

TABLET BRIEFS

November 2022 | Issue 6

November is National Gratitude Month and the month when we celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends.

At Temple Sinai we are thankful for all of our members, volunteers, leadership and staff who make the synagogue a vibrant, musical, spiritual and welcoming home for all. Our gratitude runs deep, and we appreciate you not just this month but all year long.

This Month's Featured Articles

- *What I Learned from the High Holy Days* by Chazzan Cliff Abramson
- *What have the SAFETY teens been doing?* by Josh Leinweber



TEMPLE SINAI

WHAT I LEARNED FROM THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 5783



My High Holy Day experience this year was revelatory and I learned a great deal. That the services were so well received was edifying, but also educational. I learned from colleagues, co-workers, lay leaders and teachers, as well as from many inspiring members of our congregation.

Below I have distilled some of the most notable things that I learned. The remarks in quotes are from those who made this year's High Holy Days possible and the others are my personal remarks:

- "The most traditional thing a Jew can possibly do is change."
- "Accepted form runs a distant second to reaching the soul."
- "Expectation is exceeded by the unexpected."
- Everything was once a new normal.
- Nothing of worth can be done without the support of those who show up time and time again.
- "God is in the details."
- "Be afraid and do it anyway."
- It is more important to be relevant than it is to conform.
- "Everyone knows that no one can possibly be happy at exactly the same time"
- Do not let a day go by without showing your appreciation for those who care as much as you do.
- "To most people the spirit of the law is much more meaningful than the letter of the law."
- "Being creative is how the Torah begins."

I cannot possibly thank or name all of the people who helped make the High Holy Days so meaningful and run so smoothly this year, but they know who they are and so do I. Most of all, I am grateful to you as a congregation for being so open to new beginnings and the traditions that matter to all of us.

L'shalom,
Chazzan Cliff Abramson



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,
The High Holy Days are over, and we've all been inscribed in the book of life for a happy and healthy new year. I think you will all agree that Chazzan and the Ritual Committee did an outstanding job in creating services that reached and uplifted our souls!

In last month's President's Letter, and in my speech on Erev Yom Kippur, I spelled out all the reasons I believe that Temple Sinai's future is bright, and I believe it now more than ever...but that future depends on you. At our annual meeting back in May, I informed you that our budget is projecting a deficit this fiscal year. It has been suggested that one way of dealing with that deficit is to reduce programs and expenses. The only problem with that approach is actually twofold; first, reducing all of our programs and non-fixed expenses would not cover the deficit, and second, we would have a building devoid of its

heart and soul. While we continue to explore ways of reducing our expenses and increasing our revenue, the hard truth is that most of our expenses are fixed. I can assure you the board has taken steps to fill that void, if necessary, with a loan from our line of credit. For the past two years much of our deficit was filled by the Federal PPP grants and unfortunately that source of funding is gone. However, there is another solution which is the one I would like to see: YOUR GENEROSITY in responding to this year's Annual Appeal. The Temple has enough money to get us through: the problem is that much of it is in your checkbooks! I urge you, no, I implore you, to come together not only as a congregation, but as a family, and be generous in your response to this year's Annual Appeal.

With your help and generosity we will continue to enjoy the Temple Sinai we've all come to love and cherish.

L'shalom,
Alan Chalfin, President

BOARD BRIEF FROM SEPTEMBER BOT MEETING

August, 2022 BOT meeting minutes approved

Chazzan Abramson was absent this evening as he was preparing for High Holy Days, but sent his wish for a happy and sweet new year to all and is looking forward to sharing the holidays with everyone.

President Alan Chalfin remarked that the Selichot service and program were wonderful and wished everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Bob Handelman spoke regarding what it means to be an approved caterer. Approved caterers must have an understanding of synagogue policy and procedures, have a signed agreement with Temple Sinai and possess the proper insurance.

- Bob raised a motion to make Adam Woldman and his new delicatessen an approved caterer. The motion was seconded by Sherry Thomas and it passed by the board.
- Bob also discussed the need to review standing rules and possibly revise them since now we have a volunteer as the kitchen manager. Bob will meet with Jerry to discuss.
- Next, Bob spoke about Temple Sinai's reserved cemetery plots and the need for expansion. Currently we have twenty spaces left and an opportunity for expansion of our current lot which would run east to west. The expansion is for an additional thirty-two full spaces offered at a cost savings to members and available to non-members for an additional cost. It has been presented and will continue to be a discussion at a further time.

