

TEMPLE SINAI KESHER

JULY 2020 | TAMMUZ/AV 5780



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CALENDAR

We are adding new online programming opportunities to our calendar every week!

For the most updated dates and times, as well as information on how to join or view our online programming, please check our website at www.sinaidenver.org.

Zoom links will be sent out via e-mail in Snippets and again on the day of a program.

WEEKLY STREAMING SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

12:00pm Thought for the Week with
Rabbi Jordy Callman

TUESDAYS

12:00pm This Week in Torah (*Parashat HaShavua*)
class with Rabbi Rick Rheins

THURSDAYS

12:00pm Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Rick Rheins

FRIDAYS

9:30am Preschool Shabbat Sing Livestream
6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service

**In person Erev Shabbat services will be held for up to 50 people. Please email lauren@sinaidenver.org to reserve your spot.*

SATURDAYS

9:00am Shabbat Morning Service
**In person Shabbat Morning services will be held for up to 25 people. Please email lauren@sinaidenver.org to reserve your spot.*
10:30am Shabbat Torah Study
5:00pm Havdalah for Young Families & Children
8:45pm Temple Sinai Virtual Havdalah with
Rabbis Rick and Susan Rheins

JULY PROGRAMS

THURSDAY | JULY 16

11:00am Healing Service

SATURDAY | JULY 25

10:30am Andrew Melun Bar Mitzvah Service

WEDNESDAY | JULY 22

6:00pm Brotherhood, Bible & Beers
with Rabbi Rick Rheins

WEDNESDAY | JULY 29

7:00pm Tisha b'Av Service

Contact Lauren Bubis at **303.759.1827** or
lauren@sinaidenver.org if you wish to change your mailing
preference of future Keshers.

RABBI RICK RHEINS

CLERGY

THE AMAZING ADAPTATIONS OF NATURE: FINDING HOPE BY STAYING CURIOUS



With all that has been denied us during the COVID-19 pandemic, being stuck inside gave us a chance to read some of those books that have been staring at us from that stack on the table. One of the books that I finally had the chance to read is Walter Isaacson's marvelous biography: [Leonardo Da Vinci](#). Da Vinci's art has enchanted the world for over five hundred years. Equally impressive are his volumes of scientific work; thankfully, his notebooks have largely been preserved and give us an insight into his genius. While a genius of the stature of Leonardo Da Vinci might seem otherworldly, what really motivated him was an unquenchable curiosity. His notebooks are filled with odd and apparently random questions. Isaacson was delighted by Da Vinci's quirky curiosity, perhaps because it is a universal quality.

One of the side notes that Leonardo made was a reminder to "describe the tongue of the woodpecker." He was fascinated by the way various lifeforms were created. Three hundred years before Darwin, he took note of the different ways creatures adapted in order to survive.

It turns out that the tongue of a woodpecker is three times longer than its bill and that its cartilage wraps around the bird's head and curves down to its nostril. The tongue insulates the woodpecker's brain, cushioning it from the force of the blows the bird makes when hammering against a tree. The force it endures is ten-times greater than what would

kill a human. (This was ultimately determined in a 2011 scientific study by Sang-Hee Yoon and Sungmin Park, "A Mechanical Analysis of Woodpecker Drumming").

“ Just like every creature on this magnificent earth, humans, too, are adapting. We are beginning to open our eyes to discover the systemic unfairness that holds back too many of our neighbors.

Consider the marvels of life all around us. The extraordinary adaptability of nature should both inspire us and give us hope. Yes, our human species is facing yet another barrage of challenges. Indeed, we are currently being plagued by a virus as well as the on-going contagion of racism, bigotry and anti-Semitism. On both fronts, I'm encouraged by the public determination to suppress and eradicate the plagues. God-willing, safety precautions and an eventual vaccine will conquer COVID-19. Prejudice and bigotry will be suppressed by the removal of casually racist symbols, a new found courage to confront inequality, and a willingness to address the confounding and irrational hatred that some have for those with different skin colors, faiths, cultures and sexual orientations.

Every generation has had to battle its demons. Naturally occurring diseases and disasters, human pollution, injustice, imperialism, and cultural, religious and racial intolerance have plagued us in one form or another from the beginning of human history. And yet, we have evolved. Albeit, while the evolution has been too slow, we are making some progress. Just like every creature on this magnificent earth, humans, too, are adapting. We are beginning to open our eyes to discover the systemic unfairness that holds back too many of our neighbors. And in this country, 155 years after the end of the Civil War, we are finally acknowledging that symbols of Confederate "pride" are, in reality, rallying shrines for those attracted by racist hate and violence. As Jews are justifiably angered by anti-Semitic displays of the swastika, so too, Blacks and African Americans are horrified by the Confederate flags and statues glorifying those rebel leaders who wished to destroy this nation in order to preserve the evil of slavery.

Our boundless curiosity must also include an astonishment as to why bigotries persist and a renewed determination to suppress if not eradicate them. The woodpecker survived by evolving and finding a way to protect his brain. We will survive by continuing our evolution into people who respect and revere this God-given miracle of life.

