

# SINAI

Quarterly

Fall 2019 Tishrei-Tevet 5780

## in this issue...

|   |    |
|---|----|
| From Our Leadership   | 2  |
| “Did Something Happen?”   | 4  |
| <i>How We Started the Work of Becoming an Anti-Racist Synagogue</i>       |    |
| Security & Hospitality  | 6  |
| Member News   | 7  |
| A Night With the Stars  | 8  |
| <i>Celebrate Cantor Laura Croen’s 25th Anniversary with Temple Sinai!</i> |    |
| TSWRJ   | 10 |
| Calendar (October-December 2019)  | 12 |
| Honor Our Heritage, Build Our Future                                      | 16 |
| Tikkun Olam—Social Action @ Sinai   | 18 |
| Sinai Stories   | 20 |
| Adult Education   | 21 |
| TS Library  | 22 |
| Travel With Sinai   | 23 |
| Nursery School  | 24 |
| Sinai House   | 25 |
| Contributions & Ways to Give  | 26 |
| Get Involved  | 30 |

# FROM THE RABBI

**M**y favorite Jewish folktale is “If Not Higher” by I.L. Peretz. It is the story of a rabbi who never appears in selichot services, the penitential prayers recited in the early morning hours for the month before Rosh Hashanah. The rabbi’s followers believe he ascends nightly to heaven to plead directly with God on their behalf while a local skeptic sets out to prove the rabbi is a fraud. The skeptic hides and watches the rabbi disguise himself as a lumberjack who then delivers firewood and other needed supplies to the poorest and most vulnerable people in his village, insisting they accept the deliveries even when they can’t pay. When the skeptic hears the rabbi whispering the words of the selichot service to himself as he kindles a life-giving flame in the oven of a sick widow, he realizes the rabbi indeed does ascend to heaven... if not higher.

I always envied the idea of the rabbi who could skip services. I do, however, believe in services as a place for communal gathering, learning, recommitment to core values, and yes, even as a place for quiet reflection and prayer. I believe equally if not more strongly in “praying with our feet.” That phrase is derived from an apocryphal conversation with famous twentieth century rabbi, Dr. Abraham Joshua Heschel. After joining the 1965 voting rights march in Selma, a skeptic asked Heschel about “staying in his lane” – i.e. remaining on the pulpit to pray – to which Heschel responded that in Selma his legs were praying.

Temple Sinai was founded on the call to ascend even higher than the destination of our prayers and doing social justice with chutzpah has been the cornerstone of Temple Sinai ever since. When Rabbi Balfour Brickner led our congregation at its founding, temple leaders refused construction supplies from a notoriously anti-union company to ensure our sanctuary “would not be built on a foundation of injustice.” In June 1964, our Rabbi Eugene Lipman jumped into a segregated motel pool

in St. Augustine, Florida, to join Dr. King and others demanding equal access. In 1992, when the DC Mayor called on everyone to help end homelessness, Rabbi Fred Reiner led our congregation in creating Sinai House, which has provided comprehensive support services to dozens of families. In January this year, Deborah, an immigration lawyer was referred to me with a desperate case: a man from Congo (DRC) was detained by ICE in a nearby jail. He had been persecuted – fired from his job, jailed, tortured, friends murdered - for his leadership in a Catholic organization opposing the government in recent elections. He had escaped a Kinshasa military prison and after months of harrowing travels arrived in the US. ICE was prepared to release him from detention while he pursued his asylum case but he knew nobody in the US and could only be released with a sponsor. Our board voted immediately and unanimously to sponsor him and our membership has provided all manner of support: legal and medical services, money, rides, housing, food, company, educational help, and more. Today he is mastering English, preparing to find a job, and occasionally joining us for Shabbat services and Torah study.

Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot draw us to the house of prayer more than other times of the year. I am glad you are here and hope you find moments of spirituality and ritual fulfillment in our shared worship and your personal prayers. I also hope you will enter this year with a better understanding of the core values on which this congregation stands, especially our commitment to acting with chutzpah to pursue justice and help those in need. I also hope that, like me, you will be inspired by Peretz’s rabbi to skip services a few times in the coming year while you are praying with your feet instead. I am grateful for your contributions over the past year and the year to come. Your financial generosity gives



**Rabbi**  
**Jonathan Roos**  
*Senior Rabbi*

us the ability to say “yes” when lawyers like Deborah call and the resources to ensure we aren’t just praying for a better world, we are helping to make it a reality. Your volunteer time is equally precious. Those who

have given time this year, please share your story with friends at your holiday meals. Those who want help in the year to come, please call me or write any of our clergy. We have jobs for you and opportunities to pray

with your feet. With your help in 5780, Temple Sinai will continue to be a significant force for goodness in the world. May you and your loved ones be written for life and love in the New Year.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**T**emple Sinai’s first board members had awesome responsibilities. In our early existence as a congregation, they were creating all the nuts and bolts of a multi-faceted institution. I have an idealized mental image of our founding mothers and fathers collaborating in an exciting creative process. At least I had that idealized image, until I read through the minutes of some of those early board meetings.

It was exciting and it was creative and there was genuine collaboration. It was also exhausting. There were so many details to be worked out, so many decisions to be made and everyone had an opinion. Meetings went long into the night. Tempers could be short and arguments arose over decisions that took on so much importance because they were elements of creating an enduring institution. At times it was crazy-making. At times it was just not fun.

Finally the board realized that the only way to get the jobs done while maintaining sanity and civility was to delegate to committees many of those building block decisions. Rather than do it all, the board spread seeds throughout the congregation that were nurtured into our programming and operations.

Today there are many thriving committees at Temple Sinai within which much of the creative work of the temple takes place. From crafting the annual budget on the Finance Committee and discussing curriculum on the Religious School Committee to articulating the priorities of the temple on the Strategic Planning Committee and working to make the temple more inclusive and

welcoming on the Multiracial Sinai Committee, it is at the committee level that the magic of Temple Sinai is made.

Everyone can be a part of this critical creative process. Volunteering on a committee is not just about performing a mitzvah for the community, it is also one of the best ways to get to know other members of our congregation and form smaller communities within our larger one. And it can be a lot of fun.

There is a list all of our committees along with descriptions and contact information in this Quarterly. There is a link on the temple website with that same information. If you want to meet members who love music as much as you do, join the Music Committee. Are you intrigued by Temple Sinai’s rich history? Join the Archives Committee. Do you want to share your enthusiasm for the temple by raising money for our future? The Development Committee would love to have you. Is there a gap in what we do and members of our community to fill it? Create a new committee, there’s room for more.

Temple Sinai committee members are the descendants of those early board members, creating, collaborating, building our multi-faceted temple and bringing it to life. Serving on a committee enriches our community as well as those who serve. As we head into the new Jewish year, this could be one of your resolutions. L’Shana Tova!



**Deborah Lewis**  
*President*



# “DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?”

HOW WE STARTED THE WORK OF BECOMING AN ANTI-RACIST SYNAGOGUE

Deitra Reiser and Rabbi Hannah L. Goldstein

**T**hroughout the process of forming what would become Temple Sinai's Multiracial Sinai Committee, people often asked us “Did something happen?” They assumed that the formation of a committee dedicated to embracing and celebrating our multiracial community must have come in response to some horrifying racist incident that required us to take organizational action.

**Rabbi Hannah L. Goldstein:** For a long time, I responded, “No, nothing happened. We just realized that this is important, and there is work to do.”

We started as a small group of Jews who are white, concerned about the legacy of racism in our country. We met for the first time after the 2016 election, shaken by the rise of visible hate and the local divides we saw in our city. We met a few times throughout the course of the year, at first calling ourselves an “accountability group.”

One of our members, Liz Dunst, was inspired by the URJ resolution on racial justice and pushed us to broaden our conversation – to hold up a mirror to Temple Sinai. This wasn't just about the world out there. What was the experience of people of color at Temple Sinai?

Liz reached out to Anita Stoll, a longtime Temple Sinai member and leader who is a Jew of Color, to ask what she thought about bringing together a group of Jews of Color at Sinai. Anita opened her home for a meeting, and a group of Sinai members – our accountability group, people of color (both Jewish and otherwise), and white parents of Jews of Color – gathered at Anita's house.

**Deitra Reiser:** Even though attending the meeting was out of my comfort zone, I felt compelled to go. During the meeting, I was struck by Rabbi Goldstein's authenticity and her willingness to talk about race and Temple Sinai, directly. We all seemed to have found a home at Sinai and were happy about our decision to be a part of Sinai – but with candor and directness, Rabbi Goldstein provided a safe space for me and the other people of color to share our experiences of microaggressions and fears we had for our children.

Still, even having shared stories of discomfort and othering, if someone asked, “Did something happen?” I would have said no. After all, the microaggressions were slights from people who were not ill-intentioned.



We left that meeting with an open invitation of sorts: If we wanted to work further on race at Temple Sinai, Rabbi Goldstein would be happy to lead us. The group – which would become Multiracial Sinai – soon started meeting; our work felt slow and intentional.

**Rabbi Goldstein:** Our work originated in story-sharing and relationship. As we heard about slights and microaggressions that occurred at Temple Sinai, we knew this needed our ongoing determination and attention – that the work of tikkun olam should begin inside Temple Sinai's walls.

We decided to approach our work in terms of the systems in place in our congregation to

support multiracial families, but also to dig deeper, to try to do the transformative change work necessary to help ourselves and our congregation think differently about race.

**Reiser:** Eventually, it became apparent that although there wasn't one big thing that had happened to jumpstart our effort, we weren't being honest with ourselves: Many things had happened, including some we'd likely never know about. After all, we're in relationship with the people who found a home at Sinai – but it's possible that others decided Sinai could not be their home because they weren't embraced.

In order to better embrace our multiracial community and to

become antiracist, many of us participated in a nine-week learning session about racial identity and white privilege.

Our group has done a lot, but we still have much to do, and Temple Sinai is committed to becoming an affirmatively antiracist synagogue. Now, when someone asks us, "Did something happen?" we can respond with pride and authenticity: "Yes, many things have happened, for many years, and we are working on living our values. Will you join us?"

*Adapted from a URJ Blog Post published on July 15, 2019.*

## Multiracial Sinai: Upcoming Programs and Events

L'Shanah Tovah! Multiracial Sinai has come together through the leadership of Rabbi Goldstein and efforts of congregants to offer guidance in affirming Temple Sinai's identity as a multiracial congregation. We are committed to guiding Temple Sinai in being an affirmatively antiracist congregation through education, training, affinity groups and other programming. Here are our upcoming programs and events for the fall and winter. We hope you will participate!

**10 Days of Awe:** Reflect on intersectional Jewish identities and race in our society through activities and readings. Look for more information in the weekly temple email.

**Yom Kippur Afternoon:** Racial (In)Justice in the News and at Home: Rabbi Goldstein and Adam Serwer will discuss systems of racial oppression in our country and how they impact us. Serwer will also reflect on his own experiences growing up in our community.

**Yom Kippur Mincha Service:** Multiracial Sinai members Dora Chen, Liz Dunst and Anthony Murphy will reflect on how their racial experiences connect to their commitment to antiracist action in pursuit of personal and social change.

Affinity Gathering for Persons of color and Jews of color will be held on **September 22, 2019 from 3 to 5 PM**. Contact Deitra Reiser at [deitralou@gmail.com](mailto:deitralou@gmail.com) for more information.

**Facilitated Discussion Groups on "Building Racial Stamina in Jewish Community:"** Talking about race is both difficult and necessary in our Jewish community and in society. This six-week facilitated discussion group will provide space to develop what author Robin DiAngelo calls "racial stamina," the ability to think and talk about race effectively. This group will help each person explore their own racial identity, increase awareness of the impact of race and better understand how to affirm and embrace all people at Temple Sinai. Please contact Deitra Reiser ([deitralou@gmail.com](mailto:deitralou@gmail.com)), Cathy Goldwyn ([cgoldwyn1@icloud.com](mailto:cgoldwyn1@icloud.com)), or Rabbi Goldstein ([hgoldstein@templesinaidc.org](mailto:hgoldstein@templesinaidc.org)) with questions, and look for the sign-up link in the weekly temple email.

- Saturdays from 1-2:30 for six consecutive weeks starting October 12
- Sundays from 11:30-1 for six consecutive weeks starting October 13
- Mazo Education Series in January

**Email List:** For ongoing information related to Multiracial Sinai programs and events, please contact Cathy Goldwyn at [cgoldwyn1@icloud.com](mailto:cgoldwyn1@icloud.com) to sign up for the Multiracial Sinai Email List.

