

T A B L E T

JANUARY 2022

A publication of Temple Sinai, Sarasota

We have a winner

Howard Raiken wins this month's photo contest.

A word from Rabbi Kahn

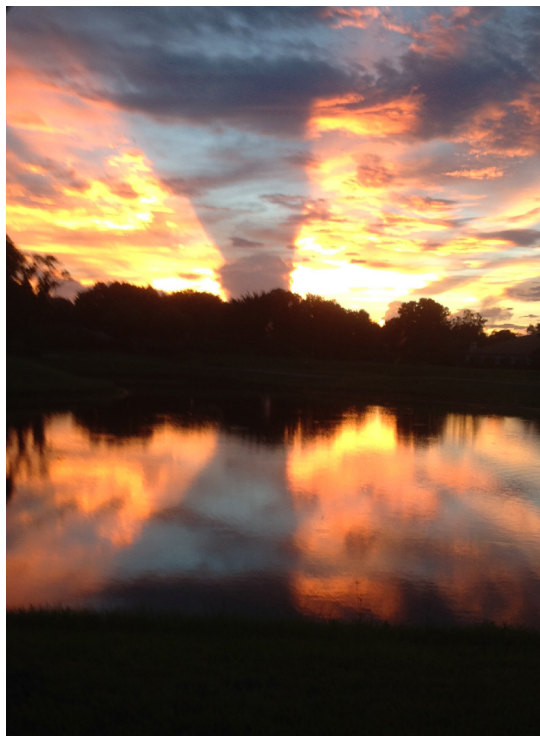
We are more conscious of our breath than ever, but let us consider the trees as well.

An important update on COVID-19 Precautions

In light of the new surge of cases and hospitalizations we have updated our precautions.



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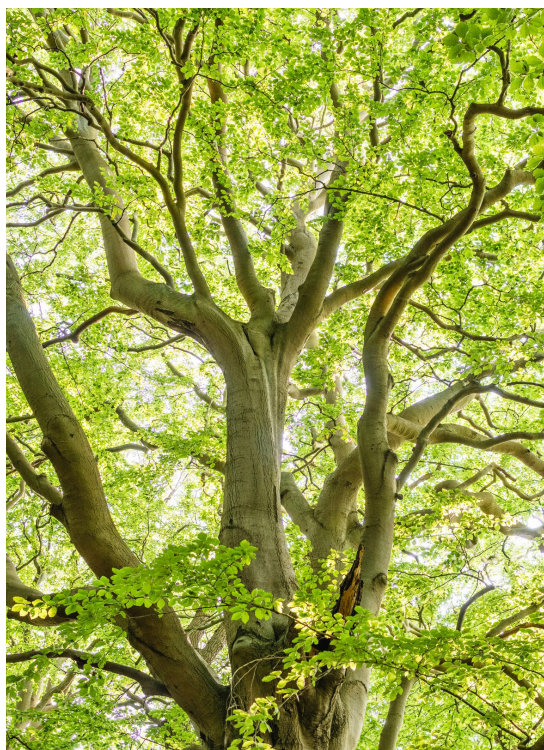
Photo Contest Winner

Howard Raiken is the winner of this issue's photo contest.

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A Word from your Clergy

Rabbi Kahn asks us to celebrate a new year for the trees.



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

Les Gilbert, Editor
Gail Glickman, Consultant
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and Eve Pokornicky

Tablet deadline for submission of content for the February issue: January 5. Send to tablet@templesinai-sarasota.org.

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Updated COVID-19 Precautions

With your safety in mind, we have new protocols to share with you.

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If the temple office is not available please contact Temple Sinai Clergy directly for the following:

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

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RabbiKahn@templesinai-sarasota.org

Chazzan Cliff Abramson
cliff@templesinai-sarasota.org



Howard Raiken Wins Photo Contest

Congratulations to Howard Raiken. Howie wins this month's photo contest with his beautiful image of the sun setting over the trees and reflected in the water. He tells us that this photo, among others that he submitted, was taken just outside his back door.

Who will win the photo contest for the February issue of the Tablet? Could it be you? Please send us some photos of what you love about Temple Sinai and the Sarasota area such as the sky, the water, the architecture, whatever brings you joy. Take a few pictures, some horizontal in format and some vertical. Then email the high resolution images by January 15 to tablet@templesinai-sarasota.org.

We look forward to seeing your best photos.

—Les Gilbert
Editor



Photo by Howard Raiken

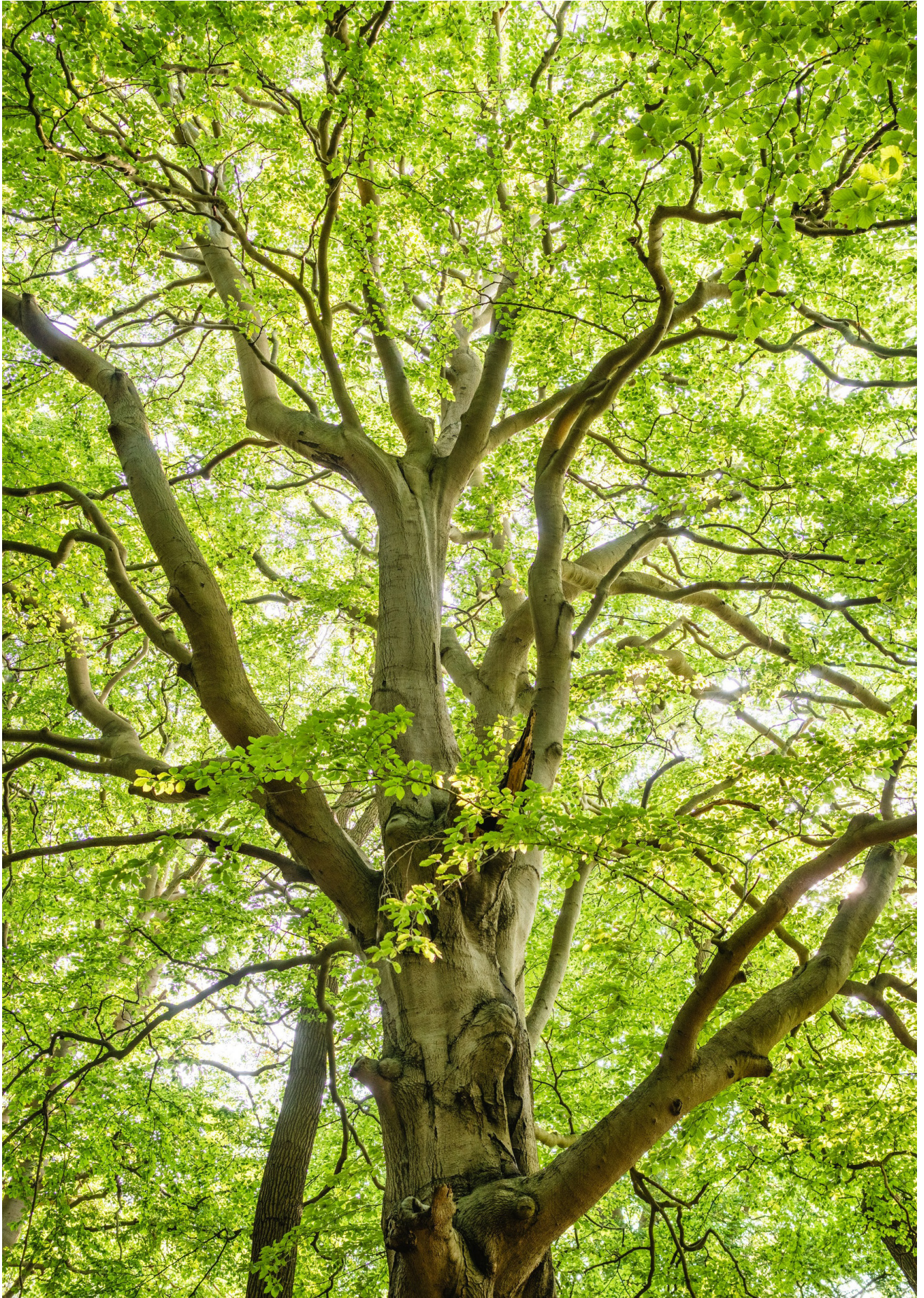


Photo by Felix Mittermeier

FROM YOUR CLERGY

A New Year for the Trees

The American Rabbi published a Coronavirus story, that took place in Italy. It read:

A 93-year-old man was stricken with COVID-19 and in spite of his age, he somehow survived. Upon being discharged from the hospital, he was presented with a very large bill. Part of it was for payment for the ventilator which he had been put on for one day.

