



*Happy
Hanukkah*



TEMPLE SINAI
ABE & ERNA BOCHNER JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

SHOFAR

December 2021

Kislev-Tevet 5781

*Join the Temple Sinai Community in a Special
Erev Shabbat Service in Honor of*

*Fred Fabricant
Gail & Saul Jacobs
Jack Olshansky*

*Friday, December 3rd
5:30 PM*

(Also, bring your chanukiot and candles for a special community lighting.)



(Reservations for dinner may be made until 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 2. Call the temple office - 760-568-9699)

From the Rabbi

The secular year is ending and the season is getting busier here in the desert. We are so excited that the time has arrived to honor four of Sinai's most valuable volunteers for their incredible contributions to Sinai over the decades. Two individuals and one couple are being honored, each for their unique contributions to our Sinai community. Much will be said about them at the "Crown of a Good Name" Shabbat Hanukkah service and dinner honoring them. I am privileged to add a few words.



Rabbi David Novak

Jack Olshansky, a former Sinai president, is a person who uses his unique insights into synagogues and people to strengthen Jewish life. Formally active in another Temple Sinai in Oakland, Jack has spent his time in the desert actively involved in many of the choices that made Sinai the place that it is. We are fortunate that he is again serving on our board as immediate past president to bring his lifelong counsel to us.

Fred Fabricant, also a former Sinai president, is the positive person who glues many parts of Sinai together. Whether you encounter him handing you a siddur on your arrival (or a face mask), or he calls you to inquire about your wellbeing, or sitting volunteering on Thursdays, or sitting on the rabbinic search committee, he remains a valuable and treasured part of our community.

Last, but certainly not least, are Gail and Saul Jacobs. For decades they have been behind the FIND Food Bank and Sinai's program to deliver food to people. Gail has also been the temple's librarian. You will find both of them, when they are in town, attending Shabbat morning Torah study and worship weekly, always encouraging others to stay. Of course do not forget to ask them about their latest grandchild's accomplishment or great-grandchild!

Those of us privileged to be alive now often say we stand on the shoulders of the giants that came before us. In honoring these people, we honor giants of this generation whose example should motivate all of us as we sustain Sinai.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi David Novak

From the President

Chanukah commemorates the rebuilding and dedication of The Temple. The efforts and faith exhibited by our ancestors lives on today. They set an example for all of us in how we view our temple. The same dedication our ancestors showed lives on in our own congregation. On December 3rd, Temple Sinai is honoring the continuous and sustained efforts of Fred Fabricant, Gail and Saul Jacobs, and Jack Olshansky on behalf of the temple and our community. Each of them has demonstrated leadership, selflessness, and care over the years they have been congregants. They have set a fine example for all of us to follow showing how being involved does good for others but also gives back to them.



Sanford Friedman,
President

Another candidate to nominate for showing his dedication to Temple Sinai is a former religious school and confirmation class student, Matt Paoletti. Matt reached out to me to ask if there were a project he could get involved with as a means of achieving his Eagle Scout award from the Boy Scouts of America. I was impressed that Matt chose Temple Sinai for a project that would benefit the temple, thus earning him the Eagle Scout award. Matt exemplifies the Chanukah spirit of dedication. I am grateful that he thought of us, and we are going to find a project that will fit his needs and ours.

As we enjoy the foods of the season and lighting our *chanukiot*, ask yourself where you might enjoy being involved in the temple. There are many one-time projects that will help and provide you with the satisfaction of helping to enrich and strengthen our community. We thank you for your support however you provide it. It takes a congregation to make a temple.



