

Temple Sinai Keshet



May 2020
Iyar/Sivan 5780





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MAY 2020

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 and weekly Snippets e-mails for programming updates.

The calendar below shows our online streaming schedule as of April 20th. Please check our website for updates as the schedule is subject to change. For our Shavuot programs and services highlighted in bold, we hope we are able to meet in person once again. If we are still unable to gather at that time, streaming options will be shared on our website and to our e-mail lists.

FRIDAY | MAY 1*Shabbat Acharei Mot-K'doshim*

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Shabbat ShaZoom! with
Rabbi Jordy
- 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY | MAY 2

- 9:00am Shabbat Morning Service
- 10:30am Shabbat Torah Study
- 5:00pm Havdallah for Young
Families & Children
- 7:30pm TSYG Havdallah
- 8:30pm Temple Sinai Virtual
Havdallah with Rabbis Rick
and Susan Rheins

SUNDAY | MAY 3

- 10:00am Religious School Worship
& Song

MONDAY | MAY 4

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Yoga
- 12:00pm Thought for the Week with
Rabbi Jordy Callman
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

TUESDAY | MAY 5

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with
Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm *Parashat HaShuva* class
with Rabbi Rick Rheins

WEDNESDAY | MAY 6

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 2:00pm Unorthodox: Netflix Series
Discussion
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

THURSDAY | MAY 7

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with
Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm Lunch and Learn with
Rabbi Rick Rheins

FRIDAY | MAY 8*Shabbat Emor*

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Shabbat ShaZoom! with
Rabbi Jordy
- 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY | MAY 9

- 9:00am Shabbat Morning Service
- 10:30am Shabbat Torah Study
- 5:00pm Havdallah for Young
Families & Children
- 7:00pm Virtual Trivia Night
- 7:30pm TSYG Havdallah
- 8:30pm Temple Sinai Virtual
Havdallah with Rabbis Rick
and Susan Rheins

SUNDAY | MAY 10

- 10:00am Religious School Worship
& Song

MONDAY | MAY 11

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Yoga
- 12:00pm Thought for the Week with
Rabbi Jordy Callman
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

TUESDAY | MAY 12*Lag BaOmer*

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with
Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm *Parashat HaShuva* class
with Rabbi Rick Rheins

WEDNESDAY | MAY 13

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

THURSDAY | MAY 14

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with
Dan the Music Man
- 11:00am Healing Service
- 12:00pm Lunch and Learn with
Rabbi Rick Rheins

FRIDAY | MAY 15*Shabbat B'har-B'chukotai*

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai
Preschool
- 10:00am Shabbat ShaZoom! with
Rabbi Jordy
- 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service

IYAR/SIVAN 5280

CALENDAR

SATURDAY | MAY 16

- 9:00am Shabbat Morning Service
- 10:30am Shabbat Torah Study
- 5:00pm Havdallah for Young Families & Children
- 7:30pm TSYG Havdallah
- 8:30pm Temple Sinai Virtual Havdallah with Rabbis Rick and Susan Rheins

SUNDAY | MAY 17

- 10:00am Last Day of Religious School Worship & Song

MONDAY | MAY 18

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Yoga
- 12:00pm Thought for the Week with Rabbi Jordy Callman
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

TUESDAY | MAY 19

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm *Parashat HaShuva* class with Rabbi Rick Rheins

WEDNESDAY | MAY 20

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

THURSDAY | MAY 21

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Rick Rheins

FRIDAY | MAY 22

- Yom Y'rushalayim*
Shabbat B'midbar
- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Shabbat ShaZoom! with Rabbi Jordy
- 6:00pm Memorial Weekend Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY | MAY 23

- 9:00am Shabbat Morning Service
- 10:30am Shabbat Torah Study
- 5:00pm Havdallah for Young Families & Children
- 7:30pm TSYG Havdallah
- 8:45pm Temple Sinai Virtual Havdallah with Rabbis Rick and Susan Rheins

MONDAY | MAY 25

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Yoga
- 12:00pm Thought for the Week with Rabbi Jordy Callman
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

TUESDAY | MAY 26

- First Day of Preschool Camp**
- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm *Parashat HaShuva* class with Rabbi Rick Rheins
- 6:00pm Brotherhood, Bibles, and Beers

WEDNESDAY | MAY 27

- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 3:00pm Song Circle with Dan Yolles

THURSDAY | MAY 28

- Erev Shavuot*
- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Preschool Music with Dan the Music Man
- 12:00pm Lunch and Learn
- 5:00pm Shavuot Program for Tots & Young Families***
- 6:30pm Shavuot Ice Cream Social Oneg***
- 7:00pm Torah Study with Rabbis Rick & Susan Rheins and Rabbi Jordy Callman***
- 8:00pm Erev Shavuot Festival Service***
- 8:45pm Late Night Study and Discussion***

FRIDAY | MAY 29

- Shavuot Yizkor*
- 8:30am Boker Tov with Temple Sinai Preschool
- 10:00am Shabbat ShaZoom! with Rabbi Jordy
- 10:00am Shavuot Festival Service with Yizkor Memorial Prayers**
- 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY | MAY 30

