



Recognizing
25 Wonderful Years
As Our Rabbi
1994 – 2019

Message from the President

Dear Rabbi Gershon,

Maya Angelou said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

This quote captures the essence of your tenure at Temple Sinai of Summit.

Over the past 25 years the Temple Sinai community, scores of people, congregants and non-congregants alike, were touched by you. You not only represented Temple Sinai with humility and humanity, you represented our community and the Jewish people.

We, the congregants of Temple Sinai during the last 25 years, were lucky and blessed to have you as OUR Rabbi. You were always ready when help was needed and open to new thoughts and ideas. While, like any family, we sometimes didn't agree, we always had respectful discourse and came out better because of the dialogue. We know that as Rabbi Emeritus you will forever be a part of the fabric of Temple Sinai. As you begin a new chapter in your life, we at Temple Sinai begin our next chapter, better and stronger because of all that you taught us and did for us.

Fondly,

David Hoodis, President

Temple Sinai Board of Trustees 2017-2019

Dear Rabbi Gershon,

Not long after your arrival at Temple Sinai, you summoned a group of parents in for a Sunday morning briefing...in the "old" social hall. I recall that our kids had already become B'nai Mitzvot and were about to begin Confirmation.

You posed this question to the parents: "Would you allow your kids to drop out of secular school after 9th or 10th grade?"

"Of course not!" we all replied. Why would we have said otherwise? Our kids were dynamos, headed to great colleges and universities... smart, athletic, articulate, appropriately cranky and annoying... why would we ever let them drop out of school!?

Then you asked: "Then why would you allow them to drop out of this school?"

We got it. Always an educator, you were talking with our kids about ethics, relationships, caring, bonding, finding that safe place within themselves before they went off to college. You wanted to keep them close until then. Starting the Temple Sinai High School was a reflection of your vision and commitment, and the Temple's implementation has since been admired throughout the Reform movement.

And if that wasn't enough, you traveled with our Temple kids to college campuses...introducing them to areas outside their own comfort zones and showing them how to be involved in Jewish life on campus. How fitting of our community to honor you by naming the school *The Rabbi Stuart Gershon Hebrew High School*.

Heartfelt thanks, Rabbi, and best wishes to you and Kim as you open a new door.

Susan Mamis

2012 Recipient of the Diana Burn Rosen Volunteerism Award

Rabbi Gershon,

You have been one of the major strengths of our congregation for the past 25 years. You helped our congregation through a major transition when you first joined us; thanks to your leadership Temple Sinai not only survived but grew stronger. While this may be the keystone of your rabbinate, there are many other attributes and contributions for which we are deeply thankful.

We sought a religious leader who related to our children. You did that and more. Our children respect and love you, as evidenced by their strong affiliation with the Temple's school. You established the Temple Sinai High School, a source of learning and fellowship for our teens. It is fitting that the school be named *The Rabbi Stuart Gershon Hebrew High School* in your honor, as it is admired throughout the region as the best example of post-confirmation Jewish education.

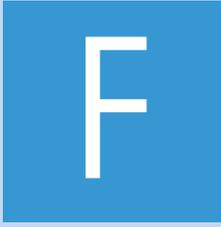
Your pastoral work has been legion. You always kept in close contact with the sick, ailing and bereaved, visiting them even when they were not in the immediate area. Your pastoral work, while time consuming, never diminished your superb leadership of Temple Sinai's religious services and all the other many important duties. You have always been most approachable, whether it was after a Friday night service, in your office or on the street. And you always greeted everyone with a smile and a warm handshake.

The impact of your rabbinate is felt by your congregants, young, old and in-between. Most vividly, your success can also be measured by the growth of Temple Sinai, from under 300 members when you came to the almost 500 family units that now call Temple Sinai home. The merger of Temple Emanu-El with Temple Sinai was much easier and smoother as the Temple Emanu-El congregants liked you and felt welcome.

It has been a wonderful 25 year relationship!

Peter Lederman

2016 Recipient of the Diana Burn Rosen Volunteerism Award



For the last 24 of his 29 years as a rabbi, Stu Gershon has served our congregation. He has been a beacon of hope and perseverance in times of sadness and trouble, supporting and comforting us as individuals and as a community. He is a mirror of light and love in times of celebration, magnifying our joy hundredfold. Rabbi Gershon has been a steadfast leader in times of transition, physically, when 208 Summit Avenue became our home, and as a congregation when Temple Emanu-El united with the Temple Sinai family. His partnership with the Board has strengthened us, and challenged us to provide the highest levels of service we can for our congregation and our home.

Rabbi Gershon has always played a key role within our religious school, encouraging the minds and spirits of our confirmands and young congregants, building relationships that last long beyond Hebrew High. His dedication to learning, social justice, and ice cream has helped build a generation of active, aware, and compassionate Jews.

Rabbi Stu led our congregation with strength, love, and a clarity of vision, and we have been privileged to steer Temple Sinai alongside him.

Rabbi Gershon, we wish you

ישׂא יהוה פְּנֵיו אֵלֶיךָ, וְיֵשֶׁם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

**Long life, inner peace, and the realization of
all of your fondest hopes and dreams**

With Gratitude and Appreciation!

Temple Sinai's 2018-2019 Board of Trustees

David Hoodis, President

Adam Keil, Treasurer

Eric Barr, VP Development

Sharyn Colon, Trustee

Cindy Homer, VP Operations

Allyson Crystal, Trustee

Lori Riseman, VP Membership

Rindi Klarberg, Trustee

Jodi Shepard, VP Ritual

Lenore Lerner, Trustee

Jennifer Sinoway, VP Education

Maurice Lefkort, Trustee

David Zack, VP Finance

Daniel Muhlfelder, Trustee

Josh Friedlander, Immediate Past President

Roberta Nooger, Trustee

Douglas Cohen, Financial Secretary

Antonina Pearl, Trustee

Michael Sherman, Recording Secretary

Ian Singer, Trustee

Stu,

Through it all...

