

TEMPLE SINAI TABLET CONNECT WITH US, GROW WITH US, CELEBRATE WITH US... **Covid-19 Temple Sinai Tablet Digital Edition**



PASSOVER HAGGADAH GRAPHIC NOVEL*

This adaptation of the Passover story is the brainchild of Jordan B. "Gorf" Gorfinkel, who oversaw the Batman franchise for a decade, and Israeli comic book artist Erez Zadok.

Depicted here: Blood, Frogs, Lice, Wild Animals and Livestock Death

*Koren Publishers Jerusalem 2019

APRIL 2020 VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER 10: Covid-19 Digital Edition

***ALL GREEN TEXT REFERS TO COVID-19 UPDATES.**

4631 South Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL 34231
 (enter ONLY from Proctor Road between Beneva and Swift Roads)
 Phone (941) 924-1802 www.SINAISRQ.org


**UNION for
 REFORM JUDAISM**
 האיחוד ליחידות רפורמית
 SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

SCHEDULE OF VIRTUAL SERVICES

** See Temple Sinai Website for updates on time and web links.*

Friday, April 3

Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 4

Shabbat Service/Torah

Discussion *

Parashat Tsav

Leviticus 6:1-8:36

Malachi 3:4-24

Wednesday, April 8

Passover Seder/Service/Dinner *

Thursday, April 9

Pesach Day 1 Service 10:00 a.m.

Friday, April 10

Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 11

Shabbat Service/Torah

Discussion *

Parashat Chol Ha Moed

Exodus 13:1-13:16

Wednesday, April 15

Yizkor Service 10:00 a.m.

Friday, April 17

Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 18

Shabbat Service/Torah

Discussion *

Parashat Shemini

Leviticus 9:1-11:47

II Samuel 6:1-7:17

Friday, April 24

Rhythm & Jews Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 25

Shabbat Service/Torah

Discussion *

Parashat Tazria-Metzora

Leviticus 12:1-15:33

II Kings 7:3-7:20

Friday, May 1

L'Morim/Rhythm & Jews

Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 2

Shabbat Service/Torah

Discussion *

Parashat Achrei Mot-Kedoshim

Leviticus 16:-20:27

Amos 9:7-15

SPECIAL NOTES:

Though we are physically distancing ourselves for all of our health and safety, we are continuing to find ways to socially and emotionally connect, grow and celebrate. Please refer to pages 6-8 of this tablet along with visiting Temple Sinai's website and Facebook page.

Temple Sinai's Website:

<https://templesinai-sarasota.org/>

Temple Sinai's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/templesinaisarasota/?ref=bookmarks>

During this Covid-19 crisis, if the temple office is not available, please contact Temple Sinai Clergy directly for the following:

- ★ You hear of a congregant who is ill or in the hospital
- ★ You have a death to report
- ★ You have a Yahrzeit that you would like read or changed

RABBI SAMANTHA KAHN

CELL: (832) 776-7382

CHAZZAN CLIFF ABRAMSON

CELL: (941) 356-3532

FROM YOUR RABBI

*Standing on the parted shores of history
we still believe what we were taught
before ever we stood at Sinai's foot;*

*that wherever we go, it is eternally Egypt
that there is a better place, a promised land;
that the winding way to that promise
passes through the wilderness.*

*That there is no way to get from here to there
except by joining hands, marching
together.*



This adapted poem from Michael Walzer has been elevated to liturgy by the Reform movement in our prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*. Now, our prayers and our theology affirm the notion of being challenged by a never-ending Egypt, especially when reading "Egypt" in its Hebrew form. *Mitzrayim*, the Hebrew word for Egypt, is also understood spiritually by breaking the word down and reading it as "from a narrow strait". Wherever we go, it is eternally Egypt - not because we're physically enslaved but because many of us are emotionally and spiritually enslaved by the fear, the pain, the doubt that becomes our narrow places - places of restriction and bondage. Places where we feel limited or broken.

In early March, I had the privilege of being with some of our Temple Sinai teens as they lobbied their representatives in Washington, D.C. There were a number of different topics they could choose to focus on; among the three that were chosen was the importance of helping fund Mental Health Initiatives. These extraordinarily brave teenagers spoke meaningfully about the heavyweight of mental illness, the need to help treat it and how it may affect all aspects of life. As I sit here preparing for Passover, considering what it means to be in Egypt, I can't help but think about these young people and the way they advocated for more people to find paths out of the narrow confines of emotional and mental unease.

Psalm 118, verse 5 reads: "*From the narrow straits I cried out to God. God answered me and delivered me to the wide places*". So many long to be brought out from their narrow straits and into wide places. So many call out to God for help, as the psalmist did. Yet many prayers for a tranquil or open spirit go unanswered. So how then are they to move forward when they find themselves in these narrow places? Seek help. Talk about how you feel with a mental health specialist and let them help you develop a plan. And know that we are not meant to live alone

in these difficult places. One famous answer for how we respond to this kind of emotional hardship comes from Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlav who said:

*Kol ha-o-lam ku-lo gesher tzar me'od
V'ha-i-kar shelo yit-pacheid klal
The whole world is a very narrow bridge;
the important thing is not to completely frighten
yourself.*

Often mistranslated as a lesson to not fear anything, the true essence of Rabbi Nachman's quote is to **not let your fear control you**. Fear and worry are seen here by Rabbi Nachman as a fact of life. It's not something we can avoid altogether but rather it is something we must not let overcome us. Fear and anxiety - like many other emotional and mental challenges - are a reality of life. Yet they are not the power that controls our lives - that is us - ourselves, our God, and our mindfulness. Judaism teaches us all to remember that when surrounded by fear or pain, restriction, or bondage, there is a better place - a promised land - waiting for us. We get there, by connecting with others, by seeking the help we need, by sharing our stories, and by finding that we're not alone. So, let's join hands and march on together.

