

THE SINAI BULLETIN

Volume 20 Number 8

Nisan—Iyar 5766

April 2006

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

APRIL 1

Saturday, 11:00 AM - **TOT SHABBAT**, in the school building
11:30 AM - **BAR MITZVAH OF PETER LEVIN**

APRIL 7

Friday, 8:00 PM - **SABBATH SERVICE - WOLPERT SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE** - Guest Speaker: **PROF. MARK WASHOFSKY**
Usher: Leah Wolpert Goldstein
Aliyah: Emily Holdstein
Candles: Marilyn Wolpert

APRIL 13

Thursday, 10:00 AM - **PASSOVER FREEDOM SERVICE**

APRIL 14

Friday, 7:00 PM - **FAMILY SABBATH SERVICE**
Sermon: “*What the Haggadah Does Not Teach Us About Passover*”
Usher: Sandy Sotak
Aliyah: Linda & Howard Stern
Candles: Sandy Sotak

APRIL 18

Tuesday, 5:30 PM - **PESAH YIZKOR SERVICE - Grade 12 participates**

APRIL 21

Friday, 8:00 PM - **SABBATH SERVICE**
Sermon: *The New Yad Vashem Museum*
Usher: Ken Blum
Candles: Melody Friedenthal

APRIL 22

Saturday, 11:30 AM - **BAR MITZVAH OF DANIEL FRIEDENTHAL-PANO**

APRIL 24

Monday, 7:00 PM - **YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION**

APRIL 28

Friday, 8:00 PM - **SABBATH SERVICE**
Sermon: “*Israel at 58*”
Usher: Mike Finkle
Candles: Lora Trotsky

APRIL 29

Saturday, 11:30 AM - **BAT MITZVAH OF ALYSSA KOTIN**

DIVREI HALEV

WORDS OF THE HEART

“YOU SHALL TEACH YOUR SON ON THAT DAY”

Recently I spent the day with my mother who is recovering from a broken left arm, the same arm into which 40 milograms of protonix are pumped into her twice a day to keep her alive and healthy. Thank God, she is able to get up and around, despite the fractured arm. We were able to go for a couple of walks. She wanted to show me the new Sephardic synagogue next door to her health care facility. It is the very synagogue where she and one of her friends crashed a Bat Mitzvah reception not so long ago because they wanted to see the new building. Mom tells me the baklavah at the reception was really great! The synagogue was closed, but we were able to walk past the Jewish Educational Association where I went to Hebrew School. It was in that building where I learned the Haggadah in considerable detail, including the fundamental lesson from the Haggadah that the parent should teach his or her child of how God brought us out of the land of Egypt.

I walked along with mom catching a glimpse of the wilderness of illness, considering for just a moment the power of God’s redemption. Will we ever feel the joy of liberation and redemption? Will we ever get to the Promised Land of recovery, or should we merely be content with whatever healing comes our way as we continue our walk toward the season of redemption in our future.

The only thing on my agenda that day, other than spending time with mom, my brother, Howard, and sister-in-law, Nora, was to see how mom was doing with her physical therapy. I was fortunate to witness her half-hour session. A major goal of the therapy is to work hard so that my mother will not be left with a frozen elbow. There was the initial pain of the arm slowly being removed from the sling. She was able to bend over and slowly swing her outstretched arm in a level plane. After swinging her outstretched arm the therapist worked at bending her hand to build up the muscles in her wrist. There in Hooverwood, next door to my Talmud Torah, my mother still was teaching me another Passover lesson, “With a strong hand and an outstretched arm, God is bringing me out of the land of Egypt.”

Howard and Nora showed me the new improvements to their home, the home in which I was raised. We ate dessert around the table of where the Passover seders were held in our youth. I was privileged to have been taught the Passover story. May you and your loved ones enjoy a wonderful Passover in good health. I look forward to celebrating with you at the Congregational Passover Seder, Thursday, April 13, at 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Seth L. Bernstein

SAVE THE DATE!

