



TEMPLE SINAI

KESHER



MARCH 2025
ADAR/NISAN 5785

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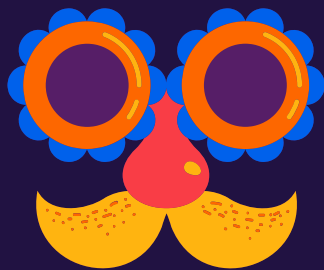
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STRENGTHENING YOUR CONNECTION TO TEMPLE SINAI THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

LISA THORNER

Dear Members of Temple Sinai,

As members of a strong and vibrant community, we are bound together by faith, tradition, community and a source of strength for those who enter Temple Sinai. One of the most meaningful ways to deepen your connection to our congregation is through volunteering. Whether you have an hour to spare or can commit to a regular role, giving your time and energy to Temple Sinai enriches both your personal spiritual journey and our collective community.

To continue fostering a warm and welcoming environment, we invite you to volunteer in some capacity at Temple Sinai or to take part in our **Volunteer on Demand (VOD Squad) program**.

This initiative offers a unique opportunity to serve within our synagogue, ensuring that our sacred space remains vibrant, engaging, and inclusive for all. Whether it's assisting with Shabbat services, assisting in a one-time event, working on a committee or answering phones in the main office, every contribution plays a vital role in strengthening our congregation.

By getting involved, you will:

- **Deepen your connection to Temple Sinai and fellow congregants.**
- **Live out the values of Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World) through meaningful acts of service.**
- **Help create a welcoming space for worship, learning, and community engagement.**
- **Set an example for future generations by demonstrating the importance of giving back.**

Our synagogue thrives because of you—your generosity, your dedication, and your willingness to lend a helping hand. By volunteering at Temple Sinai, you will not only give back to our community, but also build meaningful connections and inspire others to do the same. Together, we can uphold the values of compassion and service that define us as a Jewish community.

If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to me (lisa@sinaidenver.org) or Debbie Foster (debbie@sinaidenver.org) to learn more. Your help, no matter how big or small, will make a difference.

Warmly,

LISA

Lisa Thorner, Executive Director



NOW IS THE TIME TO VISIT ISRAEL! JOIN TEMPLE SINAI RABBI RICK RHEINS

Temple Sinai's Tour to Israel: October 26- November 5, 2025

First it was COVID. Then it was the horrible attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023, and the months of war and heartbreak that caused synagogues and groups, families and individuals to cancel their dream trips to Israel. But after all these many months, thank God the situation in Israel is once again safe and inviting. So naturally, Susan and I are planning the next Temple Sinai tour to Israel.

Apparently, we are not alone. It is heartening to read that tourism to Israel has really picked up. As you know, I don't think of a trip to Israel as mere tourism. Tourists visit exotic places for thrill and adventure. But Jews and their loved ones going to Israel are not tourists. We are pilgrims. A tourist goes someplace to see and taste and experience something new, exotic and, perhaps, famous. Pilgrims go to a special destination to establish or reestablish a connection. Yes, a pilgrim also wants to see, taste, and experience. But with every new sight, taste, and experience the pilgrim strengthens the bonds to the land and its people.

Our Sinai tour this fall will be an opportunity to experience the essential spirit of modern Israel. In addition to touring Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and highlights in the south including Ramat HaNegev, we will have several volunteering opportunities. At each stop we will feel ourselves rebuilt and strengthened spiritually, socially, and intellectually. And with each volunteer experience we will participate in the vital rebuilding and renewing efforts that Israel and Israelis so desperately need.

As we tour the south, we will visit some of the hardest hit areas of Israel, including the site of the Nova music festival massacre. Indeed, this will be a tour to Israel that will help us heal and renew our sense of hope for a better future.

During Passover we declare, "Lashanah haba'ah birushalayim, Next Year in Jerusalem." The Psalmist swore an oath, "If I forget thee O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget her cunning and my

tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth" (Psalm 137.5). If you have not yet been to Israel, now is the time to fulfill that oath. And even if you have been to Israel several times before, now is the time she needs to be remembered and visited again.

Now is the time to walk the boardwalk in Tel Aviv along the Mediterranean Sea and be with Israelis as they celebrate their strong, resilient, and vibrant nation.

Now is the time to tour the ancient streets and sites of Jerusalem, pray at the Western Wall, and reestablish our bonds with our people and our ancestral homeland.

Now is the time to enjoy that fabulous Israeli cuisine, feel the irrepressible energy and spirit of Israel, and reconnect to our Jewish brothers and sisters.

And now is the time to give something back, to volunteer a few hours to help Israel rebuild and renew.

Please consider joining us on our Temple Sinai Tour to Israel this fall. This will be one of the most memorable experiences of our lives!

A flyer with additional information about the tour and a link to register online are in this issue of the Keshet. Of course, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me or Rabbi Susan.

We can't wait to be with you!

B'vrakhah, With Blessings.

Rick

Rabbi Rick Rheins



PURIM AND PASSOVER SHOULD BE TIMES OF JOY AND OF WELCOMING

RABBI MICHAEL SHIELDS

The revelry of Purim helps make trying something new (like a synagogue) a little bit easier. At this time of year and at Passover we are reminded that we were once strangers in the land of Egypt, and therefore, we must welcome the stranger. We are obliged to teach and retell the story of Exodus every year, and to open our hearts and our tables to others.

Temple Sinai has already welcomed many new members to our community since Rosh Hashanah. This season of welcome should inspire us to open the gates (doors) of our shul even wider. Please consider how you might invite some of the Members-of-the-Tribe (M.O.T.) in your personal circle to Sinai. And there are many doors through which people can enter....

Historically, shuls were never places where we just prayed. They were always so much more than that which is something we must never forget, especially for communities outside of Israel. The diasporic experience and the creation of synagogues shifted the emphasis from the place of worship, the sanctuary, to the gathering or worshippers, the congregation. It's about the people. The Talmud in Megillah 29a assures us, that if we make our synagogues in this way, with a broad range of programs and initiatives which engage people from across community, then God's divine presence will continue to be with us. As a Kehillah Kedosha, a sacred community we are a group of like-minded individuals who share a set of values, experiences and a vision for their future; whose participation in the community enables us to achieve far more than we could ever have done alone, and crucially, who will be missed when they are absent. Relationships are indeed essential for creating a sense of community which empowers and inspires its members.

And as the words we read each year in the Haggadah, 'In every generation...' remind us, we need to ensure that Judaism is relevant to our world and the challenges we face.

In this way Temple Sinai will continue to go mechayil el chayil, from strength to added strength, for many more years to come.

Rabbi Shields

Rabbi Michael Shields

A Question for Rabbi Shields

A member recently asked me the question: "Rabbi, do you believe in miracles?"

Rabbi Shields on Miracles

This is a very appropriate question as we move through the Book of Exodus and approach the holidays of Purim and Passover. So, do I believe in miracles? Here is nibble size answer.

The Bible contains accounts of God's miracles. Does God still do miracles? What do they look like today?

The early Rabbis (200-600 AD) affirmed the truth of the miracles in the Bible, yet still had trouble accepting miracles that violated the laws of nature. They resolved this tension by explaining that the miracles were in fact natural events engineered by God. For example, God planned the earthquake that would bring down the walls of Jericho.

Some Jewish thinkers (Saadiah Gaon and Maimonides) posited that descriptions of miracles were not meant to be taken literally. They were instead meant to reflect a prophetic experience of dream or vision. We can view miracles in the Bible in a metaphorical or allegorical manner.

On a practical level, I believe that we bring about miraculous events through our partnership with others and our sense of holiness (God) in our lives.

Inspired by that human partnership and with a commitment to performing sacred acts of Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), we can achieve the miraculous. Miracles require that we do our part. "Pray as if everything depends on God but then act as if everything depends on you."

