

A photograph of purple flowers, likely lavender, with green leaves, serving as a background for the header.

Temple Sinai

Where Judaism Blooms in the Desert

November Shofar

2023

5784

A Prayer for the State of and People of Israel

Parent in heaven, Rock and Redeemer of Israel, bless the state of Israel, the first flower of our redemption.

Guard it with Your kindness and shield it with Your shelter of peace.

Share your light and truth with its leaders, its ministers and every citizen in Israel, so that they may sustain a country based upon the principles of freedom, justice, and peace, as envisioned by the biblical prophets.

Plant within Israel the love of Torah, whose paths are pleasant, whose ways are peaceful.

Strengthen those who defend our Holy land. May they go forth proudly and may they return home safely.

Grant peace throughout the land and eternal joy to all who live there.

May Israel realize the prophetic vision: "May Zion be redeemed in justice, and those who return to her in righteousness."

And let us say Amen.

Israel Emergency Fund

Temple Sinai is raising money this month for the Israel Emergency Fund that is being supported by all Jewish agencies and synagogues. During the month of November, your Israel Emergency Fund designated donations will be collected by Temple Sinai to be forwarded to the Jewish Federation of the Desert in December.

We will be happy to take your donation over the phone (760-568-9699) or you may print the form on the next page if you wish to mail or bring in a check.

None of the funds you contribute will be used for administration or the costs of fundraising. Please give generously.

You are encouraged to call or write to Rep. Ruiz (202) 225-5330 or Calvert (202) 225-1986 and our Senators Padilla (202) 244-3553 and Butler (202) 224-3841 saying that you support Israel and its right to defend itself.



Aviv Katz-Asher, age 2
Kidnapped from her home by Hamas
October 7, 2023

A gift from our
household to Temple
Sinai's participation
in the Jewish
Federation of the
Desert's Israel
Emergency Fund.

Israel Emergency Fund Donation

Name(s) _____

Pay by Check _____ Total: \$ _____ Credit Card # _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration: _____

CCV _____ Phone _____

Billing Address _____

Temple Sinai Palm Desert
73251 Houley Lane West
Palm Desert, CA 92260
760-568-9699

From the Rabbi

Our brothers and sisters in Israel have suffered a deep trauma. The barbaric murder of 1,400 civilians, accompanied by the taking of over 200 hostages into the underground maze of Gaza tunnels was and is inhumane as the consequences continue to emerge. I find myself alternating between deep sadness and anger as I (at the time of this writing) wait for a possible ground war in Gaza while anti-Israel and anti-Jewish protests call for the destruction of the Jewish state.



Rabbi David Novak

Events in Israel shift rapidly. Non-Israeli media sources may distort what is transpiring. Which is why I again encourage you to source your news from Times of Israel (timesofisrael.com). There you will find an English-language site that covers up to the moment developments from an Israeli perspective, including deep reporting and analysis. It is the best option for non-Hebrew speakers.

Too often when watching television coverage I get aggravated as how Israel is portrayed. I think that all of us have a limited amount of emotional energy and we need to preserve it for when Israel makes moves to remove Hamas that gather opprobrium. We need to be resilient in our support. The IDF is strong and it has the support of our president and American military.

Home to half of our people, Israel is small, tiny even—compared to the land masses of other countries. In this land it is vital that Israel survives. The stakes are too high for it to be any other way. As the late Golda Meir told President Biden 40 years ago “We have no other place.”

Save the Date:

Sunday, December 3



Feast of Jewish Learning at Jewish Federation of the Desert

Jewish Speakers/Authors

10:00 AM	Andrew Lawler “Under Jerusalem”
1:30 PM	Philip Slayton “Antisemitism”
3:00 PM	Michael Strassfeld “Judaism Disrupted”
4:30 PM	Benyamin Cohen “The Einstein Effect”
TBD	Joel Chassnoff “Israel 201”

69710 CA-111 at Frank Sinatra Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, USA

From the President

Elsewhere in this Shofar, you will find a list of our new and re-joined congregants so far this fiscal year. We are so glad to have all of you as part of our temple family and look forward to spending many services and activities with you.