ON FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 9, AT 7:30, WE WILL BE HONORING CANTOR CLAIRE METZBGER FOR HER WONDERFUL YEARS OF SERVICE TO TEMPLE SINAI.

PLEASE NOTE

Sabbath services in April will begin at 8:00 PM, with the exception of the family service on April 14, which will be held at 7:00.

In May the new starting time of all regular services will be 7:30 PM. (See page 4)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"A Path to Peace in Israel"

Although we are obligated as Jews to actively pursue peace, the question facing Israel now is how and with whom? Since the recent Palestinian elections, acting PM Olmert has expressed the feeling that there is no future in negotiating with a partner whose only objective is your elimination.

Indeed, most of the rest of the world has isolated Hamas, as the goal of destruction of a sovereign country is contrary to the rules of any civilized society. Thus, Olmert and the Kedema party have decided that if elected, they are going to take advantage of this world opinion and even try to strengthen it. Olmert proposes the unilateral approach of giving back the West Bank to the Palestinians, albeit slowly, in exchange for peace. Although land for peace has been tried before, Kedema feels that with strong world sentiment on their side they will be successful this time.

There is a great deal of opposition to this approach in Israel. Likud warns that an additional withdrawal in the West Bank would amount to a "prize" to Hamas. Perez is also opposed, stating "If the Palestinians want peace, we'll enter into the negotiations according to the road map, and if they turn to terror, we'll use force against them." Netanyahu feels that it is best not even to recognize Hamas, and that giving land to terrorists will only make their attacks on Israel more localized. Likud is quick to point out that since the withdrawal of Sinai, Palestinians have been launching attacks from their newly acquired territory onto nearby Israel on an almost daily basis. They are concerned that bombs will fly over Jerusalem if West Bank territories are given to Hamas.

Kedema has stated that at first, until trust is built, this would be a slow and civilian-only retreat. The IDF would still occupy the area. Others feel that if indeed the terrorists bomb Jerusalem, another war is imminent.

As always, things are very difficult in the Near East. I feel that Israel has to take steps now to assure peace, because it won't be long until Hamas is established and will start to terrorize Israel. Who will be actively on Israel's side then? I think trying to garner additional world opinion is futile, as so much of the world hates anything that Israel and the U.S. do. Perhaps the answer is to have an agreement brokered by a third party. If an agreement were brokered by Muslims that Israel could agree to, then certainly world opinion would be that this was a fair and just compromise. In that vein, perhaps as a world, we should encourage the UN to enforce this agreement, thereby further encouraging world peace by having an enforcement tool that is more than a debating society. Perhaps Jordan's King Abdullah should be asked to mediate. Here is a semi-neutral Arab country where the leaders are educated in the U.S. and England. They have one foot in Western ways and one foot in the Arab Muslim World. What would Israel have to lose? Israel essentially offered almost everything negotiable at the Camp David Summit. I wonder if this isn't Israel's best choice?

B'shalom,
Douglas Freund



CANTOR'S NOTES

The Fifth grade performed *The Megillah according to Broadway* on March 13, Purim, and they were just wonderful. Congratulations to all the kids, and thank you to the parents for helping, and Mrs. Robbins and Mrs. Rossman for helping the students prepare for this production.

April is a busy time at Temple Sinai. B'nai Mitzvah season is in full swing, we are all preparing for Passover, and we also have the Wolpert Scholar in Residence program. The *Cantor's Chanters* have been very busy preparing for the Passover Freedom Service, and the Temple second night Seder. I really hope that you will attend, as they always add so much to these events.

There are a few "save the date" items I'd like to mention. On Friday night, April 14, we will have a family service at 7pm. The *Cantor's Chanters* will be participating in this service, and singing some Passover Music. On Friday night, May 26, we will have our annual Music Shabbat. This year our own temple organist, Bob Couchon will be presenting Jewish classical music set for organ and (perhaps) piano. He has spent a lot of time preparing for this, and I am looking forward to his mini-concert. Bob has been with Temple Sinai for about 15 years...we hear him weekly as an accompanist, but it will truly be a joy to hear him as a soloist. I hope you will all be able to attend this special service.