- 9:00am Shabbat Morning Service
- 10:30am Shabbat Torah Study
- 10:30am Reece Bernstein Bat Mitzvah Service
- 5:00pm Havdallah for Young Families & Children
- 7:30pm TSYG Havdallah
- 8:45pm Temple Sinai Virtual Havdallah with Rabbis Rick and Susan Rheins

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

**If we are unable to meet in person for any of these programs or services, a link for a livestream or Zoom will be distributed.*

RABBI RICK RHEINS

CLERGY

THE ME'AH BRAKHOT VACCINE



As I am writing this message, our world is frantically searching for a cure to stop the deadly COVID-19 virus. Absent a vaccine, nations and communities are imposing quarantine and social separation in order to slow down the spread of the virus. People have stocked up on sanitizer, disinfectants, and face masks. (Some have indulged in the selfish act of hoarding which has caused unnecessary shortages and exacerbated hysteria. Shame on them.) Meanwhile, the ravages of the illness have wrecked incalculable physical, emotional, economic and social damage.

God-willing, we'll soon have an effective treatment for those afflicted with COVID-19 and it will be an even greater blessing when a vaccine is developed, manufactured and distributed. However, after this crisis, we should not hope that things "return as they were before." We should not hope for a return to naïveté; where we blithely stroll through life with a vain confidence that all our plans and expectations will unfold as neatly as we write them. Rather, having our world shaken to its core reminds us that "certainty" is an illusion. The old Yiddish saying has hit home like never before: *Der mentsch trakht un Got lakht, Man plans and God laughs.*

Let's face it, even when we have that COVID-19 vaccine, it is only a matter of time before another type of virus comes along that will require a different vaccine. So what does that mean? Are we to go from here on out in a state of perpetual fear? Of course not. (However, developing better hygienic practices and a much stronger concern for the state of our environment are absolute musts.)

During this crisis, we have witnessed extraordinary acts of courage, compassion and generosity. The men and women on the front lines in our hospitals and clinics, those who are our first responders, the people who work in the grocery stores, those who continue to deliver and serve vital resources to help us survive. . . the list of heroes is long and inspiring. I've had people contribute vast sums to help feed the hungry and provide security for the newly unemployed. An army of volunteers stepped up to make deliveries to those too sick or afraid to get their food and medicine. Teachers and administrators have put in long hours creating on-line programs in order to meet the vital social, educational and spiritual needs of our community. In every case, the medicine brought by these heroes was not a chemical compound. Rather, their vaccine was made of love, hope, and faith. They were all motivated by the simple belief that when everything is falling apart, do your best to do the right thing.

In the Talmud we find a teaching that urges us to develop our vaccine of spiritual strength by focusing on the blessings all around us. Consider this passage:

It is taught in a baraita that Rabbi Meir would say: A person is obligated to recite one hundred blessings (me'ah brakhot) every day, as it is stated in the verse: "And now, Israel, what ["Mah"] does the Eternal your God require of you?" (Deuteronomy 10:12)

Rabbi Meir interprets the verse as though it said one hundred [me'ah], rather than "mah". - - -. It is taught in a baraita that Rabbi Natan says: There is no mitzvah, however minor, that is written in the

Torah, for which there is no reward given in this world; and in the World-to-Come I do not know how much reward is given (Menachot 43b; 44a).

So, is the Talmud saying that all we have to do is say one hundred blessings every day and we'll be protected from all harm? No. The protection does not come from liturgy or mere ritual. The spiritual strength comes from taking the time every day to notice and appreciate the goodness around us. Whether or not a person recites a formal brakhah (Hebrew blessing) is not as important as having the awareness that there are countless wonders and blessings in our lives. From the moment we wake up to the time we finally rest our heads on our pillows, we interact with hundreds and even thousands of experiences that are deserving, at the very least, of a little smile of appreciation. And when we are filled with that greater awareness of God's blessings in our lives, then we are in possession of the strongest vaccine in the world.

From this crisis, we have the opportunity to rebuild our world and recalculate our lives. So let us start the rebuilding process immediately, and naturally, it begins with a blessing:

Barukh Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melekh ha'olam, shehecheyanu v'kiyemanu v'higianu la-z'man ha-zeh.

We praise You Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who has given us life, sustained us and brought us to this joyous time.

B'vrakhah, With Blessings,

Rick
Rabbi Rick Rheins

RABBI JORDY CALLMAN

CLERGY

LISTENING FOR GOD'S MELODY

I'd like to share two stories with you.

Story #1:

King David played the harp; he'd pluck the strings, drawing a beautiful melody out of his instrument. At the end of the day, he'd hang his harp over his bed. In the middle of the night, the north wind would pick up, blowing gusts over David's bed. The air would dance across the harp strings and slowly, a melody would emerge. As the harp began to sing, so too did David awake and begin to sing with his harp. He would then add words and offer them as prayers to God. This is how David's psalms were written.

Story #2:

One day Rabbi Zusya, a Hasidic rabbi from the 1700s, took a stroll through the countryside. As he walked in solitude, he began to hear music; a nearby shepherd playing his reed flute. Rabbi Zusya listened to the notes and suddenly, felt compelled to join him; the melody grabbed him and he began to sing. He sang to himself over and over. He continued to sing as he walked alone until suddenly, he had a realization; this melody he

was singing was the long lost song of King David. It was at this moment that the music of David's prayers was freed from its exile.

“The ways we connect to God and then share that connection with others, those still exist. All the more so in these days, we must continue to seek out these moments, these sparks and use them as a way to connect with others.

