

THE SINAI BULLETIN

Volume 24 Number 6

Shevat - Adar 5770

February 2010

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FEBRUARY 5

Friday, 7:30 PM - **SABBATH SERVICE**

Sermon: "The 10 Commandments and Every Day Living"

Usher: Jennifer Lish

Candles: Sinai High Students

Aliyah: Sinai High Students

FEBRUARY 6

Saturday, 11:00 AM - **TOT SHABBAT**

FEBRUARY 12

Friday, 7:00 PM - **FAMILY SABBATH SERVICE**

Sermon: "Opportunities Not to be Missed"

Usher: Susan Hildum

Candles: Noreen Simon

Aliyah: Sandy Sotak

FEBRUARY 19

Friday, 6:30 PM - **COMMUNITY POT LUCK DINNER**

FOLLOWED BY SABBATH SERVICE AT 7:10

Sermon: "Sabbath in the Round"

Usher: Jesse Caplan

FEBRUARY 26

Friday, 7:30 PM - **SABBATH SERVICE**

Sermon: "What is Worth Remembering"

Usher: Jennifer Lish

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

"COCOA HOUSE & MUSIC PROGRAM"

TEMPLE SINAI SOCIAL HALL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

1:00 PM

MEGILLAH READING AND PURIM CARNIVAL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 11:00 AM



PURIM SHPIEL

LED BY THE STUDENTS OF GRADE 5

FOLLOWED BY THE PURIM CARNIVAL
RUN BY THE STUDENTS OF SINAI HIGH,
CONFIRMATION AND
POST CONFIRMATION CLASSES

DIVREI HALEV WORDS OF THE HEART

"HAITI AND US"

One of the most poignant prophet passages in our Hebrew Scripture is found in I Kings 19. The prophet, Elijah, does not hear God in an earthquake, but only later, b'kol dmamah dakah, in a still, small voice - a soft, murmuring sound." I thought about that passage many times of late in considering the estimated 200,000 who lost their lives and the 1½ million homeless individuals in Haiti. The devastation is so overwhelming and there seems so little we can do, but do we must. In addition to our prayers for those who have died and survived, we are left in the wake of this devastation, as Abraham Joshua Heschel once said, and his words are quoted in our prayer book, "Act, so that others might live."

I happened to be speaking about my recent trip to Israel last Friday when all of the details of the earthquake were unfolding in world media. Our prayers for the victims of Haiti, our prayers for Britney Gengel from Rutland, were all fresh. Most recently, I saw three news clips. One video came from a CNN news report concerning the best temporary hospital in that disaster region: an Israeli field hospital set up in a soccer field. The Israeli tented facility was the most advanced, functional hospital of any country's immediate rescue effort. The second clip was a live "in the field" video clip of the rescue of a 52 year old Haitian man taken out of the rubble from under a collapsed building. And finally, I saw a video segment of a young Haitian woman holding her new baby born in that Israeli field hospital on the outskirts of Port Au Prince. The mother and baby are healthy. The mother decided to name the young boy, "Israel," due to the miraculous efforts of the Israelis in delivering her child.



Immediately after the earthquake, I asked our Temple to publicize to our members the address of the American Joint Distribution Committee's Relief Fund (jdc.org). In addition, The Union for Reform Judaism (urj.org), the American Red Cross (redcross.org) and numerous other organizations have ongoing efforts to help the victims. I hope that everyone in the congregation will give something toward this effort. This is another opportunity we are blessed to have to save lives now and into the foreseeable future.

Just after Elijah heard God in the "still, small voice," he passed on his prophetic teachings to Elisha who carried God's spirit and acts of loving kindness into the future. So may we do all that we can to keep alive those who need our extended hand.