Bridge is Coming Back to Temple Sinai!
Beginning January 11
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
12:00 to 4:00
(Masks required)



Temple Manager Toni Robinson

From the Temple Manager

In mid-November I was fortunate enough to attend the annual National Association for Temple Administration conference in Scottsdale Arizona. In the past when I have gone to these functions, I have felt very pleased to come away with one or two little bits of wisdom that will assist in the smoother more efficient operation of the temple. As you might expect, among the attendees during meal breaks, there was a lot of discussion about how we have managed during COVID-19 and where we think we are headed now. This year there were three Keynote Addresses all of which resonated with me as to where we are in this community. The first was presented by Mark Barden, co-author of "A Beautiful Constraint". His presentation provided

much food for thought. In temple life we are always dealing with constraints. Most often the constraint is money. "If we had less limited financial resources, we could. . . ." The reality is that we will always be constrained either by money or time, or desire to achieve some goal. Constraints have a bad rap. Constraint is, by definition, a negative thing, its imposition prevents us from acting as we would like to, because it restricts us in some important way. We need to look at constraints as the catalytic force that stimulates exciting new approaches and possibilities. The beneficial power of constraint is all around us, whether we recognize it or not.

The Second keynote was about Resilience presented by Faun Zarge. Her presentation's focus was mostly on resilience of a team and on personal resilience. But the methodology is equally applicable to the resilience of an organization. Temple Sinai has been exhibiting resilience throughout its history and we will continue that path.

The third, and my personal favorite, was "Belonging" presented by Rabbi Elan Babchuck. "Belongingness is the human emotional need to be an accepted member of a group. People tend to have an inherent desire to be an important part of something greater than themselves. The need to belong is the need to give and receive attention to and from others." Belonging is in our DNA. Organized groups are how homo sapiens survived this long. People laugh 5 times harder in groups than when alone. Our need to belong is as powerful as our need for love. When applied to temple life people that feel that they belong tend to be more loyal to the organization. We have all heard about the decline in affiliation in all faiths. Recent studies show that Gen Z is affiliating in a larger percentage than the previous 2 generations. They are looking to belong to institutions that promote community and social justice. They care about and want to be involved in making this world a better place. The studies, of course, delved into this on a much deeper level. As I look at the teenagers in our religious school, I see precisely what the studies used in this presentation found; they want to be part of the solution. Not only do they want to belong to something greater than themselves they want to participate on a personal level in the creation of a more just and healthier world.

All in all, it was a terrific opportunity to learn about our hope for the future.

Temple Leadership

Executive Committee

Sanford Friedman	President
Nancy Singer	Vice President
Susan Jaspan	Treasurer
Ann Loeb	Corporate Secretary
Jack Olshansky	Past President
Howard Vogel	Membership

Trustees:

Micki Greenspan	Ambassador
Ann Miller	Social Action
Joe Weiss	House and Grounds
Michael Sonduck	At Large

Auxiliaries:

Sandie Eichberg	President, Women of Sinai
Jeff Schiffris	Brotherhood Representative
Whitney Rosam	President, PTO

Patron

Barbara & Ron Borden
Jessica and James Greene
Leslie & Joel Hirschberg
Barry Kaiman & Toni Victor
Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Patron Mitzvah

Marion Cowle
Sharon & Rod Hill
Ann & Glynne Miller
Lori & Michael Sanford
Nancy & Arthur Shorr
Marcia & Rick Stein

Single Patron

Erica Altobelli
Janet Ball
Sandie Eichberg
Fred Fabricant
Sally Frank
Gladys Layne
Reesa Manning
David Pollart
Alicia Rodriguez
Nancy Singer

