

TEMPLE SINAI

OCTOBER 2026
TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5787

KESHER

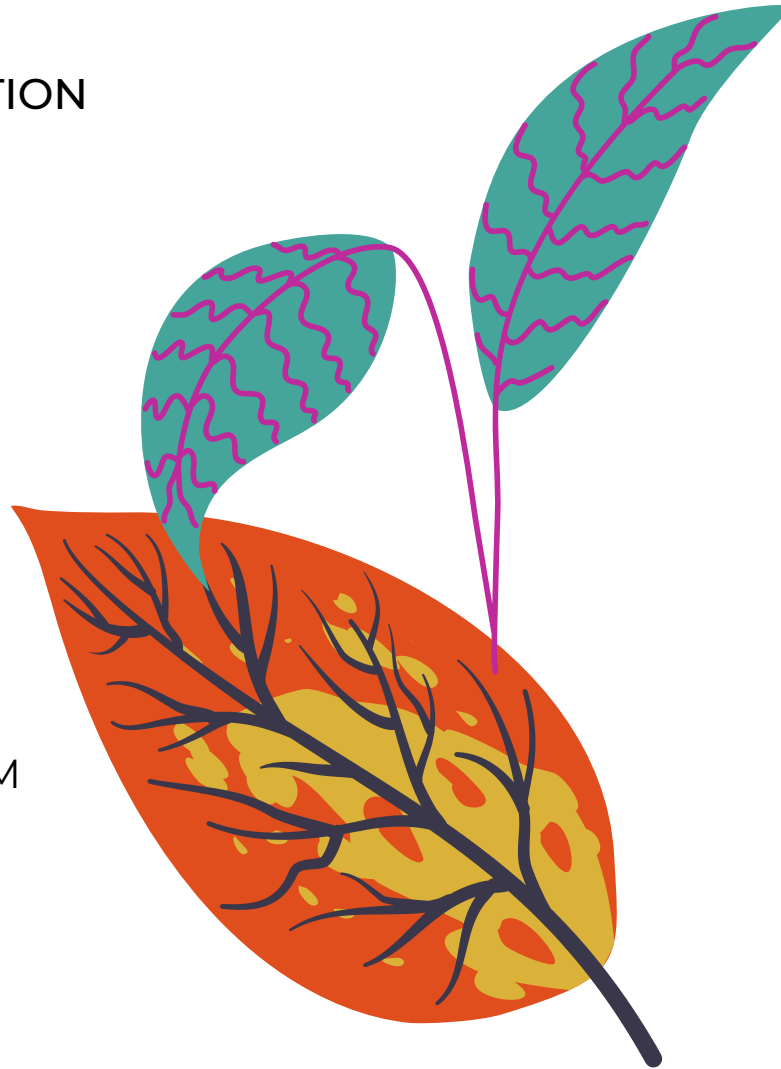


RUACH AT THE RANCH
WITH RICK RECHT



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A TIME TO SPEAK

RABBI RICK RHEINS

October is ushered in with the concluding days of Sukkot, the Festival of Booths. On Sukkot we read the extraordinary Book of Kohelet, a book of Jewish wisdom that may have been written by King Solomon about 2,900 years ago. In Kohelet's third chapter it is written:

A season is set for everything, a time for every experience under heaven:

A time for being born and a time for dying,

A time for planting and a time for uprooting the planted,

A time for slaying and a time for healing,

A time for tearing down and a time for building up,

A time for weeping and a time for laughing,

A time for wailing and a time for dancing,

A time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones,

A time for embracing and a time for shunning embraces,

A time for seeking and a time for losing,

A time for keeping and a time for discarding,

A time for tearing and a time for sewing,

A time for silence and a time for speaking.

Those of us of a certain age will recognize those words in the classic song by the 60s band, The Birds. The haunting message transcends time. As each season reflects a different experience under heaven, so does every age face the challenges of its time. In our day and time, the challenge continues to be the defense of Judaism, the Jewish people, and our ancestral homeland of Israel. Indeed, this is not a time for silence. Rather, we must speak up and share our voices in support of our Jewish family here in America and in Israel. In October, we will have two important opportunities to learn how to share our support.

The first opportunity will be on Monday, October 5, as many of us will join with our Christian friends for a special program to commemorate the 3rd anniversary of the murderous attack by Palestinian Hamas terrorists against Israel. This interfaith program will be held at the Resurrection Anglican Church on Bellevue Avenue in Greenwood Village 7:00 PM. I will present the principal remarks and there will be representatives from most of the major synagogues and Jewish organizations, as well as local churches.

This is the church that proudly and bravely flies Israeli flags along with the American flag. Their strong stance of support is so uplifting in these days of growing antisemitism and anti-Zionism. What makes this event especially significant is the leadership of our Christian friends. They, too, are speaking up, courageously raising their voices in support of Israel and the Jewish people. While the rise of antisemitism may cause some to lower their heads and soften their voices to avoid attention, it is heartening to know that many of our Christian neighbors and friends are standing strongly with us.

