TEMPLE SINAI JUNE-JULY 2022

CHAILEGHTS



Rabbi's Reflections By Rabbi Daniel J. Fellman

A great Reform Rabbi, Victor Reichert of Cincinnati, offered wonderful advice for the summer months. Rabbi Reichert, who served Rockdale Temple for decades, encouraged his congregation to use the summer months for reflection and renewal.

Each year he would remind people to read a good book, take a long walk, and make a new friend over the course of the summer months. With its long days filled with smiles and warmth, summer invites us to do things differently, to take time for ourselves, and to find new appreciation for our world and our own lives. Summer can be a time not just of relaxation but of change and growth for all of us.

This summer marks a time of change at Temple Sinai. We will say *L'hitraot* to Rabbi Keren Gorban as she leaves to assume the pulpit at Temple Beth El in Tacoma, Washington. For seven years, Rabbi Gorban has shared her wisdom, passion, and music with us. She has been with us for celebrations and times of sadness, and she has worked tirelessly to ensure a bright Jewish future.

As her clergy partner this past year, Rabbi Gorban has been a wonderful colleague, helping me learn about Temple Sinai and its traditions while also encouraging new understandings and new possibilities. She and her beautiful son Yuval have brought smiles to so

Friday, June 3, 7 PM Rabbi Keren Gorban's Last Shabbat Evening Service at Temple Sinai

Join us to wish Rabbi Gorban well at her new congregation in Tacoma, Washington.



many, and I am sure we all share a sense of gratitude for all she has accomplished at Temple Sinai.

This summer also marks a beginning as we welcome Cantor David Reinwald to the Temple Sinai family of families. Originally from Chicago, Cantor Reinwald has spent the last 12 years at Temple Beth Sholom in Orange County, California, and he is thrilled to be returning to his Midwestern roots!

Cantor Reinwald is a gifted and compassionate teacher and leader. He exudes soul in all that he does, and he is particularly gifted in work with children. We are excited to fully restart our music program after the long years of pandemic distance. Cantor Reinwald can't wait to get to work with our choir and band, and to begin dreaming about new musical opportunities for all of us.

As a partner, I am looking forward to working with Cantor Reinwald as we bring Temple Sinai back to a full calendar of activities. The pandemic changed the way synagogues work, and while we have faced our share of challenges, we are emerging in new and exciting ways. Whether onsite or online, Cantor Reinwald and I can't wait to get busy sharing in the life of the Temple.

On a personal note, as I reach my first anniversary at Temple Sinai, I am filled with gratitude for all that all of you have done for Melissa and our children to make us feel at home. We are thrilled to be a part of Sinai, and we can't wait to see what the future has in store for all of us!

Friday, July 1, 7 PM Cantor David Reinwald's First Shabbat Evening Service at Temple Sinai

Join us to welcome our new cantor, David Reinwald, to our community!



LIFE & LEGACY—ASSURING JEWISH TOMORROWS

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(As of 5/6/22)

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Edgar Snyder

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THE FUTURE OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IS IN YOUR HANDS.



REMEMBER TEMPLE SINAI WITH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL, TRUST, RETIREMENT ACCOUNT, OR LIFE INSURANCE POLICY.

ASSURING JEWISH TOMORROWS

What aspects of Jewish life do you cherish most—learning, community, worship, caring for those in need, or social justice? Whatever you care about most, by leaving a legacy you ensure the things you value are sustained for future generations. Contact Drew Barkley at (412) 421-9715 ext. 111 or Drew@TempleSinaiPGH.org to learn more.







"I don't like to say 'Goodbye'" FROM RABBI KEREN GORBAN

"I don't like to say 'Goodbye...'" I sing these words from a Tom Chapin lullaby to Yuval when he resists going to bed at night. I'm also singing these words to myself as I approach my final days at Temple Sinai; I love this community and have found a home here, so part of me doesn't want to leave. But, as I prepare to head to Temple Beth El in Tacoma, Washington, my seven-year chapter at Temple Sinai—and your chapter with me—is coming to an end.

During the last seven years, I have been blessed with many gifts from this congregation. Some are tangible, like the set of Bible commentary gifted by an Adult B'nei Mitzvah class or toys for Yuval. But most are indelibly written in my heart and mind. A few of these gifts stand out in particular:

You have given me opportunities to learn, including enabling me to earn an MA in Religious Education, letting me experiment with different programs like NextDOR, and asking provoking questions. I have especially enjoyed learning in partnership with you in classes, workshops, one-on-one preparation for Divrei Torah, and especially in our Saturday morning Torah study.