We of course would welcome more new and returning congregants. So if you know someone who may be interested in Temple Sinai, please bring them to tour our building, to meet with Toni, to join you as dedicated congregants.

Several congregants have suggested that we have a Bingo night. So we will! Please plan to join your fellow congregants and friends on Wednesday evening, December 6, at 6:30 for desserts and a lively session of Bingo! We hope to make this an ongoing activity depending on your enthusiasm and attendance. Non-congregants are of course welcome!

Watch your snail mail and email around Thanksgiving for a special fundraiser to benefit our various programs and activities and to help with our security costs.

Speaking of security, we have made it a top priority to "harden" our building with more security guards, more cameras, better door locks, safe room designations, and other security measures. Still to be installed are bollards in the parking lot. We want you to feel safe when you are with us. But all this costs money that wasn't budgeted so any donations for security will be greatly appreciated. Thank you to Judy and Bernie Kotkin for their donation for extra cameras.

I wish each of you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving.

See you at the shul.

Nancy

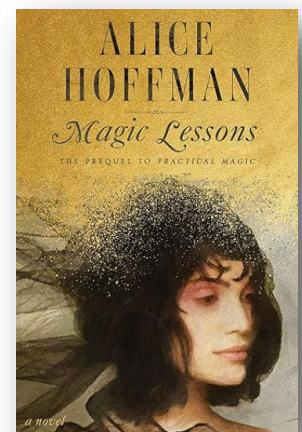


President Nancy Singer

**Women of Sinai Book club meets next on
Wednesday, November 15 at 10:30 AM**

Magic Lessons by Alice Hoffman

Magic Lessons traces a centuries-old curse back to the 1600s, to Maria Owens, accused of witchcraft in Salem, and matriarch of a line of the amazing Owens women and men featured in *Practical Magic* and *The Rules of Magic*.



**In Recognition of the Boards of Temple Sinai,
Brotherhood and Women of Sinai**

Temple Board of Directors

President	Nancy Singer
V.P., House & Grounds	Joseph Weiss
Secretary	Ann Loeb
Treasurer	Susan Jaspan
Past President	Jack Olshansky
Membership Chair	Howard Vogel
Social Action Chair	Ann Miller
Ambassador	Micki Greenspan
Special Projects	Michael Sonduck
Special Projects	Fred Fabricant
Legal & Insurance	Barry Kaiman
Women of Sinai	Sandie Eichberg
Brotherhood	Jeff Schiffris

Women of Sinai

President	Sandie Eichberg
Vice-President	Ilene Harris
Secretary	Anne Kaplan
Program Chair	Betty Denebeim
Membership Co-Chairs	Andra Ready Judy Brickman
Fundraising Chair	Sharyn McKee
At Large	Nancy Foster, Resa Fremed, Karol Gordon, Micki Green- span, Eileen Krause, Gloria Rudetsky

Brotherhood

President	Jeff Schiffris
Vice President	Joseph Weiss
Treasurer	Saul Jacobs
Secretary	Gordon Kramer
Membership Chair	Gary Kreger
At Large	Sid Schwartz, James Danoff-Burg

**WITH GRATITUDE FOR OUR
2023-2024 PATRONS**

Platinum Patron

Barry Kaiman & Toni Victor
Glynne & Ann Miller

Ruby Patron

Joel & Leslie Hirschberg
Jack & Mitzie Olshansky
Alicia & Ruben Rodriguez
Paul & Carrie Stone

Gold Patron

Sandie Eichberg
Len & Nancy Foster
James & Jessica Greene
Lois Johnson
Gladys Layne
Antonio Marin
Mike & Bobby Sacks
Nancy Singer

Silver Patron

Michael & Marcia Berk
Richard & Judith Brickman
Bill & Joanne Chunowitz
James & Peggy Greenbaum
Rod & Sharon Hill
Bernard & Judy Kotkin
Gordon & Eve Kramer
Rachell & Omar Quinones
Rick & Marcia Stein
Howard & Linda Vogel
Samuel & Susan Winett
Richard Wortman & David Schreiber

Bronze Patron

Erika Altobelli
Janet Ball
Fred Fabricant
Reesa Manning
David Pollart

Pearl Patron

Robert & Carole Adelstein
Steve & Evelyn Alden
Ron & Barbara Borden
James & Ann Loeb



Talia Lizemer, Educator

From the Educator

Shalom Temple Sinai Congregants, Families, and Students,

October was a very festive month for our Religious School.