Rabbi Kahn

Rabbi Samantha O. Kahn

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS THE BUILDING IS CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19. CHECK TEMPLE SINAI'S WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

SINAI OFFICE (941) 924-1802

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION:

TINA BARAN

EXT. 107

ACCOUNTANT/ADMINISTRATOR:

EXT. 103

MARIAN SIEGEL

CATERER/KITCHEN MANAGER:

ADAM WOLDMAN

EXT 304

CLERGY

RABBI SAMANTHA KAHN CELL

(832) 776-7382

CHAZZAN CLIFF ABRAMSON CELL

(941) 356-3532

THE GAN: LAURA FREEDMAN (941) 926-9462

YOUTH EDUCATION:

BETHANY LEINWEBER

(941) 922-9322



*Temple
Sinai
Confirmation
Class
2020*





L'TAKEN

This year, at the end of February, I had the rare opportunity to accompany some of our students to Washington, DC, for the first part of their trip to the Reform Movement's annual student oriented social action event at the **Religious Action Committee**. The event is called **L'Taken** and Rabbi Kahn, who was able to be there for the second half of the event, helped the students prepare for their presentations to senators and congressman on the Reform Movement's positions on many of the most important issues facing all of us today.

For this article I could go into detail about how and what the students learned. I could go into detail about the wonderful way Rabbi Kahn guided the students as they prepared to represent us in the Capital. In fact, this program, which literally means **to repair**, has so much to offer that this article could be pages long. For me, the lesson I learned was something so compelling that I am going to leave out all details about the program; you can read the details online at the RAC website. I want to focus on one particular matter that concerns all of us.

For me, the most striking observation I could make about this venture has to do with our students. Specifically, I am referring to the Temple Sinai students. This program, which is open to confirmation students, also has students returning for a second year. These particular students have either been bar/bat mitzvah students of mine or have been my religious school students. I mention this with pride, because I have had the wonderful opportunity of watching these young people grow into responsible, respectful, resourceful and model young adults.

The fact is that while the students from Temple Sinai benefitted from this program, I can say with complete confidence that the program benefitted from having our students there. At the risk of potential embarrassment (for which I hope to be forgiven), I would like to share with you just who these students are, in no particular order: Noah Leinweber, Katherine Karnes, Maya Gordon, Layla Marlowe, Anna Labiner, Griffen Wilkens-Plumley, and Leo Hollowell.

From visiting monuments, to attending services, to participating in Havdalah on the steps of the Jefferson Memorial to attending workshops of all kinds, our students made me mindful of how fortunate we are to have as our future such a

wonderful group who are actively interested in doing their part to engage in the work of **Tikkun Olam** (*repairing the world*).

Please understand that by no means am I suggesting that this group of seven future leaders are Temple Sinai's only wonderful young adults. Please come by the synagogue on a Sunday or Wednesday when school is in session or when a class-led service falls on a shabbat, and you will see just how fortunate we are.

L'Shalom,

Chazzan Cliff Abramson



Upcoming Virtual Programming

Special Events:

- ★ Challah Bake Thursday, March 26th (Temple Sinai Facebook Live), 2:00 PM
- ★ A Tale of Love and Darkness, Thursday, April 2nd (Netflix Watch Party) 6:00 PM
- ★ Virtual Seder, Wednesday, April 8th (Streamed) 6:00 PM
- ★ Family Friendly Virtual Seder, Thursday, April 9th (Streamed) 5:00 PM
- ★ Baking Live - Flourless Chocolate Cake, Tuesday, April 14th (Facebook Live) 2:00 PM
- ★ Coping with Corona - Dr. Spann helps us process our Anxiety in these unprecedented times, Thursday, April 16th, 12:00 PM
- ★ Healthy Selves - Dr. Spann leads a women's only class to talk about our healthy eating and living, Thursday, April 23rd (Zoom) 12:00 PM

Weekly programming, beginning THIS Shabbat (Friday, March 27th):

Fridays:

Gan Shabbat (Gan's Facebook page), Fridays at 12:30 PM

Family Kabbalat Shabbat (Facebook Live on Rabbi Kahn's Facebook page), Fridays at 4:45 PM

Virtual Welcome Reception (Zoom), Fridays at 5:15 PM

Erev Shabbat Service (Streamed), Fridays at 6:00 PM

Saturdays:

Shabbat morning service (Zoom), Saturdays at 10:30 AM

Havdallah and Happy Hour - Shabbat After Party (Zoom), Saturdays at 7:00 PM

Upcoming Virtual Programming

Weekly programming, Continued:

Sundays:

Sunday School

Mondays:

Gan Havdalah (Gan's Facebook page), Mondays at 9:30 AM

Gan Story Time (Gan's Facebook page), Daily** on weekdays at 11:00 AM

Tuesdays:

Gan Story Time (Gan's Facebook page), Daily** on weekdays, 11:00 AM

Intro to Singing (Zoom), Tuesdays at 12:00 PM

Clergy Coffee Talk (Zoom), 1:30 PM

Wednesdays:

Gan Story Time (Gan's Facebook page), Daily** on weekdays at 11:00 AM

Intro to Cantillation (Zoom) at 12:00 PM

Torah Study (Zoom) at 2:00 PM

Hebrew Classes (Zoom) at 4:00 PM

Thursdays:

Jewish Music (Zoom) at 10:00 AM

Gan Story Time (Gan's Facebook page), Daily** on weekdays at 11:00 AM



Virtual Programming

Additional virtual options, recommended by Rabbi Kahn:

- ★ Weekly Torah Study and Daily Meditation through the Institute for Jewish Spirituality:
https://www.jewishspirituality.org/get-started/resources-for-challenging-times/?fbclid=IwAR1ewd1DwNpKEdT3WYJNK0Ybih58kpjagm8T9az9dZ-j-TT8b8jLp_uk-Ac
- ★ URJ Youth Group and Camp Events - virtual programs for kids:
https://urjyouth.org/virtual-communities/?fbclid=IwAR0Oly-qrJ7o_OqS-Hbon1L18A1AshLQhr4_XZFotaiCvwib1JDiHRpZDNq
- ★ Looking for great new content to watch? Kveller says these are the best Jewish shows to watch on Netflix.
<https://www.kveller.com/the-best-jewish-tv-and-movies-to-watch-on-netflix/>

Not sure how to access all this great content? Check out these great “How To” videos and join us virtually as soon as you can!