All are also urged to join us at Temple Sinai as we host the internationally influential Rachel Lester. She tirelessly represented Israel while serving the IDF throughout the war against Hamas. Her media feeds helped inform us during our most difficult times. When so many in the media only told the propaganda fed to them by Hamas and others who sought the destruction of Israel, Rachel's reports brought the clarity of facts and truth. She movingly tells her story in her new book, *Digital Warrior; Inside Israel's Battle for the Narrative After October 7*. Her work is inspiring. And now, we will have the opportunity to hear Rachel speak at Temple Sinai on Wednesday, October 21 at 7:00 PM (see later in this Keshet for signup information).

Rachel's message is candid. She offers fair criticism of how Israel conveyed its message during the war. She also offers us poignant advice for how we can better share our message and concerns here in the United States. This promises to be an inspiring evening, and I especially encourage parents and grandparents to bring children who are 10 and older to hear Rachel. She is a young, computer-savvy expert, born and raised in Los Angeles. She has a gift for connecting with young people and those of all ages.

Yes, now is the time to speak up. Now is the time to learn how to share our thoughts, concerns, and love for the Jewish people and Israel!

B'rakhah, With Blessings,

Rabbi Richard S. Rheins

Rabbi Rick Rheins



WHY ARE THESE SERVICES DIFFERENT THAN ALL OTHERS?

RABBI MICHAEL SHIELDS

On Yom Kippur, we heard some of the Torah's most powerful words: *Atem nitzavim hayom kulchem lifnei Adonai Eloheichem*. "You are standing this day, all of you, before the Eternal your God." Kulchem. All of you. I challenged our community to think about what it means not simply to belong to Temple Sinai, but to stand together and build Temple Sinai. Judaism cannot be sustained by spectators. Everyone can stand somewhere. Everyone can carry something. Everyone can help build.

But now the High Holy Days are ending, and perhaps the real test of *Atem nitzavim hayom* begins. It is relatively easy to stand together on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. But what happens next? What if the High Holy Days were not the culmination of our Jewish year, but the beginning of a revival of Jewish joy?

Judaism does not send us home after Yom Kippur. It sends us outside. On Sukkot, we build and gather beneath the fragile roof of the sukkah. We celebrate the harvest, eat together, welcome guests, and remember that our strength comes from the people gathered within. On Sukkot, we gather. We harvest. We give thanks.

And then comes Simchat Torah. On Simchat Torah, we dance. We take the Torah from the ark and carry it into the congregation. We sing. We dance. We place Torah into one another's arms. And when we reach its final words, we refuse to let the story end. We begin again: *Bereishit bara Elohim*. "In the beginning..."

There is something particularly powerful about that ritual now. We cannot celebrate Simchat Torah without remembering October 7, 2023, a Simchat Torah morning when terrorists attacked Israel, murdering, wounding, and kidnapping Jews and others. A day meant for Jewish dancing became a day of Jewish mourning. We will carry that memory with us for generations. But we cannot allow those who hate Jews to determine what it means to be Jewish.

Our Judaism cannot be only what we defend. It must be what we live. And so, this Simchat Torah, we dance. We dance not because we have forgotten October 7, but because we remember. We dance because Jewish joy is itself an act of resilience.

We dance because our children need to know that Judaism is not primarily the story of those who hated us. It is the story of a people who love Torah, celebrate Shabbat, gather around tables, sing ancient melodies, ask impossible questions, care for one another, and keep finding reasons to rejoice.

Our children need Jewish memories. They need melodies they recognize and holidays they anticipate. They need adults in this congregation who know their names. And they need to see that the adults in their lives do not merely say Judaism matters. They need to see us make time for it.

So I want to offer a challenge as we leave the High Holy Days behind: Keep showing up. Let this be a year of renewed Jewish engagement and renewed Jewish joy at Temple Sinai. Come dance with us on Simchat Torah. Come back for Shabbat when there is no major holiday on the calendar. Learn something. Sing something. Bring your children, your grandchildren, and your friends. Sit beside someone you do not know. Show up when someone is celebrating and when someone is grieving. You do not have to do everything. But do something. And then do it again. Jewish continuity has never been created through a handful of extraordinary days. It is built through ordinary moments, week after week, season after season, year after year. Someone shows up. Someone teaches. Someone sings. Someone welcomes. Someone decides that this community matters.

Perhaps that is our answer to this moment. Hate tries to make us afraid to be Jewish. We will become more deeply Jewish. Hate tries to isolate us. We will gather. Hate tries to rob us of joy. We will dance. And when the dancing ends, we will roll the Torah back to the beginning and start again.

Atem nitzavim hayom kulchem. We are standing here today, all of us. The question is whether we will still be standing together tomorrow. This year, let us answer with our feet. We will gather. We will harvest. We will sing. We will learn. We will dance. We will show up. And together, we will begin again.