Have a question for Rabbi Shields? Email it to him at rabbishields@sinaidnever.org

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 Michael Shields will be quick to respond when any of our members and loved ones are struggling. In addition, Temple Sinai has a wonderful group of volunteers on our Caring Community who help to provide assistance. 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:

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.

B'nei Mitzvah Dates are available in 2026 & 2027

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 2026 or 2027 and you do not yet have a reserved date for a service, 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. Date selection request forms are available in the Temple Sinai office and can be mailed 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.



ON A MUSICAL NOTE . . .

RUTHIE LIPSHULCH CANTORIAL SOLOIST



Celebrating Purim with Joy and Tradition

As we approach the festive season of Purim, we are reminded of the joyous spirit and deep traditions that define this special holiday.

Purim, known as the "Festival of Lots," commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people from Haman's wicked plot to destroy them, as recounted in the Book of Esther. This holiday reminds us that standing against hatred, oppression, and injustice is at the core of our values. It is a time when we celebrate resilience, unity, and the triumph of good over evil. We do this through joyful traditions—dressing in costumes, exchanging gifts of food (mishloach manot), and giving to those in need (matanot l'evyonim), reinforcing our bonds of friendship and community.

Purim also offers us the chance to reflect on the courage of two remarkable women—Queen Esther and Queen Vashti. Esther's bravery in speaking up for her people teaches us the power of using our voice for justice, while Vashti's strength in standing her ground reminds us of the importance of self-respect and confidence. Their stories challenge us to reject coercion, oppression, and silence in the face of wrongdoing. Please check out [this fun song](#) from Queen Vashti, which shares a lesson on confidently saying no.

Join us this Purim for our Shpiel on Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 PM as we gather to celebrate with laughter, music, and a sense of community that defines our Temple family. Whether you're participating in the Shpiel or enjoying the festivities, we welcome you to experience the joy and camaraderie of this beloved holiday with us at Temple Sinai.

Wishing you all a happy and meaningful Purim!

Musically Yours,

Ruthie

Ruthie Lipshulch



YOUTH HAPPENINGS JENIFER ENGEL YOUTH COORDINATOR

Temple Sinai Youth Group Late-Over

Get ready for an exciting late-over adventure at Temple Sinai on March 15 starting at 7:00 PM! Join us for a fun-filled late-over where we'll spend the time together in community, enjoying games, activities, and meaningful moments. Dinner and snacks will be provided as we bond, celebrate, and prepare for an incredible day ahead (ages 14 to 18).

Purim Carnival

The festivities continue with our annual Purim Carnival on March 16! The fun kicks off at 11:00 AM for preschoolers, with doors opening to the public at 11:30 AM. Enjoy a day full of games, prizes, delicious food, and exciting activities for all ages. Come dressed in your favorite costumes and be ready to celebrate this joyous holiday with friends and family!

With Gratitude,

Jenifer

Jenifer Engel



DEBBIE FOSTER

DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT AND PROGRAMMING

A few weeks ago, I knocked on Rabbi Rheins' door, I needed a rabbi. Feeling a sense of powerlessness and grief with everything happening in Israel, America, and to our people, I was frozen. Rabbi gave me great advice. Right now, there are things that are out of my control - but I have the sincere privilege of being in a space where my whole job is to help bring people together. I have the power to do what is right in front of me - I can continue to do the holy work of connecting people to one another and to Judaism. So that is what I will continue to do. If you're also feeling a sense of powerlessness, I urge you to connect because our power is in our peoplehood. Our ability to stand together and live. Am Yisrael Chai.

In hopes to make connections with congregants of all ages, Sinai is putting together some new programming.

For our littlest congregants (0-3 yrs!), we are bringing Rhythm & Ruach - music, movement and Joyful Judaism - to Temple Sinai once a month beginning March 21.

For our TWEENS (5th-8th graders) and their families, join us on Friday March 28 for 'Twisted Tween Shabbat.' Come for a special Shabbat service, braid your own Challah, enjoy dinner and activities created just for you.

Calling all bubbies, moms, daughters, aunts, nieces and friends: Save the date for our 1st Intergenerational Temple Tea Party on Sunday, May 4. We hope you can join us!

If you're interested in helping me with these fun events, contact me today!

Warmly,
Debbie

Debbie Foster, Director of Engagement and Programming



Rhythm 'N' Ruach with Debbie Foster

Temple Sinai is proud to offer Rhythm 'N' Ruach classes for Babies and Toddlers (0-3) and their caregivers. Rhythm 'N' Ruach is an interactive experience through music, movement and Joyful Judaism. Light Nosh and play-time to follow.

11:00am @ Temple Sinai
Fridays March 21, April 18, and May 23



Members: Free
Non Members: \$10 per class (includes child and adult)



Save the Date

our 1st Intergenerational
**TEMPLE
TEA PARTY**
Sunday May 4, 2025 at 3pm

Would you like to help?
Email Debbie@sinaidenver.org



DONI KAYE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Our teaching teams have been hard at work bringing quality Jewish learning experiences to our students to start the spring semester.

Each teaching team has been leading their class through a semester-long, project-based learning unit designed to bridge the values-holidays-concepts based Shalom Learning curriculum with something the students will be able to exhibit to the community towards the end of the semester.

Teaching teams have also benefited from workshops designed to give them background in how to engage classes composed of learners with eclectic learning styles.

In addition to lessons from our Religious School staff and clergy, our classes have benefited from a variety of special teachers the past couple months, including a prominent Torah scribe, an expert in Ethiopian Jewry, an expert in Holocaust education, and a rabbi who specializes in animated storytelling for young children.

Our Temple Sinai Youth Group is meeting regularly for social events and developing teen leaders.

Please keep the following important dates in mind, and enjoy the “windows” into Temple Sinai Religious School below.

- **Sunday, March 23, 2025 - Religious School Closed - District Spring Breaks**
- **Sunday, April 13, 2025 - Religious School Closed - Passover**
- **Sunday, April 20, 2025 - Religious School Closed - Passover**
- **Sunday, April 27, 2025 - Israel Day at Temple Sinai Religious School**
- **Sunday, May 4, 2025 - Religious School goes to Celebrate Israel @ JEWISHcolorado**
- **Sunday, May 11, 2025 - Final Day of Religious School 2024-2025**
- **Sunday, June 8, 2025 - Annual Event, 5 PM**

L'Shalom,

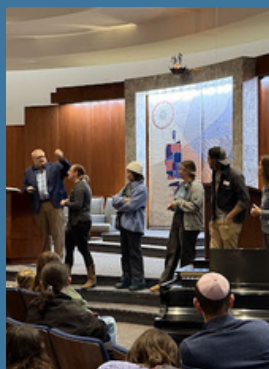
Doni



7 Species Tu B'Shevat Program for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders.



9th and 10th graders learn about Ethiopian Jewry with Rabbi Jeffrey Kaye.



Camp Day with Colorado-based Jewish camps, URJ-OSRUI, and Maccabi Sports Camps.



Torah Scribe (Sofer) Rabbi Moshe Druin delights students through an interactive demonstration of how Torah scrolls are painstakingly and sacredly created and maintained.



SHEILA PURDIN

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Providing quality professional development opportunities to teachers helps to ensure that the experience Temple Sinai Preschool offers to children and families is exceptional. It also helps with recruitment and retention efforts as it demonstrates our commitment to supporting the growth of our educators and that we value learning for both children and adults. Throughout this school year, Temple Sinai Preschool has partnered with the Efshar Project to bring a training series to our school focusing on Jewish holidays, the big ideas of the holidays, the values associated with each holiday, and how to bring the stories to life in the classroom in ways that lift up the parts of the stories that are meaningful to young children.