You have offered me your trust, inviting me to be your guide through joyous milestones, painful experiences, and grief; letting me challenge you to think in different ways or try new things; and assuming goodwill when I made mistakes or didn't fulfill expectations. Your trust allowed me to flourish professionally and personally.

You have blessed me with your ideas and passions. In looking for my next position, I knew that I would need be in a place where I could continue some of the work that you have needed me to do here at Temple Sinai, especially work around inclusion. Our expansive definition of inclusion means that we are reaching outward to bring people who have had difficulty engaging with the Jewish community in and working to ensure that those already in our community

Join us on Friday, June 3 at 7 PM to honor Rabbi Keren Gorban's seven years at Temple Sinai during our Shabbat Evening Service AND to wish her well with her new congregation in Tacoma, Washington.

feel seen and cared for. The innovative and inspiring ways that we have striven to embody this value of inclusion, as well as other priorities, mean that I will move into my next position with a toolbox full of ideas and possibilities that will hopefully bring blessing to my new community.

The gifts you have shared with me go far beyond these, and I will share more at my farewell service on June 3. I hope you will join me to celebrate my time at Temple Sinai and so I can thank you for the many blessings I have received here.

I don't like to say "goodbye" because it seems so final, despite the joke that Jews say goodbye and never leave. In Hebrew, though, there's isn't a formal word for "goodbye." We use "shalom" or "l'hitraot" instead, wishing each other peace on our journeys or looking forward to seeing each other again. Though I am leaving Pittsburgh, I hope that you all are blessed with peace and wholeness and that we will see each other again.



FUN FOR KIDS IN JUNE

Tot Shabbat in the Bodek Rose Garden (weather permitting), Friday, June 17, 5:15 PM

Does your tot love bubbles and balloons? Bring them to a very special Tot Shabbat! We'll have buckets of water beads for them to play with, bubble wrap runways to pop along, bubble wands, and balloons to play catch with. This will be an extra special multi-sensory Tot Shabbat that you won't want to miss!

Tree Planting for the Arbor Day Foundation, Sunday, June 26, 10 AM–Noon

Let's give back to the Earth and get active by planting trees with the Arbor Day Foundation. Pick up a tree at Temple Sinai with information on how to care for it—and help us plant a tree to grow with us through the years.

This Tikkun Olam opportunity is perfect for kids and families who want to show their love and respect for nature. All are welcome.

Contact Sunshine Figlio at Sunshine@TempleSinaiPGH.org or (412) 421-9715 ext. 121 with any questions.



VOLUNTEER IN THE TEMPLE SINAI VEGETABLE GARDEN!

Do you like to work with plants or play in dirt? Contact Drew Barkley at Drew@TempleSinaiPGH.org for all the details on how to join our garden volunteers this summer.



8TH ANNUAL PRIDE SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE, FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 7 PM

Every June, people across the world mark the Stonewall uprising of 1969 that kicked off the first major protest on behalf of equal rights for LGBTQ+ people. At Temple Sinai, our Pride Tribe brings the congregation's focus on the successes we have had and the work that still needs to be done. Please join us for our annual Pride Shabbat as we celebrate our freedom as openly LGBTQ+ Jews by sharing readings, songs, and original writing.

FALK LIBRARY NEWS: LGBTQ+ BOOKS

In honor of Pride Month, June 2022, the Falk Library is highlighting some of the LGBTQ+ books in our collection. In addition, some of these books will be available for checkout in our "Library Annex," located on the desk outside Rabbi Fellman's office.

Mentsh: On Being Jewish and Queer, edited by Angela Brown—More than 30 contributors from around the world reveal their surprising, poignant, sometimes hilarious experiences in ways that offer a staggering perspective on issues of identity, institutions, and culture from the viewpoint of the queer outsider struggling to belong.

Like Bread on the Seder Plate by Rebecca T. Alpert— One of the first women to be ordained as a rabbi explores how lesbians can shape Jewish tradition to resonate with their own experience.

Balancing on the Mechitza: Transgender in Jewish Community by Noach Dzmura—Inspired and nurtured by the successes of the feminist and LGBTQ+ movements in the Jewish world, Jews who identify as transgender now sit in the congregation, marry under the chuppah, and create Jewish families. Balancing on the Mechitza offers a multifaceted portrait of this increasingly visible community.

