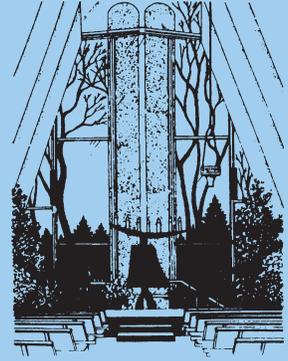


TEMPLE SINAI BULLETIN

Volume LIII, No. 5

January 2019



❄ WINTERFEST ❄

Do you like sledding, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, or hiking in the woods? Do you enjoy staying warm in front of a large fireplace in a cabin, socializing with new and old friends?

Either way, join us for a great afternoon and evening at our Annual Temple Sinai Winterfest! The event is always a hit, with about 100 people attending!

When: Saturday, February 2, 2019. Mid-afternoon through the evening
Where: Webster Park, Whitehouse Lodge
Cost: likely \$15/household

We will be coordinating all of the activities during the afternoon, then join together for Havdalah prayers, followed by hot soups, stews, desserts, music and friendship.

If you love hiking or snowshoeing or have never tried them – this day is for you! We will have a member of our congregation leading each of the groups.

Bring a board game or deck of cards and get a game going. Or bring your needlework, a good book, or just your desire for good conversation. Open to everyone, young and old alike!

Email or call with questions. Once the RSVPs are in, we will set up an online spreadsheet for food sign up. RSVP by January 10, 2019 to Vicki Finnefrock 330-6641 or vicki.w.finnefrock@gmail.com



Hearing Loop

The Temple Sinai Bulletin is published monthly by Temple Sinai,
363 Penfield Road, Rochester, NY 14625. Phone 585-381-6890 www.tsinai.org



Handicap Accessible

As I begin my sabbatical I have been reflecting on what I have gained by my previous periods of sabbatical time. During my first sabbatical, I spent a great deal of time studying Talmud. I was fortunate enough to be connected with a wonderful teacher, Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger. His knowledge and acumen helped expand an area of learning which was important for me to acquire.

Since those years, Rabbi Schlesinger, along with Ali Abu Awwad and Shaul Judelman, cofounded Roots/Shorashim/Judur, a joint Palestinian-Israeli grassroots peacemaking initiative dedicated to understanding nonviolence and transformation. This Palestinian-Israeli project meets on land owned by the Awaad family in Gush Etzion and abuts the Palestinian town of Beit Umar. This location is one of the rare places that both Palestinians and Israelis can access without special government permits, thus facilitating grassroots, unmediated get-togethers and deep conversations between people from the two sides.

Rabbi Schlesinger also visits various communities throughout the world, especially in the U. S. with Awaad demonstrating that important peaceful discussions can go on between Israeli Jews and Palestinians.

During my second sabbatical and continuing with this one I have continued to take advantage of various study experiences. This year I will join a CCAR rabbis' mission to Israel to learn about innovation and change. We will visit many sites of new endeavors in science, technology, and social change. In the past, missions have centered on learning about different places in Israel in order to run tour groups. One exciting mission dealt with

areas of justice and tikkun olam. We packed food with the organization Leket Yisrael, which has some similarities to Foodlink, here in Rochester. We rode a bus through a Haredi neighborhood to enable women to sit wherever they choose and not be relegated to the rear of the bus. We have prayed in a mixed gender minyan in the courtyard in front of the Western Wall. This was done with police protection. We also visited ecological projects as well as a vast solar panel energy field.



One of the most rewarding part of my visits has been the times when I was able to teach in our Partnership city of Modi'in. I taught in many different schools under the project called "Friends Across the Sea." My subject matter is to share how we live our lives as Jews here in Rochester and the U.S. I explain our lives as a minority culture. I describe the gender equality of Reform and Conservative Judaism. One of the curiosities I explain is how many of us observe Yom Kippur attending prayer services and fasting, yet we drive to our synagogues. Most of the students in the non-religious schools do not attend services yet they wouldn't dream of being in a car on Yom Kippur. Their favorite activity is to ride bicycles in the middle of major roads where no one is driving a car. As much as I have taught them, I have also learned from the many students with whom I had contact.

All of these sabbatical experiences have enriched my life as a rabbi. Hopefully I have passed some of what I have learned to many at Temple Sinai.

Shalom,

Rabbi Alan J. Katz

Contacting the Clergy

Please let the temple office (381-6890) know of any illnesses, deaths or joyous occasions so that the Rabbis and the congregation can respond appropriately. Also, remember not to schedule any life cycle events at which Rabbi Katz, Rabbi Till, or Cantor Braun will be present without speaking to them first.

To reach Rabbi Till in an emergency, please call 355-0192. To reach Cantor Braun in an emergency, please call 973-953-2489.

It is a mitzvah to visit those who are ill. Please remember that HIPAA regulations prevent hospitals from alerting us when someone is ill. We ask temple members who are aware that one of our members is in a hospital to please call the Temple Sinai office so that one of our Rabbis may visit them.



The beginning of 2019 marks the very middle of our Temple Sinai year that began this past July 1st, and what a very busy year it has been!

We now have Cantor Braun with us, and have had her official Installation at Temple Sinai, and have begun to experience her skills with our choir, Adult Education, and musical programming. We have had the opportunity to get to know her personally and welcome her family into our congregation.

