Celebrate with us!

20th Anniversary Shabbat Service
Friday, September 15 | 6:15 p.m.
Oneg in the social hall

Chicago Sinai Congregation moved to our Delaware Place Temple in 1997. On September 15, 2017, we will mark our 20th anniversary with a glorious Shabbat Eve service featuring special readings, prayers, and music from our Dedicatory Weekend 20 years ago. Following the service, there will be an Art Show Opening celebrating our worship, social action, and learning over the past 20 years... and into the future!

Fall Choral Program
Friday, November 17 | 6:15 p.m.

Please join us for a wonderful Fall Choral Program which will continue the theme of celebrating 20 years in our new home. At this service, we will feature choral compositions commissioned by -- or written especially for -- Chicago Sinai over the past 20 years.

Art Shows
Opening on Friday, September 15
Social Hall

We will have a special year-long series of art shows in our social hall, and throughout the Temple. The art will share our stories of the past twenty years.

Make Yourself More
Sunday, October 29 | Act
Sunday, November 5 | Worship
Sunday, November 12 | Learn
10:30 a.m.
Social Hall

On these three special Sundays, Rabbi Limmer will lead us in an exploration of the three pillars that sustain Chicago Sinai Congregation: how we Act, Worship, and Learn. This dialogue series, which will allow us not only to learn about Sinai’s historic commitments to Justice, Prayer, and Study; but also to imagine together why and how we want to carry these legacies forward for the next twenty years. We hope many members of our community will come to these events to begin a thoughtful discussion; together, we can ensure that our celebration and understanding of our past can be our best preparation for a wonderful future.

Sinai Forum: Lunch Series
Thursday, October 26 | 12:30 p.m.
Social Hall

Join Sinai’s own Tom Samuels and architect, Dirk Lohan, to learn about the design of our building.
In Jewish counting, forty years marks a generation.

As this September we encounter the final chapters of our Book of Deuteronomy, we are reminded of all that can happen in forty years. Those two score of years marks the time from our Exodus from Egypt until we stand, in the final verses of the final book of the Torah, on the precipice of entering the Promised Land. Through our forty years of wandering in the wilderness, the generation that left Egypt has raised, nurtured, and passed the baton of leadership to their children. When Moses dies at Deuteronomy’s close, he marks the end of an era, the last of our people who knew Pharaoh’s oppression first hand. Forty years after Moses led our people in liberation, his entire generation has passed, and has passed the mantle to the leadership of the future.

Forty years marks a powerful cycle in our Jewish lives.

So what’s the big deal about twenty?

For Chicago Sinai Congregation, twenty is a big number this year: we will be marking our twentieth anniversary here in our Near North Side home at 15 W. Delaware. And while a biblical generation may not have elapsed since our move from our Hyde Park Home, we have witnessed, collectively, quite a lot to celebrate since we came to the neighborhood: babies named in our sanctuary have become b’nei mitzvah; young people who became b’nei mitzvah have gone on to get married; our couples married here have brought their own children back to our pulpit for namings, b’nei mitzvah, and Confirmation ceremonies. In the past two decades, we have published two new versions of our Union Prayer Book, Sinai Edition, and continued to evolve our choral musical tradition into the 21st Century. Our religious school and preschool classrooms became so crowded that in 2008 we needed to expand the building; our programs of Adult education have so expanded that we have offerings nearly every day of the week! Our relationships with our neighbors—from our close partners at Fourth Presbyterian Church and Holy Name Cathedral to our our loving support for and connection with the Jenner Academy of the Arts—have truly given us deep roots here on the corner of State and Delaware.
NEWS AND VIEWS | Rabbi Seth M. Limmer

A biblical generation may not have passed since we moved into our beautiful new home, but twenty years still provides us a wonderful opportunity to look back at our recent past, to appreciate where we are in the present, and to plan for a future of continued strength. And so this fall, we will mark our anniversary in our newest building with a whole series of celebrations:

• On Friday, September 15 we share a special service recalling our dedication of the building and celebrating all we have done and become.
• Beginning Friday, September 15 we will have a special year-long series of Art Shows in our Social Hall [and throughout our building] sharing the stories of the past twenty years.
• Starting Sunday, October 29 (and continuing Sundays, November 5 and 12) we will explore together in special settings of dialogue the three pillars that sustain Chicago Sinai Congregation: how we Act, Worship, and Learn.
• On Friday, November 17 at 6:15 p.m., the Fall Choral Program will feature choral compositions commissioned over the past 20 years.