# SECURITY AND HOSPITALITY

## A BALANCING ACT

Here at Temple Sinai, we value being open to all who wish to come together to learn, to celebrate, to worship, and to act in the context of our Reform Jewish community. Informed by national and local security experts we strive to provide security best practices while promoting a genuinely welcoming experience. This year more than ever, we are challenged with navigating the intersection of security and hospitality.



**Ellen Agler**  
*Executive  
Director*

### Our Welcoming Community

There are many aspects of welcoming that we readily think about in the context of our time at Temple Sinai and others that we can strive for as we come together in the new year.

- **Embracing Our Diversity** – We are inspired to be inclusive and open by the Union for Reform Judaism's 2020 vision of Audacious Hospitality.
- **Affirming Anti-Racism** – We are guided by the Multiracial Sinai Committee to celebrate our multiracial Temple Sinai community and move our congregation toward being deliberately anti-bias. (see p. 4-5)
- **Reaching Out** – We are committed to greeting those who may be by themselves at services or events; helping new and long-time members find ways to get engaged in temple life.
- **Meeting Members Where They Are** – We are striving to lower barriers to participation through flexibility in membership and in educational and ritual practices that meet individual needs.

### Our Safe and Secure Community

Maintaining a secure environment for Temple Sinai members, children and guests is a top priority and is attended to with great care. We develop and implement safety plans while maintaining our focus on welcoming all in our community.

- **Technology** – We have invested in state-of-the-art security technology and hardware for our synagogue building's infrastructure.
- **Current Security Practices** – We maintain ongoing training and education on prevailing security protocols through our close relationships with national organizations as well as local resources.
- **Security Awareness** – We actively inform members about security basics, and we aim to have trained volunteers\* at services and programs to assist.

### Our Roles

Together, we can help maintain a welcoming and secure temple.

- Be aware of your surroundings outside and inside the temple. Notify a staff member if you have any concerns— "If you see something, say something".
- Notice the location of nearest exits.
- Follow direction of temple security personnel in the parking lot and at entrances.
- Utilize the "buzzer" system outside locked entrances and kindly respond to basic screening questions by staff.
- Stop by the new main lobby security desk to check-in for meetings or appointments with clergy, staff or tutors.
- Enhance our welcoming community through actions and words

### Volunteer Training

Do you enjoy being a "go to" person? We are launching a new volunteer program where members will be trained to assist the clergy and staff in the event of an emergency. If you have served as an usher at services, or if you haven't but would be happy to help when you come to services or programs, then please let us know that you're interested in participating by contact me at [eagler@templesinaidc.org](mailto:eagler@templesinaidc.org) or my assistant, Laura Rose, at [lrose@templesinaidc.org](mailto:lrose@templesinaidc.org) or by calling the temple (202) 363-6394.

# MEMBER NEWS

## Welcome to Our New Members

Stephanie & Jonathan Ben-Joseph  
and their children, Dahlia & Julianna

Amanda & William Borden and their  
children, Maxwell & Sela

Michael Britton and his children,  
Isaac, Mirabel & Oren

Michael Burton and his children,  
Brian, Iris & Zelda

Brian & Stephanie Chernoff and their  
children, Alexandra & Mira

Diana Clark

Jennifer & Scott Davidson and their  
children, Jacob & Jordan

Ben Denckla & Sarah Reber and  
their children, Jack & Rose

Rachel & Neil Feldman, and their  
children, Eleanor & Rafael

Lucas & Rachel Fleischer and their  
children, Miles & Samuel

Emma Basch & Matthew Fleischman  
and their children, Eli & Willa

Zach Friedlis & Julie Polinger and  
their children, Oliver & Willa

Fred Frommer & Michele Martinez  
and their children, Alex & Ethan

Evan & Tara Goitein and their  
children, Alex & Lily

Leah & Ross Goldband and their  
daughter, Lucy

Evan & Kelly Goldberg and their  
children, Anika & Asa

Jamie & Nima Hendi

Alex Hoffman & Michelle  
Wojciechowicz

Ronni & Rob Jolles

Debi Kant

Eric & Sharapat Kessler and thier  
children, Elizabeth & Simon

Marsha Leo

Paul & Lauren Levinson and their  
children, Esther & Josie

Jennifer & Michael Lilintahl and their  
daughter, Anabel

Jason Manning & Anita Sharma and  
their children, Ronan & Stacia

Elyse & Alex Moyer and their  
daughter, Callie

Melissa & Aaron Murphy and their  
children, Ella & Samantha

Beth Naftalin

Leslie Pollner & Noam Levey and  
their children, Amelie & Oriana

Eva Rigamonti & Paolo Saguato and  
their daughter, Dalia

Sydney & Chip Rosenberg and their  
children, Harrison & Noa

Perry & Wendy Rosensweig and their  
daughter, Raquel

Emily & Matthew Rowland and their  
children, Ryan & Tali

Emmanuelle & Chris Salvatore and  
their children, Luca & Nicola

Laura Schiller & Phillip Blane and  
their son, Jacob

Kevin & Anne Kingery-Schwartz and  
their children, Elinor & Jonathan

Lauren & William Silvis and their  
children, Alexandra & Samuel

Rabbi Eric Stark & Julie Elfand

Sam Stein & Jessica Leinwand and  
their son, Jamie

Sandra Velvel & Martin Price and  
their children, Alexandra & Annabel

Bran Weinstein & Heather Golde and  
their children, Alexandra & Archer

Joshua Werman & Lauren Sparber  
and thier children, James & Olivia

Laura Wides-Munoz & Carlos Munoz  
and their children, Cibelle & Joaquin  
Cibelle

## Mazel Tov to...

...Rabbi Hannah Goldstein and Joshua Friedman on their marriage; Rabbi Fred N. Reiner (Susan Liss) on the birth of his grandson Asher Heller Reiner; Ted and Laura Kalick on the marriage of their son Daniel Kalick to Jessica Flynn; Edward Cohen and Charlene Barshefsky on the marriage of their daughter Devra Cohen to Jeremy Blomberg; David Wessel & Naomi Karp on the marriage of their daughter, Julia Wessel to Christopher Bonner; Glenn and Michelle Engelmann on the birth of their grandson Eli Joseph Gross; Susan and Mark Ginsberg on the birth of their grandson Edmund Yates Thomas; and Amy Schear on the marriage of her son Sam to Dani Haskin.

## We Mourn the Deaths of...

... Arthur Lazarus; Morris Krucoff; and Roger Stern.

## We Extend Condolences to...

...Sharon Franklin (Jonathan) on the death of her aunt Jane Bradford; Peta Hellman (Miguel Lopez Forastier) on the death of her step father Larry Tucker; Meg Seldin (Reuben Altizer) on the death of her sister in law Marlene Fortenberry; Janet Shatz Snyder on the death of her father, Paul Melvin Shatz; Kit Gage (Steve Metalitz) on the death of her father, Alan Gage; Ted Kalick (Laura) on the death of his mother, Evelyn Kalick; Jeanne Cohn-Connor on the death of her brother Mark Cohn; TSRS teacher Steve Kerbel on the death of his mother, Ruth Kerbel; Patty Steele (Joel Rudnick) on the death of her father, Harold "Bud" Steele; Amanda Broun on the death of her uncle Dan Broun; Stanley Talpers on the death of his son Daniel Talpers, cousin of Phil Schiff (Janis); Patricia Neuman (Perry Pockros) on the death of her mother, Claire Frankel; and Lew Priven on the death of his wife, Judy.



*A gala  
concert!*

**SATURDAY  
NOV. 9, 2019**  
7:30 PM

*Celebrate Senior Cantor Laura Croen's  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Temple Sinai!*

***A Night With  
the Stars***

STARRING  
**CHIP ZIEN**  
of Broadway and TV fame  
With special appearance  
by Cantor Croen

*We're rolling out the red carpet for an exciting musical evening!*

Temple Sinai 3100 Military Road NW Washington, DC [templesinaidc.org](http://templesinaidc.org)  
Presented by Temple Sinai Music Committee

*In anticipation of the upcoming concert, Music Committee member Kent Allen had a chance to talk with Cantor Croen and featured performer Chip Zien:*

**A**s cousins who grew up in Milwaukee in a tight-knit community, they've known each other since childhood. Sharpening their stage presence from an early age at frequent family get-togethers, they both eventually went into public careers--she as a stellar member of the clergy, he as a star actor and singer on both Broadway and TV.

As their professional lives progressed, Temple Sinai Senior Cantor Laura Croen and her cousin Chip Zien, whose career path led to Broadway and TV fame, had never had the opportunity to perform



publicly together until recently. "The very first time we sang together as adults was at my nephew's wedding," Laura recalls. They surprised the couple with a rendition of the lovely "It Takes Two" from Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods." The song has special meaning for Chip, as he has been widely recognized for creating the role of the Baker, the show's central character.

But in case you weren't a guest at that family wedding, not to worry: Closer to home, you'll get your chance to witness the two pairing up for this duet on November 9, as Chip stars in the temple's salute to Laura in celebration of her 25th anniversary with us. While the show at Temple Sinai is a tribute to Laura, she is happily ceding the spotlight to her cousin for the evening's concert, followed by a festive reception.

In addition to his signature role in "Into the Woods," Chip has a long list of credits for both on- and off-Broadway performances as well as TV. His Broadway career includes "Falsettos," "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," "The Suicide" (with Derek Jacobi) and, most recently, "It Shoulda Been You," in which he played Tyne Daly's husband. He's also been working on what he calls a "docu-musical" about Lerner and Loewe (he plays Loewe) that he hopes will make its way to full-scale production.

On TV, he has been a series regular going back decades on many series, including "Almost Perfect," "Now and Again," "Deadline," "Shell Game," "Love, Sidney," and "Reggie," and has had cameos on dozens of other shows. Die-hard "House of Cards" viewers will know him as Season 6's Dr. Charles Rosen.

And Chip is by no means new to the D.C. stage scene. Some 40-plus years ago, while he was teaching sixth grade back in Milwaukee after college at the University of Pennsylvania, he landed the role of Snoopy in the Ford's Theatre production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie

Brown," where he earned his Actors' Equity card and launched his professional career.

The cantor and actor both have fond memories of Milwaukee and its influence on their performing lives. Of six brothers and sisters among the older generation, "all four uncles and one aunt did skits together," Laura recalls. "There was even a family song.... They were all hams, especially Chip's dad."

"It was a great place to grow up," Chip adds. "I always say that, unlike New York City, where I've spent most of my life, you don't have to 'face your demons at an ungodly age' as a child in Milwaukee."

Chip's mother (Laura's aunt) was a big influence on his career path. She "had an obvious stage-mother side and she dragged me at a young age to local auditions," says Chip. "The Hadassah show at our synagogue (Temple Emanuel), a local professional summer stock theater, operas at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee... eventually I played some of the great female roles at Camp North Star in Hayward, Wisconsin - an all-boys camp. I was a boy soprano and somewhat horrified by that - but also secretly proud that there was evidently no note too high!"

Sharing Chip's life in New York is his wife, Susan Pilarre, a former soloist with the New York City Ballet who teaches at the School of American Ballet. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Tickets for the gala concert and celebration, as well as the opportunity to join the Silver Circle of Music Lovers in Cantor Croen's honor, can be accessed from the invitation emailed to all congregants, or at [templesinaidc.org/music](http://templesinaidc.org/music).



# Temple Sinai Women of Reform Judaism invites you to join us this fall!



## TSWRJ MISSION AND VISION

TSWRJ enriches and strengthens the spiritual, cultural, and social life of TSWRJ members and promotes the education and welfare of the congregation, including social justice.

- We use a Jewish lens to approach everything we do: programming, education, social justice and community.
- We sharpen leadership skills through training and engagement.
- We draw broadly from the Temple's membership and participate in Temple-wide programs and initiatives.
- We follow best practices in governance and financial management.

## UPCOMING 2019 Fall Programs

### High Holy Days Food Drive for Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB)



Support the Capital Area Food Bank's mission to create access to good, healthy food in every community. Donate online at [www.mightycause.com/story/Templesinai](http://www.mightycause.com/story/Templesinai) or mail a check, payable to CAFB, with "Temple Sinai" on the memo line, to TSWRJ at Temple Sinai. You can also bring nutritious non-perishable food to Yom Kippur services at the Temple or BCC on October 9.

**High Holy Days Food Drive**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9**  
**Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast**  
at Temple Sinai, sponsored by TSWRJ

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 — 3:00 TO 5:00 PM**  
**Reproductive Justice Program**

New this  
Fall!

Join Rabbi Hannah Goldstein and TSWRJ to learn from Washington, DC-area experts in Reproductive Justice advocacy and service. Recognized by the Reform Movement as a Jewish social action imperative, Reproductive Justice is the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 — 7:30 TO 9:30 PM**

### Mah Jongg in the Sukkah

Novices and mavens welcome.

