

# TABLET BRIEFS

— July 2023 | Issue 14 —

## **Summer is here!**

...and many of you are taking time off to travel, spend time with family, sit by the pool or visit the beach. Enjoy, enjoy, enjoy, but please don't forget your Temple Sinai family; we have many activities, workshops, services and volunteer opportunities happening throughout the summer and we hope you will attend many of them. If your travels take you to faraway lands (or just "up north") lift a fancy umbrella drink to Temple Sinai and know we will be here for you when you return.

## **This Month's Featured Articles**

- *Days of Reflection Approaching the High Holy Days,*  
by Chazzan Cliff Abramson
- *Message from President Alan Chalfin*

# DAYS OF REFLECTION APPROACHING

## *The High Holy Days*



Thoughts of the High Holy Days may begin permeating our minds as we approach the month of Elul which coincides with the Gregorian calendar date of August 18. It is during the month of

Elul that we prepare ourselves for the *Yamim Noraim* (The Days of Awe). This period of reflection means many different things to people but many prepare by studying and taking time for personal reflection. Part of this reflection includes looking back on the previous year to contemplate how we might have done things in a way that reflects our best selves. On Yom Kippur, we say two forms of a confessional. The long form begins with the words *Al Cheit* which loosely translated means “For the sin” and refers to a “sin” we have committed. But in fact, the word *Cheit* does not mean sin. It means “target,” so when we look back at the year that has passed, we are not reflecting on how we may have sinned but rather on how we may have missed the mark of being our best selves.

As part of Elul, we ask for forgiveness from those we may have wronged. This is an important time in our community as it is a period that culminates in a prayer service often observed on the Saturday evening before Rosh Hashanah or a bit earlier, as is the Ashkenazic custom. This holiday is known as *Selichot* and during the prayer service, we ask for forgiveness from God, who we believe will forgive our transgressions from that target mark we try so hard to find the center of all year.

While the *Selichot* service is all about repentance and is similar in tone to Yom Kippur, it is also about purity. In many congregations, the Torah covers are changed to white covers to reflect the quote from Isaiah, which says that “through our repentance, our sins will be made white as snow.” Traditionally this service would start at midnight on Saturday evening based on Psalm 119.62, “at midnight I rise to praise thee.” Today in many synagogues, the service begins earlier, and the service and study session do not continue late into the evening but rather begin with a dessert reception followed by a thought-provoking study session culminating in the service itself. This service often has some of the most beautiful music and liturgy of the year, foreshadowing many of the themes for the Days of Awe. This year we will observe *Selichot* on Saturday, September 9, at 7:00pm with a dessert reception, service and program; I hope to see you all there.

May these days of reflection lead all of you to a deep and meaningful *Yamim Noraim*.

# LETTER FROM THE *President*



Dear Friends,

Summer is here and many members are traveling, visiting family or heading north to escape the heat. I want you to know while many of you are resting, the synagogue is not! While programs may have slowed down for the moment, this is our opportunity to recharge, set goals, take care of maintenance issues in the building, begin planning for the upcoming year and, of course, prepare for the upcoming High Holy Days, which are just around the corner.

I have heard from many of our congregants about the importance of hiring a rabbi and I want to share that we are taking steps in that direction — although the reality is we are not in a fiscal position at this time to retain two clergy. The board is in the process of establishing a “Clerical Endowment Fund” to accept contributions that will help us reach the goal of employing a rabbi.

Regarding building maintenance, thanks go to Pearl Perlinski, who since taking over as VP of Facilities has worked with a roof consultant to repair leaks in the roof, arranged to change and upgrade all the lights in the sanctuary and contracted for the replacement of several old and malfunctioning air conditioning units.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that our fiscal year begins July 1. Please renew your membership as soon as possible and remember: what makes this congregation unique, warm and engaging is each one of YOU. It's your warmth, friendship and commitment to Temple Sinai that gives this congregation its soul. For your spiritual and worship needs, I want to assure you that Chazzan Abramson and the ritual committee are busy working on new and creative High Holy Day services... stay tuned!

I wish you all a happy and safe summer!

*L'shalom,*

Alan Chalfin, President

## Board of Trustees

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MEETING SUMMARY

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*May 17, 2023*

**Board meetings are open to all Temple Sinai members.**

**Our next meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, July 19 at 7:00pm.**

**Welcome and Board Orientation:** President Alan Chalfin reviewed board guidelines, bylaws, standing rules, and "Good and Welfare" He also acknowledged and discussed meeting etiquette and protocol moving forward.

**Review of BOT Meeting Dates and Board Retreat:** President Alan Chalfin and President-Elect Sherry Thomas noted that all board meeting dates for next year were emailed out and reminded everyone that the board would be installed on Friday, June 23, at Erev Shabbat services and the Board Retreat on Sunday, June 25, will be held at the synagogue.