On Sunday, October 1, our students enjoyed a school-wide celebration honoring the holiday of *Sukkot*. This included listening to stories that reflect the history of Sukkot, preparing decorations for our temple's sukkah, learning about the meaning of the lulav, shaking it in six directions, and being introduced to the lunar calendar.

The Jewish calendar is rooted in the cycles of the moon. Each month of the year is a lunar month, beginning on the new moon and ending when the moon is dark. Jews celebrate the first day of the month, the new moon, or Rosh Chodesh, as a minor holiday.

The fifteenth of the Hebrew month is a full moon.

Many festivals of freedom and abundance, such as Sukkot, Tu B'Shevat, Purim, Passover, and Tu B'Av (Jewish Valentines' Day) fall on the full moon.

One of the benefits of a full moon, thousands of years ago (before electricity), is that it provides light throughout the entire night.

So, our students learned about the eight (8) phases of the lunar cycle while experimenting with Oreo cookies. Of course, they were allowed to munch on them at the end of the lesson.

On Sunday, October 8, our students prepared for the congregation's *Simchat Torah* celebration. They began their day studying about the meaning of the holiday, listening to stories, creating Simchat Torah flags, and learning that Torah scrolls are made from the skins of a kosher animal. The writing process can last about a year since it is entirely written by hand.

While reading the Torah, a Yad (pointer) is used. The Yad is believed to have been used beginning 2,500 years ago, during the times of the Second Temple.

Why do we use a Yad? Our students took a trip to the bathroom and touched the mirrors. Then they washed their hands and touched the mirrors again. Both times, their fingerprints left stains (later cleaned by our dedicated custodian Adrian). The students understood that the lipids (fat and oils) and amino acids contained in our fingerprints leave residue that can damage the Torah scroll.

We concluded our day by joining the congregation, and assisting Rabbi Novak in replacing the white High Holy Days Torah covers with the colorful yearly ones.

Watch this space for news about our new Tot Shabbat program.

Warmly,

Talia Lizemer-Hawley
Congregational Educator

The religious school invited parents and the congregation to celebrate Simchat Torah as a community.



Tot Shabbat got off to a great start, with lots of smiles.



GENEROUS DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Yahrzeit

Rosa Barrantes

By: Alicia & Ruben Rodriguez

Charles Levander

By: Sandy Weisenberg

Anna Kravitz

By: Elaine Kravitz

James R. Stets

By: Ellen & William Sachs

Sylvia Ball

By: Janet Ball

Irving Feffer

Esther Krieger

Jack Krieger

Shirley Olshansky

By: Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Ruth Miller

By: Eileen Miller

Milton Kravitz

By: Elaine & Gregg Kravitz

IN HONOR OF

Sid Schwartz's Birthday

By: Sandy Weisenberg

Saul Jacobs' 90th Birthday

By: Karen Weinberg

Speedy Recovery of Fred Fabricant

By: Linda & Howard Vogel

Nancy Singer

Nancy Singer's *Woman of Valor* honor by Hadassah

By: Rena Magged

Micki Greenspan

Tzedakah

Judy & Elliott Bernstein

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Yahrzeit

Maurice Heller

By: Nancy & Graham Paull

Tzedakah

Elizabeth & Roy Freedman

GAIL & SAUL JACOBS FOOD DELIVERY FUND

IN MEMORY OF

George Glanzberg

By: Gail & Saul Jacobs

IN HONOR OF

Saul Jacobs' 90th Birthday

By: Joe Weiss

Elaine McDonald

CANTORIAL MUSIC FUND

Yahrzeit

Samuel Fogel

Sylvia Schrager

By: Gloria & Ed Rudetsky

Ann Kaiman

By: Barry Kaiman & Toni Victor

IN MEMORY OF

Dorothy Antflick

By: Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

RABBI AVI LEVINE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

IN HONOR OF

Saul Jacobs' 90th Birthday

By: Joe Weiss

Yahrzeit

Ilene Jaspan

By: Susan Jaspan



Palm Springs Pride Parade steps off on Sunday, November 5 at 10:00 AM.