B'vrakhah,

Rick

Rabbi Rick Rheins

SERVICES

CLERGY

In Person Shabbat Services

In the month of July we will be able to accommodate up to 50 people in the Zwerin Sanctuary and 25 people in the Abrahams Family Chapel.

Friday night services will be in the Zwerin Sanctuary and the Shabbat morning Early Minyan in the Abrahams Family Chapel.

In order to attend the services, please register by emailing Temple Sinai's Administrative Assistant Lauren Bubis at Lauren@sinaidenver.org or calling the Temple Sinai office 303-759-1827.

All who enter the building will have their temperatures taken and wear a mask. Those of a high risk for COVID-19 or who are feeling ill should not enter the building.

Healing Service Thursday, July 16 at 11:00am

For our Healing Service, we gather together for prayers, meditations, music and the warm embrace of friends to renew our sense of hope, strength and healing. The Healing Service is for those who are struggling with their health.

The Healing Service is for those struggling with sadness and grief. The Healing Service is for care givers who seek inspiration as they pray for the welfare of loved ones. All are welcome.

If you are unable to attend the service, just send us the name(s) of the loved ones you would like mentioned during our prayers. And be sure to let them know that they are in all of our thoughts and prayers.



Tisha b'Av Service Wednesday, July 29 at 7:00pm

Tisha b'Av, the 9th of the Hebrew month of Av, is the saddest day of the Jewish year because it marks the anniversary of the destruction of the first Temple in Jerusalem by the Babylonians (586 BCE) and the destruction of the second Temple by the Romans (70 CE). In reflection of the tragic events that have occurred on this day, *Tisha b'Av* has long been observed as a day of fasting and mourning.

In addition to the destruction of the Temples, many other catastrophes have fallen on this very same date. For instance, in 1492, Jews had until the 9th of Av to flee Spain. Also, on August 1, 1914, the 9th of Av, the formal order of mobilization was ordered by the Germans and World War I began.

Temple Sinai's observance of *Tisha b'Av* begins at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, July 29 and will include a service and readings from the book of Lamentations. The prophet Jeremiah was said to have written Lamentations as he witnessed the fall of Jerusalem some 2,500 years ago. Together we will read and discuss his words and have a service that reflects the meaning of this ancient day of mourning.

PRESCHOOL

YOUTH

BACK TO PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP



And, we're back! Temple Sinai Preschool Summer Camp opened on June 15 and it is going great! We have mastered curbside pick-up and drop-off, everyone's hands are wrinkled from so much washing and our cheeks hurt from smiling! Our students and teachers have never been happier to be together!



B'NEI MITZVAH

YOUTH

ANDREW MELUN - JULY 25, 2020



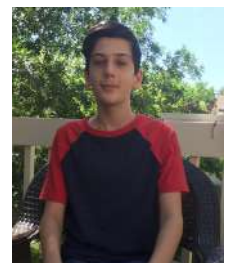
Andrew is the son of Marne and Michael Melun, and the brother of Joel (16). He attends Campus Middle School and enjoys airplanes, drones, and lego robotics, and is involved in Boy Scouts, Destination Imagination, wrestling, and basketball.

For his Mitzvah Project, Andrew will be collecting items for the Weinberg Food Pantry.

ALEXANDER "SASHA" WEIDEN - AUGUST 1, 2020

Sasha is the son of Marina Rolbin and David Weiden, and the brother of David (15). He attends STEM School Highlands Ranch and enjoys speedcubing, reading, and studying.

For his Mitzvah Project, Sasha did volunteer work at an organization called "Feed My Starving Children". He would have liked to do more volunteer work, but COVID-19 prevented that. In the future, he will donate to food banks and continue his volunteer work.



PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS

THANK YOU



We want to thank everyone who donated and participated in our Zoom-a-Thon weekend!

After 27 hours together with over 40 programs, we are feeling invigorated and proud to be a part of the Temple Sinai family. Between sponsorships and donations, our silent auction, as well as Shabbat dinner and challah orders, we were able to raise funds to help offset some of the financial challenges facing our community and we thank you so much for your generosity.

We look forward to continuing to offer you engaging programming through these uncertain times and working together to ensure a strong financial future for Temple Sinai.

Thank you,
Lisa and Rabbi Jordy

TEMPLE SINAI WOULD LIKE TO PLACE A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SPONSORED ZOOM-A-THON WEEKEND. WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

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Marshall & Carol Tobin
Wendy Vean
Sandy Williamson
Ted & Kathy Zeiger

STAY CONNECTED

PROGRAMS

SICK? STRUGGLING? WANT A CALL OR A MEETING? INFORM THE RABBIS!

Adding to the agony and frustration of dealing with illness or struggling with a difficult time is the nagging thought that you are forgotten and that no one cares. Temple Sinai most certainly cares about every one of our members. Rabbi Rick Rheins and Rabbi Jordy Callman will be quick to make a call to any of our members and loved ones. In addition, we have a group of volunteers on our Caring Committee who will do their best to respond with cards, calls and offers of assistance.