BOARD BRIEF FROM SEPTEMBER BOT MEETING (CONTINUED)

Barbara Pollack, VP of Ritual, reported that Saturday morning services will be held in person every week beginning on October 8. The ritual committee and Chazzan will evaluate how things are going and perhaps add Shabbat kiddush lunch afterward. Barbara provided an update on the amount of work and time that has gone into preparing for the High Holy Day services and recognized the ritual committee, Chazzan and Rabbi Huntting for their efforts.

Sherry Thomas, President-elect, spoke about the importance of having a board presence at events, services and programs and that it reflects well on the board. She said it is important to our community for us to be present, out greeting and welcoming guests, wishing them Happy New Year, etc. It is also crucial to connect with new members as they are not familiar with what we do. If we want to rebuild it's important to sign up to volunteer and get involved.

Laurie Criden WOS, began a discussion about "sponsors" for programs for new members to help increase membership, mentioned the annual food drive, which is synagogue-wide during High Holy Day services and that SMC and WOS are participating in the service and sponsoring the luncheon on Sukkot.

Alan Chalfin, President, reminded everyone that we have a marketing consultant who is very part-time. To maximize her efficiency, please do not email her directly, rather utilize jotform for marketing requests and email Andrea only, to assist in managing the marketing workflow process.

WHAT HAVE THE SAFETY TEENS BEEN DOING?

Temple Sinai's SAFETY teens have had a busy start to the school year including Bowling Night, Game Day, and Cruella Movie Night.

For more information or to get involved, follow us on Instagram @safety_teen or contact Joshua Leinweber at jleinweber@templesinai-sarasota.org.



Bowling Night – September 3




Game Day – September 18




Cruella Movie Night – October 8





Upcoming Featured Events


TEMPLE SINAI
 MUSIC OF THE SYNAGOGUE
WHY WE SING
WHAT WE SING
 WITH CHAZZAN
 CLIFF ABRAMSON
 מִי-בִמְכָה
 WEDNESDAYS
 AT 10:00 AM



Organized by Women of Sinai
Help the Hungry
 November 15
 1:00pm-3:30pm
 Deadline to register is November 8
 All Faiths Food Bank warehouse:
 8171 Blaikie Court, Sarasota

EREV SHABBAT
VETERANS DAY
SERVICE AND DINNER
 SPONSORED BY SINAI MENS CLUB
 Friday, November 11
 6:00pm – 7:00pm Service
 7:00pm – 9:00pm Dinner
 Dinner is free for all military veterans and their spouses.
 \$5 for all others to attend.



TEMPLE SINAI 4631 S. LOCKWOOD RIDGE ROAD
 SARASOTA

EVERYTHING AND THE TURKEY
 2022 Temple Sinai Mitzvah Day
 Prepare and Serve 300 Thanksgiving meals for those in need.

		
	Don't be a 	
	VOLUNTEER to make everything AND the turkey!	

Sunday, November 20 | 9:00 am
 Temple Sinai Social Hall and Kitchen



TEMPLE SINAI


FOR MORE INFORMATION AND OUR COMPLETE EVENTS CALENDAR, VISIT:
www.templesinai-sarasota.org/events

Upcoming Featured Events



Dinner and a MOVIE

WHERE: Temple Sinai Social Hall
5:00 pm Catered Dinner
6:00 pm Film & Discussion
with Carole Kleinberg

COST: \$25 Members – \$30 non-members

QUESTIONS?
Janet Tolbert: janetrtolbert@gmail.com
(941) 388-9624, or Judy Polivy: (941) 355-1184
Make contribution checks payable to:
Women of Sinai. Mail to: Judy Polivy,
7404 Riviera Cove, Lakewood Ranch 34202.
Mail by: Monday, November 28.

FUGITIVE PIECES



DEC 4 SUNDAY

PRESENTED BY
WOMEN OF SINAI



TEMPLE SINAI

www.TempleSinai-Sarasota.org
4631 S Lockwood Ridge Rd, Sarasota, FL 34231
(off Proctor Road between Beneva & Tuttle)



Temple Sinai Presents
NIGHT AT THE THEATER
BROADWAY AND MORE

Featuring:
Mezzo-soprano Sarah Nordin
and
Bass-baritone Tyler Putnam

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 10
7:00PM - 9:00PM**
\$36 PER PERSON AND
\$54 FOR PREMIUM SEATS

TEMPLE SINAI



TEMPLE SINAI PROUDLY PRESENTS

HANDS ON

HANUKKAH

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 -
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23**

CRAFTS ■ FOOD ■ STORYTIME ■ LIVE MUSIC
CANDLE LIGHTING

TAKING IT ON THE ROAD!