Reading the amount that was due, the old man began to cry. The hospital felt a sense of compassion and told him not to worry – surely something could be worked out to reduce the cost to something more manageable. What the old man responded made the hospital workers weep.

The old man explained, “I don’t cry because of the money I have to pay. Thankfully I am able to afford it. I cry for another reason. I cry because I’ve just come to realize after all these many years on earth I’ve been breathing God’s air for 93 years, yet I have never had to pay for it. It seems it takes over €500 to use a ventilator in the hospital for one day. Do you know how much I owe God? Why haven’t I ever truly thanked God all the days of my life for the miracle of this divine gift which I took for granted?”

Many of us, just like this 93-year-old man, have been breathing air without considering the cost for years and years. We should not only be thanking God for the air we breathe but also God’s majestic creations - Trees.

Trees have the ability to provide an essential of life for all living things on our planet – oxygen! The Jewish holiday of Tu B’Shevat (the 15th of Shevat) is a great time to pause and appreciate the gifts of trees. It is an amazing festival, an ancient celebration of the new year for trees, that has changed and evolved over 20 centuries, and has never been more vital or more significant than it is today.

There are many traditions for how to celebrate this "New Year for the Trees". At Sinai we engage in planting trees, donating money to organizations that plant trees, and hosting a Tu B’shevat seder. The Seder is a festive ceremony, featuring wine and other Earth-grown gifts, like fruits and nuts. On Tu B’shevat we stop to appreciate our relationship with land and nature, our relationship with our community, our relationship with the world at large, and our relationship with spirituality. And all of this is rooted in learning from the gifts and glamor of the life of the tree.

—Rabbi Samantha Kahn



SINAI MEN'S CLUB

We pause to reflect on the passing year and the heartbreaking loss of our dear friend and SMC secretary, Ron Rosenthal on August 17, 2021 (of blessed memory). Ron was a beloved member of the SMC for 5 years and he will be greatly missed.

Despite the constraints from COVID-19, we continued to move forward in 2021. In addition to our already existing programs (Lunch & Learn, Breakfast, Book Club, Film Forum and Schmoozes), we added several new opportunities for participation. We held our first Annual Blood Drive honoring Adam Swerdlow and had 24 pints of blood donated. We started a Sponsorship Program for new members and added 23 new members, for a total of 115 SMC members. We improved and updated this year's Veteran's Day Service under the guidance of Pearl Perlinski and Zvi Rogovin. Several SMC members participated in the First Annual Temple Sinai Mitzvah Day "Everything but the Turkey". Finally, we joined together with the Women of Sinai on two separate occasions. We conducted a Sukkot service and held a holiday Toy Collection to go to needy children in our area. (See more about the Toy Collection on the next page.) A big thank you goes out to all who participated in these worthy programs.

As you can see, we have done a lot this past year and will continue to improve our programming in the new year. All Sinai Men's Club members are encouraged to support us by volunteering and participating in events. Listed on the following page are some of our scheduled events for January 2022. We look forward to your participation!

The Temple Sinai Men's Club will be attending the Braves v. Astros Spring Training



game on March 1, 2020 at Cool Today Park in North Port. We have secured a special seating section with lunch for our group. There is room for 1 more person. If you wish to attend, please contact Mike Gruenberg at Gruenbergconsulting@gmail.com.

For information on joining the Sinai Men's Club, please contact David Stein, Membership Chair, at (240) 672-4771 or steintravel@verizon.net.

On behalf of the Temple Sinai Men's Club, we want to wish you, your family and friends a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! We hope and pray that 2022 will bring us even closer together. We'd like to thank all the Sinai Men's Club Board Members for the outstanding job they did in 2021. We look forward to their continued participation in 2022 to guide the Sinai Men's Club to greater heights

—Chester "Pearl" Perlinski – Co President
Howard Polivy – Co President

SINAI MEN'S CLUB
UPCOMING EVENTS
JANUARY 2022

Date	Event	Time	Description	Host	RSVP
January 13	Lunch & Learn (bring your own lunch) Located in the Social Hall	12:00PM - 1:30PM	"Hearing Loss and its Many Manifestations and Impacts." Panel of experts (and temple members): Judy Goldblatt, Judy Swerdlow & Mark Weinberg.	Malcolm Roberts	All are welcome to attend. No RSVP needed.
January 16	Film Forum	7:00PM-8:00PM on Zoom	"Passing" (Netflix) A tale of race and identity in 1920's Harlem.	Mike Pollack	Open to all temple members and their significant others. RSVP to Mike Pollack at mpollack738@gmail.com , before January 13 to receive a Zoom invitation
January 20	Book Club	12:30PM-2:00PM On Zoom	"The Tender Bar" by J.R. Moehringer.	Allan Schreiber	RSVP to Allan Schreiber at allanschreiber@comcast.net , before January 17 to receive a Zoom invitation.
January 25	Schmooze	11:30PM	Stottlemeyer's Smokehouse, 19 E. Rd., Sarasota	Richard Brown	RSVP to Richard Brown at 67oldsmobile@gmail.com before January 20.

A SUCCESSFUL TOY COLLECTION

The Sinai Men's Club, in conjunction with the Women of Sinai, helped to support a holiday program coordinated by the Jewish Family and Children's Service of Sarasota and Manatee (JFCS). Each year the JFCS collects toys, clothing, and gift cards for families and seniors for Hanukkah and Christmas. The SMC with the enthusiastic help of the WOS was able to collect toys, pajamas and hundreds of dollars of gift cards for Target, Walmart and Publix. Collections boxes were placed in the temple and our members generously contributed toward this program. We are grateful to our members and to all who helped make this program so successful.

WOMEN OF SINAI



As we ring in the secular new year, we have the opportunity to reflect on 2021: the good, the bad, and the ugly.

After navigating through the uncertainty of 2021 due to COVID-19, I came to a new appreciation of what I have and what I am thankful for. I was blessed to have good health this year, a loving family, wonderful weather, and amazing Temple Sinai friends.

The Women of Sinai were wonderfully entertained by Katherine Chesney's portrayal of Bertha Palmer. She has a wealth of information and everyone seemed to enjoy her talk. She stayed and socialized with us after, which ended a lovely afternoon. Twenty to twenty-five watched in person while 11 were able to Zoom in. There were some technological challenges as we saw this presentation. As we fine tune this hybrid way of socializing, our hope is that it will be a model for other Sisterhood groups.

Women of Sinai managed to stay active and vibrant despite the limitations. We ended the calendar year with many events. Our book club always leads to provocative conversations. *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions. The book led to a great discussion. Engaging with each other on Zoom has its own particular challenges. We hope to transition to in-person

soon. Look for information in the weekly e-blasts.

Moving on to 2022, Women of Sinai has many opportunities to get involved.

Mah jongg cards for 2022 can be ordered until January 7. You want to have your card as we will once again host a day of Mah Jongg and More on March 3. Look for more information in the coming weeks. Remember Women of Sinai gets a percentage of the cost. Here is the link: [Click here](#).