Our training has focused on ways to integrate Jewish values into everyday experiences and ways to make them visible for families while inviting them to share the Jewish traditions they practice at home. So far this year, we have immersed ourselves in holiday experiences from Rosh Hashanah to Purim including a deep dive into reflection for Yom Kippur, a delicious Tu B'Shevat seder that sparked meaningful conversation about symbolism and growth, sensory storytelling techniques to make Shabbat richer, and the many mediums that can be used to immerse children in joy of Purim. Each of these learning experiences has led to significant enhancements to the classroom environment and holiday experience for children. Temple Sinai Preschool teachers feel more confident sharing the rich stories and traditions that are foundational to our holiday practice.

As a part of the professional development series we have utilized Efshar Project coaches to follow up with teachers for individual coaching sessions within the classroom. Sometimes this coaching includes reflecting on what they have learned, the elements of the holiday that are most interesting to children, and ways to bring those elements to life. Sometimes the coaching includes modeling strategies and interactions around values talk and using play materials to spark understanding. Sometimes coaching is reinforcing what has already been discussed and answering deeper questions. The combination of whole group training and individual coaching has proven to be the most effective way to improve educator competencies and support extraordinary growth in understanding and implementing Jewish teaching in the classroom. You can see the results in our hallways and classrooms, it is remarkable!





PAULETTE YOUSEFZADEH GREENFIELD

THE FAMILY THAT DOES MITZVOT TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

“Shai, I have a proposal for you.” I said to my son. “You can have a big party for your Bar Mitzvah or we can do a trip to Israel. But, unfortunately, we cannot do both. What would you rather do?”

Shai didn’t take long at all to answer. “Go to Israel,” he replied decisively.

This conversation took place in early 2023. The October 7th Genocide and consequent war would throw not a wrench, but an entire toolkit, into those tentative plans. Or so we had thought. We went ahead with planning Shai’s Bar Mitzvah, when, in the spring of 2024, a couple months before his big day, a friend of mine told me about Jewish National Fund’s (JNF) family group tour in Israel scheduled for December of that year. Jason and I discussed this trip and both of us shared concerns about our safety, wondering if we should hold off and wait for a better time to visit. But it came down to the following comparison in my mind: Figuring out the “right” time to visit Israel is like trying to figure out the “right” time to start a family. There is never a good time; you just do it. It was during the Second Intifada, after all, when at the age of 23 I visited Israel for the first time on a Birthright (Shorashim) trip in January of 2001, well before the security barrier would be erected. Jason agreed for us to put down the deposit. My friend (who told me about the trip in the first place) and her family put down their deposit, too, so we were naturally excited to have people we know and like in our travel group.

As Israel’s 7-front existential war raged on, airline companies began suspending service to Israel. Consequently, almost every family dropped out of the JNF group tour (including our friends), that is, except for us because we had booked our flights with El Al.

So JNF proposed combining our trip, which was supposed to be a more typical tour of Israel, with the volunteer mission trip in the Negev and Aza (Gaza) Envelope. Thus, our trip to Israel became not just a visit, a first-time for Jason and our three children, but Shai’s Mitzvah project.

On Monday, December 23rd, our first full day in Israel, we helped harvest oranges at the orchard in Mefalsim. Since October 7th, Israel has been experiencing an acute farming crisis due to a significant drop in the workforce. Later that day, we toured Kibbutz Nirim, one of the villages attacked on October 7th and listened to the testimony of survivor Adele Raemer, who had described her beloved Nirim as “95% heaven, 5% hell” until that horrific morning of Black Shabbat, the day of 100% hell when about 100 residents of Nirim were killed, abducted, or injured. During her talk, she played the recording of the harrowing emergency phone call made by her friend, victim Judith Weinstein Haggai, after she and her husband were shot by terrorists when they were on their morning walk. Later that day, we went to Ofakim and met Osi Lankri, an accomplished cook and caterer who utilizes her Iraqi and Moroccan culinary roots. She cooks frequently for the IDF soldiers and our group helped with putting together homemade dinners to be boxed and transported to the soldiers at the nearby base. While we had our dinner at Osi’s home (thanks also to Osi who was a gracious hostess), we listened to an IDF soldier, who had lived in the US for a time and played high school basketball in New Jersey, talk about his experience before and since October 7th. It is worth noting that he and his family were among the Israelis ethnically cleansed from Gaza by their own government during the disengagement in 2005. Also at Osi’s house, there was a blood drive,

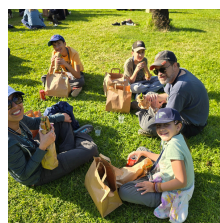
and while I wasn't eligible to donate due to a recent procedure I had had, Jason was able to give blood.

On Tuesday, December 24th, our volunteer group, along with other JNF travel groups, participated in the "Race for Inclusion" and an outdoor party at the ADI (Ability at every level, promotes Diversity and insists on Inclusion) Negev, a one-of-a-kind rehabilitation community for individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities. We then went to Kibbutz Reim, another village in the envelope hit on October 7th, and met with locals and listened to the testimony of a Kibbutz Be'eri survivor. After our lunch, we helped with building, painting, repairing, and cleaning up at Reim. The last task of the day was putting together care packages for IDF soldiers at Alexander Muss High School (Muss South) in Be'er Sheva, using products purchased from Israeli businesses in the north who have been hard-hit financially because of the war. So Israeli business owners in the north got support from JNF while IDF soldiers got some TLC in receiving these care packages.

On Wednesday, the 25th, the organizers at JNF thought it best for our family to have a day to ourselves to explore Masada, the Dead Sea, and a Bedouin camel ranch. That day, the group visited the memorial site for the victims of the Nova music festival, Tkuma (the site of burnt cars) and listened to a survivor of the massacre at Nova. From what I heard, it would have been too much for our children. Furthermore, it would have been unfair to the Nova survivor to have our children or anyone's children present, as she would have probably felt forced to self-censor her testimony. However, our family rejoined the volunteer mission group at an IDF base in the Aza Envelope that night, where we ate dinner together, talked to the soldiers about their experiences, and lit candles together to celebrate the first night of Chanukah. We also watched a touching performance by the IDF's Special in Uniform, a JNF-USA program that integrates young adults with disabilities, including autism, into the IDF.

Thursday, December 26th, we visited Soroka Hospital in the morning and while Jason and I sat with most of the group to hear Dr. Zvi Perry's presentation on the medical perspective and response to the October 7th Genocide, Shai, along with his brother Lyor and sister Adira, led by a few volunteers in our group, went to the rehabilitation center to hand out care packages to the injured IDF patients and visit with them. Shai was emotional, visibly shaken by the extent of their injuries, but said of them, "They were some of the sweetest people I have ever met and I felt honored to be providing love and care to them to brighten their day." Lastly, we drove to Neot Kedumim, the Biblical Landscape Reserve, to do a ceremonial tree planting at the Harvey Hertz- JNF Ceremonial Tree Planting Center, a fitting ending to a tour led by Jewish National Fund, the organization synonymous with tree planting in Israel.

We spent about another 6 days in Israel touring Jerusalem, Caesarea, and Tel Aviv. Most of us (except for our daughter Adira) slept through the rocket siren in Jerusalem the night of the 28th, but we got our act together to rush to the safe room of our hotel when the siren went off in Tel Aviv the night of December 30th. That bit of drama aside, we all agreed that this was, hands down, the best trip any of us have ever taken in our lives. Any reservations we had had about our trip morphing into a volunteer mission tour disappeared quickly on the first day, because it felt so good to be doing good. The Israelis we met were greatly appreciative of our support. So if you're thinking about going to Israel and want to help? Go! They need us as much as we need them.