Hebrew School, Confirmations, HS Graduations,

Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, Weddings, Baby Namings, Sickness and Death

you have always been our Rabbi and most of all our Friend.

We will never ever forget you for all you've meant to our family.

Enjoy your next phase...nobody's earned it more than you!

With all our love,

The Herman Crew

Beth, Scott, Sheila, Sean & Skylar,

Jamie, T.J., Kai & Ava, Greg & Kristina



Dear Rabbi Gershon,

Please step into our office:

We want you to know we are grateful for your friendship, love, support, ethics and values. You have been a source of strength and wisdom for our family during your time at Temple Sinai. You have guided our three children, Sam, Seth, and Lily Kaplan to become b'nai mitzvahs and furthered their education into their teen years.

Seeing you in Tzfat was a memorable moment for us, and we hope to have more of these magical encounters with you.

Wishing you all the best! Shalom,

Kim, Matt, Sam, Seth and Lily Kaplan





Let us treasure the time we have, and resolve to use it well, counting each moment precious – a chance to apprehend some truth, to experience some beauty, to conquer some evil, to relieve some suffering, to love and be loved, to achieve something of lasting worth. Help us, God, to fulfill the promise that is in each of us, and so to conduct ourselves that generations hence it will be true to say of us: The world is better, because for a brief space, they lived in it.

Rabbi Stu – this is the paramount lesson you have taught the Singer family, through your words and deeds, *todah rabah!*



With the deepest gratitude, appreciation, and love: We wish you, our Rabbi forever and always, years of peace, health, and happiness!

You will never be far from our thoughts -

Aimee, Ian, Hayden & Makena Singer





Thank you for many years
of friendship and counsel –

We wish you a long and
satisfying retirement.

Shelley and Ron Karp



Rabbi Gershon,

We were so fortunate to have had you as our Rabbi
since we moved here 25 years ago.

Temple Sinai has flourished because of your ability
to develop a vibrant, warm and welcoming
Jewish community in Summit.

May your well-deserved retirement be filled
with joy and fulfillment of all the things
you never had time to do.

We thank you for your kindness, dedication and leadership.

You will be missed!!

With love,

Ellen (Klein), Michael, Scott and Paul Gunther

Rabbi Stu,

We are delighted and proud to honor you.

**Thank you for welcoming our family
into your congregation with open arms.**

**We feel blessed to have had you lead
our spiritual journey for the past few years and
want to honor your 25 years of commitment,
inspiration and dedication
to our Sinai congregation and our community.**

We wish you a long and healthy retirement!

With gratitude, admiration and love,

Adam, Elizabeth, Naomi, Doris and Dylan Keil

You have been there for
our simchas and our sorrows.
You are our teacher, spiritual guide,
and friend.

We wish you all the best
as you embark on
the next chapter of your life.

We will miss you.

L'hitraot!

The Lefkort Family



Rabbi Elazar used to say:

Like trees with many branches but few roots
are those whose wisdom exceeds their deeds.
The winds come and easily uproot them.



Like trees with few branches and many roots
are those whose deeds exceed their wisdom.



All the winds in the world can blow against them,
and they will not yield.*



With heartfelt gratitude to
Rabbi Stuart Weinberg Gershon
for putting his roots down at Temple Sinai
so many years ago.

The Mamis Family



*pirke avot III:22

As interpreted by Rabbi Rami M. Shapiro in his book
Wisdom of the Jewish Sages, 1993

Rabbi Gershon, Mazel Tov on your new chapter of life.



We are so very grateful for your warm, spiritual and practical guidance all these years.

You conducted the b'not mitzvah for all three Stachenfeld women!



Wishing you joy and happiness in all your future endeavors.

Love,

Ann, Bruce, Kim and Bethany



For 21 years you have been a constant source of support to our family.
You have officiated at a wedding, a bris, 5 bar/bat mitzvahs and a funeral.

Temple Sinai, under your leadership,
has been a warm, inviting, inclusive, educational community for all of us.



We wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors.



We will miss you dearly.

Sharyn and Bert Model

Allyson Freundlich and Alan Model

Allison and Eric Model

Max Model

Amanda Model

Cole Model

Jordan Model

Jake Model

Samantha Freundlich

Dear Rabbi Gershon,

Over the years, you have become more than our Rabbi
and our inspiring spiritual leader.

We also think of you as a devoted and cherished friend.

You have shared our joys and
you have held our hands through some sad and difficult times.
Even with tremendous pressure to be everywhere for everyone,
you always managed to be there for us, comforting us with a warmth
and compassion that only you could provide.

We are so lucky to have had this time with you and
we will miss you deeply.



May you and Kim always be blessed with good health and all the
happiness life has to offer.



With our deepest gratitude and
our abiding love, respect, and friendship,

The Raimer Family
Sandi, Steve, Jake & Daniel



Dear Rabbi,

Thank you for all the times you brought comfort and meaning into our lives.
You were there when we needed to be lifted and consoled when we suffered losses.

You made our children's B'nai Mitzvah meaningful and joyful and
you traveled a great distance to officiate at our daughter's wedding.

It meant so much to Emma and Russell and so much to all of us.

As an interfaith couple, we will never forget how welcome you made us feel
and how good it felt to be part of the Temple Sinai family.

You will be missed.

But we are so happy that you're going to have more time
to pursue your interests, old and new.

You've earned it.

With love,

The Nitzberg family



All the best and many thanks,
Kayla and Richard Pechter



Thank you Rabbi Gershon
for taking us through so many joyous life events.

Although you are leaving the temple,
we hope to continue our close relationship.

Much love and luck,
Robin and Rich Pzena and family



Rabbi Gershon, Stu, Our Friend,

Thank you for all your efforts across the years

to lead the temple and

for being so kind and gracious to our family.

We will remember always how much you did for us

and wish you the very best for your next steps through life.

With respect, appreciation and love,

The Hermann Family

Jesse, Julie, Eric, Matthew and Bennett



Dear Stuart,
Thank you
for all you've done for our community
and our family.