Our temple kitchen renovation that began this summer is now complete. We have more counter and preparation space, a new "coffee bar," an ice machine, and a streamlined flow throughout. We are still working on the organizational parts, and have a wonderful committee, along with Women's Chavurah, working very hard on the details of a "Kitchen Shower" scheduled for March 3rd. This should help us obtain matching sets of the serve-ware and food preparation items we need so that we are no longer relying on mismatched donations that don't stack or store well.

We celebrated Pride Shabbat and participated in the Rochester Pride Parade, we celebrated Children's Shabbat and signed and sent advocacy letters about early intervention services for children, and we celebrated with four very special congregants on the occasion of their being called to the Torah as adult B'not Mitzvah. We are looking forward to marking Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month in February, with special services each Shabbat. We even have an ASL class starting in January to help teach Introductory sign language.

We began our Hart Society "Life & Legacy™" program this year and have been fortunate enough to have already connected with 25 congregants who signed up to guarantee their personal legacies in the future, and by doing so, have helped Temple Sinai both now and in our shared future. We also qualified for an

incentive grant through the Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Rochester and hope to continue adding new members to our Hart Society group.



We have also started our search for a new Executive Director to fill the role that Jerry Elman very ably initiated for us. We have a committee in place, headed by Keith Greer, that has revised the Executive Director job description to capture what we have learned and adjusted these past two years, and we will be posting the job for a national search just as this month's bulletin is mailed. We are indebted to our office staff (even more than usual!) Joyce Schachter, Bobbi Sarnov, and Holly Woloshyn have been exceptional in helping us in this transitional time. We also thank Ilan Adar for all his help with our audio-visual needs for the interim.

We have continued upgrading security and safety at Temple Sinai. We added our security guards for services and Sundays, and installed alarms on emergency exits to guarantee that we know who is entering the building at all times. We changed policies for rentals and committee meetings to ensure that entrances are secure at all times. We have many further additions to both our procedures and our plant and have a new Security Committee that will help us implement all the improvements.

Looking forward, although our temple calendar will be chock-full of events, especially mark your calendars for our new "Sinai Café" (an adult coffee house with entertainment) on Saturday, March 9th, and a Gala (details coming) on Sunday, April 28th immediately after Passover.

Looking forward to our next six months working, worshipping, celebrating and joining together.

Blanche Fenster

Temple Contacts

Rabbis

Alan J. Katz rabbikatz@tsinai.org
Debbi Till rabbitill@tsinai.org

Cantor

Renata Braun cantorbraun@tsinai.org

Education Director

Ilan Adar iadar@tsinai.org

Officers

President

Blanche Fenster

Secretary

Renee Brownstein

visit our website:
www.tsinai.org

Vice Presidents

1st V.P. and Administration Keith Greer

Congregant Connections Esther Brill

Finance Jamie Spiller

Education Karen McCally

Religious Practices Ellen Goldenberg

Youth Initiatives Barb Snyderman

Caring Community & Social Action

Abby Urban-Rifkin



School of Jewish Life & Learning Pinat Ha-Talmid (The Student Corner)

Unlike last year, when many trees had their leaves on at this time, this year the trees are naked from leaves; the ground is covered with snow; and the temperature outside means it is time to layer on the warm outerwear.

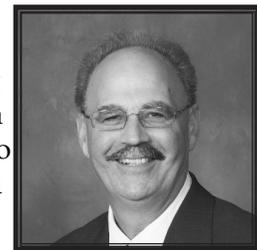
The month of December began with our annual Chanukah Happening (Bazaar), featuring many of our talented members. We thank all who visited the Bazaar; and all who helped us by purchasing candles and solar lanterns. And we thank Monika Katzel for her many years of organizing this wonderful event.

On Friday, Dec. 7, many of our families attended the Temple's Chanukah dinner, service, and program.

On Wednesday, Dec. 5 and Sunday, Dec. 9, our classes were visited by a few teachers from Modi'in, Israel, during their nine day visit to Rochester.

Sunday, Dec. 9, our students, Madrichim, teachers, and our friends from Modi'in gathered in the Social Hall to celebrate the

holiday of Chanukah. Our visiting teachers lit the Chanukah candles; we sang Chanukah songs; watched a few Chanukah-related video clips; and ate latkes covered with apple sauce. We thank Mara Chan, Sharyl Mahoney, Karen McCally, Randi Nelson, and Deborah Uman for their help in warming-up the latkes; and for making sure that everything was ready at the end of our program.



January Schedule of Events

Fri., Jan. 4: Shabbat Family service (6:00 p.m.) and *Shabbat Dinner with Friends* (7:00 p.m.); 4th and 5th grade students will help lead the service.

Fri., Jan. 11: Young Family Service, featuring our 3rd grade students, followed by Shabbat dinner

Sun., Jan. 13: Sprouts

Sat., Jan. 26: 7th grade Shabbaton

Sun., Jan. 27: 6th Grade Program w/parents (grandparents are welcome)

Han D. Adar

RATSY



RATSY had a special executive board meeting with Josh Nezon, NFTY-NEL Region Advisor from Toronto. We built a stronger community, brainstormed programs for the remainder of the year, and discussed ways to encourage more participation from Temple teens. If you have any suggestions, please let us know!

Our next RATSY event will be on January 26th, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Temple Sinai. It will be our version of Iron Chef, featuring a baking competition. Show off your baking skills...or critique others on their skills! If you haven't attended a RATSY event before, or if it's been awhile, we welcome you to re-engage and join our community of temple youth!