On February 3, a representative from Arts in Sarasota will be speaking to the group. It will be offered as a hybrid model, both in person and on zoom. Whether it will be a luncheon or dessert is unknown at the time of this article's submission. More information will be sent out as we turn the calendar page.

A new year means a new chapter. I hope 2022 is an incredible part of your story.

—Laurie Criden

WOMEN OF SINAI BERTHA PALMER STORY

Women of Sinai heard a fascinating story about Bertha Palmer at the December 2 meeting. Presented by Kathryn Chesley, she informed us how Bertha accumulated her fortune and made Sarasota what it is today. Bertha Palmer went from Chicago to Washington, D.C. to Florida and Kathryn Chesley as Bertha (see photo below) recounted Palmer's exploits and challenges as she became one of the most influential women of her times.

—Gail Glickman



Kathryn Chesley as Bertha Palmer

WOMEN OF SINAI MITZVAH, JANUARY 2022

Happy New Year! A new year for a new start of good health and safe times.

I am excited to tell you that we collected over \$550 worth of gift cards for Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS). Thank you so much! With the large collection of toys from Men's Club, JFCS did quite well. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. As usual, the community has benefited from your generosity.

Our next collection for January will be early learning books for HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters). This organization has educators who use the collected books to go into the homes of preschool children and help show parents how

to read with their children. Parents are shown how to use the cover of a book for making predictions, and help children "read" a story, by asking questions and using pictures to help children think about what might be happening. It is a wonderful organization helping parents show their youngsters what it is to be excited to read. Let's try to collect books---new and gently used---to give to HIPPY.

There will be a box set up in the Lobby of the Temple that will say "For HIPPY Books" throughout the month of January.

Again, thank you for all you do to give to the community. You are an amazingly generous group of people.

—Judy Polivy

Now that Hanukkah is over, we have candles, dreidels and menorahs all at discounted prices.

We have *tallitot* and *kippot* for sale. We will have mah jongg soap sets to sell, beautiful new Stars of David and Chai necklaces for men and women. If any child is having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah we can order a talit and gifts.

The shop is open on Fridays before services or by appointment. Call Barbara Bryden at (516) 314-0321.



TEMPLE SINAI HANDS ON HANUKKAH AT UTC

Hanukkah was celebrated in Sarasota this year in the most exciting and joyous way thanks to the planning and organizing of Bethany Leinweber, Temple Sinai's Director of Youth Education, Outreach & Engagement. Held at University Town Center (UTC) Mall, November 28 through December 5, there were games, stories, performances, raffles and giveaways.

Each day Laura Freedman, Director of The Gan at Temple Sinai, read a story and temple members dressed in Hanukkah costumes. Most enjoyable performers entertaining nightly included our own Fletcher Family Trio, Sinai Rocks and Chazzan Cliff Abramson. On Sunday,

November 28, the event kicked off with Rabbi Samantha Kahn and the many Temple Sinai volunteers.

True to the tenets of Judaism, every day there was a different Mitzvah Project coordinated by the Temple Sinai religious school teachers. This was Bethany Leinweber's major outreach event for the year and she did an outstanding job. She exclaimed, "planning this exciting week has allowed me to connect with so many and will be an awesome week for the entire community."

—Gail Glickman



Bethany Leinweber leads Hands on Hanukkah



Rabbi Kahn, Ilene Dyrda, Gryffin Wilkens-Plumley & David Stein



Laura Freedman, storyteller



Story Telling Time
at Hands on Hanukkah



Temple Sinai Members Bob
Handleman, Lois Levinsohn,
Peggy Miller & Elana Margolis

CHAVUROT

NEWS ABOUT A NEW CHAVURAH

We are so proud to announce the formation of Temple Sinai's newest *chavurah* group, "Chopped Liver." Six new member couples joined together for Havdalah and a potluck dinner at the home of Rabbi Mark and Alice Golub. Bonnie Sussman and Beth Stone addressed the group and offered their assistance in our formation. We had several contenders for a group name, but "Chopped Liver" was the hands-down winner. As new members, we welcome the opportunity to join together in fellowship and friendship. Alice Golub was chosen to represent the group as its coordinator.

As two of our members sing with the Sarasota Jewish Chorale, it was decided that attending the December 2 performance at UTC, in conjunction with Temple Sinai's "Hands on Hanukkah" program, should be our first event. This will be followed by a group dinner at Apollonia UTC. We all feel very blessed to have the opportunity to get to know other new TS members on a more intimate basis and look forward to spending more time together.

Our members are:

Arie and Nancy Bortinger

Mark and Alice Golub

Brian and Lois Levinsohn

Bob and Fern Rouleau

Stu and Ellen Rothbaum

Michael and Debbie Rubin

Jeffrey and Lisa Silvershein

B'shalom,

Alice C. Golub,

Coordinator of "Chopped Liver"

Purpose of the Chavurot



The purpose of the Temple Sinai Chavurot program is to be a social group that celebrates a Jewish lifestyle in Sarasota. It provides a warm and comfortable environment for Temple Sinai members to meet 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 email Bonnie Sussman or Beth Stone at:

Templesinaichavurah@gmail.com.

HANUKKAH EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

A festive celebration, an inspirational service and a delicious Hanukkah dinner following the service made it a most Happy Hanukkah at Temple Sinai on December 3. After dinner a Hanukkah trivia game added to the fun.

—Gail Glickman



Rabbi Kahn lighting the Hanukkah candles



Rabbi Kahn & Chazzan Abramson conduct a festive service with lots of Hanukkah songs

CHAVARAH GROUP “CHESED”

Our wonderful Chavarah group “Chesed” got together at the Asolo Theatre on Saturday, December 18 to see the performance of “Hair” and have dinner. This was the first time all 21 of us got together. What a group we are! We're enjoyable, entertaining, and amusing! We look forward to every month to be together!



LIFE AND LEGACY™

As we complete Temple Sinai's 30th anniversary year and begin 2022, the Life & Legacy Team sends a heartfelt thank you to our donors who have helped to secure our Temple's financial future for the next generation.



Chazzan Cliff and Jamie Abramson

Anonymous (4)

Jean Andriesse

Gwen Baseman

Ellyn Bender and Pamela Paschall

Myron and Kathy Bernstein

Roberta Berson

Paul and Marilyn Blankman

Cookie Bloom

Richard and Sylvia Bloom

Terry and Eileen Blumenstein

Don and Betty Cahall

Alan and Fredda Chalfin

Rabbi M. Churgel and Shara Newman

Doug and Janine Cohen

Stanley Cohen

Aubie (z"l) & Sandra Coran

Mark and Laurie Criden

Mark and Beth Del Pico

Len and Geri Drexler

Leon and Marge Ellin

Ellie Feldman

Alan (z"l) and Beverly (z"l) Fendrick

Eric and Judy Fox

Laura Freedman

Barry and Margo Friedman

Joan Gastman and Art Sugerman

Jeffrey and Ilene Gelber

Don and Harriet Gersman

Patty Glah and Sons

Nancy Gold

Roy Good for Wendy (z"l) Good

Richard and Betty Greenspan

Cindy Davis Guttman

Bert (z"l) and Karen Harris

Rabbi Geoff and Sue Huntting

Barbara Jacob

Ken Kaufman

Gary and Sandy Kravitz

Laurie Lachowitzer

Bob and Rae Ellen Levene

Adam and Emily Levin

Larry and Sherry (z"l) Linhart

Faye Lipkins for Stan (z"l) Lipkins

Delores Lustig

Martha Magenheimer

Ing-Marie Malkin

Mark and Elana Margolis

Christopher and Jill Malkin

Greg and Shelley Markus

Ardis (z"l) Mauger

Bob and Peggy Miller

Brian and Marcy Miller

Chester and Gillian Perlinski

Gisele Pintchuck

Mike and Barbara Pollack

Mark (z"l) and Stephany Richmond

Al and Gail Shaivitz

Arnold and Paula Spitalny

Harvey and Bonnie Sussman

Len and Judy Swerdlow

Harold Tick

Richard and Carol Toppel

Steven Weintraub and Sarah Johns

Bruce and Naomi (z"l) Wertheimer

Scott J. Woolf

Daryl and Karen Worobow

With gratitude from the Life and Legacy Team,

Janine Cohen (jlc@dmcohen.com)

BOARD BRIEFS

In November, the Temple Sinai Board met and discussed the current status of the marketing team. The Board discussed the new structure for the marketing team and heard that most roles had been filled and the new team members were beginning their work. The Board was informed about the new procedure for marketing requests. All marketing requests must be made through the Jotform, not by email.