This is a true celebration
of an amazing career
of commitment and giving.

Best wishes on your retirement!

The Weinreich Family





Our family has been blessed to have Rabbi Gershon in our lives.
He has been an inspirational leader, teacher, guide and confidant.
He officiated at the weddings of an entire generation of our family.

From the mikvahs, to the chuppahs and the brit millahs,
Rabbi Gershon has led our family through many
of our most treasured moments.

He is a special man, and
his calming and assuring presence will be sorely missed.

We wish him health and happiness as he moves
on to the next stage of his journey.

We are comforted by the fact that we know that
Rabbi Stu will always be in our lives and a friend to the family.



Congratulations Rabbi Stu!

The Wolfe Family

Saul, Roberta, Jonathan, Renee, Ayla, Kai, Mikah, David, Dominique, Diana,
Julia, Jack, and Hope Wolfe;

Nancy, Daniel, and Benjamin Bergman



We are so fortunate to have been the recipients of your warmth and wisdom throughout our transition from Temple Emanu-El to Temple Sinai and beyond! We will be forever grateful to you for your guidance and support. Wishing you all the best as you move on to your next chapter.

Fondly,

The Barish family	Faye Koretz
Evelyn Bernstein	Judy Krafchick
Linda and Robert Bernstein	Carol Kraut and Dr. Milton Merritt
Beverly Brodsky	Lenore and Larry Lerner
Sharon and Evan Brody	MaryAnn and David Levine
Ruth and Michael Cash	Sue and Jerry Levine
Barbara Chesler	Bea Muhlfelder
Judy and Ed Cohen	Daniel Muhlfelder
Helen and Peter Engel	Natalie Raskin
Robyn Ehrlich	Abby and Steve Sakwa
Jean and Joel Goldstein	Stephanie and Alan Scher
Judy Karlin	Ruby Schrimmer
Grant and Howard Grant	Leah Schwartz
Bettina Greenberg	Diane and Robert Share
Barbara and Ed Gross	Reina and Robert Sharenow
Jeanne and Steve Heiber	Beth Sher
Bonnie and Dana Hollis	Bonnie Sher
Terry and Jared Honingfeld	Toby Simon
Roberta and Fred Horowitz	Lois and Woody Sonnabend
Diane and David Katz	Lois Steinberg
Judi and Lenny Kietz	Sheila Tropp
Gail and Lenny Zuckerman	

THANK YOU
FOR A GENERATION
OF WISDOM,
LOVE AND SUPPORT.

WITH LOVE,
THE MARK FAMILY



BETSY, ROB, JESSIE & SYDNEY

Wise, compassionate,
kind, intelligent
warm and innovative ~
you're everything we could have hoped for in a Rabbi.



Thank you for being such an important
and wonderful part of our lives.

Carl, Joanne, Matt and Carrie Klapper



From the moment we joined Temple Sinai in 1997
you welcomed us in and made us feel right at home -
even introducing us to other young couples without kids.

Since then you have taken part in our family's joys
(our babies' naming ceremony, their b'nai mitzvah, confirmation
and graduation from Hebrew High School);

you have helped right our ship when we questioned "why";

you've been our partner in all things Temple Sinai;

and you've pushed us to take on new challenges throughout the years.

We really have grown together.

We all wish you the best in your next adventure!

With love,

Steve & Amanda, Scott and Alexis Greenblatt



"Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best." – Theodore Isaac Rubin



Stu,

You have been there for four generations of Densens – always and in all ways – armed with understanding, kindness and the occasional chocolate cake. You have been a terrific spiritual leader – and a great, valued and forbearing friend. Our hearts are filled with gratitude and affection. We will miss you but take comfort and solace in the thought that you can finally sleep in on Sundays. We are so grateful for your friendship and for your brilliant service to this congregation.

The Densen/Landau Family

Dear Rabbi Gershon,

We are truly grateful for your knowledge
and compassion.

Thank you for all of the guidance you provided
through my journey to conversion to Judaism.

We are so happy to have joined the
Temple Sinai community.

Thank you,

Courtney and Craig Bleifer



Congratulations on a wonderful career.

You've had a big impact on our lives
and we are forever grateful.

The Rosenberg Family

Michael, Joanne, Sam, Sophie, & Lilly





Three mitzvahs and countless great talks,
smiles and words of encouragement.

We will miss you Rabbi Stu!

Hugs,

The Schaffers

Laura, Jeff, Ellie, Will & Charlie



Respected

Always happy

Big

Being at Shabbat

Inspiring

Silly

Teacher

Unconditional love

Wisdom

Eats goldfish

Laughter

Optimist

Very nice

Eats Challah

You make me smile

Our friend

Understanding

Rabbi Stu,

The children, teachers and parents
of the ECEP use these words to describe
you, our beloved rabbi and friend.

Your leadership, kindness and friendship will
always have a special place in all of our hearts.

We wish you great success in the years to
come. Mazel Tov on your retirement!

With love,

The ECEP gang

Rabbi G!

Thank you for being a great clergy partner,
for teaching me how to work as a team.

I am a better Cantor because of you.

I will miss you!

Cantor Marina Shemesh



We knew you from the beginning;
your red hair, clean shaven face and wonderful smile.

You were always warm and welcoming and made
extraordinary efforts to respond to the needs of
our students, families and the entire congregation.

As you begin this new adventure in your life,
we wish you all the best.

Much love,

Rochelle and Gary Bronson



*"The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
– Dr. Seuss*



With best wishes from the Sisterhood Book Group
for your journey ahead and the places you'll go.

Lisa Blumert • Sheila Chandonnet • Arlene Gleicher • Nancy Gorman
Amanda Greenblatt • Laura Harper • Natalie Leighton • Ruth Mattes
Roberta Nooger • Vicki Rosenthal • Sandy Taylor • Donna Wortzel • Pat Ziv

Thank you for your support of
women's programming through the years.

Best wishes in your retirement.

