

TEMPLE SINAI

KESHER

OCTOBER 2023

TISHREI / CHESHVAN 5784



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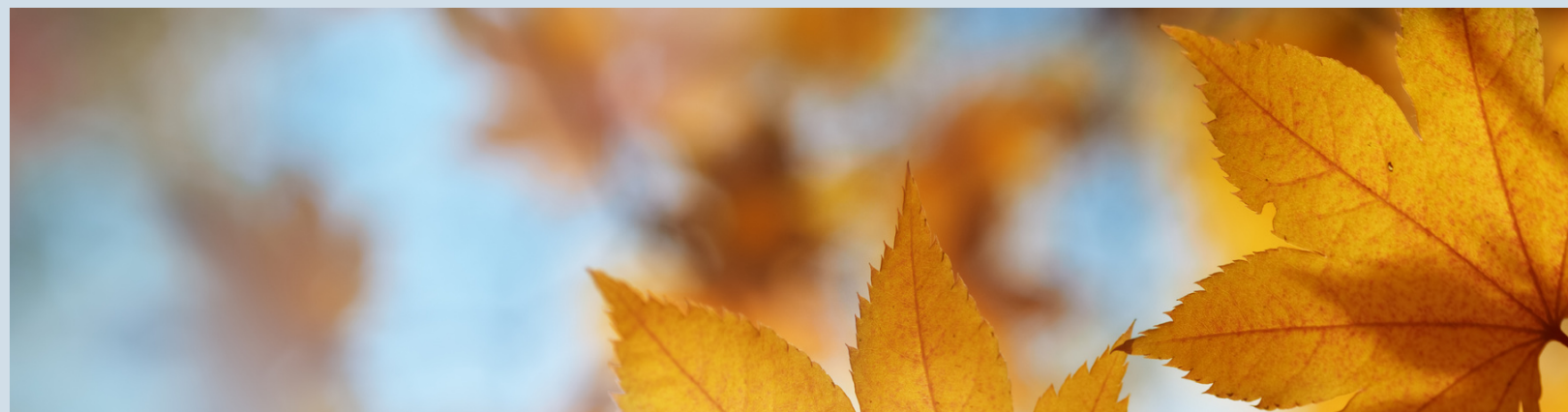
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Chai-5! For High Holy Days to Chanukah

WHY “CHAI-5”?

WE HOPE EVERYONE WILL MAKE AN INVESTMENT OF CHAI (\$18) X 5 ! OR . . . 1, 2, 3, OR 4 “CHAI”. WHATEVER IS MEANINGFUL TO YOU!

THE CHAI-5 PROGRAM

OUR NEW, EXCITING & INNOVATIVE FUNDRAISING EXPERIENCE

Chai-5 is a fundraising program that will support selected areas of emphasis within our Sinai community. Chai-5 helps make sure that we can both maintain existing programming and also fund new and innovative ways to bring us all closer together. We hope that everyone will take part with an investment of Chai (\$18) X 5 = (Chai-5). You can choose to allocate your units of Chai as you wish.

REIGNITE THE LIGHT HERE'S WHERE YOUR DOLLARS CAN GO:

YOUNG FAMILY PROGRAMMING

- SINAI STORKS
- FAMILY CONCERTS
- TWISTED SHABBATS

EMPTY NESTER PROGRAMMING

- MEET UP GROUPS AND OUTINGS
- CLASSES
- CULTURAL ARTS

ADULT EDUCATION

- CLASSES
- CONCERTS
- SOCIAL AND INTERGENERATIONAL EVENTS

SINAI EXPERIENCES

- OUTDOOR SPACE ENHANCEMENTS
- SPECIAL PROJECTS
- EXCLUSIVE CONGREGATIONAL PROGRAMS

CLICK TO DONATE TODAY!

sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/chai-five-campaign-2023



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THE CHAI-5 ADVANTAGE

DONATIONS HEAD STRAIGHT TO THE BOTTOM LINE

YOUR GIVING BECOMES VERY SIMPLE

Dues, general donations, program costs and Chai-5 represent your investment and commitment to Temple Sinai. Our other events that raise money are our Annual Event, Shabbat Shirah, Artist in Residence and Scholar in Residence Weekends (to name a few) - all of which directly tie to specific Temple funds.

YOU CHOOSE EXACTLY WHAT AREAS INSPIRE YOUR HEART

You can commit your Chai-5 donation to specific areas; whatever inspires you the most.

CHAI-5 MAKES YOU A TRUE PARTNER AND STAKEHOLDER IN TEMPLE SINAI

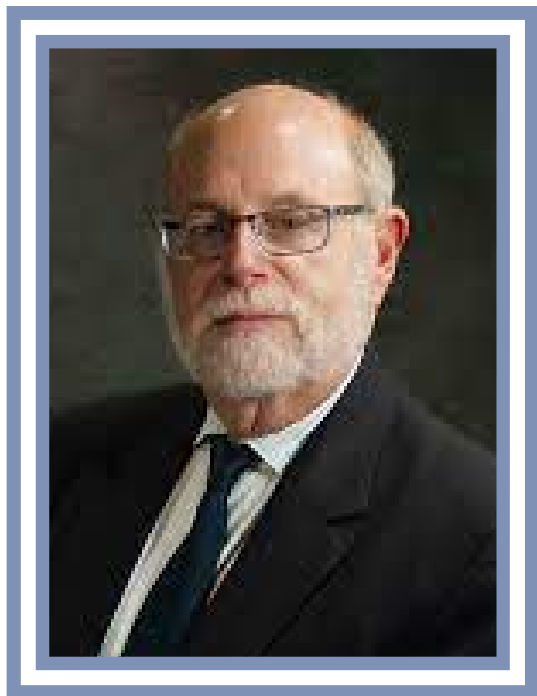
The program will show you precisely how we plan to use funds. It provides full transparency and makes us all partners in Temple Sinai's finances.

save the date

Scholar in Residence

Rabbi Richard Address

January 19-21, 2024



Jewish Sacred Aging is a forum for the Jewish Community with resources and texts that feature discussions on the implications of the revolution in longevity for Baby Boomers and their families.

jewishsacredaging.com

Jewish
Sacred
Aging®



SAVE THE DATE

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, JOE BUCHANAN

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 23-25, 2024

at Temple Sinai

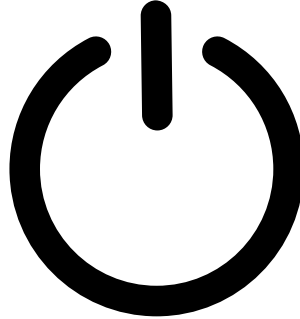


Texas-born and southern-raised, Joe Buchanan makes country music that is steeped in Torah. Struggling with religion and his place in the world, a revelation from his wife about her Jewish identity changed everything. After joining the Tribe, Joe released his debut album, "Unbroken," which sparked nationwide tours, an original Shabbat service, a thriving online community, and a workshop about the choice to become Jewish. Gather up for good times with his latest release, "Back From Babylon" and get everything else on his website: www.joebuchananmusic.com.

