

TEMPLE SINAI

# KESHER



October/November 2025  
TISHREI/CHESHVAN/KISLEV 5786

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## FROM SUKKOT TO THANKSGIVING

# RABBI RICK RHEINS

In this double issue of Keshar (October-November), we note the observances of both Sukkot and Thanksgiving. Of course, in this issue you will find details about the wide range of experiences Temple Sinai is offering to celebrate the sacred Festivals of Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret- Simchat Torah. You will also see that we are once again hosting the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving service (Sunday, November 23). I hope that you and your loved ones will be able to attend these experiences and lend your voice and spirit to make them even more special.

As you might suspect, there is a natural connection with Sukkot and Thanksgiving. Both are times during which we pause to express our appreciation for the bounty and goodness in our lives. Both are opportunities to raise our awareness of those who are less fortunate and to share with others in order to bring support and joy to their lives.

While the 8-day festival of Sukkot-Shemini Atzeret is prominently featured in the Torah, in the United States there were only local Thanksgiving events to celebrate the fall harvest and the Pilgrims. President George Washington proclaimed an official “day of public thanksgiving and prayer” on November 26, 1789, but it was only for that year. Most of the following presidents set up different days for Thanksgiving.

Sarah Hale, a 19th century magazine editor most famous for writing the time-honored nursery rhyme *Mary Had a Little Lamb*, petitioned one president after another to declare a National Day of Thanksgiving. But her pleas went unheeded until Abraham Lincoln. It was Lincoln who decreed in 1863, after the Union victory at Gettysburg, that this nation should establish the last Thursday in November as a national and annual day of Thanksgiving. Note that he did so not during a time of plenty, peace, and security. Rather, his presidential proclamation was made during the worst crisis this nation has ever faced, in the middle of the Civil War. More Americans died in the Civil War than in all the wars we have fought, from the Revolutionary War through the war in Iraq---put

together. The nation longed for a sign of hope and peace. Lincoln rose to the occasion by establishing Thanksgiving and offering the following prayer:

*Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.*

It was a powerful message that did not shy away from the divisive struggle and violence that were tearing this country apart. His prayer of Thanksgiving urges us to be humble and gracious to others, especially the less fortunate.

Our circumstances hardly compare to the strife this nation suffered during the Civil War. And yet, every generation is called upon to pause and reflect on the blessings we have so that we take nothing for granted. Every generation is urged to heal the rifts that divide neighbor from neighbor. Political violence and overheated rhetoric can destroy friendships, families, and even a nation. As we are struggling in a climate of harsh judgementalism and belittling talk, the sacred times of Sukkot and Thanksgiving remind us to walk more humbly and with greater gratitude.

**Healing starts with us. Let us join together for the Festival of Sukkot and Thanksgiving to renew a sense of blessings.**

**Chag Sukkot Sameiach,**

*Rick*

**Rabbi Rick Rheins**



## MAR CHESHVAN: A MONTH OF QUIET SACRED WORK - FINDING HOLINESS IN THE EVERYDAY

# RABBI MICHAEL SHIELDS

The Hebrew month of Cheshvan arrives just after the whirlwind of Tishrei. In the span of a few short weeks, we've moved through Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah. Tishrei is the most spiritually and communally full month of the Jewish calendar; Cheshvan, by contrast, is the quietest.

Cheshvan is unique because it contains no festivals, fasts, or special days. For this reason, it has long been called Mar Cheshvan—"bitter Cheshvan"—as if the absence of holidays leaves the month lacking sweetness. But Jewish tradition also offers another interpretation: the word mar can mean "drop of water," and Cheshvan is the time when the rainy season begins in the Land of Israel. Each drop brings life, nourishment, and renewal. Far from being bitter, Cheshvan becomes the month that sustains us in ordinary time.

This rhythm is essential. The High Holy Days call us to reflection, repentance, and rededication. We emerge from Yom Kippur with promises made to ourselves, to our loved ones, and to God. But those promises only matter if they are carried forward into daily life. Cheshvan is the month in which we begin to live into our vows. Its very lack of festivals offers us the gift of normalcy—an invitation to turn prayer into action, inspiration into practice, and spiritual vision into everyday reality.

Cheshvan also points us forward. Its weeks quietly prepare us for Chanukkah, the festival of dedication. The work of rededication does not happen in an instant of light; it is the steady, often unseen work of ordinary days that enables us to kindle the flames of hope when the time comes.

In recent years, Cheshvan has also become home to a new holiday: Sigd, celebrated on the 29th of the month by the Beta Israel (Ethiopian Jewish) community. Sigd is a day of fasting, prayer, and recommitment to Torah, once marked on mountaintops in Ethiopia and now officially observed as a holiday in Israel. Today, Jews around the world join in recognizing Sigd, which enriches the Jewish calendar with a story of longing for Jerusalem, of resilience, and of renewal. Its place in Cheshvan reminds us that Judaism is a living tradition, continually evolving and becoming more vibrant through the practices of its diverse communities.

May we use the lessons of Tishrei, the quiet strength of Cheshvan, and the inspiration of Sigd to dedicate ourselves—to our own inner work and to the sacred work of building a vibrant Jewish community.

*Rabbi Shields*

Rabbi Michael Shields



# A SEASON OF GRATITUDE AND COMMUNITY

## LISA THORNER

As we enter the fall season, I find myself reflecting on the overlapping meanings of Sukkot and Thanksgiving, both holidays that celebrate gratitude, connection, family, and the powerful community we create together.

In the spirit of Sukkot, we remember that real strength lies in unity, resilience, and the power of faith. The Sukkah reminds us that true shelter comes not from its walls, but from the people who gather within them. The laughter, the prayers, the conversations, and the shared meals are the things that make a space sacred.

Thanksgiving is also a time to give thanks to family, friends and for the community we've built together.

At this time of year, I am especially grateful for:

- Our longtime members, who have nurtured this community with love, time, and trust.
- Our new members, whose fresh energy and open hearts are expanding the Temple Sinai circle.
- The countless small acts of kindness I witness every day: a smile to a newcomer, a helping hand, a shared story despite the difficult world that we live in.

As our community grows, so does our capacity to welcome, to celebrate, and to support one another, in joy and in challenge. This growth is measured not only in numbers, but also in depth, diversity, and purpose.

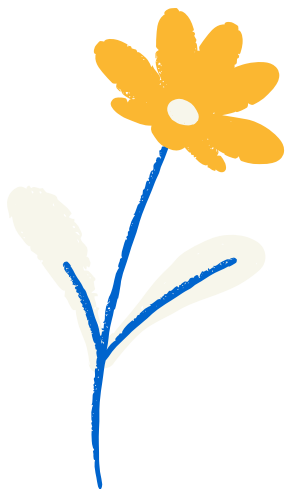
Just as Sukkot invites us to open our temporary shelters to guests, and Thanksgiving invites us to gather around shared tables, we at Temple Sinai are committed to creating a home where everyone feels they belong, not just for a short time, but for the long journey ahead. Whether you've been with us for years or just joined yesterday, you are an essential part of what we're creating and building at Temple Sinai.