We look forward to seeing you
in your new role as Rabbi Emeritus.

Temple Sinai Sisterhood

Best wishes
for a wonderful future...
to Rabbi Stu,
a true friend of the
Brotherhood



To our one of a kind Rabbi,
Your kindness and special ability
to connect with us all will be
greatly missed and long remembered.
Love, The Hoffman Family
Mark, Hilary, Justin, Brooke and Rachel



CARRY ON, RABBI G

With much love and gratitude,
the Comiteaus & Ufbergs



Thank you Rabbi Gershon

Your kindness and concern, your many visits during hard times,
and your spiritual guidance, have meant so very much to us.

Thank you for all the ways you have given of yourself to our family.
We wish you joy and fulfillment in this next phase of your journey.

The Tarmy Family





Rabbi Stu,

Thank you for being there always.

Wishing you blessings
on your new journey.

Love, Holly, Jonathan,
Shay, Michael, Isabel and Avi



For 26 years our lives have been enriched by
your leadership and your vision as our Rabbi.

We are truly grateful to you for creating a
welcoming community and meaningful congregation.

It is an extraordinary legacy you leave Temple Sinai.

You will be missed.



The Bloom Family

Sandra, Jon, Moses, Molly and Hannah

Dear Rabbi Gershon ... we have known you since you first arrived in Summit.

You have been our friend and guide and
we wish you much happiness in your retirement.

Bernice and Harvey Feuer



Rabbi Gershon,

Our family has been with you since your first day at Temple Sinai.

You have helped us celebrate our joyous occasions and
held us up during our saddest moments.

We can't thank you enough for your support, guidance, insight
and spiritual leadership over the last 25 years.

You've made Temple Sinai a warm and inviting place,
and we will miss seeing you on the bema.

We wish you much joy as you start the next chapter of your life.

With Love and Appreciation,

The Kaye and Kaye-Hitchen Families

Beverly Kaye

Jay Hitchen & Sharon Kaye-Hitchen Emily Hitchen Daniel Hitchen

Michael Kaye & Eve Cohen



The Klaif family wishes Rabbi G the best of everything ...

Because he gave us his best in everything he did!



A terrific Rabbi and a special friend ...

We wish him great happiness and accomplishment

in the years ahead!

Mitch, Diane, Morgan, Brian and Kelly Klaif



From our beginning as members of Temple Sinai,
when Gary announced he wanted to be a "rabbit" just like you (he was only 3),
to your leaving, you have been a spiritual leader, a teacher, and a friend.

Thank you for giving our family a community, a home, yourself.

May the next stage of your life be filled with joy, growth,
laughter, love and good health!

Nancy Gorman & Jeff, Mike, and Gary Kaufman





Much happiness
and fulfillment in the coming years.

Your friends of
the Renaissance Group



Dear Rabbi Stu...You will be missed by us for we know
that you have devoted your soul, heart, and
energies to us, your congregation.

We wish you all the best ~
good health, happiness, and lots of mazel,
wherever you are.

We were proud to call you our Rabbi...

Ron & Ruth Rosensweig, Gene & Sondra Helfand, and Lenore Cahn

Thank you Rabbi Gershon!
We cherish your generous support, guidance and
thoughtfulness.

You are loved and will be missed.

The Weiss Family
Rick, Lauren, Jason & Kaitlin



We cherished the times when you were there for us,
through our family's good times and during life's challenges.
Much happiness and wonderful adventures in your next chapter.

Fondly, Pam and Howard Heller



Rabbi Gershon,

Many thanks for being our spiritual leader, role model, educator and friend.

We wish you health and happiness in the years ahead.

Love, Beth, Doug, Alex, Scott and Ryan Cohen



It is difficult to imagine our spiritual life without Stu. B'nei mitzvah preparation, funeral, wedding ceremonies – most of this family's life cycle events for 25 years have been officiated by or guided by Rabbi Stu. As Julian would say "THE" Rabbi. Your teachings through lecture or sermon, your connection to people of every age and stage, the quiet comfort you provide have made you so effective and natural as a clergyman. You have grounded our children in their faith while inspiring us all. In your retirement we hope you continue to grow, to provoke and find a way for us all to stay connected to you. We will miss your leadership but we will revel in your next chapter. With much admiration, respect and love,

The Altman Quintanilla Family

Mazel Tov
on your well deserved retirement.
We will always think fondly of you
and how you touched each of our lives.
Love,
Stuart, Cindy,
Jordan, Wade & Harrison Homer



To my dear Rabbi and friend –
I am grateful for your guidance
through my own infancy and
toddlerhood as the ECEP Director.

Thank you for the gifts you have shared
with the ECEP students, their families,
and our staff.

We will stay true to your words and
continue to “feel the light of Shabbat
[and Judaism] in our hearts.”

With respect and love, Amy

Thank you for encouraging
Temple Sinai's appreciation and enthusiasm
for acts of loving kindness.
We are eternally grateful to you
for all you have done over the years
to support Family Promise
and area families experiencing homelessness.



With our heartfelt gratitude,
The Family Promise Hosting Coordinators
Roxanne Kam
Norrie Kurtz
Jamie Perrello
Sandi Singer-Raimer

Thank you for your dedication
to raising our level of Torah learning through your teachings,
and for ensuring that our worship experience
is always welcoming, inclusive, spiritual, and inspiring.



We are eternally grateful to you
for gifting us with your understanding, wisdom, and rabbinic leadership.

תודה רבה
לך לשלום

The Temple Sinai Ritual Committee

Stu Bodow	Bea Muhlfelder	Jodi Shepard
Peter Engel	Don Schwartz	Sandi Singer-Raimer
Barry & Bette Gandelman	Andrew Seltzer	Rickey Slezak
Bonnie Hollis	Reina Sharenow	Bruce Stein
Judi Kietz		Steve Werdenschlag



To our gingie rabbi,
Thank you for everything, from making work fun to the love
and support you have given to all of us.
We will miss you, but wish you and Kim
much happiness in your new lives.