Joe
BUCHANAN
☆



THEY SHALL BE AS SYMBOLS . . . RABBI RICK RHEINS



You surely recognize the above symbol as the “Power Button.” It was widely adopted after 1973, replacing the wordier “On/Off” button and “Power.” The simple elegance of the modern power button derives from the earliest binary switches which were marked with an I and an O to denote, respectively, a closed electrical circuit (device on) and an open circuit (device off). In 1973, these two symbols were combined into the now-familiar icon (above) and labeled it “standby setting.” In 2002 an international committee of scientists and engineers ultimately recommending that this combined symbol should stand for its more commonly accepted understanding for “power.”

Mind you, while I was familiar with the meaning of the power symbol, I didn’t have a clue about its origin until a visit to the Modern Museum of Art (MOMA) in New York a few years ago. The power button was among a fascinating exhibit about signs and symbols and each one came as a bit of revelation.

Semiotics is the study of signs and symbols, and that field must be in its golden age. Our smartphones are packed with icons which we instantly recognize. (Okay, that is a bit of an exaggeration. I am deeply appreciative of the short word descriptions that appear beneath many of them!)

Symbols also play a significant role in Judaism, none more so than the mezuzah. The Torah instructs us to inscribe the Shema on the doorposts of our homes and on our gates. Mezuzah means doorpost. The passages are written on a scroll and placed inside a protective case which is then affixed to the righthand side of the doorpost (as one is facing the house). On the scroll are two passages from the Book of Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21. Both passages mention writing the words of Torah on the doorposts of one’s home and gates. The passage that includes the Shema is especially important and it is traditionally recited every morning and evening.

Hear, O Israel! Adonai is our God, Adonai is One! You shall love Adonai your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day. Impress them upon your children. Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them serve as a symbol on your forehead; inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

When I see a *mezuzah* case on the doorpost of a home it always lifts my spirit. It is a symbol that proudly proclaims, “We are Jewish!” It is a symbol for those who live in that home that reminds them of their blessings wherever they go. It is a symbol that expresses, “You shall love.” Is there any better way to begin or conclude a day than by realizing that we have love and blessings in our lives? Indeed, of all the symbols that we have in our lives, none is more significant than the *mezuzah* which declares, “The people in this home are blessed and loving!”

Please know that if you don’t have a *mezuzah* affixed to your home and would like some help, I will be honored to do so! The ceremony for putting up a *mezuzah* is called “*Chanukah HaBayit*, The Dedication of the Home. It is a meaningful celebration with family and friends.

The *mezuzah*, the symbol of love and blessing, is the ultimate “power button!”

B’vrakhah, With Blessings

Rick

Rabbi Rick Rheins



WE ARE THE SUKKAH

RABBI MICHAEL SHIELDS

Rabbi Akiba taught that the one who erects a sukkah on the deck of a ship has built a valid sukkah. Rabbi Gamaliel declares it is invalid. Regarding this, the Talmud relates the following story. “It happened that Rabbi Gamaliel and Rabbi Akiba were journeying on a ship during Sukkot. Rabbi Akiba arose and erected a sukkah on the deck of the ship. The next morning the wind blew and tore it away. Rabbi Gamaliel said to him, ‘Akiba, where is your sukkah?’” (Sukkah 23a)

You can almost hear the sarcasm in Rabbi Gamaliel's voice. He clearly thinks that Akiba is a fool for attempting to build a sukkah on the deck of the ship. Well, halachah follows Rabbi Akiba. It also follows him regarding the building of a sukkah on the top of a wagon, the top of a tree, or the back of a camel! I must admit I am trying to figure out how to build a sukkah on the back of a camel. However, I think the Talmud is pushing us to think differently about a sukkah.

Consider this. The sukkah is not supposed to be a permanent structure. The sukkah should be able to withstand a modest amount of wind, but not built to withstand exceptional winds. One has to use branches, stalks or stems from plants grown from the ground for the s'chach (roof covering). These and other restrictions reinforce that the sukkah is a very temporary, fragile structure...just like each one of us in some ways.

A sukkah is open to the elements. It is subject to the wind and rain. Its roof is supposed to have enough opening that one can see the stars. So it is with our bodies. They are susceptible to the exigencies of the weather, to the whims of nature. However, we live mostly indoors, wear protective clothing and take measures to protect our health. The command to eat and sleep in the sukkah is meant to remind us how exposed we really are, especially when we are not in the comfort of our homes. By simply eating a meal in the sukkah, we become aware of the elements – heat, cold, rain, sun, bugs – in a way different from our everyday lives. Just as the sukkah is open to the world, flimsy walls on 3 sides with one side open, as well as a roof patchy enough to see the stars, so are we supposed to be open to the world. This is highlighted by the practice of ushpizin, the welcoming of guests, preferably strangers, and at least one poor person, into our sukkah.

The openness of the sukkah and the welcoming of guests have layers of potential meaning. If we dig beyond the pshat, the plain meaning of exposure to the elements, we are challenged to expose our vulnerabilities enough to welcome guests. Or do we shut ourselves off from others? Finally, are we willing to look up and potentially see stars? The sukkah reminds us that if we are open, things will pass through us easier, we will absorb the winds of change and difficulty better than if we are rigid.

The Sukkah is also an important symbol of, and metaphor for, our community; like a sukkah, Temple Sinai is constructed of many different branches (people) woven together. The broader the Sukkah's reach, the more tightly its branches are woven, the stronger it stands.

When Rabbi Gamaliel asks Akiba, “Where is your sukkah,” perhaps it is an echo of God's question to Adam. The Talmud does not tell us what Akiba answered. I would like to believe that Akiba answered that the fact his sukkah was blown away is exactly what made it valid. We can never fully know where we will be or where the winds might blow us.

The sukkah built on the ship is valid because each one of us is a sukkah balanced precariously on a ship sailing through the sea of existence. We control very little of that journey, but we can rejoice in having the opportunity to even make the journey. Moreover, when we come together, weaving our branches within the context of all those in our community, greater strength and support is manifested.

May this Sukkot bring us a sense of joy, wholeness, contentment, and strength.