15TH ANNUAL
SARASOTA
Jewish
FOOD
Festival

1-29-2023

FREE ADMISSION!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND OUR COMPLETE EVENTS CALENDAR, VISIT:
www.templestinai-sarasota.org/events

We are grateful to the over 100 members who have already made their annual gift.
[Please click here to view the list!](#)



*Temple Sinai Past Presidents cordially
invite you to participate in this year's
ANNUAL APPEAL.*

*Every gift is a commitment to Temple
Sinai's future, building towards a
stronger tomorrow.*

[Donate Now](#)

TRIBUTES

TEMPLE SINAI GENERAL FUND

Aravilla

Gail H. Eisenfeld

Elena and David Mitchell

Susan Switkin and Stephen Kaye

In Honor of Harriet and Don Gersman's 60th Wedding Anniversary:

Phyllis and Don Marcus

Alan Gross

Bernice and Hayden Lipp

Marjorie and Ira Rome

Audrey Giglio

In Memory of Bill Witte:

Judith and Sydney Weinstein

Deborah Linick

In Memory of:

Sophie Feldman: Eleanor and Bruce
Feldman

Richard Silverman: Caren Carr and
Anthony DiRamio

Jack Sussman, father of Harvey Sussman:
Bonnie and Harvey Sussman

Robert Wollheim, brother of Warren
Wollheim: Sheila and Warren Wollheim

Skip Berlin, family friend: Sheila and
Warren Wollheim

CHAZZAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sheila and Ron Bellamy

In Appreciation of Chazzan Abramson:

Karen Witte

Speedy Recovery of Stephany Richmond:

Elana and Mark Margolis

In Memory of:

Bill Witte: Judith and Leonard Swerdlow

Dorothy Wendrow: Alene Wendrow and
George Neidich

Evelyn Lerner, sister-in-law: Gail Glickman

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH EDUCATION'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Gillian and Chester 'Pearl' Perlinski

Kathy and Richard Stern

Karen and Daryl Worobow

GAN FUND

Gillian and Chester Perlinski, for Gan
Security

In Honor of:

Lori and Alan Ross on the birth of their
grandson Ari: Geri Jo Manson

In Memory of:

Myer Morris: Geri Jo Manson

Al Harris: Geri Jo Manson

TRIBUTES (CONTINUED)

DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Jamie and Eric Appelbaum
Kathy and Myron Bernstein
Rob Krasow
Jade and Jack Mitchell
Kathy and Richard Stern

REB ARI ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In Memory of:

Dear brother of Carol Letharby: Reb Ari
Shapiro

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND

In Memory of Bill Witte: Rae Ellen and
Robert Levene

URJ SUMMER PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of Wyona Lachowitzer: Laurie
Lachowitzer

FANCHON D. ROSENSTEIN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In Memory of Bill Witte: Shirley Rose

ADULT PROGRAM FUND

Andrea and Eric Eiffert
Rob Krasow

MARX EDUCATIONAL FUND

Speedy Recovery of Sheila Wollheim: Lori
and Scott Dreffin

PICK ME UP RIDES FUND

Susan and Michael Siegel

Thank you

CONDOLENCES AND YAHREZEITS

(WE REMEMBER THEM)

Paula Spitalny on the death of her husband and our congregant Arnold Spitalny, who died last month on October 13, 2022.

Lorraine Asarch for her sister, Susie Grossman.

Ellyn Bender and Pamela Paschall for father of Ellyn Bender, Louis Bender and father of Pamela Paschall, James Paschall.

Diane and Victor Block for Toby Block and Walter Block.

Micki Sherin Evans and Eugene Evans for Donald Arthur Evans.

Irene and Robert Fritsch for Laura Fritsch.

Laurie Ginsburg and Natalie Young for father of Laurie Ginsburg, Charles Feinberg.

Jeanne and Andrew Marlowe for Frank Irwin Marlowe.

Shelley and Gregory Markus for beloved mother, Dori Davis and beloved sister, Marti Markus.

Vivian McDorman for father, Norman Green.

Elaine Merker for beloved husband, Robert Merker and mother, Anita Stein.

Judy and Zvi Rogovin for mother of Zvi Rogovin, Chaia Rogovin.

Sheila Namiot and Marvin Rosen for Clayton Shore and Joseph Rosen.

Inna and Gerald Sideman for Rachel Fox.

Karen Witte for Julius Weinstein.

Zichronam Livracha
May their memories be for a blessing.

WHO WE ARE

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