While I am excited for all these events, I am most enthusiastic about our Sunday dialogue series, which will allow us not only to learn about Sinai’s historic commitments to Justice, Prayer, and Study, but also to explore together why and how we want to carry these legacies forward, together, for the next twenty years. I hope many members of our community will come to these events so we can begin a thoughtful discussion. Together, we can ensure that our celebration and understanding of our past can be our best preparation for a wonderful future.
As I write this bulletin article, I am serving on the faculty at the Union for Reform Judaism camp Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI) in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. My two weeks here have been a perfect reminder of why I am so excited to be Sinai’s Director of Lifelong Learning.

Camp is one of those opportunities to witness young people fully engaged in Jewish living and Jewish learning. The campers love to pray together, sing Jewish songs together, learn together in fun and exciting ways, and even learn Hebrew together.

I know, who wants to learn Hebrew and pray at summer camp? It seems a bit odd, and don’t worry, they play sports, have camp fires, and participate in waterfront activities too, but there is something magical about this summer camp, something magical about learning together and being a part of a community.

Perhaps learning Hebrew outside under a tree, or praying in an outdoor sanctuary help, but I think what I’m learning most at OSRUI, is that our children are thirsty for Jewish community, hungry for Jewish experiences. And they can find those experiences at Chicago Sinai Congregation, too.

The counselors read last week from Deuteronomy, vishinantam l’vanecha, and you shall teach them to your children. These are words we say every time we pray v’ahavta. We are reminded of our obligation, our privilege to teach our children. They not only learn in the classroom, they learn in the hallways, they learn in the sanctuary, they learn outside, and at home, and at summer camp too.

This is why I’m so excited to transition into the role of Assistant Rabbi, Director of Lifelong Learning at Chicago Sinai. This is why, before I even applied to rabbinical school, I studied for my Masters in Jewish Education. While I was not a camper myself, I felt the power of Jewish education in so many other ways — through my religious school, through my youth group, through building relationships with my peers and with my rabbis. I experienced Judaism to be accessible and relevant and my goal is to pass that accessibility and relevancy on to future generations.

Of course, I cannot do it all alone. Over the course of the next year, I look forward to working with our Sinai team, to learning from our teachers, our students, and our parents. Jewish education is, for me, all about forming a strong Jewish identity. In order to do so, we need to provide the content, the knowledge that our young people need to feel confident and comfortable about their Jewish identity. We need to provide experiences, opportunities for our young people to actually live Judaism, not just learn. Then, we need to guide our young people, accompany them as they struggle and wrestle with our ancient heritage, discovering how it fits into their lives. And of course, none of this can be done alone. To be Jewish means to be a part of a community.

But it’s not only about our young people. At camp it’s not only the campers, but the counselors, the staff, even the rabbis who learn. Each Shabbat at camp, I participated in a faculty led learning session, where every rabbi at camp participated and attended. For learning doesn’t start and stop with our campers. At Sinai, our learning doesn’t start and stop with our young people — it’s only a beginning.

Jewish learning is lifelong -- our ceremonies, bar/bat mitzvah, confirmation, do not mark endings, they mark beginnings. Beginnings of new journeys. There’s always more to learn, and more to teach. This is why it was so important to me to have the title, Assistant Rabbi, Director of Lifelong Learning. The most important word in my title, I believe, is lifelong.