PURIM AND SOCIAL ACTION

In spite of, or perhaps because of, its fun-filled celebrations and traditions, Purim remains a holiday about social justice. The commandments to eat, drink, and be merry are accompanied by the mitzvah of giving matanot la-eyyonim and tzedakah. In the Book of Esther, we read, “The same days on which Jews enjoyed relief from their foes and the same month which had been transformed for them from one of grief to joy and from mourning to festival, they were to observe them as days of feasting and merry-making, and as an occasion for mishloach manot and matanot la-eyyonim.” (Esther 9:22).

In giving matanot l’eyyonim on Purim – and in the larger sense of pursuing social justice – we recognize the need to address the inequalities we see in our society. By engaging in social action on Purim, we hope to help erase the hierarchy of the haves and the have-nots in our world. During this time of revelry and fun, of forgetting our usual inhibitions and turning our usual routines on their heads, let us also remember that we have the power to transform the lives of those who are suffering, to turn their days of mourning into days of joy. Here are a few simple ways that you can give matanot l’eyyonim on Purim:

- Donate food or money to a local food pantry.
- Volunteer at a soup kitchen, cooking or serving a meal.
- Make sandwiches to distribute to the homeless.
- Bake and sell hamantaschen and donate the proceeds to an anti-hunger or social service agency.
- Conduct a mini canned-food drive for a local food bank.

You can also incorporate social action themes into your Purim celebration in the following ways.

- **USE MACARONI GROGGERS.** During your Purim observance, when the wicked Haman's name is called out during the m’gillah reading, use a box of macaroni and cheese – or any other uncooked pasta – as a grogger (noisemaker). Afterward, donate the boxes of pasta to food banks.
- **DONATE GROCERY STORE GIFT CERTIFICATES.** Gift certificates to local grocery stores can help food pantries assist clients with meeting the dietary needs that canned food drives cannot address, allowing clients in need to purchase fresh foods that food pantries cannot stock.
- **DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION ABOUT HELP FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.** In the Book of Esther, two women find themselves in vulnerable positions because of their gender. Vashti pays a high price for her dignity when she is banished from the palace for refusing to dance at the king’s drinking party. Esther, who is chosen as Vashti’s successor in a beauty pageant, fears for her very life in approaching the king without his express request to see her. As we celebrate our victory over oppression, may we also remember those, including millions of women, who are not yet free.
- **DONATE TO SUPPORT WOMEN.** Like Vashti and Esther, women around the world often have limited control over their bodies or their livelihoods. In honor of Purim, choose a campaign or organization that is meaningful to you, and invest your time or money to further the cause. Consider issues such as reproductive choice, global poverty, human trafficking, and international violence against women.

PURIM TRADITIONS (FROM THE URJ WEBSITE)

In the Book of Esther, we read that Purim is a time for "feasting and merrymaking," as well as for "sending gifts to one another and presents to the poor" (Esther 9:22). In addition to reading the Megillah (Book of Esther), celebrants dress in costumes, have festive parties, perform Purim shpiels, send baskets of food (mishloach manot) to friends, and give gifts to the poor (matanot l'evyonim).

COSTUMES

As part of the carnival-like atmosphere of Purim, many children and adults wear costumes. Some attribute this tradition to the fact that Esther initially "masked" her Jewish identity. Now a vibrant and widely practiced custom, some choose to dress as characters from the Purim story, while others select Jewish heroes from throughout history.

In Israel, the celebrations are especially extravagant and exciting. People of all ages take to the streets, rejoicing with parades, parties, costumes and carnivals. The parade through the streets of Tel Aviv is known to be especially wild. At the Kotel (the Western Wall) volunteers for Women of the Wall read Megillat Esther in the women's section.

HAMANTASCHEN

Hamantaschen (Yiddish for Haman's pockets) are three-cornered pastries filled with poppy seeds (mohn in Yiddish), fruit preserves, chocolate, or other ingredients that are traditionally eaten on Purim. In Israel during the weeks leading up to Purim, the aroma of freshly baked hamantaschen can be smelled on every block. Their triangular shape is thought to be reminiscent of Haman's hat or ears.

IN THE SYNAGOGUE

The Megillah (scroll) most often refers to Megillat Esther (The Scroll of Esther) which also is known as the "Book of Esther."

Traditionally, the Book of Esther is read at both evening and morning services on Purim—both in North America and in Israel. A number of customs are associated with the reading.

Haman, the enemy of the Jews in this story, is associated with all those who have tried to destroy the Jewish people throughout history. Therefore, we make l

oud noises—verbally or with noisemakers—at every mention of Haman's name in order to drown it out. Derived from the Polish word meaning "rattle," a grogger is the noisemaker used to drown out the name of Haman during the reading of the Megillah. Beginning in the 13th century, Jews throughout Europe sounded the grogger as a part of their Purim celebrations.

A Purim spiel is a humorous skit presented on Purim. Most parody the story of the Book of Esther, but it also is common for participants to take the opportunity to poke some gentle fun at themselves and their idiosyncrasies.

AT HOME

Mishloach manot are gifts of food that friends (and prospective new friends!) exchange on Purim. Often presented in baskets, most mishloach manot include hamantaschen, the traditional three-sided pastry eaten on Purim, but may also include a wide variety of foods and treats. These gifts are frequently referred to by their Yiddish name, shalachmanos.

Jewish families make mishloach manot baskets at home and distribute them to friends. Many families also make hamantaschen to include in these baskets and to enjoy at home.

Matanot l'evyonim (gifts to the poor) are gifts given at this season to those in need so that they, too, can celebrate Purim with a special meal. Many families have committed to participating in this important social justice aspect of the holiday.

MATANOT L'EVYONIM (GIFTS TO THE POOR)

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PURIM AT SINAI



**Meretz and Ruach:
Celebrate Purim!
Make Hamantashen & Groggers**

**Sunday, March 2
12:15-1:30pm**

Join your friends immediately
after Religious School for a
super fun afternoon.

\$10.00 per child
Register [HERE](#)

**THURS
MARCH
13**

5:30pm: Purim Service

6:00pm: A Wicked, Wicked Purim Shpiel

6:45pm: Hamantashen Reception

**FRI
MARCH
14**

10:00am: Purim worship & Megillat Esther

9:00am: Religious School drop-off (Purim classroom activities)

10:30am: A Wicked, Wicked Purim Shpiel - Religious School Students attend, parents are also invited and then can take YOUR kids directly to the carnival. Or, YOU can pick them up at 11:30am for the carnival.

11:00am: Purim Carnival will be open for Preschool-aged children

11:30pm: Purim Carnival BEGINS! (RS students and families)

**SUN
MARCH
16**

Purim 2025

Schedule of events

"They who enter the month of Adar, their joy increases!"
 – Babylonian Talmud Ta'anit 29a

A Wicked, WICKED

Shpiel

Thursday, March 13, 2025 | 6:00pm

WE STILL NEED
 VOLUNTEERS!
 CLICK HERE TO
 SIGN UP

PURIM CARNIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 16
 11:30AM

★
 GAMES | FOOD
 FUN

BUY
 TICKETS
 HERE

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

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 11:00 AM

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

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.



ADULT EDUCATION

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING SECOND SEMESTER



**Rabbi
Ray Zwerin:**
"Eden & Egypt"

**Wednesday, March 5
6:30 pm at Temple Sinai**



Julie Cramer:
"Pardons & Sentencing"

**Wednesday, March 19
6:30 pm at Temple Sinai**



**Susan Rona of the
Anti-Defamation
League:** *"My First
90 Days as ADL
Regional Director"*

**Wednesday, April 2
6:30 pm at Temple Sinai**

RSVP HERE

**BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE & BEER
MEN TALKING TORAH WITH THE RABBIS**
DARCY'S BISTRO AND PUB
Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 PM

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. Rabbi Rheins and Rabbi Shields will alternate the leading of these fun, conversational outings!
4955 South Ulster St. Denver, CO 80237

LUNCH AND LEARN
COME LEARN, DISCUSS, DEBATE
AND MEET FRIENDS
Thursday, March 6, 13, 20, 27 at 12:00 PM

Review ethical & moral issues in selected Jewish texts. Discuss hot current topics the important issues of the day. Bring your lunch! We will serve the text and topics!
NEWCOMERS QUICKLY AND EASILY FIT RIGHT IN!
It's a great way to learn and meet new friends!

