



Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation **CONNECTING OUR PATHWAYS**

“Teach Us to Treasure Our Days”

Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, Ph.D.

This is our season of celebration. This is a moment in time to treasure.

From the Installation on May 13th, to our Confirmation celebration on Shavuot (June 5th), to the culmination of our Festival of Installation on June 18th, together with all the graduations and end of the year celebrations, the joy and power of this season are palpable.

Even when it seems that there are just too many events, we also know that each one is priceless and irreplaceable. Especially in this time when so many events needed to be postponed or altered in some way because of more than two years of a pandemic, we have become more aware of how precious these moments are. We've learned not to take any single celebration for granted.

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Rabbinic Installation Weekend

Our Rabbinic Installation Weekend was a weekend of wonderful festivities. We had an amazing turnout with over 250 people at our Friday night service and dinner and over 150 attending Havdalah on Saturday evening. Everyone enjoyed our Special Shabbat Morning Study Session, Service, and Lunch & Learn. Thank you to everyone who made this weekend possible, especially Katie Applefeld, who has worked countless hours to make the Festival of Installation one we'll never forget.

Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom
Congregation

7310 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, MD 21208
Phone: 410-358-0105 | Fax: 410-358-3313

▶ www.hsosc-baltimore.org
▶ info@hsosc-baltimore.org

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Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

CLERGY

Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, Ph. D.,

Inaugural Senior Rabbi

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Cantor Alexandra S. Fox, Inaugural Cantor

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Rabbi Floyd Herman, Rabbi Donald Berlin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Jesse B. Harris

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Executive Officers

President: David Buchalter, MD

Vice-President: Abby Hoffman

Vice-President: Barbara Schlaff

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Supporting Programming at HSOSC

The Festival of Installation includes the Rabbinic and Cantorial Installations, visiting musicians and scholars, advocacy, and the kickoff of the Distinguished Voices Speaker Series — truly something for everyone! These programs require funding, and we are grateful to the more than 100 families who have supported the Festival of Installation and made this programming, and all future programming, possible.

If you'd like to join the many families who have already donated, please contact David L. Carp at ► davidlcarp@gmail.com or 443-540-8200.

COVID Policies

We hope this finds you and your loved ones well. Below you will find an update about our **plans and policies** at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation.

Our Reopening Committee — which includes medical and public health experts, members of our senior leadership team, as well as our president and other members of the Board — has continued to meet every few weeks to review the status of the pandemic and local and national policy changes and recommendations. The committee continues to try to balance the needs for normalcy and inclusivity with safety and precaution. With these principles in mind, **as of Thursday, May 12:**

- Attendees for all indoor activities must be vaccinated or show proof of a negative COVID test.
- Masks are required to be worn in the building.
- For meals, masks may be removed so please recognize this may create a risk of increased exposure and use your judgment as to attending.
- If you are exhibiting any COVID-related symptoms, we ask that you stay home and administer the proper care.

The Reopening Committee will continue to meet on a regular basis to assess and monitor the current COVID situation.

We appreciate your flexibility, understanding, and partnership as we continue to ensure the greatest safety, inclusivity, community experience and joy possible at this time.

If you have any questions, please be in touch with

Lee Sherman ► ls Sherman@hsosc-baltimore.org

Rabbi Sabath at ► RabbiSabath@hsosc-baltimore.org

With gratitude,

David Buchalter, MD, *President*

Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, Ph. D., *Inaugural Senior Rabbi*

Alexandra Fox, *Inaugural Cantor*

Reopening Committee Members

Dr. Tyler Cymet, Sam Dansicker, Dr. Wendy Lane, Dr. Steven Schonfeld,

Adrienne Shutt, William Zahler

Reopening Committee Staff Members

Harvey Betts, Sara Flechner, Nina Pachino, Lee Sherman, Stacy Smith,

Meredith Zuckerman

Marking our achievements with rituals is part of how we savor each one. The celebrations also invite us to deepen our appreciation of the passage of time.