GENEROUS DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Yahrzeit

Esther L. Weiner

By: Stephen Weiner

Alfred Egendorf

Stanley Amdur

By: Judy Egendorf

Julius Zemmol

By: Bernard Zemmol

Dr. Brian A. Hill

By: Rodney & Sharon Hill

Max Olshansky

By: Jack & Mitzie Olshansky

Doug Bookin

By: Renée & Ron Partelow

Richard Ball

By: Sue & Martin Sherman

IN HONOR OF

Andrew Kaplan Discussion

Jack Olshansky Temple Honors

Gail & Saul Jacobs Temple Honors

By: Fred Fabricant

Jack Olshansky Temple Honors

By: Michele & Alan Krapf

Lauren & Josh Krapf

Suzie Magged

By: Rena Magged

Fred Fabricant, Gail & Saul Jacobs, and Jack Olshansky

By: Elaine Kravitz

Nancy Singer

By: Kathy & Larry Davis

IN MEMORY OF

Larry Silverman

By: Ann Moskowitz

MITZVAH/FOOD BANK FUND

Yahrzeit

Julie Gottesman

Gloria Gottesman

By: Estee Gottesman

Harvey W. Goldberg

By: Judy Monetathchi

Tzedakah

Tony Garlock

RABBI AVI LEVINE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

IN MEMORY OF

Bayla Adelman

By: Frances Miller

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN HONOR OF

Sandy Kaplan's 80th Birthday

By: Stephen Schechner

DOROSHOW EDUCATION FUND

Yahrzeit

Dr. Mark Kaufman

By: Fran Kaufman

"As a torch is not diminished though it kindles a million candles, so will he not lose who gives to a good cause."

~~ Midrash Exodus Rabbah

From the Congregational Educator

Shalom Temple Sinai Congregants, Families, and Students,

Festivals of lights across different cultures have a common thread in celebrating 'light' as opposed to the 'dark'. Some examples are Christmas; Hanukkah; Kwanzaa; Lantern Festival (China); Diwali; Floating Lanterns (Thailand); and more.

The story of Hanukkah, also known as Festival of Lights, is full of deep meaning and lessons:

Loyalty to the Jewish religion, bravery, courage, standing up for your beliefs, and resilience.

It celebrates two miracles:

- ~ The Maccabees' military victory over the powerful Greek army
- ~ The miracle of the oil that burned eight whole days instead of only one night.

Among Jewish holidays, Hanukkah is unique because it is almost exclusively observed at home. It lasts eight days and is celebrated by kindling candles, presenting a special opportunity to gather with family and close friends.

Unlike many Jewish holidays, Hanukkah is not mentioned in the Bible.

Hanukkah reminds us that even one small light has the power to illuminate darkness and spark hope. Together with our friends, families and community, our individual lights become a beacon.

This year, Hanukkah will be celebrated three days after Thanksgiving, with the first light kindled on Sunday, November 28, 2021

On Thursday, December 2nd, 2021, the fifth night of Hanukkah, the Religious School students and families will be participating in a school-wide Hanukkah celebration organized and sponsored by our outstanding PTO.

The celebration will include Hanukkah crafts, dreidel games, cookie decorating, and face painting.

Latkes, donuts, and cupcakes will be served.

The candle lighting will be led by Rabbi David Novak.

Our Religious School students created Hanukkah menorahs, learned about the history of Hanukkah, and engaged in spreading light to their families, friends, and community.

And, a reminder, that Rabbi Avi Levine Community Religious School has opened its doors to all Jewish children in the Coachella Valley regardless of affiliation.

Warmly,

Talia Lizemer-Hawley
Congregational Educator



Talia Lizemer, Educator

Religious
School Students
Enjoying their
Sunday
Morning Class



Hebrew Was a Dead Language for 2,000 Years

It was only used for religious purposes until the rise of the Zionist movement in the 19th century, when Hebrew was painstakingly brought back to life.

Hebrew became the spoken language of modern Israel, then rose to greater heights: the poetry of Yehuda Amichai, the fiction of Nobel laureate Shai Agnon, and the spellbinding modern fiction of Amos Oz.

New Class Forming in Modern Hebrew

Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 AM

Class Begins Thursday, December 2nd

Textbook to be determined

Be a part of this unique cultural and sociological phenomenon.

From the Brotherhood President

Thanks to all who came to the Brotherhood Brunch, and special thanks to our congregational educator, Talia Lizemer-Hawley, her teachers and students for their presentation to a very appreciative audience. Also special thanks to Micki Greenspan for preparing the fabulous deli spread. The event was a huge success.

In the tradition of Jews throughout the ages, Brotherhood is hosting a Chinese dinner on Christmas day in the social hall, followed by a screening of Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein.

On Sunday, January 16th, Dr. James Danoff-Berg of The Living Desert will be leading a Brotherhood Nature Walk. Details to follow shortly.