New this  
Fall!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 — 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**  
**Chanukah Mart**

Come shop at our biggest annual fundraiser to support Temple Sinai programs. Fun, food, shopping, and schmoozing! **Wanted: volunteers, bakers, and teens to help with children's activities.**



**EVERY WEDNESDAY — 7:30 TO 9:30 PM**  
**1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS — 2:00 TO 4:00 PM**

### Mah Jongg



Ever wonder what craks, dots and bams are? Hear laughter coming from the Social Hall on Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings? Join us for Mah Jongg and build community with players of all ages and levels of play.

For more information or to sign up, email:  
Anita Greenwald: [greenwald.anita@gmail.com](mailto:greenwald.anita@gmail.com) (Wednesday)  
Susan Shiffer: [susanshiffer@hotmail.com](mailto:susanshiffer@hotmail.com) (Monday)

Make reservations for all TSWRJ events at [templesinaidc.org/gather/tswrj](http://templesinaidc.org/gather/tswrj)  
Contact us at [tswrj@templesinaidc.org](mailto:tswrj@templesinaidc.org)

PLEASE JOIN US, ALL ARE WELCOME!

## SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING 2020 Programs

JANUARY 26, 2020

Children's Inn Dinner at NIH

FEBRUARY 29, 2020

Authors' Roundtable

APRIL 9, 2020

Second Seder

APRIL 17, 2020

TSWRJ Shabbat

JANUARY 3-5, 2020

TSWRJ Biennial Retreat

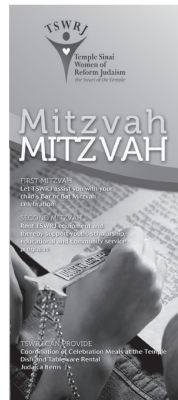
The Westin Annapolis  
Annapolis, Maryland

Registration will open in  
October 2019.

## SAVE THE DATE!



TSWRJ BIENNIAL RETREAT  
January 3-5, 2020 The Westin Annapolis  
Details to follow!



### TSWRJ Mitzvah Mitzvah Program

Hire TSWRJ to set up and serve your Bat/Bar or other Mitzvah luncheon at Temple Sinai. We provide linens, dishes and tableware rentals.

#### Contact Information

Meg Seldin 301-332-9490

Megseldin@gmail.com

### TSWRJ BOARD MEETINGS 2019-2020

Sunday, Sept 8, 2019 .....9:30 am

Sunday, Sept 15, 2019 ...Opening Meeting

Sunday, Oct 6, 2019 .....9:30 am

Thursday, Dec 12, 2019 .....7:30 pm

Sunday, Jan 12, 2020 .....9:30 am

Thursday, Feb 13, 2020 .....7:30 pm

Thursday, March 12, 2020 .....7:30 pm

Sunday, April 5, 2020 .....9:30 am

Thursday, May 21, 2020 ...Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 7, 2020 ..... 6:00 pm



Temple Sinai  
Women of  
Reform Judaism  
*the heart of the Temple*



## Judaica Shop

- \* Shofars
  - \* Apple and honey dishes
  - \* New Year cards
  - \* Tallitot
  - \* Candlesticks
  - \* Tzedakah boxes
  - \* Mezuzahs
  - \* Judaica Gifts for family and friends
  - \* High Holiday prayer books
- (Pre-Orders can be picked up at the shop before Rosh Hashanah.)*

#### Hours when Religious School is in session:

Sunday: 10:00am-2:00pm and Tuesday: 6:00pm-8:00pm

#### Or contact Meg Seldin for an appointment

301-654-7874, 301-332-9490 (cell)

Email: Megseldin@gmail.com

Come spend some time in our wonderful Judaica shop!



PLEASE JOIN US, ALL ARE WELCOME!

Make reservations for all TSWRJ events at [templesinaidc.org/gather/tswrj](http://templesinaidc.org/gather/tswrj)

Contact us at [tswrj@templesinaidc.org](mailto:tswrj@templesinaidc.org)

## Friday Shabbat Schedule Guide

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday:** Tot Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM, preceded by a Prozdor (appetizers) at 5:30 PM

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday:** Shabbat Services at 8:00 PM, followed by an Oneg Shabbat

**Other Fridays:** Shabbat Services at 6:30 PM, preceded by a Prozdor (appetizers) at 6:00 PM

**Service descriptions and other information can be found at [templesinaidc.org/worship](http://templesinaidc.org/worship)**

**Looking to sign up for a Shabbat dinner?  
Visit [templesinaidc.eventbrite.com](http://templesinaidc.eventbrite.com)**



### Tot Shabbat Services & Participatory Dinners **1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month at 6 PM**

A Shabbat experience designed for families with infants through pre-K children. Services are followed by participatory dinners with kids' activities and time for parents to chat.

## Kehillat Shabbat Services

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:30 AM**

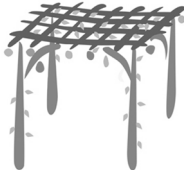
These lay-led services offer opportunities to chant a few verses of Torah or Haftarah in a supportive atmosphere. Participants can also sign up to deliver a d'var Torah (analysis of the weekly Torah portion) that leads to a group discussion. The temple provides lunch following services.

## Family Shabbat Services

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:30 AM**

Using the family-friendly prayer book, *Siddur Ma Tov*, the service alternates between Hebrew and English, introducing Shabbat morning prayers in a meaningful format for all ages. The temple provides lunch following services.

## 5 Senses of Sukkot: Tot Service & Festive



### Dinner **Sunday, October 13 at 5:00 PM**

Join us as we welcome Sukkot with our Tots (kindergartners and younger!) and their families on a fun and festive sensory journey of Sukkot. Come along as we smell, see, taste, touch, and listen to the beautiful sounds of this holiday at 5 PM, and stay and hang in our sukkah for dinner immediately following. All are welcome for the service, but please RSVP for dinner.

**RSVP at [templesinaidc.eventbrite.com](http://templesinaidc.eventbrite.com)**

### Wednesday, October 2

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

### Friday, October 4

6:00 PM Tot Shabbat Service & Participatory Dinner Welcoming New TSNS Families  
8:00 PM Shabbat Service

### Saturday, October 5

**Torah Reading: Vayeilech (Deuteronomy 31:1-30)**

9:15 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Kehillat Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon

### Sunday, October 6

10:00 AM Community Memorial Services at the Garden of Remembrance, Clarksburg MD (second service at 2:00 PM)

### Monday, October 7

12:45 PM Daytimers  
2:15 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

### Tuesday, October 8 | Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidrei

6:30 PM Kehillat Yom Tov Bet Am Service & Early Sanctuary Service  
8:30 PM Late Sanctuary Service

### Wednesday, October 9 | Yom Kippur

8:30 AM Tot Service – Pre-readers through 2nd Grade  
9:15 AM Early Bethesda Service  
10:00 AM Sanctuary & Bet Am Services  
11:30 AM Late Bethesda Service  
1:00 PM Afternoon Programs  
2:15 PM Healing Service  
3:15 PM Mincha, Yizkor and Neilah Services  
6:45 PM Congregational Break the Fast sponsored by TSWRJ

### Friday, October 11

6:30 PM Shabbat Service

### Saturday, October 12

**Torah Reading: Haazinu (Deuteronomy 32:1-52)**

9:15 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Family Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon  
10:30 AM Shabbat Service – B'nei Mitzvah of Isabelle Hyman & Ethan Pendelton  
1:00 PM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group  
5:30 PM Shabbat Mincha Service – Bar Mitzvah of Skyler Wolff

### Sunday, October 13 | Erev Sukkot

11:15 AM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group  
5:00 PM 5 Senses of Sukkot: Tot Service & Festive Dinner

### Monday, October 14 | Sukkot

10:00 AM Community Sukkot Festival Service & Kiddush Luncheon at Temple Emanuel

### Wednesday, October 16

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

### Thursday, October 17

10:00 AM Everyday Morality (Mazo Adult Ed Series)  
7:30 PM TSMRJ Tacos & Tequila in the Sukkah  
7:30 PM YAWS Meeting

### Friday, October 18

6:30 PM Sukkot Shabbat Service & Dinner with Find-Your-Connection Fair



**Saturday, October 19***Torah Reading: Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot (Exodus 33:12-34:26)*

- 9:15 AM Torah Study
- 10:30 AM Kehillat Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon
- 10:30 AM Shabbat Service – B'not Mitzvah of Sonali Cohen & Abigail Greenberg
- 1:00 PM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group
- 5:30 PM Shabbat Mincha Service – B'nei Mitzvah of Ben Ersek & Clara Lipppe

**Sunday, October 20 | Erev Simchat Torah**

- 11:15 AM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group
- 6:30 PM Erev Simchat Torah Festival Service & Oneg

**Monday, October 21 | Simchat Torah**

- 10:00 AM Community Simchat Torah Festival Service & Kiddush Luncheon at Temple Shalom

**Wednesday, October 23**

- 7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Thursday, October 24**

- 10:00 AM Everyday Morality (Mazo Adult Ed Series)

**Friday, October 25**

- 6:30 PM Shabbat Service

**Saturday, October 26***Torah Reading: B'reishit (Genesis 1:1-6:8)**NFTY MAR Event*

- 9:00 AM Saturdays at Sinai
- 9:15 AM Torah Study
- 10:15 AM Kaddish Minyan
- 1:00 PM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group

**Sunday, October 27**

- 11:00 AM New B'nei Mitzvah Parent Get Together (offsite)
- 11:15 AM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group

**Monday, October 28**

- 2:00 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Wednesday, October 30**

- 7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Thursday, October 31**

- 10:00 AM Everyday Morality (Mazo Adult Ed Series)

**Sukkot Shabbat Service & Dinner with Find-Your-Connection Fair****Friday, October 18 at 6:00 PM**

Before and after a festive Sukkot Shabbat service, representatives from Temple Sinai's wide range of activities will be on hand to talk with you and answer your questions. Whether you are a new member or have been here for years, come and chat about all the exciting opportunities for connection at Temple Sinai—from book clubs to social action to music and beyond.

If you have joined the temple this year or are celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup> year as a member, dinner is on the Membership Committee!

**RSVP at [templesinai.org.eventbrite.com](https://templesinai.org/eventbrite.com)****Simchat Torah Service & Oneg**  
**Sunday, October 20 at 6:30 PM**

At this Simchat Torah festival service, congregants of all ages will join in seven *hakafot* (processionals) around the sanctuary with flags, festive music, and dancing and singing in honor of the Torah. The service will be followed by a sweet Oneg.

**Saturdays at Sinai****Saturdays, October 26 and November 23 at 9 AM**

Join us in an open-play space for toddlers and preschoolers. Leave the house, bring your children and stay at Sinai for a morning full of creative exploration and nurturing fun. Sinai clergy will visit and a Temple Sinai Nursery School faculty member will also be on hand. Please note, children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver. All are welcome; no RSVP required.

**November 2019****Friday, November 1**

- 6:00 PM Tot Shabbat Service & Participatory Dinner
- 8:00 PM Shabbat Service

**Saturday, November 2***Torah Reading: Noach (Genesis 6:9-11:32)*

- 9:15 AM Torah Study
- 10:30 AM Kehillat Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon
- 10:30 AM Shabbat Service – B'not Mitzvah of Arielle Citrin Miller & Lydia Kestnbaum-Cook
- 1:00 PM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group
- 5:30 PM Shabbat Mincha Service – Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Selfridge
- 8:00 PM Theater Outing: RIGHT TO BE FORGOTTEN at Arena Stage

**Sunday, November 3**

- 9:00 AM All Temple Read
- 11:15 AM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group

**Monday, November 4**

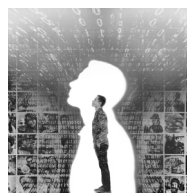
- 2:00 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Wednesday, November 6**

- 7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**New B'nei Mitzvah Parent Get-Together**  
**Sunday, October 27 at 11 AM**

Is your child having a b'nei mitzvah in 2021 or 2022? Please plan to join the Membership Committee and experienced parents at a member's home for an informational get-together. Invitations were sent in September; contact Karen Auerbach at [kauerbach@templesinai.org](mailto:kauerbach@templesinai.org) with questions.

**Theatre Outing: RIGHT TO BE FORGOTTEN at Arena Stage**  
**Saturday, November 2 at 8 PM**

The Internet never forgets. A young man's mistake at 17 haunts him online a decade later. Secrets, lies and political backstabbing abound in this riveting new drama about one man's fierce battle to reclaim his right to privacy. There may be a post-show talk-back (subject to availability).