Rabbi Michael Shields



FAMILY LEARNING AT TEMPLE SINAI

RABBI JORDAN SHANER

DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

Temple Sinai Religious School has had an amazing start to the year! We learned about the Shofar; we created tiles for a “*sulam no’ar*,” staircase of youth, for the Appel Family Youth and Community Lounge; we celebrated Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur together in our Machaneh camp; and we had lots of fun. As we turn to October, we are excited to really dig in to learn some amazing things together, with our peers, certainly, but also, with our families. Each class this year will participate in one session of Mishpachat Sinai, our family learning program. **Please be prepared to attend WITH your student** on the day scheduled for their class, for some hands-on, interactive, deep Jewish learning as a family. This year’s theme is telling the Jewish story, especially through the Passover seder. The dates for Mishpachat Sinai are listed on the right!

In addition to Mishpachat Sinai, we are holding three sessions this fall for our students and families in grades 5 and 6. These classes are our **B’nei Mitzvah Bootcamp!** The goal is to prepare our older students as they approach the time when they will join the community of Jewish adults as B’nei Mitzvah. Over three sessions on **October 18 and 25, and November 1**, we will explore together what it means to become B’nei Mitzvah, what to expect in the preparation for that simcha, and how this rite of passage marks the beginning, and not a graduation from, a lifetime of Jewish learning, living, and belonging. Parents will also have a chance to learn a bit about the process and what to expect as they guide their students through it. Everything from booking a date and planning a celebration to helping your student find a tutor, complete a Mitzvah Project, and take pride in themselves on the big day. In addition to our regular grade 5 and 6 teachers, our clergy and some of our B’nei Mitzvah tutors will be there to participate. We hope you will put these dates on your calendar and join us!

Rabbi Jordan Shaner

Dates for Family Learning

Mishpachat Sinai (all grades):

- Pre-K:** October 4
- K:** November 8
- 1:** November 22
- 2:** January 31
- 3:** February 21
- 4:** March 28
- 5:** April 4
- 6:** January 10
- 7:** December 6
- 8:** March 7

B’nei Mitzvah Bootcamp (Grades 5/6):

- October 18:** What to Expect
- October 25:** 22 Mystical Magical Letters
- November 1:** Mitzvah Managed



WHO ARE THE SINAI SONGBIRDS?

RUTHIE LIPSHULCH

CANTORIAL SOLOIST

The Sinai Songbirds are a youth choir for **grades K-5!** Have an older kiddo who loves to sing? They can join us as a **Songbird Ambassador!**

Together, we sing **fun, engaging Jewish music that brings our traditions to life.** Songbirds have the opportunity to build confidence, make friends, connect with Judaism, learn through the music, and **find their true voice.**

We believe **every voice matters** and that music has the power to bring our community together.

Come sing, grow, and shine with the Sinai Songbirds!

Rehearsals are on Sundays at 10:00 AM in the Music Room with Ruthie!

DON'T MISS OUR FIRST PERFORMANCE!

Join us on **October 16 before Pink & Teal Shabbat** and cheer on our Songbirds as they sing for the first time this season!

Questions? Interested in volunteering? Please email Ruthie@SinaiDenver.org

Happy Singing! 🎵

Ruthie



Does your kiddo love singing our prayers and learning through music?

If you're interested in learning more about the Sinai Songbirds fill out this form:

[CLICK HERE](#)



OCTOBER IS BREAST AND OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

DEBBIE FOSTER

DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT AND PROGRAMMING

As a Breast Cancer survivor and a Challah Lover, I'd love you to join me on **Thursday, October 15** from **6:30-8:30 PM** for our second annual **Pink & Teal Challah Bake**, in partnership with [Sharsheret](#) & [BRCA](#).

While our challah dough rises, we will gather to learn about these critical organizations who save so many lives.



 **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 15
6:30-8:30 PM
\$18.00 PER PERSON

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



TEMPLE SINAI
PRESENTS

Pink and Teal SHABBAT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
6:00 PM

Join Temple Sinai, Sharsheret and the BRCA Initiative for Erev Shabbat. Learn about how both men and women can access a no cost hereditary cancer genetic test to protect yourself from a cancer diagnosis. We will hear a first hand account of someone's breast cancer story.



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

 *Debbie*



NEW FUNDS AT TEMPLE SINAI AND CHAI-5 IS UNDERWAY!

MONA SPITZ DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Temple Sinai is excited to announce the establishment of two new funds and the launch of the fourth annual Chai-5 Appeal.

Mossman-Hammerman L'Dor V'Dor Fund

Thanks to a generous gift from the Mossman-Hammerman family, Temple Sinai is pleased to announce the creation of the L'Dor V'Dor Fund. The fund helps families with young children obtain baby and toddler supplies and clothing and provides support for multigenerational programming at Temple Sinai.

Congregant Lexi Hammerman shares her inspiration for the fund's creation: *This fund reflects the values I witnessed and learned from my grandparents and parents throughout my life. My grandmother started a food pantry in Florida, my grandfather helped build the JCC campus in Nashville, and my mother has donated ambulances in Israel to save lives. Their examples taught me that giving is not only a Jewish value, it is a responsibility we carry from one generation to the next. Through the L'Dor V'Dor Fund, I hope to support and inspire the next generation and continue a legacy of giving.*

The fund also supports multigenerational activities at Temple Sinai including holiday celebrations, meetups and special events for grandparents. These programs will bring the generations together to celebrate, learn from each other and deepen their ties to Judaism.