The Board also discussed Hands on Hanukkah, which at the time of the meeting was coming up in a week. Board members were encouraged to attend. Rabbi Kahn gave tips for engaging the public. The Board also discussed the Future Vision Statement and filled roles on the nominating committee.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Weiner,
Board Secretary

Membership Matters

The work of Temple Sinai's Membership Committee is crucial to the creation of a meaningful temple community. While every member is, by nature, involved in membership, the committee is the primary group that focuses on attracting, recruiting, welcoming, integrating, engaging and retaining members to help them find a lifelong place for themselves within our temple family.

Contact Elana Margolis at
elanatemple@aol.com
(941) 966-0252



PROGRAM

Happy New Year! Wishing you all a happy, healthy new year filled with meaningful and engaging Temple Sinai programs! I'm giving you a little break since you are probably partied out between Hands on Hanukkah and our first congregational Hanukkah Dinner since BC (before COVID-19), but here is a look at what's in store for adult programming in January:

January 18 at 7:00PM: NEW Jewish Genealogy Series Temple Sinai member and Genealogist, Doug Cohen, and Kim Sheintal from the Jewish Genealogical Society of SW Florida, are teaming up to provide all the information you need to explore your family tree! This 6-part series is just \$36 per person for temple members but unlocking the secrets of your ancestry is priceless. [Click here for more information and registration.](#)

Coming in February:

Save the date for two exciting partner programs! On February 12 at 7:00PM, Temple Sinai will be partnering with the Perlman

Music Program Suncoast to host PMP Alumni: *Around Town - Music from the Heart* featuring five highly acclaimed graduates of The Perlman Music Program: Max Tan, Eric Silberger, Tal First, violins; Bethany Hargreaves, viola; Lev Mamuya, cello; along with internationally renowned pianist, Marisa Gupta.

On Saturday, February 19 at 7:30PM, we'll partner with The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee to host the *People of the Book* series, featuring Jewish author and comedian, best known for her time on Saturday Night Live, Laraine Newman!

As always, please feel free to reach out to me any time with your questions, ideas and feedback.

—Andrea Eiffert, Program Director



Scenes from our Congregational Hanukkah Dinner



JEWISH ETHICS FOR TODAY, A PRESENTATION BY THREE RABBIS, DECEMBER 19

Since America's Civil War, our country has never been more divided and polarized. Do Jewish ethics bridge or widen the divide among our Jewish population? From traditional Judaism guided by divine law to liberal Judaism guided by ethics, how can we bring all Jews together as one people? Are we still one people? A distinguished panel of rabbis from Modern Orthodox, Conservative and Reform backgrounds discussed these questions from their understandings of Jewish ethics.

The panel included Modern Orthodox Rabbi Dr. Eugene Korn of Jerusalem, Conservative Rabbi Dr. Stuart Altshuler of Temple Beth Sholom, Sarasota and Reform Rabbi Samantha Kahn of Temple Sinai, Sarasota. Cantor Murray Simon served as moderator and chanted some beautiful prayers, as well.

Rabbi Korn proposed that we are a holy people and justice, i.e., fairness and compassion, are foremost in Jewish ethics. We can disagree with each other and still respect one another. Rabbi Altshuler emphasized the need for the preservation of Jewish people and spoke about our rich Jewish tradition. Rabbi Kahn said Reform Judaism gives us the opportunity to interpret and make informed choices based on modern circumstances which sometimes outweigh Jewish legal code. Questions and discussion followed this stimulating and thought provoking presentation.

People attended this free program, co-sponsored by Temple Sinai and Temple Beth Sholom, in person at Temple Sinai and on Zoom.

—Gail Glickman



Rabbi Dr. Stuart Altshuler



Rabbi Samantha Kahn discusses
Jewish Ethics



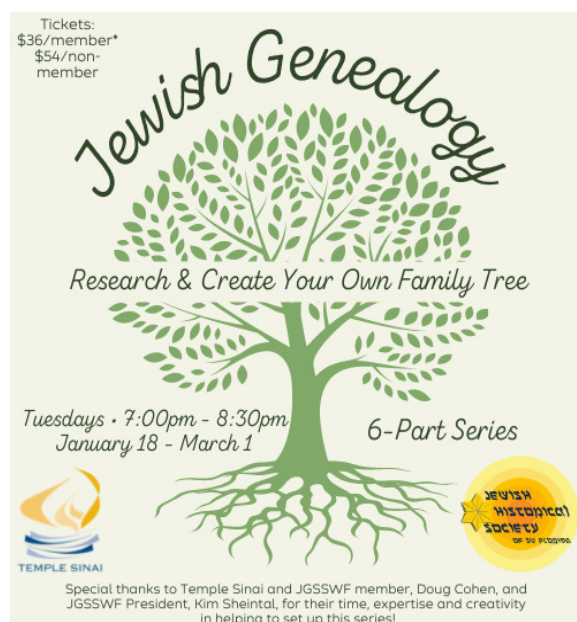
Rabbi Dr. Eugene Korn

NEW TEMPLE SINAI RESTRICTED FUND

Temple Sinai offers several funds to recognize, show appreciation, honor, dedicate or memorialize others. Whether it's for a friend's speedy recovery, a granddaughter's wedding, or your dog's *bark mitzvah*, please consider a contribution to one of Temple Sinai's restricted funds to mark your important occasion!

Our newest fund, the **Adult Program Fund**, has been established to support adult programming as designated by the Program Director and VP of Education. Besides making a contribution in recognition or appreciation, you may also earmark your donations to this fund to sponsor programs such as Scholar-in-Residence, an upcoming Adult Education Series or a workshop, for example.

At Temple Sinai we strive to consistently provide professionally executed programs in order to create a welcoming, inclusive, diverse, and innovative Jewish community that will thrive, grow and strengthen from generation to generation. Contributions to the Adult Program Fund are a wonderful way to support this mission and doing so is easy! Simply click [here](#) and under "type" be sure to select Adult Program Fund; that's it! Your support is appreciated.



ANNUAL APPEAL 2021-2022

Since August, we've been asking you to contribute to Temple Sinai's Annual Appeal campaign. We even sent a reminder a few weeks ago to all who've forgotten to give this year. Afraid you've missed the boat? Great news: you haven't missed the chance to give!

Because of the generosity of our congregation and the hard work of our dedicated Campaign Cabinet, we're thrilled that as of this writing, our campaign helped Temple Sinai build a bridge to a better year, our 30th Sinai-versary year. Now, as promised, the best is yet to come with your help! If you haven't yet had the opportunity to join with hundreds of our other members participating in our campaign, please do so now. Our website has all the details.

Thank you to all who have given. And please join us in thanking again our hard working Campaign Cabinet who have been dedicated to ensuring our success. Hats off to President Ellyn Bender, Betty and Don Cahall, Janine Cohen, Judy and Bob Handleman, Howard Polivy, Dan Dannheisser, Pearl and Gillian Perlinski, Dori and Mark Spector, Len and Judy Swerdlow, Cookie Bloom, Daryl Worobow, Carole Gorin, Gary Kravitz, Tony and Jan Joseph, Richard Stollman, Judy Intrator, Stu Rothbaum, Sherry Thomas and Rich Greenspan.