We are so blessed to be able to celebrate the achievements of our children, grandchildren, loved ones and friends. We are blessed that our Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation has also reached a significant milestone as we celebrate our Sacred Partnership. In each of these moments, much of our joy comes not only from what has been achieved, but from what they make possible. Even as we savor the moment, if we're awake, we become more deeply aware of how achieving this moment makes the future and its gifts possible.

Each of these celebrations is powerful much in the way that each of our Jewish holidays is powerful. The rituals, the gatherings, the food, the prayers and Torah readings are all important aspects of how Judaism helps us make sure that we are hyper aware of the passage of time, the values of the holiday, and how we can live those values. Each Jewish holiday, and every occasion we are celebrating, can teach us who we have become, where we came from, where we hope to go, and who we strive to become.

For me, this is how Judaism — a phenomenal 'operating system' for life — keeps us on track and focused on our ultimate goals.

RELIGION

At long last, Baltimore's two oldest Reform Jewish congregations are one

The merged assembly planned to install a rabbi, then start a celebration

BY JONATHAN M. PITTS

It has been an agonizingly long time since the members of Baltimore's two oldest Reform Jewish temples have been able to worship as well and as fully as they'd like. Membership at Har Sinai Congregation and Temple Oheb Shalom divided for years, and with it their prospects for long-term survival. They considered merging five years ago, then talks moved forward in fits and starts. They united legally, then a pandemic hit.

Now the members of the nation's "newest and oldest Reform congregation," as its leadership team is calling it, are poised to celebrate their union and jumpstart a new chapter of Baltimore Jewish history. The nearly 500 families that make up Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation planned Friday to install their first rabbi, the internationally recognized scholar Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, in a formal ceremony, followed by a celebratory dinner and family events.

The activities will kick off a month-long festival set to draw some of the biggest names in global Reform Judaism. Sabath says the festivities are designed as a dramatic statement of the spiritual and cultural heights to which the congregation aspires.

In the shorter term, those who have spent months ironing out the details of the merger, much of it as the coronavirus pandemic raged, sound thrilled just to see their efforts on the verge of paying off.

It seems symbolic that we're experiencing this change in the weather from winter to springtime, and the restrictions around covid will hopefully continue to ease, and it's all creating such an optimistic, open feeling," says Abby Hoffman, a longtime Har Sinai member now serving as a vice president of the new congregation.

With origins in 19th-century Germany, Reform Judaism is a progressive denomination of the 4,000-year-old Jewish faith, a branch whose believers place less emphasis on the religion's ritual aspects and more on what they see as its ethical imperatives.



LEFT: Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, left, congregation board member Katie Applefeld, Cantor Alexander S. Fox and congregation president David Buchalter at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation ABOVE: A sacred Torah scroll with a yad, or pointer.

landscapes. It was in Baltimore in 1842 that a group of German immigrants, frustrated with some of the practices of their Orthodox Jewish congregation, founded Har Sinai ("Mount Sinai"), the first congregation in the United States conceived around Reform prayer rites. Immigrants from Hungary and Czechoslovakia established Oheb Shalom ("Lovers of Peace") 13 years later.

Both quickly earned a name for social activism. Har Sinai's first rabbi, David Einhorn, increased so many people with his anti-racist views that he was forced to flee Baltimore, according to the new synagogue's website. Henrietta Sould, the daughter of one of Oheb Shalom's earliest rabbis, founded Hadasah, one of the world's largest Jewish service organizations.

As the decades passed, both congregations moved from their original homes to sites in Northwest Baltimore. They developed close ties as leaders marched during the civil rights movement of the 1960s, and they co-sponsored a range of events and social services that lasted into this century.

Neither was immune, though, to the decline in interest in formal religion that has plagued American faith traditions over the past half-century. Membership at Har Sinai dropped from about 800 families in the late 1970s to about 325 five years ago. Oheb Shalom fell from about 1,000 families to 625 over roughly the same span.

Former Oheb Shalom President Mina Wexler told The Baltimore Sun that her temple was operating "on a bare-bones bud-

get" in 2017 — the year congregational leaders began talking in earnest about the possibility of joining their histories. Those who worked on the merger say that through both sides shared a range of values and traditions, forging a union was challenging.