- ★ Facebook - For a great video on how to join Facebook:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zf5q0oS0FM
- ★ After you’ve created a Facebook account:
<https://www.facebook.com/templesinaisarasota/> to access the Temple Sinai Page
- ★ Like it! Share it! Follow it! :) Enjoy all the content we’re creating.
- ★ Zoom - For a video on how to join a Zoom meeting:
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>
- ★ Join a Netflix Watch Party:
<https://www.netflixparty.com/> and follow the step by step directions for how to add the Netflix Party extension to your browser, and then be on the lookout for the congregation’s invitation.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I write this article on March 1st, I am reflecting on this past Friday night's Shabbat service. We arrived at the temple around 5:00 p.m., and there were just a few cars in the parking lot. This was just a regular service and it looked like we would not have a strong turnout.

By 5:30, I was really surprised. The entire social hall was filled with people who were eagerly munching on Chef Adam's delicious spread. Besides our congregants, there were a number of guests, who could be identified by their handwritten name tags.

At 6:00 p.m., we moved into the sanctuary; obviously more people had shown up because the majority of seats were taken. As usual, the service was extremely enjoyable. In every song and prayer, there is overwhelming congregant participation. Rabbi Kahn gave a creative and thought inducing sermon that had everyone's attention. We finished with our customary swaying and after the service, the Bimah was swamped by those wanting to speak with the clergy and to meet others for going out to dinner.

The reason that I'm writing about this is because such an attendance is generally nationally unusual. In December, I attended the URJ Biennial conference in Chicago. I participated in meetings with presidents of similar sized congregations. One of the subjects was Friday night service attendance. The moderator went around the room asking us what were their typical numbers? You would hear things like 25, 50, 60, etc. When they came to me and asked how many people come to our services, I was almost embarrassed to say that we normally get well over 100, and on a special night, we can get over 200. Everyone wanted to know what our secret is.

I replied that we have been fortunate to build a wonderful community. Friday night is a social night where friends get together. We have a **social hour** prior to services in which our Chef puts out a beautiful, delicious spread. **The service is participatory and fun. Our Rabbi inspires us with her words. Our Chazzan leads our combined voices in prayer.** People use the service as a conduit for get togethers afterward.

When I say from the Bimah that Temple Sinai is an amazing place with an incredible future, our normal Friday night Shabbat services are one of the reasons why.

Gary Kravitz, President

SINAI SOLOS

Some of the Sinai Solos had a festive dinner after services on February 14 at *DaRuMa*. We filled the reservation for 18 people within two days of announcing the event. Look for more opportunities for Solos to get together. As of now, we have 56 members on our email distribution list.



Happy Passover

Temple Sinai

Look for Updates...

Backpack PROGRAM

Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteer with other Temple Sinai members to help All Faiths Food Bank prepare weekend backpacks of supplemental healthy snacks for children from families in risk of food insecurity in Sarasota and DeSoto counties.
(Note: volunteers do not lift heavy items.)

Sign up to help from 9am-11am
on April 13, 2020 and/or May 4, 2020
RSVP to Barbara Ryder at bgryder47@gmail.com
and indicate the date(s) you can help.

Backpacks from All Faiths Food Bank provide students with nutritious food for the weekends.

ROSH CHODESH



**Join us for *Rosh Chodesh Iyar*
Friday, April 24, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.
when Elyse Diamond presents:
*Following the Trail of Jewish Roots and Contributions
to the Growth of Sarasota!***

RSVP to Ronni Freed at Ronni462@aol.com



PRESENTS



TEMPLE SINAI

CONNECT WITH US
GROW WITH US
CELEBRATE WITH US...

LET'S TALK POLITICS!

A Friendly Bi-Partisan Conversation
on American Politics

Moderated by
Moderated by Evan Philip

AIPAC Florida Regional Politician

This program is off the record and closed to the press.

CANCELED



Ty Matsdorf
Democratic Strategist
The Messina Group



Jessica Johnson
Republican Strategist
Holtzman Vogel
Josefiak Torchinsky PLLC

SPACE IS LIMITED!
RSVP TODAY: masachs@aipac.org

More Information contact Event Chairs
Mark & Jamie Heisler at: jamiemarkparty@gmail.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 16th 7:30-8:30 PM - FREE
EXCLUSIVE WELCOME RECEPTION* 6:45 PM

*FOR TEMPLE SINAI MEMBERS & AIPAC CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

EVENT LOCATION: Temple Sinai, 4631 South Lockwood Ridge Rd, Sarasota, FL 34231

WOMEN OF SINAI...



Another successful "Mah Jongg and More" was held on March 5, 2020. Over 200 women participated in this always popular event. Remember to sign up early next year. A huge thank you to the Mah Jongg Committee: **Patty Schreiber**, Chair, **Janet Moses** and **Sylvia Bloom**, food; **Rae Ellen Levene**, reservations; **Carole Gorin**, baked goods; **Harriet Rosen**, check in; and **Laurie Criden**, serving.

Did you miss the February luncheon? Rabbi Kahn gave us an overview of her transition from "Cheerleader to Prayer Leader". It was very well attended. Janet Moses introduced the new

members who did the motzi.



Left to right: Janet, Mary Gendler, Ina Friedman, Claire Shulman and Harriet Heisler.

President Peggy Miller, Rabbi Kahn and Joanne Trachtenberg



Don't miss out - April 2, 2020, Annual Election and Installation Luncheon. This year will be held at **University Park Country Club** and the menu is excellent. Please don't forget to RSVP. The choices are: Pan Roasted Chicken or Pan Seared Ocean Grouper, vegetable available upon request. Speaker will be **Cheri DeVries**, Board Chair for Mothers Helping Mothers.