Rabbi Seth L. Bernstein



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was recently in Seth's office when a young couple walked in to the building and asked if there was anyone they could talk to about Temple Sinai. We had a lovely conversation about their jobs, their two small children and about what brought them "up the hill." We told them about Tot Shabbat, Religious School, Adult Education, Shabbat Services, Social Action, Community Pot Luck Dinners etc. Seth made one comment that resonated with me and has been bouncing around in my head ever since. He said, we are a small congregation and, like all our members, you will be called upon to help. I remember quickly jumping in and saying, that will not be difficult because there will be something that interests you and you will naturally *want* to get involved.

A friend of mine recently sent me a few pages from a memo pad that someone had given her. At the bottom of the page is a picture of a woman's face with the caption, "Stop me before I volunteer again!" I have the luxury of, among other things, time and energy that enable me to step in and volunteer for things I am passionate about. Whether we are raising children, working at jobs outside the home, caring for elderly parents, or involved in any of a myriad of other possible activities, we are all busy. The key is to find a balance.

The Temple Sinai Community, with its part time staff (except for the Rabbi), depends on volunteers. We are a small congregation and we flourish because of our committed volunteers. We have a successful and delicious Oneg Shabbat program with all congregants being asked to participate in preparations once every eighteen months. The same is true in our Religious School. Once every eighteen months, on a Saturday morning, all Religious School families are asked to help keep our children safe by taking a traffic duty shift and then helping out in the school.

Although I am thoughtful about what I choose to do, I do not want anyone to "Stop me before I volunteer again!" I truly believe that there is something for everyone at Temple Sinai and I am grateful to everyone who volunteers their time and energy to whatever extent they are able. Do not feel too guilty about all the things you are not helping with. Instead, find something you care about and use the time you have to help. Feel good about what you do!

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Ostrow
President

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

FIRST NIGHT SEDER, MONDAY, MARCH 29th

An opportunity to share a First Night Seder with another family.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30th

PASSOVER FREEDOM SERVICE - 10:00 AM

SECOND NIGHT CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

5:30 PM

(watch for details in the March Bulletin)

NOTES FROM KIM



Milk and cookies.
Peanut butter and chocolate.
Latkes and sour cream (or applesauce).

Sometimes the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. It is certainly true for me in the way prayer melodies and texts enhance each other. And I hope you will find it so as well. I want to call your attention to an event coming up in the next several weeks, great individually but even better in combination.

Last year's spring concert with Sababa had folks dancing in the aisles. Really. We have photos. Yom Chadash is another up and coming group in the contemporary Jewish music scene. In fact, several of the band members were here with Sababa last year.

But wait! There's more!

Our newly reconstituted Sinai Singers, with members in grades 3-7, has been featured at several family services this winter, and a memorable appearance with the Evelyn Zarrow choir for Shabbat Shira. On **April 10** they will make their concert debut as they join Yom Chadash on stage for our second spring concert.

This will definitely be a gestalt moment!

Look for ticket information coming soon. And please consider becoming a concert sponsor. For \$118 you get two tickets to the performance, an autographed CD, and you help to ensure the financial success of the event and of the music program at Temple Sinai.

Hope to see you there!
Cantor Kim Singer

COMMUNITY POT LUCK DINNER

February 19th - 6:30 pm

Social Hall

See you there!

SPECIAL SHABBAT SEDER

The February 19th Shabbat service will be a special service combined with a Shabbat potluck dinner beginning at 6:30 pm. The service will take place in the Social Hall directly following the dinner. We invite you to join us for the dinner. There will be chairs set up for those in our congregation who wish to join us for services but not participate in the potluck dinner.

*No shellfish or pork dishes for the potluck dinner.

Reminder, we expect services to begin around 7:10 pm.

ALIYAH AND CANDLE BLESSINGS

Would you like to have the honor of an Aliyah or Candle Blessing for a Friday night Shabbat service?

Noreen Simon would love to hear from you!

Please contact her at WolfSimon@aol.com or 508 753-1799.