Michael

Rabbi Michael Shields

High Holy Days

2023

5784



SHABBAT-SHEMINI ATZERET SIMCHAT TORAH YIZKOR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 6:00PM

EREV SHABBAT-SHEMINI ATZERET-SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICE & DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 10:00 AM

SHABBAT-SHEMINI ATZERET SIMCHAT TORAH YIZKOR

On Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah we celebrate the yearly cycle of Torah readings. It is a chance to dance with the Torah scrolls, sing uplifting songs, and rejoice in the heritage of learning and teaching that is the hallmark of our faith. The celebration of Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah begins on **Erev Shabbat, Friday, October 6 at 6:00 PM with a Festival service and traditional Torah reading** from the concluding passage of Deuteronomy and the opening chapter of Genesis.

Shabbat-Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah services continue the next morning, **Saturday, October 7 at 10:00 AM**, during which we will observe Yizkor in memory of our loved ones who have passed away. The service will be followed by a free lunch.

What is the Yizkor Service? *Yizkor* is a memorial service that is held four times a year: on the last day of *Pesach*, *Shavuot*, and *Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah* and on *Yom Kippur*. It is a sacred time during which we lovingly remember and honor our family and friends who have died. It is also a time of healing as we reflect on the on-going legacy of those who nurtured us.

The *Yizkor* service contains many beautiful and meaningful prayers and meditations. A central part of *Yizkor* is the prayer that begins "*Yizkor Elohim* (may God remember)," which expresses the Jewish belief that the souls of our deceased loved ones are bound in the "Bond of Eternal Life." These prayers are especially poignant for those who have suffered the loss of parents, grandparents, and children.

Participation in a *Yizkor* service is a time-honored way to keep alive the memory of those who blessed our lives. At our Temple Sinai *Yizkor* service, we will read the names of our loved ones who died over the past 12 months. In addition, we will read and honor the memories of those who have died in past years. You will also be able to send us additional names to be mentioned during the *Yizkor* service.

YIZKOR

Remembering
our loved ones.

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 7**

10:00AM



High Holy Days 2023 5784



SIMCHAT TORAH *a festival celebration*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

EREV SHABBAT-SHEMINI ATZERET-SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICE & DINNER

6:00PM - SERVICE

6:45PM - DINNER

JOIN US FOR A CONGREGATION DINNER ALONG WITH SINGING, DANCING AND REJOICING TO HONOR THE FESTIVAL OF SIMCHAT TORAH. DINNER IS AVAILABLE TO THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION - WE ARE EXPECTING A LARGE, CELEBRATORY CROWD SO DON'T MISS OUT! A HOT DINNER WILL BE SERVED ALONG WITH DRINKS AND A SPECIAL DESSERT. COST: \$15/ADULT, \$9/CHILDREN (AGES 2-11)

REGISTER NOW



sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/shabbat-dinner-october-6

High Holy Days 2023/5784

Selichot

Saturday, September 9

6:45 - 7:45pm: Study Programs

7:45 - 8:00pm: Refreshments

8:00 - 8:45pm: Service

Cemetery Memorial Services

Sunday, September 10

Rose Hill at 10:30am

Fairmount at 11:30am

Mt. Nebo at 11:30am

Erev Rosh HaShanah

Friday, September 15

7:30pm: Shabbat-Rosh HaShanah Service

Rosh HaShanah 1st Day

Saturday, September 16

9:00 - 11:15am: K-5/7 Youth Programming

9:00 - 11:15am: Preschool (0-5) Babysitting

9:00 - 11:15am: Traditional Service

9:45 - 11:15am: Alternative Service

11:30 - 12:30pm: Intergenerational Family Service

4:00 - 4:30pm: Tots and Tashlich

4:30 - 5:00pm: Tashlich Service

Rosh HaShanah 2nd Day

Sunday, September 17

10:00am: Traditional Service

Erev Yom Kippur - Kol Nidre

Sunday, September 24

7:30pm: Traditional Service

Yom Kippur

Monday, September 25

8:30 - 9:00am: Tots & Music Program

9:00 - 11:15am: Preschool (0-5) Babysitting

9:00 - 11:15am: K-5/7 Youth Programming

9:00 - 11:15am: Traditional Service

9:45 - 11:15am: Alternative Service

11:30 - 12:30pm: Intergenerational Family Service

2:00 - 3:15pm: Discussion

3:30pm: Afternoon Service

5:15pm: Yizkor Service

6:00pm: Neilah Service

Erev Sukkot

Friday, September 29

6:00pm: Shabbat-Sukkot Service

Sukkot

Saturday, September 30

10:00am: Sukkot Service

Erev Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah

Friday, October 6

6:00pm: Festival Service

6:45pm: Congregational Festival Dinner

Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah with Yizkor

Saturday, October 7

10:00am: Torah Service & Yizkor

Simchat Torah Religious School Family Celebration

Sunday, October 8

During Religious School hours

HHD 2023/5784 information is
available at:
sinaidenver.org/high-holy-days/



B'nei Mitzvah in 2024 & 2025

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. If you have a child who will turn 13 (or older) in 2024 or 2025 and you do not yet have a reserved service date, please call Rabbi Rick Rheins or Rabbi Michael Shields and we'll answer all your questions and help you find a date that works for your family.

Or if you would like to stop in, date selection request forms are available in the Temple Sinai office. We can also mail one directly to you.

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



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 Rheins and Rabbi Shields are always quick to make a call and/or visit to any of our members and their loved ones. We also have a group of volunteers on our Caring Committee who will do their best to respond with cards, calls and offers of assistance.

Please call or email our Rabbis and let them know that you'd like their help.

Confidential messages can be made directly to:
Rabbi Rick Rheins, rabrheins@sinaidenver.org
Rabbi Michael Shields, rabbishields@sinaidenver.org



Interested in Becoming Jewish or Learning more about Judaism? Sign up for the next Introduction To Judaism course!

The Rocky Mountain Rabbis & Cantors (RMRC) offers a nationally renowned 28-week Introduction to Judaism (ITJ) course. This program is taught by Rabbis from the Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, and Modern Orthodox movements. ITJ is a cornerstone of the Denver Jewish community's conversion program. It is one of the few in the country in which Rabbis from all the respective movements participate.