With Deep Gratitude,

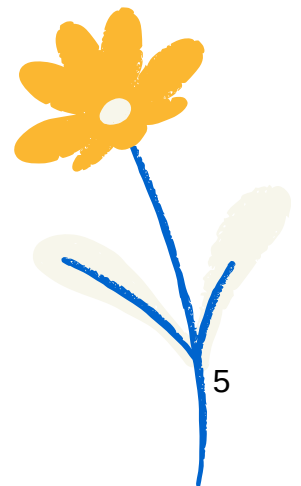
*Lisa Thorner*

Lisa Thorner

## WELCOME TO TEMPLE SINAI'S NEWEST MEMBERS



Diane & Joel Buckberg  
Gwendolyn & James Ehrlich  
Barie & David Feuer, Oliver  
Becky & Erik Grubb, Micah and Reese  
Crystal & Ben Hill, Ned  
Julie & Erwin Morales, Macie  
Annie & Jacob Nagy, Margot and Joseph  
Barbara Pack

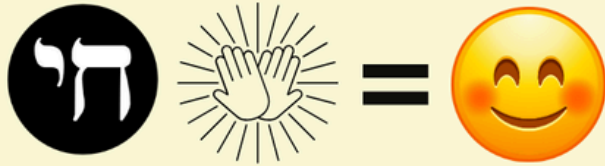


# CHAI-5! TO CHANUKAH

## The Chai-5 CAMPAIGN

### Donating to Chai-5 strengthens your partnership with Temple Sinai

Temple Sinai is excited to announce The Chai-5 Campaign which supports selected areas of emphasis within our Sinai community. Chai-5 helps assure we can maintain existing programming and invest in new innovative ways to bring us together. From now until Chanukah, we hope you will invest at least Chai (\$18) X 5 = \$90 (Chai-5). You can choose to allocate your units of Chai as you wish.



### THE CHAI-5 ADVANTAGE DONATIONS GIVE YOU A VOICE

Programs and events can be expensive to produce. Chai-5 gives you a say and brings us TOGETHER.

#### GIVING AT SINAI IS SIMPLE

Dues, donations, program costs, and Chai-5 participation represents your investment and commitment to Temple Sinai.

#### YOU CHOOSE THE AREAS THAT INSPIRE YOU

You can commit your Chai-5 donation to specific areas or give to the overall campaign.

We hope everyone will make an investment of chai (\$18) x 5 = \$90! or whatever is right for you.

#### HERE IS WHERE YOUR DOLLARS CAN GO:

##### BUILDING BEAUTIFICATION:

Major physical upgrades and renovations of Temple's property and facilities.

- Upgrade Zwerin Sanctuary walls with sound tiles.
- Landscaping.
- Interactive donor and Yahrzeit wall.
- Update kitchen with a new stove.
- Appel Family Youth Lounge and Lobby updates.

##### UPDATED YOUTH LOUNGE AND COMMUNITY SPACE:

Updated Youth and Community Space to create a dynamic, flexible and welcoming environment that meets the needs of all generations.

- A dedicated, welcoming space that encourages kids of all ages to spend more time at Temple.
- Technology stations for digital and creative learning.
- Coffee station that creates a shared working area for adults.
- Dedicated family area to include PJ Library, toys, and games for younger children.

##### TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS:

Connecting everyone to Sinai and creating a more accessible experience.

- Sound system improvements.
- Video screens in Study and Abrahams Family Chapel.
- Enhance ADA compliant technology.
- Updated computers for Religious School students.

##### INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMMING:

Building community, deepening relationships and passing Jewish values across generations.

- Increased programming that brings together all ages.
- Shabbatons, retreats and family-friendly dinners.
- Adopt a grandparent or family: Chesed Buddies pairs older members with younger families.

**TEACHER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT** - Continuous process of equipping Preschool and Religious School teachers with the knowledge, skills, tools and support needed to improve their effectiveness in the classroom.

- Continuing education stipends.
- Conferences, workshops and professional trainers.



# *Sukkot and Simchat Torah*

## Sukkot Worship Schedule

**Monday, October 6, 6:00 PM:** Erev Sukkot Service

**Tuesday, October 7, 10:00 AM:** Sukkot Morning Service

**Friday, October 10, 6:00pm** Erev Shabbat-Sukkot Service & Dinner!

After the Shabbat-Sukkot service, we will gather for a wonderful **Pizza in the Hut Dinner under the sukkah following services**. Sign up [here!](#)

## Shemini Atzeret Simchat Torah

**Monday, October 13:** 5:15 PM Spaghetti dinner. Simchat Torah service and celebration to follow at 6:00 PM highlighted with the **Consecration of our new Religious School students** and dancing with the Torah scrolls! Sign up for spaghetti dinner [here](#) and [Consecration here](#).

**Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 AM Simchat Torah with 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. We will read from two Torah scrolls: the traditional concluding passage of Deuteronomy and then, from the second Torah, the beginning of the Book of Genesis. **Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah services continue the next morning, Tuesday, October 14 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.




# RUTHIE LIPSHULCH

## CANTORIAL SOLOIST



# MUSICAL SHABBAT



Musical Shabbats are joyful, song-filled Friday evening services where prayer and music blend to create an uplifting, spiritually rich experience. Led by our Cantorial Soloist, Ruthie Lipshulch and musicians, these services feature inspiring melodies, both traditional and contemporary that encourage participation, connection, and community.

These lively services are for all ages, highlighting the joy of Jewish music and helping everyone connect to the spirit of Shabbat in a joyful, meaningful way!

**FRIDAY: NOVEMBER 21, JANUARY 30 & MARCH 13**  
6:00 PM

learn our music




# Join us for these wonderful events!

Musically Yours,  
*Ruthie*  
Ruthie Lipshulch

# Sinai


SONGBIRDS YOUTH CHOIR PERFORMANCE



Led with warmth and enthusiasm by Cantorial Soloist Ruthie Lipshulch, the Sinai Songbirds offers a nurturing and fun environment for children to explore Jewish music, deepen their connection to tradition, and build lasting friendships.

Rehearsals:	Performances:
Sundays   12:15-1:15 PM   Chapel	Friday Erev Shabbat Services
• September 28, 2025	• Friday, October 10
• December 7, 2025	• Friday, December 19
• January 25, 2026	• Monday, March 2 - Purim
• February 8, 2026	• Friday, April 3
• February 22, 2026	

**Sign up here**





**HOLLA FOR CHALLAH!**

**DEBBIE FOSTER**

**DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT AND PROGRAMMING**

Judaism is an active religion — one we do with all our senses. We light the candles. We hear the shofar. We build the sukkah. We smell the spices. We dip the parsley. And we make the challah.

Challah is the unifier of two phenomena bringing thousands of people together in the Jewish world, locally and internationally: Temple Sinai’s *Twisted Shabbat* and *The Great Challah Bake*.

At *Twisted Shabbat*, the brainchild of Rabbi Shields, families come together for a special Shabbat service, challah braiding, Shabbat dinner and play. With dough prepared by master baker Diana Kaplan and guidance from Shana and Eli Cohen, each child shapes, decorates, and takes home their own delicious creation. Over the past two years, nearly 800 challot have been twisted to perfection, building our own Sinai community one braid at a time.

Another challah event, inspired by the Shabbat Project in South Africa in 2013, *The Great Challah Bake* is a world-wide phenomenon and happens in communities all over the world. Last year, joined by nine other women from Temple Sinai, I participated in *The Great Challah Bake* hosted by the Jewish Experience. Surrounded by the energy of girls and women of all ages and levels of Jewish practice, each participant had a bowl, measured ingredients, and a very simple recipe card to make their own dough. After the dough rose, we braided our challot and took them home to bake.

That evening, I realized that the hands-on act of making challah from scratch can and should be a wonderful experience for every Jew, no matter the age or gender. And I am in the perfect position to bring this concept to Temple Sinai! So...two MORE challah programs are born!!

### **The Pink & Teal Challah Bake**

October is Breast and Ovarian Cancer Awareness month so in partnership with Sharsheret and BRCA, Temple Sinai will have a Pink & Teal Challah Bake on Thursday, October 23 from 6:30–8:30 PM. While our challah dough rises, we will gather to learn about these critical organizations who save so many lives.

[Sign up here](#)

### **Mishpachat Sinai**

Mishpachat Sinai is a family education program during Religious School where each family makes a challah from scratch! During the morning, families are invited to take on new traditions as a family including Shabbat and Tzedakah.

If you’d like to help with either program, please [email](#) me!  
I can’t wait to make challah with you.

 **Debbie**





# DONI KAYE

## DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

We wanted to provide an example from each grade of activities Religious School students have done to start the year with their new teachers!