For those participating, Temple Sinai is contingent #32. Meet up at Tachevah & Palm Canyon by 9:30, or 9:00 at Temple Sinai to carpool.



With Thanks to All Who Contributed to the Kol Nidre Appeal

Janet Ball
Mark Becker
Brenda Berman
Audrey & Howard Bierman
Judy & Richard Brickman
Charlotte Burkholz
Jean Carrus
Karen & Nate Cheney
Joanne & Bill Chunowitz
Danielle Cohen
Betty & Neil Colt
Lindsay & Sarah Beth Conner
Judy Egendorf
Barbara Etes & Li New
Rosanne & Stephen Ezer
Fred Fabricant
Robert Feinberg
Stacie & David Fletcher
Nancy & Len Foster
Elizabeth & Roy Freedman
Resa Fremed
Ann & Mike Hankin
Jane Hanna
Lynn Hannan
Ilene & Richard Harris
Adrienne Hirschfeld z"l
Basia Hoffman
Martin Hoffman
Michelle Hoffman
Gail & Saul Jacobs
Toni Victor & Barry Kaiman
Anne & Andy Kaplan
Mary Beth Kauffman
Judy & Bernard Kotkin
Eve & Gordon Kramer
Eileen & James Krause
Steven Levine
Ann & James Loeb
Reesa Manning
Jerry Marks

Renee Mayer
Sharyn McKee
Florence Miller
Ann & Glynne Miller
Arlyne Miller
Miri Nash
Mitzie & Jack Olshansky
Renée & Ron Partelow
Nancy Pierce
Sheldon Pitluk
Rachell & Omar Quinones
Andra Ready
Donald Rice
Alicia & Ruben Rodriguez
Gloria & Ed Rudetsky
Veronica & Beryl Sandor
Cheryl Scarlett
Rachel & Evan Scarlett-Sloate
Sandy Schachter
Melissa & Jeff Schiffris
Robert Schwarz
Richard Seigle
Nurit Sheeha
Denise & Bob Sherman
Diane & Arnie Simon
Nancy Singer
Simha Skinner
Marcia & Rick Stein
Mickey & Nancy Tieffer
Charles Tigerman
Terrie Turner
Linda & Howard Vogel
Samantha Ward
Sandy Weisenberg
Diane & Sam Weiss
Susan & Samuel Winett
Richard Wortman & David
Schreiber
Itamar Zac



TEMPLE SINAI'S FIRST

BINGO NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 AT 6:30 PM

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN & PRIZES

~~\$25~~ \$18 FOR SINAI CONGREGANTS

~~\$30~~ \$20 ALL OTHERS

INCLUDES 8 CARDS PLUS COFFEE & DESSERTS

ADDITIONAL CARDS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

BRING YOUR DAUBERS



Birthdays

11/1

Melissa Schiffris

11/4

Stephen Dyer

11/5

Fred Fern

11/7

Ethel Cooperman

11/9

Brenda Berman

11/10

Marv Paul

Susan Jaspan

11/11

Nancy Foster

11/22

Lisa Hoff

11/23

Arnie Simon

11/24

Betty Colt

11/26

Roberta Bremson

11/27

Rollee Smith

Diane Weiss

11/29

Kit Narodick

11/30

Marcia Stein

Anniversaries

11/2

Jessica & James Greene

Joan & Norman Wine

11/29

Clara & Michael Horne

Mitzie & Jack Olshansky



JFS DESERT AUXILIARY PRESENTS



MONICA PIPER LIVE "WELCOME TO MY LIFE"

Wednesday, November 15, 2023



THE QUEEN OF "FINDING THE FUNNY" IS B-A-A-C-K!