Love always,
Sandy and Les
P.S. Stuart, don't forget your promise to me.



Rabbi Gershon,

You have filled our hearts with your love, warmth, and friendship.

You have inspired us in so many ways and
we will always treasure our time with you at Temple Sinai.

We wish you and Kim a very happy and healthy retirement
filled with awesome adventures and great joy.

We will miss you dearly.

Much love,

Eric, Jennifer, Daniel & Michael Sinoway

Thank you Rabbi Gershon!
Rick, Terri,
Andrew, and Timothy Schlenger



Thank you for the many years
you gave to Temple Sinai.
Our family is blessed
to have been a part of
your spiritual journey.

Mazel Tov!
Wynn timer, David,
Sophia and Valerie Hoodis



Thank you Rabbi Stu for all you have done for our family
and our Temple Sinai community.

We will miss you!

Best wishes to you for the next chapter of your life.

Mark, Jane, Scott and David Newton



The Dorfman/Gallick Family

and Carolyn Dorfman Dance

celebrate the incredible contributions,

generosity, wisdom and leadership of Rabbi Gershon.

May your next steps bring you all you dream of and more.



Dear Rabbi Gershon,
Your warmth and welcoming spirit
are the reasons we joined Temple Sinai, and
we are sure many other families can say the same.
We wanted to thank you for everything
and wish you all the best.
The Sher family



Thank you
for being part of our lives
and life cycle events for 22 years.



Love, Susan, David, Jeffrey and Dana



Throughout your tenure you have touched so many with your warmth and caring, none more so than your welcoming arms shown to us.

Past Presidents and Spouses of Temple Emanu-El

Susan & Joel Cartun

Theresa & Phil Edelstein

Maryann & David Levine

John & Mechelle Norton

Robert & Reina Sharenow

Amy & Stanton Young



סְבִלְנוּת

PATIENCE

...this one word of advice

from Rabbi Gershon has guided me

since I began my tenure at Temple Sinai and in all aspects of my life.



His uncanny ability to know just what to say

- at the perfect moment - with full understanding - and with his whole heart,
makes him the extraordinary teacher, friend and Rabbi to us all.

Rabbi, may you begin this next adventure with good health,
endless opportunities and the love of family and friends.

Audrey

To Rabbi Gershon, My Teacher, Colleague and Friend:

Hasidic masters teach us that we can only let God in, in the place where we really stand, where we live a true life in the little world entrusted to us. It is in this place, where you are by your nature in holy relationship with all those you've served, day by day and year by year with great intention, that you have created a dwelling for the Divine Presence. By modeling and teaching ethical wisdom, joy, compassion, friendship and great intellect, with an open heart and open arms, you have created a holy space, a treasure that will remain here for generations to come.

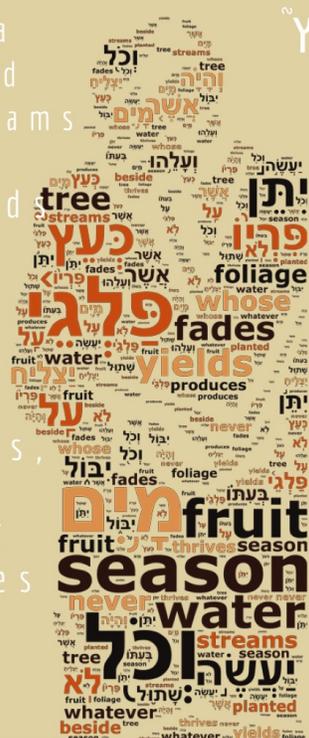
Like Honi the circle-maker, you have planted your tree for future generations. As is said when completing each book of Torah, Hazak, hazak, v'nithazek: Be strong, be strong and may we be strengthened -- we wish you strength and peace. We thank you for the life and strength you have given this community. Our children will move forward, striving to realize the Jewish teachings and actions you have planted here.

You will always remain a blessing in my life, as we strive to carry forward your message of holiness found in Torah, Worship and Acts of Kindness to future generations of Jews. I personally thank you and wish you and all those you love, the Light of blessing, with all my heart.

Patti



He is like a tree planted beside streams of water, which yield its fruit in season, whose foliage never fades, and whatever it produces thrives. Psalms 1:3



יְהוָה כְּעֵץ
שְׂתוּל
עַל-פְּלִגִּי
מִיָּם
אֲשֶׁר
פְּרִי
יָתוֹן בְּעֵתוֹ
וְעֵלְהוֹ
לֹא-יִבּוֹל
וְכֹל
אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲשֶׂה
יִצְלִיחַ:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENCE AND SUPPORT THROUGH OUR LIFE- CYCLE EVENTS, AND FOR YOUR SPIRIT AND SMILE ON THE BIMAH
David & Mindy Brown

Our Rabbi, Our Family, Our Friend.

We came to Sinai right after you.
Our kids were young...and we were young too.
You welcomed us into your spiritual home,
With a heartwarming smile and a hearty shalom.
You guided Lisa and Arielle
You comforted us each time we fell.
We embraced each happy milestone,
And when life got tough we were never alone.
After 25 years, lots of life's gone by.
We've celebrated, laughed, mourned and cried.
So as you and Kim leave and move on,
Your legacy will remain long after you're gone.
And although you're retiring, it's never good-bye,
You will always live on in Temple Sinai.
You helped our Wortzel hearts transcend.
With love to our Rabbi, Our Family, Our Friend.

With Love, Rob, Donna, Lisa, and Arielle Wortzel



Dear Stu,

May your journey in retirement be filled with learning, curiosity, compassion, love, and wellness of body, mind, and spirit!

“May God protect your going and coming, to life and peace, evermore.”

(Haskiveinu)

“The Architect of the world never does the same thing twice. Every day is an entirely new creation. Take as much as you can from what each new day has to offer.” (Rabbi Nachman of Breslov)

B'shalom,

Cantor Florence Friedman,

Cantor Emerita, who served Temple Sinai from 1999-2012

Baby Namings.....
Consecrations.....
Bar Mitzvahs.....
Confirmations.....
Graduations.....