**RSVP at [templesinai.org.eventbrite.com](https://templesinai.org/eventbrite.com)**

## College Parent Gathering

**Thursday, November 7 at 7 PM**

Did your child start college this fall? Whether your child is your first, second or last child to leave home, join other parents for a fun evening of sharing and socializing. Reconnect with old friends from Temple Sinai Nursery School or Religious School and meet other Temple Sinai members you don't already know!

This gathering will be at a member's home. Light dinner and drinks will be served. For more information, please contact Susan Mayer, [smayerd@yahoo.com](mailto:smayerd@yahoo.com) or Claudia Ades, [claudia.ades@gmail.com](mailto:claudia.ades@gmail.com).

## 1st Grade Consecration Shabbat Service & Participatory Dinner

**Friday, November 15 at 6:30 PM**

At this special service, we have the joy and honor of blessing our newest class of learners and welcoming them into a formal course of study in their Jewish lives.

**RSVP at [templesinai.org.eventbrite.com](https://templesinai.org/eventbrite)**

## Environmental Justice Lunch & Listening Session

**Saturday, November 16 at 12 PM**

Come help the Green Team choose a project to focus on this year! Initiatives include adopting clean energy in public schools, reducing waste in places of worship, minimizing transportation's impact on carbon emissions, and the Religious Action Center Environmental Justice cohort. Your input and ideas will help shape the Green Team's agenda.

Lunch will be provided at 12, following the Kehillat Shabbat service. The listening session begins at 12:30. To RSVP, please email Rachel Hynes at [rhynes@templesinai.org](mailto:rhynes@templesinai.org). Questions? Contact Regina Ziegler at [zieglerrg@gmail.com](mailto:zieglerrg@gmail.com) or Robyn Miller-Tarnoff at [robynmtwork@gmail.com](mailto:robynmtwork@gmail.com).



## Temple Sinai Goes to College

**Saturday, November 16, 10 AM-3 PM**

Join Temple Sinai Religious School as we take a trip to visit The University of Maryland to begin college tours. This trip for 10th and 11th graders will provide

students with exposure to a university campus, facilitate investigation of Jewish identity and promote understanding of potential Judaism based involvement on campus!

Please meet at Temple Sinai and be ready to leave on the bus at 10:00 AM. We are leaving promptly to make it to UMD to begin our day! If you have any questions please reach out to Emily Halpern at [ehalpern@templesinai.org](mailto:ehalpern@templesinai.org).

**RSVP at [templesinai.org.eventbrite.com](https://templesinai.org/eventbrite.com)**

### Thursday, November 7

10:00 AM Everyday Morality (Mazo Adult Ed Series)  
7:00 PM College First Year Parent Gathering (offsite)

### Friday, November 8

6:30 PM Shabbat Service

### Saturday, November 9

*Torah Reading: Lech L'cha (Genesis 12:1-17:27)*

9:15 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Family Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon  
10:30 AM Shabbat Service – B'not Mitzvah of Morgan Ammerman & Julia Coviello  
1:00 PM multiracial Sinai Discussion Group  
7:00 PM A Night With the Stars: Celebrating Senior Cantor Laura Croen's Silver Anniversary with Temple Sinai

### Sunday, November 10

11:15 AM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group

### Monday, November 11

12:45 PM Daytimers

### Wednesday, November 13

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

### Friday, November 15

6:30 PM Consecration Shabbat Service & Dinner

### Saturday, November 16

*Torah Reading: Vayeira (Genesis 18:1-22:24)*

9:15 AM Torah Study  
10:00 AM Temple Sinai Goes to College  
10:30 AM Kehillat Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon  
10:30 AM Shabbat Service – B'not Mitzvah of Lillian Pollock & Danielle Widra  
12:00 PM Environmental Justice Lunch & Listening Session  
1:00 PM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group  
5:30 PM Shabbat Mincha Service – B'nei Mitzvah of Lindsey & Samuel Cutler

### Sunday, November 17

11:15 AM Multiracial Sinai Discussion Group  
2:00 PM Thanksgiving Baskets Project

### Monday, November 18

2:00 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

### Wednesday, November 20

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

### Thursday, November 21

7:30 PM YAWS Meeting

### Friday, November 22

6:30 PM Homes & Hearts for Sinai House Shabbat Service & Festive Oneg

### Saturday, November 23

*Torah Reading: Chayei Sarah (Genesis 23:1-25:18)*

9:00 AM Saturdays at Sinai  
9:15 AM Torah Study  
10:15 AM Kaddish Minyan

### Sunday, November 24

9:00 AM TSWRJ Chanukah Mart

### Friday, November 29

6:30 PM Shabbat Service

### Saturday, November 30

*Torah Reading: Tol'dot (Genesis 25:19-28:9)*

9:15 AM Torah Study  
10:15 AM Kaddish Minyan



## December 2019



## Thanksgiving Basket Project

**Sunday, November 17 at 2 PM**

Join our annual tradition of providing tikkun olam for needy families! Help us put together Thanksgiving bags full of

food that we will give to several non-profits for distribution. We need volunteers to help transport groceries from the supermarket to Temple Sinai and then we need lots of help to decorate and assemble them. This a great social action activity for families and all ages welcome!



## Shonim B'Yachad: Celebrating Our Differences

**Thursday, December 5 at 7:30 PM**

Join us, as well as Amir Tibon, Washington DC correspondent for Haaretz, for our annual celebration of winning art work by Israeli elementary and secondary school students on the subject of understanding the other. Amir will discuss the current political situation in Israel and the prospects for building a stronger shared society. All are welcome.

## Praying With Our Feet

**Saturday, December 7 at 9 AM**

Praying With Our Feet has a simple mission: to celebrate the spirit of Shabbat by gathering with other Temple Sinai members to make the world a better place. After a short Shabbat prayer and chance to meet each other, our group will work at A Wider Circle until noon. We will

have the chance to do any of the tasks AWC needs from heavy lifting and moving furniture to sorting linens and baby toys.

**RSVP at [temple-sinai-dc.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/temple-sinai-dc)**

## Shabbat Service &amp; Festive Pre-Chanukah Oneg

**Friday, December 20 at 6:30 PM**

Join us for a special Shabbat service featuring Middle Matzah Conspiracy (our TS band!) followed by a festive

pre-Chanukah oneg with sufganiyot and fun Chanukah giveaways.

**Monday, December 2**

2:00 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Wednesday, December 4**

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Thursday, December 5**

10:00 AM When Does Life Begin? (Mazo Adult Ed Series)

7:30 PM Shonim B'Yachad Speaker &amp; Art Exhibit Opening

**Friday, December 6**

6:00 PM Tot Shabbat Service &amp; Participatory Dinner

8:00 PM Shabbat Service

**Saturday, December 7***Torah Reading: Vayetzei (Genesis 28:10-32:3)*

9:00 AM Praying With Our Feet at A Wider Circle

9:15 AM Torah Study

10:30 AM Kehillat Shabbat Service &amp; Kiddush Luncheon

10:30 AM Shabbat Service – B'nei Mitzvah of Benjamin Blier &amp; Simone Joyner

5:30 PM Shabbat Mincha Service – Bar Mitzvah of Max Rubinstein

**Monday, December 9**

12:45 PM Daytimers

**Wednesday, December 11**

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Thursday, December 12**

10:00 AM When Does Life Begin? (Mazo Adult Ed Series)

**Friday, December 13**

6:30 PM Shabbat Service

**Saturday, December 14***Torah Reading: Vayishlach (Genesis 32:4-36:43)*

9:15 AM Torah Study

10:30 AM Family Shabbat Service &amp; Kiddush Luncheon

10:30 AM Shabbat Service - Bat Mitzvah of Liliana Katz-Hollander

**Sunday, December 15**

10:00 AM TSNS Winter Concert

**Monday, December 16**

2:00 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Wednesday, December 18**

7:30 PM TSWRJ Mah Jongg

**Thursday, December 19**

10:00 AM When Does Life Begin? (Mazo Adult Ed Series)

7:30 PM YAWS Meeting

**Friday, December 20**

6:30 PM Shabbat Service &amp; Festive Pre-Chanukah Oneg

**Saturday, December 21***Torah Reading: Vayeishev (Genesis 37:1-40:23)*

9:15 AM Torah Study

10:15 AM Kehillat Shabbat &amp; Kiddush Luncheon

**Friday, December 27**

6:30 PM Community Shabbat Service at Adas Israel

**Saturday, December 28***Torah Reading: Mikeitz (Genesis 41:1-44:17)*

9:15 AM Torah Study

10:15 AM Kaddish Minyan

# HONOR OUR HERITAGE BUILD OUR FUTURE

THE \$10 MILLION CAMPAIGN FOR TEMPLE SINAI

## Ways to Engage

- If you have already given, commit to engaging others
- Volunteer to host a small gathering (we'll help!)
- Invite a member to join you at a campaign info session
- Join individual and small group meetings; help with email or other outreach activities

## Project Highlights

- Flexible meeting, gathering and educational spaces
- A sanctuary for the next 70 years
- Improved building access and security
- Outdoor play and reflective spaces that honor our natural resources
- Sustaining funds for clergy and programs

**T**his is an historic moment for Temple Sinai! Our congregation is thriving — bursting at the seams with members and energy. The **Honor Our Heritage Build Our Future** campaign unites our community around a sense of shared purpose and commitment to Temple Sinai as a home of progressive Judaism for generations to come. We are at just over 26% participation of our 1,200 member families. We hope these High Holy Days will inspire you to join our campaign and build our future.

As we enter this season of reflection and introspection, consider all the ways you engage in our Temple Sinai community. Do you observe Shabbat, sing in the choir, or pray with your feet through social action? Have you or your children delivered a D'var Torah from the bimah? Experienced the warm embrace of the Nursery School, the dynamism of the Religious School, or the stimulation of Adult Education? Played mah jongg, baked challah, noshed hamentaschen, run a 5K for Sinai House? Traveled to Israel? Been comforted by our kind, wise clergy at a shiva service or during an overflow crowd in our sanctuary following unspeakable acts of hatred? Think about the many ways Temple Sinai brings us together as a *kehillah kedosha* — a holy community.

Now consider how this project will enhance the life and sustainability of our congregation. Congregants of all ages will gather in the new lobby and community lounge, meet and study in multipurpose rooms, play and reflect in outdoor spaces. Our more flexible sanctuary will welcome people with disabilities and accommodate different types of services.



TEMPLE SINAI BUILDING STUDIES: View from New South Plaza

cox graae + spack architects   
2019 February 20  
copyright © cox graae + spack architects 2019

Concept drawing of the new addition and new south entrance to the temple. [See more at at templesinaidc.org/capital-campaign](http://templesinaidc.org/capital-campaign).

As a community that embraces ritual observance, Jewish education, *tikkun olam* and the enduring values expressed by the Reform movement, our newly redefined and reconfigured space will be alive with members and dynamic programs. The green space around us will honor the environment and our sacred spaces will deepen our spirituality.

If you are not yet involved in the campaign as a volunteer or donor, please join us now! Learn more at [templesinaidc.org/capital-campaign](http://templesinaidc.org/capital-campaign) or contact Development Coordinator Noah Benjamin at [nbenjamin@templesinaidc.org](mailto:nbenjamin@templesinaidc.org) to get in touch with our campaign leadership.

## L'Dor Vador: Your Role In Supporting Our Future

Unlike many institutions where affiliation comes and goes, connections to Temple Sinai last a lifetime, often for generations. As we near our 70th anniversary, join us in coming together to build a space where our community can thrive for the next 70 years.

IF I AM NOT FOR MYSELF, WHO WILL BE FOR ME?

IF I AM ONLY FOR MYSELF, WHAT AM I?  
IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

-- Hillel the Elder in Pirkei Avot 1:14

# TIKKUN OLAM— SOCIAL ACTION @ SINAI

**T**emple Sinai remained active and engaged on a variety of social action fronts during the summer and the fall promises to be even busier! The arrival of Blondy's brother Joseph and his family brings to five the number of asylum seekers we are sponsoring and has kept our Refugees, Asylum Seeker and Immigration Support Group (RAIS) busy all summer. Volunteers are needed to assist with their support. Please contact Catherine Ribnick at [ca.ribnick@gmail.com](mailto:ca.ribnick@gmail.com) if you can help. In addition, financial contributions to the Social Action fund would be most appreciated to help with the financial support we are providing.

There will inevitably be more to do in the coming months and we hope even more people can join the extraordinary group of individuals engaged in our wide ranging activities. Read on for a sample of what each of our social action initiatives are engaged in and check out the Social Action menu on the temple's website for even more. You may also contact Glenn Engelmann, Social Action Committee Chair at [glenn.engelmann@gmail.com](mailto:glenn.engelmann@gmail.com) for more information or to join the Social Action Google Group to receive up to date information regarding social action related events.

## Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)

Temple Sinai's Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) Core Team focuses in Fall-Winter 2019-2020 on affordable and public housing in DC, on family-sustaining jobs for lower income people, and community safety.

On **Thursday, October 17**, Core Teams from WIN's 40 congregations will meet to evaluate our progress as we prepare for the 2020 campaigns. Sign up for a Research Team and report back with us to the larger group on October 17. These Teams will dig into the history and current politics of the subject, meet with stakeholders and public officials, and prepare presentations to help educate our base on the issues. Sign up today—no prior expertise needed!

- **Reservation 13:** Explore affordable housing and job commitment opportunities for these 67 acres of land on the Anacostia Waterfront, up for redevelopment soon.
- **Public Housing:** Explore ways to maintain 2,215 public housing units along the waterfront that are being threatened by potential privatization.
- **Living Wage Jobs and WMATA Land:** Push WMATA to re-establish training programs and pass an affordable housing policy on WMATA-owned land.
- **Community Safety:** Research the forces behind the high rates of gun violence in Wards 7 and 8, best practices in violence prevention, and how to foster safer and healthier communities.

Ready to sign up? Contact WIN Core Team Chair Barbara Kraft, [bjkraft1@gmail.com](mailto:bjkraft1@gmail.com), (202) 365-0014.

The Temple Sinai community is our sponsor who helps us with social activities and administration/financial support. We are very much better and very grateful for this help.

-Blondy Mayele, the asylum seeker Temple Sinai has been sponsoring since January.

La famille Temple Sinaï c'est notre sponsor extraordinaire il nous aide financièrement, administrativement, matériellement et moralement nous sommes très heureux très contents au nom de ma famille je vous remercie pour votre soutien et vous souhaite de bonnes choses car nous sommes très reconnaissants et graves de toutes notre vie quotidienne une fois de plus ont vous dire merci beaucoup.

*The Temple Sinai family is our extraordinary sponsor who helps us financially, administratively, materially and morally. We are very happy. On behalf of my family, I thank you for your support and wish you all good things. We are very grateful for all that you have done for our daily life. Once again, I thank you very much.*

-Joseph Mayele, Blondy's brother who along with his wife and two young children also being sponsored by TS.



## Temple Sinai Gun Violence Prevention Group

2019 Irving J. Fain Social Justice Award Winner

The Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism (CSA), has awarded a 2019 Irving J. Fain Social Justice Award to Temple Sinai's Gun Violence Prevention Group. In making the award on August 22, 2019, the Commission cited the GVP Group as an "outstanding initiative."

Temple Sinai and the GVP Group founded in July 2016 will receive the award certificate and a special poster during the Biennial meeting of the Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) in Chicago, IL, Dec. 11-15, 2019.



The award announcement noted that "as we shine a spotlight on your program at our Movement's largest gathering, we hope it will serve as an inspiration to the greater Reform Jewish community, encouraging others to undertake similar inspiring initiatives... We are very excited about the opportunity to share your innovative program with the rest of the Reform Movement!"

According to the RAC web site, "Irving J. Fain was a passionate proponent of social justice and served for a decade as Chair of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism. The Fain Awards, established in 1983 in his honor and memory, are awarded every two years to congregations whose work in the area of social justice is exemplary. The Fain Award is bestowed for "tikkum olam" projects that are "innovative, multi-generational, and replicable," and that "galvanize the congregation and community around a social justice issue, stand with vulnerable populations in time of need, effect legislative change at the local, state or [federal] level, develop [social justice] leaders within the congregation, foster sacred and civil dialogue, and partner across lines of race, class and faith."

Temple Sinai last shared an Irving J. Fain Social Justice Award in 2013 with four other DC metro area Reform temples in a "Dream for Equality" project: "organizing to pass Maryland 2012 Ballot Questions 4 & 6 regarding "civil marriage equality and access to higher education for the children of undocumented immigrants."

For further information and to join the GVP Group, please contact [steve.klitzman@gmail.com](mailto:steve.klitzman@gmail.com). Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 23 at 7:30 PM. Join us!

Social Action has been my go-to activity ever since we joined Temple Sinai after we moved to DC from San Diego almost 52 years ago. We marched in protests against the Vietnam War in the 70's and housed students who came to town to protest through a housing program of the Religious Action Center. One of our more memorable groups were 7 young men and one young woman from Yale (it had just become Co-Ed) who stayed with us for two days. A very "scary" bunch: four men played bridge; two studied; one made phone calls to family and friends in San Diego (turned out he was the son of a judge we knew from there); and the girl ran around waiting on all of them (it was very early in the women's rights movement...) I remember making a huge vat of soup — "Protest Soup" — which was the best soup I have ever made and one I have never since been able to replicate. Sigh....

-Ann Ingram

## Volunteer at SOME

**Sundays, October 27, November 24 and December 22, 6:30-9:30 AM**

Volunteer with Temple Sinai members to serve breakfast at So Others Might Eat (SOME). Students (13 years+) may receive service learning/ community service credit. Since 2006, Temple Sinai members have committed to address by providing volunteers monthly; this is a regular, not one time, volunteer opportunity. For information how to sign up to join the Temple Sinai SOME breakfast bunch, contact Terri Salus at [TerriSalus@gmail.com](mailto:TerriSalus@gmail.com) or (301) 587-5017.



L to R: Howard Oppenheim, Elena (SOME staff), Joe Godles, Gail Rebhan, Lester Scall, Terri Salus, and Wendy Kahn.



# SINAI STORIES

Story telling is a part of our Jewish tradition—it connects us with each other and our shared history, and binds us together for the future. Sinai Stories is a series about our own connections to one another, Temple Sinai, and the larger Jewish community.

If you are interested in sharing your story, please email coordinator Marcie Solomon at [marcie.solomon@gmail.com](mailto:marcie.solomon@gmail.com).

## CHILDREN WILL LISTEN

Katie Herman

September marks the start of school and, shortly after, Temple Sinai Religious School. The end of Summer's "lazy" months brings a hectic period of chauffeuring our children to and from secular activities like travel hockey, baseball, and school clubs, along with religious school, Chug Ivrit and now bar mitzvah preparation.

I won't deny that we endure complaints from our 12 and 10 year-old sons about studying Hebrew or attending class at Sinai. Going to religious school, observing high holidays and family traditions, honoring the concept of tzedakah, becoming a bar mitzvah—those are actions that we as parents have experienced and that we now "require" of our children. But how do children really claim their own identities in the face of the principles that parents impose? How do they identify as Jews? What does it take to own that identity, and, hopefully, embrace it?

These difficult, often painful, times in our country have pushed us to focus on the concept of identity. Who is American and who is not? Who belongs here and who does not? I suspect that this tension prompts almost all of us to reflect on our own identities and how we fit into the reckoning that our country is experiencing.

My husband, Andrew, and I often share our family stories with our boys, in effort to foster an appreciation of our Jewish heritage: Your mother's grandfather and his brother fled Kiev nearly a century ago—first to Paris before settling in Chicago. His parents were later shot and killed at Babi Yar. Your father's grandmother, a nurse who grew up in Kitzingen, Germany, left for Palestine in the early 1930's after seeing Nazis beat up Jewish doctors. Your grandmother came here as a little girl on a boat, watching the Statue of Liberty appear on the horizon.

Last December, we stood inside a rebuilt synagogue in Kitzingen. Andrew's great



Leo, Asher, Andrew and Katie with Andrew's mom, Michele Herman, at Rödelsee Jewish Cemetery outside of Kitzingen, Germany.

grandfather was a leader there before the Nazis burned it to the ground on Kristallnacht. This, we thought, will resonate with the boys—surely they will feel the history and weight of their Jewish identity. Instead, as we posed for a photo in front of the doors, one son punched the other in a trivial dispute.

We can't force an identity on our children simply through sharing family history or even by visiting the old country. We can create opportunities, have conversations, answer tough questions and allow them to explore. They must come to define and embrace who they are as individuals through their own experiences in the world. Together we process the daily reports of otherness, separation, exclusion, and hatred. We remind them that we, as Jews, have experienced this before. They ask us questions; they reflect; they interpret the events of the day.

This summer, as I made my annual purge of schoolwork brought home from the past year, I found several autobiographical assignments from each son. It struck me their work included a Star of David, a description of our family Seder, and even a mix-tape with a song entitled "Going to Temple."

As the great Broadway composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim wrote, "Careful the tale you tell. That is the spell. Children will listen."

# ADULT EDUCATION

## Studying With the Rabbi

### **Rabbi's Class: Tremendous Texts in Memory of Rabbi Aaron Panken** *1st and 3rd Tuesdays beginning October 15 at 10 AM*

This year's class is inspired by and in memory of one of the most popular classes taught at HUC-JIR by Rabbi Aaron Panken, z"l, professor of rabbinic literature and president of HUC-JIR. We will study fifteen different rabbinic texts that explore significant concepts in depth. The texts will be drawn from Talmud, Midrash and other rabbinic writings. The course is designed so that each session will stand on its own; please come even if you cannot make every session. Those who attend every session, however, will find that the material builds on previous lessons and ultimately provides an overview of rabbinic literature and a deeper understanding how Judaism responds to some of the big questions of life.

*This class is led by Rabbi Roos and sponsored by the TSWRJ. It will run through May 2020. All are welcome.*

### **Shabbat Morning Torah Study** *Every Saturday at 9:15 AM*

A wonderful educational opportunity awaits all who attend weekly Torah Study on Saturday mornings. Led by our clergy, this group focuses on the Torah reading for the week. All are welcome.



### **Daytimers** *Mondays, November 11 and December 9*

We usually meet on the 2nd Monday of every month at 12:45 PM. These brown-bag lunch programs are designed to be both social and educational. For further information on the topics covered each month, stop by the TS Library's Daytimers display.

*In November*, we welcome Marvin Kalb for a discussion of his latest book, *Enemy of the People: Trump's War on the Press, the New McCarthyism, and the Threat to American Democracy*.

*In December*, we welcome Herb Mintz for "People of the Lab: Extraordinary Jews in the Nobel Prize Era and The Extraordinary Roles They Played in the History of Modern Medical Science."

### **Adult Hebrew**

Temple Sinai offers Hebrew courses for adult learners at a variety of levels from beginner to advanced. Are you interested in learning more about the Temple Sinai Adult Hebrew program? Reach out to Rabbi Hannah Goldstein at [hgoldstein@templesinaidc.org](mailto:hgoldstein@templesinaidc.org).

## Mazo Education Series

### **Everyday Morality** *Thursdays, October 17, 24, 31 and November 7 at 10 AM*

In this course, we're going to be wrestling with every day moral dilemmas, the sorts of which we each encounter all of the time in our lives. We'll consider questions like: "If and when is it okay to shame someone else for the sake of protecting another," and "Are there instances in which it is not only permissible to lie but in fact necessary?" We'll pose these every day moral dilemmas to classic Jewish sources and see what, if any wisdom, they have to offer us when confronted with these questions. In doing so, we'll attempt to not only answer the dilemmas before us but suggest a model for what it might look like to turn to Jewish texts for guidance on pressing questions of our times.

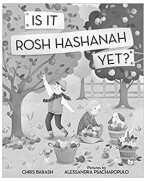
*This class will be taught by Rabbi Avi Strausberg.*

### **When Does Life Begin? A Look at Jewish Sources** *Thursdays, December 5, 12 and 19 at 10 AM*

Different religions have different beliefs on when life begins. What does Judaism say about this? This class will trace the Jewish understanding on the topic through the Bible, Mishnah, Talmud, Codes, and Responsa literature. We will follow the development of the Jewish belief in when life begins and the implications for attitudes on reproductive issues, including abortion.

*This class will be taught by Rabbi Fred N. Reiner.*

# TS LIBRARY



## High Holiday Books

Check out High Holiday books on display! We have books for every age and interest.

## Multiracial Sinai

Working closely with the Multiracial Sinai Committee the library has expanded our holdings of books on diversity and multicultural Judaism. Check out the displays on the kiosk and book cart as well as our annotated bibliography that includes books on the history of black/Jewish relations, works on diverse Jewish families, memoirs dealing with racial/cultural/sexual Jewish identities, and novels/graphic novels for teens and younger readers.



## Jewish Classics

Our library has a wonderful collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century Yiddish, Hebrew, and English classics including Sholem Asch, S.Y. Agnon, Isaac Babel, and Sholem Aleichem as well as many lesser known poets and writers. Library committee member Mitch Miller has compiled a comprehensive annotated bibliography with biographical information and historical contexts. Check out our kiosk

for a selection of books and feel free to take a copy of the bibliography home for future reference.