### **Pre-K, Hilary Ewing, Marisa Anderson**

Created Rosh HaShanah cards with honey sticks, sang “I like to hear the shofar blast” while learning the four types of sounds the shofar makes.

### **Kindergarten, Rachel Dominas, Marisa Anderson**

Symbolized the value of hakarat hatov הַכָּרַת הַטוֹב - recognizing the good - by creating bottles to be filled with pompoms whenever they think about a positive situation.

### **1st Grade Dora Muzykant**

Learned the first few letters of the Hebrew alphabet by interacting with shapes on paper and through movement.

### **2nd Grade Jeanette Amayo**

Learners took a look at the value of *hachnasat orchim* הַכְנָסַת אֹרְחִים, being welcoming to guests - through exploring key examples from the Torah, and from homes constructed by both animals and humans. Students were challenged to bring subtle aspects to their own homes which might make them more welcoming to guests.

### **3rd Grade Melanie Wiseman**

Students thought about how during the Hebrew months of Elul and Tishrei, we are always working to achieve teshuva - or return - to more healthful patterns of interaction.

### **4th-5th Grades**

#### **Miriam Kellerman, Nathan Stern, Wendy Applebaum**

Became curious about rituals, which are actions performed for their symbolic value, such as tashlich תַּשְׁלִיחַ, and hearing the shofar, and learning about the mezuzah. They learned how Jewish rituals, properly explained and integrated, can infuse our lives with meaning. These students are also increasing their familiarity with Hebrew letters in rotation style learning environments.

### **6th-7th Grades**

#### **Rabbi Bobbie Rosenberg, Arin Simon**

6th graders are familiarizing themselves with prayers as they turn the age of B’nei Mitzvah. 6th and 7th graders have had a chance to transition from Jewish learning framed around Jewish values to complex topics such as the origins of the name Israel for the modern country we know today.

### **8th Grade**

#### **Denika Dwyer, Rabbi Bobbie Rosenberg, Rabbi Michael Shields**

8th graders have been unpacking complex topics pertaining to Jewish people. They bonded with Temple Sinai Youth Group. They are training to assume leadership roles in the classroom as madrichim.

### **9th Grade**

#### **Rabbi Bobbie Rosenberg**

9th graders are discovering a menu of topics they can choose to delve deeply into with the knowledge that they will be creating a class project at the end of the year.

### **Confirmation**

#### **Rabbi Rick Rheins & Rabbi Michael Shields**

Will engage in study of applied Jewish ethics and discussions of issues that impact the modern Jewish experience.

**L'Shalom,**

*Doni*



# SHEILA PURDIN

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



When children put on a firefighter's hat, a teacher's scarf, or a superhero cape, they're entering a world of imagination that helps them grow in countless ways. Pretend dress-up play gives early learners the chance to try on different roles, experiment with new ideas, and practice problem-solving. It's a joyful way to strengthen language, cooperation, creativity, and empathy—all while having fun.



In Jewish tradition, we remind children of b'tzelem Elohim, that every person is created in the image of God.

When children imagine themselves as caregivers, community helpers, or even as parents, they are honoring the many roles people play in the world and learning kavod (respect) for the work of others. Dress-up becomes a way of practicing how to see the dignity in each person's contribution.



These play moments are also a beautiful way to build kehillah (community). Children negotiate who gets which costume, share materials, and work together to tell stories. Through this process they are learning how to listen, compromise, and bring about shalom bayit (peace in our home/classroom). Even the simple act of saying, "You be the doctor, I'll be the nurse," is a step toward understanding collaboration and kindness.



At Temple Sinai Preschool, we celebrate dress-up as more than fun—it is a meaningful tool for nurturing the whole child. When your child comes home and announces, "I was a doctor today!" know that they were exploring empathy, building friendships, and living out Jewish values in a way that is both playful and profound.

*Sheila*  
Sheila Purdin



## TEMPLE SINAI WELCOMES BRYNN TULLY AS YOUTH ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR/FAMILY PROGRAMMING ASSISTANT

Temple Sinai is thrilled to share that Brynn Tully will be joining our team on October 8 as our new Youth Engagement Director/Family Programming Assistant. Brynn brings years of experience in nonprofit leadership, program development, and a lifelong passion for Jewish education. From her time as a Temple Sinai Youth Group leader and Songleader at JCC Ranch Camp to her most recent role with Jewish National Fund-USA, Brynn has dedicated her career to empowering young people through meaningful Jewish experiences. She looks forward to collaborating with families, teens, and children to build community, strengthen Jewish identity, and celebrate the vibrant spirit of Temple Sinai.

At the same time, we extend our gratitude to Jenifer Engel, who has served as Temple Sinai's Youth Coordinator for the past 10 months. Jenifer was instrumental in reestablishing youth programs for all ages. She has recently begun a new role as Senior Legislative Aide for State Representative Kyle Brown (HD-12), where she will support legislative initiatives through bill tracking, policy analysis, and day-to-day office operations.

We wish Jenifer every success in this exciting new chapter and are grateful that she will continue to be a part of the Temple Sinai community.

## TEMPLE SINAI'S SUKKOT PROJECT FOR 5786!

Jessica Sheldon, our new Religious School Art Teacher, recently took on a HUGE COLLABORATIVE project! As a muralist, she drew ELEVEN beautiful images on a 48x48 canvas for each grade to paint together. Each mural will be hung on the outside of the sukkah!! On Sunday, October 5 at Donuts and Decorate, everyone is welcome to come and decorate our sukkah and eat donuts!!



# JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

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

### Temple Sinai's Grief Support Group

#### Fall-Winter Schedule 2025

Temple Sinai's Grief Support Group will renew this fall with our new counselor, Ana Dodson. These sessions are free for Temple Sinai members. RSVP [here](#) (required). The process of grief differs from person to person. We are proud to offer an opportunity for our members to share and learn. Together we will find strength and support.

Our fall-winter schedule is:

Sunday, October 12 at 11:00 AM

Sunday, November 16 at 11:00 AM

Sunday, December 14 at 11:00 AM

Please contact Rabbi Rheins at Temple Sinai if you have any questions.

## MONTHLY

### HEALING SERVICE / VIRTUAL AT 11:00 AM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23 AND NOVEMBER 20

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

**EXPLORING ANCIENT JEWISH LITERATURE:  
APOCRYPHA WITH RABBI RHEINS**  
TUESDAYS AT NOON / VIRTUAL  
**OCTOBER 21, 28**  
**NOVEMBER 4, 11, 18 (ON ZOOM)**

*(Note that there are no classes on Oct. 7 & 14 during the Chaggim)*  
Join Rabbi Rick Rheins as we explore ancient Jewish texts. We are currently reading the Apocrypha literature. "Apocrypha" means "hidden things" and these stories did not make the final canon of the Hebrew Bible. We are currently reading and discussing THE WISDOM OF BEN SIRACH. Ben Sirach was written between 195-180 BCE (about 2,200 years ago). The text is filled with proverbs that provide a fascinating and often inspiring examination of the thoughts and attitudes of our ancestors. Though the Apocrypha literature was not included in the canon of our sacred texts, The Wisdom of Ben Sirach was an enormously influential book and was frequently cited in Rabbinic literature.

**LUNCH AND LEARN**  
COME LEARN, DISCUSS, DEBATE  
AND MEET FRIENDS  
**THURSDAYS**  
**OCTOBER 9\*, 16, 23, 30**  
**NOVEMBER 6, 13, 20**  
AT NOON

Review ethical and moral issues in selected Jewish texts. Discuss 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!**

**\*Lunch & Learn Anniversary Session Under The Sukkah on Thursday, October 9.**

Twenty-one years ago, we started the Lunch & Learn program during the festival of Sukkot. So, weather permitting, we will gather with Rabbi Rheins under Temple Sinai's sukkah, enjoy a delicious brunch, and study together. We'll fulfill the mitzvot of eating under the sukkah, raising the lulav and etrog, and reading passages from the Book of Kohelet. What a lovely way to celebrate Sukkot! Chag Sameach!