Jewish learning is lifelong -- our ceremonies, bar/bat mitzvah, confirmation, do not mark endings, they mark beginnings. Beginnings of new journeys. There’s always more to learn, and more to teach. This is why it was so important to me to have the title, Assistant Rabbi, Director of Lifelong Learning. The most important word in my title, I believe, is lifelong. We are all on a journey, and that’s what I love so much about Judaism. We might resonate with one particular Jewish idea when we are young, and then question it a few years later, only to come back to that idea later in life. Our experiences inform our learning, our learning informs our life experiences.

And that’s why I became a rabbi -- to accompany others on their journeys, to offer Jewish insight and wisdom when helpful, to comfort in times of hardship, to celebrate joyous occasions, to teach to learners of all ages and all backgrounds. To help build and nurture that welcoming and inspiring community that is called Judaism.

Indeed there is so much potential, so much insight, so much beauty in all of our learners at Chicago Sinai. In this way, the v’ahavta speaks to us all, it’s our obligation to teach, and to learn.
Transitions

Though we may be starting new journeys and adventures, we must always remember where we came from and where we have been. In that same time of transition, it can be helpful to understand why we are here and what we have to offer.

What does it mean to move to a new place, to become a part of a new community? How does that transition change your perspective? These are questions I have been thinking a lot about as I transition to Chicago and to being a part of the Chicago Sinai Congregation community.

This month, we read the Torah Portion, Ki Tavo, translated as, "When you enter". It tells of how the Israelites will change when they enter the land of Canaan, the promised land. It tells of how they will change but also how they must remain the same. Outwardly, they will go from being a wandering people, constantly on the move, to a settled people. They will go from a time of transition to a time of permanence. They will go from being told about their future to living it. Yet, in many ways they will also remain the same.

As they make this transition, their obligations and responsibilities will change. They will be obligated to make new sacrifices, to give up something of themselves in this new place. The Torah Portion tells us that they will bring the first fruits of their field as a sacrificial offering. The first fruits of a harvest, the first offerings from their fields are a new beginning, they are also a continuation of the same story. When they bring these offerings, the Israelites are reminded not to forget where they came from and who they are.

When they bring the offering, they are told to repeat the words and tell the story which we now say each year during the Passover Seder, "My father was a fugitive Aramean who went down to Egypt and sojourned there, and there became a great and populous nation." These proscribed words continue to tell of slavery, exodus, wandering in the desert and arrival at their destination. In a short paragraph, these words answer four distinctly important questions. Where did you come from? Where have you been? Why are you here? What do you have to offer?

These are worthwhile questions for us to ask ourselves as we transition to new places and new communities. They are worthwhile questions to ask ourselves each year as we seek to understand our position in the world. These are questions I have been thinking a lot about over the past couple of months, as I begin settling into a new community. Though we may be starting new journeys and adventures, we must always remember where we came from and where we have been. In that same time of transition, it can be helpful to understand why we are here and what we have to offer.

Sometimes these questions are difficult to answer, Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav teaches that one of the most difficult things in life is not knowing where one stands in life. Other times they are much easier. As we enter into the High Holy Days season, a time of accounting and re-evaluation, it is a good opportunity for each of us to pause and understand our position in life. To ask ourselves, Where did we come from? Where have we been? Why are we here? And what do we have to offer?
We are in the process of putting together an exciting and enjoyable musical year. One continuing goal of the music department is to rebuild and revitalize our Volunteer Choir (also known as the “V-Choir”) in order to have as many congregants as possible sing with the group on a regular basis. Opportunities for singing occur throughout the year, most notably during the High Holy Days, Chanukah, Purim, Spring Choral Program, and other events to be determined.

An invitation to join the Volunteer Choir is warmly extended to anyone who is willing to commit to the usually-modest rehearsal schedule leading up to each service or event, and to anyone who can sing “on key”. (The ability to read music is not necessary, but since we sing from actual sheet music, it will become progressively more “readable” over time.) Perhaps if you have not sung in a choir since high school or college, you might like to “Sing unto God a new song!” as the Psalmist writes, and raise your voice with others whose hearts are also full of music. It’s a wonderful way to become more connected to Sinai, and a wonderful way to immerse yourself in our worship services and in our musical tradition.