There is a modest fee for the course, but some scholarships are available. If you are interested in the Introduction to Judaism course, please call either Rabbi Rick Rheins or Rabbi Michael Shields.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All services are open for in-person attendance and will be streamed live at sinaidenver.org/livestream or on our Facebook page at Facebook.com/SinaiDenver

WEEKLY

EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

FRIDAYS, 6:00 PM

Join us to welcome Shabbat every Friday evening. Temple Sinai's service is a rich mixture of Jewish tradition and modern egalitarian spirit which makes for an inviting and inclusive experience for those of every age and background. Our service is filled with wonderful music that includes both traditional and modern melodies. Thoughtful messages from the Rabbis enhance our services. We conclude every Erev Shabbat service with an *oneg* dessert and social time to renew friendships and meet new friends.

SHABBAT MORNING MINYAN

SATURDAYS, 9:00 AM

Every Shabbat morning we have a lovely service that encourages participation and *ruach*, a joyous spirit. In addition to the Rabbis, congregants are invited to help lead the service. Opportunities are available for members to read Torah, provide a short *drash* (message about the Torah portion) and help lead the prayers. If you are interested in leading a part of the service, contact Rabbi Rick Rheins or Rabbi Michael Shields. This service is a fabulous way to celebrate Shabbat and to meet wonderful new friends.

MONTHLY

HEALING SERVICE / VIRTUAL, AT 11:00AM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

For our Healing Service, we gather virtually 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, for those struggling with sadness and grief, for caregivers who seek inspiration as they pray for the welfare of loved ones.

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

CLASSES: OCTOBER AND FALL 2023

BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE & BEER MEN TALKING TORAH WITH RABBI RHEINS DARCY'S BISTRO AND PUB TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 6:00PM

Each month, Temple Sinai men get together for a little study, discussion, and camaraderie. It is a perfect opportunity to renew friendships and make new friends.

In October, the session will be led by Rabbi Rick Rheins and we'll review the Cain and Abel story.

LUNCH AND LEARN COME LEARN, DISCUSS, DEBATE AND MEET FRIENDS October 5, 12, 19, 26 AT NOON

OCTOBER 5 WILL BE UNDER THE SUKKAH!

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 and join in the discussion. It's a great way to learn as well as meet new friends!

Lunch and Learn will now be IN-PERSON AT TEMPLE SINAI with a VIRTUAL OPTION!

SHABBAT TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI ZWERIN AND RABBI KAYE SATURDAYS, 10:30AM (VIRTUAL) OCTOBER 14, 21, 28

Join Rabbi Zwerin and Rabbi Kaye on Shabbat mornings to explore the next few verses in the Torah, and examine the commentary surrounding the text. Regardless of previous knowledge, everyone is welcome to add to the weekly discussions or just to listen. The class began with Genesis 1 in 1986 and are now in our 38th year. We have reached the final few chapters of Deuteronomy. As this last book of the Torah comes to an end, so does the life of Moses - and, he has much yet to teach us all before he ascends his last mountain.

SINAI SUNDAYS FALL-WINTER 2023 MORE STORIES FROM THE TALMUD WITH RABBI RICK RHEINS VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM - DATES BELOW

This year's Sinai Sundays class will continue to explore some of the most important and interesting stories in the Babylonian Talmud. These stories are known as aggadot and are classic and beloved narrative Talmudic passages that have taught, entertained, and challenged generations. Each week we will read and discuss different stories along with selections of traditional commentary. It does not matter if you already have a familiarity with Talmudic text or are exploring it for the first time. Come and join us as we explore and discuss the great stories and passages of the Talmud!

The classes will be held virtually. Sundays. 10:00-11:00am.

FALL-WINTER 2023 DATES:

Sunday, October 15, 22
November 5
December 3, 24

EXPLORING THE HEBREW BIBLE THE BOOKS OF SAMUEL WITH RABBI RICK RHEINS TUESDAYS AT NOON OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

BEGINS AGAIN THIS FALL!

In October the weekly Bible study series Exploring the Hebrew Bible begins again on Tuesdays at noon. The first session (October 3) will complete our reading of the First Book of Samuel and then we will start the Second Book of Samuel at subsequent sessions. These passages of the Hebrew Bible contain the stories of King David and King Solomon. For each session, Rabbi Rick Rheins will provide a PDF text as well as selections from classic commentaries. Of course, we will also engage in a lively discussion!

**ZOOM LINKS AND
ACCOMPANYING MATERIALS
WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL
PRIOR TO EACH SESSION.**





ON A MUSICAL NOTE . . .

RUTHIE LIPSHULCH CANTORIAL SOLOIST



Shalom Sinai friends!

It was an honor to be a part of the beautiful High Holy Days of 5784, seeing so many of you in person at services. Your presence fills the sanctuary with an immense amount of joy which greatly amplifies my energy. It's been wonderful to bring song to Sinai in so many different and engaging ways these past few weeks. Also being back in the Preschool and Religious School as the school year in in full swing gives me great joy. Thank you for sharing your precious children and your own hearts and souls with me.

I am focused on my next Temple Sinai concert which will be on Saturday, November 11 and will feature a spectacle of fun, family music! Nathan Snyder will accompany me as a tenor and we are so excited to perform for you. As you think about your attendance and who will be joining you, we ask that instead of tickets, you make a donation to Temple Sinai's Cultural Arts and Music fund so that we can grow our resources and continue to bring these memorable "family moments" to you. I am so grateful for all of your support!

Your Cantorial Soloist,

Ruthie

Ruthie Lipshulch

SAVE THE DATE



6:00PM, EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

Temple Sinai's Family
Concert
 featuring **Ruthie Lipshulch**

Saturday, November 11

[click to learn more](#)

CALLING ALL K-5 MUSICAL SONGBIRDS!

Rehearsals will be scheduled on Sundays immediately following Religious School. **Rehearsal dates will be announced soon.**

YOUTH CHOIR PERFORMANCES:

DECEMBER 8, 2023

APRIL 26, 2024

MAY 17, 2024

RSVP HERE: sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/youth-choir-2023

**INTERESTED IN
YOUTH CHOIR?**



RUTHIE@SINAIDENVER.ORG



SHEILA PURDIN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

TZ'AR BA'ALEI CHAYIM: THE VALUE OF CARE AND COMPASSION FOR ANIMALS

When I moved to Colorado to work at Temple Sinai Preschool I loved everything about it, except my gorgeous office does not have direct access for children to visit. My office does, however, have a window that looks into our school hallway. I wanted an invitation for children to engage so I got a school hamster.

There are tremendous benefits to having animals at school. They are naturally soothing. Who doesn't love petting a furry creature?! Engaging with animals calms our sensory system. Children often visit our school hamster when they are out of sorts, need some quiet time to regulate their bodies, and sometimes just when they are feeling sad. The hamster always helps.