Then on Sunday February 13th, please join us at our Superbowl watch party at the Temple.

I wish everyone a happy and joyous Hanukkah.

Joe Weiss



Joe Weiss, Brotherhood
President

From the Women of Sinai President

Reasons to Belong to Women of Sinai



Sandie Eichberg, President,
Women of Sinai

- Every penny Women of Sinai earns goes to Judaically educate local Jewish children at the Temple Sinai Rabbi Avi Levine Religious School because the future of Judaism depends on the next generation.
- Our annual dues are only \$36, or you can join at the \$72 level and receive three free raffle tickets at each WOS event and feel good because you are doing even more to educate the next generation.
- Our fabulous events are available to WOS members at a reduced rate, including our December 14 luncheon and panel discussion on growing up Jewish all over the world. (See the next page for details.)
- Women (and men) who belong to WOS are friendly and welcoming. We need you and want you.



Women of Sinai Presents:
Growing Up Jewish All Over the World
Box Luncheon & Panel Discussion

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 12:00 PM

Doors Open at 11:30 AM - Women and Men are Welcome

Venezuela

China

Ukraine



Great Britain

Honolulu

Southern US

Reservation Deadline is Friday, December 10
\$25 for members of Women of Sinai, \$30 for all others

Name(s)_____

Number in party_____ Pay by Check_____ Total:\$_____

Credit Card #_____

Expiration:_____ CCV_____ Phone_____

Billing Address_____

Send checks payable to "Women of Sinai" to Temple Sinai, 73251 Hovley Lane West,
Palm Desert, CA 92260 or call the temple office 760-568-9699 for credit card payment.

All Covid-19 Restrictions Apply - Proof of Vaccination or negative test within 72 hours - Masks when not eating

What do we do on Christmas Day?

We Eat Chinese Food with our Jewish Friends!

Join the Brotherhood on Saturday, December 25 at 5:30 PM
for a Chinese Dinner and Movie

(Young Frankenstein)

All are welcome



Make your reservations
now!

\$25 per person



Brotherhood Chinese Dinner & Movie

Name(s) _____

Number in party _____ Pay by Check _____ Total: \$ _____

Credit Card # _____

Expiration: _____ CCV _____ Phone _____

Billing Address _____

IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR 2022 MAH JONGG CARDS

ORDER FROM THE TEMPLE SINAI JUDAICA GIFT
SHOP BY JANUARY 28, 2022

SMALL CARDS: \$9.00

LARGE CARDS: \$10.00

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE RABBI AVI LEVINE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

_____ # of Small Cards x \$9.00 = _____

_____ # of large cards x \$10.00 = _____

Total:

\$ _____

Please return this form with check written to "Temple Sinai" to:

Lynn Zaifert ~ 78687 Yellen Drive ~ Palm Desert, CA 92211

Birthdays

12/1
Jim Loeb
12/2
Hana Weiss
12/7
Jane Hanna
12/8
Robert Adelstein
Shane Levy
Eve Kramer
12/9
Judy Weissman
Isabella Snukal
12/10
Ilene Harris
Rena Magged
12/12
Milford Ardell
Sharon Kaplan
Betsy Kreger
12/14
Ken Eldred
12/15
Barry Kaiman
12/16
Ryan Holman

12/22

Rabbi David Novak

12/24

Michael Zaifert

12/25

Sharon Lazier

12/26

Susan Ardell

12/30

Gloria Vann

Anniversaries

12/3

Nona Solowitz & Mike Cheley

12/7

Mindy & Robert Rose

Hannah & Jerome Solomon

12/15

Whitney & Matt Rosam

12/17

Sherry & Fred Fern

12/20

Nancy & Arthur Shorr

12/31

Evelyn & Steven Alden





Book Club

Wednesday, December 15

10:30 AM

“The Girl from the Channel Islands”

By Jenny Lecoat

Inspired by true events, the riveting story of a young Jewish woman trapped on the occupied island of Jersey during World War II.