## JEWISH WAR VETERANS

The Denver unit of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA meets at Temple Sinai one Sunday morning each month at 9:00 AM. They provide excellent no cost breakfast, guest speakers, camaraderie, and social interaction. Come check them out! For more information call, text or email Don Price at [donpriceusna73@gmail.com](mailto:donpriceusna73@gmail.com) or (443)-995-9055. All are welcome.

The next meeting is on Sunday, October 5 featuring Professor Thomas Kaplan, Louis Singer Endowed Chair in Jewish History. He will be speaking to us on his latest research into the global aspects of the Holocaust.

Save the date for November 2: Professor Thomas Zeiler, Director, International Affairs Program at CU Boulder.

## LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

6:30-8:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY  
**OCTOBER 8, 22**  
**NOVEMBER 5, 19**  
**DECEMBER 3**

To kick off this fall's **Lifelong Jewish Learning** series on October 8, Judy Winnick will introduce us to another unsung Hero of the Holocaust, **Jan Karski (1914-2000)**. His determination to save the Jews of Europe knew no bounds. He is commonly referred to as, "**The Man Who Tried To Stop The Holocaust.**" After hearing his courageous story, you will understand why he was honored with a multitude of awards including an **Honorary Citizen of the State of Israel, A Righteous Among the Nations and the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom**. Elie Wiesel once said, "Thanks to Jan Karski, more than one generation continues to believe in humanity."

# 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 Committee 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:  
Rabbi Rick Rheins, [rabrheins@sinaidenver.org](mailto:rabrheins@sinaidenver.org)  
Rabbi Michael Shields, [rabbishields@sinaidenver.org](mailto: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 and cantors 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 at Temple Sinai.

## 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.

# B'nei Mitzvah Dates Selection Meeting for 2028 Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 11:00 AM

If your child becomes 13 years old or older in 2028, it is time to find a date for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah! **On Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 11:00 AM** we will hand out a list of potential B'nei Mitzvah service dates and discuss details that you will need to know as you begin this exciting journey. At this meeting, each family will receive a Bar/Bat Mitzvah Date Request Form that asks you to list three potential dates. The families are urged to return the Date Request Form by December 30, 2025. At that time, we will do our best to accommodate every family and reserve for you one of your top three choices. We truly look forward to working with you to help your children have a most memorable and meaningful experience. As they become B'nei Mitzvah, their achievement is a simchah, a joy for the entire community. Please feel free to contact either Rabbi Rheins or Rabbi Shields if you have any questions or concerns. We are pleased to begin to help you plan and prepare for your family's blessed simchah!

## ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH CLASS!

If you are interested in becoming an Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah, please contact [Rabbi Rheins](#) or [Rabbi Shields](#). Depending on enrollment, we will begin with a Hebrew refresher course on selected Shabbat mornings this fall. We will then offer classes that review Jewish liturgy and ritual observances. Once the class participants feel ready, we will choose a date for our service and begin preparing to read from a Sefer Torah. This meaningful experience is inspiring for the participants, their loved ones, and the entire community. The exact dates of the classes and service will be determined by those who have expressed interest. So let us know if you want to be a part of this year's class!

## YOU CAN BUILD YOUR OWN SUKKAH!

It is easier (and less expensive) than ever for those interested in building their own sukkah. While there are several different and good companies which will sell you a sukkah building kit, I highly recommend The Sukkah Project because it is a company that produces very affordable kits for making a family sukkah AND it is owned and operated in Grand Junction, Colorado! These popular kits go up in about 2 hours and will provide a real sukkah for your family and friends to enjoy throughout the Festival of Sukkot. It is a fun tradition to visit each other during the Festival, to raise the etrog, shake the lulav, and share a meal in the splendor of a sukkah. For more information, visit [www.sukkot.com](http://www.sukkot.com) or call 844-478-5568 between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. (except Shabbat: Friday sundown to Saturday sundown). This is also a good time to order an etrog and lulav set. You can surf the web for a set.



# B'NEI MITZVAH

## RIGLEY HELLER - OCTOBER 25, 2025

My earliest party memory is my cousin's Bar Mitzvah. I remember being a kid with special glasses, watching him soar above the crowd in a chair. A decade has passed, and now I am that boy, ready to take his place: flying in the chair, reciting the prayers, and carrying the Torah. This Bar Mitzvah is a deeply personal milestone for me. It's a public declaration of my Jewish identity and my desire to be embraced by the community. It also marks my transition into adulthood, signifying that I will now be responsible for my own actions.

For generations, my family has honored this tradition. My grandpa had his Bar Mitzvah, and my dad had his. Now, it's my turn, and I'm waiting anxiously for the moment I read from the Torah. I look forward to the entire experience, but especially to the moment the crowd falls silent and hears my chants. I am excited to reveal my true self and become the young man I have always wanted to be.



## TEIGAN HELLER - OCTOBER 25, 2025

I am honored, not only to celebrate my Bat Mitzvah as a meaningful step in my journey as a Jewish teen, but also to be entrusted by my community to uphold and pass on the traditions that have been carried forward for generations. I am eternally grateful to have a tight-knit community that has assisted me in persevering through the process of a Bat Mitzvah. A Bat Mitzvah for me isn't just about growing older, but rather sustaining my community's traditions that have been written and passed down in the Torah. Primarily, I wish to have a Bat Mitzvah so I can connect more deeply with my ancestors and community through the study of the Torah. Over the years of learning Judaism, I have discovered many lessons; yet the one that stands out most is that the future of our faith rests in the hands of the next generation.

To be able to grow, change, and learn about my religion has altered my perspective by giving me more insight into my soon-to-be-Jewish-adulthood. So, the honest question that I've asked myself over and over is, why do I want a Bat Mitzvah? The answer to that question is simple: I not only want to prove to myself that I can take responsibility so that I feel empowered, but also to have a strong spiritual connection. I am thrilled to share with my community everything I have worked toward, and I am forever grateful for the opportunity to have a Bat Mitzvah. In the end, a Bat Mitzvah is everything to my community and me because it will hold a meaningful value for my entire life.

## OLIVER SNYDER - OCTOBER 25, 2025

Oliver Snyder is the son of Aron and Nina Snyder and the brother of Emma. Oliver attends West Middle School, where he is on the track team and a member of Brain Bowl. In his free time, he enjoys playing video games, cooking delicious meals, and building Lego sets. He is an animal lover who likes spending time with his dog, Milly. For his mitzvah project, he is collecting old blankets and towels for the Foothills Animal Shelter in Golden.



WYATT BENDER BAR MITZVAH OCTOBER 11  
JOSIE TULPER BAT MITZVAH NOVEMBER 8

# BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD



**10.16** THURSDAY, 9:00 AM  
MONTHLY BREAKFAST  
MORNING STORY RESTAURANT

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**10.23** THURSDAY, 7:00 PM  
GOLF AND TAP

---

**10.29** WEDNESDAY, TBD  
MOVIE NIGHT

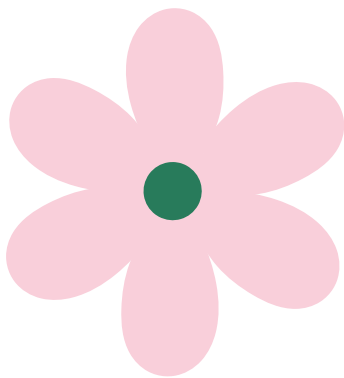
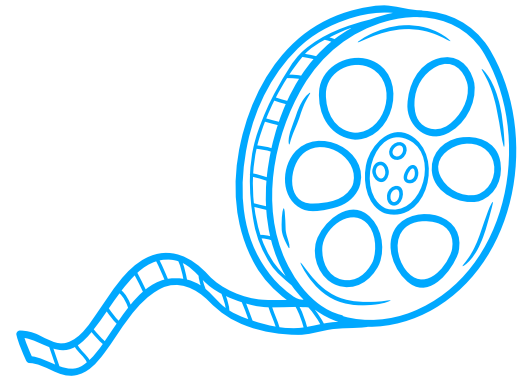
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**11.04** TUESDAY, 6:00 PM  
BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE, & BEERS AT  
DARCY'S BISTRO