What a great kickoff to our new season!

Monica Piper is an Emmy® Award-winning TV comedy writer and performer, who honed her comedy chops performing with Robin Williams and Jerry Seinfeld. She won awards for writing *Roseanne* and *Rugrats*; performed her one-woman off-Broadway play, *Not That Jewish*, to sold-out crowds; and now she inspires people everywhere to "find the funny" in everyday life. Join us as she shares stories from her "storied" career!

We will also have an auction with great items from local restaurant retailers, beauty services, and entertainment sources. Please plan on arriving early in order to enjoy the complimentary refreshments and wine and view the auction items.

- **When:** Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Wine reception 3:45 pm. Show starts 4:30 pm.
- **Where:** Temple Sinai Palm Desert, 73251 Hovley Ln W, Palm Desert, CA 92260.
- **General Admission:** \$60.00 per ticket
- **VIP Ticket:** \$130 (\$140 after 10/25), includes post-event dinner reception with Monica Piper.
- **Reception:** Immediately after the program that includes wine and light dinner fare.

To make a reservation go to www.JFSDesert.org and click on the events tab or scan the QR code to the right. For questions call at (760) 325-5099.



All proceeds benefit the community programs supported by the JFS Desert Auxiliary.

The fair market value of a general admission ticket is \$20; a VIP ticket is \$60.

**Thursday, November 16 at
5:30 PM**

**Spaghetti Dinner and Line
Dancing Night at Temple
Sinai**

Taught by extraordinary line
dancing teacher
Ms. Jennie
McJilton.



No partner is
necessary for line
dancing.

(Event in place of November
Brotherhood Dinner & A Movie)
Cost is \$20 per person



**Thursday, November 30 at
5:30 PM**

**Team Trivia Night led by
Mr. Trivia, Roy Cohen.**

Includes Pizza dinner with
salad, dessert, and
beverage.

Brought to you by the
Brotherhood

Cost is \$20 per
person



**Friday, November 17 at
12:00 PM**

**Women of Sinai Double
Header Luncheon**

- Sharyn's Favorite Books
- Hanukkah Bazaar with
items from local artists
- Quiche lunch by Sherman's
Deli

Cost is \$40 for WOS members,
\$50 for all others.
Please RSVP by
Tuesday, November
14.



Sunday, November 26

Living Desert
tour with Broth-
erhood. Families
welcome.



Time to be announced.



**Sunday, December 3 at
10:00 AM**

**Brotherhood Organizational
Meeting**

Join us for coffee, and help
plan the rest of the year.
Brotherhood needs your
ideas and energy.

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

Brotherhood Speaker Series:
First speaker will be Mr. Alan
Potash, CEO of the Jewish Feder-
ation of the Desert, who will
speak on contemporary Jewish
issues.

Light snacks and beverages will
be served at 5:00 preceding the
discussion.



**Wednesday, December 6
at 6:30 PM**

**Bingo Night at
Temple Sinai**

Join us for a lively session
of bingo and desserts.

Depending on your
attendance and
enthusiasm, this could
be a regularly scheduled
event!





A Warm Welcome to New Temple Sinai Congregants

Rhona Bader

Douglas Badger & John
McDonald

Fred Bailey

Steven Berger

Farla Binder

Marlene Binder

Minette Brown

Anita Charish

Sherry & Fred Fern

Elizabeth & Roy Freedman

● Flair Garret

Sonia & Danielle Hemple

Nikki Jacobson

Marvin Kanfer

Susan Kanfer ●

Barb Laws

Debbie & Barry Lipsett

Jerry Marks

Arlene & Barry Morgan

Leah & Greg Papazian

Teri Prats

David Schreiber & Richard
Workman

Richard Seigle

David Supornick & Shaw
Zaidens



Women of Sinai Doubler Header Luncheon

Friday, November 17 at 12:00

Doors open at 11:30



Sharyn's Favorite Books

Sharyn McKee will talk about some of her best loved books and brings a book for everyone in attendance as her gift to you. She will ask you to make a \$1 donation to the COD Library for each book you take.