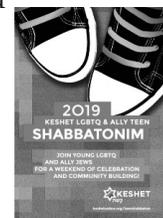
The next NFTY-NEL event will be March 1-3 in Buffalo, NY and we will continue to have information as it becomes available. If you are interested in attending the NFTY Convention in Dallas, TX, it will be the weekend of February 14th. The deadline for the convention is January 8th. For more details, visit <https://northeastlakes.nfty.org/get-involved/events/>. Scholarships may be available, so reach out to Jared Kronenberg for more information.

Keshet

Join Keshet (for LGBTQ equality in Jewish life) for a weekend of fun, community and learning for and by Jewish LGBTQ and ally teens at the **East Coast Shabbaton**: March 1-3, 2019, Capital Retreat Center, Waynesboro, PA. **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

Registration closes **February 1** or when capacity is reached. (This program has had a wait list in recent years, so early registration is encouraged!)

Meet new friends, learn about LGBTQ organizing and identities, and celebrate Shabbat with a warm, vibrant community of LGBTQ and ally teens and adults. This peer-led Shabbaton weekend of learning, Jewish ritual, and community building are open to LGBTQ and ally Jewish teens **grades 8-12**. Registration costs \$54, including programs, meals, lodging, and group transportation from select points. Scholarships are available for airfare and registration costs from Keshet and Temple Sinai. Contact youth@keshetonline.org for more information or Rabbi Till rabbittill@tsinai.org.



Within Our Family

Mazal Tov to...

Vicki and Tom Finnefrock on the birth of granddaughter Adira Elizabeth, daughter of Mike and Michelle Finnefrock

Lynn Doescher on her marriage to Harvey Reiner

Repairing the Planet II— Hope Through Action

When: January 23, 2019
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Where: Temple B'rith
Kodesh Atrium
2131 Elmwood Ave.

What: Panel Discussion



We are reminded constantly by news of hurricanes, floods, droughts and fires that climate change is upon us. It is essential that we take action now to avert the worst outcomes that might come. Join us to learn more about what actions we can take to reverse climate change and preserve a livable climate for our children.

Speaker 1: Norma Polizzi, local environmental lawyer and member of the Climate Reality Project. Norma will share with us information on the current state of the atmosphere and international efforts to work together.

Speaker 2: Sue Staropoli, Pachamama Alliance. Sue will introduce us to the Drawdown Project, a list of the 100 most effective changes we can make to reverse climate change.

There will be letters we can write to policy makers. Local environmental groups will be present to help us find where to connect for this important work.

Admission is \$5. Light refreshments will be served. A sign-language interpreter will be available if requested by Jan. 9. Registration in advance is appreciated. You can register at www.ncjwgrs.org. Questions: email info@ncjwgrs.org, or call Arlene Schenker at 704-4193.

Social Action

An initial statement was circulated to an extensive Social Action Committee list. When the committee met, those present appreciated and took into account the many comments the Vice President of Social Action received, and attempted to incorporate the tone and substance people had conveyed. The following statement emerged after a lively and thoughtful give-and-take.

We acknowledge that “two Jews, three opinions” is a strength of our people, and not everyone will agree with all of the points or all the words, but at this crucial point in our country’s history, we wanted to begin by making a statement from which action will flow.

A Time for Change December/2018

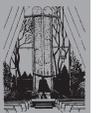
By Seth R. Silver & Abby Urban-Rifkin
On Behalf of the Social Action
Committee of Temple Sinai

“Demanding that politics be kept out of shul is like demanding that Torah be kept out of shul” said Rabbi Shai Held.

We agree. The Social Action Committee, as an advocate of Jewish values and the positions held by the URJ and the RAC, would like to be ‘on the record’ during these turbulent and fearful times, and state clearly where we stand relative to a number of current issues and our nation’s leaders. Hence:

We are outraged when our leaders, after every mass shooting in our country, offer “thoughts and prayers” yet do absolutely nothing to enact sensible gun regulation, thus ensuring these tragic deaths, too often of our children, will only continue.

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NEXT MONTH WE'RE CELEBRATING... JEWISH DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

February's Shabbat services will focus on ways we can improve how we serve the needs of our members with various disabilities. In the context of our worship, we'll have opportunities to learn about disabilities that are typically easily recognizable: visual impairments, deafness, developmental and sensory processing disorders.

But, there is a "hidden" disability about which we rarely speak: **Mental Illness**. Families and individuals with mental health disorders live among us, often in isolation and silence. Many become inactive and leave congregations, or never join to begin with, because they fear their family member will not be accepted. Each of them misses out on being part of the Jewish community, and we lose out on having them in our congregations.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) notes that 1 in 5 adults will experience a diagnosable mental illness in their lifetime. Studies show that people with serious mental illness desire don't get to experience religious

activities as much as they'd like. Synagogue participation improves psychological well-being and diminished symptoms, giving congregants with mental illness a sense of meaning and purpose.

We should support people with mental illness in their desire to join us. Unfortunately, it's primarily the stigma society has created surrounding mental illness that produces the barriers leading to a lack of inclusion. **The first step to becoming a more welcoming synagogue will be by attending the February 8th Shabbat service that will include a speaker from NAMI.** We can begin breaking the silence and embark on an effort to create an open and supportive environment for individuals and families whom mental illness has touched.

Service Schedule

- February 1 "Visual Impairments" - 6:00 service followed by Dinner with Friends, speakers who are Paralympians, blind sports to try, simulations and disability awareness activities including Braille.
- February 8 "Mental Illness"
- February 15 "Deafness and Hearing Differences"
- February 22 "Developmental and Sensory Processing Disorders"



Adult Education

Adult Education continues in January with the topic of Medical Ethics. These classes will be held on January 13, January 20 and January 27 at 9:30 a.m.