Celebration of disAbilities through the Arts

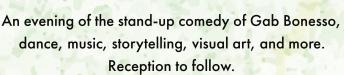


Standup Comic & Mental Health Advocate Gab Bonesso

Saturday, June 18th 7:00 pm \$10 tickets Temple Sinai

Sam Skobel with Ballerina on Wheels Ava Allenberg

Anne Alter will perform with her musical ensemble, Infinity



ASL Interpretation and Sensory Room available. For tickets and more information: www.templesinaipgh.org or call (412) 421-9715 Temple Sinai--5505 Forbes Avenue or on Zoom (link sent after your purchase)

Temple Sinai is an inclusive community that embraces, supports, and values all people, regardless of ability or needs, to participate in every aspect of ou Reform Jewish synagogue life. For more information or to request an accommodation, contact Judy Rulin Mahan at (412) 421-9715 ext. 110 or Judy@TempleSinaiPGH.org.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Erev Shavuot
	Z	ш	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online and onsite at Temple Sinai the first Wednesday of each month)	6:15 PM The Hill District: A Tour of Jewish Pittsburgh (offsite) 7 PM Executive Committee Meeting 7 PM Introduction to Judaism	7 PM Mostly Musical Shabbat Evening Service & Honoring of Rabbi Keren Gorban 8:15 Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service 5:30 PM Confirmation & Erev Shavuot Service 10 PM Tikkun Leil Shavuot (offsite)
5 Shavuot	9		8	6	10	11
10 AM Shavuot Morning Service & Yizkor at Rodef Shalom Congregation		7:30 PM Rosh Chodesh Group— Sivan (offsite)	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)	7 PM Introduction to Judaism	7 PM 8th Annual Pride Shabbat Evening Service 8:15 Oneg sponsored by Tsiona & Alan Blitstein and Rosalyn & Ivan Platt in Honor of Their Grandchild Liora Blitstein's B'nei Mitzvah	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 AM B'nei Mitzvah of Liora Blitstein and Shabbat Morning Service 7 PM Movie & Discussion: "Shiva Baby" (Zoom)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10 AM WoTS Talk & Board Meeting			Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)	7 PM Introduction to Judaism 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	5:15 PM Tot Shabbat 5:30 PM Shabbat Dinner 7 PM Shabbat Evening Service with Birthday Blessings & Open Doors Award: disAbility Task Force	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service 7 PM Celebrating disAbilities Through the Arts
19 Father's Day	20	21	22	23	24	25
by Ala	I June's book is "Prayers for the Living" by Alan Cheuse. Contact Anne Faigen at (412) 422-9580 for more info.	or the Living" Anne Faigen ore info.	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 1:15 PM Temple Sinai Book Club 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)	7 PM Introduction to Judaism	7 PM WoTS Shabbat Evening Service 8:15 Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
26	27	28	29	30		
10 AM—Noon Tree Planting for the Arbor Day Foundation			Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)	Pride Shabb	TEMPLE SINAL PRIDE TRIBE at Evening Service, Friday, J	PRIDE TRIBE Pride Shabbat Evening Service, Friday, June 10, 7 PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
		10			7 PM Shabbat Evening Service—Cantor David Reinwald joins our Temple Sinai family! 8:15 PM Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
3	4 Independence Day	5	9	7	8	6
	Offices and building closed	2 PM NEW! Talmud Class with Rabbi Daniel Fellman (meets every Tuesday except for holidays) 7 PM Executive Committee Meeting	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online and onsite at Temple Sinai the first Wednesday of each month)		7 PM Shabbat Evening Service 8:15 PM Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HAVE GOOD NEWS? Email the details to Tami Prine, Marketing & Communications Director, at Tami@TempleSinaiPGH.org to share with your Temple Sinai community.	D NEWS? to Tami Prine, nications Director, PGH.org to share inai community.	2 PM Talmud Class 7:30 PM Rosh Chodesh Group (Tamuz)	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)		5 PM Snacks & Schmooze 5:30 PM Tot Shabbat 6 PM Tot Shabbat Dinner 7 PM Shabbat Evening Service with Birthday Blessings 8:15 PM Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		2 PM Talmud Class 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)		7 PM Shabbat Evening Service 8:15 PM Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
		2 PM Talmud Class	Noon Parashah/Weekly Torah Portion Class 6 PM Evening Meditation with Rhonda Rosen (online)		7 PM Shabbat Evening Service 8:15 PM Oneg	8:30 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service

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We apologize in advance for any omissions that may occur.