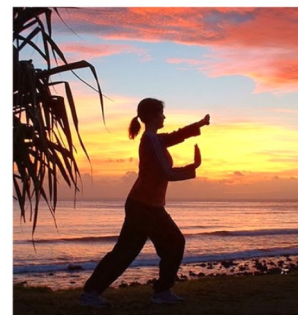
If you are interested in being a part of the Temple Sinai social action committee to support those in need in our community, please contact Ann Miller at Millers247@gmail.com or by phone (714-329-6519).

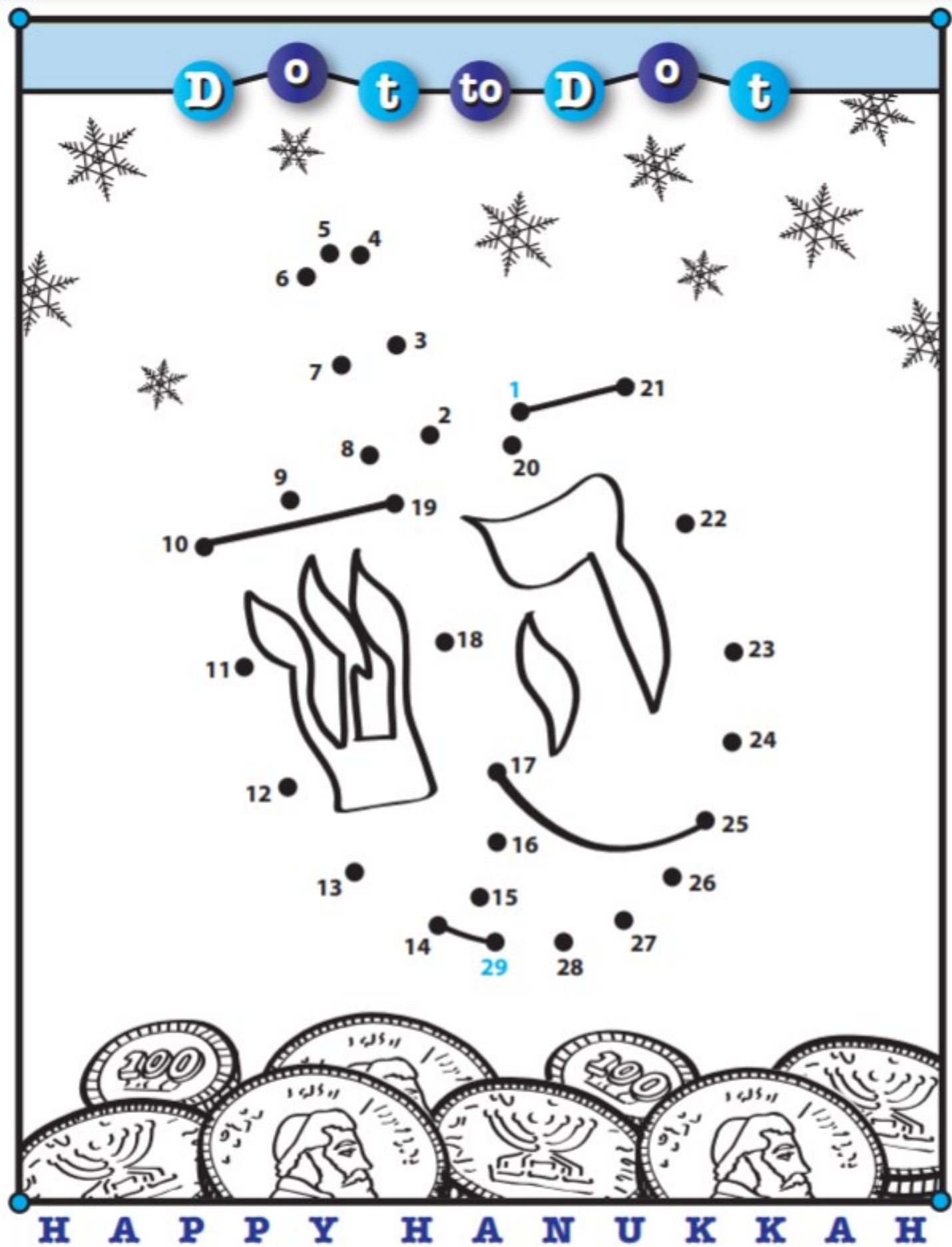


Have you tried Tai Chi yet?
Thursdays in the chapel from
1:00 to 2:00 PM

No charge, but donations are gratefully accepted.