CONTRIBUTIONS

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

Tilford Bartman & Susan Hildum, in memory of Isabel Hildum

Joan & Arthur Pearlmuter, in memory of Lillian Pearlmuter

Joan & Arthur Pearlmuter, in memory of Lillian Weingarten

CARING COMMITTEE FUND

Claire Metzger

GENERAL FUND

Penny Letichevsky, in honor of Louis Bornstein

Ravin/Rothschild Family, in memory of Dr. Herbert Rubin

Randy & Wendy Wong

Robert & Joan Yood, in honor of Marcy Ostrow

Arthur & Glenda Wolpert, in memory of Fran Sack

Roberta Satter & Family, in memory of Eva Solomon Case Fisher

LIBRARY FUND

Bob & Jane Lavine, in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Bines' special anniversary

RABBI'S FUND

Doris Shairman, in memory of Jacob B. Shairman

Doris Shairman, in memory of Abraham Cohen

Eleanor Witkes, in memory of Marc Witkes

Eleanor Witkes, in memory of Paul Chase

Kerxhalli/Caplan Family, in memory of Elaine Caplan

Judy Gorlick, in memory of Joe Cotton

Alberta Chase, in memory of Paul Chase

Nick and Bobbie Chase, in memory of Libby Socofsky

Scott and Kristen Freeman, in memory of Fran Sack

Dr. Michael Gusar, in appreciation

William Stern

Sandra Rothschild, in memory of Edgar Rothschild

Judy Gorlick, in memory of Joe Cotton

Linda and Howard Stern

Sharon Minsky and Michael Drues, in appreciation

"Hunger Initiative"

Ruth Berman, in memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Ruth Berman, in honor of the 99th birthday of Michael Katz

Judy & Hal Schneider, in memory of Seymour Samuels

Patricia Roy

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Joshua & Rachel Burke, in honor of our grandmother, Cindy Parlee

TZEDAKAH BOX



As many of you know, there is a Tzedakah Box located in the lobby of the sanctuary building. Following is a portion of the text on the plaque which has been placed on the box:

Tzedakah, or act of righteous giving, derives from the Hebrew word zedek denoting justice or righteousness. The giving of tzedakah is among Judaism's highest commandments.

COCOA (AND COFFEE) HOUSE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

1 - 4 PM IN THE SOCIAL HALL

An eclectic afternoon...classical piano music, Singing "old favorites", and ...YOU!

Please bring your instruments, voices and enthusiasm for an open mike.

Performance is not required. You can just sip warm beverages, nibble on goodies and enjoy the camaraderie.

Admission to the FUN-raiser is \$10 adults - \$5 children under 11. Proceeds will benefit the Temple Sinai Music Program.

MITZVAH DAY AT TEMPLE SINAI

On Shabbat morning, February 6, 2010, from 9 - 10:30, in the social hall, Temple Sinai students, their families, and members of all ages will be able to participate in a *Mitzvah Day*, coordinated by the students in the "*Fixing the World*" special activity class. Our Mitzvah Day will allow everyone the opportunity to contribute money to support various organizations at home and in Israel. The students will set up tables with a Tzedakah box, information about their particular organizations for your perusal, and will answer any of your questions about the work the organization does. The students will be collecting money to support Packages from Home (which supports Israeli soldiers), The Jewish National Fund (water and forests), NEADS (Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans), Breast Cancer Awareness, Pennies for Peace, Birthday Wishes, and Large Print Prayerbooks for Temple Sinai.

Parents are encouraged to attend *Mitzvah Day* with their children, their checkbooks and loose change! Coffee will be available for those individuals who bring in a non-perishable food item for Rachel's Table.

Along with collecting food items, our other on-going Tzedakah projects, empty medicine bottles with the labels removed, and cancelled stamps for the veterans, will be collected that morning. Please participate in our Mitzvah Day Project with your child, and help him/her become an individual who "gives, shares and cares." We will be very happy to answer your questions.