Having a school pet helps children learn about caring for someone less able than themselves. The Jewish value of care and compassion for animals, tz'ar ba'alei chayim, is reinforced daily. Children at Temple Sinai Preschool know to give the hamster water and food, and that it needs a clean cage and lots of opportunities to exercise. And love.

The hamster is part of our community. We take it out during drop-off and pick-up times, it visits classrooms, and a weekend with the hamster was one of our most popular auction items last year. At the request of parents and teachers, I even took a laminated version of our hamster on a recent vacation so the children could enjoy pictures of it in a faraway place.

A school pet also provides opportunities for us to engage safely in conversations about the lifecycle of all creatures. Hamsters have a lifespan of 2-3 years. In my time at Temple Sinai Preschool we have had three hamsters, Princess Lightening Bolt, Cocoa Puff, and most recently, Ralph. When each passed, I shared the information with the children. We talked about how it is sad when we lose a pet, we miss them, and we shared our memories. The children also created things to tell a new hamster what it is like to live at Temple Sinai Preschool. It is a pretty special place to be a kid and a hamster.

Soon we will have a new hamster, the children will help name it and care for it. The hamster in turn will help care for the children. That is the value of a school pet.

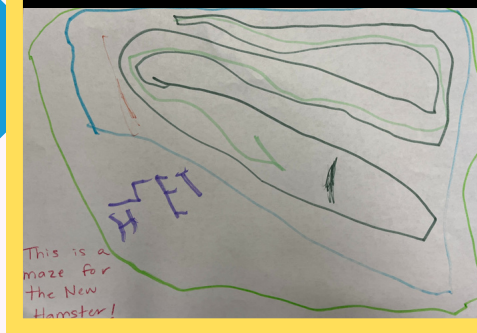
Warmly,
Sheila



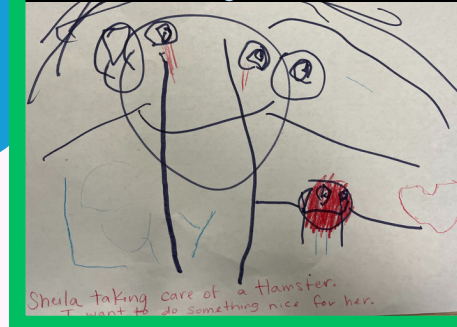
WHAT IT'S LIKE AT SCHOOL WITH OUR PETS!



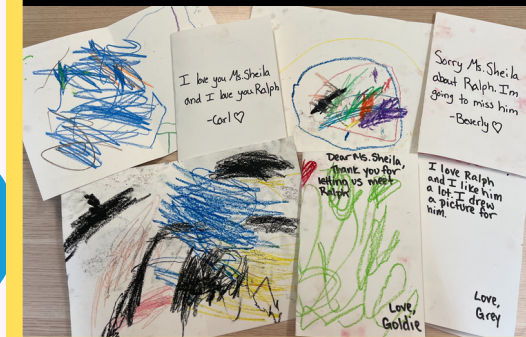
"This is a maze for the new hamster"



"Sheila taking care of a hamster. I want to do something nice for her"



"Condolence messages"





DONI KAYE

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

WHY ARE JEWISH NEW YEARS SO INTENSE?

Why is it that Jewish people take the New Year so seriously? Why don't we simply throw a party and call it a day? Why is it that our Jewish calendar is so front-loaded with festivals?

A few thoughts...

Judaism makes a big deal of the High Holiday season to enable us to embody a spirited, impactful, and in all ways connected year ahead. As we do throughout the Jewish calendar, we start off with a huge amount of symbolism and themes, which interact and complement each other in a way which prepares us to approach the coming year with poise and intention. The month of Elul, the final month of the previous year, begins the new cycle in Judaism - in a sense, we celebrate the conclusion of one year by preparing ourselves to live the next meaningfully.

Through a month of preparation for renewal, we make sure that we are prepared to optimize the benefits of the High Holidays when they arrive. This is done through variations to our typical spiritual rhythms such as the blowing of the shofar and the recitation of the penitential prayers known as selichot, which stirs us internally, giving us some urgency to close the year out strong, and prepare for a new one. We call ourselves to action, and look to embody the ideal that we can make the changes we need to make in the coming year.

The process continues with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, which focus on the internal and external world in equal proportion. Together, bridged as part of the Ten Days of Repentance, or the Days of Awe, they prepare us to focus on the interaction between important pieces of our inter and intra personal world. Liturgy and our rabbis teach us that how we treat ourselves often mirrors how we treat others, and that G-d is concerned with both in equal measure. It teaches us that the way we process our own feelings, thoughts, and behaviors has a direct impact on our own experience, and the experiences of others, as this process informs not only our own personal experience, but also, in our interactions with others, it informs the experiences of more of G-d's creations.

All of this, we are taught, matters greatly to G-d. These festivals teach us that our lives are indeed very significant, not only to ourselves and to G-d, but to the world of the living around us.

The liturgy and stories from our Tanach remind us of the unique drama which unfolds between us and G-d, within ourselves, between ourselves and others, and between ourselves and the environment. The actions these festivals compel us to take encourage us to examine these domains, inside and outside the realm of liturgy and tefillah. We are reminded that G-d deeply cares when we miss the mark, while giving us the opportunity to re-aim, and aim truer. We also learn from our scripture that we ought to be concerned with proper interaction within the world, and that prayer in and of itself does not cleanse us of our failings. Our rabbis teach us of specific processes for renewing relationships, providing us with a map for restoring relationships, a map which might very well be applied to our own inner world as well. We are given a timeline and metaphor for restoring relationships, extending through the unique festival of Sukkot, urging us further to take actions to improve in the year to come.

The festival of booths, in which we set up temporary shelters to dwell in, which force us to be outdoors and to confront nature, teaches us of the temporary nature of existence itself, further encouraging us to examine what is dear to us, as well as to examine how we spend our time. With ample time to relax and enjoy creation outdoors, while enjoying the bounty of the late summer harvests, we ask ourselves how we contribute to the bounty, how we interact with the land and the environment, and how we fit into all Creation. Further reinforcing the self-evident questions of this festival, we consume the traditional species specific to Israel and the Fertile Crescent region, which causes us to think of our ancestors and how they interacted with the land, and how this informed much of their lifestyle. We also invite in guests from the biblical past each evening, which raises our awareness to what roles our ancestors' stories and legacies play in our lives.

The questions Sukkot elicits are all embodied, in this juxtaposingly largely physical holiday, which integrates many senses and experiences. Through the senses, Sukkot shows us that what we experienced in Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will indeed interact with and inform what we experience in the external reality we all know.