For more information, contact the instructor at DianeWohl@gmail.com.

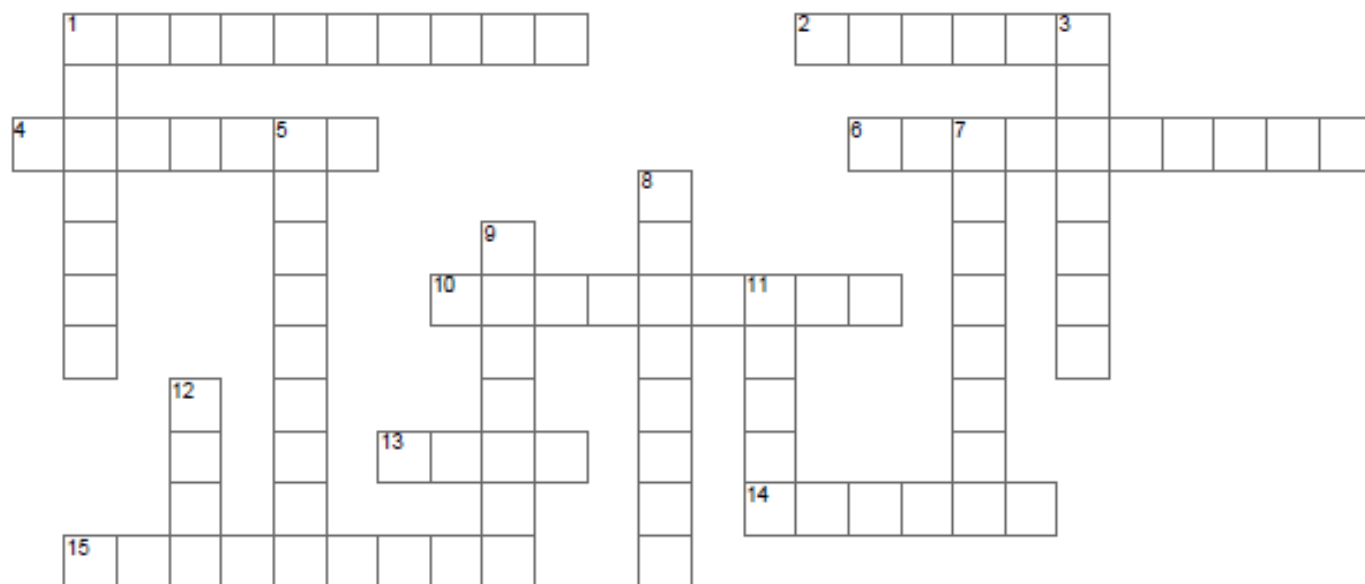




Name: _____

Date: _____

Hanukkah Crossword



ACROSS

1. The Hebrew word for "_____ " is "Hanukkah".
2. Potato pancakes.
4. Name of the candelabrum used for Hanukkah.
6. Doughnuts filled with jelly.
10. Jewish rebel warriors who took control of Judea from the Seleucid Empire.
13. Money or chocolate coins given to Jewish children on the festival of Hanukkah.
14. Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Second _____ in Jerusalem.
15. Are said before or after the menorah is lit.

DOWN

1. Four-sided spinning top played with during Hanukkah.
3. Used to lit all the candles.
5. Ordered to place a Zeus statue at the Temple.
7. A day or period of celebration, typically a religious commemoration.
8. Another common spelling of the word Hanukkah.
9. Lighted each day of Hanukkah.
11. Hanukkah is celebrated for how many days?
12. The candelabrum used for Hanukkah holds how many candles?