These stories build on each other. In the first story, King David finds his prayer and we learn that our human creation (here, David's song) comes from God's creation (the wind); when we pray, we join our gifts with God's. In the second story, Rabbi Zusya discovers King David's lost melody and we learn that what we can pass our insights and wisdom about God's world from one person to another.

How do we find inspiration in God's world? And how do we share that inspiration with others? In the stories of King David and Rabbi Zusya, the answer was through music. For

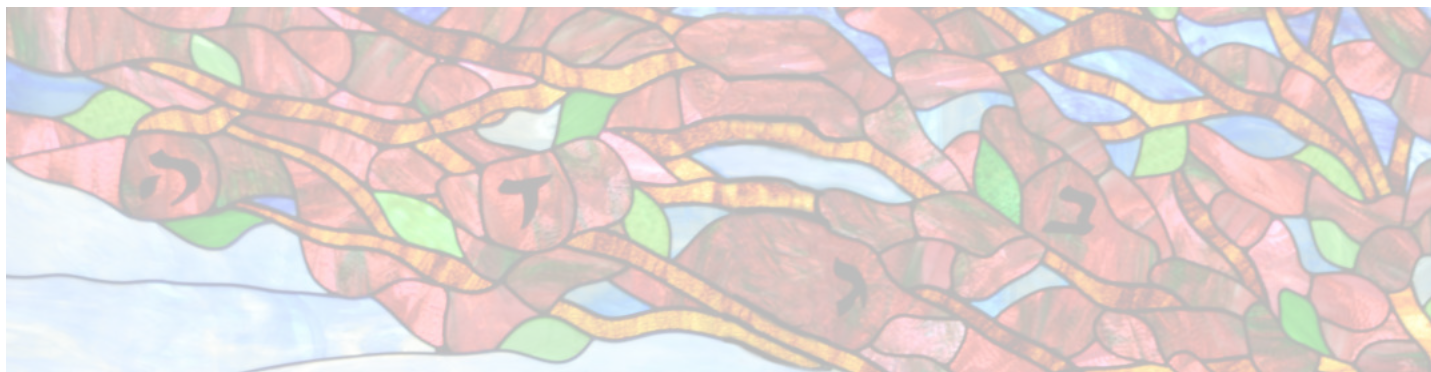
many in our community, music is a powerful medium; it reaches their soul, offers a vehicle for their prayers to God. And for some, maybe it's not music but rather, it's study and sharing in holy dialogue and debate over text. Or perhaps it's through baking. Or teaching the next generation. Or taking a hike on a beautiful Colorado day.

The world we are living in today looks different than it did 6 months ago. Undeniably. And yet, the ways we connect to God and then share that connection with others, those still exist. All the more so in these days, we must continue to seek out these moments, these sparks and use them as a way to connect with others. May we be able open our ears to the melody on the wings of the wind and may we be that shepherd with the reed flute, offering a lonely wanderer the tune they need to find peace.

Kein y'hi ratzon, may this be God's will.

B'Shalom

Jordy



CANTORIAL SOLOIST - DAN YOLLES

MUSIC

STAYING CONNECTED THROUGH MUSIC

As we navigated through these past several months of fear, uncertainty, isolation and distancing, even boredom and feeling stir crazy, music may have been a part of our process to rise above these feelings. Maybe it was through listening to your favorite albums or playlists, maybe even dusting off old records you haven't enjoyed in a while, practicing your instrument or finally revisiting it after years of telling yourself you would, discovering new music through your preferred streaming services, or by tuning into online Shabbat/holiday Services and song sessions to bring sacred words and melodies of prayer healing and joy into your home.

With stay at home orders and gathering bans in place, musicians from all around the world are faced with a slew of concert and performance cancellations. For many, this has led to financial hardships as this was how they survive to continue to bring music into this world. But platforms like Zoom, facebook live

and twitch offered ways for musicians to bring their music to listeners across the globe and for the people to support them through donations and 'shares.' This also impacts private music teachers as they must teach lessons online.

Jewish musicians like Nefesh Mountain, Joe Buchanan, Josh Warshawsky, and so many more used this time to share their songs of hope and healing regularly through facebook Live concerts and prayer/song sessions that anyone could log onto. Some even shared new songs written to try and help people through this.

Personally, I enjoyed the opportunity to share music to the Sinai community and beyond through regular song sessions and Havdallah ceremonies for the whole family. Yes, it was a strange experience calling and repeating to a camera at the top of my screen at first, or asking for everyone to sing along, but I heard nothing or a cacophony of

delayed audio feeds, I got used to it and truly appreciated

the chance to see the faces of students and congregants singing along that I miss so much. This was also fun for me to play melodies that inspire me that I don't normally have the chance to share! My main goals were to spread joy and comfort to the community through familiar and different/new music, teach about some of the prayers and songs, and bring us together in a time when we are so far apart.

As we look forward to gathering together, singing together and praying together I think we can appreciate this time when we brought so much music, prayer and community into our homes even if it was through a small screen. This shows that no matter what, we remain as one, and nothing can truly break us apart.