## Temple Sinai Librarian

Librarian, Ruth Polk, is in the Library on Mondays, 9:30-2:00 and Wednesdays 9:30-1:00, [rpolk@templesinai.org](mailto:rpolk@templesinai.org) or (202) 363-6394 ext. 218. The library operates on an honor system so you can check out books whenever the temple is open. Find all our listings in the online catalogue available on the temple website under the "Learn" tab.

## The Library Fund

Please consider donating to the Library Fund to support the purchase of new books and other media. By check, write Library Fund in the memo line or online under the donate tab scroll down to select Library. Thanks for your support!

### Curated Bibliographies

*Available in the library and on the library homepage*

- Dealing with Challenges of Health & Difference
- Israeli Fiction
- Jewish Social Action
- Jewish Classics
- Multiracial Sinai
- Streaming Israeli TV & Video

Most of us know how special and accomplished Rabbi Hannah Goldstein is. Those of us who have participated in her book groups over the past few years have discovered a particular talent. Rabbi Hannah is a voracious reader who understands literature and how it can capture the Jewish experience. She presents her fellow readers with insightful questions and particularly vivid passages to examine. We generally insightful and well educated book group members latch on to these cues and run with them for exciting discussions. We respect and learn from each other. The conversations are so good that we sometimes find ourselves feeling that some of our best discussions derived from books that we thought we liked least. Please join us for the People of the Book groups on select Tuesdays and the All Temple reads on select Sundays. Those of us on the library committee who work with Rabbi Hannah on picking the books know that you will be in for a delightful experience.

-Carolyn Gruber

I'm in three book clubs, but the Sinai one provides something special: the opportunity to find community at Sinai in a unique way - through books and interactions between new and old friends, Rabbi Goldstein's researched and skilled discussion facilitation, and a focus on books you might not otherwise read, such as new Israeli literature or iconic American fiction that spoke to a particular Jewish generation. Join us and reflect upon the Jewish experience through the lens of fiction and non-fiction!

-Gail Wides



### Sinai Reads

**Sunday, November 3 at 10 AM**

Rabbi Goldstein leads a discussion of *Kaddish.com* by Nathan Englander. All are welcome; no RSVP required.

*Upcoming All Temple Reads scheduled for Sundays, January 12 and April 19, 2020.*

People of the Book Club scheduled for Tuesdays, February 25 and June 2, 2020.



# TRAVEL WITH SINAI

To say that the 2018 Temple Sinai [Israel] trip was fantastic would be an understatement!! Although I could point to Israel on the map, I did not really know where Tel Aviv, Jerusalem or the Golan Heights were, let alone be able to string an intelligent sentence together about those places. Well no more. Both my wife and I, after the fun-filled trip, feel a much closer affiliation and dare I say, love, for the State of Israel. Certainly, we are more knowledgeable!

-Alan Korn

This trip made quite an impact on me. I learned so much ranging from ancient history through the history of the last 70 years. Mixed in with the profound historical and philosophical experiences were the joy of singing--and praying--together, and the pleasure of getting to know members of the group. Thank you for all your planning and for bringing us together.

-Melinda Salzman

*Join Temple Sinai  
on a memorable adventure in*

## ISRAEL

*Led by Rabbi Hannah Goldstein  
June 17-28, 2020*



### *On our adventure together we will...*

- ▶ Celebrate our B'nai Mitzvah in Jerusalem
- ▶ Explore Tel Aviv with visits to Old Jaffa, Nachalat Binyamin and the Ayalon Institute
- ▶ Visit the Druze village of Bukhata for home hospitality and insight into their unique community and culture
- ▶ Set out on an exciting jeep tour through the Golan Heights
- ▶ Travel to the mystical city of Safed to view the ancient synagogues and explore the art galleries
- ▶ Participate in a hands-on dig sifting the Temple Mount rubble for new and important artifacts
- ▶ Discover Jerusalem's Old City, with visits to the Jewish, Arab and Christian quarters
- ▶ Go underground for a tour of the remarkable Western Wall tunnels
- ▶ Ascend Masada to view the remains of King Herod's fortress
- ▶ Enjoy an unsinkable swim in the healing waters of the Dead Sea

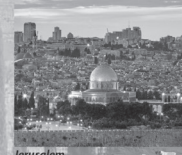
*...and so much more!*



Old Jaffa



Bukhata



Jerusalem



Dead Sea

*Join Rabbi Goldstein for a fun, interactive, hands-on Israel adventure for participants of every age. Our spectacular guide Julie will bring heritage and history to life as we explore and celebrate in this amazing land.*

**Ayelet** Tours, Ltd.  
www.ayelet.com

P 800-237-1517 • F 518-783-6003  
19 Aviation Rd., Albany, NY 12205

## Jewish Heritage Tour to the Balkans

**May 3-14, 2020**

Explore this wildly popular destination through a Jewish lens. One of today's best travel experiences!

Join Cantorial Soloist Robyn Helzner on a spectacular and eye-opening journey to Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina.

- Visit 16th century synagogues and historic Jewish cemeteries in Dubrovnik, Split and Sarajevo
- Celebrate Shabbat at the oldest Sephardic synagogue in the world
- View the renowned Sarajevo Haggadah
- Enjoy breathtaking Plitvice Lakes National Park - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Stop at the Jasenovac Memorial Site
- Learn songs of the Croatian and Bosnian Jews



Learn more at [www.helzner.com](http://www.helzner.com) or e-mail [rhelzner@templesinaidc.org](mailto:rhelzner@templesinaidc.org).

# NURSERY SCHOOL

**F**all is a busy time at Temple Sinai Nursery School (TSNS)! We began the year after Labor Day, welcoming the children and their families into our spaces with smiles, hugs, and support for a gentle transition into the routines of the school day. Our mornings are filled with sensory exploration, construction, artistic expression, cooking, singing, hypothesizing, connecting, and community building. The fun continues into the afternoon with Lunch Bunch, an opportunity for children to eat lunch in the company of their classmates and teachers, and varied enrichment programming including investigations into dramatic arts, cooking, Spanish, science, and pre-literacy.

We host several community-wide events during the fall. Our Parents' Evening on October 3 provides families with an opportunity to hear from Perri Iger-Silversmith, TSNS Director and other faculty members about all that is in store for the coming months. Our Family Chanukah Party on December 6 is a joyful celebration of the holiday lights, complete with gelt and latkes, and our Winter Concert, a major fundraiser, will host a phenomenal children's entertainer for a morning of singing and silliness on Sunday, December 15!

If you are looking for a way to support the Nursery School while getting your holiday shopping done, come to our evening event at Child's Play in November. The date of this event will be publicized around the Temple Sinai community.



*Temple Sinai clergy help TSNS students celebrate the holidays.*

Our fall is also filled with faculty professional development and parent education opportunities. We will be closing school on October 15 for a Staff Professional Day on which we will be learning with Amy Tiemann, author of *Doing Right by Our Kids: Protecting Child Safety at All Levels*, and this day of learning will be followed by related evening programming for parents. School will be closed again on December 12 as our entire faculty attends the Jewish Early Childhood Educators' Conference in Rockville, Maryland.

We are always thinking about how to give back to our community and to share the joy of mitzvot with the children, and this fall we have several Mitzvah Projects planned, including our Halloween Candy Drive in support of Operation Gratitude, an organization working with servicemen and women, and a Coat Drive in collaboration with Project Mensch.

Our tours for the 2020-2021 school year are ongoing and our greatest resource in drawing families to our program is through community word-of-mouth. We welcome Temple Sinai members and friends to visit our program and become a part of our early childhood family! Please contact us at (202) 362-2826 or [nurseryschool@templesinaidc.org](mailto:nurseryschool@templesinaidc.org) if you have questions or wish to join a tour.



# SINAI HOUSE

**M**embers of Temple Sinai took a bold step to combat homelessness in Washington, DC, by founding Sinai House in 1992. Our mission is to enable families to move from homelessness to independence by providing safe and affordable housing, comprehensive social services and financial support. Four formerly homeless families at a time live at Sinai House and work to achieve stability and independence in about two years. Executive Director Sadija A. Smiley designs an individual case management plan for each family member and coordinates a suite of wrap-around services, including Financial Literary Counseling, Educational Counseling, Mental Health & Well-Being, Career Development and Parenting Classes. The lives of more than 45 families, including more than 90 children have been changed thanks to the work of Sinai House. Sinai House does not receive direct funding from Temple Sinai, and relies on donations and grants from individuals, foundations and businesses.

## How You Can Help

- **The Board of Directors** participates in the rewarding work of planning our programs, writing grants or serving on our Building or Community Outreach committees. Come to our next bi-monthly meeting to see us in action on Thursday, October 17 at 7:30 PM at Temple Sinai.
- **Tutors** meet with elementary and middle school-aged children weekly and work on math, reading, science and language arts.
- **Playtime Facilitators** come weekly to play board games, walk to the park, or watch a movie with resident children. Play is essential for the cognitive, physical and emotional well-being of children and youth.
- **Mentors** spend time one-on-one with a child once or twice a month to go to a basketball game or engage in other shared interests. We are currently looking for someone to mentor a friendly, smart young man, who is starting high school. He has high-functioning autism, which doesn't interfere with his ability to relate to others. He likes to swim and play chess and video games.
- **Bar and Bat Mitzvah Projects** can include reading to toddlers, zoo trips and donating the proceeds of car washes and bake sales to Sinai House. Last spring, the Sinai House backyard playground and garden was redesigned by volunteer Scott Taft and installed by the Eagle Scout Troop of Daniel Rosentover and their families.
- To volunteer, visit [www.sinaihouse.org](http://www.sinaihouse.org) or e-mail [sinaihouse@gmail.com](mailto:sinaihouse@gmail.com).

## Mark Your Calendars!

### Homes & Hearts Shabbat

**Friday, November 22 at 6:30 PM at Temple Sinai**

Listen as a former Sinai House resident shares her inspiring story. Stay for the festive oneg following the service and chat with current and former residents, staff and board members.

### Tricia Davis 5K for Sinai House

**Sunday, May 10, 2020 at Rock Creek Park**



"Volunteering on the board has allowed me to feel more engaged and comfortable in the temple community as a whole. I now feel connected to the clergy and temple members when I attend services and events."

- Amy Schear, Sinai House board president (left) with Yensy Cundumi, the Sinai House graduate who spoke at last year's Homes & Hearts Shabbat



"It's fun to tutor the kids and they are enthusiastic about learning."

- Susan Kidd, who also decided to join the Sinai House board!



"I knew that this opportunity would allow me to make a meaningful contribution to families who are working to better their lives...While mentoring kids certainly comes with its challenges, the volunteering has been more rewarding than I ever anticipated. I'm continually amazed at just how smart and imaginative these wonderful kids are and I'm honored to spend time with them and help them."

- Scott Taft, who became involved with Sinai House after answering a post on the Volunteer Match website

# CONTRIBUTIONS

Temple Sinai gratefully acknowledges your gifts from mid-June to mid-August 2019; those honored are informed of your thoughtfulness. Your contributions support the work of the temple.

## Annual Fund 2019-2020

We all belong to the Temple Sinai community because we value Temple Sinai as an inclusive congregation that encourages innovative expression of faith through worship, learning, and social action. Our community expresses its values by comforting congregants in need, participating in learning from nursery school through adulthood, and supporting important causes, including gun violence prevention and the rights of refugees, asylum seekers, and other immigrants.

To continue to fulfill these important roles while keeping financial barriers to membership as low as possible, we need your help. Annual Dues remain our largest source of support, but simply do not provide the resources we need to fully support the yearly costs of the programs we value so much.

We rely on contributions to the Annual Fund to Temple Sinai to bridge the gap. The Annual Fund is the engine that allows Temple Sinai to live up to our mission and fully serve the needs of our members. Please join in supporting the Temple Sinai Annual Fund! Donations may be made at [www.templesinaidc.org/donate](http://www.templesinaidc.org/donate) or via check mailed to the temple.

If you would like to give to the Annual Fund as part of a pledge to the Honor our Heritage, Build our Future Campaign for Temple Sinai, you can make a pledge at [www.templesinaidc.org/capital-campaign](http://www.templesinaidc.org/capital-campaign). Or, you can reach out to learn more about the campaign by emailing Noah Benjamin in the Development office at [nbenjamin@templesinaidc.org](mailto:nbenjamin@templesinaidc.org).