**“Sometimes you will never know the value
of a moment. Until it becomes a memory.”**

– Dr. Seuss

Thank you for all the wonderful moments
our family has shared with you.
Sharyn, Michael, Matthew, Ryan,
Brett and Ayina Colón

In the words of Brandon and Leo:
“Rabbi Stu is...smiley, God’s best friend,
the best story teller,
our friend, knows all of the answers,
and really tall.”

Thank you from the Weisbrod Family
for welcoming us with open arms,
knowing the right moment to call,
and teaching us
so many wonderful lessons.
You will be so missed!





Dear Stu,

When we sat down to write this tribute to you, we found it hard to know where to begin. You have obviously made an impact on our community in so many positive ways over the years. What we ultimately realized was that your authenticity has been the most meaningful to our family. You have allowed our family to know you as a real person and, because of this, we have developed a genuine relationship. Stu, we will miss you always, remember you with fondness, and wish you and your loved ones peace, happiness, and good health always!

With love,
Andrea, Stew, and Renée



Rabbi Gershon,

I will always remember as a little kid being so happy to see you at Temple, and following you around the social hall! For years, my mother and I have enjoyed sharing your beautiful Friday night services. My parents are so appreciative of the support you provided for me and Megan to become B'nai Mitzvahs. It's an honor that I will be part of your final confirmation class.



Best wishes, always . . .
we will miss you!
Love, Brandon and
the Shaw Family



When we arrived in NJ, we were wary about finding a new temple home. Upon arriving at Temple Sinai on Sabbath evening, we were warmly greeted and welcomed by you. We felt the sense of community you helped create immediately.

One test of great leadership is being able to adapt to different roles as life's challenges develop. Our family has experienced three major events in the short time since joining Temple Sinai. You helped make the most joyous occasion of celebrating William's Bar Mitzvah special and meaningful for our entire family.

Finally, you have helped guide our whole family through a very difficult time in mourning Michael's mother, Ellen. Your heartfelt sympathy, your kind words and loving devotion to God and Judaism have given us all solace. The Shermans truly appreciate all you have done for our family, and we wish you continued learning, laughter, and love in your new life chapter.



Thank you for all you have provided for our families and the entire Temple Sinai congregation.

Wishing you a future filled with happiness and good health.

Sharon Lovit, Bryan, Jonathan,

Rachel & Erica LaBella

Herbert & Cecile Lovit



Mazel Tov

as you enter

this special rewarding time

of your life!

We will never forget your kindness

over the years.

Our love and best wishes,

Susan Kandell and

David and Sarah Dempsey





All good wishes
and good health to
the wonderful Rabbi Gershon,
a fantastic rabbi and
an incomparable friend.

The Plaut Family
sends you our dearest love
on your retirement.



Rabbi Gershon,

You have been a pillar
of our community for a generation,
blessing us with your compassion, wit,
resolve and leadership.

We were honored to have you guide
our children through their
Jewish education and into adulthood
and comforted by you
during times of loss.

We will miss you.

Mark and Kimberly Mandel



Dear Rabbi Gershon,

Thank you so much for your
25 years of leadership.

We have all learned so much
from you, and it will be very weird
to not have you!

All our best wishes,
Noah Mamis and Jason Ziplow



We would simply
like to thank Rabbi Gershon
for his years of service and
wish him well on
the next chapter of his life.
Brian, Michelle, Rachel &
Allison Schwartz.



Dear Rabbi Gershon,

It has been a great pleasure to know you and be inspired by your knowledge, leadership and friendship. Your wonderful smile has always been an inspiration when I have attended services at Temple Sinai. I am only sorry to not have been at the Temple on a more regular basis. Please give my regards to another of my favorites. Cantor Shemesh made my visits to Sinai another excellent experience.

May your future be "BRIGHT" in all that you may endeavor to do.

Sincerely, Cantor Albert Barouch



To our very special Rabbi Gershon:
We joined Temple Sinai around the same time that you became our Rabbi, so our Jewish life and Temple life have revolved around you! Our kids grew from pre-schoolers to adults under your watch and loving care, and you were a part of all of our simchas, from B'nai Mitzvot, to Confirmation, Graduation and even a Wedding. We have many wonderful memories of Temple Sinai life, and you are a big part of all of them. We wish you much happiness and success in the next phase of your life.

Love from Natalie, Molly,
Scott and Aliza Leighton

Thank you for making us
feel so welcome at Temple Sinai.

Linda & Eric Barr



◆
Rabbi Gershon,

We feel so blessed to have
had you play such a big part in
every important milestone in our lives!

Wishing you much love, good health,
and happiness in your retirement.

Joel, Tracy, Josh and Emily Beckerman



We will forever cherish our time with Rabbi Gershon who is more than our Rabbi...he is an extraordinary teacher who made a big difference in our lives, encouraging us to accept and live with compassion for ourselves as well as others, showing us how love and prayer can create sacred places, and giving us hope, direction and new ways to think and feel about being 21st century Jews.
Arlene & Marvin Chasek



Rabbi Gershon,
We are so grateful that you have been our Rabbi for 18 years. You have made our interfaith family feel welcome at Temple. You have given our children a life-long affiliation and appreciation for Judaism. You have brought love, leadership, compassion, knowledge and warmth to our Temple. You have shaped our view of life, Israel, ethics and the world in such valuable ways through your sermons and other teachings. We are better for having had you as our Rabbi. Thank you for all you have done and we wish you all good things in your retirement!
Love and hugs,
Laura, Rich, Emily and Andrew Harper



Dear Rabbi Gershon,
We tried to find a good corny joke for a proper send off.
But no one can deliver them like you do!
We will surely miss the corny jokes, but mostly the warmth, compassion, and love that you've shared to make us all feel "home" at Temple Sinai.
Gratitude and best wishes,
Stu & Sandra Lerner



Thank you for all your support.
Best wishes for the future,
Kim, Colin, Rachel, Erica,
Adam and Leo Geringer-Dunn



The Lifelong Learning Committee will miss the outstanding programs and Torah Study discussions that you have brought to Temple Sinai. Your enthusiasm, your wisdom, your creativity, and most of all, your faith have been a blessing to all who have experienced them.