Ethan Cohen, Jacob Eagle, Marissa Fortugno, Max Halpern, Sarah Kotin, Zach Milaszewski, Jonathan Rubin, Cammi Sperlberg, Allie Trotta, and Hannah Zamore.

Snow Date: March 6, 2010

PLANNED GIVING

Please consider remembering Temple Sinai in your will.

YAHREZITS

FEBRUARY 5

*Louis Abrahamson
Benjamin Louis Audioin
*Jeannette Black
Jeanette Dorfman
Mary Haley
Eugene Johnson
*William Klein
Rudolph J. Lofgren
Evelyn Lubarsky
Roger Malfliet
*Bette Miles
*Sadie Miller
*Ida Pemstein
Milton Roth
*Saul A. Seder
*Edward Yerow

FEBRUARY 12

Edward Berman
Charles Callahan
Betty Katz
Marion Morrow
Birdie Neckes
Linda Ravin
Joseph Rome
Eva Rossman
Anne Tuggle
*Mark Weisberg
*Samuel Zellen

FEBRUARY 19

*Harry Abramoff
Hazel Benjamin
Muriel Brill
George Mosler
Hyman Cohen
*Leonard E. Gorlick
Edward Hildum
*Maurice Levy
Anita Robbins
Alvin Shairman
Herbert Sherwin
*Ida Sternfeld
Richard Zatkin

FEBRUARY 26

Fanny Banever
Frank Dorfman
*George Falk
Dorothy Freedman
*Cecile Josephs Glazer
*George Golden
Barnard Kaplan
Jerald J. Kessel
Dolores Lubowitz
*Joseph S. Rubin
*Gladys Yerow

We record with deep sorrow, these recently departed:

Rabbi Richard Sobel, cousin of Marilyn Wolpert (12-30-09)

Mayer Adler, father of Ron Adler (1-09-10)

Sal Cassata, father of Theresa Cohen (1-10-10)

Sherman Hechter, father of Julie Schuster (1-17-10)

ADULT EDUCATION IN FEBRUARY

Midrash Class - "Book of Legends": Tuesdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23 - 9:15 AM - Rabbi's study.

Midrash - Wednesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24 - 1:45 PM at the JHC, led by Rabbi Bernstein.

Jewish View of the Greek Bible - Fridays, February 12, 26 - 10:30 AM, led by Rabbi Bernstein - Library

Torah Study - From the Studies on Leviticus by Nehama Lebowitz, Saturdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27 - 9:00 AM - Rabbi's study.

Modern Hebrew - Saturday, February 6, 13, 20, 27 - 10:00 AM - Rabbi's study.

Melodies & Meaning - Saturday, February 6 - 10:00 AM with Cantor Kim Singer

SOCIAL ACTION

Hats, Scarves, Mittens and Socks Collection

During the month of February we will be collecting new, or gently used, hats, scarves and mittens, and NEW socks, to be distributed to area shelters for men, women and children. There will be a box designated for these items in the school foyer and Temple coatroom.

Thank you for your generosity.



BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Tuesday evening, February 9th at 7:30 PM at the home of Sandi and Mark Cutler. We will discuss "*Then and Now*" by W. Somerset Maugham.

All future dates are on Tuesdays and all meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. except in July. The Book Club is open to anyone who likes to read. Please contact Sue or Les Blatt (508-792-2923 or lblatt@charter.net) for further information.

TODAH RABAH

Today Rabah to *Nick & Bobbie Chase* and *Joan & Arthur Pearlmuter* for all their work in producing the membership list again this year. You should have received your copy, but if not and you would like one, please call the Temple office.

PASSPORT TO ISRAEL

The Passport to Israel program, is a collaborative effort between the synagogue and the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts to provide an incentive savings program for you to set aside money for your child's trip to Israel. One of the most successful community-wide collaborative efforts ever, this program has been in place for many years and has aided dozens of families from central Massachusetts to send their teenage children to Israel. This year, enrollment is open for all children in grades 3 through 7. If your child is not currently enrolled and you are interested in more information, please call the Temple office.