The other date I'd like to mention is for the *Cantor's Chanters*. I treat them every year to a special children's musical performance at Tuckerman Hall. This year's performance is the opera, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, on Sunday May 14 at 4pm at Bancroft Academy. This event is being co-sponsored by Worcester Music and Bancroft, and should be a wonderful event for the group. Since this will be my last meeting with them, I will also be taking them out after the performance for ice cream at Friendly's (or another agreed upon location!).

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Passover!

B'shalom,
Cantor Claire G. Metzger

YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006
7:00 PM
TEMPLE SINAI

Guest speaker: Rachel Iskov

Ms. Iskov will speak on "Family Life in the Lodz Ghetto: A Tragic Story of the Holocaust Told From the Perspective of Jewish Families".

Rachel Iskov is a PhD candidate in Holocaust history at the Strassler Family Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University.

The evening will include: candle lighting by survivors and members of the 2nd generation with music and readings by Worcester and Westborough area clergy.

Yahrzeits

MARCH 31

- *Irma Berg
- John Cullan
- Hyman Epstein
- Bessie Krauss
- *Deborah Finkel Morris
- *Alvin Moses
- Dorothy Orland
- Rachel Pemstein
- Mae L. Rasnick
- *Esther Robbins
- Minnie Rudman
- Bessie Shepatin
- Adeline Stern
- *Evelyn Zarrow

APRIL 7

- David Burwick
- John Eder
- Harvey Frem
- *Sylvia Yanoff Fridman
- *Samuel Glazier
- Dr. Stephen G. Green
- Frances Gruen
- Burte GutermanJulius Hurvitz
- *Jack Ribakoff
- Lydia Rothschild
- Joan Brenner Sachs
- Louis Shack
- *Dorothy Shepard
- *Herman Socofsky
- Edith R. Turco
- Myrtle Weinrobe
- Ida Wolin
- Jack Yanoff

APRIL 14

- Muriel Bolduc
- *Sumner N. Cotton
- *Ruth Grossman
- Melvin Lang
- Jean Leibman
- Estelle Melzak
- *Morris Miller
- *Betty Ribakoff
- *Beatrice R. Sher
- *Sarah Silverman
- J. Ernest Wilson

APRIL 21

- *Jack M. Bellew
- *Dr. Jacob D. Freeland
- Sarah Gass
- Philip Gruen
- Ernest Legenbauer
- Boris Michael Oberman
- Leonard Semon
- Noella Simon-Tunstall

APRIL 28

- Morris D. Becker
- Sarah Glick
- Roslyn Golden
- *Mimi Greenberg
- Gertrude Hauser
- Minna Kern
- Lawrence Okun
- *Albert S. Pelletz
- Sadie G. Rickles
- Helen Rubin
- *Shirley Yood

MAZZAL TOV

Mazzal Tov to the following students who will be called to the Torah during the month of April: **Peter Levin**, son of *Julia Levin and Stephen Levin*, on April 1. **Daniel Friedenthal-Pano**, son of *Melody Friedenthal and Steven Pano*, on April 22. **Alyssa Kotin**, daughter of *Andrew Kotin and Lora Trotsky*, on April 29.

WOLPERT SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

Please join us on Friday, April 7th and Saturday, April 8th for our annual **Wolpert Scholar-in-Residence Program**. The program on Friday will begin with our Sabbath Service at 8:00 PM. On Saturday a light breakfast will precede the program at 10:00 AM.

Guest speaker will be **Mark Washofsky** who is a professor of rabbinics at HUC-JIR in Cincinnati. He specializes in the literature of Jewish law (halakhah) and the application of legal theory to the understanding of the Jewish legal process. His publications deal with such subjects as the history of the halakhah, the nature of rabbinical decision making, and issues of medical ethics in Jewish law.

Friday evening's topic will be: "The Talmud, The Halakah, and Reform Judaism: The Enduring Connection"

On Saturday, he will speak on "When Two People Are Drowning, Which One Do You Save? Jewish Law and the Allocation of Scarce Medical Resources".