On January 6th, join Cantor Braun for a musical Adult Education class.

Conversational Hebrew with Rabbinical Intern Jan Katz will continue on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Classes will be held on January 13, January 20 and January 27.

Torah Study continues on Saturday mornings at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome, whether you have participated in the past or not. Also, it is important to know that this class is conducted entirely in English – you do NOT need to know Hebrew.

Please bring your USED COMPUTER PRINTER CARTRIDGES to the school office.



The Religious School will receive money for all cartridges turned in.

**Visit Our Website:
www.tsinai.org**



January 2019 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>2</p> <p>School in Session JROC Band 6:30 p.m. Klezmer Band Practice 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Erev Shabbat Family Service with 4th and 5th grades participating and Birthday Blessings 6:00 p.m. Shabbat Dinner with Friends 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Torah Study 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 a.m. <i>Torah Portion: Va'era Exodus 6.2 -9.35</i></p>
<p>6</p> <p>School in Session Adult Ed 9:30 a.m. Keshet (8th & 9th grade at Baber AME) 9:45 a.m. Keshet (10th grade at Temple) 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>School in Session JROC Band 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Coalition Against Human Trafficking Meeting 4:00 p.m. Beginning ASL (preregistration required) 7:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Young Family Service with 3rd grade participating and Dinner 6:00 p.m. Schmoozin' Shabbat 6:45 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Torah Study 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 a.m. <i>Torah Portion: Bo Exodus 10.1 - 13.16</i></p>
<p>13</p> <p>School in Session Adult Ed 9:30 a.m. Sprouts 10:00 a.m. Adult Hebrew Class 10:30 a.m. Keshet 12:00 p.m. Women's Chavurah to North Star Players at MUCCC 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>AARP Driver Safety Course (preregistration required) 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Daytime Book Group 10:00 a.m. School in Session JROC Band 6:30 p.m. Klezmer Band Practice 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>AARP Driver Safety Course (preregistration required) 9:00 a.m. Membership Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Beginning ASL (preregistration required) 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Shabbat Shira Musical Service 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Torah Study 9:15 a.m. Tot Shabbat 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 a.m. <i>Torah Portion: Beshalach Exodus 13.17 - 17.16</i></p>
<p>20</p> <p>School in Session Adult Ed 9:30 a.m. Sprouts 10:00 a.m. Adult Hebrew Class 10:30 a.m. Keshet (8th & 9th grade at Islamic Center) 12:00 p.m. Keshet (10th grade at Temple) 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>School in Session JROC Band 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Religious Practices Meeting 7:00 p.m. Beginning ASL (preregistration required) 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Schmoozin' Shabbat 6:45 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service with Sinai Youth Band 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7th Grade Shabbaton 9:00 a.m. Torah Study 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 a.m. <i>Torah Portion: Yitro Exodus 18.1 - 20.26</i></p>
<p>27</p> <p>School in Session Coffee for a Cause 9:30 a.m. Adult Ed 9:30 a.m. 6th Grade Program 9:30 a.m. Adult Hebrew Class 10:30 a.m. Bogrim 11:00 a.m. Keshet 12:00 p.m. New Member Brunch 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>School in Session JROC Band 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Beginning ASL (preregistration required) 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>February Shabbat Services</p> <p>Feb. 1 Erev Shabbat Family Service @ 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Feb. 8 Young Family Service @ 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service @ 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Feb. 15 Erev Shabbat Service @ 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Feb. 22 Erev Shabbat Service @ 6:00 p.m.</p>	



Yahrzeits

*The departed live on
in the hearts
of those who cherish their memory*



Jan. 4 & 5

Jacob Altman
Marcia Baldwin
Hilda Biernbaum
John Bulter
Lillian Fain
Kennard Goodman
Estelle Green
Ruth Herrmann
Meyer Horowitz
Harold Kay
Steven Kushner
Arthur Long
Herbert Molser
Gerald Regan
Harold Rubel
Mary Rudolph
Alex Schnier
David Schwartz
Louis Sporn
Beatrice Voldman
Estelle Weiner
Sidney Yates
Edwin Yunker
Bernard Zeldman
Ronald Zollweg

Jan. 11 & 12

Reuven Adar
Frances Behrman
Dvora Brodie
Barbara Dolin
Rhea Drexler
Beatrice Etlinger
Sara Feinstein
Mary Gleason
Gladys Greenberg
Frances Heimberg
Selma Ann Kay
Herbert Kraus
Nanci Krieff
Steven Magid
Ida Muszynski
Louis J. Pies

Gert Relin
Alice Levine Rosen
Louis Schildkraut
Esther Schwartz
Marvin Seemann
Ann Shulman
Marshall Spiller
Wendy Wood

Jan. 18 & 19

Manton Baxter
Ann Bernbaum
Harry Danoff
Esther Elwitt
William Faucette
Fred Feinstein
Helen Frindel
Eva Frye
Schubert Frye
Joseph Geiger
Walter Gillis
Leatrice Golden
Natalie Gordon
Edith Harris
Harris Jacobson
Sadie Klein
Bernard Klein
Tatyana Krasnik
Onalie Leshner
Elaine Levy
Dorothy Linsner
Corinne McChesney
Shari Morris
David Newman
Sarah Rapp
Sylvia Rhines
Max Rosenstein
Myra Schoenfeld
Max Schwartz
Shirley Schwartz
Ida Shapiro
Sanford Shapiro
Joseph Shulman
Lilly Silver