HOLIDAYS

SERVICES

Shavuot: The Early Summer Festival

Thursday, May 28

5:00-5:45pm - Shavuot program for tots & young families (followed by activities and Dairy Desserts)

6:30pm - Shavuot Ice Cream Social Oneg

7:00pm - Torah Study (Part 1 of *Tikkun Leil*) with Rabbis Rick & Susan Rheins and Rabbi Jordy Callman

8:00pm - Erev Shavuot Festival service

8:45pm - (Part II of *Tikkun Leil*) Late Night Study and Discussion!

Friday, May 29

10:00am - Festival Service with Yizkor-Memorial Prayers

If we are unable to meet in person for any of these services, a link for a livestream or Zoom will be distributed.

Shavuot: The Early Summer Festival

Originally, the three Festivals (Pesach, Shavuot & Sukkot) were known as Sh'losh Regalim, the "Three Pilgrimages." Our ancestors would travel from all over to gather in Jerusalem for the sacred services. There, they would bring their offerings, renew their communal bonds, listen to the Psalms of Hallel and honor the memories of their loved ones. Though the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed nearly two-thousand years ago, Jews have continued to keep alive those Biblical traditions.

Shavuot comes 7 weeks after Pesach and commemorates Z'man Matan Torateinu, "the season of our receiving

the Torah." Seven weeks after we celebrate Passover and our liberation from slavery, we acknowledge that true freedom only comes with wisdom and spiritual purpose---which are the gifts of Torah. Therefore, the night of Shavuot is dedicated to study and intellectual exploration (Tikkun Leil).

Shavuot also includes a Yizkor memorial during the morning service (May 29 at 10am). We will read the names of all our loved ones who have died during the past year. We also pause and honor the memories of those who have blessed our lives and whose legacies we cherish and preserve. The powerful experiences of our ancestral

Festivals help us rekindle faith and perpetuate the loving memory of our loved ones. Come to the Shavuot service and discover the gifts and inspiration of Judaism. Study and prayer, socializing and song, remembrance and renewal express the true essence of Shavuot.

We'll be offering study and worship opportunities for all ages on Shavuot. Especially exciting is our late night study and discussion. Rabbis Rick & Susan Rheins and Rabbi Jordy Callman will guide us on a review of Torah and the Hebrew Bible. It's a traditional and fun celebration of faith, learning and community!

SERVICES

SERVICES

Add Your Voice and Spiritual Joy! Attend the Shabbat Morning Minyan (9:00-10:30am)

Every Shabbat morning (9:00-10:30am), Temple Sinai offers a unique and very spiritual service. It is led by a combination of our members and our clergy and provides an inclusive forum of traditional liturgy together with contemporary and personal meditations. On any given week, different congregants will read Torah, help lead the service, offer words of commentary and wisdom, and share challenging perspectives from the Haftarah portion. There's upbeat music, warmth and inspiration as all participate in the celebration of Shabbat.

Please consider making this a part of your Shabbat observance. If you'd like to prepare a Torah reading or lead parts of the service, just contact the Rabbis. We'd love to help you add your voice and spiritual expression to our Shabbat service!

Memorial Weekend Shabbat Service Honoring the Memories of Those who Fought and Died to Defend and Protect our Nation

Friday, May 22 at 6:00pm

On the Friday of Memorial Day weekend, we will honor the men and women who gave their lives in defense of our nation. The liberties, freedoms and opportunities that we enjoy in the United States were secured through the sacrifice of brave men and women who served the in the Armed Forces in defense of our country. Too many of those heroes paid the ultimate price. Their lives should never be taken for granted. Let this Memorial Day weekend be a time of reflection, gratitude and remembrance of those who gave their lives for our freedoms.

Representatives of our Jewish War Veterans post will make a special presentation.

Healing Service: Thursday, May 14 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.

If we are unable to meet in person for any of these services, a link for a livestream or Zoom will be distributed.

PRESCHOOL

YOUTH

It feels like everything has changed in a few short weeks, and yet, the purpose of our work is exactly the same. Early childhood education is at its core, teaching children how to be problem-solvers, experimenters, and risk takers. It is designed to teach children to be kind and resilient citizens of the world. As an educator, I and the incredible teachers at Temple Sinai Preschool, have been challenged to hold true to our vision of exceptional early childhood education without stepping foot in our classrooms. We had to find new and unexpected ways to meet our goals, all while supporting families and each other through the most difficult crisis many in this generation have yet faced. I am proud to say - we are doing it!

Temple Sinai Preschool is offering daily innovative virtual content, experiences, and support

for our children and families. Our teachers meet regularly throughout the week to collaborate and design meaningful content. They are meeting individually and as classes with their students, guiding learning experiences and sharing extensions for families to incorporate at home.

“ *A pivot is a change in strategy without a change in vision.*
– Eric Ries

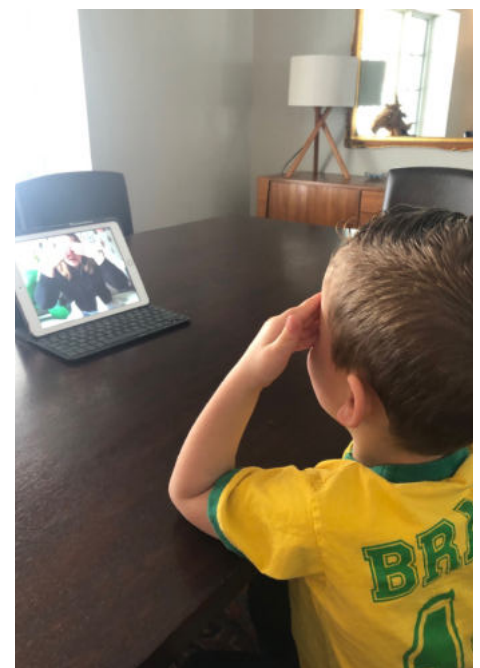
Our Temple Sinai Preschool Leadership Team has taken a leading role in our partnership with families, spear-heading virtual support systems. They have facilitated an interactive discussion with mental health professionals and conducted

a survey of families to help guide our new programming.