Please remember that **Book Club** meets all year round on the third Thursday of each month. Questions – please contact Dobbie Linick or see our listing on the website sinaisrq.org

Peggy Miller, WOS President

2020 Nominating Report

President
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Financial Secretary

Peggy Miller
Gail Glickman
Barbara Pollack
Jane Glusman

VP Membership
VP Programs
VP Mitzvah
VP Administration
VP Hospitality

Janet Moses
Suzanne Weinstein
Judy Polivy
Greta Roberts
Lee Coopersmith
Laurie Criden
Judy Goldblatt
Barbara Bryden
Janet Gross

VP Gift Shop
VP Special Events

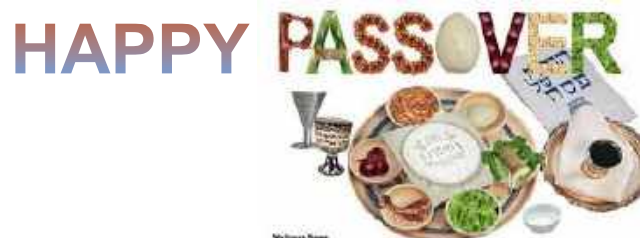
This Slate will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in April. Anyone wishing to place additional names in nomination may do so at the WOS Annual Meeting.

ATTENTION ALL READERS!

In addition, Barbara Pollack will join us in a discussion of that very popular book, **"Where the Crawdads Sing"** by Delia Owens. The meeting will take place on **April 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall**. If you are a WOS member and have never attended Book Club, you are invited to come and try it out.

The book for our May 21 meeting will be **"The Great Alone"** by Kristin Hannah. I know you will want to add your voice to the discussion.

For further information, you can contact Dobbie Linick at bookluvr1031@gmail.com.



Adam Sandler Ben Stiller Dustin Hoffman Emma Thompson
The Meyerowitz Stories

MAY 17 SUNDAY

Dinner and A MOVIE

www.SinaiSRQ.org

PRESENTED BY

WOMEN OF SINAI

WHEN: Sunday, May 17
 5:00 pm Buffet Dinner
 6:00 pm Film & Discussion with Carole Kleinberg

WHERE: Temple Sinai Social Hall

**COST: \$25 members
 \$30 non-members**
Mail by Monday, May 4

QUESTIONS?
 Call Janet Tolbert 388-9624 or Judy Polivy 355-1184
 Make checks payable to: Women of Sinai. Mail check with this form to:
 Judy Polivy, 7404 Riviera Cove, Lakewood Ranch 34202

Look for Updates...

TEMPLE SINAI CARES
Sharing, Caring, Giving

Do you have a young adult in College?



Temple Sinai's
College Connection

likes to keep in touch with their college students while they are away at school.

We send small gifts, surprises and treats throughout the year at Holiday time to remind our college students that their temple family is still connected with them.

To enroll your young adult in College Connection, please send their name and email address to:
 Jeanne Marlowe
Jemlow61@gmail.com

 **TEMPLE SINAI**
 CONNECT WITH US
 GROW WITH US
 CELEBRATE WITH US...

Purpose of the Chavurot Program

The purpose of the Temple Sinai Chavurot program is to be a social group that celebrates a Jewish lifestyle in Sarasota and to provide a warm and comfortable environment for Temple Sinai members to meet and make new friends.

We are always in the process of forming and reorganizing our individual Chavurot to meet the needs of our members. If you are interested in joining or know of members interested in joining a Chavurah, please have them email us at Templesinaichavurah@gmail.com.



MEMBERSHIP...



*Thank you for joining the
Temple Sinai family!*

Ravin, Joan and Robert
3354 Thornwood Road
Sarasota, FL 34231
bravin1@comcast.net
home: (941) 941-1022
cell: (734) 645-3280

Ritzer, Susan
4510 Deer Creek Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34238
susanritzer42@gmail.com
Home: (941) 260-5955
Cell: (240) 893-9525

TO KNOW AND BE KNOWN

and to aid in our security,
please purchase a magnetic name tag, by
contacting the temple office at
(941) 924-1802. The cost is \$10.

Milestone Anniversaries

April 10	
Elyse and Mark Gordon	15 years
April 12	
Itzel and David Lieberman	50 years
April 22	
Shelley and Jorge Prada	25 years



INTRODUCING Colleen and Marc Friedman

We moved from the Chicago area to Sarasota two years ago. We belonged to Congregation Solel, a Reform Temple in Highland Park, IL. It has since merged and is now known as Makom Solel-Lakeside. Marc and I continued to work from home until our



retirement in 2019.

We have two grown daughters. One lives in New York City; one lives in France with her husband and our two young granddaughters. We look forward to visits with our children and grandchildren. These visits include several yearly visits to France to baby-sit during school holidays.

As recent residents and retirees, we enjoy making new friends, playing pickleball and improving our golf games. We also enjoy the beach, state and local parks like Selby Gardens, as well as local cultural and educational activities.

We joined Temple Sinai last year around the High Holy Days. We had attended services at several area synagogues but found Temple Sinai our clear choice for membership. Here we found a welcoming congregation, strong programming, a vibrant new Rabbi, and innovative Cantor.

We enjoy Shabbat Services and the food festival as we continue to learn more about other temple activities and events.

Colleen and Marc

Happy Special Birthday!

April 9	
Jack Rosenblum	103rd
April 14	
Jack Nesbit	90th
April 29	
Calvin Miller	94th



...MEMBERSHIP

Membership Directory Update

Please inform the temple office if there is any correction or change in your address, telephone numbers or email address, so that updates may be published in next month's TABLET.

Address changes:

Mendelson, Myron and Dale

3271 Proctor Rd Unit 2246

Sarasota, FL 34231

(941) 413-5613

Gerlach, Roberta

5473 Chanteclair

Sarasota, FL 34235

Brownrout, Sunny

6221 Sawyer Loop Rd

Apt. 303

Sarasota, FL 34238

Trachtenberg, Joanne and Alan

111 South Pineapple Ave #807

Sarasota, FL 34236

**For membership information,
contact**

Elana Margolis
Temple Sinai VP of Membership
ElanaTemple@aol.com
(941) 966-0252

OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY PASSED.

Stuart and Marilyn Goldfarb on the death of his brother and her brother-in-law, Ivan Goldfarb who died on February 10, 2020.

Amy and Lance Cassell on the death of Amy's aunt, Helene Westman, who died on February 6, 2020.