**Billing for June:** President Alan Chalfin, President-Elect Sherry Thomas, and Financial Secretary Amy Drachman stated that membership billing must go out as close to June 1 as possible and should include a statement about the security increase of \$200 but no dues increase. Motion proposed by Sherry Thomas to charge a service charge to all credit card transactions for the year for any payment made on ShulCloud. Daryl Worobow seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Sanctuary Lights:** VP of Facilities Chester Perlinski discussed his intention to change out sanctuary lights to LED bulbs. Once they are installed, they will last for many years. The project will be completed in June without having to move anything.

## Board of Trustees

## MEETING SUMMARY

*continued...*

**Tablet briefs:** President Alan Chalfin initiated a discussion about the future of the Tablet. Questions were raised regarding possibly going back to the paper version as a potential revenue stream for advertisements. Questions were raised about who was going to produce it and sell the advertisements in it. A need to understand the pros and cons of digital production versus paper was identified and a committee was formed to review and analyze the situation. Rob Krasow, Florey Miller, Daryl Worobow and Wende Koslow volunteered to be on the committee.

**Overview of the new website:** President Alan Chalfin announced that the website redesign is complete and the site is live. He asked that constructive feedback be given to Andrea Eiffert for suggested modifications as there are certain elements of the website design that may be modified.

**Introduction of URJ Congregational Code of Ethics:** President Alan Chalfin provided a summary of his experience at the URJ Scheidt Seminar for synagogue presidents. He emphasized that a big focus of the seminar was to establish a congregational code of ethics, which is essentially a code of conduct established between congregants, staff and laypersons. The board will work on this together at the upcoming board retreat.

**Announcement:** Marty Katz has resigned from her PR Consultant position for the synagogue and we now need to find someone in the congregation who has a PR background to volunteer until we can figure out the next steps.



## Upcoming Featured EVENTS

**SINAI SOLOS BRUNCH**

TEMPLE SINAI

at **GRILLSMITH**  
CRAFT BY FIRE™  
6240 S. Tamiami Trail,  
Sarasota



**SUNDAY, JULY 9 | 11:30AM**

EMAIL GAIL GLICKMAN TO RSVP:  
GLICKMANDANCE@GMAIL.COM

Organized by Women of Sinai



**Help the Hungry**

Tuesday, July 11  
1:00pm-3:30pm

Deadline to register is July 7

All Faiths Food Bank  
warehouse:  
8171 Blaikie Court, Sarasota

ENDING HUNGER  
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK  
FLORIDA  
AMERICA

TEMPLE SINAI

**BOARD MEETING**



WEDNESDAY  
JULY 19  
7:00PM

Please pre-register. Meeting  
agenda will be sent via separate  
email.

SUMMER ADULT ED SERIES

**Cultures and Cocktails**

SUNDAYS AT 4:00PM

JUNE 11: ASHKENAZI JEWS ARE FROM MEXICO?  
PRESENTED BY FLORA OYNICK

JULY 23: HOW JEWS ARRIVED IN COSTA RICA  
PRESENTED BY DEBBIE MAJCHEL  
AND DANIEL WEISLEDER

\$18/each or \$25/series

At Temple Sinai, 4631 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd.



TEMPLE SINAI

**CELEBRATE**  
*Love on Tu B'av*

Tuesday, August 1  
7:00pm - 9:00pm

RENEW YOUR WEDDING VOWS  
OFFICIATED BY CHAZZAN ABRAMSON

CHAMPAGNE TOAST, DESSERT RECEPTION AND DANCING  
EVERYONE WELCOME

TEMPLE MEMBERS: \$18/COUPLE OR \$5/SINGLE  
NON-MEMBERS: \$36/COUPLE OR \$10/SINGLE



TEMPLE SINAI

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND OUR COMPLETE CALENDAR, VISIT:  
[www.temple Sinai-sarasota.org/calendar](http://www.temple Sinai-sarasota.org/calendar)

# TRIBUTES

## **TEMPLE SINAI GENERAL FUND**

Aravilla  
Betty and Richard Greenspan, for  
Shavuot  
The Blackhaud Giving Fund

### **In Honor of:**

Lynn and Jerry Rothenberg's 30th  
wedding anniversary: Gillian and Chester  
'Pearl' Perlinski

### **In Memory of David Rosen, brother of Marvin Rosen:**

Bonnie and Harvey Sussman  
Marvin Rosen: Harriet and Marc Rosen  
Roberta Gerlach  
Karen Witte  
Peggy and Bob Miller  
Karen and Daryl Worobow  
Fredda and Alan Chalfin