The Temple Sinai Board, clergy and staff have united to meet our children and families where they are and are actively engaged in everything we do. We are utilizing countless local and national resources with our partners at the Colorado Jewish Early Childhood Education Initiative (COJECEI), Early Childhood Educators of Reform Judaism (ECE-RJ) and the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ).

While so much has changed, Temple Sinai Preschool remains a strong, engaged and connected community!

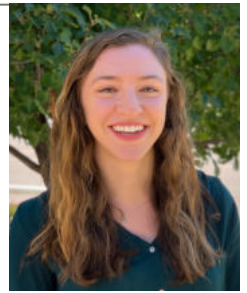
Warmly,
Sheila Purdin
Director of Early Childhood



YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH

MAZEL TOV TO TSYG MEMBERS ON NFTY REGIONAL BOARD



During the weekend of April 3-5, NFTY Missouri Valley came together online for a virtual Spring Chavurah. While we wish we could have been together in person, teens from all across the regional were able to create a beautiful online community. Together online, we baked challah, lit the Shabbat candles, Israeli danced, celebrated Havdalah, and elected the next Regional Board. Congratulations to the teens from Temple Sinai Youth Group - our high school youth group here at Temple Sinai - who were elected to the 2020-2021 NFTY Missouri Valley Regional Board! During the 2020-2021 school year, these teens will serve as leaders for and work with teens across all seven states in the Missouri Valley region of NFTY. We are so proud to have incredible young leaders representing Temple Sinai.

MAZEL TOV TO THE TEMPLE SINAI YOUTH GROUP MEMBERS ON THE 2020-2021 NFTY MV REGIONAL BOARD!



Jack Spiegel
President



Lucy Meyer
Programming Vice President



Josh Thorner
Communication Vice President



Jonathan Sagel
Special Projects Coordinator

For more information and event registration links, check out our website at: www.sinaidenver.org/youthgroup or contact Melissa Oxenhandler at 303-759-1827 or melissao@sinaidenver.org

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

YOUTH



The challenge was presented – how do we continue our Religious School program when our building is closed and Social Distancing is in effect. It's so contrary to who we are and what we do. Our clergy and teachers were up to the challenge. We began with a Sunday morning worship service with Rabbi Callman and Dan Yolles. It was wonderful – bringing our families together for singing and tefillah (prayer). We built our programming from there – teachers reached out to their families and invited them to meet them online for learning. Schedules were made for one-on-one Hebrew learning and resources were provided to families to continue their learning. Our teachers have risen to the occasion and provided opportunities for engagement when families cannot gather.

As we approach the end of the school year, I once again thank our teachers for their commitment to our students and our community. The current situation has proven once again how blessed we are at Temple Sinai to have a wonderful faculty who put a lot of time, energy and commitment into their teaching. It's not a very easy task – there's so much that we want to teach and so little time in which to do it. In short amount of time, our teachers are expected to teach, excite, engage, inspire and motivate – and this year they had to do that virtually! We expect miracles from our teachers and forget to thank them for doing their best to achieve those miracles.

SHAVUOT: CELEBRATING THE TORAH AND ITS TEACHINGS

Shavuot is the second of three pilgrimage festivals designated in the Torah, the other two being Passover and Sukkot. The word "Shavuot" means "weeks," since the festival occurs seven weeks after Passover.

On this festival in biblical times, pilgrims came from all parts of Israel to Jerusalem. Shavuot was the festival of first fruits. Shavuot also commemorates the spiritual birth-day of the Jewish people, the Revelation of God's word at Sinai. According to tradition, the Ten Commandments were given to the children of Israel at Mount Sinai on Shavuot. This was a truly amazing event in the life of the Jewish people, as the biblical account makes clear.

Shavuot is known as "Zeman Matan Torateinu," the season of the giving of our Torah. This is the day which our people were assigned the awesome task of proclaiming God's revelation to the world. As they entered this covenant, they were transformed from nomad tribes to a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. A Chasidic teacher asked: "Why is the festival of Shavuot called "The time of the giving of the Torah" and not the time of receiving the Torah?" It is called so because the giving of the Torah happened at one specific time, but the receiving of the Torah happens at every time and in every generation."

In its narrow meaning, Torah refers to the five books of Moses. In a wider sense, it represents the whole of the Bible including the prophets and writings. In its broadest connotation, the word embraces the whole of Israel's spiritual and intellectual life and creation built on scripture.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

The word Torah encompasses the entirety of Jewish tradition. So vast and rich is Torah that no one definition has been able to adequately contain its essence. A traditional way of expressing the uniqueness and importance of Torah is to use metaphor and analogy to compare Torah to something else vital. Read each saying and answer the questions:

"The Torah is a Tree of Life." (Proverbs 3:18)
How is Torah life a Tree of Life?