Caring Committee G'milut Chasadim

Leon and I have been members of Temple Sinai since 2004, first as associate members, and then, when we became Florida residents, as full members. I don't remember the year I joined the Caring Committee. I do remember visiting some of our members in the hospital, and others in rehabilitation facilities. We put together goodie bags and flowers for our residents who couldn't attend High Holy Day services. Some of the members we visited I knew, and others I didn't. It turns out they were family; I just hadn't met them yet. However, although everyone we visited voiced appreciation, I never realized what a warm feeling you get knowing your temple family was there for you..

They say your life can change in a minute, and for me that was literally true. One minute I was returning home from a meeting, and the next I was lying on the floor with a broken femur, unable to move. As the news spread, I was inundated with love from our wonderful Sinai family. Granted, because we have been members a long time, and know a lot of people, my experience may not have been typical. Not only did I receive cards from the caring committee, but from many of our friends and even acquaintances at Temple Sinai. Let me tell you, it felt good to hear from so many. Rabbi Kahn was caring, and Chazzan Abramson made me laugh.

If you are ever in need, whether physically or emotionally, don't keep it to yourself. Reach out and let those in your temple family help you through "things". Things do get better – I now walk with a cane and can see the time when I won't need it anymore. The support from Temple Sinai, its caring clergy and members helped more than I can express.

Be careful out there. Please call one of us if you need or want some TLC. Don't be shy – we can't offer support, if we don't know you need it.

Marge Ellin
Margellin@verizon.net
(941) 957-6422

Rona Elias
rkeliass17@gmail.com
(410) 598-1056

LIFE AND LEGACY™

The Life & Legacy™ team successfully completed year three of the four-year program. The number of bequests and endowment gifts we receive keeps growing. We are grateful to everyone who is helping to assure the long-term future of Temple Sinai.

The Life & Legacy™ program has provided us with training and materials to help us be more effective. We have been awarded “**Incentive Grants**” upon meeting the numerous established goals. After year one, we received \$5,000 and after year two, \$7,500. These funds, from the Grinspoon Foundation and our local Jewish Federation came with no strings attached. We are using that money for marketing the program and to steward our donors. We have held lovely Appreciation Receptions for all our endowment donors and sponsored upgraded Welcome Receptions for our Legacy Donor Shabbats. Postage, printing and incidental expenses have also come from these funds. We want everyone to understand that NO endowment funds have been used for any of our expenses.

Our incentive grants were used to buy some copies of Rabbi Geller’s book, *Getting Good at Getting Older*. A signed copy is being gifted to any Temple Sinai member who has yet to make an endowment gift if they sign up to have *Coffee and Conversation* with a Life and Legacy™ team member. In addition to those in the photo, Mark Criden and Elana Margolis would be delighted to chat with you at your convenience.

Laurie Lachowitzer, Team Member



A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund in appreciation of the many Women of Sinai for the Simchagrams sent to me on the occasion of my birthday.

Sheila Namiot

We would like to thank everyone for the donations and cards sent in sympathy for my brother Ivan’s passing. It was cold in Cleveland and you truly warmed our hearts.

Stuart & Marilyn Goldfarb

A donation was made in appreciation to The Gan Restricted Fund

School Bus Visit at the Gan



Parparim kids

Prekindergartners getting ready for next year!



The Gan - School & Event updates will be emailed



Laura Freedman
Director of Early Childhood
Education

*The Gan at Temple Sinai
Growing Minds, Strengthening
Bodies, Nurturing Souls*

**To all our Gan Families,
We hope you are all
enjoying family time and
staying healthy and well.
Tune into The Gan's
Facebook page daily at
11:00 AM for story time
with Geveret Laura,
Havdallah on Mondays at
9:30 AM, and Shabbat at
12:30 PM on Fridays. We
miss you all!!
Lots of Love,
The Gan Staff**

For more information,
email laura@templesinai-saraota.org.

Tu B'Shevat



Caroline Infanti, Wylder
Arent, Sienna Ackerman
planting seeds.

Geveret Giselle and
Shoshanim planting in
the teaching garden.



Dr. McLM for Dental Health Month



Dr. Malik
brushing
"teeth."

Jack Parker
keeping an eye on
the giant brush!



Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration



Parent volunteers:
Nicole Silverstein,
Sarah Weiner and
Angela Powell

Parparim
with the
Characters



Shoshanim

Devorim



SINAI MEN'S CLUB



After living in Florida for the past eight winters, I have learned that looking for climatological clues to situate me in the appropriate season simply will not work. These

are not the New England winters that I had grown to expect. Maybe, just maybe, during our Florida winters I might just get a hint of an early autumn day such as the day on which I am writing this article. But winter? Not really.

Living here, I have had to rely on clues other than climatological ones to situate me in the proper season. The holiday lights beautifully illuminating the UTC Mall area told of the onset of winter and spring will be heralded in by the celebration of Passover as spring in Florida is more reminiscent of an early summer's day, maybe even a mid-summer's day. But our Jewish lives offer many more seasonal reminders and clues.

In our household we can know the seasons based upon our celebration of the Jewish holidays as we prepare for the many festivals with our cooking and holiday preparation. And when it is a particularly hot day in March or April, I will still know that it is spring and not the middle of summer as we sit down for our Passover Seder. Of course, I do remember some seders in Massachusetts where we had to drive home in the middle of a snowstorm. That was a different kind of confusion.

The Book Club selection for April is "Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande. In *"Being Mortal"*, bestselling author Atul Gawande tackles the hardest challenge of his profession: how medicine can not only improve life but also the process of its ending. This will generate an interesting discussion. Even if you have never attended a SMC Book Club meeting, I urge you to discover what this club is all about.

Keep informed through our weekly "Shofar" emails and look for our April "Schmooze" as well as other activities that we have planned. We at the SMC wish you all a very happy Pesach and a spring season of joy and reflection.

I leave you with the same final word as last month: **Participate**

L' Shalom,

Malcolm Roberts
Richard Brown
Co-Presidents

*Happy
Passover*

SINAI MEN'S CLUB POTENTIAL BOARD MEMBERS 2020-2021

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Look for Updates...