ZWERIN/KAYE AVOT STUDY
SATURDAYS AT 10:30 AM
VIRTUAL
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Avot is a compilation of the ethical teachings and maxims from Rabbinic Jewish tradition. It is unique in two ways: it is the only Mishnah tractate that deals solely with ethical principles, and it is the only Mishnah tractate that does not appear in either the Jerusalem or the Babylonian Talmud. Avot consists of five chapters dated from the time of Simon the Just (c. 160 BCE) to Judah HaNasi (c. 200CE). There is also a sixth chapter that is a repeat of a section from tractate Kallah; it is added to Avot because its content and style are similar to that in Avot. We do believe that all will enjoy this very interesting section of the Oral Law.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

The Denver unit of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA meets right here at Temple Sinai one Sunday morning each month. Excellent no cost breakfast, great speaker, camaraderie, social connections...all very good things. Come check us out! For more information call, text or email Don Price at donpriceusna73@gmail.com or 443-995-9055. All are welcome.
23 March: Evie Cohen discussing Jewish practices on death and mourning.

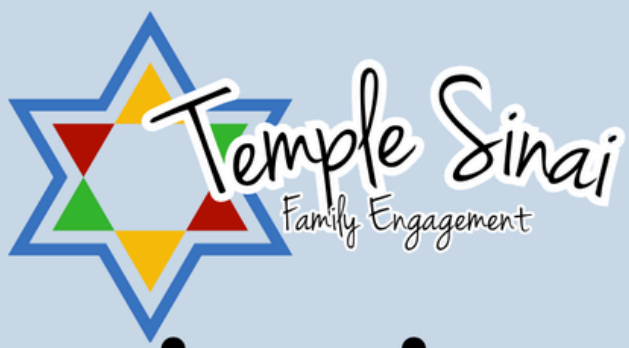
Sinai's Trip to ISRAEL

Join Rabbis Rick & Susan Rheins for
the next Temple Sinai Tour to Israel!

October 26 - November 5, 2025

More information to come soon!





UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR
2
12:00 - 1:30 PM
*Purim with
Meretz and Ruach*

MAR
8
10:30 AM
*New Member
Shabbat and Brunch*

MAR
13
5:30 PM
Purim Service and Shpiel

MAR
15
7:00 PM
TSYG Late-Over



MAR
16
11:30 AM
Purim Carnival

MAR
21
11:00 AM
*Rhythm 'N' Ruach with
Debbie Foster*

MAR
28
5:30 PM
Twisted Tween Shabbat

APR
4
5:30 PM
Twisted Shabbat



**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER
SCAN QR CODE !**



adult programming

Pardes Meditation Group
Saturday, March 1 at 8:00 AM

Sinai Sisterhood Dinner at Zanes
Monday, March 3 at 5:00 PM

Lifelong Jewish Learning with Rabbi Zwerin
Wednesday, March 5 at 6:30 PM

"Make Your Mark" Preschool Fundraiser
Thursday, March 6 at 6:30 PM

New Member Brunch
Saturday, March 8 at 9:00 AM service
10:30 AM Brunch

Sisterhood Leadership Team Meeting
Tuesday, March 11 at 1:15 PM

Brotherhood Shooting Club
Tuesday, March 11 at 11:15 AM

Sinai Sisterhood Drop-In Mah Jong
Wednesday, March 12 at 1:00 PM

Purim Service
Thursday, March 13 at 5:30 PM

A Wicked, Wicked Purim Shpiel
Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 PM

Pardes Meditation Group
Saturday, March 15 at 8:00 AM

Lifelong Jewish Learning with Julie Cramer:
"Pardons & Sentencing"
Wednesday, March 19 at 6:30 PM

Brotherhood Breakfast at Morning Story
Thursday, March 20 at 9:00 AM

Jewish War Veterans Meeting
Sunday, March 23 at 9:00 AM

Temple Sinai Book Club Meeting
Wednesday, March 26 at 11:00 AM

Sinai Sisterhood Drop-In Mah Jong
Wednesday, March 26 at 1:00 PM

Brotherhood Movie Night
Wednesday, March 26 TBD

Sinai Sisterhood Challah Cover Making
Sunday, March 30 at 12:30 PM

monthly

Brotherhood, Bible and Beers
Darcy's Pub & Bistro
Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 PM

Knitting and Crocheting for JOY
Temple Sinai
Wednesday, March 19 at 1:00 PM

weekly

Zwerin/Kaye Avot Study
Saturdays at 10:30 AM (virtual)

Bible Class: Tuesdays at 12:00 PM
(virtual)

Sinai Sundays: Fundamentals of Judaism
Sundays at 10:00 AM (in-person)

Lunch & Learn: Thursdays at 12:00 PM
(in-person and virtual)

worship

Erev Shabbat: Fridays at 6:00 PM

Shabbat Morning Minyan: Saturdays at 9:00 AM



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER
SCAN QR CODE !



Twisted **TWEEN** Shabbat

**FRIDAY, MARCH 28
5:30PM**

Twisted Tween Shabbat gathers families of 5th-8th Graders for a meaningful, fun and yummy Shabbat evening. Younger siblings welcomed.

5:30-6:00: Jr. Congregation

6:00-6:15: Challah braiding

6:15-7:00: Dinner and Shabbat activities

7:00: Join together in Oneg



Member Pricing

\$5.00/person - Early Bird Price

\$10.00/person - Price After 3.21.25

**SCAN TO
REGISTER**

*** EARLY BIRD PRICING UNTIL 3/21. REGISTRATION WILL BE CLOSED ON WED 3/26. NO EXCEPTIONS.**



Save the date

Temple Sinai's Annual Event

L'DOR V'DOR: The Magic of Generations

SUNDAY, JUNE 8 | 5:00PM

Funds raised will benefit Temple Sinai's Religious School

ENTERTAINMENT
Anthony Dempsey

As the highest rated Magician & Mentalist in Texas & having just appeared on the hit television show Penn & Teller: Fool Us, I can guarantee your guests will be blown away!

Anthony's got you covered with a mind-blowing magic and mentalism stage show that uses audience participation from start to finish.

\$150 PER PERSON
\$75 FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES

Temple Sinai &
Temple Sinai Preschool

Restaurant Nights

Eat out and support Temple
Sinai and Temple Sinai
Preschool

Chipotle February 26

Temple Sinai Preschool

This fundraiser runs from **4-8pm** and gives 25% of sales back to Temple Sinai Preschool. Be sure to **give code Y3WD7X8** (in person and online).

7350 E. Hampden Ave Unit B-2
Denver, CO 80231

CPK March 18

Temple Sinai

This fundraiser runs all day and gives 20% of sales back to Temple Sinai. Be sure to mention Temple Sinai Fundraiser to your server. Online orders count as well by entering **BACK20%** at checkout.

Park Meadows Shopping Center
8343 Park Meadows Center Dr,
Lone Tree, CO 80124

Birdcall April 8

Temple Sinai

This fundraiser runs **all day** and gives 25% of sales back to Temple Sinai. Be sure to **give code Sinai408** (in person and online).

4996 E Hampden Ave,
Denver, CO 80222

La Fogata Date coming soon

Temple Sinai Preschool

This fundraiser runs **all day** and gives 25% of sales back to Temple Sinai Preschool. Be sure to **give code Sinai408** (in person and online).