Thank you,

Alan & Fredda Chalfin
Mark & Laurie Criden



The Best is
Yet to Come!

RITUAL



When my children were growing up in Bryn Mawr, PA., we spent many snowy January mornings listening to Radio KYW1060 to hear the list of school closing numbers. Since school district websites did not yet exist, you often had to wait until hundreds of numbers were called before the broadcaster got to your district. If that number was called, it meant school was either closed or opening late. Shouts of joy emanated from my kids if schools were closed, while working parents, like me, moaned because we now had to scramble for childcare.

January reminds me of contrasting perspectives on the weather. Those who dread the cold, dreary, gray days just want the month to be over. But many who view beauty in freshly fallen snow see it as a sign, as Paul Theroux said, that “winter is a season of recovery and preparation”.

Nature has been preparing its trees to bloom anew, and the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shevat celebrates the remarkable ability of trees to begin bearing fruit again. It is known as the New Year of Trees. Just as we celebrate the secular New Year by making heart-felt resolutions, so Tu B'Shevat celebrates nature's resolution to renew itself. In the Land of Israel, it is the beginning of Spring and the notion of rebirth embraces our sense that the glass is half full. The earliest blooming trees in Israel emerge from their winter “sleep” and begin a new fruit-bearing cycle. Many environmentalists look at the earth with a glass half empty attitude. From Tu B'Shevat, we can use our glass half full perspective to actively commit to conserving earth's natural resources.

Here at Temple Sinai, as we embark on the beginning of our 31st year and recover from COVID-19-related isolation, let's keep the spirit of the glass half full by attending a variety of innovative Shabbat services in January (including a Women of Sinai Shabbat and Jackson Thomas Mitchell's Bar Mitzvah) and volunteering to participate by signing up through SignUpGenius.

Happy New Year! I wish you all a January in Florida that's free from snow and full of brightness.

—Barbara Pollack, VP Ritual



Updated Precautions

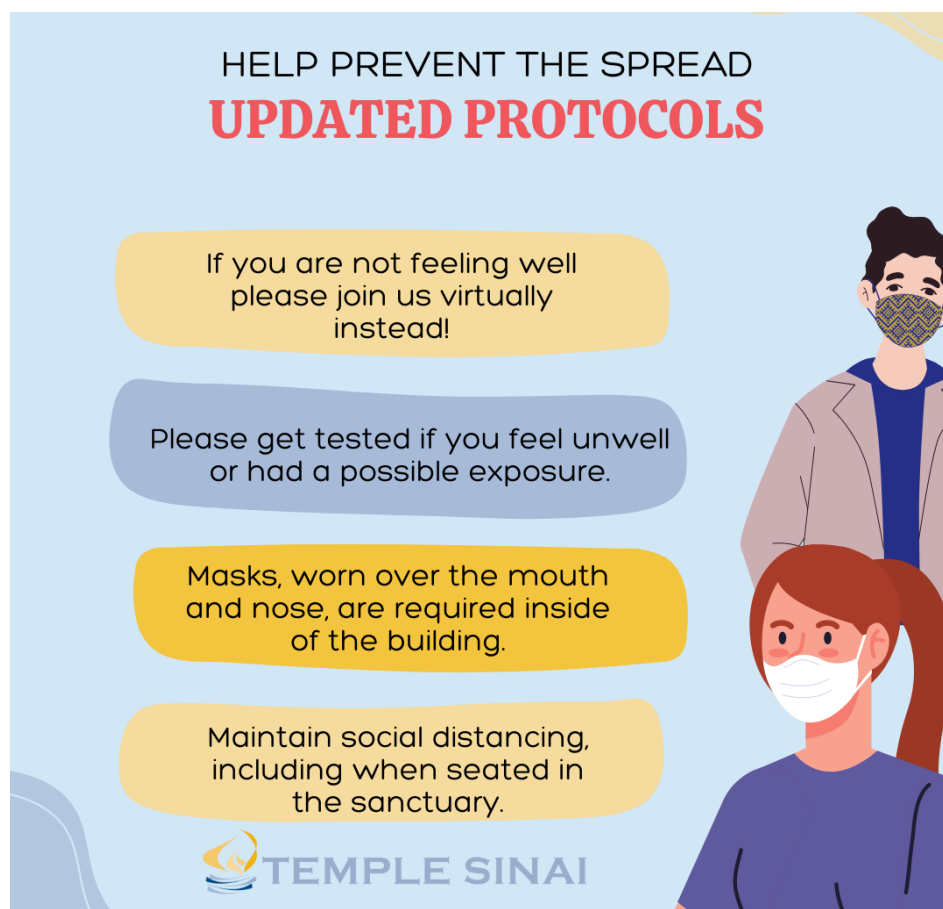
DURING COVID-19



TEMPLE SINAI

UPDATED COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

In light of the new surge of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations we are updating our precautions at Temple Sinai to help ensure everyone's health. If you are not feeling well, please stay home and join us via Zoom. Please also get tested if you are unwell or concerned about possible exposure. Masks are required at all times inside the building and should be worn correctly covering the nose and mouth. Social distancing should be maintained when seated in our sanctuary. We are monitoring the situation daily and changing our schedule accordingly when need be.



ARTIST SERIES CONCERTS AT TEMPLE SINAI



For over 25 years, Artist Series Concerts brings top young concert musicians from all over the world to Sarasota. The next concert, on January 23 at 4:00PM, features the innovative and groundbreaking Merz Trio, with violist Jordan Bak.

Formed in 2017 and praised for their “fresh and surprising” interpretations,” the Merz Trio has quickly emerged as a unique and multi-award winning ensemble. Their debut album “Ink” is nominated for four 2021 GRAMMY awards. The Trio will be joined by violist Jordan Bak, another captivating and prize-winning young artist.

Take advantage of this opportunity to watch these exceptional young musicians. Temple Sinai members can get 10% off of the \$40 ticket price. Call (941) 306-1202 (from 10:00AM-4:00PM, Monday through Friday), to get yours!

Save the date for upcoming concerts: February 6, February 20, March 6 and March 27. All concerts take place at 4:00PM. ArtistSeriesConcerts.org



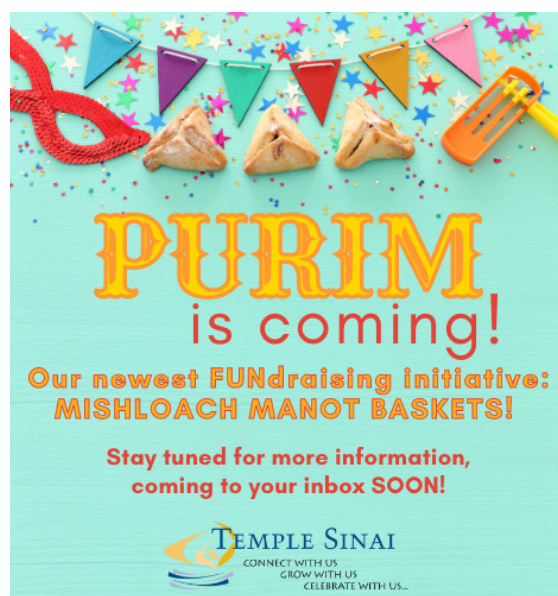
EXCITING NEW PURIM INITIATIVE!

Hanukkah is behind us and we look forward to the next festive Jewish holiday! PURIM IS COMING SOON!!!