SMC FAMOUS SCHMOOZES

11:30 a.m.

*For questions/reservations,
contact Mark Criden
criden@gmail.com
(716) 713-0014*

TREE OF LIFE



A Dove is \$300;
a Leaf is \$150.

For information, contact
Barry Friedman at
barryafriedman@aol.com

TEMPLE SINAI CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

Wednesday, April 8 at 6:00 PM doors open at 5:30 PM



LED BY: RABBI SAMANTHA KAHN & CHAZZAN CLIFF ABRAMSON

CATERED BY: CHEF ADAM WOLDMAN

R.S.V.P. BY: April 1, 2020 (NO RESERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN AFTER)

RESERVATIONS: WWW.SINAISRQ.ORG OR MAIL CHECKS TO

MEMBER NAMES: _____

PHONE: _____

MEMBERS OF SINAI: _____ / _____ CHILDREN 12 & UNDER FREE

GUESTS OF MEMBERS: _____ / _____ CHILDREN 12 & UNDER \$20

PHONE: _____

NAMES OF GUESTS: _____

NON-MEMBER: _____ / _____ YOUNG ADULTS 13-18, \$35 / _____ CHILDREN 12 & UNDER \$25

PHONE: _____

NAMES OF NON-MEMBERS: _____

LIST OF PEOPLE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SIT WITH: _____

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QUESTIONS? CALL OR EMAIL PATTY GLAH: PMGLAH@GMAIL.COM @941-400-6474

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CHOPPED LIVER
1/2 ROASTED APRICOT CHICKEN
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POTATO KUGEL
FLOURLESS CHOCOLATE TORT
1 BOX MATZO**

\$20 Per Member

\$25 Per Non-Member

Curbside Pick-up April 8th from 11:00 Am - 1:00 PM

(Possible delivery option may be available for members unable to drive)

**Place your order by noon April 2nd at [https://
secure.qgiv.com/for/eregistra/event/814107/](https://secure.qgiv.com/for/eregistra/event/814107/)**

Temple Sinai - 4631 South Lockwood Ridge Rd. Sarasota, FL 34238

BECAUSE WE CARE...

listed as of 2/20/2020

TEMPLE SINAI GENERAL FUND

In Honor of:

Paula Spitalny's 90th birthday:
Joel Chernoff

In Appreciation of:

Jeff Earl for helping us all these years. Todah rabbah!: *Richard and Betty Greenspan*

In Memory of:

Alvin Hyman:
Larry and Barbara Haber
Stuart Goldfarb's brother Ivan Goldfarb: *Richard and Betty Greenspan, Marilyn K. Ridgway, Bill, Joni and Scott Mandel*

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

Jared Winter's daughter Phoebe's Bat Mitzvah: *Phyllis and Fred-Lasky*

In Appreciation of:

Lisa and Amir Arbisser for their super hospitality. Toda Raba!: *Phyllis and Steve Swerdlow, Judy Intrator, Kate Hendrickson, Elana Margolis, Rabbi Kahn*
Rabbi Kahn and Chazzan Abramson: *Irene Hyman*
Rabbi Kahn, Thank you for being our Rabbi: *Carol and Richard Toppel*

Speedy Recovery of:

Dan Kisch: *Greta and Malcolm Roberts*
Marge Ellin: *Greta and Malcolm Roberts*

In Memory of:

Irene Hyman's husband Al: *Irene Hyman*
Ivan Goldfarb, brother of Stuart Goldfarb and brother-in-law of Marilyn Goldfarb: *Allan and Marty Gersman*

CHAZZAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of:

My grandmother, Anna Weinblatt: *Elana Margolis*
Ivan Goldfarb, brother of Stuart Goldfarb and brother-in-law of Marilyn Goldfarb: *Allan and Marty Gersman*

THE GAN FUND

In Honor of:

the birth of Judy and Bob Handleman's new grandson: *Len and Judy Swerdlow*

In Appreciation of:

the services at Temple Sinai during our winter visit: *Eileen and Merv Hamburg*

In Memory of:

My aunt, Linda Politzer: *Drs Joyce and Roger Fin*

Women of Sinai Bloom Family Mitzvah Fund

To honor someone, wish them a speedy recovery, offer condolences or thank them, consider making a donation to the WOS Mitzvah Fund.

Cards are available for a minimum of \$5.50 each and will be sent immediately.

If you wish to send the cards yourself, you may obtain packs of five for \$25.

Contact Cecile Alexander,
2483 Vaccaro Drive,
Sarasota, FL 34231 or
(941) 926-7799 or
sdcalexander@verizon.net.

Rabbi Meir Azari Thursday, March 5th Presentation and Dessert Reception

Rabbi Azari answered questions about the challenges and opportunities for progressive Judaism in Israel



JOIN A CHAVURAH

WE REMEMBER THEM...

listed as of 2/20/2020

Gwen Baseman for husband
Robert L. Baseman
Gwen Baseman for mother
Elaine Roberts
Myron Bernstein for father Irving
Bernstein
Sandy Coran for sister Renee
Filin Finkle
Amy Drachman for father Allan
Drachman
Bruce Feldman for brother of Sue
Shapera
Laura Freedman for aunt Linda
Politzer
Marc Friedman for mother Rose
Schwartz
Robert Handleman for mother
Pauline Handleman
Barbara Hoch for father Audley
Rhea Hickey
Herbert Horowitz for son David
Horowitz
Herbert Horowitz for father
Joseph Horowitz
Herbert Horowitz for brother
Irving Horowitz
Doris Kanter for father-in-law
Samuel Kanter
Laurie Lachowitzer for father
Benedict Lachowitzer
Leonard Landau for mother
Evelyn Landau
Martha Magenheimer for father
Milton Magenheimer
Bob Miller for father Harry Miller
Buddy Mishkin for wife Ruth
Mishkin
Judith and Howard Polivy for
father Lester Grubman
Judith and Howard Polivy for
mother Anita Polivy
Etta and Howard Raiken for son
Scott Farrell Raiken
Marilyn Ridgway for brother
Bruce Krane
Marilyn Ridgway for Ivan
Goldfarb
Ellen Rothschild for mother
Dorothy Brotz
Joan Sands for husband Richard
H. Sands
Marilyn Shapo for father Eli
Hurwitz

Ron Shapo for father Mitchell
Shapo
Jerry Stone for father Sam Stone
Beth and Jerry Stone for sister-in-
law Hinda Stone
Jerry Stone for mother Mollie
Stone
Harvey Sussman for mother
Evelyn Sussman
Bryna Tevlowitz for mother
Annette Abramowitz
Bernice Volk for husband Robert
Volk
Miriam Vollweiler for mother
Mignon Szenes
Warren Wollheim for aunt Bea
Wollheim Laura Zatz for mother
Rebecca Wilkinsky



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and guests,
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Department**
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posted at the main
temple entrance.