So please call or write to our Rabbis and let them know that you'd like their help and attention. Confidential messages can be made directly to our Rabbis at: rabbireins@sinaidenver.org or rabbicallman@sinaidenver.org

TEMPLE SINAI AT MT. NEBO MEMORIAL PARK

Temple Sinai has a section of burial plots withing Mt. Nebo Memorial Park (located at 13th Avenue, just west of Peoria) that are available for purchase by Temple Sinai members and their immediate loved ones. Plots can be purchased for \$1,500 per plot and can be paid in full at the time of purchase or paid out over a year's time with a \$100 deposit and \$60 finance fee per plot.

If you are interested in purchasing burial plots in the Temple Sinai section at Mt. Nebo Memorial Park, please contact Lauren Bubis at 303-759-1827 or lauren@sinaidenver.org.

BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE & BEERS MEN TALKING TORAH WITH RABBI RHEINS Wednesday, July 22 at 6:00pm

Each month around 20 men of all ages gather to study Torah with Rabbi Rick Rheins and engage in a lively discussion. The Torah talk expands to include both classic commentaries and candid consideration of modern concerns. There is no cost to join us, so join us for a fun evening of learning, discussion and friendship!

We will continue the virtual version of BB&B until further notice.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

Due to the current conditions in the city and the country all meetings have been canceled until further notice. Post #344 will still be checking on everyone to ensure we are doing well and buddy checking, instead of social distancing we are "distant socializing." If you need any help in getting medicine, ordering groceries, or just need someone to schmooze with please don't hesitate to give us a call. If anyone wants any social calls Ruth Diamond (561-452-2691) has volunteered and will keep in touch with them. Be well.

LUNCH & LEARN THURSDAYS, 12:00-1:00pm JULY 2, 9, 16, 23

Come to learn, discuss, debate, and meet friends. We'll review ethical and moral issues in selected Jewish texts, discuss hot current topics, and debate the important issues of the day. Bring your Lunch! We will serve the Text and Topics! Newcomers quickly and easily fit right in! It's a great way to learn and meet new friends - and it's all FREE!

If we are unable to meet in person, a zoom link will be distributed.

DATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR B'NEI MITZVAH IN 2021 & 2022

Know that it is never too late to have our children experience the life-affirming joy and pride of accomplishment by leading a service as a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Each year around 50 students become Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Temple Sinai. If you have a child who will turn 13 (or older) in 2021 or 2022 and you do not yet have a reserved date for a service, please call Rabbi Rick Rheins or Rabbi Jordy Callman and we'll answer all your questions and help you find a date that works for your family. Date selection request forms also are available in the Temple Sinai office and can be mailed directly to you.

Know that our clergy work personally with each student and his/her family to help create a memorable celebration that will bring a lifetime of blessings.

DONATIONS

DONATIONS PROCESSED MAY 1-31, 2020

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Alan Farber Memorial Camp Scholarship Fund*In loving memory of:*

Elaine Rosen

John & Lori Spanbauer and
Stanley Farber

Michael Shapiro

John & Lori Spanbauer

Alan Jacobson Memorial Fund*In loving memory of:*Bernice Jacobson, Art Kleinstein, and
Lee Mendel

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Mitzvah Project Fund*In loving memory of:*

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Mary Bleecher

Preschool Fundraising Fund*In honor of:*

Preschool Graduation

Marino Family

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The steady and safe recovery of Bernie Rogoff
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The Temple Sinai congregants suffering from Covid-19 problems
Paul & Barbara Fruitman

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Matt and Mary Vean's new home
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In honor of:

May birthdays of granddaughters
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Lisa Thorner for her hard work coordinating Passover meals
Gene & Bunny Cole

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Jessica Strouse

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Ronald (Ron) Lee Goldberg, father of Howard Goldberg and grandfather of Hazel and Stella Goldberg

Barbara Landow, sister-in-law of Barbara Suson, wife of the late Sol Landow, mother of Cari (Andy) Friedman and Todd (Roni) Landow, sister of Shirley Londer, the late Martin Milstein, Arlene Aron, the late Sherrie (Gary) Porter, and grandmother of Ryan Friedman, Spencer, and Chloe Landow

Dr. Irwin "Irv" Levy, husband of Rita Levy, father of Gail (Joel) Stine and Paul (Patricia) Levy, grandfather of Benjamin (Theresa) Whittington, Sarah Ronoh and Benjamin, Talor & Joshua Levy, great-grandfather of Brimin & Azii Ronoh and Norah & Elise Whittington

Phyllis Marcus, grandmother of Brooke (Nathan) Stern, great-grandmother of Lily and Ezra Stern, wife of the late Paul Marcus, mother of Jeff (Carol) and Neal Marcus, grandmother of Courtney (Antwiwa Sobuke-Whyte) Jacobson

Alex Pinsky, father of Cantor Galit (David) Gottlieb

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Joseph Franklin Resnick, father of Eric (Sara) Resnick, grandfather of Michael, Allie, and Emma, husband of Yvonne.

Paul Wasserstein, husband of Paulette Wasserstein, father of Mitzi (Kevin Vest) Wasserstein, grandfather of Hannah and Jonah Vest

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