Miriam Project Fund

The Miriam Project Fund was established by longtime congregants Hanna and Mark Shaner in loving memory of Hanna's mother, Miriam Nahmouli Hoffman. The fund supports adult education, including speaker fees, classes, workshops or programs on a variety of Jewish topics.

According to Hanna: *My mother grew up at a time when educational opportunities for a Greek Jewish girl were limited. She came to America with her family to study psychology at CU, but she was unable to fulfill that dream as she married and started a family shortly after arriving in Denver. Despite this, her passion for learning, especially about Judaism, never waned. Mark and I feel truly blessed to honor her memory by supporting Jewish learning.*

The first Miriam Project Lecture will take place in spring 2027 and will be a part of Temple Sinai's 60th Anniversary programming.

We extend our deep appreciation to Linda and Michael Mossman, Lexi and Adam Hammerman, and Hanna and

Mark Shaner for establishing the new funds. We also thank our other generous donors who have created their own funds that benefit the Temple Sinai community. A full list can be found [here](#). If you'd like to learn about creating a fund at Temple Sinai, please contact Mona Spitz at mona@sinaidenver.org or 303-759-1827.

Chai-5! to Temple Sinai's 60th

From now through Chanukah, congregants can support Temple Sinai by participating in the fourth annual Chai-5 Appeal. This year's Chai-5 also provides a great way to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. You can decide where to direct your gift among this year's five priorities or support the general appeal. This year's categories include:

Building Belonging

Cultural arts, intergenerational experiences and Judaic programs that bring our community together.

Connecting Through Technology

High-quality media technology that connects our community through worship, learning and special events.

Transformative Teen Experiences

Youth travel and leadership opportunities that develop confident, connected Jewish teens.

Enhancing Sacred & Communal Spaces

Sanctuary enhancements, social hall updates and welcoming spaces where our community can gather and connect.

Investing in Young Adults

Engaging young adults in meaningful Jewish learning and strengthening their connection to Judaism and each other.

Your gift of any size is welcomed and appreciated and the first \$20,000 will be matched by an anonymous donor. If it is meaningful to you, we invite you to consider giving in increments of Chai (\$18). Whether you give \$18, \$90, \$180 or any other amount, know that you're making a difference at Temple Sinai. Thank you!

Mona
Mona Spitz



CHAI-5

FIVE PRIORITIES. 60 YEARS STRONG.

Your gift helps strengthen the programs, experiences and spaces that make our community thrive. From now through Chanukah, give to Chai-5 and choose how to direct your support among five areas that make a meaningful impact at Sinai.

**Celebrate
Temple Sinai's 60th with
CHAI-5**

Programs and events can be very expensive to produce. Chai-5 gives you a voice and brings us together.

Giving at Sinai is Simple
Dues, donations, program fees and Chai-5 participation reflect your investment and commitment to Temple Sinai.

You Choose the Areas that Inspire you!
You can direct your Chai-5 donation to specific areas or give to the overall appeal.

We invite everyone to make an investment of Chai (\$18)x5=\$90 or whatever increment of Chai that is right for you.

1

BUILDING BELONGING

Cultural arts, intergenerational experiences and Judaic programs that bring our community together.

2

CONNECTING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

High-quality media technology that connects our community through worship, learning and special events.

3

TRANSFORMATIVE TEEN EXPERIENCES

Youth travel and leadership opportunities that develop confident, connected Jewish teens.

4

ENHANCING SACRED & COMMUNAL SPACES

Sanctuary improvements, social hall updates and welcoming spaces where our community can gather and connect.

5

INVESTING IN YOUNG ADULTS

Engaging young adults in meaningful Jewish learning and strengthening their connection to Judaism and each other.



**DONATING IS EASY!
SCAN HERE:**





BRINGING JEWISH LEARNING TO LIFE: BEGINNING WITH BIG IDEAS SHEILA PURDIN

DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Our new Judaic Pedagogical Coordinator, Alie Troy, recently led her first group professional learning session with our educators, focusing on a question central to our work at Temple Sinai Preschool: How do we create Jewish holiday experiences that are meaningful to young children?

Rather than beginning with, *“What activity should we do for this holiday?”* our educators began somewhere deeper: What is the big idea we want children to explore?

Together, we considered the upcoming holidays through this lens. Rosh HaShanah invites thinking about renewal, including new beginnings, growth, and fresh starts. Yom Kippur offers opportunities to consider repair, recognizing that we can make mistakes and work to make things right. Sukkot opens possibilities around belonging, including gratitude, nature, shelter, community, and welcoming others.

This approach moves us from simply covering a holiday to uncovering its meaning. An apple print might be fun, but asking, *“What makes a new year feel sweet?”* gives children something to wonder about, discuss, represent, and investigate. As Alie phrased it, *“The holiday gives us the context. The big idea gives children a way in.”* That way in changes with the age, interests, and experiences of each classroom. Renewal might mean noticing change with our younger children, watching something grow with our threes, or inviting Pre-K children to imagine something new they would like their classroom community to try. The concept remains consistent while the experience grows from the children themselves.