CONT'D

Sukkot, topped off with the euphoria of completing the cycle of studying Torah which is Simchat Torah, helps us translate the deeply personal lessons of Elul, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur, into lived and experienced knowledge. It in a way drives home the lessons, capping off the process, ensuring that we can live a year of thoughtful agency, with a positive impact on ourselves and others.

When we commit to the process of the High Holidays, we realize that our calendar front-loads the holidays on the calendar to access every layer of the human realm in an effort to maximize the possibility of a sweet and healthy New Year!

**L'Shalom,
Doni**



REGISTER TODAY! 2023-2024 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Temple Sinai Religious School believes in providing a program where all learners create lifelong, joyous Jewish memories, along with the ability to feel at home in any global Jewish setting. Through a warm and caring environment, we give our students a meaningful educational, social and spiritual experience. We offer classes for Pre-K through 10th grade students. REGISTER AT: sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/school_enrollment.php TODAY!



ABOUT HEBREW LEARNING ON SUNDAY:

Students will be learning Hebrew on Sundays during their Religious School class time through an adapted Torah Aura curriculum. The Hebrew portion will be 45 minutes of class time led by our teachers in a way which engages different types of learning styles (auditory, kinesthetic, visual, tactile, verbal, etc). The Torah Aura curriculum is designed to engage students in meaningful Hebrew learning informed by Jewish liturgy and themes.

PURPOSE OF HEBREW AFTER HOURS (GRADES 4-7):

We are again offering Hebrew After Hours for your children. For those families who are looking for additional time for their children to develop Hebrew skills, we are offering times outside of Religious School hours for structured and engaging study with our staff. Students are welcome to attend the weekly session that works best for their schedule.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR
HEBREW AFTER
HOURS

YOUTH & FAMILY PROGRAMS

**MERETZ & RUACH:
SIPPING AND PAINTING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8**

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS IMMEDIATELY AFTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL (12:00 - 1:30PM) AS YOU SIP ON SOME JUICE AND PARTICIPATE IN A PAINTING CLASS!

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. COST PER CHILD: \$10



REGISTER NOW!

**TWISTED SHABBAT
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13**

5:30 - Jr. Congregation
5:50 - Challah braiding
6:15 - Dinner & Shabbat activities
7:10 - Oneg and Challah presentation

Register Now



**Family "Meretz"
Shabbat Dinner
Grades K-3
Friday
October 27, 2023**



CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: ABOUT OUR UPCOMING YOUTH AND TEEN PROGRAMS FOR THE 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR



YOUTH GROUP PROGRAM: MERETZ & RUACH

Youth programs will be held immediately after Religious School approximately one Sunday a month (from 12:00 - 1:30PM) and will be focused on social engagement while staying rooted in Jewish values. Sessions will be activity-based, led by both Temple Sinai Staff as well as community partners. There is a nominal fee, registration will be required and lunch is served. Meretz Programs are for grades K-3 and Ruach Programs are for grades 4-6. **CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS.**

OCTOBER 8 / NOVEMBER 12 / DECEMBER 10 / JANUARY 21 / FEBRUARY 25 / MARCH 24 / APRIL 21



TEEN ACADEMY: 8TH & 9TH GRADES

Unleash your teen's voice with Sinai Teen Academy's innovative, year-long program: The Teen Academy Podcast! Anchored in Jewish values, our 8th and 9th graders will explore the question of "What is Tikkun Olam?" through the exciting lens of podcasting. They'll dive deeply into critical topics of their choosing—like antisemitism, human impact on the environment, online bullying and housing insecurity—utilizing their own research, interviews and personal insights to craft powerful, student-led podcast episodes. **CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR CLASS DETAILS & CALENDAR.**



CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2024/5784, 10TH GRADE

Confirmation at Sinai is all about finding Jewish relevancy and deepening your connection to Judaism. Through study and reflection within the context of a trusting community we can shape our Jewish souls. Participants will help guide the ongoing conversations and learning - led by Associate Rabbi, Michael Shields. An additional component of our Confirmation experience is with Aaron Mendelsberg, artist and educator, bringing Judaism to life through interactive art sessions. **CONFIRMATION SERVICE WILL BE HELD ON EREV SHABBAT, 5/10/2024. CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR MORE DETAILS.**

sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/school_enrollment.php

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL YOUTH

Gabriela and Jayden Mezvinsky October 21, 2023

Gaby and Jayden are the children of Lili and Chad and the older sister and brother of Hadara. Gaby enjoys taekwondo and Jayden likes to play tennis and baseball. For their Mitzvah Project, they are supporting those in need in their mom's native Peru. They are sponsoring a cancer patient who otherwise would not be able to have chemo or surgery. They are also continuing their tradition of supplying meals to those on the street at Christmas time.



B'NEI
MITZVAH

Zander Aronoff October 28, 2023

Zander is the son of Joel and Rebecca, the brother of Mila, and attends Campus Middle School. He plays drums/percussion in the CMS Band and Jazz Band and piano, and he enjoys tennis, swimming, sailing, surfing, camping, canoeing, mountain biking, and skiing. Zander loves hanging with his family and friends - especially his friends at JCC Ranch Camp and Camp Nebagamon.

The Aronoffs have visited Maui regularly since 2005. Zander has been there six times and he loves to visit the historic town of Lahaina whenever he goes to Maui. This is where Zander first learned to surf and was just there in June. Lahaina is near and dear to Zander's heart and he is passionate about helping Lahaina and other affected areas to recover from the devastating fires that recently occurred in early August in Maui. He is raising money specifically for the Jewish Congregation of Maui to help distribute to those in need.



BAR
MITZVAH

CONSECRATION 2023

FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 2ND GRADE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:00PM SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY SHABBAT DINNER

A SPECIAL
SHABBAT
SERVICE



CELEBRATE
WITH
SHABBAT
DINNER!



BEGINNING
YOUR
JEWISH
EDUCATION!



If you are a Kindie or haven't yet
been a part of Consecration,
JOIN US - OCTOBER 6!

6:00PM AT TEMPLE SINAI


Following the 6PM service, there
will be a special dinner and
reception for families.

RSVP ONLINE:
sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/consecration-2023

STAY CONNECTED - UPCOMING PROGRAMS: SEPTEMBER



Lifelong Jewish Learning



**A PORTRAYAL OF
IRENA SENDLER
"ANGEL OF THE
WARSAW GHETTO"
BY
JUDY WINNICK**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4



**MERETZ & RUACH:
SIPPING AND PAINTING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8**

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS IMMEDIATELY AFTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL (12:00 - 1:30PM) AS YOU SIP ON SOME JUICE AND PARTICIPATE IN A PAINTING CLASS!