TODAH RABAH

Todah Rabah to **Chuck Rosenblum & Rebecca Berenson** for coordinating the Purim Carnival. Thanks also to the **Sinai High Students & Parents** for all their help in making it such fun!

TOT SHABBAT

The next interactive family-friendly Tot Shabbat service will be held on **Saturday, April 1**, at 11:00 AM in the school building. All preschoolers and their parents are invited to attend. Parents of Kindergarten and 1st grade religious school students are also invited to join their children at the monthly service. All are welcome, Sinai members and non-members alike.

The service is led by Early Childhood Music Specialists and Recording Artists Peter & Ellen Allard.

(Pot luck Kiddush lunch will follow the service)

Next Tot Shabbat date:

May 6 - 11:00 AM in the sanctuary

MA'OT CHITIM

For several years our 7th grade class has participated in a meaningful Passover practice - **MA'OT CHITIM**. This ritual provides every Jew with the opportunity to celebrate Passover in a festive manner. Our 7th grade at Temple Sinai prepares baskets filled with Passover food and delivers them, with their parents, to members in our Jewish community. It is a "huge" learning experience for all who are involved — our students take ownership of performing a Mitzvah from the "ground floor". We are proud of this program and of our students participation.

Chag Sameach and a happy and meaningful Passover to all of you.

**THANK YOU, RABBI,
FOR TWENTY YEARS
OF CARING
The Caring Committee**

The Caring Committee of Temple Sinai is committed to extending the support of our congregation to all Temple members. If you have a *simcha* we like to hear about it. If you are experiencing a difficult life event, and we can be of help, please let us know.

If you, or another Temple member you know, might benefit from a visit, a ride to services, or some other support, please contact Rabbi Bernstein, or leave a message with June in the Temple office to inform the committee.

PASSOVER 5766

**PASSOVER FREEDOM SERVICE, THURSDAY,
APRIL 13 AT 10:00 AM - COME AND BRING
YOUR FAMILY.**

**CONGREGATIONAL SEDER, THURSDAY,
APRIL 13 AT 5:30 PM - (SEE PAGE 5 FOR
RESERVATION FORM).**

**YIZKOR SERVICE, TUESDAY, APRIL 18
AT 5:30 PM
OUR 12TH GRADE STUDENTS WILL
PARTICIPATE.**

BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE

April 26 (Wednesday) at Bari Boyer and Marshall Katzen's home: Poetry night (everyone bring a favorite poem to read aloud) including selections from Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass," celebrating the 150th anniversary of its first edition.

May 18 (Thursday) at Maile Jones's home: "Telling Tales," short stories by Nadine Gordimer

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome, but please contact the hosts so that they know you are planning to participate. For further information, please contact Les or Sue Blatt, at 508-792-2823.

B'NAI MITZVAH COMMUNITY SERVICE

Stacey Lipkin, who was called to the Torah on March 25, completed 13 hours of community service as part of her preparation for becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Stacey volunteered at the extended day program at the Paton Elementary School in Shrewsbury, tutoring 4th graders and younger students on their studies. Stacey chose to volunteer at the Paton Elementary School extended day program because she likes working with and helping younger kids. Stacey originally wanted to volunteer on the Needs Project -- helping to train dogs for people with special needs -- but she was too young. So she decided that helping the younger kids would be good practice for training puppies later on. Stacey would definitely recommend this community service to her B'nai Mitzvah classmates.

DONATIONS TO TEMPLE SINAI

We appreciate all donations that are made to Temple Sinai. These donations help to support the programs that are so important to the life of the Temple.

Some of the funds of Temple Sinai are: *General Fund, Religious School Fund, Sinai High Fund, Library Fund, Prayer Book Fund, Tot Shabbat Fund, Building Fund and Endowment Fund.*

We would also like to say that donations in any amount are welcome. No donation is too small - or too big!



Friday Night Services Will Begin at 7:30 PM Starting in May.

