, It's Torah!

Come Learn Every Saturday in September at 9 a.m.

Exercise your brain. Enjoy the bagels. If you want to touch base with Judaism's basics, Torah Study is for you. Come once or come occasionally. Newcomers welcome. No prior knowledge necessary.

Monthly Morning Service

**Wednesdays, November 7 and December 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, January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5.

**Light Seven Candles
And Have a Great Evening
Friday, December 14**

At 6 p.m., service with Chanukah menorah lighting

At 7 p.m., congregational dinner

with the biggest and best Chanukah program
ever offered in Massachusetts

For all ages.

For our whole community including a new contest

MAKE YOUR VERY OWN MENORAH

Reservations are required.

Thank you to Men of Sinai for preparing the meal.

\$5 per person or \$10 per family

A Contest –

Make Your Own Menorah

Using whatever materials you wish,

create your own Chanukah menorah masterpiece.

Remember, a chanukiyah (a menorah for Chanukah)
has 8 candles + 1 shamash (the candle that lights the others).

Let your creative juices run wild.

Bring your creation to Temple on Friday, December 14.

Chanukah Questions and Answers

When is Chanukah?

Chanukah begins Saturday night, December 8. The last candle is lit Saturday night, December 15.

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 “tradition” of Ner Shel Tzedakah, which means dedicating one “ner/candle/night” to tzedakah. Make Friday, December 14 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 Pirsom 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 evening, December 14?

Yes. On that night we light the chanukiah first and after that Shabbat candles are lit. However, for a really good time, don't light candles at home. Bring yourself and your candles to Temple for a 6 pm. service followed by dinner and an amazing Chanukah event.

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 14.

Chanukah Tzedakah: Ner Shel Tzedakah Friday, December 14

Don't buy presents on December 14. On the SEVENTH night of Chanukah, December 14, the Social Action Committee encourages 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

The Green Menorah: A Commitment to “green” Chanukah

When the Maccabees rededicated the Jerusalem Temple in 165 B.C.E., legend tells us that one days' worth of oil kept the Temple menorah going for eight days! What if the “miracle” of Chanukah led us to use less oil in our day? Can we help today's world conserve energy? Perhaps we can rethink all those bags for Chanukah gifts and food?

You will find the Chanukah candle blessings on page 16 of this Bulletin.

1946 – 1962

Simon and Garfunkel, Mamas and Papas, Santana,
Starsky and Hutch, Mork and Mindy, Rocky and
Bullwinkle, Twilight Zone

**If you're a Boomer,
please join Rabbi Shapiro
for coffee, reminiscence, and conversation
about our life journeys.**

Where and how does Judaism fit into the puzzle?
Choose one of the following dates to join the Rabbi
in the Oneg Shabbat room at Sinai Temple.

Wednesday, November 14 – 7:30 PM

Wednesday, November 28 – 7:30 PM

Thursday, November 29 -7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 5 – 7:30 PM

Thursday morning, December 13 – 10 AM

**Please RSVP to the Temple at 413-736-3619
or on the temple website
www.sinai-temple.org**

Paper and Plastic Bags Contribute to Global Warming

Paper bags have the highest global warming impact per bag compared to other types of bags. 70% more global warming gasses are emitted making a paper bag than a plastic bag, and 50 times more water pollution. In 1999, Americans used 10 billion paper shopping bags, consuming 14 million trees.

Plastic bags are made from petroleum that could be used in other ways. The 300 billion plastic bags that American throw away each year are made from millions of barrels of petroleum.

How about reusable bags?

Reusable bags reduce all these costs by a factor of hundreds. So...before you "bag" it this Chanukah, please THINK GREEN.

What Time are Friday Evening Services?

A New Answer to an Old Question

6:00 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 has moved to the first Friday of the month. Kabbalat Shabbat starts at 6 p.m. All other Friday evening services start at the same time, which is 7:30 p.m.

Kidz Kabbalat

For families with children in Kindergarten, First, and Second Grades

Four fabulous Friday evenings

November 16, January 11, February 8, March 8

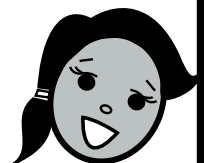
5:45 p.m. Snacks

6:00 p.m. A happy, energetic Shabbat Service

6:40 p.m. Time for the Kiddush

Kidz Kabbalat features music, stories, and a brand new "kidz" prayerbook for beginning readers brought to you with love and enthusiasm by Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Levson.