Please contact Scott at 312.867.7000 (x 239) or skumer@chicagosinai.org if you have any interest in joining the Volunteer Choir. We would be happy to place prospective new singers in contact with current singers if you would like to know more about their experiences of being part of the group.

Maybe you would like to sing for the High Holy Days? Here is our schedule. Feel free to join us for a rehearsal if you are curious and would like to see what’s involved!

Note: if you’ve already selected a “Seating Group” option that conflicts with the service singing schedule, not to worry! We will provide special V-Choir Cards of Admission to participating singers and their close family members.

HIGH HOLY DAYS REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

V-Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, August 30, 7:00 p.m.-9:15 p.m.

V-Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, September 6, 7:00 p.m.-9:15 p.m.

V-Choir Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Evening Services
Wednesday, September 20
Call Time at 4:00 p.m. sharp
Two Services from 5:00 p.m.-6:40 p.m.;
8:00 p.m.-9:40 p.m.
Boxed dinners will be served in the Social Hall between the two services.

V-Choir Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur Day Services
Saturday, September 30
Call Time at 9:50 a.m. sharp
Morning Service from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Afternoon Service from 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. (optional)
Make Yourself More 2017-2018

Did you know Chicago Sinai has some pretty incredible programming on Sunday throughout the school year? We would love for you to join us this year. We are excited to welcome our friends at Orot to lead Jewish Mindfulness and Meditation, Kenneth Seeskin, and a new "Hot Topics" with our Rabbis. We will begin Café Sinai with some delicious bagels, cream cheese and coffee at 10 a.m. followed by the program at 10:30 a.m. Below you will find a list of some of the great programs we have this year. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, October 15 to join us for the kickoff to learn much more about our program year. I hope to see you at many of them. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me at rfrazin@chicagosinai.org.

Jewish Mindfulness and Meditation

_Torah from the Mountain, Torah from the Well: Jewish mindfulness practice as a path of personal transformation._

In this series, Aviva Katzman and David Gottlieb of Orot: the Center for New Jewish Learning will guide participants in developing and deepening the basic aspects of Jewish mindfulness practice. They will offer guidance on connecting "Torah from the Mountain" – the power and poetry of Jewish text and tradition – with "Torah from the Well" – our own inner reservoir of experience, intuition, and wisdom. Participants will learn techniques for developing a sense of spaciousness and ease, and compassion toward ourselves and others; through text study, song and chant, and contemplative practice. No experience is necessary -- all experience levels are welcome.

- **October 22 (Noach) - Surviving the Flood: Creating Spaciousness and Ease in Difficult Times**
- **November 19 (Toledot / Roch Hodesh Kislev) - Conflict, Pain, and the Path toward Inner Calm**
- **December 10 (Vayeshev) - Keeping Your Inner Light Burning: Chanukah and Inner Reserves**
- **January 21 (Bo) - Softening the Heart: Forgiveness and Compassion Toward Self and Other**
- **February 11 (Mishpatim/Shekalim) - Doing and Hearing: Compassion, Understanding, and the Way of Deep Listening**
- **April 22 (Tazria-Mezora) - Rumors Spread by Our Chattering Minds**

Save the Date for Sinai’s Annual Women’s Retreat

_Friday February 23 – Sunday, February 25_

The American Club, Kohler, WI

More information – contact: Rebecca Frazin – rfrazin@chicagosinai.org

Kenneth Seeskin, Professor of Philosophy, Chair of the Department of Religious Studies, Northwestern: Jewish Conception of God:

_January 7, February 4, and February 25_

What is God? How does God interact with humans? What does it mean to love God? This class will explore how three Jewish thinkers attempted to answer these questions: Moses Maimonides (1138-1204), Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677), and Hermann Cohen (1842-1918). We will see that each thinker presents a distinct alternative and raises deep questions about how Judaism views the world.