Educators then put this thinking into practice, choosing a meaningful concept and planning a simple invitation for their classrooms. From there, they will watch, listen, and wonder. What are the children noticing? What connections are they making? Where might their curiosity lead next? Their observations help shape what comes next.

This work feels authentically Temple Sinai Preschool. Our Jewish curriculum and our constructivist, emergent approach to early childhood education belong together. Jewish traditions provide rich opportunities for children to ask questions, build relationships, experiment with materials, and construct meaning.

We are excited to see how these big ideas inspire big thinking throughout the Jewish year.

Sheila

Sheila Purdin





BRYNN TULLY

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR/ FAMILY PROGRAMMING ASSISTANT

Hello Temple Sinai! We have so many wonderful programs coming up this fall for our three youth groups and I'm so thrilled to see everyone! We have so many ways for your children to get involved from kindergarten through 12th grade, including new leadership opportunities! Teen Leadership Board is back! We are so excited to relaunch our TSYG student board! This is an opportunity for teens to help shape youth group programming throughout the year and learn new leadership skills. If you have a teen who may be interested in participating, please have them take [this](#) quick survey to learn more! We can't wait to hear from you! I look forward to seeing you all this fall!

Teens -
Want to stay in the
loop? [Join our group](#)
[chat](#) for updates, reminders,
and all things TSYG!
Chat is for 9th-12th graders



Follow us on Instagram!
All programs will be
posted to stay up to date
[@templesinaiyouthgroup](#)

Meretz & Ruach Presents
Mad Science: 'It's Electric'
Pizza lunch will be served
Sunday, October 4 | 12:00-1:30 pm | \$12 Per Child | Sign Up Here | Grades K-5

JYG AFTER HOURS
Fall Edit
HAVDALAH, SNACK BAR, CIDER, FALL CRAFT, GAMES AND DINNER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
\$8 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS
RSVP HERE

2026-2027 DATES
★ Sunday, October 4, 2026
It's Electric with Mad Science
★ Sunday, November 1, 2026
Cirque de Ruach - Circus Skills
★ Sunday, December 6, 2026
Chanukah Party
★ Sunday, January 10, 2027
(2ND SUNDAY!)
★ Sunday, February 7, 2027
★ Sunday, March 7, 2027
★ Sunday, April 4, 2027
SAVE \$2 PER PROGRAM!
BUY ALL 7 AT ONCE
BY REGISTERING HERE:
GOOD VIBES.
REAL FRIENDS.
FUN TIMES.
Meretz and Ruach
welcomes students in
grades k-5
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT.

HIGH SCHOOLERS... ENTER IF YOU DARE
Spooky SHABBAT
TEEN SHABBAT DINNER | MOVIE
COSTUMES ENCOURAGED
FRIDAY 10/30
5:30-8:30 PM
\$8 PER TEEN
TEMPLE SINAI | RSVP 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.

TEMPLE SINAI GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 11:00 AM

Temple Sinai's Grief Support Group will renew this fall with Ana Dodson. These sessions are free for Temple Sinai members. RSVP is 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. New members who are interested in learning more and/or joining should contact Dr. Ana Dodson.

MONTHLY

HEALING SERVICE/VIRTUAL AT 11:00 AM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

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. All are welcome.



ADULT EDUCATION

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

MONTHLY MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
9:00 AM
TEMPLE SINAI

Join the Jewish War Veterans on Sunday, October 11 at 9:00 AM. **The featured speaker is Temple Sinai member Ralph Barocas** JWV (Colonel, USA, retired). Ralph will speak about Army Special Forces and his work with the West Point Admissions Office. Free breakfast starts at 9:00 AM followed by the speaker. For more information call, text or email Don Price at donpriceusna73@gmail.com or 443-995-9055.

A complimentary breakfast will be available at no cost!

LUNCH AND LEARN
COME LEARN, DISCUSS, DEBATE AND
MEET FRIENDS
THURSDAYS
***OCTOBER 1 (ANNIVERSARY SESSION),**
8, 15, 22, 29
at 12:00 PM

Review ethical and moral issues in selected Jewish texts with Rabbi Rheins or Rabbi Shields. 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!



Twenty-two 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 new sukkah, enjoy a delicious lunch graciously sponsored by Linda and Jan Dorfman, 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!*

**[SIGN UP FOR THIS
SPECIAL CLASS HERE](#)**

Thank you to our High Holy Day Ushers

This year we had a dedicated group of 41 ushers who safely escorted hundreds of congregants into High Holy Days services while also keeping a watchful eye. These individuals arrived early and stayed late, gave directions with a smile and protected their fellow Jew. It was a flawless and worry-free beginning to everybody's High Holy Days experience. Thank you all!!

Keith Baranoff, Jim Kohner, Gregg Engel, Dick Snyder, Jim Stone, Mike Weiner, Judy Aronson, Debra Simon, Amanda Brooks, Vicky Baker, Michael & Stephanie Podolak, Dylan Kamen, Phyllis & Don Nalick, Shahr Boneh, Katherine & Dan Prasher, Craddock Family, Mark Shulman, Bonnie Lyons, Reid Goodman, Ana Kosner, Adam Melnick, Rachel Narcisi, John Spanbauer, Terri Tilliss & Stacy Pocrass, Scott Melnick, Pozner Family, Jody Braverman, Larry Malin, Michael Maudlin, Jeanette Amayo, and Mike & Sandy Korn



Return!