"Imagine a marriage involving lots of humans with years of history, personalities and traditions," says Katie Applefeld, a former Har Sinai member on the new congregation's board. "Mergers don't always succeed. It's hard, hard work."

"It's time to come together physically and on all levels and march forward."

Abby Hoffman, longtime Har Sinai member now serving as a vice president of the new congregation

we come together, but that didn't mean it would be easy," Applefeld says. In 2019, the congregations set up a joint task force to address cultural and liturgical differences, explore common ground and develop a vision for the future.

Members of various ages, occupations and observance levels spent three months "hashing" out everything from basic bylaws to finances, what traditions would be observed, which building would be used, and what kind of clergy and staff setup we wanted to have," says

Mandee Heintz, a lifelong member of Oheb Shalom who served on the panel.

"We had dinner, and we sat there and argued it out, cry it out, cheer it out, just doing everything it takes to negotiate," Heintz says. "Everyone was committed to making it work."

Among the decisions: The new congregation made Oheb Shalom's building its home, less due to its architectural significance (it was designed in part by the Bauhaus pioneer Walter Gropius) than its more central location; Har Sinai comes first in the new name; Torah scrolls from both congregations are used, and photos of confirmation classes from

each congregation dating back to 1890 were hung side by side.

The idea signified an agreement of consolidation marking the legal merger. Two months later, Har Sinai congregants gathered up artifacts at their longtime temple in Owings Mills and took them on a nearly 8-mile march to their new home in Fallston in Northwest Baltimore. They were met by members of Oheb Shalom, and the group hummed traditional Jewish sigposts, or merzaz, from old Har Sinai to the doors of the "new" temple as shofars blew.

"Was it sad to walk out of the old building on Walnut? Of course," Hoffman says. "But walking along the road you became healed. If you want to get philosophical, the Jewish people have moved all through history, taking their stories with them. It was a monumental experience."

One change that brought no mixed emotions was the hiring of Sabath, a rabbi who temple leaders say has the kind of charisma, talent and enthusiasm that can inspire long-term success. A scholar of modern Jewish ethics and theology, Sabath earned her doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, and was vice president of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, and an adjunct professor at American campuses of Hebrew Union College.

She has also embraced a goal that the congregation's president, David Buchalter, says the search team shared with every candidate: that the new leader would not just build on the past, but inspire a unique future. Sabath's goals include building community through services and events, inspiring intellectual curiosity, promoting deeper learning about Judaism and Israel, and ensuring that the temple's scope of interest

includes local, regional and global concerns.

The "festival of installation" will include concerts, family services, the installation of Cantor Alexander S. Fox, and even a pet blessing. It will also feature appearances by two Jewish figures Sabath has gotten to know through her work: Rabbi David Saperstein, the attorney and Jewish leader who served as U.S. ambassador at large for international religious freedom under President Barack Obama, and globally known author and human rights activist Nathan Shanley.

Saperstein is to appear three times on the weekend of June 3 — once to address a confirmation class, once to introduce the musical duo Kol B'Seder, and once to deliver an address on social justice.

Sabath, a Ukrainian native, will address the community on "Israel, world Jewry and the war in Ukraine" the following weekend. His talk will be open to the public.

Their appearances will inaugurate a speaker series expected to last at least through the end of the year, much of it focusing on the humane role Judaism can play on the world stage. It's all in keeping with the inaugural rabbi's aspirations.

"The sky is the limit," Sabath says. "We have an opportunity to become truly the most inspiring, innovative, impactful congregation, not just in the community, but in the country." For now, officials who have shepherded the union sound happy simply to have a time, place and occasion to gather in person to worship among old friends and make new ones. Heintz, for one, sees Friday's event as a major step. "We've worked so hard to merge congregations," she says. "Everyone is ready to celebrate." —Autumn Sun

WE'RE IN THE WASHINGTON POST! HSOSC — and our Festival of Installation — was featured in The Washington Post! Read the article by [clicking here.](#)

Through the yearly cycle of holidays and the life-cycle of every person — core values are reinforced. Hanukkah teaches about the importance of religious freedom and tolerance; Passover reminds us to ensure that those held captive are freed and that the vulnerable are protected; Shavuot and Simchat Torah call us to appreciate the ethics that the Torah teaches and to celebrate the joy of learning.