Purim is filled with fun traditions, from dressing in costume, to drowning out Haman's name with the sound of the grogger. **But, did you know that it is also a mitzvah to give *mishloach manot*?**

The tradition of giving edible treats to friends and family, called *mishloach manot*, comes from the ninth verse of the Book of Esther which states: “Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the unwallled towns, made the fourteenth day of the month of Adar a day of gladness and feasting, a holiday and of sending portions to one another”. **This year Temple Sinai will embrace the tradition of *mishloach manot*, a beautiful opportunity to enrich and deepen our temple family connections.** Please be on the lookout for an email later this month with details about how to participate in this fun and feel good mitvah!

—Lisa Naiburg



TEMPLE SINAI MEMBER, SKIP DYRDA, DECORATES THE BOLLARD AT THE GAN AT TEMPLE SINAI

During a time when there are so many things to consider regarding our children's health, safety, and wellbeing, we continue to manage security of our facilities, as well. The Gan at Temple Sinai prioritizes all these important elements while, also, providing a warm, loving, and nurturing environment for the children and their families that attend our early learning center.

When the decision was made to install a security bollard in front of the main entry way of our school, I worried what this large, round, immovable object would look like and if it would be a constant reminder of all the "what if's." Once it was installed, I stared at it. I walked around it. And all I could see was what looked like a giant, bland meatball! I thought, "There must be

something that can be done to improve this thing that sits in front of our preschool". An idea sprung to mind, and I sought out a very talented local artist, Skip Dyrda, who happens to be a member of our temple. I shared the idea with him, and he ran with it! The "meatball" has been transformed into a sphere depicting our planet Earth...a globe with a diverse group of children with joined hands wrapped around the entire equator.

It is fantastic! Skip Dyrda has donated his time and talent to create a very special piece of art that welcomes every family as they enter our school doors.

—Laura Freedman



THE GAN

Calendar of Events

January 3-7

Gan is closed for Winter Break

January 10

School Resumes

Enrollment for Current Students open for 2022-23
School Year and Camp 2022

January 14

Gan Grandparent Gathering & Tu B'Shevat Celebration

January 17

Gan closed for MLK

January 18

Close Enrollment for Current Families

January 19

Open Enrollment to Wait List

January 22

PJ Havdalah with Federation

January 30

Food Festival



Laura Freedman,
Director of Early Childhood Education



Tziporim Class



Shoshanim Class



Parparim Class

The Gan's Thanksgiving Showcase and Picnic Festival

This page and previous



Devorim Class



Mashian Family



Didovic Family



Fricz Family



Burton Family

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Temple Sinai Youth Education Programming



Bethany Leinweber,

Director of Youth Education, Outreach and Engagement

Calendar of Important dates for January:

January 1-9	No Sunday School
January 1-12/13	Midweek Hebrew
January 1-13	Sinai Moms Sisters of Sinai Rosh Hodesh Shevat 7:00PM
January 16	No Sunday School
January 1-19/20	Midweek Hebrew
January 20	Brews and Schmooze - Calusa
January 22	PJ Circle Havdallah 5pm Location TBD
January 23	Tu B'Shevat at Phillippe Estate Park All Religious School Families 10:00AM - 12:00PM Moving Traditions - Rosh Hodesh/Shevet 12:30PM - 2:30PM
January 1-26/27	Midweek Hebrew
January 28	Rhythm and Jews Shabbat Service 6:00PM
January 30	Sunday School 10:00AM Moving Traditions – B'nai Mitzvah - 6th grade families Confirmation 10:30AM - 12:30PM 12:00PM Performance in the sanctuary Jewish Food Festival

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Asher Weiner

Ella Collier

Gideon Hersh

Laila Golen

Lily Mata

Katie and Mikayla Messina

Lucy Thomas

Check out all the fun we had in December!!!



Nature walk with Morah Anne



Iyar and Alix post Hanukkah dinner



Laila, Shayla and Stella Mae at Shabbat Bachootz



4th and 5th grade pizza party after services

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

FUN IN THE TREES

On Saturday, December 11 members of SAFETY, our temple youth group, met up with teens from SchZFTY, the youth group of Congregation Schaarai Zedek in Tampa. We had a fun afternoon of swinging in the trees at TreeUmph! in Bradenton.



Joshua Leinweber,
Youth Group Advisor

Our next planned event is January 22 at an escape room. We hope all teens in grades 6-12 will join us!



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our Temple Sinai Family:

Karen Weiner
9549 Forest Hills Circle
 Sarasota, FL 34238
 drkcw@comcast.net
 Home: (941) 966-6663
 Cell: (248) 459-3600

Gail Perer
8400 Vamo Road #642
 Sarasota, FL 34231
 gail5455@att.net
 Home: (941) 966-8266
 Cell: (804) 624-0459

Mazel Tov

to

Jeanne and Andy Marlowe on the recent marriage of their son, Alex

Lisa and Ron Greenberg on the birth of their second grandson, Jacob

Judy Fox on her recent award Morasha (legacy) from the Jewish Federation

Howard Tevlowitz on his award Man of Valor from the Jewish Federation

Shelley and Greg Markus on the recent marriage of their son, Michael

If you wish to have a Mazel Tov published in the TABLET, please call the temple office with your information.

T

CELEBRATE

Please join us in wishing our fellow congregants a Happy Anniversary this month of January!

January 1
Robin Klein-Strauss and Michael Strauss

January 4
Emily and Adam Levin

January 5
Bryna and Howard Tevlowitz

January 6
Sharon and Joel Wittenberg

January 9
Carole and Fred Gorin

January 10
Margo and Barry Friedman

January 15
Harriet and Edward Safran

January 19
Alexandra and Quinn Pike

January 24
Judy and James Feldman

January 27
Donna and Ernest Orlove

Please wish these fellow congregants a very Happy Birthday as they celebrate their special January day.

January 1
Harold Tick
Amy Wenke

January 16
Leon Shlossberg

January 2
Lynn Rothenberg
Beverly Sloat

January 17
James Feldman
Maxine Goodheim
Jennifer Scharf

January 3
Joan Goodis

January 18
Robert Handleman
Jan Wallace

January 4
Frank Bachenheimer

January 20
Judith Catalano

January 5
Dale Mendelson

January 21
Jim Shuford

January 7
Glenn Greenbaum
Ernest Orlove
Howard Polivy

January 22
Kate Mitchell
Warren Wollheim

January 8
Harriet Gersman

January 23
Allan C. Schreiber

January 9
Joan Gastman
Susan Ritzer

January 24
Douglas Cohen
Leonard Drexler

January 10
Robert Grossman
Barbara Jacob

January 25
Lydia Landa

January 11
Judith Intrator
Elinor Krasow
Marc Rosen

January 26
Larry Linhart
January 27
Debra Dannheisser

January 12
Eugene Evans
Michael Gruenberg
Richard Stern

January 28
Charles Labiner
Michael Siegel

January 14
Illene Dyrda
Marlene Miller
Edith Piper

January 30
Polly Orbach

January 15
Carole Gorin
Susan Landau
Beth Stone
Howard Taylor

January 31
Cecile Alexander
Richard Heisler
Thomas Mitchell
Bonnie Sussman

Milestone Anniversaries **JANUARY!**

January 10
Alene Wendrow and George Neidich 40 years

January 19
Hannah and Jack Michelson 65 years

BECAUSE WE CARE

TEMPLE SINAI GENERAL FUND

Kimberly and Jonathan Adler
Gospel Crusade Inc.