---

**11.20** THURSDAY, 9:00 AM  
MONTHLY BREAKFAST  
MORNING STORY RESTAURANT

UPCOMING EVENTS WITH  
**BROTHERHOOD**



UPCOMING EVENTS WITH  
**SISTERHOOD**

**10.8** WEDNESDAY, 1:00 PM  
DROP-IN MAH JONG

---

**10.9** THURSDAY, 5:00 PM  
HAPPY HOUR AT CATIRA

---

**10.12** SUNDAY, TBD  
SINAI SISTERS AT LAIR O' THE BEAR  
PARK

---

**10.14** TUESDAY, 1:15 PM  
LEADERSHIP MEETING

---

**10.22** WEDNESDAY, 1:00 PM  
DROP-IN MAH JONG

---

**10.23** THURSDAY, 6:30 PM  
PINK CHALLAH BAKE

18



Temple Sinai  
Family Engagement



**Yom Kippur Service**

(Ages 0-6)

Thurs. 10/2 @ 8:30am in the MPR

**Camp Yom Kippur**

(Grades K-5)

Thurs. 10/2 @ 8:45am

**Childcare for Yom Kippur**

(15 months and walking-Pre K)

Thurs. 10/2 @ 9:00am

**Intergenerational Yom Kippur Service**

Thurs. 10/2 @ 11:30am

**Donuts and Decorate the Sukkah**

Sun. 10/5 @ 9:00am

*(Open to all Preschool families; All Religious School children will be participating during RS)*

**Pizza in the Hut**

Fri. 10/10 following Erev Shabbat-Sukkot services

**Shabbat and Safari in the Sukkah**

*Rhythm & Ruach Followed by a Petting Zoo!*

Sat. 10/11 @ 9:30am

**Simchat Torah, Consecration & Spaghetti Dinner**

Mon. 10/13 @ 5:15pm

**Meretz and Ruach**

*Sounds Like Science*

Sun. 10/26 @ 12:00pm



**RSVP HERE**



Donuts + Decorate The Sukkah  
Sunday, October 5 | 9:00 am



**SHABBAT AND SAFARI IN THE SUKKAH**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 9:30AM



**SIMCHAT TORAH, CONSECRATION AND SPAGHETTI DINNER**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13 @ 5:00 PM  
TEMPLE SINAI

<https://sinaidenver.org/what-we-do/community-engagement/family-engagement/19>

Questions: Call or email Debbie Foster -  
Debbie@sinaidenver.com - 303.759.1827

# OCTOBER

## adult programming

**Pardes Meditation Group**  
Saturday, October 4 at 8:00 AM

**Jewish War Veterans**  
Sunday, October 5 at 9:00 AM

**Sinai Sisterhood Mah Jongg Drop-In**  
Wednesday, October 8 at 1:00 PM

**Lifelong Jewish Learning**  
Wednesday, October 8 at 6:30 PM

**Sinai Sisterhood Happy Hour at Catira**  
Thursday, October 9 at 5:00 PM

**Pizza in the Hut Sukkot Dinner**  
Friday, October 10 Following  
6:00 PM Services

**Grief Support Group**  
Sunday, October 12 at 11:00 AM

**Simchat Torah, Consecration and  
Spaghetti Dinner**  
Monday, October 13 at 5:15 PM

**Pardes Meditation Group**  
Saturday, October 18 at 8:00 AM

**Sinai Sisterhood Mah Jongg Drop-In**  
Wednesday, October 22 at 1:00 PM

**Lifelong Jewish Learning**  
Wednesday, October 22 at 6:30 PM

**Pink and Teal Challah Bake**  
Thursday, October 23 at 6:30 PM

**Brotherhood Event - Golf and Tap**  
Thursday, October 23 at 7:00 PM

**Pink and Teal Shabbat**  
Friday, October 24 at 6:00 PM

**Brotherhood Movie Night**  
Wednesday, October 29 (Time TBD)

## monthly

**Brotherhood Breakfast at  
Morning Story**  
Thursday, October 16 at 9:00 AM

**Knitting and Crocheting for JOY  
Temple Sinai**  
Wednesday, October 15 at 1:00 PM

## weekly

**Exploring Ancient Jewish  
Literature: Apocrypha with Rabbi  
Rheins**  
Tuesdays at 12:00 PM (virtual)

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

**Zwerin/Kaye Avot Study**  
Saturdays at 10:30 AM (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 !**



# NOVEMBER

## adult programming

**Pardes Meditation Group**  
Saturday, November 1 at 8:00 AM

**Jewish War Veterans**  
Sunday, November 2 at 9:00 AM

**Lifelong Jewish Learning**  
Wednesday, November 5 at 6:30 PM

**Brotherhood Shooting Club**  
Tuesday, November 11 at 11:00 AM

**Sinai Sisterhood Mah Jongg Drop-In**  
Wednesday, November 12 at 1:00 PM

**Veteran's Day Shabbat Service**  
Friday, November 14 at 6:00 PM

**Pardes Meditation Group**  
Saturday, November 15 at 8:00 AM

**Grief Support Group**  
Sunday, November 16 at 11:00 AM

**Action Against Antisemitism: Israel  
Lecture Series**  
Tuesday, November 18 at 7:00 PM

**Lifelong Jewish Learning**  
Wednesday, November 19 at 6:30 PM

**Brotherhood Movie Night**  
Wednesday, November 26 (Time TBD)

**Musical Shabbat**  
Friday, November 21 at 6:00 PM

**Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**  
Sunday, November 23 at 4:00 PM

## monthly

**Brotherhood, Bible, & Beers**  
Tuesday, November 4 at 6:00 PM

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

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

## weekly

**Exploring Ancient Jewish  
Literature: Apocrypha with  
Rabbi Rheins**  
Tuesdays at 12:00 PM (virtual)

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

**Zwerin/Kaye Avot Study**  
Saturdays at 10:30 AM (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 !**



# ADULT EDUCATION: LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING



## FALL/WINTER 2025

- October 8
- October 22
- November 5
- November 19
- December 3

WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM

TEMPLE SINAI  
CHECK YOUR  
EMAIL FOR  
REGISTRATION  
DETAILS.

## DETAILS ON UPCOMING FALL/WINTER PROGRAMS

Temple Sinai's Lifelong Jewish Learning sessions are varied, spanning the gamut from the religious to the secular always featuring a Jewish aspect. Programs are free and open to the public.

### Wednesday, October 8

#### Judy Winnick: Jan Karski, The Man Who Tried to Stop the Holocaust

One of our favorite speakers, Judy Winnick, will give a talk on Jan Karski, who became a courier for the Polish underground movement against the Germans and Soviets. He was captured and tortured by the Nazis at one point, but remained undeterred in his mission. In 1994, he was awarded an Honorary Citizen of the State of Israel, calling it "...the proudest and the most meaningful day in my life..." Judy will bring the character to life in her speech and in her own inimitable way, talk about his impact on world affairs, and why he's still important today.

### Wednesday, October 22

#### Kathryn Bernheimer: Founder of the Boulder Jewish Film Festival and Former Critic for the Boulder Daily Camera

Bernheimer is also author of **The 50 Funniest Films of all Time** and **The 50 Greatest Jewish Movies**. She will bring us her amended "top movie" lists, and discuss Jewish humor in shows and movies today, and how the definition of Jewish humor has changed.