### ANNUAL FUND

James & Esthy Adler, Ellen & Jeffrey Agler, Kent & Karen Allen, Nick Anderson & Esther Schrader, James Berry & Hali Edison, Glenn & Michelle Engelmann, Donald Fishman & Sonya Schwartz, Rita A. Gaylin, Marjorie & Gilbert Geldon, Elizabeth Ginsburg, Joseph Godles & Nancy Liebermann, Rabbi Robert Goldstein & Faith Klopman Goldstein, Hunter Hogewood & Jamie Yavelberg, Sally Neuberger & Laurence Jacobson, Erik Jaffe & Christine Mahoney, Richard Jerome & Elizabeth Rose, Ted & Laura Kalick, Michael & Jean Kaliner, Peter Kolker, Kenneth & Audrey Kramer, Marion Ein Lewin, Benjamin & Christine Lourie, Derek Ludwin & Stacey Brandenburg, Andrew & Julie Mannes, Robert & Anne Molofsky, Larry & Cinthia Ottinger, Matt Pachman & Marcy Berman, Morris Panner & Nancy Jardini, Richard Pollak, Cordell Ratner, Ezra Reese & Nilofer Azad, Dan & Flo Rosenblum, Laura & David Steel, Howard Widra & Beth Redlich, Anne Witkowsky & John Barker, Chip Wright & Marcy Harrison, Suzan Wynne

### BERNSTEIN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

**In Memory Of**  
Edwin Bernstein

**Donated By**  
Stephanie Bernstein

### CANTOR CROEN'S FUND

#### Donated By

Phyllis Myers, Arnold & Diane Polinger

#### In Honor Of

The Bar Mitzvah of  
Benjamin Mannes

The Bat Mitzvah of  
Hannah Weissman

#### In Memory Of

Joyce Greenwald

#### Donated By

Andrew & Julie Mannes

Kip Weissman & Kathy Balog

Eliot & Anita Greenwald

### CANTORIAL SOLOIST ROBYN HELZNER'S FUND

#### Donated By

David & Jo Ann Reiss

#### In Appreciation Of

The 20th anniversary of  
Kehillat Shabbat

Anonymous, Bruce Vinik  
& Virginia Levin, Stephen  
Messner & Elizabeth  
Prelinger

#### In Memory Of

Joyce Greenwald

Eliot & Anita Greenwald

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## ENDOWMENT FUND

### In Appreciation Of

Robyn Helzner & the 20th anniversary of Kehillat Shabbat

### In Honor Of

The marriage of Rabbi Hannah Goldstein & Josh Friedman

### Donated By

Martin & Syma Mendelsohn

Martin & Syma Mendelsohn

## KATHIE RABINOVITZ SINAI CARES FUND

### In Honor Of

Rabbi Adam Rosenwasser & Shalom Rosenberg's new baby

### Donated By

Suzanne Eichhorn & Lew Priven

## HIGH HOLY DAYS CONTRIBUTIONS FUND

### Donated By

Edward Angel & Susan LaMountain, Annie Binder & Michael Kubzansky, David & Anne Brill, Isabel Dunst, Suzanne Eichhorn, Anne Falk, Ellen Heiman, Rob Hendin & Lauren Aronson, Stephen Heyman & Susan Steinman, Erik Jaffe & Christine Mahoney, Lawrence & Gayle Klein, Mark Matulef & Dolores Acquista, Martin & Syma Mendelsohn, Ronald & Libby Merrill, Thorn & Sharis Pozen, Jean-Louis Sarbib & Lauren Brandt, Aaron Schuham & Christopher Anders, Steven Snyder & Deborah Eichhorn, Ronny & Hannah Tabeka, Laurence Wolff & Miriam Daniel

## LIBRARY FUND

### Donated By

Robert & Janis Colton

### In Memory Of

Belle Reiner

### Donated By

Rabbi Fred N. Reiner

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FUND

### In Memory Of

Shirley Agler  
Conrad Angel

Jeanne Levy & Frances Barth  
Samuel C. Bershon  
Townsend & Virginia Hawkes  
Howard Gersch  
Margery Ettlinger & Gussie Anderman

Clara Cimon  
Nelson B. Colton  
Rabbi David Max & Zelda Eichhorn  
Morton Eisman  
Albert Forman & Frances Harrison  
Floyd M. Lucas  
Robert G. Feldman  
Robert Pomerance  
Susan Traiman  
Charles Karsch, Rheba Alpert, Ana Finger & Beny Finger

### Donated By

Ellen & Jeff Agler  
Edward Angel & Susan LaMountain  
Michael & Marilyn Barth  
James & Barbara Bershon  
Robert & Helen Borochoff  
Jerry & Debbie Burg  
Arthur & Betsy Chotin

Marlene Cimon  
Robert & Janis Colton  
Suzanne Eichhorn & Family  
Babs L. Eisman  
David & Jane Forman  
Fairweather  
Anne Lucas Falk  
John & Liz Feldman  
Betty Ferber  
Lance Ferderer  
Harold & Arlene Finger

Edward Geller

Harold S. Goldstein

Edwin L. Goodman  
Leonard Greenberg

Isaac N. Groner  
Samuel A. Guttentag  
Rhoda P. Levin

Martha Segman

Daniel Honig  
Shirley Roslyn Liss & Mark Cohn  
Harold L. Jellinek  
Estelle Levine & Sam Kalb  
Fred Kaliner  
Naomi Kaminsky  
Phyllis P. Stein

Charlotte Kramer  
Bernard Krasne  
Dorothy Blau Meyers & James I. Meyers  
Alfred Liepold, Sr.  
Mark E. Gordon  
Norman Matulef

David S. Hausman  
Gladys Meer

Barbara Messner

Frances Miller  
Geraldine Mishel Brown & Barbara Mishel  
Henry Nadel  
Ada Neuman & Nina Merrick  
Anne Halpern  
Rose Lerner Perlman & Sol Phillips Perlman  
Mark Mendelsohn  
Isidore Hodes  
Julius Priven  
Madelyn Kahn Ribnick  
Mary Rosen & Gertrude Peller & Gertrude Peller  
Janeth Rosenblum  
Leslie Rosencrans

Dr. Irwin Rosentover

James W. Rubin & Aaron Bronstein

Kenneth Geller & Judith Ratner  
Mitchell Goldstein, Susan Schiffer & Samuel Goldstein  
Nancy Goodman  
Robert Greenberg & Jamie Agins  
Estelle Groner  
Joe & Merna Guttentag  
Bonnie Levin, Jon, Erin, & Alix Haber  
Bob Hartheimer & Nancy Golding  
Rick Honig & Dita Verheij  
Deborah & Kenneth Jaffe  
Jacqueline R. Jellinek  
Marvin & Madeleine Kalb  
Michael & Jean Kaliner  
Irving Kaminsky  
Susan, Jeffrey, & Raymond Kessler  
Kenneth & Audrey Kramer  
Bob & Hale Krasne  
Marci Meyers Levin

Alfred Liepold, Jr.  
Robert & Deborah Litt  
Mark Matulef & Dolores Acquista  
The Mauser Family  
Charles Thomas & Cary Meer  
Stephen Messner, Liz Prelinger, Benjy & Laura, & Fred  
Mitchell & Michele Miller  
Larry Mishel & Ellen Kurlansky  
Mark Nadel  
Monroe & Rosalind Neuman  
Elaine Parker  
T.S.L. Perlman

Michael & Jill Phillips  
Diane Polinger  
Lew Priven  
Catherine A. Ribnick  
Ted & Linda Rosen

Dan & Flo Rosenblum  
Chip Rosencrans & Candace Kaller  
Todd Rosentover, Alycia Weinberger, Daniel, & Justin Rosentover  
Nancie, Conall, & Jeremy Rubin-Thomas

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FUND (CONTINUED)

### In Memory Of

Ruth G. Herr & Louis J. Herr

Esther Sargon & Benjamin Sargon

Lilly Schwarzbart

Leonard Seligman

Dorothea Jamerson Days

Nuhem Gillel Feitlicher

Norman Stoll

Lillian Zeligson Judd

Allen M. Terdiman

Lee Fischer

Marian Manheimer

Susan Tarnoff

Priscilla Tievsky

Jonathan P. Weiss &

Reuben Oppenheimer

Joan Winkler

### Donated By

Judy Herr & Robert

Samuelson

Simon Sargon &

Bonnie Glasgow

Sandra Schwarzbart

Gary & Caryn Seligman

Daniel & Jacquelyn Serwer

Emma N. Sesay &

Noel P. Sesay

Peter Sherman & Tina Stoll

Michael Shulman &

Jackie Judd

Mark & Kathryn Spindel

Stephen Stein & Lisa Happ

Janie Stoll

The Tarnoff Family

Seth & Jan Tievsky

Stanley & Joan Weiss

Peter Winkler &

Barbara Kraft

## MUSIC FUND

### In Appreciation Of

Cantors Robins & Croen

### In Honor Of

The Birth of Kate Channing

The 60th Wedding Anniversary

of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lubic

### Donated By

Daytimers Committee

Nick & Carole Brand

Alvin & Linda Neuman

## RABBI GOLDSTEIN'S FUND

### Donated By

Alastair Fitzpayne & Jill Morningstar, Phyllis Myers, Arnold & Diane Polinger

### In Honor Of

The Bar Mitzvah of

Benjamin Mannes

The Bat Mitzvah of

Margaret Sussmann

The Marriage of Rabbi Hannah

Goldstein & Josh Friedman

### Donated By

Andrew & Julie Mannes

Michael & Apple Sussmann

Glenn & Michelle

Engelmann, Frank

Liebermann, Micah Lubens,

Amy Mauser, Thomas Plotz

& Catherine Klion

### In Memory Of

Jacob & Victoria Corober

Sherry Goldstein

### Donated By

Scott & Ilana Gordon

Darwin & Karen Walker

## RABBI LIPMAN SOCIAL ACTION & TZEDAKAH FUND

### Donated By

Richard Jerome & Elizabeth Rose, Sally R Neuberger

### In Honor Of

The Special Birthday of

Nancy Liebermann

### In Memory Of

Marianne S. Liebermann

Charlotte Levy & Philip

Paul Marcuson

### In Support Of

Refugee Relief & Lew

Priven's 80th birthday

Refugee Relief

### Donated By

Jeffrey Vinnik &

Joan Liebermann

### Donated By

Joseph Godles &

Nancy Liebermann

Esther Lipman

### Donated By

Mark Priven &

Beth Schlosberg

Glenn & Michelle

Engelmann, Daniel &

Jacquelyn Serwer, David

Stonner & Anne Schwartz,

Jack & Laura Summer

## RABBI ROOS'S FUND

### Donated By

Arnold & Diane Polinger, Robert & Rita Siegle

### In Appreciation Of

Rabbi Roos

In memory of Morris Krucoff

In memory of Paul Melvin Shatz

### In Honor Of

The Bat Mitzvah of

Margaret Sussmann

The Bat Mitzvah of

Hannah Weissman

### In Memory Of

Bernard & Sarah Gottlieb Hurwitz

### In Support Of

Rabbi Roos's refugee work

### Donated By

Robert & Faith Goldstein

His son

Janet Shatz Snyder

### Donated By

Michael & Apple Sussmann

Kip Weissman & Kathy Balog

### Donated By

Elaine H. Greenstone

### Donated By

Arnold & Maureen Binderman

Cheryl Schmauss

## RABBI ROSENWASSER'S FUND

### In Memory Of

Evelyn Kalick

### In Honor Of

The birth of Rabbi

Rosenwasser's son, Simon

### Donated By

Ted & Laura Kalick

### Donated By

Glenn & Michelle

Engelmann, Temple Sinai

Women of Reform Judaism,

Amy Mauser

## SINAI HOUSE

### Donated By

Kevin & Laura Hardy

### In Honor Of

The Bat Mitzvah of

Hannah Weissman

The birthday of Norman Friedman

### Donated By

Gary Lax, Mary Jane Dodson

Ellen Heiman



# WAYS TO GIVE

Temple Sinai relies on the generosity of our members for critical financial support. Annual member financial commitments and additional voluntary contributions allow us to go above and beyond to enrich members' Jewish lives and identities. There are many different ways you can provide philanthropic support to Temple Sinai in a way that is most convenient for you and your family:

- **Gifts of cash or check** can be mailed to the temple or dropped off at the temple front office.
- **Transfer of securities** make a meaningful contribution while avoiding capital gains taxes.
- For donors of 70.5 years of age or older, donating from the **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)** of your retirement account to Temple Sinai avoids adding the distribution to your taxable income for the year.
- **Online gifts can be made by credit card** for additional voluntary contributions.
- **Grants** from corporate or personal sources can be made to the temple.

You can also make a testamentary gift to Temple Sinai and join the many members of the Rimonom Society:

- **Outright Bequests** can be made by including Temple Sinai in your estate plans.
- You can include Temple Sinai as a beneficiary of your **Life Insurance** or **Retirement Plans**.
- **Charitable Gift Annuities** or **Remainder Trusts** can include Temple Sinai as a beneficiary in coordination with other organizations.