In Honor of:

Ellyn Bender: Sheila Namiot and Marvin Rosen

Mickie and Jerry Kaye's 65th Wedding Anniversary: Betty and Don Cahall

In Appreciation of:

Rabbi Kahn and Chazzan Abramson's spiritually uplifting and meaningful liturgy during the High Holy Days: Marlene and Jeffrey Bergart

Rabbi Geoff Huntting's sincere and moving sermon for the Veterans Day Shabbat: Carole and Fred Gorin

Pearl Perlinski, for the wonderful job of putting together the Veterans Day Shabbat: Carole and Fred Gorin

In Memory of:

Nancy VeShancey: Alene Wendrow and George Neidich

Morris Goldberg: Delores Lustig

Dina Rosen Feinberg, mother of Marc Rosen: Harriet and Marc Rosen

Nathan Sokoloff, father of Harriet Rosen: Harriet and Marc Rosen

Edith Moloff: Fredda and Alan Chalfin

Ron Rosenthal: Julie Babetch

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

Marilyn Katz, and a new refining in Sarasota: Robert Krasow

The marriage of Alex and Rosie, many happy blessings, we love you both and are joyful to share in this celebration: Jeanne and Andrew Marlowe

Speedy Recovery:

Matt Kahn: Joanne and Alan Trachtenberg

Matt Kahn: Kathy and Myron Bernstein

CHAZZAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of:

Dorothy Krantz, beloved mother: Gail Glickman

Chadwick Roberts, brother of Gwen Baseman-Ziomek: Doris and Ron Benice

Godfrey Levy: Elana and Mark Margolis

RABBI GEOFF HUNTTING/LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

In Appreciation of:

Ellyn and Pam for your lovely hospitality for our board get together: Elana and Mark Margolis
Rabbi Geoff Hunting: Nancy Gold

In Memory of:

Lovey Shaw: Elana and Mark Margolis

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH EDUCATION DISCRETIONARY FUND

Shera Friedman

In Memory of:

Abraham Kisch: Lisa Naiburg and Daniel Kisch

DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of:

Godfrey Levy, father of Cassandra Winters: Laura Freedman

Godfrey Levy: Sunny Brownrout

CECILE T. ALEXANDER SOUND & PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Nancy VeShancey: Cecile Alexander

ROBERT L. BASEMAN FUND FOR THE ENHANCEMENT AND PROMOTION OF TEMPLE SINAI

In Memory of:

Chadwick Roberts, brother of Gwen Baseman-Ziomek: Harriet and Marc Rosen

Chadwick Roberts: Isadore Baseman

Chadwick Roberts: Laurie and Mark Criden

Chadwick Roberts: Ellyn Bender and Pamela Paschall

Susan Shaw: Elana and Mark Margolis

Chadwick Roberts: Harriet and Don Gersman

Chadwick Roberts: Sunny Brownrout

Chadwick Roberts: Elana and Mark Margolis

ANCHIN FUND

Speedy Recovery of:

Matt Kahn: Ellyn Bender and Pamela Paschall

LIBRARY FUND

In Honor of:

Betty Cahall's very special birthday: Sharon Linder and Doug Popp

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND

In Memory of:

Chadwick Roberts: Betty and Don Cahall

FANCHON D. ROSENSTEIN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

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Harriet Kittner

Laura and Paul Zatz

Judith and Leonard Swerdlow

Carole and Fred Gorin

Betty and Don Cahall

Marilyn Lapidus and Arnold Baer

Cookie Bloom

Laurie and Mark Criden

Speedy Recovery of:

Matt Kahn: Judith and Leonard Swerdlow

SHERRY LINHART FLOWER FUND

In Honor of:

Beth and Jerry Stone, on the marriage of their daughter: Marilyn and Paul Blankman

WE REMEMBER THEM

Jean Andriesse for mother, Mollie Falkow Linden

Jean Andriesse for father-in-law, Eugene Andriesse

Lorraine Asarch for mother-in-law, Miriam Asarch

Lorraine Asarch for mother, Esther Brown

Marilyn and Paul Blankman for Esther Naselow

Sylvia and Richard Bloom for Lilyan and Julius Bloom

Barbara and Richard Brown for Asher Berkowitz

Barbara and Richard Brown for Harold Brown

Betty and Donald Cahall for Alberta Cahall

Janine and Douglas for Norman Cohen

Stephanie Dluzeski for Arthur Lindenberg

Illene and Skip Dyrda for Harry Maiden

Margaret and Leon Ellin for Ruth Miller

Micki Sherin Evans and Eugene Evans for Mike Molack

Jane and Marvin Glusman for Anna Glusman

Judith and Herbert Gofman for Lillian Solomon

Ann Goldstein for Morty Goldstein

Alice and Mark Golub for mother, Hilde Frankl

Carole and Fred Gorin for father and father-in-law, Ralph Plotkin

Carole and Fred Gorin for Edna Hibbel

Robert S. Haft for Alfred P. Haft

Rabbi Geoff and Susan Hunting for Dorothy Bleeker

Clara and Lawrence Kahn for Henry Kahn

Susan Karp for Arthur Samuel Karp
Lucille Klein for Jacob Klein

Lucille Klein for Ben Friedman

Robin Klein-Strauss and Michael Strauss for Helen Klein

Ida and Joseph Levin for Oron Diment

Betty and Stanley Liner for Rose J. Liner

Marlene and Calvin Miller for Rose Blum

Sheila Namiot and Marvin Rosen for Lillian Rosen

Bernice Niss for Samuel Askin

Greta and Malcolm Roberts for mother of Greta Roberts, Sara Katzman

Judith and Zvi Rogovin for father of Judy Rogovin, Paul Schoenfeld

Gail and Ronald Schimel for brother of Gail Schimel, Arnold Springer

Gail and Ronald Schimel for grandfather of Ronald Schimel, Leo Rice

Mimi Seitman for father, Solomon Glauberman

Kathryn and Richard Stern for Ernest F. Rice

Janet Tolbert for Eve Rintzler

Janet Tolbert for Leon Rintzler

Barbara and Jonathan Ryder for Mollie Bernstein

William VeShancey for Nancy VeShancey

Alene Wendrow and George Neidich for Rosalyn Neidich

Laura and Paul Zatz for Sarah Zatz

Condolences to

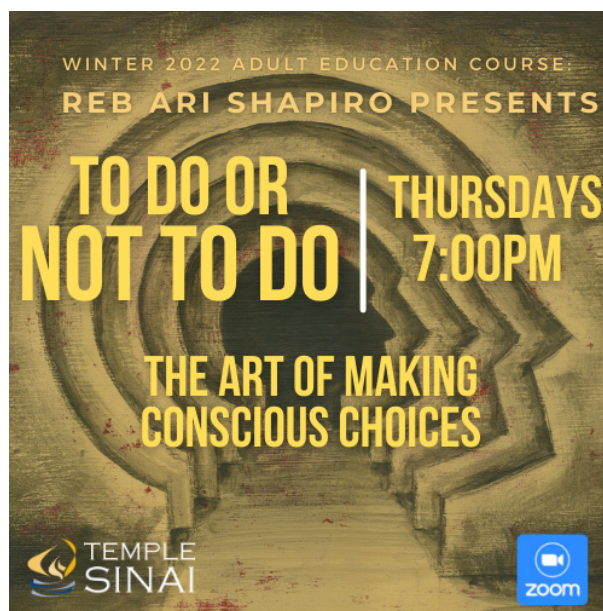
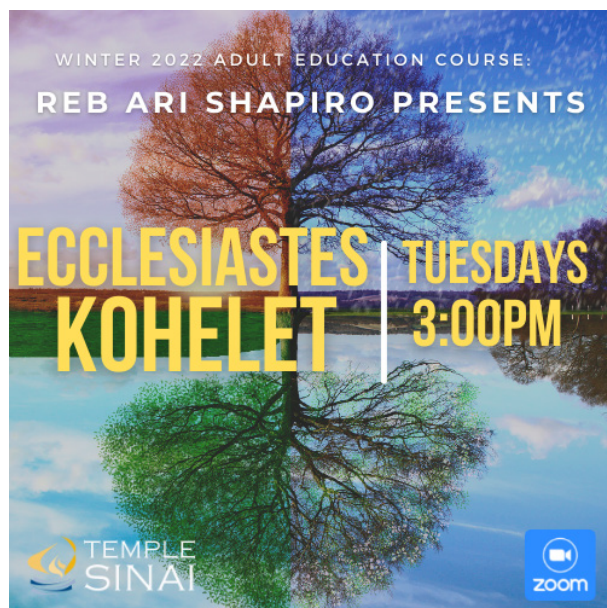
Gwen Baseman-Ziomek on the death of her brother Chadwick Roberts, who passed away on November 3, 2021.