Temple members, please be
sure to wear your
Temple Sinai name tags.
If you need a replacement
name tag, please contact the
temple office.

Temple Sinai



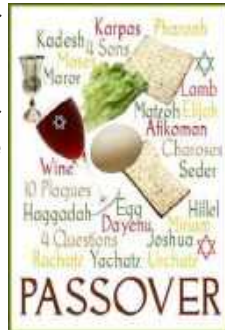
Membership matters!

Elana Margolis,
VP Membership
elanatemple@aol.com



The month of Nissan brings one of the most widely celebrated Jewish holidays, none other than Passover. Passover is one of the three pilgrimage holidays (the others being Shavuot and Sukkot). In ancient times,

the entire population made their way to the temple in Jerusalem. In modern times, it is often celebrated in the home, or in our case, our second home, Temple Sinai. In Reform Judaism and in Israel, the length of the holiday is seven days. Many Jews outside of Israel celebrate Passover an additional day and have Sederim the first two nights. Of course, there is nothing wrong with having a Seder the second night, even if you observe the holiday for only seven days. Everyone enjoys a feast.



Judy Swerdlow, VP Ritual

Passover WORDSearch

Pesach	k e c h a z f i e h f h
Matzah	m z f y r s e s o m a w
Chametz	d f o t u i p a w g f m
Seder	z e u o a h r i a r i t
Wine	i w r p h a u d f c k z
Egypt	s p q t h s d t a u o u
Vegetable	h e u p f a r i b n m b
Hagaddah	a s e y h e a c z l a i
Afikoman	n i s g d b w i n e n t
Egg	k z t e m a h c w a s t
Shankbone	b a i f r p a h p v d e
Charoset	o e o s h f z a g e b r
Bitter Herbs	n t n c g c t r g n k h
Unleavened	e k s n m f a o g e w e
Plagues	d b e p y k m s e d e r
Moses	s e u g a l p e e p i b
Four Questions	h k f d z g w t c p e s
Pharaoh	e l b a t e g e v y z t

With the support of Rabbi Kahn, the **Social Action and Justice Committee** has several projects planned for the coming year. The SAJC will continue to educate the congregation about the ongoing issue of hunger in the Sarasota/Manatee community and it is the **Green Team's** mission to help us become more environmentally responsible at home and at the synagogue. This will preserve the planet for ourselves and for future generations, a true act of *Tikkun Olam*.

Mitzvah Day is coming up on April 19. Please be sure to look for flyers at the temple for more information from the **chair of the event**. Matt is available at mjkahn79@att.net if you would like to get in touch re: Mitzvah Day activities.

CANCELED
The April Hunger Event has been cancelled for this year, but you don't need a special occasion to fight hunger, and you don't have to wait until April to do a mitzvah!

Once the Temple Sinai's building re-opens feed the hungry by dropping a nonperishable food item into the collection barrels whenever you visit the temple for a service or a meeting. And if you're handy in the kitchen, make a **green bean casserole for the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen** any time. The soup kitchen asks for just one casserole per month, and Anne Schimberg can give you details and the classic recipe.

You can reach her at (941)779-4151 or at afkschimberg@gmail.com.

Anne Schimberg is stepping down as chair of the Social Action and Justice Committee. The Temple Sinai community is deeply grateful for Anne Schimberg's dedicated service and leadership in this position. Her passion for helping fight hunger in the community and her commitment to environmental concerns is an inspiration to us all. Thank you, Anne!

Alyssa Mandel, Committee Member

*Social Action and Justice Committee

Temple Sinai



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL - SCHOOL & EVENT UPDATES WILL BE EMAILED



Bethany Leinweber
Director of Youth Education

Calendar

April 3rd 9:15-10:15 AM Zoom meeting with Gan moms.
What does life look like after preschool at Temple Sinai?

April 5th **Passover Zoom Party** kindergarten through
second from 10-11 AM

April 12th **Passover Zoom Party** grades 3-7
10AM to 11 AM

Hebrew classes for grades 3-7 will be via Zoom
Wednesdays 4-5 PM

Sunday School Keshar Time and Tefilah for everyone
Zoom 10-10:45 AM
*Guest visitor Snait Ben Herut will be teaching us a
Passover song.

Sunday Hebrew/Judaic Zoom classes:

K&1~ 11:00-11:30 AM
2~ 11:45 AM -12:15 PM
3~ 12:30-1:00 PM
4~ 1:15-1:45 PM
5~ 2:00-2:30 PM
6&7~ 2:45 -3:15 PM

If any temple members would like to join us in our classes
email Bethany to receive an invite to the meeting
Bleinweber@templsinai-sarasota.org



Religious
students and
parents help
contribute to
the Gala by
decorating
masks for the
centerpieces.

Temple Sinai Religious School Program

Talmidim Time

Join Zoom for Talmidim Time

For grades 5-12 led with assistance from Gevret and special guest appearances by speakers.

Sabbath Session, Torah Service, Discussion and
FREE BREAKFAST!