8090 E Quincy Ave,
Denver, CO 80237

Nosh with Sinai



Support Temple Sinai through King Soopers



Help raise funds for Temple Sinai when you buy your groceries by linking your SooperCard to Temple Sinai!
(We will receive 5% of all purchases!)

Follow the instructions below to sign up:

King Soopers Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at King Soopers and swipe your SooperCard!

Selecting the organization that you wish to support is as simple as updating the King Soopers Community Rewards selection on your digital account.

1. Sign in to your digital account (or create a new one).
2. Go here to search for your organization.
3. Enter Temple Sinai Denver.
4. Select the appropriate organization from the list and click "Save."

Twisted Shabbat

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

5:30PM

Twisted Shabbat gathers families for a joyful, meaningful, and yummy Shabbat evening. Older siblings can be our Challah Helpers too!

5:30-5:50: Jr. Congregation

5:50-6:15: Challah making

6:15-7:00: Dinner and Shabbat activities

7:00: Join together in Oneg



* EARLY BIRD PRICING UNTIL 3/26. REGISTRATION WILL BE CLOSED ON WED 4/2. NO EXCEPTIONS.

SCAN TO
REGISTER



The Triumphant Spirit Exhibition



The Triumphant Spirit exhibition represents an enduring legacy of Holocaust Survivors who found their way to America's shores, created new lives and families and built successful businesses. Over the years, these Survivors have become legends of hope that continue as a bright beacon for others who face insurmountable obstacles and for all humanity. Today, these portraits and stories also are validations of man's inhumanity to man—that horrific moment in history that never must be forgotten.

This exhibition will be featured in our Lobby and West Social Hall from Thursday, March 27 through Wednesday, April 30.

A warm welcome to Temple Sinai's
Newest members

Andrea Anderson

Linda Borchardt

Sean & Abby Daniel, Evie

Maury Kroopnick

Daniel & Maggie Lastukhin, Madeline and Henry

Jordan Linkow & Emily Dewey, Elie and Pearl

Leon & Abby Merker

Stuart & Robin Pack

Lisa Shaoul, Rana

Benny & Carly Swan, Lennon and Pearl

Scott Ziemke & Megan Nathan, Augie

Sponsor a **HEALING ART KIT** for children in Israel



On Sunday April 27, Temple Sinai will join together with YAD and Repair the World to pack hundreds of Healing Art Kits for children living in Israel.

The Healing Arts Kits, a project of Artists 4 Israel (a not-for-profit 501c3 organization established in 2009), are designed to slow or stop the onset of new cases of PTSD in children exposed to trauma. Each kit utilizes the latest research in art and movement therapy to stimulate self-healing mechanisms in children, as well as provide a positive distraction during the most critical time in the development of impact of a traumatic incident.

Each **Healing Art Kit** is only \$65. The cost of the kit covers all the materials, shipment to Israel and dissemination of the kits (at no charge) to organizations such as hospitals, mental health centers, schools, shelters, and religious institutions.

[**Click Here to Sponsor a Healing Art Kit**](#)





SAVE THE DATE

THE FIRST NIGHT PASSOVER SEDER AT TEMPLE SINAI! Saturday, April 12 at 6:00 PM

We'll join together in-person at 5:30 for the festival service and at 6:00 PM for a grand Passover Seder with a delicious catered meal with many of your traditional favorites! Our Seder will be interactive, inclusive, and engaging. Our Temple Sinai community Seder is always a joyous, friendly, and meaningful experience. Through generous gifts from Sinai families the Seder is heavily subsidized to keep the costs at a minimum.

\$45 per adult | \$30 per child ages 12 and under |

RSVP: <https://sinaidenver.shulcloud.com/form/passover-seder-2025>

Subsidies are available for those in financial need and will be handled confidentially. Please contact Lisa Thorner at lisa@sinaidenver.org for additional information.

The New Passover Haggadah is Available

includes illustrations from acclaimed artist Todd Siler

For many years, Temple Sinai has used The New Haggadah, Celebrating Freedom that was written by Rabbis Rick and Susan Rheins. The new text and the phenomenal artwork by Temple Sinai member Todd Siler, an internationally acclaimed artist, were so popular that many have wanted to acquire copies for their own families and friends. After refining the text, layout and printing, we are proud to announce that copies of The New Haggadah are now available for purchase.

For those who want to know “mah nishtanah---what’s different about this Haggadah?”

Know that The New Haggadah is designed for modern families. Traditional liturgy predominates, but greater emphasis has been given to the original story in the Torah. Some of the Medieval passages have been pared away in order to focus on the essential message in the Torah of freedom, courage and hope.

The creations of the great artist Todd Siler adorn the pages of this The New Haggadah. They complement the text with captivating images that promote personal introspection and summon group dialogue in the retelling of our story of the Israelites’ exodus from Egypt.

Check out more on Todd on his website: <http://www.toddsilerart.com/bio.html>.

**To purchase copies of The New Haggadah, contact the Temple Sinai office or visit our website
www.sinaidenver.org**

SISTERHOOD

UPCOMING EVENTS WITH

SISTERHOOD

03.03	MONDAY, 5:00 PM DINNER AT ZANES
03.09	SUNDAY, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM HAMANTASHEN BAKING
03.11	TUESDAY, 1:15 PM LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING ALL ARE WELCOME
03.12	WEDNESDAY, 1:00 - 3:00 PM DROP IN MAH JONG
03.26	WEDNESDAY, 1:00 - 3:00 PM DROP IN MAH JONG
03.30	SUNDAY, 12:30 - 2:30 PM MAKE CHALLAH COVERS

EVENTS TAKE PLACE AT TEMPLE SINAI UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

SINAI SISTERHOOD PRESENTS:

CREATE YOUR OWN CHALLAH COVERS

WITH SPECIAL TEACHER PAMELA REICH

SUNDAY, MARCH 30
12:30 - 2:30 PM



\$10 PER PERSON

THIS EVENT IS FOR AGES 13 AND UP. BRING YOUR KIDS AND GRANDKIDS. KIDS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

BROTHERHOOD

The Temple Sinai Brotherhood Board is excited to share information about our ever-expanding programming as well as opportunities to participate as a member of a growing group of "Temple Brothers." As a group, we continue to be committed to giving back to the Temple community, supporting congregational and Religious School activities. We fire up the grills and run the serving lines for the Annual Picnic and Religious School BBQ and host an Annual Golf Tournament supporting Israel Study Tour scholarships. Most recently, we collected, repaired and donated a truck full of bicycles to a local orphanage as part of Mitzvah Day. That said, we are also very actively focused on promoting fellowship and friendship amongst the Brotherhood membership. This includes a growing list of both regularly scheduled events discussed below and other social activities like bowling nights at Pindustry, outings to Rockies games with the kids and grandkids and sponsoring two men's softball teams as part of the Jewish Men's Summer Softball League. We are excited that our ranks are growing with younger men joining in activities and we want to encourage all to come give us a try.

We have found that supporting a regular schedule helps our members plan for and join in our activities. We host Monthly Bible and Beers - usually held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at Darcy's Bistro and Irish Pub in the Denver Tech Center, 4955 S Ulster St, Ste 103, Denver CO 80237. Good food, cold beer and stimulating discussions led by Rabbis Rheins and Shields make for a fun evening of learning and fellowship.

We are kicking off a regular get together at a local shooting range, targeting the second week of the month. Even if you have never shot before but have always wanted to try, we welcome all. Members are happy to share pistols and experienced member instructors are glad to teach.

The third Thursday of the month, we host a Monthly Brotherhood Breakfast at 9:00 AM at the Morning Story Restaurant at 4930 S Yosemite St, Ste D1C, Greenwood Village CO 80111 located in the King Soopers Plaza at Yosemite and Belleview. No reservation is required, just the desire to come meet up with other men and discuss and solve world events over coffee and a great meal.