Charlie Silver
Albert Simon
Helen Steinberg
Katherine Walker
Arnold Weber
Moe Wiesenberg
Randall Wood

Jan. 25 & 26

Maurice Cornell
Esther Hutkoff
Ann Nussbaum
Ruth Weiss
Margaret Olsen
Anna Dorren
Rose Berns
Gertrude Kessler
Jerold Usdane
Melvin Goldberg
Paul Buran
Jason Herrick
Esther Nemetz
Bernard Schwartz
Alfred Marcus
Ann Norry
Caye Gibbons
Bernard Schwartz
Robert Rosen
Donald Sterns
Dorothy Katzel
Mordecai Brill
Hanna S. Cohn
Jack Tanzman
Ann Ryback
Fanny Baker
Harry Sigelow
Goldie Chavenson
Sheldon Roodman
Alfred Stiller
Rubin Freedland
Leon Rosenfeld
Harold Greene
Sari Lieberman
Sophia Rolick Stekloff

Feb. 1 & 2

Bella Alpert
Harriet August
Max Berns
Vivian Boelio
Mark Cohn
Henry Cooke
Ed Doescher
Jerome Fain
Steven Fishbein
Charles Flowers
Sandi Fogarty
Jacob Friedlander
Evelyn Frishman
Jack Frishman
Edward Goldberg
Wallace Griffith
Joan Hyman
Sadie Kaiser
Bernadine Kucker
Hilda Lazier
Sarah Lewis
Marian Loeb
Willis Pierce
William Pine
Janice Richmond
Harvey Rosenbloom
Berkley Roth
Rose Rubel
Vincent Sanginario
Murray Schmutter
Jacob Schuster
Esther M. Schwartz
Raymond Schwartz
Nukhim Shilman
Mirit Skerker
Joel Smetana
Charles Soloway
Pauline Tanzman
Adela Vaisman
Carola Wachtel
Avis Waddell
Sarah Zuckerman



Social Action / A Time For Change

continued from page 5

We are outraged when our leaders seek to derail the Affordable Care Act, yet offer no realistic improvement of any type to our admittedly still broken health care system. If every other first-world nation can make universal coverage work, with better health outcomes for less money, why can't we? Fully subsidized health care should be a right in a civilized nation, available to everyone, and it must be a priority for our leaders.

We are outraged when our leaders deny science, call climate change a "hoax" and support policies that increase CO₂, which results in ever more severe hurricanes, droughts, fires and flooding. Protecting our planet from man-made harm, and moving to 'green energy' in all aspects of our economy, is a generational responsibility and must be taken seriously by our nation's leaders.

We are outraged when our leaders call the free press "the enemy of the people" and any news coverage that fact-checks and then criticizes as "fake news." This is what authoritarian regimes do, not the world's one-time beacon of democracy and free-speech.

We are outraged when our leaders refer to immigrants and asylum seekers at our southern border as "criminals", "rapists", and "Middle Easterners", in an effort to stoke racist fear and justify harsh treatment, like separating children from their families and prolonged detention.

We are outraged when our leaders refuse to condemn unequivocally White Supremacists, Neo-Nazis, and others who traffic in racist and anti-Semitic hate, instead accepting their support and doing nothing while serious crimes by these groups have increased by over 50% in the last year.

We are outraged when our leaders insult our key allies, yet befriend dictators and remain silent or deny when they murder critics, interfere in other nations' elections, and engage in gross violations of human rights.

We are outraged when our leaders put special interests and big donors ahead of the welfare of the country. We believe this increases division and conflict in our society, reduces bipartisan cooperation, and ensures that our most serious problems, like the national debt, climate change, public health, poverty and world peace, are essentially ignored.

Finally, we are outraged when our leaders display poor character and behave unethically.

We are living in an unusual period of political chaos and acrimony. While we hope it passes, as Reform Jews committed to social justice, we cannot sit idly by. We need to continue to speak up, push back when there is wrong doing, and maintain our pursuit of Tikkun Olam. To paraphrase the Talmud: "It is not upon you to finish the work, but nor are you free to ignore it."

(Authors' Note: Temple Sinai is proud to be a Social Action Congregation. We are planning ongoing events and advocacy. Please continue to watch Snippets for ongoing opportunities to weigh in on and participate on social justice issues.)

SHABBAT DINNER WITH FRIENDS

Please join us on Friday, January 4th after the 6:00 p.m. service for our Shabbat Dinner with Friends. This month we will be featuring a primarily vegan menu plus cheese lasagna. Whether you can't imagine eating an entirely vegan meal or you're glad to hear we are finally serving a meal your family can eat, this dinner is for you. Come and enjoy a variety of tasty plant based dishes with your temple family. There will also be a craft project for the kids to celebrate Tu B'Shevat which starts January 20th.



Are you in your 40s or 50s? Save the date!

Who: Everyone in their 40s and 50s

When: Saturday, February 9, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Where: Temple Sinai

What: **Jewish Pickling 101 with
The Gefilteria**

Join others in their 40s & 50s for munchies, drinks and a night learning from and with **The Gefilteria** owners and authors of the *Gefilte Manifesto*, Jeffrey Yoskowitz and Liz Alpern, to find out how the tradition of pickling, preserving, and fermenting fruits and vegetables was critical to Jewish survival. Sour pickles are so much more than a crunchy treat to eat with a pastrami sandwich. Pickled vegetables are in fact a vital — though oft-



overlooked — piece of the Eastern European Jewish culinary story. Meet with friends, old and new and learn how easy — and revolutionary — it is to make a jar of pickles in your own kitchen. All participants will get hands on and take home a jar!

