



TEMPLE  
SINAI

Finding Strength in Community

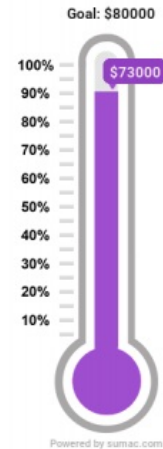
Hello,

## Annual Appeal 5781: Make Your Year-End Donation Today!



Please consider making your year-end gift to  
**Temple Sinai's Annual Appeal**

DONATE >



**Help us reach our goal of \$80,000.**

### Service Schedule

Friday, January 1  
7:30 PM

Erev Shabbat Service  
(via Facebook Live)

Saturday, January 2

8:30 AM

Torah Study  
(via Zoom Classroom)

9:45 AM

Shabbat Morning Service  
(via Facebook Live)

Friday, January 8

6:00 PM

Tot Shabbat  
(via Facebook Live)

7:30 PM

Erev Shabbat B'Simcha Service



Reminder that our  
offices will be CLOSED:  
Thurs, Dec 31st  
Fri, Jan 1st

We look forward to the new year  
and the exciting programs we have planned!



View last week's services:  
**Erev Shabbat Service, 12/25/20**  
**Shabbat Morning Service, 12/26/20**

Join Rabbi Meszler's Weekly

(via Facebook Live)

Saturday, January 9

8:30 AM

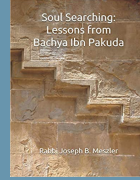
Torah Study

(via Zoom Classroom)

9:45 AM

Shabbat Morning Service

(via Facebook Live)



Study, Thursdays at 1:30 PM and study the [philosophy of Bachya ibn Pakuda](#).

Rabbi Meszler's Online Classroom:

[Meeting ID: 369 723 0846](#)

Password: Bagels

*All are welcome!*

## From Rabbi Meszler: Silent Benjamin



Benjamin never gets to really do anything in the Torah. He appears as the object of other people's actions, never as a person with his own agency. What does Benjamin symbolize for us today?

Maybe the figure of Benjamin somehow represents three meanings: our innocence, the work that needs to be done, and our hope. In all three cases, silent Benjamin deserves a voice. While his family was moving him around, bartering, and manipulating, we are only left to wonder what Benjamin himself had to say. His loud silence should reach us, and so should the silence of those around us whose innocence, work, and hope are more than a walk-on part.

[Read Rabbi Meszler's Sermon here](#)

## What's Happening "at" the Temple



Join Cantor Becky on **Saturday, January 16 from 4:30-5:15 PM** to sing, schmooze, and make *havdalah* - an opportunity to connect with each other over Zoom - as we say goodbye to Shabbat.

[Melaveh Malkah & Havdalah Zoom Info](#)

Meeting ID: 953 011 3877

Passcode: Sinai

[Religious School Calendar Raffle Fundraiser](#)



Support our Temple Sinai Religious School and [buy your February 2021 Raffle Calendar online today here](#). It's a win - win! You will have 28 chances to win prizes and all **proceeds will benefit the religious school**.

Calendars are \$10 each | 6 for \$50

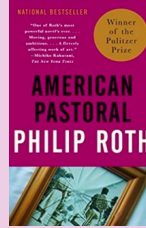
Questions? E-mail [Beth Nelson](#) or visit our [fundraiser webpage](#)



Did you donate in lieu of gifts during

Join us for our next **Sinai Reads on Sunday, January 24th at 9:30 AM** via Zoom, where we will be discussing Philip Roth's Pulitzer Prize winning novel, [American](#)

Hanukkah? Email [Diane Rosen](#) with your name and the charity/charities to which you have donated (please don't include amounts).



Pastoral.

Meeting ID: [860 4476 5893](#)  
Passcode: 741836

Contact [Diane Rosen](#) with questions.

## Light Beyond the Shadows: Programs and Presentations



**Light Beyond the Shadows**  
The Legacy of the Czech Torah Scrolls  
and the Renewal of Jewish Life in Czechia  
by Sheila Pallay and Julius Müller

### **Light Beyond the Shadows** by Sheila Pallay and Julius Müller

Inspired by the survival of 1,564 Czech Torah scrolls - including scroll 655 from Přeštice, Czechoslovakia restored by Temple Sinai in 2015 - *Light Beyond the Shadows* depicts Czechia's rich

history of some of the Jewish life and highlights the resurgence of a new generation of Czech Jews who are beginning to learn about their Jewish identity.

Author and Temple member Sheila Pallay has generously donated 100 copies of this book to Temple Sinai.

**Donation: \$25\***

\*\$10 to Temple Sinai  
\$15 to The Memorial  
Scrolls Trust.

[Purchase on PayPal](#)

[Purchase on Chaverweb](#)

**Mail your check:**

Temple Sinai  
*Light Beyond the Shadows*  
25 Canton Street  
Sharon, MA 02067

Delivery can be arranged if you cannot pick up your book(s) in person.