(Monthly Family Services will continue to be at 7:00)

The early start experiment has now been running for about 9 weeks. The worship committee had hoped that improved attendance would make it clear that the congregation would be more responsive to a consistently timed earlier service. So far, we have not noticed a significant change in the numbers of people attending at 7 PM. Although many people did respond that they like the 7 pm starting time, there were also quite a few who suggested that the earlier service caused them too much of a hassle when they try to finish dinner and get to services on time.

We have now decided to "permanently" move the services to a compromise time of 7:30 PM beginning in May, except for the Family Service weeks which will remain at 7:00 PM.

Our summer lay services will also be at 7:30, as they have been for many years. The committee will review the time of services issue again later in the year, perhaps around November.

We continue to urge all congregants to make it a more regular practice for your family to celebrate Shabbat with the Sinai congregational family at Temple.

If any congregant has some ideas to share with the committee regarding ways we might enhance our Shabbat practices at Temple Sinai please seek out a committee member or send a message or email your suggestions to us via the temple office, sinaioffice2003@yahoo.com. We will also continue to solicit comments on our worship practices via a comments sheet on the bookshelf at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Gary Englander,
Chair, Worship Committee

WE CAN UTILIZE YOUR TALENTS!

*Do you read Hebrew? Do you read Torah?
The Worship Committee is looking for
adult Torah readers!*

Please call June at the Temple office 508 755-2519

SAVE THE DATES!

*Thursday, April 13 - 10:00 AM Passover Freedom Service
5:30 PM Second Night
Congregational Seder*

Tuesday, April 18 - 5:30 PM - Passover Yizkor Service

*Monday, April 24 7:00 PM - Yom Hashoah Program at
Temple Sinai with guest speaker, Rachel Iskov.*

CHINUCH NOTES ON EDUCATION

Grades K, 1 & 2	Saturdays, April 1, 8, 29	9 - 12 noon
Grades 3 - 7	Saturdays, April 1, 8, 29 Wednesdays, April 5, 26	9 - 12 noon 3:45 - 5:40
Grades 8, 9 (Sinai High)	Monday, April 10 - <i>Class Meeting</i> Monday, April 24 - <i>Yom Hashoah Commemoration</i>	6:30 PM 6:45 PM
Confirmation	Mondays, April 3, 10, 17	6:45 PM



ADULT EDUCATION MARCH

Gems of Judaism - "Passover" - Sunday, April 9 - 9:30 AM

"Modern Conversational Hebrew, Sundays, April 2, 16, 23, 30 - 9:30 AM in the library. **Sunday, April 9th at 10:45 AM**

Midrash Study - The Legends of the Jews: Tuesdays, April 4, 18, 25 - 9:15 AM - Rabbi's study

Adult B'not Mitzvah Class: Tuesdays, April 4, 18, 25 - 8:00 Led by Rabbi Bernstein

"Mishnah and Talmud Study", Wednesdays, April 6, 12, 19, 26 - 1:45 PM at the JHC. Led by Rabbi Bernstein.

"Torah Study - The Five Books of Moses" - Saturdays, April 1, 8, 14, 22, 29 - 9:00 AM - Rabbi's Study.



FAMILY EDUCATION

"Interactive Seder", a Family Education program for Grade K, 1 & 2 and their parents, Saturday, April 8 - 9:00 AM.



"PIZZA NIGHT" following Religious School on April 5 - \$2 per person

Sign up by calling the Temple office or see Steve Schuster when you drop your child off for school.



FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR

The Winter certainly flew by and we are into the loveliness of Spring! Along with Spring comes Passover. On **April 1 & 2**, our seventh graders, with their teachers and parents, will be preparing and delivering Ma'ot Chitim baskets for members of our community (*see article in this bulletin*). **Grades 3-7** will participate in a special Seder on **April 5** in the social hall. Thank you to all of the parents who will be helping that afternoon. Our **Kindergarten, First and Second** graders and their families will participate in the annual Interactive Seder on **April 8** in the school building. Many thanks to the Family Education committee for planning and running this wonderful event!