### **In Memory of:**

Arthur David Juceam: Judith and Leonard  
Swerdlow  
Jack Weintraub, Judy's father: Judy and  
Eric Fox  
Donald B. Greenspan, Dr. Richard J.  
Greenspan's brother: Betty and Richard  
Greenspan  
Hyman Schirtzer: Shirley Jacobson

## **CHAZZAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Betty and Donald Cahall  
The Furniture Warehouse

### **In Honor of:**

Lynn and Jerry Rothenberg's 30th wedding  
anniversary: Elana and Mark Margolis  
Bethany Leinweber: Kathy and Myron  
Bernstein  
Kathy and Myron Bernstein's Anniversary:  
Betty and Donald Cahall

### **In Appreciation of:**

Cindy and Mike Nash, for your hospitality:  
Elana and Mark Margolis

### **Speedy Recovery of Cookie Bloom:**

Betty and Don Cahall  
Ellyn Bender and Pamela Paschall

### **Speedy Recovery of:**

Bob Goldblatt: Elana and Mark Margolis

### **In Memory of David Rosen, brother of Marvin Rosen:**

Doris and Ronald Benice  
Jane and Marvin Glusman

### **In Memory of:**

Nathan Weinblatt, grandfather of Elana  
Margolis: Elana and Mark Margolis  
Veda Diamond: Debbie and Michael Rubin

## **RABBI GEOFF HUNTTING/LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND**

### **In Honor of:**

Rabbi Geoff and Sue Kittner Hunting's  
daughter Becca is receiving her Ph.D. and  
becoming engaged: Ellyn Bender and  
Pamela Paschall

# TRIBUTES (CONTINUED)

## **RABBI GEOFF HUNTTING/LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND (continued)**

### **In Memory of:**

David Rosen, brother of Marvin Rosen:  
Ellyn Bender and Pamela Paschall

## **DIRECTOR OF YOUTH EDUCATION'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Gillian and Chester 'Pearl' Perlinski

## **DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

### **Speedy Recovery of:**

Don Cahall: Elana and Mark Margolis

### **In Memory of:**

Edna Harris: Geri Jo Manson  
Sandra Siegel: Geri Jo Manson  
Minnie Morris: Geri Jo Manson  
Bert Soodhalter: Geri Jo Manson  
Min Dockterman Browne: Geri Jo Manson

## **GAN FUND**

Anzhelika Keura and Matt Quattro  
Carly and Evan Danzig  
The Furniture Warehouse

### **In Honor of:**

Sheila Bellamy's Special Birthday: Elana and  
Mark Margolis

### **In Memory of:**

Arthur David Juceam, father of Michael  
Juceam: Elana and Mark Margolis

## **MEN'S CLUB DONATIONS**

### **Speedy Recovery of:**

Stephen Swerdlow: Gillian and Chester  
'Pearl' Perlinski

## **CECILE T. ALEXANDER SOUND & PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT FUND**

### **In Memory of:**

David Rosen, brother of Marvin Rosen:  
Elana and Mark Margolis

## **ANCHIN FUND**

### **In Memory of:**

Rywka Pinski: Toby and David Weiss

## **ADULT PROGRAM FUND**

### **In Honor of:**

Karen and Daryl Worobow's newest  
granddaughter: Ellyn Bender and Pamela  
Paschall

# THANK YOU



# CONDOLENCES AND YAHREZEITS

## WE REMEMBER THEM

Elyse and Marvin Diamond in  
memory of Emanuel Diamond.

Dobbie Linick in memory of Rochel  
Roskin.

Stephanie Dluzneski in memory of  
Teri Lindenberg.

Shelley and Gregory Markus in  
memory of grandpa, Dr. Sidney  
Chucker and beloved uncle, Norman  
Rice.

Carole and Fred Gorin in memory of  
Robert Gorin.

Stephany Richmond in memory of  
Mark Richmond.

Barbara Grossman in memory of  
Richard Grossman.

Marvin Rosen and Sheila Namiot in  
memory of Marvin's brother, David  
Rosen.

Irene Hyman in memory of Harold  
Hyman.

Marilyn Katz in memory of Mildred  
Katz.

Francine and Paul Schatz in memory  
of beloved niece, Lindsey Anne  
Miller.

Mickie and Jerry Kaye in memory of  
beloved mother, Rebecca  
Kolichstein.

Inna and Gerald Sideman in memory  
of Dora Sideman.

Myrna and Herbert Lauber in  
memory of Sara Mayersohn.

Bonnie and Harvey Sussman in  
memory of Phillip Weisberg.

Lois and Brian Levinsohn in memory  
of Estelle Levinsohn.

Mark Weinberg in memory of  
Annette Weinberg.

*Zichronam Livracha*

May their memories be for a blessing.

# STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION



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