Now, in these moments of transition into the summer season, let's be sure to pause often to appreciate

the preciousness of our achievements and our celebrations, the uniqueness of each element of our Festival of Sacred Partnership, and the future that every transition of our lives makes possible.

As the psalmist says: "Teach us to treasure our days so that we will gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12) May we each make good use of whatever time we have, and focus on the essence of who we want to be in the future, both as individuals and as a congregation.



JUNE 17-18 **Cantorial Installation Weekend with Visiting Cantors**

June 17, 6pm

Shabbat Service with Installation of Cantor Alexandra S. Fox

June 17, 7:45pm

Congregational Dinner in honor of Cantorial Installation

June 18, 8:45am

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

June 18, 10am

Special Shabbat Morning Service with the HSOSC Band and Visiting Cantors

June 18, 7pm

Musical Havdalah with Cantor Fox and Visiting Cantors

[Click here to register](#)



Festival of Installation

JUNE 14, 7PM

**SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE
NATAN SHARANSKY**

**Distinguished Voices: An Inspiring Speaker Series on World Jewry Presented by Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation —
A Special Presentation on World Jewry, Israel and the War in Ukraine**



Natan Sharansky was born in 1948 in Donetsk, Ukraine. Mr. Sharansky graduated from the Physical Technical Institute in Moscow with a degree in computer science. After graduating, he became active in the human rights movement led by Andrei Sakharov and very quickly became internationally known as the spokesperson for the Helsinki movement. At the same time he applied for an exit visa to Israel, which he was denied for "security reasons".

In 1977, a Soviet newspaper alleged that Mr. Sharansky was collaborating with the CIA. Despite denials from every level of the U.S.

Government, Mr. Sharansky was found guilty and sentenced to thirteen years in prison, including solitary confinement and hard labor. In the courtroom prior to the announcement of his verdict, Mr. Sharansky in a public statement said: "To the court I have nothing to say – to my wife and the Jewish people I say "Next Year in Jerusalem". After nine years of imprisonment, due to intense international pressure, Mr. Sharansky was released on February 11, 1986, emigrated to Israel, and arrived in Jerusalem on that very day.

[Click here to register](#)

Festival of Installation

Celebrating Sacred Partnership
See pages 1–3

Events & Programs

BOOK DISCUSSION

CASTE: THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS
Wednesday, June 1, 6:00 p.m.
Zoom Only

▶ [Click here to register](#)

A SWEET SHAVUOT CELEBRATION

Saturday, June 4, 6:00 p.m., In person and on Zoom
Cheesecake, Havdalah, and Study with the Clergy

▶ [Click here to register](#)

REFORM CONGREGATION SHAVUOT TIKKUN

Saturday, June 4, 8:00 p.m. – Midnight
Zoom Only

Join HSOSC, BHC and Bolton Street Synagogue for a night of learning.

▶ [Click here to get Zoom information](#)

SHAVUOT & CONFIRMATION SERVICE WITH AMBASSADOR RABBI DAVID SAPERSTEIN

Sunday, June 5, 10:00 a.m.

▶ [Click here to register](#)

Worship

Please register online to join us in person or on Zoom.
A Zoom link will be sent to you in a confirmation email.

EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday evening, 6:15 p.m.
In person and on Zoom and Facebook Live

▶ [Click here to register](#)

TORAH STUDY

Saturday, 8:45 a.m., In person and on Zoom

▶ [Click here to register](#)

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

Saturday, 10:00 a.m., In person and on Zoom

▶ [Click here to register](#)

MAZER MORNING MINYAN

Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m., Zoom only

Sunday at 9:00 a.m., Zoom only

▶ [Click here to register](#)

Special Shabbat Services

GUEST MUSICIANS KOL B'SEDER & THE HSOSC OCTET
Friday, June 3, 6:15 p.m.