Kidz Kabbalat is another family-friendly, kid-friendly Sinai entry point into the world of Temple and Shabbat. When your little one(s) outgrow Tot Shabbat, Kidz Kabbalat is the next step to take for Sinai's praying, celebrating families.



Message from SPFTY

SPFTY is looking forward to a busy November and December! SPFTY has a new website which we are very excited about! Our website is <http://www.spfty.tumblr.com>. If you have a Tumblr please feel free to follow us! Our web site was designed by Elizabeth Metsch and Shaina Gootzit, the SPFTY Communications Vice Presidents. So far this fall, we have had an overnight Board retreat and attended a NFTY Northeast regional Leadership Training Institute held at our very own Springfield JCC! By the time you read this, we will have also attended NFTY's Levi Leap in Framingham, Massachusetts. This is a region wide dance, and is typically one of NFTY's largest events. We will be soon be attending NFTY Northeast Region-wide Fall Conclavette from November 9th to 11th. This event will be hosted by "BAYGL" at Temple Beth Avodah in Newton, MA. NFTY Northeast December Institute is also coming up from December 26th to 30th and will take place at URJ Eisner camp. The Sinai Temple Chanukah Dinner will also be coming up with SPFTY's help! SPFTY and JOY will be helping to serve, and after the dinner SPFTY will be having an after party.

—Elizabeth Metsch



Join us this summer for thrilling 4, 5 & 6 week travel programs in Europe and Israel

www.nftyisrael.org



nftyisrael@urj.org 212.452.6511

For a Great Summer....Eisner, Crane Lake, Six Points, & Israel!

Young people entering grades 2-12, from Reform synagogues throughout the Northeast, are now being enrolled for the coming summer program at our regional URJ camps (Eisner Camp, Crane Lake Camp, and 6 Points Sports Academy) as well as the "NFTY in Israel" summer travel experience. Eisner and Crane Lake are located in the Berkshire mountains (Eisner in Great Barrington, MA and Crane Lake in West Stockbridge, MA), and 6 Points is in Greensboro, NC. Include your child (or grandchild!) in the excitement and friendship of a Reform Jewish summer camp. Give your teen the Israel experience of a lifetime!

A four-week session (two-weeks for 2nd and 3rd graders) provides an amazing, fun-filled and unique experience, during which campers participate in a full range of sports, arts, and Jewish programs, all offered within the creative, dynamic and caring atmosphere of a Reform Jewish community of young people, counselors and rabbis.

And then, there's Israel. The dream is real! Spend the summer in Israel with NFTY, the North American Federation of Temple Youth! Of course, you can go to Israel any summer you like, but why not go with your friends THIS summer!?

Contact the Eisner/Crane Lake office (212-650-4130, necamps.urjcamps.org), or 6 Points Sports Academy (561-208-1650, 6points.urjcamps.org) to find out more about this wonderfully enjoyable summer opportunity for your child or grandchild. Contact Rabbi Shapiro, Cantor Levson or Heather Sullivan for additional information.

Message from Philip Lesser, President, Men of Sinai

The Men Of Sinai have been very busy already this year. Starting with the barbeque to open religious school, helping to set up and take down the sukkah, to donating to the "Raise the roof" campaign and speakers like Belle Rita Novak and the Rabbi, we are not going to rest now. We also enjoyed our first annual golf outing at Franconia! We have again planned for another busy couple of months with several wonderful speakers such as Prof Samuel Kassow speaking about the Warsaw ghettos and Jennifer Levi from GLADD who helped write the legislation for same sex marriage in Massachusetts. "Hockey and Havdalah," family night out at the movies, and bowling are all coming soon.

Please look for these programs in the E-Vents, and join us. They are open to all, Men, Women, and families. You don't have to be a member to join in with our activities, just come and enjoy being part of the community and have some fun! We hope everyone enjoyed the Welcome Back Barbecue on the opening day of Religious School. More food to come during the upcoming year! If you have not joined Men Of Sinai yet there is still time. With more global and interesting topics, with more family events, don't miss out!