### Wednesday, November 5

#### Adam Rovner: University of Denver professor and Director of the Center for Judaic Studies

One of our favorite speakers will reprise his talk from his non-fiction book **In the Shadow of Zion: Promised Lands Before Israel**, in which he details six obscure places that even Theodor Herzl seriously considered for establishing a Jewish enclave beyond the Middle East. How might this have changed the destiny of the Jewish people in today's world? Rovner will give us his thoughts, along with a look at his new book **The Jew Who Would be King**, a true story about a nineteenth-century British Jew who helped establish the Zulu kingdom and became a ruthless warlord.

### Wednesday, November 19

#### The Return of the Rabbinic Duo: Rabbi Raymond Zwerin and Rabbi Steven Foster

This time around, the rabbis will give their perspectives on the role of the Jewish people at this turbulent moment in American history.

### Wednesday, December 3

Movie Night: TBD

REGISTER  
HERE



# TEMPLE SINAI YOUTH GROUPS

SAVE THE DATES!



**Meretz & Ruach 2025-26**  
**Grades K-5**  
**Sundays, 12:00-1:30pm**

- October 26
- November 9
- December 14

Lunch is included

Program details will be  
announced at the  
High Holy Days



**Junior Youth Group 2025-26**  
**Grades 6-8**  
**Sunday, 1:00-3:00pm**

- November 2- Ice Skating



**Youth Group 2025-26**  
**Grades 9-12**  
**6:00pm**

- September 10- Ice cream Social at Coldstone
- October 29- Movie Night
- December 10- Escape Room

Follow us on  
social media!



[facebook.com/SinaiDenver](https://facebook.com/SinaiDenver)  
[facebook.com/SinaiDenverRS](https://facebook.com/SinaiDenverRS)  
[instagram.com/temple\\_sinai](https://instagram.com/temple_sinai)



check your inboxes for more program details and registration information

**Meretz & Ruach Presents**

'Sounds Like Science'

Pizza Lunch will be served

Sunday, October 26 | 12:00-1:30 pm | \$10 Per Child | Sign Up Here | Grades K-5

sign up here!

**Everyone Belongs. Everyone Matters.**



The mission of the Temple Sinai Engagement Committee is to connect with every individual, member or visitor and help them feel truly part of our community. We strive to create a welcoming environment where people of all backgrounds, life stages, and experiences know they are valued and cared for. Our work includes reaching out to new members, staying connected with longtime members, engaging families and individuals, and ensuring that everyone has opportunities to learn, celebrate, and build meaningful relationships. Through these efforts, we nurture a vibrant and inclusive community—today and for the future.

If you would like to join the Engagement Committee, please speak to Debbie Foster at [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto:debbie@sinaidenver.org) or Phyllis Nalick at [phyl0735@gmail.com](mailto:phyl0735@gmail.com).

  
**ACTION**  
**AGAINST**  
**ANTISEMITISM**

**We Want to Hear From You**  
**Please take our brief survey.**

Temple Sinai's Action Against Antisemitism Committee has provided several programs for our congregation. As we move forward, we want to ensure that our future efforts best support our community in today's environment of increased antisemitism.

Please take a few moments to respond to the brief survey below and share what matters most to you. Each member of your household is welcome to answer individually.



**When We Speak Together, We Are Heard**

*Sinai Sisterhood*  
**Golda Meir**  
house tour

Sunday, October 19th

**10:15 am-** Meet at Temple Sinai

**11:00 am-12:00 pm-** Golda Meir House tour followed  
by an optional lunch

We are collecting \$10 from each participant to donate  
to the Golda Meir house.

**There is a max of 20 participants so please sign up soon!**

*If you wish to meet us there, park at Holly Parking, 800 Curtis. (\$7.25)*



**RSVP HERE**

# Join us to learn more about Autism.



## Our Autism 101 event is coming to your neighborhood.

If you'd like to learn more about Autism, or you or a family member have recently been diagnosed, join our community gathering. **This is a two-part series.**

**Tuesday, October 21, 2025 AND Tuesday, October 28, 2025**

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Temple Sinai

3509 S Glencoe Street Denver, CO 80237

### What we'll cover:

- What Autism is, and is not
- Support strategies
- How to begin advocating for your child
- Building community
- Tips to make life a little easier to navigate

**Register now:**

<https://bit.ly/3IcEYgR>



### Did you know?

- **1 in 31 children** are diagnosed with Autism by the age of 8.
- Autism affects **ALL** ethnic and socioeconomic groups.



TEMPLE SINAI  
PRESENTS

# The Pink and Teal Challah Bake



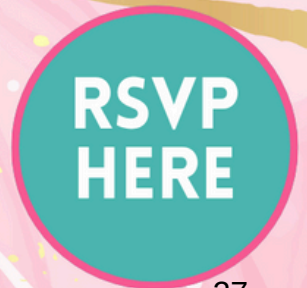
Join Temple Sinai, Sharsheret and BRCA  
for a night of Cooking, Connection and Learning.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23**  
**6:30-8:30PM**

**\$18.00 PER PERSON**



@ **TEMPLE SINAI**  
3509 S GLENCOE ST,  
DENVER, CO 80237



SHARSHERET



**BRCA**  
Bringing Radical Cancer Awareness  
to our Jewish community

# TEMPLE SINAI BOOK CLUB

October 29, 2025: **The Hebrew Teacher** by Maya Arad,  
translated by Jessica Cohen (F)

November 19, 2025\*: **The New American Antisemitism: The Left, The Right, and the Jews** by Benjamin Ginsberg (NF)

December 17, 2025\*: **Confidential** by Mikolaj Grynberg,  
translated by Sean Gasper Bue (F)

January 28, 2026: **Jewish Space Lasers: The Rothschilds and 200 Years of Conspiracy Theories** by Mike Rothschild (NF)

February 25, 2026: **The Thinking Heart: On Israel and Palestine** by David Grossman (NF)

March 25, 2026: **Kissing Girls on Shabbat** by Sara Glass (M)

April 29, 2026: **Scrolls of Deborah** by Ester Goldenberg (F)

May 27, 2026: **The Wolf Hunt** by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen (F)

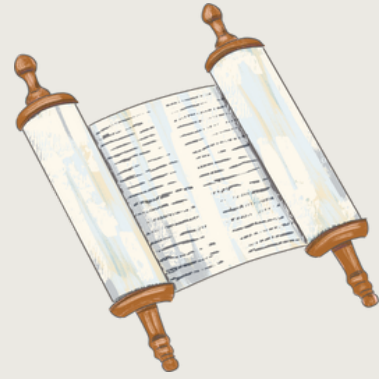
June 24, 2026: Choose Book Selections for 2026-27!

**BOOK GROUP MEETS LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE  
MONTH UNLESS INDICATED BY \***

**11:00 AM-12:30 PM**  
**TEMPLE SINAI**

**OPEN  
TO ALL!**

# SELECT YOUR TORAH VERSES



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 9:30AM-12:00PM

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You're invited to a **special Shabbaton** at which those students who become B'nei Mitzvah in 2026 and 2027 will be able to **select their own Torah verses** with Rabbi Rheins, Rabbi Shields, and other rabbis and teachers.

This program begins at 9:30 AM with a model Shabbat service facilitated by Rabbi Rheins. At 10:30 AM, you will meet with our Sinai clergy and some of our teachers to review the options for your respective Torah portion. Each student will then have the opportunity to select the exact verses of their Torah portions.

We will have plenty of time for questions and answers regarding the Mitzvah process at Temple Sinai.

If your child becomes 13 in 2027 (or 2026) and does not yet have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date, fill out the following [Date Request Form](#) and return to [jessica@sinaidenver.org](mailto:jessica@sinaidenver.org).

We look forward to seeing you here soon! Please reach out to our clergy with additional questions.

# **B'nei Mitzvah Date Request Info Session 2027-2028**

**Sunday,  
November  
2**

**11:00am-12:00pm  
Temple Sinai**

Do you have a child who will be turning 13 in 2027 or 2028? This is an opportunity to get some general information, ask the rabbis any questions, and receive the form you will need to fill out to request your date.