Visit [www.templestsinai.org/donate](http://www.templestsinai.org/donate) or contact our Development Office at [nbenjamin@templestsinai.org](mailto:nbenjamin@templestsinai.org) to learn more. Thank you so much for all you do to make Temple Sinai a Kehillah Kedoshah!

## The Rimonom Society

The Rimonom Society, established in 2002, recognizes those individuals who have included Temple Sinai in their estate plans or established another type of planned gift.

The name Rimonom has special meaning for Judaism and Temple Sinai. Long ago, the rimon or pomegranate became a symbol of the sweetness of Torah and because it is overflowing with seeds, it was likened to the fruitfulness of Torah and, by extension, Judaism. It symbolizes Torah, which is spread from generation to generation, thereby insuring its continuity. Rimonom also refers to the Torah crown that often decorates the Torah, especially at the High Holy Days and it is the shape of our ner tamid (eternal light) in Temple Sinai's sanctuary.



The rimon reminds us of the ability of Torah to sustain us. It is fitting, then, that members of the Rimonom Society are the congregation's own rimonom – planting the seed for a vibrant future and sustaining the temple. Rimonom Society members enhance our congregation and provide the means to carry on our work for generations to come. Their gifts create a legacy for the congregation and continuity of the Jewish people.

We recognize and thank our current Rimonom Society members.

Esthy & Jim Adler  
Chris Intagliata & Larry Asbell  
Ruth Baker-Battist & Lewis Battist\*  
Lois & Edward\* Berkowitz  
Rabbi Stephanie Bernstein & Henry Winokur  
Richard & Elaine Binder  
Judith & Robert\* Bor  
Leonard & Evelyn Coburn  
Isabel (Liz) Dunst  
David & Jane Fairweather  
Elizabeth (Robin) Farquhar  
Mike & Doris Feinsilber  
Patrice & Barney Feinstein  
Betty Ferber & Robert Pomerance\*  
Gary Friend & Tara Sonenshine  
Margot Fromer  
Frank & Ann Gilbert

Andrew Gilman & Dianne Rudo  
Niesa Brateman Halpern & James Halpern  
Ellen Heiman & Steven Agresta\*  
Ann Ingram  
Marc & Jeanie Kahn  
Sally & Louis\* Kaplan  
Laia Katz  
Barbara Kraft & Peter Winkler  
Marvin & Sally Kranz  
Arthur & Gigi\* Lazarus  
Martin & Syma Mendelsohn  
Libby & Ronald Merrill  
Herb & Barbara (Bobbe) Mintz  
Beverly & Mark Nadel  
Nancy Wolf & Jim Pavle  
Tom Plotz & Cathy Klion  
Rabbi Fred Reiner & Susan Liss

Sherry Levy Reiner\*  
Catherine Ribnick  
Edward (Ted) & Linda Rosen  
Daniel & Flo Rosenblum  
Charles (Chip) Rosencrans  
Sandra & Robert\* Schwarzbart  
Marsha Shaines & Robert Loesche  
Gertrude Slifkin  
Marcie Solomon  
Linda Popejoy & Seth Drew Speyer  
Ruth Uhlmann & Craig Mathews  
Nelly Urbach  
David Weber  
Rosann Wisman & Michael Lilek

\* Of Blessed Memory

If your name is not listed and you have included Temple Sinai in your estate plans or if you have questions about future legacy giving, please contact Ellen Agler at 202-363-6394 x210 or [eagler@templestsinai.org](mailto:eagler@templestsinai.org).

# GET INVOLVED

Temple Sinai is a community that values the active engagement of members in leadership and community-building. Committees, Task Forces, and Program Groups work in partnership with staff to help shape the direction of temple life and to engage members with particular interests and skills. Contact a liaison below to learn about how you can get involved:

## LIAISON

## COMMITTEE

David Wessel  
[wessel.sinai@gmail.com](mailto:wessel.sinai@gmail.com)  
 (202) 244-7118

**Administration** We provide guidance regarding office functions and general management of the congregation working in close coordination with the Executive Director.

Susan Schiffer  
[susanschiffer@hotmail.com](mailto:susanschiffer@hotmail.com)  
 (202) 966-3947

**Archives** We preserve the history of Temple Sinai by collecting and organizing its documents and photographs. We welcome new volunteers and are especially interested in finding people to research and write about the history of Temple Sinai.

Marta Goldsmith  
[marta.v.goldsmith@gmail.com](mailto:marta.v.goldsmith@gmail.com)  
 (202) 966-1306

**Building & Grounds** We oversee the repair and maintenance of the physical plant and grounds, and ensure adherence to environmental "green" principles.

Ted Rosen  
[gted666@gmail.com](mailto:gted666@gmail.com)  
 (301) 530-3403

**Cemetery** We coordinate the sale and marketing of Temple Sinai section at Garden of Remembrance Cemetery.

Ron Merrill  
[RNL.Merrill@msn.com](mailto:RNL.Merrill@msn.com)  
 (301) 365-0894

**Daytimers** We plan monthly lunch-time programs and speakers, giving congregants opportunities for socializing and providing them with new insights on a variety of topics.

Ken Jaffe  
[ken.jaffe@gmail.com](mailto:ken.jaffe@gmail.com)  
 (301) 951-7002

**Development** We work closely with Development staff, the Clergy and the Executive Director to create and oversee a plan for raising needed funds for temple operations and designated strategic priorities through philanthropic contributions and support.

Marcie Solomon  
[marcie.solomon@gmail.com](mailto:marcie.solomon@gmail.com)  
 (202) 362-4331

**Finance, Audit & Investment** We act on behalf of the Board of Trustees to oversee management of temple finances, including the annual audit and investment decisions, making regular reports to the board to support the Board's fiduciary responsibilities.

Regina Ziegler  
[zieglerrg@gmail.com](mailto:zieglerrg@gmail.com)  
 (301) 530-7607  
 Robyn Miller-Tarnoff  
[robymnt@comcast.net](mailto:robymnt@comcast.net)  
 (301) 320-4491

**Green Team** We develop environmentally conscious improvements at Temple Sinai and encourage similar commitments at the individual and community levels. We have also established a network to inform members about environmental programs, challenges, and opportunities at the local, regional, national, and global level as well as facilitate and coordinate action.

Mindy Garfinkel  
[mindy20814@gmail.com](mailto:mindy20814@gmail.com)  
 (301) 530-5228

**Israel Affairs** We help Temple Sinai engage in dialogue about Israeli current events in ways that reflect and respect the diverse perspectives within the congregation while also affirming Reform Judaism's position of support for the ideals upon which Israel was founded.

Sue Levine  
[levsue@gmail.com](mailto:levsue@gmail.com)

**Library** We work to maintain and expand our collection of Jewish materials for congregants of all ages, assisting in strengthening and enhancing our Jewish knowledge and identity.

Herb Mintz  
[mintzh@comcast.net](mailto:mintzh@comcast.net)  
 (202) 494-4026

Jill Chenok  
[chenokj@gmail.com](mailto:chenokj@gmail.com)  
 (301) 652-2941

**Membership** We celebrate new members and honor long-time members at our Member Celebration Shabbat each year. We personally deliver new members a Shabbat welcome bag, plan and organize small group gatherings throughout the year, and provide outreach to prospective members.

## LIAISON

Andrew Mannes  
[amannes@gmail.com](mailto:amannes@gmail.com)  
(301) 656-5552

Cathy Goldwyn  
[cgoldwyn1@icloud.com](mailto:cgoldwyn1@icloud.com)  
(301) 946-0145

Deitra Reiser  
[deitralou@gmail.com](mailto:deitralou@gmail.com)

Stephanie Lebow  
[lebow.stephanie@gmail.com](mailto:lebow.stephanie@gmail.com)  
(202) 363-7327

Myra Weinberg  
[myrafrances54@gmail.com](mailto:myrafrances54@gmail.com)  
(301) 320-5365

Julia Kepniss  
[julialichtman@hotmail.com](mailto:julialichtman@hotmail.com)  
(301) 215-7395

Julius Weiss  
[juliusbweiss@gmail.com](mailto:juliusbweiss@gmail.com)  
(202) 686-5359

Deborah Eichhorn  
[deichhorn111@msn.com](mailto:deichhorn111@msn.com)  
(301) 657-2760

Mike Raibman  
[mikeraibman@gmail.com](mailto:mikeraibman@gmail.com)  
(301) 915-0080

Karen Auerbach (staff)  
[kauerbach@templesinaidc.org](mailto:kauerbach@templesinaidc.org)  
(202) 363-6394

Amy Schear  
[aishear@starpower.net](mailto:aishear@starpower.net)  
(202) 966-5235

Glenn Engelmann  
[glenn.engelmann@gmail.com](mailto:glenn.engelmann@gmail.com)  
(202) 450-5716

Marsha Shaines  
[marsha.shaines@gmail.com](mailto:marsha.shaines@gmail.com)  
(301) 946-1482

Nancy Liebermann  
[nancyliebermann@gmail.com](mailto:nancyliebermann@gmail.com)  
(301) 652-2036

Lisa Tucker  
[lisahtucker@yahoo.com](mailto:lisahtucker@yahoo.com)  
(202) 364-6534

## COMMITTEE

**TSMRJ** We coordinate a variety of activities designed to serve Jewish men and the temple community, including educational events, social events, and support for temple holiday services.

**Multiracial Sinai** We provide guidance in affirming Temple Sinai's identity as a multiracial congregation and in identifying opportunities for improvement in aspects of our congregational life. We are committed to guiding Temple Sinai in becoming an affirmatively antiracist congregation through education, training, affinity groups and other programming.

**Music** We work with Senior Cantor Laura Croen to bring a wide range of vibrant musical programs, along with related festive dinners and one-ges, to our community.

**Nursery School** We work with the Nursery School Director to review and establish policy, support the Nursery School and the Nursery School Parent Association.

**Religious School** We work with the Director of the Religious School to review and establish school policies and support the educational program, teaching staff, and Director.

**Ritual** We work with clergy to review ritual policies and practices for Shabbat, High Holy Day and festival services, and life cycle events.

**SinaiCares** We provide support to members at times of illness, loss, hardship and celebration. We use volunteers to visit members and to deliver challahs, yahrzeit candles and baby baskets and we arrange transportation for members to Temple Sinai.

**Sinai House** We oversee the work of Sinai House, which provides housing at Sinai House for four homeless families, including children. Located in NW Washington, DC, Sinai House was purchased by the Temple Sinai Assisted Housing Foundation.

**Social Action** We coordinate social action programming based on collaboration with clergy and Board leadership reflecting priorities identified by the membership. We formulate positions on critical social justice issues for Temple Sinai and develop and implement local strategies to work toward achieving them.

**Strategic Planning** We oversee development and implementation of the Strategic Plan and report progress to the Board and the Congregation.

**TSWRJ** We enrich and strengthen the spiritual, cultural, and social life of TSWRJ members and promotes the education and welfare of the congregation, including social justice. We use a Jewish lens to approach everything we do: programming, education, social justice and community. We sharpen leadership skills through training and engagement. We draw broadly from the temple's membership and participate in temple-wide programs and initiatives. We follow best practices in governance and financial management.

## RITUAL STAFF & DIRECTORS

**Jonathan Roos**

*Senior Rabbi*

[jroos@templesinaidc.org](mailto:jroos@templesinaidc.org)

**Adam Rosenwasser**

*Associate Rabbi*

[arosenwasser@templesinaidc.org](mailto:arosenwasser@templesinaidc.org)

**Hannah Goldstein**

*Associate Rabbi*

[hgoldstein@templesinaidc.org](mailto:hgoldstein@templesinaidc.org)

**Laura Croen**

*Senior Cantor*

[lcroen@templesinaidc.org](mailto:lcroen@templesinaidc.org)

**Rebecca Robins**

*Cantor Educator*

[rrobins@templesinaidc.org](mailto:rrobins@templesinaidc.org)

**Robyn Helzner**

*Cantorial Soloist*

[rhelzner@templesinaidc.org](mailto:rhelzner@templesinaidc.org)

**Fred Reiner**

*Rabbi Emeritus*

[frednreiner@gmail.com](mailto:frednreiner@gmail.com)

**Mindy Portnoy**

*Rabbi Emerita*

[breenport@gmail.com](mailto:breenport@gmail.com)

**Ellen Agler**

*Executive Director*

[eagler@templesinaidc.org](mailto:eagler@templesinaidc.org)

**Perri Iger-Silversmith**

*Nursery School Director*

[TSNSdirector@templesinaidc.org](mailto:TSNSdirector@templesinaidc.org)



3100 Military Rd NW | Washington DC 20015 | [templesinaidc.org](http://templesinaidc.org) | 202.363.6394