**Beginning
Hebrew
for
Adults
9:45-10:35 AM**

Hebrew School isn't just for kids, Torah study is for grownups too! Sinai Sundays return this fall with classes led by Rabbi Rick Rheins and Rabbi Michael Shields on Sunday mornings. Always wanted to read Hebrew? We have Beginning Hebrew for Adults for you!

RSVP Beg Heb

**Foundations
of
Judaism
10:45-11:40 AM**

RSVP Foundations

Need an introduction or a refresher to Judaism? We'll explore Jewish thought and practice and discuss the meaning of prayers at Foundations of Judaism.

**Stay tuned for more exciting courses that
will be added in the coming weeks!**

DATES:

- **October 18**
- ~~**October 25**~~ canceled
- **November 15**
- **November 22**
- **December 6**
- **December 20**

COST:

- **\$50 for members**
- **\$100 for non-members**





Fall/Winter 2026

OCTOBER 21 | NOVEMBER 4 | NOVEMBER 18 |
DECEMBER 2

6:30 PM
TEMPLE SINAI

RACHEL LESTER: WHY IS ISRAEL LOSING THE PUBLIC RELATIONS WAR AND HOW CAN WE HELP?

OCT.
21

Temple Sinai is sponsoring Los Angeles-born author Rachel Lester, who made Aliyah in 2017, planning to spend two years in Israel. After October 7, Lester, who had already served four years as a video editor of the IDF Spokesperson's unit, volunteered before she was called up the next day to disseminate information from the digital frontlines. Her memoir, *Digital Warrior: Inside Israel's Battle for the Narrative after October 7*, describes the high stakes of the aftermath and "how a democracy defends itself when the truth is the first casualty of war."

JUDY WINNICK, OUR FAVORITE PERFORMER REPRISSES THE ROLE OF MIEP GIES

NOV.
4

In keeping with last summer's presentation at Temple Sinai by Gillian Perry, founder of the United Kingdom's *Anne Frank Trust*, Judy Winnick will reprise her performance of Miep Gies (1909-2010). Interestingly, Winnick and Perry are scheduled to meet in England to share their invaluable research and knowledge. Winnick will transform into Gies, who was instrumental in helping the Frank family survive and later discovered the famous diary. After the performance, Winnick will answer questions as Gies and then as herself. Winnick last performed the character for us in 2024. This is a great program to bring along your middle schoolers and high schoolers to see one of the unsung heroes of the Holocaust come to life.

A MODERN-DAY NOAH'S ARK

NOV.
18

Uri Shanas, Israeli professor (and father of congregant Neta Shanas) and founder of *This is My Earth (TiME)* has created a successful model for saving endangered habitats. So far, his organization, using a \$1 and one vote approach, has helped protect 13 biodiversity hotspots in four continents. He will talk about the plants, animals and people along with stories that intertwine them and how we can get on board this extraordinary journey to save the planet.

MOVIE NIGHT: LESS THAN KOSHER

DEC.
2

Less Than Kosher is a 2023 Canadian comedy-musical-drama about Viv, who at 30, finds herself back living at home, after her pop music career fails to take off. When the "self-proclaimed" bad Jew takes a job as a cantor at her family's synagogue, the real adventures begin.

RSVP HERE



...NOTES FROM OUR CLERGY

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:
[Rabbi Rick Rheins](#) and
[Rabbi Michael Shields](#)

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. Temple Sinai is hosting the ITJ classes this year. 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 303-759-1827.

B'nei Mitzvah
Dates are
available in
2027 & 2028

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 2027 or 2028 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 2029

If your child becomes 13 years old or older in 2029, it is time to find a date for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah! On Sunday, November 15, 2026 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, 2026. 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!