Date requests are due by Tuesday, December 30, 2025 at which time the rabbis will review and assign dates.



## 58th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Fifty-eight years ago, when Temple Sinai was just beginning, our friends at First Plymouth UCC shared their building with us and gave us a home. That spirit of goodwill, generosity, and cooperation has continued throughout our more than five decades of friendship. In light of our shared history, how appropriate it is for members of our two congregations to join before Thanksgiving for a brief but meaningful service to express our appreciation to God for the goodness and bounty that bless our nation and its citizens.

This year, the service will be held at Temple Sinai on Sunday, November 23 at 4:00PM. It will include inspiring music and prayers by our clergy and adult choir along with First Plymouth's religious leaders and choir. After the service, we will enjoy a lovely dessert. This brief but meaningful and musical service creates a perfect mood for our Thanksgiving. Donations will be collected to benefit the local food banks and homeless shelters. Please consider beginning your observance of Thanksgiving with this wonderful interfaith service.

### Sunday, November 23 4:00pm



# Kugel Cookoff Winners

## Broccoli and Noodle Kugel



### Ingredients:

- 8 oz noodles cooked and drained
- 20 oz chopped broccoli cooked and drained
- 12 oz mexican blend shredded cheese
- 1 can Cream of Mushroom soup
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/4 teaspoon salt pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika



### Instructions:

Mix the noodles, broccoli, Cream of Mushroom soup, milk, salt, pepper, and paprika together in a bowl. Place the mixture in a 2 quart shallow baking dish and put cheese on top. Bake at 350 degrees until a knife comes out clean. Serves 6-8 people.



# Pineapple Kugel



## Ingredients:

- 1 lb broad noodles
- 1 1/2 sticks butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 can large crushed pineapple, drained



## Instructions:

Cook noodles for 1/2 hour in salted boiling water.

Melt butter, let cool.

Drain the pineapple (do not use the juice, let someone enjoy drinking it!). Beat eggs and combine with sugar, butter, pineapple.

Rinse and drain the noodles.

Combine noodles with other ingredients.

Pour all into a buttered 10 x 14" pan.

Bake at 400° F for 1/2 hour; reduce temperature to 350° and continue to bake for another 1/2 hour.

Notes: When made in August 2025, I used a glass pan. After 10 minutes in the oven, the pan exploded, leaving glass and noodles and other ingredients all over the oven. I recommend using a disposable aluminum pan!

# Mac & Cheese Kugel



## Ingredients:

For the base kugel

- Cooking spray for dish
- 18 oz wide egg noodles
- 6 large eggs
- 8 oz mild Cheddar, shredded
- 4oz Velveeta or American cheese, cubed, shredded, or cut into small pieces
- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) unsalted butter
- 1 cup sour cream

For the topping

- 1 cup buttery crackers, such as Ritz
- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan

## Instructions:

1. Make the base kugel: Preheat the oven to 350° F. Spray a 9x13 in baking dish with cooking spray.
2. Boil the noodles in a large pot of salted water according to the package directions, around 5 minutes. Drain the noodles.
3. While the noodles are cooking, place the eggs, Cheddar, Velveeta, butter, and sour cream in a large bowl and mix. Add the hot, drained noodles to the bowl and mix until everything is combined.
4. Pour the noodles into the prepared baking dish.
5. Make the topping: Combine the cracker crumbs, melted butter, and Parmesan in a small bowl.
6. Sprinkle the top of the kugel evenly with the cracker mixture.
7. Bake for 35-40 minutes, until golden on top.
8. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly before cutting into squares for serving.



# A Home for your Jewish Journey!

[www.sinaidenver.org](http://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](mailto:brotherhood@sinaidenver.org).



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 am-12:30 pm. Contact Donna Zucker, [donnadzucker@gmail.com](mailto:donnadzucker@gmail.com).



CARING COMMUNITY  
TEMPLE SINAI

This group works together to reach out to our congregants with new member welcome, new baby, get well and condolence baskets. They reach out in many other ways via cards and calls. Contact Nancy Eisenberg, [neisenberg314@gmail.com](mailto: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, [janerobbins.cpa@gmail.com](mailto:janerobbins.cpa@gmail.com).



Dedicated to building relationships, the Engagement Committee creates opportunities for belonging, connection, and meaningful participation. Contact Phyllis Nalick at [phyl0735@gmail.com](mailto:phyl0735@gmail.com) or Debbie Foster [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto:debbie@sinaidenver.org).

## 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 Snider, [jws76033@gmail.com](mailto:jws76033@gmail.com).



"Volunteers on Demand" are congregants interested in helping with various Sinai programs. Contact Debbie Foster, Director of Engagement and Programming, [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto:debbie@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](mailto: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, Director of Engagement and Programming, [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto:debbie@sinaidenver.org).



Social events for our members in the 50+ demographic. Contact Debbie Foster at [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto:debbie@sinaidenver.org).

## ACTION AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

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](mailto: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](mailto:martymeitus@gmail.com).



Our lay-led meditation group meets on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 8:00 am for 50 minutes of contemplative practice. All levels are welcome.



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](mailto:shana@sinaidenver.org).



If you are a lover of music join Temple Sinai's Adult Choir. We sing at High Holy Days services and Musical Shabbatot throughout the year. Contact Choir Director Matthew Eschliman, [matthew.eschliman@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.eschliman@gmail.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 Education, Sheila Purdin at [sheila@sinaidenver.org](mailto:sheila@sinaidenver.org). If you would like to be involved as a parent, contact [pto@sinaidenver.org](mailto: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](mailto:doni@sinaidenver.org). If you would like to be involved as a parent, contact [kathymzeiger26@gmail.com](mailto: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 Debbie Foster, Director of Engagement and Programming, [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto: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, Director of Engagement and Programming, [debbie@sinaidenver.org](mailto:debbie@sinaidenver.org).



Youth Choir is a time for the Songbirds to share their voice at Shabbat services once a month. Contact Cantorial Soloist, Ruthie Lipshulch, [ruthie@sinaidenver.org](mailto: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 Brynn Tully, Youth Engagement Director/Family Programming Assistant, [brynn@sinaidenver.org](mailto:brynn@sinaidenver.org).



Junior Youth Group is the ultimate destination for middle-schoolers seeking fun and community. Contact Brynn Tully, Youth Engagement Director/Family Programming Assistant, [brynn@sinaidenver.org](mailto:brynn@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 Brynn Tully, Youth Engagement Director/Family Programming Assistant, [brynn@sinaidenver.org](mailto:brynn@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 12:00 PM-1:00 PM for a conversation about texts, tradition, and current events that impact Jews, Israel and the world.



# TEMPLE SINAI IS HIRING

## TEMPLE SINAI IS HIRING!

Temple Sinai is hiring a Director of Development.

If you or anyone you know might be interested, please have them contact

[Lisa Thorner](#), Executive Director, 303-759-1827.

The job descriptions can be found below. We are excited for the opportunity to bring someone enthusiastic onto our passionate and dedicated team!

[CLICK HERE](#)  
[FOR DEVELOPMENT](#)

## IN MEMORIAM

- **Clara Jean Pulitzer Berry**, mother of Patricia (Tom) Pierce, grandmother of Lilly and Madeline
- **Alan Stanley Eber**, father of Judie (Alan) Sherin, Samuel Eber, and Jennifer Eber, brother of the late Richard "Dick" Eber, uncle of Rob (Leslie) Eber
- **Richard C. Leventhal, PhD**, father of Hannah Leventhal and Jared Leventhal, brother of the late Gerald H. (Judith) Leventhal, former husband of Lynn M. Leventhal
- **Amy Newman**, sister of Jim (Sharon) Newman

*Zikhranam Livrakhah, may they be remembered for a blessing.*





## Alan Bee Farber Memorial Camp Fund

*FROM FIRST CAMP TO LIFELONG JEWISH CONNECTION*

This fund was created by the Farber/Spanbauer family in memory of our beloved brother and son, Alan Bee Farber. Growing up, our family didn't have much in the way of money, but our parents were determined to give us a life rich in experiences, values, and community. One of the most cherished parts of that life was Jewish summer camp. Through scholarships, Alan and Lori were able to attend sleepaway camp, where they learned and lived Jewish values – Tikkun Olam: Repairing the World, Chesed: Lovingkindness, and Talmud Torah: Lifelong Learning – while building deep friendships and enjoying the beauty of the great outdoors.