Joseph & Phyllis Weinkle

SINAI 75 MEMORIES FROM SELMA P. RYAVE

As our year of celebrating SINAI 75 comes to an end, we want to end on a special note. Longtime congregant and former bookkeeper, Selma Ryave, shares remembrances from her 70 years with Temple Sinai.

When I think of Temple Sinai, I have contrasting moments, mostly some good and happy times but also some sad times. I have been there through every Rabbi except interim Rabbi Crystal during my nearly 70 years of membership.

I came to Temple Sinai in 1952, needing a job and applying for the position of bookkeeper. Jules Diamondstone z"l, as treasurer, interviewed me. By the end of the interview, the job was mine. Though it was considered to be a part-time job with fewer hours required at certain times of the year, I was pleased to have several benefits: in addition to my monthly salary of \$150, I was given a reduced-cost membership; and my two daughters, Rosalyn and Cheryl, would be able to attend religious and Hebrew classes.

Mark Shaffer was the president and Rabbi Burton Levinson, the Temple's first rabbi; they moved on several years after my affiliation. Freda Leff, the Rabbi's and Temple's first secretary, and I were the only office staff for membership of about 350 families. When Rabbi Aaron B. Ilson became the second rabbi, the emphasis was on obtaining more members, and that emphasis was able to reach desired goals. By that time, Pauline Ostroff became the Religious School Director, a position she held for many years. Frances

Silverman, formerly Temple's Nursery School aide, became Pauline's assistant. Pauline, Freda, Fran, and I became lifelong friends continuing even when we no longer were working together.

Speaking of Temple's Nursery School, this was a true story as conveyed by Liesel Ehrlich, the school's director. One day, a Temple member, whose



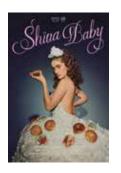
grandson attended our nursery school, took his grandchild out for lunch. He asked his grandchild how he liked nursery school, and the child said he did not like it at all! The grandfather was surprised and asked why he did not like nursery school, and the child replied, "Well, I don't like Jews!" At least that is what the grandfather thought he heard. The grandfather then asked the child why he didn't like Jews, and the child replied, "Well, on Mondays they give us orange Jews, on Tuesdays they give us grape Jews, on Wednesdays they give us tomato Jews, on Thursdays they give us pineapple Jews, and on Fridays they give us vegetable Jews...and I do not like Jews!!" No longer puzzled or concerned, the grandfather had a big laugh.

You can read more of Selma's memories at www.TempleSinaiPGH.org/Sinai75.

MOVIE NIGHT & DISCUSSION

We invite you to join us for (almost) monthly movie night featuring a variety of movies with Jewish themes.

Saturday, June 11, 7 PM, Free, Zoom "Shiva Baby," is a 2020 thrilling comedy about a bisexual Jewish woman caught in between her sugar daddy and her ex-girlfriend. (78 minutes)



Contact Sunshine Figlio, program coordinator, at Sunshine@TempleSinaiPGH.org or (412) 421-9715 ext. 121 with any questions.

Register at www.TempleSinaiPGH.org.

2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are so proud of our graduating Confirmation Class of 2022/5782!

They will lead an original service for Erev Shavuot on Saturday, June 4 at 7 PM.

We congratulate the Confirmation Class & their parents:

- Dora Gordon, child of Darcy & Mike Gordon
- Jonah Maxwell Hart, child of Lorien & Christopher Hart
- Louise Claire Landis, child of Kendra Coyle & John Landis
- Elana Miriam Padnos, child of Bill Padnos & Shari Back

OUR SACRED COMMUNITY

OF BLESSED MEMORY (MARCH & APRIL)

Those who live no more echo still within our thoughts and words, and what they did is part of what we have become.

~ Gates of Prayer

Norman Leer, brother of Florence Chapman

Yale Rosenstein, cousin of Judi Hirsh

Robert Herbert, Sr., father-in-law of Rachel (Mary Herbert) Kudrick

Earl Aussenberg, partner of Phyllis Baskin

Sheila Podolsky Sittig, wife of Michael Sittig

Agnes Rocher

Charles "Chuck" Mahan, husband of Judy Rulin Mahan; father of Matthew Mahan; brother-in-law of Elliott (Paula) Rulin

Michael Mallinger, husband of Nancy Schwartz Mallinger; father of Rob (Sarita) Mallinger

Anabeth Dollins, mother of Elizabeth (Aaron) Goldberg; grandmother of Felix and Jenna

MAZAL TOV! B'NEI MITZVAH



Saturday, June 11 B'nei Mitzvah of Liora Blitstein Child of Gidon & Dana Blitstein

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joseph Spirer & Ada Davis

HAVE GOOD NEWS?