Hot Topics with our Rabbis

_December 17, January 28, April 15 and April 29_

Join a conversation with our Rabbis and discuss some of today’s hot topics. Learn rabbinic and modern day interpretations on issues we are dealing with in today’s society.

Music and Worship at Sinai

_March 18_

Back by popular demand! Join Sinai’s Director of Music, Scott Kumer, to learn more about Sinai’s liturgy and musical tradition.

Social Action

_December 3 and March 25_

Join our Social Action committee to discuss the work we are doing throughout our community.

Sinai’s 20th Anniversary at Delaware Place

_October 29 (Act) November 5 (Worship) November 12 (Learn)_

On these three special Sundays, Rabbi Limmer will lead us in an exploration of the three pillars that sustain Chicago Sinai Congregation, Act, Worship and Learn.

Upcoming 50’s and Beyond Outing:

Join us for our next 50’s and Beyond outing to the Illinois Holocaust Museum on **Tuesday, November 7 from 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.** Join us for a brunch and a docent-led tour of the Karkomi Holocaust Exhibition and the new holographic exhibit. The cost is $25 for Members and $30 for non-members. RSVP and payment is due by October 16. Please RSVP to RSVP@chicagosinai.org and be sure to note if you are driving or looking for a ride!
Every Friday evening throughout the year, Shabbat Eve Services are held with Kiddush and Oneg immediately following services. Our choir provides beautiful music drawn from a wide variety of composers. Members and visitors who reside in or are visiting Chicago find this Shabbat Eve Service to be an uplifting and spiritual experience.

Friday, September 1, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Greene will deliver the sermon. Join us for our Food Truck Shabbat immediately following the service.

Friday, September 8, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Limmer will deliver the sermon.

Friday, September 15, 6:15 p.m. 20th ANNIVERSARY SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Join us for the oneg in the social hall and the 20th Anniversary Art Show Opening immediately following the service. Details on the front cover.

Friday, September 22, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Limmer will deliver the sermon.

Friday, September 29 KOL NIDRE

Friday, October 6, 6:15 p.m. SUKKOT SHABBAT EVE SERVICE

Friday, October 13, 6:15 p.m. SIMCHAT TORAH SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Tot Shabbat service begins at 5:30 p.m. Details on the back page.

Friday, October 20, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Limmer will deliver the sermon.

Friday, October 27, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Greene will deliver the sermon.

Friday, November 3, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Zinn will deliver the sermon. Tot Shabbat service begins at 5:30 p.m. Details on the back page.

Friday, November 10, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Limmer will deliver the sermon.

Friday, November 17, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE FALL CHORAL PROGRAM Details on the front cover.

Friday, November 24, 6:15 p.m. SHABBAT EVE SERVICE
Rabbi Zinn will deliver the sermon.

Shabbat Morning Prayer and Torah Study Every Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Rain or shine—holiday, Holy Day, or weekly Shabbat—members gather in the library to learn the many lessons of the weekly Torah portion. From one Fall to the next, we make our way, portion by portion, from Genesis through Deuteronomy. Over the year, not only will we understand the many nuances of our Torah saga, but we will also connect more deeply with the forms of communal study through which Jews have always explored the many meanings of Torah.
Please join
CHICAGO SINAI CONGREGATION for

The Installation of
Assistant Rabbi
Todd Zinn

Friday, December 1, 2017

6:15 p.m. | Shabbat Eve Service
7:30 p.m. | Reception to follow in the Social Hall

Join us in a joyous celebration to formally welcome Rabbi Todd Zinn to our community. We will be joined by Rabbi Zinn’s brother, Rabbi Jonah Zinn, from Congregation Shaare Emeth in St. Louis as we mark this special occasion.