Alan passed away in 1987 at the age of 30. In his honor, we established this fund to “pay it forward” – to help children who might not otherwise have the means to attend Jewish camp, so they too can experience the magic we knew so well.

### 2026 Camp Season Scholarship

- Applications will open early Fall 2025
- Scholarships are for children who otherwise would not be able to afford Jewish sleep away camp.
- Funds are awarded to first time campers *only*.
- All scholarships are need based and in alignment with the *Alan Bee* core values of *Tikkun Olam, Chesed, and Talmud Torah*

Let's Bee in touch...



# 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!

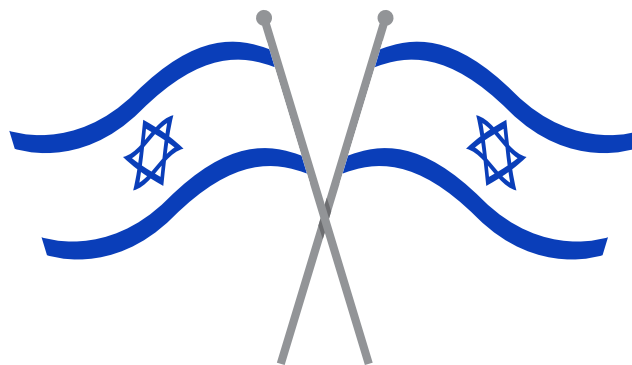
## **THE JEFFREY O. ROSENBERG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

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.



**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)**

# 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:

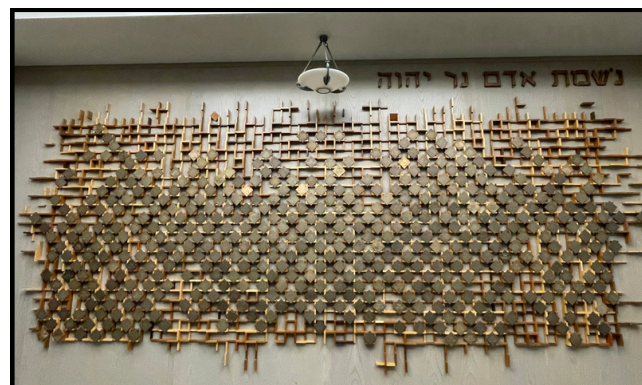
## BRICK-BY-BRICK PROJECT

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.



**ARNOLD L. GREENBERG  
MEMORIAL FUND FOR  
INTERFAITH DIALOGUE  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Steven Fishbein  
Goldie Fishbein

**CANTORIAL FUND  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Sharon K. Birnbaum  
Edward & Debby Rosenfeld

**CANTORIAL SOLOIST RUTHIE  
LIPSHULCH DISCRETIONARY  
FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Marjorie Sovel Goldberg  
Edward & Debby Rosenfeld

**COHEN FAMILY B'NEI  
MITZVAH CHUMASH FUND  
IN HONOR OF:**

Jeff and Jay Cohen's 70th  
Birthday  
Michael & Keren Kark

**DANIEL A. LIPSON MEMORIAL  
IST SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Steve Miles  
Hugh & Marcia Miles

**ILENE SHIROFF MEMORIAL  
FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Herbert H. Vean  
Wendy Vean

**JULIUS & HELEN RING IST  
FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Alfred Abraham Simson and  
Laurena Van De Polder  
Jean Guthery

**MARILYN TOBIN MEMORIAL  
FLOWER FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Dolores Tobin, Lottie Tobin, and  
Eli Wolf  
Marshall & Carol Tobin

**IN HONOR OF:**

Lauren Mielziner and Rabbis  
Rick and Susan Rheins's  
Anniversary  
Marshall & Carol Tobin

**OSI & SELMA SLADEK  
CULTURAL ARTS / MUSIC  
FUND**

**DONORS:**

Oscar & Selma Sladek

**PRESCHOOL UNDERWRITING  
FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Sharon K. Birnbaum  
Jerry & Joan Kirshenbaum  
Marc & Susan Reissner

**RABBI RICHARD RHEINS  
DISCRETIONARY FUND  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Marsha Alpert  
Jon & Sheryl Goodman  
Debra Herz  
Russell Kelce & Cynthia Hilb  
Yvette Trachtenberg  
Sharon K. Birnbaum and  
Marjorie Sovel Goldberg  
Art & Terry Heller  
Phyllis Goodman  
Russell Kelce & Cynthia Hilb  
Ryan Goodman  
Russell Kelce & Cynthia Hilb  
Gary & Debbie Mandelbaum  
Terry Kirschner  
Donald & Ricky Safer  
Abraham Lassow  
Gerald & Natalie Lassow  
Eric Nadel and Scott Nadel  
Peter & Sally Nadel  
Theodor "Bud" Rittenberg  
The Rittenberg Family  
Dorothy Robins and Kenneth  
Robins  
Judy Robins  
Urban Wakefield  
Dana & Pamela Wakefield

**IN HONOR OF:**

Shalev Family  
Monica Rosenfeld

**DONORS:**

Anonymous  
David & Ronnie Hauptman

**ROBIN'S WORLD  
PLAYGROUND FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Sigmund Lazarus  
Jeremy & Debbie Lazarus

**TEMPLE SINAI GENERAL  
FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Marsha Alpert  
Sebastian & Tula Caputto  
Cameron Marcotte  
Westfield Company, Inc.  
Phyllis Goodman  
Teri Carnahan  
Mark & Susie Linkow  
Howard & Jill Snyder  
Gecel Karp and Sarah Lazarus  
Jeremy & Debbie Lazarus  
Pearle Rae Kortz Levey  
Steven & Jo Ellen Cohen  
GHP Investment Advisors  
Sara Jane Epstein  
Joyce Oberfeld  
Fannie Smith  
Alicia Smith  
Shirley Sorkin  
Marc & Laurie Sorkin

**DONOR:**

Lynne Friedman-Severe

**WE CARE/SOCIAL ACTION  
FUND**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Renee Cohn-Karpel  
Grace Bach  
Hilda Newirth  
Gerald & Natalie Lassow

**IN HONOR OF:**

Jim and Mimi Barnard's  
birthdays  
Grace Bach  
David Applebaum & Wendy  
Glasser's wedding  
Gerald & Natalie Lassow

# STAFF AND BOARD

## SINAI STAFF:

### **RICHARD RHEINS**

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### **MICHAEL SHIELDS**

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### **RUTHIE LIPSHULCH**

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### **RAYMOND ZWERIN**

Rabbi Emeritus  
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### **LOGAN WILLIAMS**

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President - **STEPHANIE PODOLAK**

Vice President - **ROB EBER**

Vice President - **KATHY ZEIGER**

Vice President - **MARSHALL TOBIN**

Treasurer - **PHYLLIS BABICH**

Secretary - **ANA KOSER**

Past President - **DAVID EISNER**

## TRUSTEES:

**JEANETTE AMAYO**

**AL BLUM**

**AMANDA BROOKS**

**REID GOODMAN**

**JEAN GUTHERY**

**REBECCA HEA-WILSON**

**JERRY LASSOW**

**ADAM MELNICK**

**RACHAEL NARCISI**

**TAMARA SIEGEL**

**JOHN SPANBAUER**

**JIM STONE**

**MELANIE WISEMAN 42**

**EMILY YATES**

# KEEP UP WITH TEMPLE SINAI



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