Cathy Jaffer on the death of her husband David Jaffer, who passed away on November 5, 2021.

Cassandra Winters on the death of her father Godfrey Levy, who passed away on November 12, 2021.



Temple Sinai Gardens is our very own Jewish section in the Robert Toale & Sons Funeral Home at Palms Memorial Park. For information, contact the temple office.



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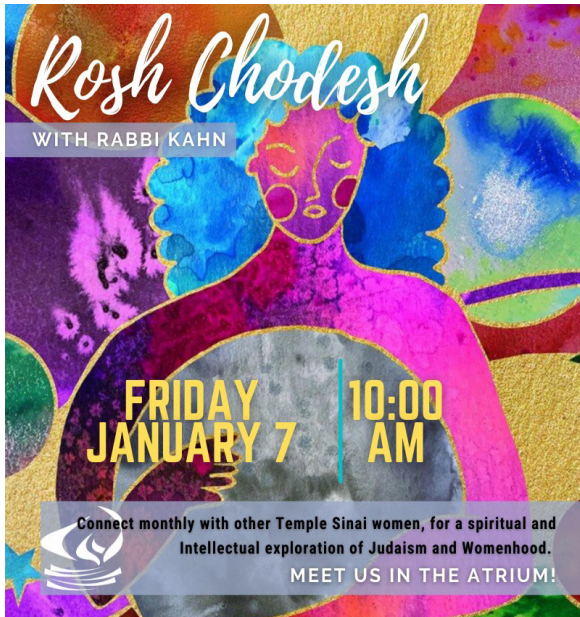
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Rosh Chodesh
WITH RABBI KAHN



FRIDAY JANUARY 7 10:00 AM

Connect monthly with other Temple Sinai women, for a spiritual and intellectual exploration of Judaism and Womenhood.
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SINAI SOLOS Let's *have* **LUNCH**

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JANUARY 13 THURSDAY THREE EXPERTS SHARE THEIR
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**THURSDAY
JANUARY 13
7:00PM**

Shabbat Shira

Friday, January 14
13 Sh'vat 5782



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Special thanks to Temple Sinai and JGSSWF member, Doug Cohen, and JGSSWF President, Kim Sheintal, for their time, expertise and creativity in helping to set up this series!

30 TEMPLE SINAI
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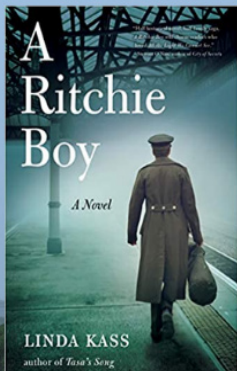
THURSDAY
JANUARY 20
12:30PM - 2:00PM


Book Club Presents:

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THURSDAY
JANUARY 20
2:00PM - 3:30PM



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BREWS & SCHMOOZE


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Thursday, January 20
6:00pm

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MOVING TRADITIONS
Rosh Hodesh/Shevet



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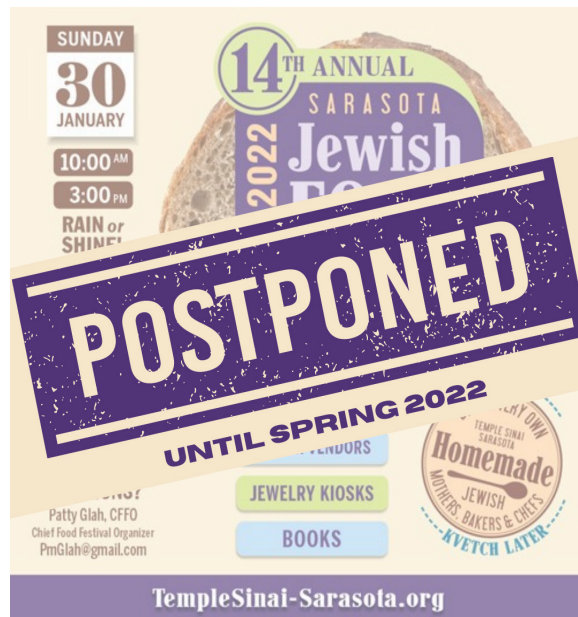
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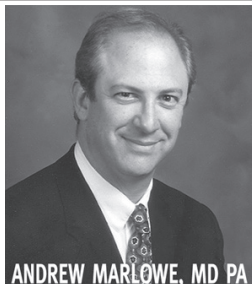


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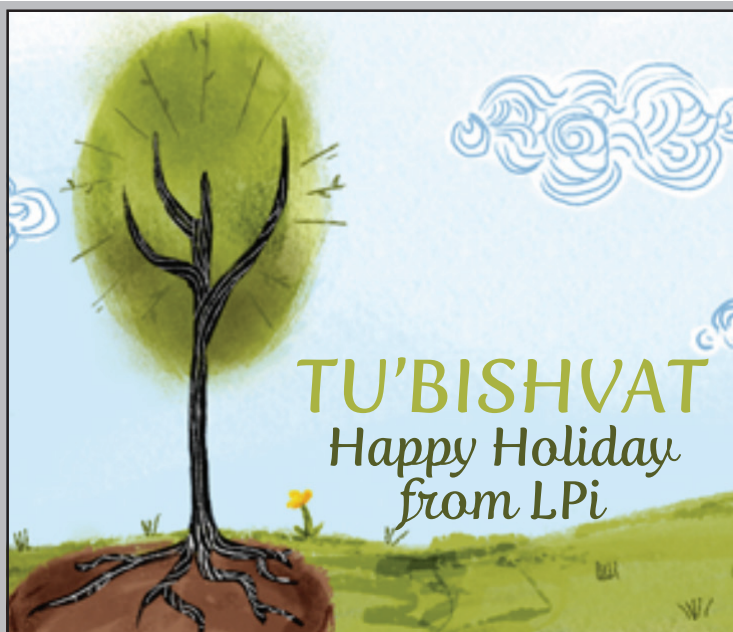
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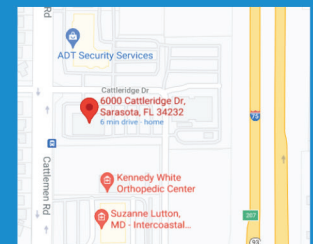
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ROBERT TOALE & SONS, *Welcome to the Dignity Memorial® family.*



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.

For more information, call or visit today.

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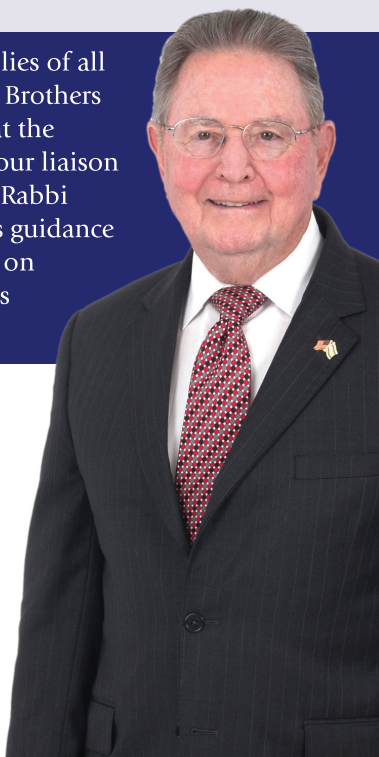
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We are pleased to welcome
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