May you go from strength to strength.

With gratefulness,

Judy Cohen, Harvey Feuer, Alice Gayner,
Jean Goldstein, Sandy Goodman,
Barbara Gross, Norrie Kurtz, Anne Plaut,
Aaron Rosenberg, Stephanie Scher,
Sandy Schlanger, Ruby Schrimmer,
Leah Schwartz, Toby Simon, Lois Steinberg,
Sandy Taylor, Sandy Werdenschlag.



Dear Rabbi Gershon,
L'chi lach, on a journey you will go.

Wishing you joy and happiness
on your retirement.

Thank you for helping to make our
integration into the Temple Sinai
community so easy.

With gratitude,

Susan and David Posner
Bette and Barry Gandelman

Rabbi Gershon –
You made Temple Sinai a
special place!

Best wishes from
Rhonda, Roger and Allie Walker



Dear Rabbi Gershon,
Thank you for your blessings and
support throughout the years.
We hope that your next journey
will be filled with good health
and happiness.

Best regards,

Sharin, Gavin, Barron,
and Julian Natelli



You are one in a million.
I am so glad that our paths crossed.
My only wish is that I had more
opportunities to speak with you,
to learn from you and to express my
deepest gratitude for all that
you have done for me.

In my mind, spirit and heart, you are
a legacy who will never be replaced.
With much appreciation, wishing you a
well deserved and perfectly enjoyable
retirement.

May our paths cross again.

Marla Burke



Rabbi Gershon:
Thanks so much for
your friendship and leadership.
Lauren's Bat Mitzvah was
the best day ever!
With gratitude,
Adam, April, Lauren
and Emma Siegel



Dear Rabbi Gershon,
Thank you for being
a wonderful Rabbi and a
good friend through the years.

You have been there for us
in good times and trying times.
We wish you every happiness in
your next adventure!

Love,
Barbara, Eric,
Gabe & Dan Friedman

Rabbi Gershon,
Thank you for always being there
for us, throughout our times of
celebration, joy, need and sorrow.
Wishing you nothing but the best,

Larry, Rosa, Justin &
Hannah Grossman



Rabbi Gershon, Mazel Tov on your Retirement!

Thank you for being there for
counsel, mitzvahs,
and in times of sorrow.

There is no hiding your genuine
caring, understanding, and kind heart!

Enjoy every minute of this next step
on the journey of life.

Warmest regards from
Judy and Joe Berkowitz
and our family.

Dear Rabbi Gershon,

As newlyweds in 1996 we joined Temple Sinai
because we were drawn to your charismatic
nature and the warm feeling of the congregation.
Over the last 23 years, you helped us to welcome
Benjamin, Nathan, and Sarah, our three children,
and to bless each of them as they received
their Hebrew names.

Through Two Bar Mitzvahs, One Bat Mitzvah,
Confirmation, Life Cycle Events and Celebrations,
you've been an amazing presence in our lives.
We wish you much love as you enter the
next stage of your life, and we look forward
to seeing what retirement will look like for you!

Warmest wishes,
Allyson and Gary Crystal



Rabbi Gershon,

We will miss you.

Thank you for all you've done
for our Temple and Community.

You deserve all good things.

The Schreiers



Wishing you and Kim
all the love and joy and support
and opportunities for growth that
you have given all of us over the past
25 years. You are, and will always be,
my Rabbi and a friend of Kurtz.

Norrie Kurtz



Rabbi Stu,

With much gratitude and appreciation for the time, guidance and support you have provided on our journey to becoming B'nei Mitzvah and as our Rabbi. Congratulations on your retirement and best wishes for all that lies ahead.



Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class 5779

Amy Hull	Norrie Kurtz
Beth Cohen	Ari Magedoff
Lyn Eisenthal	Roberta Nooger
Kim Kaplan	Mica Sylvester



Dear Rabbi Gershon,

You have been with us and our extended family in special times and sad times.

You have left an indelible mark on us all.

We wish you much happiness and new adventures in the years to come.

With love,

The Blumerts

Lisa, Josh, Sophie & Julia



Congratulations
to Rabbi Gershon
on your retirement!
From The Kotts



Rabbi Gershon,

We feel so fortunate to have had you in our lives.

You've supported our family through the best and worst of times – from Ryan and Samantha's Bnei Mitzvah to Marcia's passing.

Needless to say, you will be greatly missed.

All the best to you in your (much-deserved) retirement.

Love, The Teisch Family



Wishing you
a wonderful, new
and fun adventure!
Pat & Saul Ziv

Dearest Rabbi Gershon,
Thank you for shining
your special light upon
our family for so many years.
We will forever cherish your
guidance and friendship.
With much gratitude and
even more love,
Emily, Ken and Harry Shuldman
and Dorothy and Evan Sherman



We would like to say
"Thanks for the memories."
Good sermons, funny jokes,
singing with Emily at children's services,
kindness and compassion
in difficult situations and
bringing joy to the
Baker and Fisher weddings.
You have always been very special
to our family.
We will miss you.
Louise and Ben Wydra
Elise and Scott Baker and Family
Liz, Nir and Emily Fisher
Zac and Tracy Wydra and Family



Lennard and I are grateful
to Rabbi Stuart Gershon for his personal
warmth and participation in our
several milestones:
the passing of Len's sister, Sheila,
the sensitive Jewish Naming Ceremony
at our home, my Adult Bat Mitzvah, and
his Shehecheyanu Blessing at our
60th Anniversary Party.
We wish him happiness and good health for
many years to come!
Judy and Len Wharton

With deepest appreciation for
being a beautiful part of
our family's journey over the years,
and such an inspiration
to our community.