2020 Talmidim Time Dates & Time:

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM
March 14, 2020
April 25, 2020
May 16, 2020



ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

Board of Trustees **2020-2021 Slate**

President	Ellyn Bender
President Elect	Alan Chalfin
Immediate Past President	Gary Kravitz
VP of Administration	Robert Handleman
VP of Development	Laura Einstein
VP of Education	Brian Hersh
VP of Facilities	David Weiss
VP of Finance	Marvin Rosen
VP of Membership	Elana Margolis *
VP of Ritual	Judy Swardlow
Financial Secretary	Sherry Thomas
Secretary	Skye Mata
Parliamentarian	Peggy Miller
Trustee	Jason Collier
Trustee	Aryeh Weinstein
Trustee	Leigh Gordon

2021 Nominating Committee Members
from Congregation:

Kari Ellingstad, Kelly Engel, Lauren Glassman

* *Must be approved for a 7th term by congregation*

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday May 3, 2020

10:00 a.m. in the Temple Sanctuary.

**There will be a 'Coffee & Nosh' in Social Hall A
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

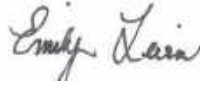
This Notice is being sent to all members of Temple Sinai, regardless of membership status. Associate Family, Associate Single, and Seasonal members are welcome to attend the meeting, but ineligible to vote. But please join us and find out what is happening at the temple.

- Rabbi's Message
- Chazzan's Message
- President's Report
- Reports of Various Officers
- Election of Board of Trustees

Nominees are listed in the attached Report of the Nominating Committee.

- Such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting

Absentee ballots can be requested from the Temple Sinai office. Absentee ballots will be mailed approximately twenty (20) days prior to the meeting. If you would like an absentee ballot within twenty (20) days of the Annual Meeting, please call the temple office at (941) 924-1802.



**Annual Meeting: Email will
be sent with updated
information.**

Emily Levin, Board Secretary

*****TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS *****

Temporarily Suspended Due to Covid-19

Normal temple office hours are :

8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Friday

Office closed:

Passover: Thursday, 4/9; Wednesday, 4/15

The **Tablet** is published for the sole purpose of disseminating information about the happenings and events at Temple Sinai.

Mickie Kaye, Editor Jerry Kaye, Consultant

Proof Readers: Rachel Dolan,

Gail Glickman, Phyllis Lasky, & Sharon Napshin

TABLET DEADLINE

Articles, flyers and photographs

for the

MAY issue

no later than April 1st.

All text, flyers and best photos

(refer to emailed info) must be

e-mailed to **mickietablet@gmail.com.**

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE - UPDATES WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL

SAFETY – Grades 9 – 12
JOOSY – Grades 6 – 8
Kesher – Grades 3 – 5
 Kesher means a knot, connection, link.

Please visit our webpage at
<http://www.temple Sinai-sarasota.org/youthgroup.php> for more information about
SAFETY, **JOOSY**, and **Kesher**.



Deb Bryan
 Youth Group Advisor

The Votes Are In: Youth Group Chooses SARASOTA IN DEFENSE OF ANIMALS (SDA) for Their 4th Annual Mitzvah Project!

“Sarasota in Defense of Animals was founded in 1989 to expose **animal** abuse and exploitation, promote habitat protection for wild **animals**, encourage humane alternatives to **animal** experimentation, and educate the public on all these issues.”

Please see the flyer in “Sneak Peak Tuesday” and around Temple Sinai for more information.

Donated items may be placed in one of the large boxes in the religious school lobby or near the entrance to the sanctuary.

April Dates to Save!

- April 10** **Youth Interns of Temple Sinai (YITS) led Shabbat**
 Welcome Reception at the Youth Group
- April 12** **Sarasota in Defense of Animals (SDA)**
- April 14** **Shabbat and Pool Party at the Religious School**
- April 20** **YITS Lunch Meeting**
- May 3** **Event TBA** (Laser Tag – Pending for Grades 5-12)
- May 17** **End-of-the-Year Religious School-Youth Group Dance Party**
 Planned by the Youth Interns of Temple Sinai (YITS)

June 7

Busch Gardens in Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Youth Groups,

Look for Updates...

For information about parent-volunteer opportunities, contact Deb Bryan, at dbryan@sinaisrq.org. The success of what we do, in part, depends on YOU! Give some thought about what you can do to assist. Everyone is welcome!

For information and registration for NFTY-STR events, go to <https://southern tropical.nfty.org/get-involved/events/>. Questions? Email Deb Bryan at dbryan@sinaisrq.org.

Bethany and Sage at *Connect with Sinai*



Lucy at Spring Kallah's 90's Throwback Night





Springtime SAVINGS

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ELLENTON 5814 18th Street East (across Premium Outlets) 941-479-7900
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At a time when our community and many charitable organizations continue to struggle, they need our support more than ever. 5% of my fees received from personal injury litigation will be donated to Jewish organizations & other local charities.

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ROBERT TOALE & SONS, *Welcome to the Dignity Memorial® family.*



THE DIGNITY MEMORIAL NETWORK is pleased to welcome Robert Toale, Debbie Toale and their sons, Jason and Jeff, to our family of firms in Sarasota and Manatee County. As proud members of North America's largest network of funeral, cremation and cemetery service providers, the Toale family will continue their commitment to serving families with personal, compassionate care.

In honor of the Toales and in recognition of their longstanding dedication to the Sarasota and Bradenton area communities, three local funeral homes will be renamed to reflect this change in leadership, and two of the funeral homes will undergo renovations to better serve our community with beautiful new facilities and enhanced capabilities. Rely on the Toale family and your local Dignity Memorial professionals to help you and your loved ones celebrate each life like no other.

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I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Temple Sinai's Annual Mitzvah Day 2020

Mitzvah Day is on April 19th this year and we need your help! It's the one day a year when we come together as a temple family to perform acts of loving kindness for participants of non-profit organizations all over the Suncoast. We need volunteers to help with all aspects of this event. Please contact Matt Kahn, Rabbi's husband, if you are able to help in any way. You are able to register for specific projects as it gets closer. We will have some on site at the temple and others where we visit local non-profits. Our 8th - 12th grade Bar Mitzvahs will be coordinating projects for the Religious School as well. Thank you in advance for making this a successful and impactful day.

Matt Kahn can be reached at mjkahn79@gmail.com or 713-504-2624.

We look forward to seeing you on April 19th!



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