The fourth graders worked hard and did a fabulous job leading services on March 10.

The fifth graders were wonderful in the Spiel this year! Thank you to Cantor Metzger for another terrific Spiel. Thank you to Chuck Rosenblum and Rebecca Berenson for coordinating the carnival and thanks to all of the parents, as well as Robin Milaszewski and the Sinai High students, who helped out.

Thank you to Harry Hubbard, Lynne Burke, Guy Orrell and Barbara Orrell Smith for monitoring traffic, and to the parents who have helped out with snack.

Reminder: There will be NO Religious School on April 12, 15, 19 and 22.

Have an enjoyable Passover and a relaxing vacation!

Wendy Davis Wong,

----- TEAR OFF AND RETURN -----

Return form with payment by Friday, April 7, 2006

SECOND NIGHT CONGREGATIONAL SEDER - THURSDAY, APRIL 13 - 5:30 PM

Please reserve _____ places at \$25 (per adult) = \$ _____
(We have made every effort to keep this price the same as last year)

Please reserve _____ places at \$10 (per child 5 - 12) = \$ _____
(no charge for children 5 and under but please include in count)

Total amount enclosed: = \$ _____

Name(s): Mr., Mrs., Ms., _____

Name(s): Child(ren) _____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

APRIL 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						Vayikra 8:30 Cantor's Chanters 9:00 Rel School 9:00 Torah Study 11:00 Tot Shabbat 11:30 Bar Mitzvah of Peter Levin 1
9:30 Adult Ed - "Conversational Hebrew" 2	6:45 Confirmation Class 3	9:15 Midrash Study 8:00 Adult B'not Mitzvah 4	1:45 Mishnah & Talmud at JHC 3:45 Religious School Grades 3-7 5:40 Pizza night 5		8:00 Sabbath Service - Wolpert Scholar-in-Residence Torah: Leviticus 6:1-8:36 Haftarah Malachi 3:4-24 6	8:30 Cantor's Chanters 9:00 Rel School - Interactive Seder Gr. K-2 9:00 Torah Study 10:00 Wolpert Lecture 7
9:30 Gems of Judaism 10:45 Adult Ed "Conversational Hebrew" 9	5:30 Sinai High 6:45 Confirmation Class 8:00 Board Meeting 10	9:15 Midrash Study 7:15 - Religious School Committee meeting 11	1:45 Mishnah & Talmud at JHC NO SCHOOL FIRST SEDER 12		7:00 Sabbath Service Torah: Exodus 33:12-34:26; Numbers 28:19-25 Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:1-14 13	Hol Homoed Pesah NO SCHOOL 9:00 Torah Study 14
9:30 Adult Ed - "Conversational Hebrew" 16	6:45 Confirmation Class 17	9:15 Midrash Study 5:30 Pesah Yizkor Service Gr. 12 8:00 Adult B'not Mitzvah 18	1:45 Mishnah & Talmud at JHC NO SCHOOL 19		8:00 Sabbath Service Torah: Leviticus 9:1-11:47 Haftarah: II Samuel 6:1-7:17 20	Shemini NO SCHOOL 9:00 Torah Study 11:30 Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Friedenthal-Pano 21
23 9:30 Adult Ed - "Conversational Hebrew" 9:30 Adult Ed - "Conversational Hebrew" 30	6:30 Sinai High 7:00 Yom Hashoah Commemoration at Temple Sinai 24	9:15 Midrash Study 8:00 Adult B'not Mitzvah 25	1:45 Mishnah & Talmud at JHC 3:45 Religious School Grades 3-7 26		8:00 Sabbath Service Torah: Leviticus 12:1-15:33; Numbers 28:9-15 Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-24 27	Tazria-Metzora 8:30 Cantor's Chanters 9:00 Rel School 9:00 Torah Study 11:30 Bar Mitzvah of Alyssa Kotin 28
						29

ARTICLES FOR MAY BULLETIN MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY APRIL 15TH !!!

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