MACCABEES
CHANUKAH
GELT
FESTIVAL

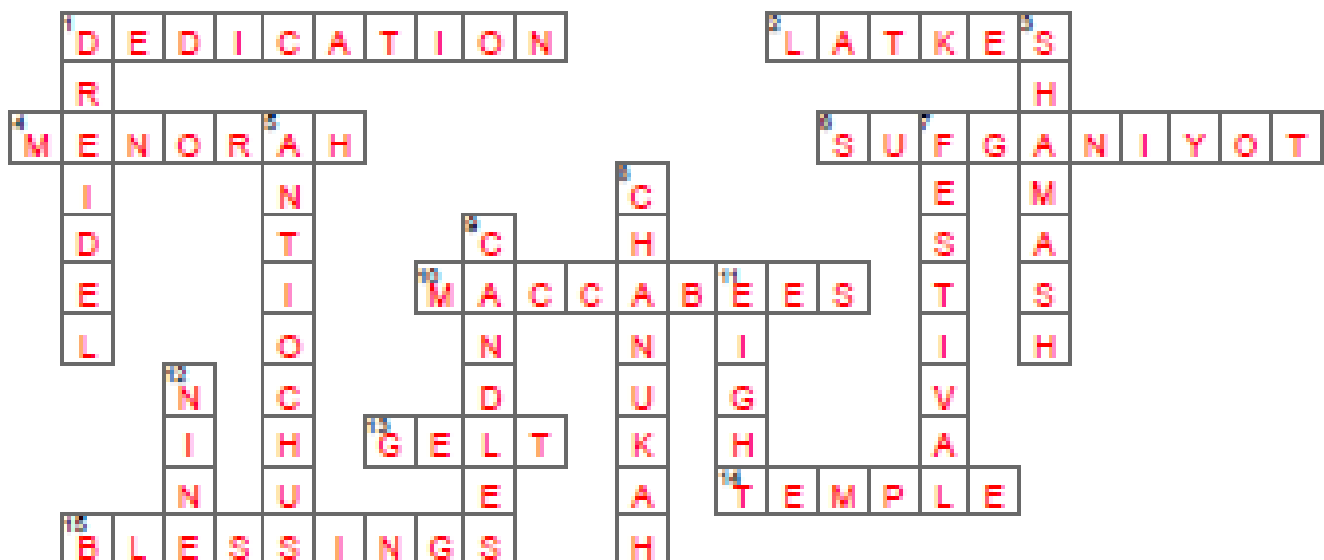
DREIDEL
SHAMASH
MENORAH
TEMPLE

DEDICATION
ANTIOCHUS
EIGHT
BLESSINGS

NINE
LATKES
CANDLES
SUFGANIYOT

How You Can Save on Taxes and Benefit Temple Sinai

Did you know that you can pay your temple pledge or donate to the temple by using your required minimum distribution? By doing that, you save money on your taxes and benefit the temple. Check with your financial advisor and tax consultant to see how this will work for you.



December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Mah Jongg 1:00	2 Beit Sefer PTO Chanukah Celebration 5:30	3 "Crown of a Good Name" Shabbat service & dinner and Chanukah Celebration 5:30	4 Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service 10:00
5 9:30 Beit Sefer	6	7 Beit Sefer 4:00 Reading the Torah in Translation 7:00	8 Mah Jongg 1:00	9	10 Erev Shabbat Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	11 Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service 10:00
12 9:30 Beit Sefer	13	14 WOS Luncheon 12:00 Beit Sefer 4:00 Reading the Torah in Translation 7:00	15 Book Club 10:30 Mah Jongg 1:00	16	17 Erev Shabbat Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	18 Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service 10:00
19 Winter Break No Beit Sefer	20	21	22 Mah Jongg 1:00	23	24 Erev Shabbat Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	25 Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service 10:00 Brotherhood Chinese Dinner & Movie
26 Winter Break No Beit Sefer	27	28	29 Mah Jongg 1:00	30	31 Erev Shabbat Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	



73-251 Hovley Lane West Palm Desert CA 92260
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