In person and on Zoom and Facebook Live

▶ [Click here to register](#)

**CANTORIAL INSTALLATION OF
CANTOR ALEXANDRA FOX**

Friday, June 17, 6:00 p.m.

In person and on Zoom and Facebook Live

▶ [Click here to register](#)

Simchas/Life Events

BAR MITZVAH OF KAYLEB GALLANT-CALTRIDER

Saturday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m., In person and on Zoom

Adult Education & Programming

SUNDAY SEMINAR

Sundays at 9:45 a.m., Zoom Only

▶ [Click here to register](#)

TORAH TUESDAYS WITH RABBI SABATH

Every Tuesday, 10:15 a.m., In person and on Zoom

▶ [Click here to register](#)

MONTHLY MIDRASH MONDAY

WITH GUEST SPEAKER DR. STEVEN SCHONFELD

Monday, June 6 at 7:00 p.m., In Person and on Zoom

▶ [Click here to register](#)

Learning Ladder

MONDAY–FRIDAY

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**PART TIME OPTIONS available for the
2022–2023 school year**

Learning Ladder is a licensed childcare center and preschool for children ranging in ages from 10 weeks through five years. ▶ [Click here for more info on our website.](#)

Posner JEM Religious School

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

[Click here](#) for more information about our program

[Click here to register](#)

Questions? Email Nina Pachino, Director of Youth Education ► nina@hsosc-baltimore.org

Mazel Tov to our 2022 Confirmation Class!

Daisy Applefeld
Madeline Brandwin
Dylan Buchalter
Gregory Dain
Aleeza Greenstein
Josephine Koenig
Kaitlyn Rochlin
Gabriel Sachs
Joshua Solomon
Sabrina Thaler

Tikkun Olam

Are you volunteering in the community with an organization that would be open to other volunteers from HSOSC? Please email ► [Sheryl Jacobs](#) or ► [Mina Wender](#), we want to be able to thank you and hear about your experience.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

Sundays, June 26, August 14, October 16, 9:00 a.m.

On JUNE 26, the first 15 people to sign up will receive a free ticket to that afternoon's Aberdeen IronBirds game honoring Jewish Heritage!

[Click here](#) for more information and to volunteer!

WEEKEND BACKPACKS

Sunday, June 12, 10:00 a.m.

[Click here](#) to get more information and volunteer!

BUNCHES OF LUNCHES

Monday, June 13 and Tuesday, July 5

[Click here](#) to get more information and volunteer!



JUNE 11, 5:30PM

**In-Person Pet Havdalah & Special Blessing
With Lisa Radov and Adina Yoe—animal rescue
and rights advocates —and Cantor Fox**

[Click here to register](#)

Get excited for July!

Mark your calendar for these programs coming your way in July.

BROTHERHOOD AT THE BALLGAME — ORIOLES V. ANGELS

July 10. [Click here](#) to register

BALTIMORE: STORIES OF GROWTH, PEOPLE AND TIME (PART TWO)

Thursdays, July 7, 15, 21, 28, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Explore the history of the city and its people, exploring Baltimore's past to help understand Baltimore today. For more information or to register, [email Sherri Bell](#).

JEWISH MUSIC (PART ONE)

Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 27 and August 3, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Explore Jewish classical music with regarding to composers and performers who emerged in the late 19th and early 20th century. For more information or to register, [email Sherri Bell](#).



Cantorial Concert

Our Cantorial Concert with Joyce Rosenzweig brought our community together in a unique way. Our sanctuary was filled with nearly 100 people as we shared in memories, uplifting stories, and beautiful music.

We were so lucky to have so many cantorial voices and musicians on our bimah (from left to right): Peter Murphy, Cantor Jason Kaufman, Cantor Lindsay Kanter, Cantor Alexandra Fox, Joe Marcus, Cantor Ilana Goldman, Dave Rosenfeld, Laya Fridman, Paul Binko, Melinda Blum McGlothlin, Cantor Robert Gerber, and of course, Joyce Rosenzweig.