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. COST PER CHILD: \$10



REGISTER NOW!



**BROTHERHOOD
BREAKFAST**

OCTOBER 12 / 9:00AM

THE EARLY BIRD
RESTAURANT
(LANDMARK PLAZA)

**TWISTED SHABBAT
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13**

5:30 - Jr. Congregation
5:50 - Challah braiding
6:15 - Dinner & Shabbat activities
7:10 - Oneg and Challah presentation

Register Now




**EREV SHABBAT
FRIDAY OCTOBER 13, 6:00PM**

**GUEST SPEAKER,
LAURIE LAVENHAR**

**TEAL &
PINK
SHABBAT**



**BROTHERHOOD
BIBLE & BEERS**



**TUESDAY
OCTOBER 17
6:00 PM**

**DARCY'S
BISTRO & PUB**

**KNITTING AND
CROCHETING FOR JOY**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18
1:00 PM
AT TEMPLE SINAI**



Lifelong Jewish Learning

PART 2: WITH JUDY WINNICK

**REMEMBER THEIR NAMES:
HEROIC JEWISH LEADERS
OF THE WARSAW GHETTO**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

SAVE THE DATE



**MUSICAL
SHABBAT**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

6:00PM, EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

**LEARN MORE AND REGISTER. VISIT US ONLINE:
sinaidenver.org/what-we-do/upcoming-events**

WHAT'S COMING UP

DEFEATING ANTISEMITISM. END JEW HATE.

Part 2: TROPES AND TALKBACK:

Presented by Tina Malka, Hillel International

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 / TEMPLE SINAI

ADULT-ONLY SESSION: 9:30 - 11:30AM

ADULT/STUDENT-CHILD SESSION: 12:00 - 2:00PM

We will welcome renowned educator, Tina Malka, Director of Antisemitism Education and Associate Director, Israel Action Program at Hillel International, to teach us about tropes used by bigots and haters. Learn personal and communal strategies to counter antisemitism and the collective threat it poses to our community. Tina is experienced in working with all ages including teens and millennials. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. ALL CONGREGANTS WELCOME.

**REGISTER
TODAY:**

sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/2023-tropes-and-talkback



FALL 2023

- **October 4**
- **October 18**
- **November 1**
- **November 15**
- **November 28**

WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM

TEMPLE SINAI

**CHECK YOUR
EMAIL FOR
REGISTRATION
DETAILS.**

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING: OCTOBER

2023 is the 80th Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, which began April 19, 1943.

To commemorate this very courageous event, Judy Winnick will be presenting our first two Lifelong Jewish Learning programs:

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

She will do a first person portrayal of Irena Sendler "Angel of the Warsaw Ghetto" Irena was a Catholic Social Worker who risked her life to save 2,500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto. She was one of the first to be recognized as A Righteous Among the Nations and was an Honorary Citizen of the State of Israel.

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Remember Their Names: Heroic Jewish Leaders of the Warsaw Ghetto Judy Winnick will introduce us to the many forms of Jewish resistance in the Ghetto. Who were some of the Jewish leaders who desperately tried to save their community? How did the daffodil become the symbol of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising?

REGISTER ONLINE

Temple Sinai's Family **Concert**

featuring Ruthie Lipshulch

JOIN US FOR A SPECTACLE PERFORMANCE BY CANTORIAL SOLOIST,
RUTHIE LIPSHULCH, ACCOMPANIED BY TENOR, NATHAN SNYDER.

RUTHIE AND NATHAN WILL BRING TO YOUR FAMILIES A
SPECTACULAR THEMED CONCERT. THIS EVENT IS FOR ALL AGES.

SEE BELOW FOR SUGGESTED DONATION AMOUNTS PER ADULT AND CHILD. ALL
DONATIONS WILL GO TOWARDS OUR CULTURAL ARTS FUND SO THAT WE CAN
CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THESE SPECIAL FAMILY MUSICAL EXPERIENCES!

TIMELINE OF EVENTS:

3:45 - 4:15PM - VIP SING-A-LONG AND TREATS RECEPTION

4:30 - 5:00PM - ACT 1, PERFORMANCE

5:00 - 5:25PM - INTERMISSION WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

5:30 - 6:00PM - ACT 2, PERFORMANCE

SUGGESTED DONATIONS:

ADULTS: \$36

CHILDREN: \$18

FAMILY PACKAGE: \$200

sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/family-concert-november-2023

BOOST YOUR CONNECTIONS THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS AND JEWISH OPPORTUNITIES!

WHETHER IT'S FOR SUMMER CAMP, STUDIES, A LIFECYCLE EVENT OR TRAVEL, THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS THAT YOU CAN BE AWARDED AN EXTRA BOOST OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO FULFILL YOUR PERSONAL OR FAMILY'S GOALS.

TEMPLE SINAI IS FORTUNATE TO HAVE FAMILIES AND RESOURCES WHO HAVE DESIGNATED MONETARY FUNDS FOR THAT EXTRA "BOOST." THESE FUNDS WERE ESTABLISHED FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS BUT THEY ALL HAVE THE SAME COMMON PURPOSE - **TO HELP JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS KEEP THEIR JEWISH SPIRIT ALIVE!**

THESE SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE TO BE USED; IT FILLS THE HEARTS AND SOULS FOR EVERYONE WHEN SCHOLARSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES ARE AWARDED. EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST AND MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR JEWISH JOURNEY!

THE JEFFREY O. ROSENBERG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Jeffrey O. Rosenberg Memorial Scholarship for Jewish Studies was created by his family to honor his memory and to sustain his passion for Jewish scholarship and culture. Each year this scholarship will support:

1) Textbooks and course materials for Temple Sinai members enrolled in higher education Jewish study courses and rabbinic studies. Distributes up to \$500 each year to one or multiple students. The applicant should write a letter describing their Jewish studies course(s) and the course materials they would like covered.

2) B'nei Mitzvah tutoring for families: Provides a student with \$500 each for B'nei Mitzvah tutoring.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, CO SECTION

For congregants who identify as a woman and are hoping to further their education after high school or might be an older returning student later in life, the NCJW, Colorado Section will be awarding a number of scholarships to Jewish women in need of assistance with their tuition to college or technical school attendance this fall 2023. Application and information can be found at www.NCJWColorado.org/programs.