2012 Turkey Walk-off: On Friday November 23rd (the day after Thanksgiving)

The Men of Sinai will be hosting a family hike up Mount Holyoke in Skinner State Park. We will be meeting at Sinai Temple Parking Lot at 9:00 am and car pooling to the M&M trail head near route 47. Bring water, a camera and your favorite turkey sandwich lunch for a picnic at the summit. Everyone is welcome to join us; members and non-members, men, women and especially children. For more information contact Buff Maniscalco at jodiman@comcast.net.

**Engaging Israel: A Video Conversation with Israel
Taught by Rabbis Amy Katz and Mark Dov Shapiro
Seven Sunday afternoons or Wednesday evenings
Starting in February**

Another opportunity to encounter Israel as you have never experienced it before.

This course will be based on a series of video lectures led by Donniel Hartman, President of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.

The topics will include Judaism and Democracy, Religious Pluralism and Human Rights, Morality on the Battlefield, and other contemporary issues that challenge Jews here and in Israel.

Rabbi Shapiro will teach the videos on Wednesday evenings at Sinai.

February 13, 27; March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 10

Thanks for the Links

Dear Congregants of Sinai Temple:

Link to Libraries wishes to thank you for all your generous donations of beautiful new books for our Western MA youth in under served communities.

We know these new books will not only put smiles on the faces of these children, but will enhance their school libraries with new and exciting material.

Thank you helping to make education matter.

Sincerely,

Susan Jaye-Kaplan and Janet M. Crimmins

Co-founders, Link to Libraries, Inc.

Are you receiving our weekly e-mail updates?

Lots is happening in our community. Especially because we've reduced the frequency of our snail mail Temple bulletin, our E-vents is the best way to know what Sinai is about from week to week. If we don't have your e-mail, you're missing out. It would be even better in households with two adults for the office to have both adults' e-mails. Thank you.

Send your information to Robin, the Rabbi's Assistant.

rblanchettegage@sinai-temple.org

Now you can make donations to Sinai ONLINE!!!

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 and make the donation to any one of our funds ONLINE.

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 or Rabbi Shapiro

Thank you for your contributions.

Please note: The donations listed below are as of October 15, 2012. Donations received after this date will appear in the next bulletin.

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 September 11 to October 15:

- Ben Rosenthal, husband of Fredi Rosenthal.
- Anne (Pudsie) Cooley, wife of Sidney Cooley.

Mazal Tov to:

- Zel Lavin on the arrival of her second great granddaughter. Emily Barandes was born on October 8. She is the sister of Sadie and the daughter of Shelley and Jacob Barandes
- Arnold and Joan Vogel on the birth of a new grandson, Jesse Vincent Sadak. Jesse's mom and dad are Melanie and Dan Sadak. His older brother is Zachary.

Israel Turns 65 This Year!!!

Community Trip to Israel

April 15-24, 2013



To celebrate Israel's 65th birthday next year, the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, in partnership with local agencies and synagogues, is sponsoring a community trip to Israel!

Join Rabbi Shapiro for these highlights...

- Celebrating Israel Independence Day in Israel;
- 3 days of touring in Tel Aviv;
- 4 days of exploring Jerusalem, including Shabbat;
- Visiting the Masada/Ein Gedi region;
- Exploring the Golan Heights & the mystical city of Tsfat in the north;
- Visiting our partnership community, the Afula/Gilboa region.

To see a day-by-day itinerary....<http://www.jfw-mtravel.org>

Subsidies are available through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Western Massachusetts. For more information about the trip, contact Rabbi Shapiro or Meredith Dragon at (413) 737-4313.

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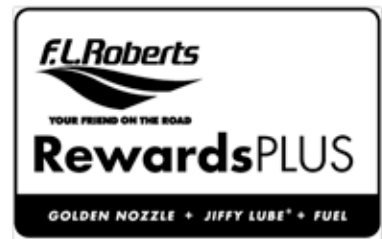


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Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who has sanctified us with commandments and commanded us to light the Chanukah candles.

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, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this time.

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam shehecheyanu ve-kee-ma-nu ve-hee-gee-ah-nu laz-man ha-zeh.