We can't wait for more Cantorial Concerts in our future!



Left to right: Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Donald Berlin, Rabbi David Saperstein, Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, Rabbi Emeritus Floyd Herman.

At the celebration before the Kickoff Event of our new Distinguished Voices Speaker Series with Ambassador Rabbi David Saperstein.

On Shavuot morning, Rabbi Saperstein addressed our 2022 Confirmation Class on the opportunities ahead of them as Jewish adults committed to Jewish values. In the evening, Rabbi Saperstein spoke to our whole community on *Being the Hands of God: Jewish Perspectives on America's Social*.

Mazel Tov

to our 2022 Confirmation Class!

We celebrated our Confirmation Class in a Shavuot service on Sunday, June 5 featuring guest speaker Ambassador Rabbi David Saperstein. We're so proud of our confirmands and know they'll go on to do great things!

Daisy Applefeld
Madeline Brandwin
Dylan Buchalter
Gregory Dain
Aleza Greenstein

Josephine Koenig
Kaitlyn Rochlin
Gabriel Sachs
Joshua Solomon
Sabrina Thaler

Registration for our JEM Posner Religious School is already open for the 2022-2023 year! [Click here](#) to register.

Women's Club

By Susan Yaffe & Sherri Bell, Co-Presidents, The Women's Club



The Women's Club would like to thank everyone who joined us in person and on Zoom for our annual Erev Shabbat Service on May 20. So many of our members showed their support of our organization by directly participating in the service. This was our first Women's Club Shabbat with our new clergy. We thank Rabbi Sabath and Cantor Fox for how warmly they have both embraced The Women's Club this past year. Teamwork truly does make the dream work!

On May 21, many members of The Women's Club along with their family members and friends came together for our third annual Multigenerational Women's Tea. What a glorious time we had at Sweet Simplici-Tea in Old Sykesville. The food was spectacular, and the company was incomparable. Some families even had three generations present! A special thank you goes out to

Rabbi Sabath for joining us and for leading us in a memorable Havdalah celebration.

We look forward to conducting our annual special birthday celebration for those members of The Women's Club who will be marking a milestone birthday beginning with 80 in five-year increments. We even have one honoree turning 100! Stay tuned for more information regarding date and location as it becomes available. We hope many will come out to pay tribute to our honorees.

The Board of The Women's Club will be meeting in late July to plan programs, events, and activities for the upcoming fiscal year (July 2022 through June 2023.) If you have any idea for programs, events, or activities that you would like us to consider, please email Sherri Bell, co-President at sboxerbell@gmail.com and I will pass them along to our programming chairs and our entire committee.

Brotherhood News

Brotherhood is ready to enjoy some baseball this summer! On Sunday, June 26, Brotherhood is supporting HSOSC's Adopt-a-Highway program by offering the first 15 people who sign up to help a free ticket to that afternoon's Aberdeen IronBirds game celebrating Jewish Heritage! [Click here to register.](#)

We are also inviting the whole congregation to join us on Sunday, July 10 to watch the Orioles take on the Angels (don't tell Rabbi, but we're going to ask her to do a 'drash on the malachim during the 7th inning stretch!).

Speaking of games, Brotherhood is also sponsoring a poker table at the upcoming FIDF Games Night in support of the Lone Solider program.

We thank everyone who came out for our Sunday Breakfast series with Mike Preston of the Baltimore Sun. And we would like to congratulate The Women's Club for their beautiful Shabbat service last month. Mazel Tov!

Brotherhood is "brewing" (hint-hint) up plans for more in-person events this summer — stay tuned!

News from TOPAZ

By Mina Wender, Co-Chiar

Hunger does not take a summer holiday! Throughout this summer, TOPAZ will continue efforts to help feed those in need.

Weekend Backpacks continues to assemble food that will be given out at summer schools and camps. Please reach out to Ken Bell (krbell6mhc@gmail.com) or Len Goldheim (lgoldheim@verizon.net) to volunteer at the main packing area.