StandWithUS KENNETH LEVENTHAL HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP

This is a year-long, college accredited program for student leaders in 11th and 12th grade who want to proactively and positively impact their local schools and communities. Leventhal interns learn about Israel, how to effectively combat antisemitism, and cultivate leadership skills through personalized mentorship. They bring education to their peers through interactive and creative initiatives and programs. Leventhal interns travel to Los Angeles for two leadership conferences throughout the school year.



LEARN MORE AND APPLY AT: SINAIDENVER.ORG/WHAT-WE-DO/SCHOLARSHIPS



LISA THORNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: LISA@SINAIDENVER.ORG

TEMPLE SINAI'S NEWEST MEMBERS

Joyce and Alan Ackerman

Jackie and Jeffrey Balyeat

Emily and Joshua Belstock, Caleb

Natalie and Matt Bernstein, Madison and Halle

Sheila and Jay Bluestein

Susan Cohen and Leonard Shen

Leslie Hammer-Palen and Ben Palen

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Sue and Scott Krieger

Linda Laniado and Gerald Stevens, Eva and Victor

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Tammy and Stephen Luedtke, Theo and Kip

Rosemary and Scott Melnick

Stacy and Michael Moss, Hayes and Emory

Lauren Pinkus and Philip Ziegler, Margaret and Aaron

Rona and Bruce Waxman



**WELCOME TO
OUR SINAI
FAMILY!**



KNITTING & CROCHETING FOR JOY

Takes lunch under the sun!



GET INVOLVED!

EMAIL JANE ROBBINS, janerobbins.cpa@gmail.com

PAY TRIBUTE TO YOUR LOVED ONES

It is never too late to remember a loved one or to celebrate a graduation, confirmation, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, a special birthday or any other milestone. The events that we experience individually are meant to be shared with our Sinai community. Here are several ways in which to do so:

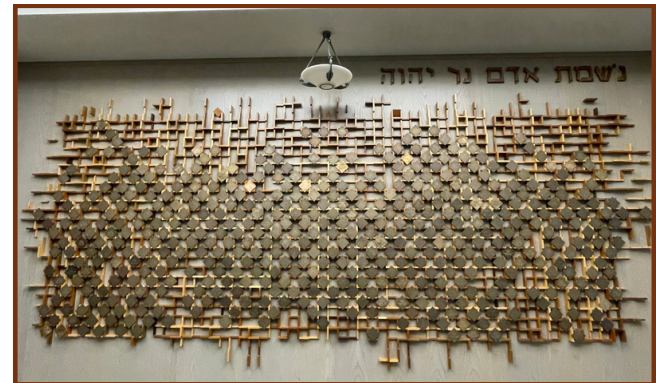
BRICK-BY-BRICK PROJECT

Brick by Brick is an ever-evolving commemoration of the special moments and people that shape and influence our lives. Bricks can be purchased online at <http://www.sinaidenver.org/brick-by-brick.html>. The display of bricks is located in front of Temple Sinai's entrance. Cost: \$125 (4x8 Brick) and \$250 for (8x8 Brick).



WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

The Wall of Remembrance, located outside the Zwerin Sanctuary, is a way to memorialize the passing of a loved one. Name plates are inscribed with the name of the departed along with the English and Hebrew date of death. Cost: \$300.



TREE OF LIFE

The Tree of Life sculpture was created by the renowned synagogue artist Sanford Werfel. The branches of the tree form the Hebrew words "Etz Chaim." The stones at the roots of the Tree are symbolic of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. The golden leaves and stones may be inscribed to highlight or commemorate joyous occasions, including births, weddings, anniversaries, graduations or to honor family, parents or friends. Cost: \$175 to inscribe a leaf and \$1,000 to inscribe a stone.



TRIBUTES

IN MEMORIAM

- **Steve Berkowitz**, husband of Sandy Berkowitz, father of Amy Berkowitz Caplan (Ilan Kaplan) and Todd Berkowitz (Melanie Fischer), brother of Dena Schneider and Harriet Feld, brother-in-law of Suzan (Allan) Markman and Noreen Stillman
- **Alan Harry May**, father of Gayle (Dick) Glucksman, grandfather of Jennifer (Lane) Feingold, Rob (Crista) Glucksman, and Tiffany (Joel) Appel, great-grandfather of Mira, Ben, Jacob, Ryan, and Harold

DONATIONS

ARNOLD L. GREENBERG MEMORIAL FUND FOR INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Steven Fishbein and Arnold Greenberg
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IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

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The Rittenberg Family

ILENE SHIROFF MEMORIAL FUND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

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IN HONOR OF

Rich Harris's dedication to the Jewish and Denver communities
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IN HONOR OF:

Speedy & complete recovery of Dorothy Lepoff
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IN HONOR OF:

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The No Name Chavurah



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Rabbi Rick Rheins
Bob Davidson & Shellie Specter
Pamela Law
Arnold & Joanne Luterman
Rabbis Rick & Susan Rheins' 33rd Wedding
Anniversary
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IN HONOR OF:

Adele and Erwin Gelfand's Anniversary and Erwin's Recovery
Carol Levine
Howard & Donna Lutz's 63rd Wedding Anniversary
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Temple Sinai's Welcome Back Picnic
Michael Sabbeth & Nancy Germer

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

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IN HONOR OF:

Temple Sinai's Mitzvah Day
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Melvyn & Roberta Klein
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****Donations processed
August 1 – 31, 2023****

STAFF AND BOARD



SINAI STAFF:

RICHARD RHEINS

Senior Rabbi
ext. 307
rabrheins@sinaidenver.org

MICHAEL SHIELDS

Associate Rabbi
ext. 306
rabbishields@sinaidenver.org

RUTHIE LIPSHULCH

Cantorial Soloist
ext. 309
ruthie@sinaidenver.org

RAYMOND ZWERIN

Rabbi Emeritus
ext. 304

LISA THORNER

Executive Director
ext. 315
lisa@sinaidenver.org

LAUREN KIMBALL

Assistant Executive Director
ext. 314
lkimball@sinaidenver.org

LAUREN BUBIS

Business Administrator
ext. 322
lauren@sinaidenver.org

JESSICA WOLF

Administrative Assistant
jessica@sinaidenver.org

DONIEL KAYE

Director of Education
ext. 308
doni@sinaidenver.org

ANNETTE WEINER

Religious School Administrative Assistant
annette@sinaidenver.org

SHEILA PURDIN

Director of Early Childhood Education
303.759.0755
sheila@sinaidenver.org

RACHEL CRAM

Preschool Assistant Director
303.759.0755
rachelc@sinaidenver.org

DANAE RONBERG

Preschool Operations Manager
303.759.0755
danae@sinaidenver.org

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