OCTOBER

2026
5787

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	ELECTRONICS RECYCLING FUNDRAISER 9/27-10/11 			1 CHOL HAMO-EID SUKKOT in the Sukkah 12:00 PM	2 HOSHANA RABBAH 6:00 PM Erev Shabbat Service with Shemini Atzeret	3 SIMCHAT TORAH AND SH'MINI ATZERET 8:00 AM Pardes Meditation 10:00 AM Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah Service and Vitzor 5:00 PM Simchat Torah Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 PM Simchat Torah Service and Consecration
4 9:00 AM Religious School 12:00 PM Meretz and Ruach: It's Electric!	5 11:30 AM Lunch With My Sisters 7:00 PM Interfaith Commemoration of October 7 th	6 12:30 PM Weekly Canasta Meetup 6:00 PM Brotherhood, Bible & Beers at Darcy's	7 4:30 PM Midweek Religious School Program 6:00 PM Teen Academy and Confirmation 7:00 PM October 7 th Remembrance and Reflection	8 12:00 PM	9 5:30 PM Twisted Shabbat 6:00 PM Erev Shabbat Service	10 B'REISHIT 9:00 AM Shabbat Minyan 10:30 AM Mishnah Avot with Rabbi Zwerin
11 9:00 AM Religious School 9:00 AM Jewish War Veterans Meeting	12	13 11:00 AM Brotherhood Marksman Club 12:30 PM Weekly Canasta Meetup	14 4:30 PM Midweek Religious School Program 6:00 PM Teen Academy and Confirmation	15 9:00 AM Brotherhood Breakfast at Morning Story 11:00 AM Healing Service 12:00 PM 6:30 PM Pink and Teal Challah Bake	16 6:00 PM Pink and Teal Erev Shabbat Service with Sinai Sogbirds	17 NOACH 8:00 AM Pardes Meditation 9:00 AM Shabbat Minyan 10:30 AM Mishnah Avot with Rabbi Zwerin 10:30 AM Holden Kirsch Bar Mitzvah
18 9:00 AM Religious School SINAI SUNDAYS 9:45 AM Beginning Hebrew 10:45 AM Foundations of Judaism 11:00 AM Grief Support Group	19 12:30 PM Monday Mahj	20 12:30 PM Weekly Canasta Meetup	21 1:00 PM Knitting and Crocheting for JOY 4:30 PM Midweek Religious School Program 6:00 PM Teen Academy and Confirmation 6:30 PM Lifelong Jewish Learning with Rachel Lester	22 12:00 PM	23 6:00 PM Erev Shabbat Service	24 LECH L'CHA 9:00 AM Shabbat Minyan 10:30 AM Mishnah Avot with Rabbi Zwerin 10:30 AM Sela Melander Bat Mitzvah 4:30 PM Milena Aronoff Bat Mitzvah
25 8:30 AM Serve Brunch at Ronald McDonald House 9:00 AM Religious School SINAI SUNDAYS 9:45 AM Beginning Hebrew 10:45 AM Foundations of Judaism 1:30 PM Sinai Social Broncos and Board Games	26	27 12:30 PM Weekly Canasta Meetup	28 11:00 AM Book Group 6:15 PM Fiction Book Club Sinai Brotherhood Movie Night/Dinner at Landmark DTC	29 12:00 PM	30 5:30 PM TSYG Spooky Shabbat 6:00 PM Erev Shabbat Service	31 VAYEIRA 9:00 AM Shabbat Minyan 10:30 AM Mishnah Avot with Rabbi Zwerin

Scan Here For More
Detailed Calendar
Information



Please Note:

If you are interested in hosting an Oneg Shabbat in honor of a wedding anniversary, birthday, B'nei Mitzvah or other special event, please contact Jessica Wolf at jessica@sinaidenver.org.



SPAGHETTI DINNER, SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICE, AND CONSECRATION

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
5:00 PM TEMPLE SINAI**

RSVP HERE



Twisted Shabbat

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9
5:30 PM**

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

CLICK TO REGISTER



BRONCOS AND BOARD GAMES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

PARTY 1:30 PM | KICKOFF 2:05 PM

Enjoy Broncos and Board Games with friends and food! Best Broncos garb wins a prize. Come dressed to impress!

\$10 | **\$18**
MEMBERS | NON-MEMBERS



RSVP HERE



TEMPLE SINAI ELECTRONICS RECYCLING FUNDRAISER

September 27 – October 11

Items can be dropped off in the Temple Sinai foyer.

Here is a list of items we can recycle:

Desktops and laptops
LCD monitors
CRT monitors
LED monitors
Computer peripherals
Computer accessories
Computer mice
Keyboards
Copiers
Printers
Digital cameras
Cellphones
Game consoles



NO TVs

Minimum \$20 donation required



Join us for an Interfaith Commemoration of October 7th
Monday, October 5 at 7:00 pm
At Resurrection Anglican Church
9250 e. Belleview Ave
Greenwood Village, Co 80111



Temple Sinai Presents:

Taste of Bukhara

Saturday, November 14 at 7:15 PM
at L'Chaim Restaurant

\$65 Adult Members | \$75 Adult Non Members

Join us for an unforgettable evening
as we gather for our next Diaspora Dinner,
exploring the rich, vibrant culinary heritage of the
Bukharian Jewish community. We will share a
delicious multi-course feast featuring traditional
central Asian foods, bright salads, and deeply
aromatic mains.

*L'Chaim is a Kosher Restaurant owned by
Bukharian Jews in our community.*

909 5 Oneida St Ste 1B,
Denver, CO 80224

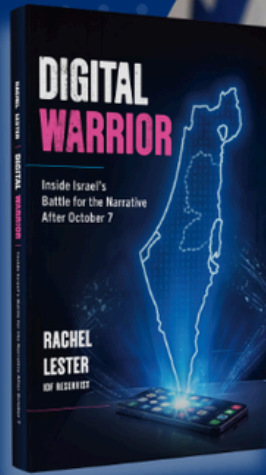
RSVP Due by 11/1:



A series exploring Jewish food and culture around the world

RACHEL LESTER

IDF Spokesperson's
Unit Reservist •
Author • Speaker



WHY IS ISRAEL LOSING THE PR WAR... AND HOW CAN WE HELP?