"The Torah speaks in a language everyone understands." (Brakhot 31)
In what way does the Torah speak in a language everyone understands?

"The Torah is Light." (Megilla 16b)
How is the Torah like light?

"The Torah cannot be studied except among friends." (Berakhot 62)
How does studying Torah improve friendships?

"The Torah has 70 faces." (Numbers Rabah 13,15)
In what way does the Torah have 70 faces?

CONFIRMATION 2020

Confirmation is more than just the graduation of 10th graders from Religious School. It is a sacred milestone whereby students reaffirm the importance of their Jewish faith, heritage, and community. Confirmation marks the significant progress the students have made since they became B'nei Mitzvah and demonstrates that they have taken their pledge seriously to continue their studies and participate actively

in Jewish life. These are especially wonderful students who are imbued with a positive feeling of Jewish identity, a solid Jewish education, and a sense of spirituality, compassion, morality and ethical strength. One of the highlights of the year is our Temple Sinai Confirmation service. The Confirmands will lead the service, read from the historic Holocaust Torah, and share inspiring personal messages. We will schedule a Confirmation service

for our 2020 class when we return to gathering at Temple Sinai.

TEMPLE SINAI 2020 CONFIRMATION CLASS GREETINGS ORDER FORM

Confirmation Greetings are a wonderful way to express pride in the achievements of the 2020 Confirmands. Think of this as sending a greeting as well as providing additional funding for the Julius and Helen Ring Israel Teen Scholarship Fund. Please check off the name of each Confirmand you wish to congratulate and send a check for all greetings ordered (\$10 for greeting). Greetings are also available online at <https://www.sinaidenver.org/ist>. Note: you will not receive an acknowledgement card from the Temple and students don't always write thank-you notes in response to these greetings. Composite greetings will be sent to the Confirmands following the Confirmation ceremony. Funds will be used to provide scholarships for participants attending teen Israel programs.

GREETING	CONFIRMAND	SON OR DAUGHTER OF
_____	Lucy Adlen	Nathan & Elyse Adlen
_____	Rosemary Ayres	Ali & Ted Ayres
_____	Aliza Bochner	Melinda Bochner & Eric Bochner
_____	Samuel Humphries	Brad & Lisa Humphries
_____	Cora Kronberg	Aaron Kronberg & Allie Kronberg
_____	Lucy Meyer	Mark & Jody Meyer
_____	Charlye Reiner	Diane & Dr. Seth Reiner
_____	Brooke Rosenthal	Dr. Eugene & Michelle Rosenthal
_____	Aaron 'AJ' Schiff	Todd & Robyn Schiff
_____	Joshua Thorner	Lisa Thorner & Doug Thorner
_____	Rena Zucker	Josh & Shana Zucker

PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS

A NOTE FROM LISA THORNER



It goes without saying that we are all facing a very difficult time. We have been watching the progression of COVID-19 across our country and around the world with a combination of uncertainty and anxiety. Despite these challenging times, I wanted to let you know that the Temple is still here for you. If you or someone you know is in need of financial assistance, please let me know directly. Because of some very generous congregants, we have some financial means to help. We are also able to provide Kings Soopers gift cards in order to ease some financial burdens. In addition, if you or a loved one are homebound and in need of help, please let me know as well. Everything is confidential. Please contact me at [303-759-1827](tel:303-759-1827) or lisa@sinaidenver.org with any questions.

Please take comfort knowing that better days will return. We will be with our families again; we will be with our friends again; and we will be with the congregation again. I look forward to the time when we can meet again in person.

UPDATES AND EVENTS

JOIN US ON ZOOM

To best connect with us virtually over Zoom, please **create a free Zoom account**. Create an account by visiting <https://zoom.us/signup>.

When joining a Zoom session, please make sure that you are logged into your account, and that your name is properly displayed. **If your full name is not displayed, you may not be accepted into some Zoom sessions.** (It is difficult to verify who you are if your name displays only “Yoni’s iPhone” or simply “Melissa.”)

To change your name in your Zoom profile, sign in to the Zoom web portal and click “Profile”, or visit <https://zoom.us/profile>. To change your name, click “Edit” on the right side.

Prior to joining a Zoom session, you may also enter your name as you wish for it to be displayed.

UNORTHODOX: NETFLIX SERIES DISCUSSION

If you subscribe to Netflix, watch Unorthodox, a four-part drama about a young woman leaving the Hassidic community. Join Rabbi Jordy Callman for a dissection and discussion of the series on Wednesday, May 6. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Thorner at lisa@sinaidenver.org or [303-759-1827](tel:303-759-1827).

SPECIAL THANKS

Temple Sinai would like to thank Rachel Baum, Heidi Becker, Roberta and Mel Klein, Bobbi Kramer, Evelinda Urman and Ted Zeiger for making meal deliveries for Passover. We cannot express enough appreciation to all of you!

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

Please stay tuned for upcoming programs. The committee is working hard to provide some exciting and thought-provoking programs in May.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Temple Sinai will hold a virtual Trivia Night on Saturday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m. Stay tuned for additional information.

ANNUAL EVENT UPDATE

As previously advertised, Temple Sinai’s leadership determined it was in everyone’s best interest to postpone this year’s Annual Event. It was rescheduled for June 28, but it looks like we are going to further postpone the event until it is safe for everyone to be together. We also want to honor Elaine and Max.