It WAS a Chanukah Happening!



There was much excitement in the Social Hall on Sunday, Dec. 2nd! The room was filled with 27 vendors and groups providing eager shoppers of students, families and friends with a large variety of gift possibilities. The selections included jewelry, art and gift ware, ceramics, accessories, children's wear, hand-knitted hats and sweaters, cards, spices, baked goods, Judaica and holiday gifts, and lots of tschotchkies and small present possibilities. The Bazaar provides an opportunity for our members, friends, the Religious School and Judaica Shop to promote and sell their wares. Judy and Annie Schwartz again brought attention to the Building Minds in South Sudan initiative and provided cards and jewelry made by their citizens to promote their educational program and the building of schools. Our own school featured the sale of solar lanterns for their own families and to donate to Building Minds. These rechargeable lanterns provide necessary light for students to study in their dark huts in the evenings.

Hats off to our Mitzvah Makers! Oren and Gil Kinel earned over \$700 for the Michael J. Fox Parkinson Foundation from the sale of baked goods lovingly provided by their families and

friends. What an incredible effort! From the sale of homemade soaps, Sol Platt is donating \$125 to the Building Minds in South Sudan initiative. A great mitzvah project for his upcoming bar mitzvah! And our own teacher and member Nancy Kraus donated half of her earnings to the Children's Agenda. Several other of our member vendors donated some of their income back to Temple Sinai.

Many thanks to all who visited, browsed and bought — and to our vendors who provided shopping excitement. A BIG THANK YOU to our wonderful, dedicated volunteers, who help make this a fun-filled and successful annual event: Michele Austin, Arlene Cooper, Lori Friedman, Linda Rapkin, Karen Newman, Elaine Usdane, Marilyn Rosen, Shelley Cresov and to Blanche Fenster and her devoted committee for a banner sale day for our shop. A special thanks goes to our fabulous office and custodial staff, Ilan Adar, Marilyn Rosen/Snippets, Joyce Schachter/bulletin, and Lili Schwartz/Bazaar poster.

Monika Katzel, Chair



RAIHN Needs YOU!!

Recently the Director of RAIHN (Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) received the following text from a mom who graduated from the RAIHN program in 2016:

"I graduated August 25th and took my boards on November 6th. I am now officially a nurse and I really appreciate everything you ladies did for my daughters and me."

To us, this illustrates that RAIHN does not just give families a warm place to sleep and three meals a day, but can help our guests change their lives and improve the future of their children.

Temple Sinai, with St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Penfield as our support congregation, has been a host congregation of RAIHN since its inception in Rochester in 2004. In those 14 years, we have provided several hundred families with food and shelter during an especially traumatic period of their lives – not having a home of their own.

What we do is a mitzvah, and we need your help. For a fairly small commitment of your time and effort, you too could make a difference in a family's life. There are numerous ways that you can participate. We need volunteers to help serve and eat dinner with our guests, help setup and take down our class rooms as bedrooms for our guests, spend the night at temple (a much easier role than it might sound, we can all tell you from experience), prepare a part of the dinner that will be served, go shopping for the supplies that are needed or even do laundry after our guests have left.

We realize that everyone is busy, but an investment of a few hours of your time can make a major difference in someone else's life. We host the guests for one week at a time (Sunday to Sunday), four times a year and training is provided. Many of our volunteers have brought their kids who are at least 10 years old, with them.

Our next rotation will be March 24-31 and we would love for you to be a part of it. If you have any questions about the program or would like to be added to our list of volunteers, please contact any one of us: Sue Bondy (susanbondy@yahoo.com), Hope Madonia (hrmadonia@gmail.com), Debbie Kanner (debbiekanner@gmail.com).

Beginning American Sign Language (ASL-Level 1)

January 10 - February 14 (6 weeks)

Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Temple Sinai Youth Lounge

\$36 (6 student min for class to run)

RSVP at tsinai.org "ASL Class"

Contact Susan Rizzo at post2rizzo@gmail.com with any questions.

Broaden your world by learning American Sign Language (ASL). In Beginning ASL, you will learn the basics of communicating in a manual-visual modality, including appropriate use of eye contact, space and non-manual (facial) gestures. Through a combination of direct instruction and structured language practice, you will learn lexis (vocabulary), syntax (grammar) and Deaf culture, the purpose of which will be natural communication using ASL. Level 1 topics will include:

- Introductions & Personal Information
- In the ASL Classroom
- Fingerspelling
- WH and Y/N questions
- Personal Pronouns
- Possessive Adjectives
- Linguistics
- Deaf culture

Jewish Bereavement Support Group: Find Hope and Healing After Loss

Mondays 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Lipson Lounge

Louis S. Wolk JCC

of Greater Rochester

1200 Edgewood Ave, Rochester

If you have any questions,
please contact

Linda Haddad

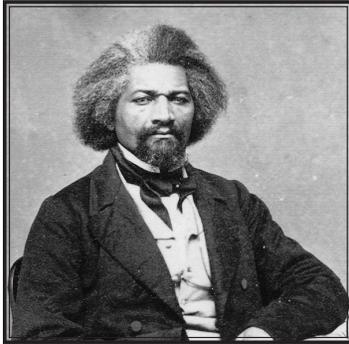
at Jewish Family Service

at 461-0110

or lhaddad@jfsrochester.org



No Struggle, No Progress
A Live Theatre Event:
A Tribute to Frederick Douglass
in Celebration of the
Bicentennial of his Birth



Featuring the North Star Players
 Directed by David A. Shakes

2018 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass. "No struggle, no progress" is one of the signature quotes of Douglass, who lived and worked in Rochester from 1847 to 1872. Many identify those years as some of the most treasured and dynamic years in the life of the great orator, author, and freedom fighter.