Firsthand insights from an insider who has spent
eight years on Israel's digital front lines

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 6:30 PM | TEMPLE SINAI

Brought to you by Lifelong Jewish Learning and
graciously sponsored by Marc and Susan Reissner



RSVP IS REQUIRED HERE





WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Rosalyn Daitch Arbiter & Brandon Arbiter, Nolan
Heather & Steven Askin, Skye and Storm
Susan & Jose Assouline
Hannah & Nicklas Barry, Matilda and Eloise
Lisa & Dore Binder
Jennifer & Alex Boren, Lily, June, and Elliott
Rachel & Adam Bornstein, Bode, Asher, and Penelope
Sara & Kiernan Doyle, Harper and McKenna
Josh Esterov, Jacob
Candace & Ari Fisher, Asher and Elijah
Miriam & Joe Kellerman
VeraLouise Kleinfeld-Pfeiffer & John Pfeiffer
Jayne Kleinman
Elizabeth & Ian Levenson
Ahna & Andrew Saetveit, Ziva, Torbjorn, and Astrid
Marlene & Jonathan Schulman, Noah and Talia
Stefanie & Jesse Selwyn, Story
Madison Shaner
Haley & Joshua Shipman, Ronen and Margot
Leigh & Robert Shubin, James and Lennie
Jacob & Jenna Spear, Logan and Zachary
Amanda & Alex Steinberg, Valerie
Andrea & Paul Weinberg
Sylvia & Alan Wolpa

IN MEMORIUM

Stanford Adelstein, brother of Robert (Carole) Adelstein

Adrienne Levy, mother of Bobbie Noto, Nancy Simon-Levy, and David Levy

Audrey Friedman Marcus, mother of Rabbi Dayle Friedman (David Ferleger), the late Jill (Peter) Fixler zl,
and Glen (Elizabeth) Friedman

Libbie Stoddard, mother of Rachel (Michael) Anger, grandmother of Matthew, Eric, Emily, and Max Anger

Jim VanDePolder, brother of Dr. Jean Guthery

Zikhronam Livrakhah, may they be remembered for a blessing.



B'NEI MITZVAH



SELA MELANDER: OCTOBER 24, 2026

HOLDEN KIRSCH: OCTOBER 17, 2026

Holden is the son of Jonathan and Lainie Kirsch and the brother of Skye. He attends school at West Middle School. His hobbies include sports and theatre. Holden's Bar Mitzvah project is on water conservation and education. As part of his project, Holden has been learning about and recycling greywater, which is gently used water from homes that can be reused for certain purposes instead of being wasted. He is also collecting soda tabs, recycling them, and donating the proceeds to The Grey Water Project. So far, he has recycled over 100 gallons of greywater and over 12,000 soda tabs. Holden has become really interested in water shortages and conservation, and he plans to keep learning about these issues after his Bar Mitzvah as well.



MILA ARONOFF: OCTOBER 24, 2026

Mila is the daughter of Rebecca and Joel Aronoff and the sister of Zander. She attends school at Campus Middle School. Mila has loved going to the JCC Ranch Camp since she was in Kindergarten, and she participated in the JCC Ranch Camp Equestrian program throughout middle school. She has decided to do her Mitzvah Project with Mile High Equestrian and Rescue, volunteering at their stables and helping to raise money for horses in need. Horseback riding was always such a fun part of her summers, so she is excited to contribute her time to helping to care for horses. During her academic year and summers, Mila's main focus and love is dancing. She is currently dancing with Denver Academy of Ballet and spends much of her free time in the studio. Mila has also loved playing the violin and has participated in the audition orchestra group Chamber Orchestra at Campus Middle School. Lastly, Mila is a true animal lover to her dogs Kona and Macaroon!



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!

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.

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.

Looking to get involved?
Find more ways here!



Jewish Summer Camp

If you're interested in helping Rabbi Shields encourage camp attendance, we invite you to be part of an energetic and heart-centered group dedicated to helping more of our children experience the magic of Jewish summer camp. Rooted in our values of Kehillah (community) and Torah (learning), this group will work to build awareness, share the transformative impact of camp, and create joyful, creative opportunities to raise funds for our Camp Scholarship Fund. From fun, community-driven events to meaningful storytelling about camp experiences, this effort will help ensure that every Temple Sinai child who wants to go to Jewish camp has the opportunity to do so. Because camp is more than a summer, it's where friendships are formed, Jewish identity comes alive, and lifelong connections begin.

Email Rabbi Shields [here](#).



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

 **LISA THORNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**
LISA@SINAIDENVER.ORG

ALAN FARBER MEMORIAL CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN HONOR OF:
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BROTHERHOOD FUND

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Paul & Terry Goldfarb

BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND

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Stuart & Jill Bombel
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IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
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DANIEL A. LIPSON MEMORIAL IST SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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JULIUS & HELEN RING IST FUND

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Jackson Craddock becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Carl & Caryl Derenfeld
Marriage of Jeff Spitz to Serena Lewis
Mark & Mona Spitz

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LOGAN WILLIAMS

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