GOLDEN NOODLE II IS COMING SOON!!! SUNDAY AFTERNOON MARCH 7, 2010 1:00 PM TEMPLE SINAI SOCIAL HALL

To preserve your chance to win the coveted *Golden Noodle* trophy, enter your delectable Passover dessert by sending your recipe, and its family history, to Patty and Bill Weiss at weiss5855@charter.net or at P.O. Box 284, Hubbardston, MA 01452-0284 by February 9, 2010.

The entry fee for each contestant will be \$5, and tickets (including ballots) will be \$10. Recipe books (a great gift for any occasion) will be available for sale for \$20. We need volunteers to help set up the social hall. Volunteers should arrive at the Temple by 11:00 AM on March 7th. Contestants should bring their desserts and serving utensils at 12 Noon, and the tasting and voting will begin at 1:00 PM. Please let Patty and Bill know if you can help out at 11:00 AM.

Do not miss out on this great event, as we once again put the fun into fundraising!



CHINUCH NOTES ON EDUCATION

Grades K, 1 & 2	Saturdays, February 6, 27	9 - 12 noon
Grades 3 - 7	Saturdays, February 6, 27 Wednesdays February 3, 10, 24	9 - 12 noon 3:45 - 5:45 PM
Grades 8, 9 (Sinai High)	Mondays, February 1, 22 Friday, February 5 (Sinai High Dinner & service) Saturday, February 27 1:00 (Purim Carnival set up) Sunday, February 28 - (Purim Shpiel & Carnival)	6:30 - 8:00 PM 6:30 PM 1:00 - 3:00 PM 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Confirmation	Monday, February 8, 22	6:45 PM
Post Confirmation	Sunday, February 28 (Purim Shpiel & Carnival)	11:00 AM

News From the 5th Grade Hebrew Class

We have been learning about the Jewish Life Cycle. Our 5th grade service was fantastically amazing! Our Hebrew teacher, Mrs. B (Beaudreau) is a great new teacher. We enjoy playing Jeopardy with Mrs. Rossman and Mrs. B. It is fun doing activities with Hadas & Atai, our Israel emissaries. We study Torah in the Rabbi's class.

Fifth grade is awesomely spectacular!

CANCELLATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unfortunately, the winter weather brings many concerns about whether or not religious school or programs here at Temple Sinai will be cancelled. Every effort is made to contact religious school families in the event of a school cancellation. In addition to having the announcement on the radio, we have a "mail box" to alert people to any cancellations, changes etc. You can call the Temple at **508 755-2519** and choose option "8" after the greeting to hear any cancellations.

We will make a decision regarding school closing by 1:30 on Wednesdays and 7:30 on Saturdays. Please listen to WTAG (580 AM) or WSRS (96 FM), watch Channel 4 or call the Temple for that information. *On Wednesdays, when the Worcester Public Schools are closed, or if there is an early release in Worcester or the Wachusett School District, we will not have school.*

TOT SHABBAT - SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6

We begin with an art project at 11:00, followed by a singing, dancing service geared to preschoolers through 1st graders. Cantor Kim Singer, along with "Kimbu", will lead the service at 11:20 am, and then at noon we share a pot luck lunch. All are welcome to join and enjoy, Sinai members and non-members as well. For more information call Nancy Berley at 508.856.9449, or nancy.berley@verizon.net, or visit www.templesinaiworcester.org.



FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR

While February is a short month, we have a lot going on!

On **February 5**, the Sinai High students will lead services at **7:30**, preceded by a dinner at 6:30. They will be making hamen-tashen for the school and for the Purim carnival as part of their community service. Last year we perfected those triangles!