To celebrate, honor, and recognize the life and legacy of this visionary, the production "No Struggle, No Progress" will be presented by the North Star Players. The multimedia presentation includes visual images, dance, music, and the words of Frederick Douglass and fellow freedom fighters. The production will be followed by a talkback led by Dr. James H. Evans Jr., a Frederick Douglass scholar.

Sunday, January 13, 2019
2:00-3:30 p.m.
at Temple Sinai
Admission: \$5.00

Sponsored by the Women's Chavurah, The Rabbis Discretionary Funds and the Social Action Committee.

R.S.V.P to Carol Yunker at VPKelly@aol.com or 385-3910 by January 6.

Appropriate for children aged 10 and up.

Today Rabah
to all those who remembered
Temple Sinai when they
remembered others

ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION FUND

In Honor of
 The **Adult B'not Mitzvah Class**, by Bradleigh and Mort Kolko

In Memory of
Sylvia Klau, by Karl Auerbach

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In Honor of
 The **Adult B'not Mitzvah Class**, by Alan & Ronny Frishman
Carol and Dennis Goldsmith's Anniversary, by Joyce and Victor Poleshuck, anonymous, Phyllis Rosen, Marcia Elwitt

BUILDING FUND

In Memory of
Sylvia Utell, by Mark & Lois Utell

CANTOR BRAUN DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Appreciation of
Cantor Braun, by Marsha Wittink and Josh Owen

In Honor of
 The marriage of **Michael Frishman** and **Michael Cutright**, by Allen & Barbara Mendler
Cantor Braun's Installation, by Allen & Barbara Mendler, Joyce and Victor Poleshuck, Vicki & Tom Finnefrock, Sharon and Phillip Sagal, Gabriel & Cindy Geiger, Martha & Jerry Kolodkin

In Memory of
Josephine Schwartz, by Allan & Judy Schwartz

COLLEGE CONNECTION FUND

In Memory of
Dorothy Papanelli, by Jon and Nancy Chernak
 A donation has been made by Ellen Loughrin

MITZVAH FUND

In Honor of
Carol Goldmith, by Mona and Mark Kolko
Carol & Dennis Goldsmith's 50th Anniversary, by Norm and Donna Lederman

In Memory of
Vivian Green, by Larry & Amy Jacobson



GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND*In Appreciation of*

And a warm farewell to **Dorothy Drahzal**, by
Lester & Monika Katzel

In Honor of

The marriage of our son **Michael** to **Michael
Cutright**, by Alan & Ronny Frishman
The birth of Tom and Vicki Finnefrock's new
granddaughter, **Adira**, by Bruce & Ann
Leonard, Joyce and Charlie Schachter, Lester
& Monika Katzel

Cantor Braun's Installation, by Charles & Joyce
Schachter

Gregg Herman and **Bridget Dougherty's**
marriage, by Vicki & Tom Finnefrock

Michael Frishman's marriage, by Vicki & Tom
Finnefrock

The Bat Mitzvah of **Donna Lederman**, by Vicki
Weinstein-Finnefrock & Thomas Finnefrock

The Bat Mitzvah of **Peggy Cherkasy**, by Vicki
Weinstein-Finnefrock & Thomas Finnefrock

The Bat Mitzvah of **Carol Goldsmith**, by Vicki
Weinstein-Finnefrock & Thomas Finnefrock

The Bat Mitzvah of **Ticia Valle**, by Vicki
Weinstein-Finnefrock & Thomas Finnefrock

In Memory of

Kenneth Cavanagh & Evelyn Greenfield, by
Kevin Cavanagh & Carla Greenfield

Carl Kolman, by Marcia and Eric Birken

Eva Cresov, by Rochelle Cresov

Anthony Marciano, by The Marciano Family

With Healing Wishes to

George Okrent, by Lester & Monika Katzel

GENERAL OPERATING FUND*In Appreciation of*

Shabbat Dinner with Friends, by Gene &
Shelley Altman

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of **Donna Lederman**, by Linda
Rapkin