Chanukah Bazaar

Local artists will display and sell their jewelry, ceramics, silk screened clothing, and paintings.*

*Contact Sandie Eichberg at SGEichberg@msn.com if you are an artist who would like to participate in the bazaar.



Quiche Lunch by Sherman's Deli

Reservation deadline is Tuesday, November 14.

\$40 for members of Women of Sinai, and \$50 for all others.

Name(s) _____

Number in party _____

Who would you like to sit with? _____

Pay by Check _____ Total: \$ _____ Credit Card # _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration: _____

CCV _____ Phone _____

Billing Address _____

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



Torah in Translation with Rabbi Novak

Tuesdays at 4:00 PM
on Zoom



Use the link on the bottom right
side of our webpage:
www.templesinaipd.org



Torah Study on Shabbat mornings at 8:45 in the chapel followed by Shabbat morning service at 10:00.

Also available on Zoom.

Use this link 

Getting Better at Getting Older

New Adult Ed class at Temple Sinai with Local Rabbinic Student Adina Lawson
Thursdays noon to 1:00 PM through December 12 (except Thanksgiving).

The Resilient Elder

How do we navigate the challenges of aging? How do we invite strength, community, joy, and meaning into our latter years? What opportunities have been waiting for us to notice and explore?

Join Adina as we continue some of the themes we began to examine in last summer's class. No need to have attended last summer; each session will build on what we've learned, but can stand alone. So come for all or any of the classes. We will look through a Jewish lens into the wisdom of rabbis, therapists, poets, and essayists. All are welcome!



November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Chair Yoga 10:30 Mah Jongg 1:00	2 "Getting Better... class" 12:00	3 Erev Shabbat Oneg 5:00 Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	4 Torah Study 8:45 Shabbat Morning Service 10 AM Chapel & Zoom
5 Religious School 9:30 Pride Parade 10:00	6 Temple Office Closed	7 Torah in Translation 4:00 on Zoom	8 Chair Yoga 10:30 Mah Jongg 1:00	9 Tai Chi 10:00 "Getting Better..." 12:00	10 Erev Shabbat Oneg 5:00 Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	11 Torah Study 8:45 Shabbat Morning Service 10 AM Chapel & Zoom
12 Religious School 9:30	13 Temple Office Closed	14 Torah in Translation 4:00 on Zoom	15 Book Club 10:30 Mah Jongg 1:00 JFS Monica Piper 3:45	16 "Getting Better..." 12:00 Line Dancing w/ Brotherhood 5:30	17 WOS Luncheon 12:00 Erev Shabbat Oneg 5:00, Unity Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	18 Torah Study 8:45 Shabbat Morning Service 10 AM Chapel & Zoom Bar Mitzvah of Aidan Dorani
19	20 Temple Office Closed	21 Torah in Translation 4:00 on Zoom	22 Chair Yoga 10:30 Mah Jongg 1:00	23 Thanksgiving 	24 Temple Office Closed Erev Shabbat Oneg 5:00 Service 5:30 Sanctuary & Livestream	25 Torah Study 8:45 Shabbat Morning Service 10 AM Chapel & Zoom
26 Living Desert Tour with Brotherhood -Time TBD	27 Temple Office Closed	28 Torah in Translation 4:00 on Zoom	29 Chair Yoga 10:30 Mah Jongg 1:00	30 "Getting Better..." 12:00 Brotherhood Team Trivia Night 5:30		



73-251 Hovley Lane West Palm Desert CA 92260
 760-568-9699 Phone 760-773-4883 FAX
www.temple sinaipd.org



Call us for your next life celebration

*Bar/Bat Mitzvah's, Weddings, Anniversaries,
 Birthday Celebrations, Luncheons, Memorials,
 Dinner Parties, etc...*

Call:

*Kurt Anthony or Gordon Foster
 760-568-1350 or 760-836-3354*



Exceptional Catering for all Occasions



*Over 45 years of Experience in
 Exceptional Food and Service*