Wishing you all the joy life has
to offer as you embark on
your next adventures!

With love and gratitude,
The Robusto Family



Mazel Tov,
Best wishes for a healthy
& happy retirement.
Many thanks,
Murray and Peggy Pitkowsky
and Family



Dear Stu,
Thanks for the lovely memories...
trips to Israel; AIPAC national conferences;
Deborah to Kutz, Biennial, NFTY and her
ongoing leadership in her Jewish community;
High Holiday jokes and many more.
Most of all, thank you for being a good friend
and extraordinary Rabbi.

We share your passion for Medinat Yisrael,
Eretz Yisrael, and Am Yisrael.

Mazel Tov, wishing you and Kim good health
and happiness on your next adventure.

All our best, the Steinberg family –
Jay, Mary, Deborah, Ann, Gene, Sara,
Dan Izzy and Sam.



Thank you
for your leadership.
All the best to you
in your future endeavors!
Roxanne, Gregg, Isabel and
Andrew Kam



Rabbi Gershon,
We were fortunate to be with you
at Temple Sinai for a sweet 16
of your 25 years.

You helped three of us grow
to become b'nai mitzvot.

Thanks for your teachings,
your support through sad and
happy times,
and leadership in Tikkun Olam.

Love from the Lebwohls-
Louisa, Michael, Sally and David



Rabbi Stu Gershon,

*The shamash is the candle that
lights the others. Be a shamash.*

~Rabbi David Wolpe~

Thank you for being our shamash.

Your tremendous dedication and
selfless service will be sorely missed.

Mazel tov on a great run!

Love,

Maggie, Nate, Max,

Jamie & Jim Perrello

Congratulations
from all of us on 25 years
of dedication and amazing service
to our community.

The Langerman Family



In the short time
we've known you,
you've had a tremendous
impact on our family.
We are blessed to have you
as a part of our lives.
Wishing you a peaceful and
fulfilling retirement!

The Isaacs Family



Dear Rabbi:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest best wishes to you in your upcoming retirement years. We still recall our first meeting; we had just relocated to New Providence, and Debbie was quite ill. We were searching around for a new Temple to become part of. Suddenly, you appeared at our door, and gave Debbie a warm, welcoming "Rabbi hug." We knew immediately that you were the perfect Rabbi for our family and we were destined then to become part of the "Temple Sinai family." Thank you so much for your help in providing our children, Dylan and Ethan, with a beautiful Jewish education and with a solid understanding of Jewish morals and values. Thank you, also, for your beautiful, insightful and challenging sermons and your political and social activism, which has continuously made us question ourselves and attempt to better the society in which we live. You have been a true inspiration, and we profoundly thank you for all you have done for our family.

With Much Love,

Lance, Debbie, Dylan and Ethan Barnett

When the phrase "Tikkun Olam" is googled for its definition it reads: "Acts of kindness performed to perfect or repair the world."

For me, this Jewish concept is symbolic of what Rabbi Gershon has done at Temple Sinai.

I have seen him work tirelessly to serve our members and community.

Surely, he will leave Temple Sinai better than he found it.

I applaud him for that.

With respect and appreciation,

Donovan Mowatt

Many thanks to you, Rabbi Gershon, for all you have done for our congregation and our family. You have been the backbone of Temple Sinai for as long as we have attended, and it will not be the same without you.

We wish you every happiness in your future.

With love,

Janice, David, Stephen,
Hayley and Stacey Berliner



Mazel Tov on celebrating your new chapter of life. Thank you for your loving commitment to our lives, community and our Temple Sinai.

Barbara and Fred Aueron
and Family



There is certainly more than one definition
of a custodian; one of a Rabbi,
another a caretaker.

A Custodian is an individual who exercises
legal authority over the spiritual guidance
of another, as Rabbi Gershon
has done for 25 years.

For him to perform his gracious deeds,
we as custodians made it possible
by providing a clean and
well-maintained facility.

Thank you Rabbi Gershon!

Jorge Frias, Lily Frias, Adriana Pinzon,
Renville Lawrence and Donovan Mowatt.



Best wishes
from the Grossman family
on your retirement.
Ross, Debbie, Andrea and
Aaron Grossman



Stu/Rabbi G,

For all you have done for our

Family and Temple Sinai,

Many Thanks.

Eden, Hunter,

Sheri & Chuck Meyer-Hanover



Rabbi Gershon,
You will always hold
a very special place in our hearts.
Best wishes for a long and
fulfilling retirement.
Anne and Norman Stone
and Family

Rabbi –
Mazel Tov on your retirement
and thank you for the love
and support you have provided
our family!

Hugs,
Glenn, Mariel, Tess, Gabe
and Donovan Kolker



With thanks and gratitude
for your inspired and caring
leadership to Temple Sinai
and to our family.

Mazel Tov!
Stacey, Steven,
Jeffrey and Michael Rauch



Wishing you
hatzlacha (luck)
on your retirement!

Warmly,
Saskia Jeselsohn,
Michal Levine, and
Lara Davis



Dear Rabbi Gershon,
You are one of the primary reasons
we decided to join Temple Sinai.
You have been such a wonderful Rabbi
and spiritual leader for us since we joined.
We are sad that you will not be officiating at
Ella's Bat Mitzvah in November, but
we wish you all the best in your retirement.

You deserve all of that and more.
Our sincerest thanks and gratitude,
Stacey Levine and Ella Wunderlich



Stuart,

Thank you for 25 years
of friendship, leadership,
teaching, and support.

Our lives are better because
you were a part of them.

The Troy Family

Many thanks

to Rabbi Gershon

for his years of service to
Temple Sinai and our family.

Robert, Sandie, Mike,
Steve & Alex Sherman



We much appreciate
your years of wisdom and
leadership and wish for you
a most fulfilling and
enjoyable retirement.

Linda and Len Berkowitz



All our best wishes
and affection.
Ellen & Richard Harrison



TEMPLE
SINAI