Mitzvah Day - Our "Fixing the World" class has been working for several months planning a "Mitzvah Day". Please be sure to stop by the Social Hall on **Saturday February 6 from 9:00 - 10:30** and support their efforts. More information about *Mitzvah Day* can be found elsewhere in this bulletin. We also have Tot Shabbat on **February 6 at 11:00**.

The fifth graders are working hard on the Purim Spiel, which will take place on **Sunday, February 28 at 11:00**. The Spiel is always followed by the Carnival run by our Sinai High, Confirmation and Post-Confirmation students. The students will be setting up on **Saturday afternoon, February 27**. Thank you to Barbara Smith for coordinating the carnival again this year! Watch your e-mail for more information.

Passover candy brochures were sent home in the middle of January. Please remember to bring them back by **February 10**. The school receives a percent profit of the sale. In the past we have been able to purchase a television, camcorder, overhead projector and camera. We have also been able to fund the busses for various field trips. Please support the school by selling candy, and/or purchasing it for yourselves! **Remember, your friends and family can purchase candy on-line!** You received directions with your candy brochure. We also sent home information about planting trees in Israel for Tu B'Shevat.

Thank you to all of our parents for monitoring the traffic and helping out on Saturdays, and to Maria Richmond for coordinating the 6th grade luncheon. *Reminder, there is no Religious School February 13, 17 & 20. Have a safe vacation!*

Wendy Davis Wong, Religious School Director

THE PARKING LOT CAN GET VERY ICY AND NARROW DURING THE WINTER.

WE ARE ASKING YOU TO PULL UP **TO THE DRIVEWAY WHERE THE TRAFFIC MONITOR IS STANDING** AND DROP YOUR CHILDREN OFF **THERE**.

PLEASE WAIT **UNTIL YOU GET TO THE DRIVEWAY** TO DROP YOUR CHILDREN OFF. *YOU CAN THEN EXIT BY GOING AROUND THE CIRCLE AT THE TEMPLE BUILDING. WE WILL HELP TO DIRECT YOU.* WITH ALL OF THE SNOW AND ICE IN THE PARKING LOTS AND DRIVEWAYS, PLEASE BE PATIENT AND USE EXTRA CAUTION AT DROP-OFF AND PICK UP. THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN DEPENDS ON YOUR COMPLIANCE.

THANK YOU!

February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	6:30 Sinai High 7:00 Adult Choir	9:15 Midrash - Book of Legends	12 Professional Staff meeting 1:45 Midrash JHC 3:45 Religious School	Office Closed	6:30 Sinai High Dinner 7:30 Sabbath Service - Sinai High leading	9 - Religious School 9 - Mitzvah Day 9 Torah Study 10 Adult Ed - Melodies & Meaning 11 Modern Hebrew 11 Tot Shabbat 6
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1:00 "Cocoa & Coffee-House Music Program"	6:45 Confirmation 8:00 Board Meeting	9:15 Midrash - Book of Legends 7:15 Religious School Committee	12:30 Professional Staff 1:45 Midrash JHC 3:45 Religious School	Office Closed	10:30 - Adult Ed Greek Bible 7:00 Family Sabbath Service	No Religious School 9 Torah Study 11 Modern Hebrew
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	7:00 Adult Choir	9:15 Midrash - Book of Legends	12 Professional Staff meeting 1:45 Midrash JHC No Religious School	Office Closed	6:30 Community Pot Luck dinner 7:10 Sabbath Service	No Religious School 9 Torah Study 11 Modern Hebrew
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	6:30 Sinai High 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Adult Choir	9:15 Midrash Book of Legends 2011 B'nai Mitzvah Orientation meetings	12 Professional Staff meeting 1:45 Midrash JHC 3:45 Religious School	Office Closed	10:30 - Adult Ed Greek Bible 7:30 Sabbath Service	9 - Religious School 9 Torah Study 11 Modern Hebrew 1:00 Set up for Carnival
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
11 Purim Spiel 12 Purim Carnival						
28						

ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH BULLETIN MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 15TH!

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