**Sunday, January 31, 2021 | 1:00 pm**  
**Zoom Panel Discussion**

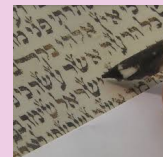
Virtual live discussion of the new book, *Light Beyond the Shadows*, featuring:

- Photographer/author and Temple Sinai member [Sheila Pallay](#)
- Czech genealogist and co-author [Julius Müller](#)
- [Memorial Scrolls Trust](#) (MST) Trustee Lois Roman
- Samples of Sheila's evocative photos
- Remembrances of the 13-week journey that led to the book's publication

[Reserve your space for Session 1](#)

**Sunday, February 7, 2021 | 1:00 pm**  
**Online screening of *Commandment 613***

This 23-minute documentary highlights the sacred work of sofer STaM (Torah scribe) Rabbi Kevin Hale as he restores Torah scrolls saved in Czechoslovakia during the Shoah. A live Q&A with filmmakers Miriam Lewin and Randi Cecchine, photographer Sheila Pallay, and Rabbi Hale follows.



[Reserve your space for Session 2](#)

These programs are free, but [your generous donation is welcome](#). **Pre-registration for both sessions is required.**

## In the Community



Hebrew  
SeniorLife



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
AFFILIATE

**Keshet:** Upcoming Programming for LGBTQ Families - **2020 is Over! Virtual Party for LGBTQ Jewish Teens on 12/30 at 8 PM**

**An Educational Session for Couples With Varying Care Needs**

Join us via Zoom on **Thursday, January 14 at 2 pm** for a webinar discussing the joys and challenges of aging on our own timeline – which may or may not coincide with that of our partner.

**Advanced registration required**

**The Rabbi Samuel Chiel (zt"l) Genesis Forum 2020-21:** Our teachers include rabbis, professionals, and academics, who all will draw strength and meaning from Jewish perspectives. Next Program is on **1/13 at 12 PM**

**Creating & Connecting with Jewish Boston Teens:** Virtual Program creating winter activity packets for Hebrew SeniorLife on **12/30 at 8 PM**

**CCAR Press:** Next Program is ***This Precious Life Book Launch*** on **1/10 at 1 PM**

***Learn more about all of these community programs here.***

## Resources for Challenging Times



**From CJP and their community partners:** helping you through this time with Emergency Fund Childcare Subsidies, Employment Resources and a Warmline to help access assistance

Starting on **January 4, 2021**, JVS and CJP will be launching a new employment support program called the **Jewish Re-employment Program (JREP)**, a **FREE program** for anyone in the Greater Boston Jewish community who is looking for employment support during this crisis.

**[Click here fore more info](#)**

**From the URJ:** resources and programs from the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), including **RJ on the Go**

**Coping with COVID-19:** Temple Sinai's summer Q&A webinar series

**Parenting in a Pandemic:** insights & practical advice to help parents support their teens

**Environmental & Racial Justice Webinar:** Co-presented by our Social Justice Committee, Sustainable Sharon Coalition & Sharon Racial Equity Alliance

**Resources from Institute for Jewish Spirituality:** designed to relieve stress as we increase awareness and navigate this time of uncertainty and isolation

**"When We Turned Within, Volume 2":** Rabbi Meszler is included in this collection of writings in response to Covid-19

**The Moving Traditions Teen Groups: Helping Jewish Teens Grow:** New programs added for LGBTQ+ teens

**Though we have shared this innumerable times already, it bears repeating.**

Massachusetts residents are advised to **limit the risk of exposure to COVID-19** by following these steps to **1.) stop the spread of COVID-19** and **2.) prevent deaths.**

- Limit in-person gatherings to household members only.
- Postpone or cancel travel. If you do choose to travel, be aware of and comply with Massachusetts travel order **requirements.**
- Follow the current state **gathering size limits.**

**PLEASE: We want everyone to stay safe and healthy.**

- Wear a mask
- Practice social distancing: stay at least six feet away from other people
- Wash hands often with soap and water or use hand sanitizer
- Get the flu vaccine
- Monitor for symptoms – fever, cough, shortness of breath
- If you may be around those at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, take extra

precautions to keep them safe

- Monitor recommendations from [Sharon Health Department](#), [MA Department of Public Health](#), and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

May 2021 offer us all blessings and the promise of better things to come.

*L'shalom,*  
Amy

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[www.temple-sinai.com](http://www.temple-sinai.com)

**Did you know? Provisions within the CARES Act may be beneficial to those who make charitable contributions to organizations such as Temple Sinai of Sharon.**

A new above-the-line charitable deduction of up to \$300 is available to taxpayers who do not itemize deductions.

- See also: [Ann Carrns, "It's Easier to Get a Tax Deduction for Donations This Year"](#), *New York Times*, 20 November 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/20/your-money/charity-deductions-taxes-coronavirus.html>, accessed November 30, 2020.

[Click here to learn more about how CARES Act may affect your year-end gift planning.](#)

Don't hesitate to contact Rabbi Amy Goodman, Executive Director, with questions (781-784-6081 or [agoodman@temple-sinai.com](mailto:agoodman@temple-sinai.com)).



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<https://smile.amazon.com/>