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: rabrheins@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.

BIBLE, BEERS & BROTHERHOOD MEN TALKING TORAH WITH RABBI RHEINS Tuesday, May 26 at 6:00pm

At Darcy's Bistro & Pub, 4955 S. Ulter Street (DTC) Denver. 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; each pays only for what he eats and drinks. And yes, several of us drink water, soda or tea instead of beer and wine!

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

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 want 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 MAY 7, 14, 21, 28

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! Bring your lunch and join in the discussion! 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 FEBRUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 2020

RECOGNITION

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

Martin Farber and Russell D. Volk
Sandra Farber-Volk

**Appel Family Youth Education
Scholarship Fund***In loving memory of:*

Esther Levy
Javier & Karin Fischer

Cemetery Beautiful Fund*In loving memory of:*

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Devra Perch

Covid 19 Relief Effort*Donors:*

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Raymond & Alicia Smith
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Bruce & Kim Tully
Stan & Paula Ullman
Alan & Linda Weinstein

In loving memory of:

Ken Heller and Randy Heller
Jon & Betty Heller

In honor of:

Temple Sinai Clergy, Teachers, Board & Staff
Gerald & Natalie Lassow
Doug & Martha Meitus
Richard & Patricia Strouse
Ben & Dee Trasen

Eber Cultural Arts Fund*In loving memory of:*

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Richard & Bette Ann Bloom
Alan & Anita Eisenberg
Steven & Debra Fendrich
Anita Fricklas
Barbara Glassman
Ron & Toni Sladek

Sidney Klein
Gary & Barbara Hoffman

**Ida & Max Fogel Windows of the
World Fund***In loving memory of:*

Dr. Harry Leventhal
Richard Leventhal

Jewish Education Fund*In loving memory of:*

Lorraine Dreiblatt and Sophia Eisenberg
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M. David Levine
Sharon Sears
Ardie Wandel
Arthur & Terry Heller

**Joseph H. Sigman Youth
Scholarship Fund***In loving memory of:*

Betty Pitter
Charlene Spiegelman

**Julius & Helen Ring Israel Teen
Scholarship Fund***In loving memory of:*

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Edward & Debby Rosenfeld
Manny Dworkin
Ronald & Sara Epstein
Richard Eber
Ronald & Sara Epstein
Jean Guthery
Melvyn & Roberta Klein
Stephen & Sherri Weinstein

Dr. Stephen Engel and

Dr. Jeffrey Mishell
Melvyn & Roberta Klein

Ron Fishman
Ronald & Sara Epstein

Stephen Groussman
Stephen & Sherri Weinstein

Peter Guthery and Warren Boivin
Jean Guthery

Norman Jacobs, Joe E. Kaitz, Louis
Landow, Florence Slatkin, David Suson,
and William Suson

Barbara Suson
Arleen Ruby Leviton

Jean Guthery
Melvyn & Roberta Klein

Rose Sachs Mesnick and Jay
Silberman

David & Susan Silberman
Howard Steinberg

Arnold & Eileen Lash
Ardie Wandel

Ronald & Sara Epstein
Melvyn & Roberta Klein

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Saul Witkin

Sharon Witkin

Lew Rosenberg Camp Fund*In honor of:*

The Birth of Amelia Babich
Dennis & Paula King

Marilyn Tobin Memorial Flower Fund*In loving memory of:*

Elinor Debber, Manny Dworkin,
Richard Eber, Dr. Steve Engel,
Steve Farber, Arleen Ruby Leviton,
and Arden Wandel
Marshall & Carol Tobin

Mitzvah Project Fund*In honor of:*

Paul Levine's Birthday
Alan & Anita Eisenberg

**Osi and Selma Sladek Cultural
Arts/Music Fund***In honor of:*

Blanch Schiff
Oscar & Selma Sladek

Prayer Book Fund*In loving memory of:*

Richard "Dick" and
Frances "Pinky" Eber
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Bryan & Heather Pepper, and
Jill (Pepper) & Todd Kiefer

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Preschool Underwriting Fund*In loving memory of:*

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**Rabbi Jordy Callman
Discretionary Fund**

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Zelda Hughes and Muni Oster
Mark & Ilene Dell'Acqua
Jules Lippman
Eleanor Deneroff
Regina Strouse
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In honor of:

Rabbi Jordy Callman for planning
Movie & Mimosa program
Barbara Glassman
Richard Cohen
Cynthia Cohen

**Rabbi Richard Rheins
Discretionary Fund**

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Ida Dinner
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Dolores Ostrand, Irv Zeller,
and Lee Zeller
Clifford & Karen Zeller
Barry Robbins
William & Lorie Klumb
Zelda Rubenstein
Laurence & Joan Rubenstein

Esther and Marcey Strick
James & Miriam Barnard
Bette Strouse
Richard & Patricia Strouse

In honor of:

Birth and Hebrew Naming of Daphne
Lenorah Gindin, daughter of
Melinda and Matt Gindin
Susan Gindin,
Bruce and Sherry Dewald,
Darrell Gindin and Linda Resnick
Morris Ginsburg's 89th Birthday
Noreen Stillman
Hebrew Naming of Brielle Goldman
Mark & Carrie Goldman
Wedding of Priscilla Newton and
David Strouse
William & Janis Yeckes
Paul Levine's Birthday for
Feed the Homeless
Robert & Carole Adelstein
Paul & Shellie Sheanin
Dick & Naomi Wisott
Rabbi Rick Rheins Rheins and
Barbara Zeidman
Jonathan Singer, Linda Leonard
& Sonny Singer

Rabbi Zwerin Discretionary Fund

In loving memory of:
Morris Hamerling
Linda, Alan, Geri &
Cory Weinstein
Ardie Wandel
Debra Romans

Religious School Fund

In loving memory of:
Irma Dotson, Ron Fishman, Robert
Pizik, Marcey Strick,
and Ardie Wandel
Grace Bach

In honor of:

Rabbi Susan Rheins's Birthday
Grace Bach
Religious School Staff
Darren & Dina Boivin

Robin's World Playground Fund

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Warren Boivin Sr.
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Lisa Thorner's Birthday
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**Substance Abuse Awareness &
Prevention Fund**

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Betty Feinstein
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Family, Judy Nikkel and Family
Richard Eber
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Robert & Margaret Rashti
Randy & Ken Heller
Jon & Betty Heller
Mary Hoffman
Herbert & Elaine Hoffman
Earl Keil
Lee & Betty Rogers

DONATIONS

RECOGNITION

Temple Sinai General Fund (cont.)***In loving memory of:***

Avraham Meir
 Samuel & Carol Jonas
 Milton Patt & Ruth Patt
 Richard & Althea Patt
 Len Schiff
 Justin & Sharon Roth
 Ardie Wandel
 Robert & Marsha Gold
 Samuel & Carol Jonas
 Frank & Dena Schneider
 Jeremy Siegler
 Albert & Charlene Wolf
 Rusty Gerson Weinstein
 Allan & Helena Striker
 George, Sara and Sheila Winters
 Richard & Judith Kleiner

In honor of:

Morris Ginsberg's Birthday
 Frank & Dena Schenider
 Jerry Lassow's 80th Birthday
 Robert & Charleen Brown
 Rabbi Rick Rheins and
 Rabbi Jordy Callman
 Arthur & Terry Heller
 Rabbi David Zucker
 Audrey Marcus

We Care/Social Action Fund***In loving memory of:***

Ken Heller & Randy Heller
 Linda Heller

In honor of:

The Speedy Recovery of Steve
 Friedman
 Janet Smith

Women's Programming Fund***In honor of:***

Lisa Thorner
 Dennis & Paula King

Youth Fund***In loving memory of:***

Dick Eber
 Mitchell Siegler

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Elaine Pywen Brinn, aunt of Marty Pywen (Doug) Meitus, great aunt of Melissa (Josh) Liff and Jacob Meitus, great-great aunt of Anna and Eliza Liff

Manny Dworkin, husband of the late Sally Dworkin, father of Amy Brenman (Jay Fry), Barbara (Steven) Feldman, David (Wendy) Dworkin, grandfather of Adam Brenman, Shira Brenman (David Tune), Ethyn (Monida) Feldman, Talya Feldman, Elyana Feldman, Jessica Dworkin, Melissa Dworkin, great-grandfather of Lexi Feldman

Richard (Dick) Eber, husband of the late Rochelle Deitch Eber and the late Frances "Pinky" Bloom Eber, father of Robert (Leslie), Pam, and Michael (Julie) Eber, grandfather of Daniel (Lesia) McGlynn, Iliana, Benjamin, Andrew and Matthew Eber

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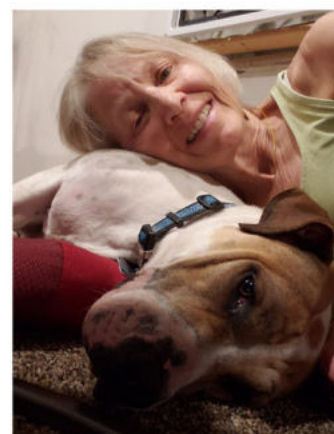
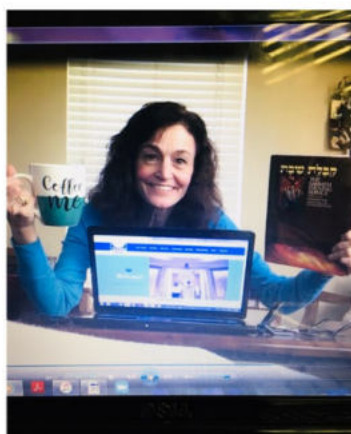
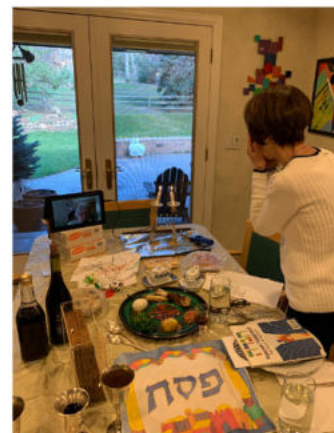
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Estelle Waller, step-mother of Alicia (Ray) Smith

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR TEMPLE SINAI MEMBERS FOR SHARING WITH US WHAT YOU ARE DOING WHILE STAYING HOME. WE HOPE TO BE TOGETHER AGAIN SOON!



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