Email the details to Tami Prine,
Marketing & Communications Director,
at Tami@TempleSinaiPGH.org to share
with your Temple Sinai community.

SIMCHAH

Mazal Tov to Temple Sinai custodian Rodney Harrison and Seronte Carpenter Williams on the birth of their daughter, Divine, on April 30.

Mazal Tov to Robert Kraut, who was elevated to the rank of University Professor, the highest distinction available to faculty at Carnegie Mellon University.

Mazal Tov to Debra Rubinstein on the birth of her grandson, Ezra Reed Friedman, on April 1. Parents are Susannah Glick and Bryan Friedman. Big brother is Judah Mason Friedman.

Mazal Tov to Amy and Jeffrey Scott on the engagement of their daughter, Jamie Beth Scott and Benjamin Martin Woodger Ridgeway. Jamie is the granddaughter of Linda and the late Leonard Bernstein and the late Maxine and Bill Scott.

Mazal Tov to Susan and William Cohen who received the Education Vanguard Award from NEED at their annual scholarship awards dinner on March 24. NEED's vision is to be a catalyst for change that transforms the outcomes of underserved youth in the Greater Pittsburgh area by developing college bound, civic-minded leaders.

A big **THANK YOU** to all our volunteers who put the FUN into Purim. **Carnival volunteers:** Brian Burke; Lauren Burke; Kendra Coyle and John, Charlotte, Louise, and Amelia Landis; Jennifer and Mara Bett; Reuven, Todd, Hunter, and Juniper Knight; Carol Woolford; Eileen Kraus Dobratz; Harton Wolf; Joe Weinkle; George Small; Leon Edelsack; Bill Padnos; and Todd Miller. **Shpiel volunteers:** Ellen Keeney; Barbara Gibson; Suzie and David Hauptman; Jennifer Bett; Sheree Lichtenstein; Samantha Skobel; Elizabeth and Rachel Collura; Darcy and Mike Gordon; Rachel Kudrick; Nate and Rachel Goldblatt; Jane Mendlow; Esther Nathanson; Kate Passarelli; and Roger Rafson. **Latke-Hamantash Debate volunteers:** Philip Lehman; Jeanette Trauth; Adam Leibovich; Mike Tarr; and Charlie White

Mazal Tov to Paul J. Wossidlo, son of Lenore P. and Paul R. Wossidlo, who graduated from Penn State Behrend on May 6, with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

Mazal Tov to Executive Director Drew Barkley's son Henry, who graduated from the University of Maine School of Law in May.



5505 FORBES AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

Join us as we celebrate the disAbility Task Force

Champions of CHANGE

Open Doors Award 2022

Shabbat Evening Service with a special oneg reception Friday, June 17, 2022, 7 PM

> **Event Chairs:** Carol & Rick Rosenthal





Friday, August 5, 7 PM **Mostly Musical Shabbat Evening Service** with Rabbi Daniel Fellman, Cantor David Reinwald, and the Temple Sinai Band

Sunday, August 28, 4 PM Welcome Back Picnic

Saturday, September 17 S'lichot Service

Sunday, September 18 Service of Remembrance at Temple Sinai Memorial Park

Rabbi Daniel J. Fellman

Senior Rabbi

Rabbi Keren Gorban, RJE

Associate Rabbi

Rabbi James A. Gibson, MAHL, DD

Emeritus Rabbi

Drew Barkley, FTA

Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Alison R. Yazer, President Stephen Jurman, 1st Vice President Elizabeth Collura, 2nd Vice President Josh Lederer, 3rd Vice President

Mara Kaplan, Treasurer

Marcie Solomon, Assistant Treasurer

Morgan Faeder, Secretary **Lynn Rubenson**, Financial Secretary Saul Straussman, Immediate Past President

Philip Lehman, PhD, Past President

Temple Sinai is an inclusive community that embraces, supports, and values all people, regardless of ability or needs, to participate in every aspect of our Reform Jewish synagogue life. For more information or to request an accommodation, contact Judy Rulin Mahan at (412) 421-9715 ext. 110 or Judy@TempleSinaiPGH.org.