The Bat Mitzvah of **Peggy Cherkasky**, by Linda
Rapkin

Ticia Valle's Bat Mitzvah, by Martha Bulger,
Gabriella Nozik

Carol & Dennis Goldsmith's 50th Anniversary,
by Robert & Merilyn Israel

In Memory of

Phyllis Stoltz, by H. Robert & Joyce Herman

Irma Pekurovsky, by Khaim & Zella Berenbaum

Wolf Feygin, by Michael Feygin

Ellina Feygin, by Michael Feygin

Harvey Gottlieb, by Owen Gottlieb

Mildred Beckwith, by Stefan Cohen & Jodi
Beckwith

Sigmund Piekunka, by Thomas & Joy Piekunka

LIBRARY FUND*In Memory of*

Josephine Schwartz, by Allan & Judy Schwartz

MITZVAH FUND*In Honor of*

Carol Goldmith, by Mona and Mark Kolko

Carol & Dennis Goldsmith's 50th Anniversary,
by Norm and Donna Lederman

In Memory of

Vivian Green, by Larry & Amy Jacobson

MUSIC FUND*In Appreciation of*

Cantor Braun, by Dennis & Carol Goldsmith

In Honor of

Cantor Renata Braun, by Carol & Michael
Yunker

Peggy Cherkasky on the occasion of her Bat
Mitzvah, by Mona and Mark Kolko

In Memory of

Phyllis Stoltz, by Gail & Henry Ferraioli

Pearl and Sydney Rubin, by The Rubin-Kwong
Family

A donation has been made by the Temple Choir

NEXT STAGE FUND*In Honor of*

Carol & Dennis Goldsmith's 50th Anniversary,
by Donna and Michael Goldberg

The birth of **Adira Elizabeth Finnefrock**, by
Randi Forman & Mark Anderson

ONEG FUND*In Honor of*

Sabrina's Hebrew Naming Ceremony, by
Allison and Bernie Brenner

RAIHN FUND*In Memory of*

Sidney Rayburn, by Allan & Leni Rayburn

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND*In Memory of*

Bruce Rosen, by Phyllis Rosen



PRAYERBOOK FUND*In Honor of*

Carol & Dennis Goldsmith's 50th Anniversary,
by Jerome & Arlene Wiesenberg

In Memory of

Bernard Lilien, by Louis & Harriet Slawetsky
Evelyn Seidman Cohen, by Louis & Harriet
Slawetsky

Eva Cresov, by Marvin & Irene Barkin

RABBI KATZ DISCRETIONARY FUND*In Appreciation of*

Rabbi Katz, by Marsha Wittink and Josh Owen

In Honor of

Donna Lederman's Bat Mitzvah, by Frederick
Dushay

The **Adult B'not Mitzvah Class**, by John &
Tobie Olsan

In Memory of

Dolores Fried, by Adam & Janine Fried

Lorrayne Dorfman, by Donna and Michael
Goldberg

Sid Dorfman, by Donna and Michael Goldberg

Belle Hitchcock, by Warren & Pamela
Rosenbaum

SOCIAL ACTION*In Memory of*

Alan Rubin, by Peggy Cherkasky

In Honor of

Peggy Cherkasky becoming a Bat Mitzvah, by
Sally Constine

RABBI TILL DISCRETIONARY FUND*In Appreciation of*

Rabbi Till, by Dennis & Carol Goldsmith,
Marsha Wittink and Josh Owen

In Honor of

Noah Kleinman's Naming Ceremony, by Liz &
Ron Rank

In Memory of

Ethel Rosenbloom, by Michael & Susan
Rosenbloom

Ethel Hyman, by William Fricke & Susan Hyman
Murray Astarita, by the Astarita and Gatto Family

A donation has been made by Katrina Arndt &
Lauren Lieberman

TORAH RESTORATION FUND*In Honor of*

Carol & Dennis Goldsmith's 50th Anniversary,
by Allen & Barbara Mendler, Bobbi Simmons-
Sarnov, Bruce & Ann Leonard

In Memory of

Louis Fraum, by Bruce & Ann Leonard

WINDOWS OF LIGHT*In Memory of*

Alan Rubin, by Peggy Cherkasky

WOMEN'S CHAVURAH FUND

Donations have been made by Carol & Michael
Yunker, Louis & Catherine Schneider, Victor
& Joyce Poleshuck

*For information about these funds, go to our website:
www.tsinai.org / About Us / Contributions /*

*Tributes received after December 10th will be
acknowledged in the February bulletin*

HIGH HOLY DAYS APPEAL

I want to express my deep appreciation to you, our Temple Sinai family for your generous response to the 2018 High Holy Day Annual Appeal. Thank you for helping to build and ensure the strength of our vibrant community into the future!

Blanche Fenster

A special thanks to the following Temple members who have so generously donated to the Temple Sinai High Holy Days Appeal from November 11 through December 10...

A donation has been made by...

Adam & Jennifer Anolik
Janet Irwin & Lew Jones
Jerome & Arlene Wiesenberg
Peter & Susan Bondy
William Waddell & Linda Rubel

In memory of...

Hannah and Ben Saidel, by Leonid & Grace Wasowicz
Sadie Rosen, by Irma Wiener
Betty & Abraham Rifkin, by Marsha Rifkin & Abigail Urban-Rifkin
Evan Cherkasky, Paul Cherkasky, George Adler, by Peggy Cherkasky

In appreciation of...

Rabbi Alan & Jan Katz for their wonderful guidance on our Italy trip, by Janet Nemetz & Van King



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PLEASE EXPEDITE
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KESHET
YOUTH

www.keshet.org



Exciting Musical Events during the Month of January



and featuring Leah Sherman and Alex Reeder

January 18th

6:00 p.m.

Shabbat Shira,
honoring the music
of Debbie Friedman



January 25th

The Temple Sinai Youth Band
will perform at our 8:00 p.m. service
Come support our temple youth at their
very first 'engagement'!



Café Sinai

Enjoy a casual, adult evening of "not your average"
hors d'oeuvres, friendship, and entertainment!

March 9, 2019 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Open to members and nonmembers alike!

\$7.00 per person. See the February bulletin for more
information!

- finger food
- sweets
- wine, beer, soda, coffee
- music
- table games