Bunches of Lunches needs everyone's help. Now that Religious School is no longer in session, we must provide the lunches formerly made by the students. I enjoy making lunches and plan to double my output this summer. Each time I see whether I can be more efficient than the last. Delivering is easy and greatly appreciated by the various agencies. Please contact Terry Willner (TWillner1@aol.com) for information. HSOSC delivers on the first Monday of the month, so the next lunches and delivery are on June 13 (switched with Beth Tfiloh) and July 5 (because Monday is July 4).

Lindsay Gaister Montague reports that we have adopted thirty campers and raised over \$1,000 for the **Camp Vincent St. Paul summer snack program**.

On May 9, 30 people packed 210 bags of personal products for **Dignity Grows**. I am hoping that this becomes an ongoing project for HSOSC. It is not just food that people need.

On a different note, we are continuing our exploration of *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson on June 1 at 6PM. We will be led by Rabbi Sabath and Cristina Lopez.

Finally, come out on June 25 and August 14 at 9AM to join Noel Levy and the Green Team to clean up Brooks Robinson Drive.

If you have any questions about TOPAZ, please contact Mina Wender minawender50@gmail.com or Sheryl Jacobs sheryljacobs@gmail.com.

SUMMER HELP WANTED



Want to make a difference in the community? Or do you have a teen that needs volunteer hours? TOPAZ needs YOU for the following volunteer opportunities:

Adopt-a-Highway:

Clean our one-mile stretch of highway on June 26 or August 14 from 9 to 10 a.m.

Contact Noel Levy, Green Team Captain, at megamapster@gmail.com.

Weekend Backpacks at HSOSC:

Provide food to vulnerable, food-insecure Baltimore City youth on June 12 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Contact Ken Bell at krbell6mhc@gmail.com

Bunches of Lunches at HSOSC:

Make bagged meals to be donated to local shelters on June 13, July 5 (Tuesday due to July 4th holiday), and August 1. Drop off bagged lunches between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. and/or help with packaging and delivery.

Contact Terry Willner at twillner1@aol.com and/or sign up at <https://jvcbbaltimore.org/lunches>.

Dinner at Ronald McDonald House:

Help plan, prepare and cook dinner for residents at Ronald McDonald House. Dates to be determined.

Contact Ilene Pyser at ilenep@verizon.net.

Jews United for Justice (JUF)

Synagogue Roundtables:

One or two members are needed to attend as our HSOSC TOPAZ representatives. Jewish United for Justice campaigns for social, racial, and economic justice in the Baltimore-Washington region. Meetings are every six weeks via zoom on Thursday evenings (May 19, June 30, August 11, September 22, November 3, December 15).

Contact:

Sheryl Jacobs at sheryljacobs@gmail.com or Mina Wender at minawender50@gmail.com.



Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation

WHO WE ARE

We are the combination of two historic Reform synagogues working together to create one joyful, warm, inclusive, and socially-conscious congregation. Because we are striving to live our Jewish values through the lens of a dynamic modern-world, we are constantly growing and evolving in pursuit of that goal.

WHAT WE VALUE

We are a Congregation that...

... fosters profound connections to one another. We work together in sacred partnership, building a community where all are included, respected, and valued. We celebrate with each other in our happiest moments and lift each other up in our most difficult ones.

... advances our foundational value of repairing the world at home, in the Baltimore community, and far beyond our walls. We are committed to performing acts of loving kindness, providing service to others, and advocating for justice and peace.

... appreciates the rich diversity of the Jewish community and invites all who desire a connection to Jewish life to join us. Our doors and hearts are open to interfaith couples and families, as well as people of all backgrounds, ages, races, financial means, sexual orientations, and gender identities. We welcome children and adults with disabilities and their families. We strive to ensure that our programs and facilities are accessible to all, and to accommodate special needs.

... engages in vibrant, innovative, and transformational experiences that stimulate a lifelong love of Judaism in all generations. Through learning, music, prayer, lifecycle events, and social gatherings, we are creating a spiritual home for all of us.