So what about the last week of the month? Well, we are expanding there too. We have started hosting a Movie / Dinner Night out, usually the last Wednesday of the month. Most recently we have seen Conclave and September 5th followed by casual dinner at nearby restaurants like Slattery's Irish Pub and Parry's Pizza. We understand schedules are busy, so we set these events up to allow last minute join ins by purchasing tickets at the door. If you can't make the movie (or visa versa), we encourage all to join in for dinner. And best part, spouses are invited so a wonderful evening has been had by all.

The Brotherhood has a dedicated email address: brotherhood@sinaidenver.org. We send out regular announcements and reminders so if you are not already on our email list, please send us your name and email address and then watch for the chance to join in this growing group of Temple men. We are anxious to hear your ideas as well and ask you to please share this information with other Jewish men, Temple members or not as all are always welcome.

There it is. Hope to see you soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS WITH BROTHERHOOD

- 03.04** TUESDAY, 6:00 PM
MONTHLY BIBLE AND BEERS
DARCY'S BISTRO AND IRISH PUB
- 03.11** TUESDAY, 11:00 AM
MONTHLY SHOOTING CLUB
THE SHOOTIST RANGE
- 03.20** THURSDAY, 9:00 AM
MONTHLY BREAKFAST
MORNING STORY RESTAURANT
- 03.26** WEDNESDAY, TBD
MARCH MOVIE NIGHT



Habitat Interfaith Alliance (HIA)

Is a coalition of dedicated souls who bring together people of different faiths to sponsor and help build a Habitat for Humanity home in the Denver Metro area each year. Currently representing 11 synagogues and churches—and welcoming to congregations of all faiths who wish to join the coalition—our alliance is a proud faith-partner affiliate with Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver. We have sponsored 20 new homes as a coalition since 2002. HIA works to address long-term poverty by providing families with safe, affordable housing. Evoking a spirit of interfaith community and benevolence, HIA's collaborations with Habitat families allow them to flourish, dream, and plan for a better future.

Temple Sinai is looking for a Habitat Interfaith Alliance Committee to work with Lisa Friedman, our Temple Sinai HIA representative.

HIA has a yearly fundraising goal of \$40K and hosts 3 community fundraising events annually. Interested volunteers can help on builds, with fundraising events and at the Habitat production shop.

Please email Lisa Friedman at binsy49@gmail.com or Debbie Foster at debbie@sinaidenver.org.

Visit their website at <http://hiadenver.org/index.html>





A Home for your Jewish Journey!

www.sinaidenver.org

TEMPLE SINAI BROTHERHOOD

Brotherhood brings members together to create, grow and strengthen friendships within the larger Temple Sinai community through social, Temple and community service activities. Contact Jon Levison, Brotherhood@sinaidenver.org.



A GROUP FOR THOSE OVER 50

Social events for our members in the 50+ demographic. Contact Susan Levine, sulevine64@gmail.com.



CARING COMMUNITY
TEMPLE SINAI

This group works together to reach out to our congregants in their moments of need and celebration and helps us expand the ways we care. Contact Nancy Eisenberg, neisenberg314@gmail.com.



KNITTING AND CROCHETING
for JOY

Join us on the third Wednesday of each month. The items you design and handcraft will be donated to different organizations. Contact Jane Robbins, jane Robbins.cpa@gmail.com.



Join us for a morning of stimulating discussion with interesting people of diverse backgrounds. All books selected have a Jewish theme or a Jewish author. Meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month 11:00-12:30 pm. Contact Donna Zucker, donnadzucker@gmail.com.

Sinai Sisterhood

Join our dynamic community of women of all ages and stages of life who gather for social and meaningful programs and events. Contact Janet Walker-Snider, Sisterhood@sinaidenver.org.



"Volunteers on Demand" are congregants interested in helping with various Sinai programs. Contact Lisa Thorne, Executive Director, Lisa@sinaidenver.org



We hold monthly meetings, the second Sunday of each month from 9:30 am to noon that includes time to enjoy breakfast followed by informative speakers and/or media presentations on current topics of interest and veteran affairs. Contact Don Price, donpriceusna73@gmail.com.



Our Sinai Tzedek committee engages in a number of Social Action projects including Mitzvah Day, Habitat for Humanity, Meals for Metro Caring and Christmas in the Park. Contact Debbie Foster, Debbie@sinaidenver.org.

Defeat Anti-Semitism

Join our committee to help us host, educate and bring the community together as we all stand up to Anti-Semitism and live one of our core Jewish values, Tikkun Olam. Contact Terri Tilliss, Terri.Tilliss@incidentalsconsulting.com.



LLJL Sessions are varied, spanning the gamut from the religious to the secular, but always featuring a Jewish aspect. The Wednesday night lectures are held from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Contact Marty Meitus, martymeitus@gmail.com



Being in a Chavurah, (Hebrew for friend group), is a wonderful way to connect with other congregants from Temple Sinai. If you would like to join an existing Chavurah or form a new group, we have options. Contact Shana Cohen, Shana@sinaidenver.org.



If you are a lover of music join Temple Sinai's Adult Choir. We sing at High Holyday services and Musical Shabbatot throughout the year. Contact Choir Director Leah Hamilton, LHDoReMi@aol.com.

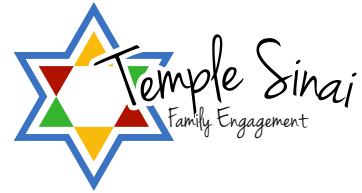
Families



A place where each child is encouraged to learn and grow in a developmentally appropriate, nurturing and loving environment. Contact our Director of Early Childhood, Sheila Purdin at Sheila@sinaidenver.org. If you would like to be involved as a parent, contact pto@sinaidenver.org.



Our Religious School instills in our students and their families a love of Judaism, the Jewish people, and Israel and seeks to provide the tools for each person's spiritual journey through the lens of Reform Judaism. Contact our Director of Education, Doni Kaye at Doni@sinaidenver.org. If you would like to be involved as a parent, contact kathymzeiger26@gmail.com.



We are a synagogue for the entire family and offer fun and meaningful programming for children and adults to connect with one another including our monthly Twisted Shabbat experience. Contact our Director of Engagement and Programming, Debbie Foster at debbie@sinaidenver.org.



Sinai South is Temple Sinai of Denver's engagement initiative for those living in the South Suburbs of Denver (Highlands Ranch, Castle Rock, etc.). Contact Debbie Foster, debbie@sinaidenver.org.

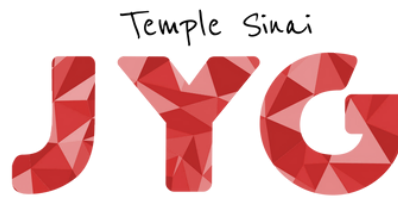


Youth Choir is a time for the Songbirds to share their voice at Shabbat services once a month. Contact: Ruthie@sinaidenver.org

Temple Sinai Youth Groups



Our monthly afternoon programs for K-5th foster strong peer connections and fun experiences at Temple immediately following Religious School. Contact Jenifer Engel, jenifer@sinaidenver.org.



Junior Youth Group is the ultimate destination for middle-schoolers seeking fun and community. Contact Jenifer Engel, jenifer@sinaidenver.org.



Led by teens, TSYG offers inclusivity, support, and fun, empowering teens to shape their Jewish community. All high schoolers are welcome at our monthly events. Contact Jenifer Engel, jenifer@sinaidenver.org

Classes with our Rabbis



Sinai Sundays, Exploring the Hebrew Bible Tuesdays via zoom, Torah Study Saturdays 10:30 via zoom, and many others throughout the year including an Adult B'nei Mitzvah program.



Thursday from 12 pm - 1 pm for a conversation about texts, tradition, and current events that impact Jews, Israel and the world.





PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

2025-2026



- TIER 1: TEMPLE MEMBERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED - JANUARY 9-14
- TIER 2: CURRENTLY ENROLLED NON-MEMBERS & TEMPLE MEMBERS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED - JANUARY 15-20
- TIER 3: GENERAL COMMUNITY - OPENS JANUARY 21

Registrations received after the priority period will be accepted in the order they are received. When all spaces have been filled new applicants will be placed on a wait list.



Nonrefundable and nontransferable registration fee and tuition deposit due at registration .



SUMMER CAMP 2025

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

SESSION 1:

MAY 27-JUNE 27

CLOSED JUNE 2 & 19

SESSION 2:

JUNE 30-JULY 25

CLOSED 4TH OF JULY



WE'RE LOOKING FOR NEW FACES!

JOIN TEMPLE SINAI'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TERM: 2025 - 2026

ABOUT OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We consider ourselves a "working board" in that each of our Board Meetings are held with purpose and intention. Each Board Meeting's agenda is designed to facilitate meaningful dialogue around strategic initiatives as well as pertinent topics of the synagogue. Our Board of Trustees strives to foster positive and growing relationships with one another as well as with our congregation at large. Each Trustee has the opportunity to bring their passions and voice to the table and exemplify their beliefs through various synagogue and community engagements. Terms are 2 years; fiscal year is July 1 - June 30.

TERM EXPECTATIONS

- Attendance at six Board Meetings (held every other month) on a fiscal year calendar.
- Attendance at 2-3 special meetings a year.
- Attendance at Annual Board Meeting each June.
- Board Members chair or co-chair a working committee or special project.
- Work collaboratively to define and accomplish tangible goals.
- Act as a mentor to develop future Jewish leaders of Temple Sinai.
- Attendance at Shabbat services as requested to represent the Board.
- Attend our Annual Event in June - Temple Sinai's largest fundraising event.

AREAS OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

In alignment with Temple Sinai's Mission, Vision and Values we have a set of Strategic Priorities that we remain focused on. These five areas of work all have respective, measurable goals which help our clergy and staff define their work to meet each congregant where they are in their Jewish Journey. The five Strategic Priorities are Membership/Engagement, Financial, Operations, Education and Worship. Our Board of Trustees is expected to collaborate on opportunities within these areas, with a growth mindset.

FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

- Be a regular member in good standing.
- Endowment/Sinai Circle: a meaningful gift in the form of either a planned gift or cash contribution.
- Other small donations: gifts, contributions, youth group, etc.

APPLY TO BE A PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL!
DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION HERE.

For questions, please email Marshall Tobin (marshalltobin24@gmail.com) and Rebecca Hea-Wilson (rhea@denverchildrenshome.org), Chairs of the Nominating Committee.



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.

ALLAN AND HELENA STRIKER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Temple Sinai is honored to offer a new scholarship, the Allan and Helena Striker Scholarship Fund. This is a needs-based scholarship generously funded for the purpose of supporting academically strong young men completing their senior year of high school and attending college the following year. The scholarship amount is \$2,500.

ALAN FARBER MEMORIAL CAMP SCHOLARSHIP

Jewish summer camp of your choice! First time campers and needs based!

Temple Sinai members Lori and John Spanbauer generously established the Alan Farber Memorial Camp Scholarship Fund in loving memory of Lori's brother Alan. This annual scholarship will help Temple Sinai students from qualified families attend a 2-week or 3-week Jewish sleep-away summer camp. The scholarship is also available for any mini-camp sessions for a camper's first camp experience. The scholarship is available to all campers based on financial need that otherwise would prevent them from attending sleep-away camp.

To apply for any of these scholarships please contact Lisa Thorner, Executive Director, for more information at [\(303\) 759-1827](tel:(303)759-1827) or lisa@sinaidenver.org.



LEARN MORE AND APPLY AT:

[SINAIDENVER.ORG/WHAT-WE-DO/SCHOLARSHIPS](https://sinaidenver.org/what-we-do/scholarships)



LISA THORNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: [LISA@SINAIDENVER.ORG](mailto:lisa@sinaidenver.org)

IN MEMORIAM

- **Iran Emeson**, father of Carl (Penny) Newmark, grandfather of Chad and Brett
- **Norma Goldblatt**, aunt of Terri (Stacy Pocrass) Tilliss, step-mother of Helene Hoffman
- **Marian Goldhirsch**, mother of Susan (Dan) Rich, aunt of Ted (Marsha) Alpert, grandmother of Kelsey (Phillip Martin) Rich and Britney (Adam) Lombard
- **Jim Judd**, father of Nancy Crawford, grandfather of Lily and Hannah
- **Laurie Lavenhar**, mother of Jason Lavenhar and Chelsea Lavenhar, grandmother of Caleb Lavenhar
- **Oded Rudawsky**, father of Zvi (Staci) Rudawsky
- **Brenda Sheldon**, wife of the late Norman Sheldon, mother of Dan (Cady) Sheldon, Audrey (Craig) Chapel, David (Lynn Hutchinson) Sheldon, grandmother of Ben, Jonah, Jack, Lily and Sadie
- **Jo Sperling**, mother of Staci (Zvi) Rudawsky
- **Marilyn Kaitz Wolfson**, wife of Art Wolfson, sister-in-law of Barbara (the late Joe Kaitz) Suson, aunt of Jerry Kaitz, Tammy (Steve Crane) Kaitz, and Lori (Joe) Contreras

*Zikhronam Livrakhak, may they be
remembered for a blessing.*



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: \$350.



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.



CHAI FIVE CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

Temple Sinai would like to thank all of you who donated to our Chai Five Campaign. We raised over \$67,000 to support the following departments: Religious School, Technology, Capital Building Improvements, Tween-to-Teen Programming and Sinai Experiences.

Anonymous (20)
Marsha and Ted Alpert
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Molly and Max Anger
Rachel and Michael Anger
Susan Aronoff and Eric Glasser
Judy Aronson and Steve Katz
Grace Bach
Susan and Ralph Barocas
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Jon and Emily Decker
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Judy and Larry Zepelin
Joshua and Shoshanah Zucker
Rabbi David J. and Donna D. Zucker

ALAN FARBER MEMORIAL CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Estelle Baron, Buzzy Brandeis, Altha Cohn, and Ada Wolf
Marilyn Jordan

IN HONOR OF:

Lori Spanbauer's birthday
Frank & Evelinda Urman

APPEL FAMILY YOUTH EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Buzzy Borges, Earl Libman, June Rose, and Asheur Wolf
Marilyn Jordan
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Charlene Spiegelman

IN HONOR OF:

Debbie Foster
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DONOR:

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Wendy Vean

IN HONOR OF:

Grace Bach
Wendy Vean

JEFFREY O. ROSENBERG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR JEWISH STUDIES

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Birth of Terri Tilliss and Stacy Pocrass's granddaughter
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PRESCHOOL UNDERWRITING FUND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Cantor Herbert Nadler
Richard & Doreen Nadler
Len Schiff
Anonymous

DONATIONS (CONTINUED)

*Donations processed December 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025

IN HONOR OF:

Temple Sinai Preschool staff and support team

Jim Levitt & Shirley Mansfield-Levitt

Cason & Rachel Pierce

Rabbi Rick Rheins, Temple Sinai, and Richard Nathan

The Nathan/Ziemke Family

Sarla Thal

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Gerald & Natalie Lassow

Debra Herz's birthday

Judy Robins

Jerry Lassow's birthday

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DONATIONS (CONTINUED)

Donations processed December 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025

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Jerry & Joan Kirshenbaum
Debbie Foster's birthday
Grace Bach
Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
Diane Goodman
Speedy recovery of Grace Bach
Lisa Thorner

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