BEER AND BOURBON IN THE BOOTH
Wednesday, October 11
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Beer and bourbon tasting, enjoy hors d’oeuvres, mingle, gather, engage, connect, say a blessing with the Sinai Community in the Sukkah. RSVP by October 4 at RSVP@chicagosinai.org.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT SINAI
Tuesday, November 21
7:00 p.m. in the Sinai Sanctuary
This year, Sinai is privileged to host our neighborhood’s annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Please attend and help us offer a warm “Sinai Welcome” to our neighbors and friends from Fourth Presbyterian Church, Holy Name Cathedral, Downtown Islamic Center, St. James Cathedral and LaSalle Street Church. A Pastor from Fourth Church will deliver the sermon, and the Choir of Holy Name Cathedral will lead us in song. We look forward to worshiping and offering thanks as one community, and getting to know one another better at the reception which follows the service. Hinei mah tov uma na-im, shevet achim gam yachad. How good and how pleasant it is when people dwell together in unity!
WHAT MITZVAH WEEKENDS MEAN TO SINAI

One major foundation of Chicago Sinai is our commitment to social action, with many of us seeking to incorporate acts of kindness and goodwill tangibly and everyday. Twenty years ago, Mitzvah Weekend blossomed: One spring weekend was filled with the joy of the confirmation class leading Shabbat services, followed by Saturday service projects in the community, and Sunday projects in the Social Hall. It brings our entire Sinai community together, all ages, supporting those in need in the broader Chicago community.

More than 200 Sinai members participate in our various projects and we expand volunteer opportunities each year in coordination with ongoing Sinai social justice projects while both Preschool and Religious School curricula include Mitzvah Weekends activities for students within the classroom.

In recent years, Mitzvah Weekend volunteers helped create welcome packets for Refugee One families and packed food for Jenner School Blessings in a Backpack students. Other favorite activities have included:

- Making 500+ bag lunches for homeless shelters,
- Creating welcome kits for refugees,
- Singing and playing games at a local seniors’ home,
- Cooking dinner at Ronald McDonald House (which is every month for Sinai), and
- Creating baby clothing packages for the youngest Chicaogans in need.

Says Rabbi Amanda Greene: “At some congregations, Mitzvah Weekend is thought of a ‘one and done’ opportunity to cross off your to-do list. At Chicago Sinai, it is an embodiment of the spirit of social action throughout the year. Mitzvah Weekends celebrate the ongoing commitment that so many members have to helping those in need.”

This Fall year, in addition to our annual spring Mitzvah Weekend, two Mitzvah Day activities will debut:

- On September 17, through Maot Chitim, we will coordinate the delivery of food boxes for the High Holy Days to 20 Chicago Jewish families in need.
- And, on October 7, we will strengthen our commitment to Cornerstone Community Center, helping homeless men, women, and children.

Mitzvahs, weekend and everyday, are integral to who we are.

For more information about Sinai’s Mitzvah Weekends and all of our volunteer activities, take a look at the Sinai website at http://www.chicagosinai.org/tikkun-olam-social-action-project-ideas/volunteer-opportunities.

MITZVAH DAYS

Food Delivery with Maot Chitim
Sunday, September 17

The mission of Maot Chitim is to assist needy members of the Greater Chicagoland Jewish community with High Holiday food related needs. Bring yourself, your family, a car, and help us deliver boxes of food for the holidays to Jewish families in need.

Fall Mitzvah Day
Saturday, October 7

As a community, we will spend Saturday at Cornerstone Community Outreach (CCO), a homeless shelter in Uptown that serves women, men, and children in need of temporary housing. Sinai has participated in CCO volunteer activities in the past.

Spring Mitzvah Weekend
March 9-11

There will be a special Friday evening Shabbat service, offsite volunteer projects on Saturday, and onsite volunteer projects on Sunday. On Sunday, Religious School will be in session this year and activities will be coordinated with the Religious School team. The entire Sinai community is invited to participate on Sunday. As in past years, we will make bag lunches, Linus blankets, and prepare materials for Blessings in a Backpack, Refugee One, and CityPak.
FOOD DRIVE
This year your help is urgently needed to provide food for the hungry in our community. The weak economy and cutbacks in the food supplied by the government’s emergency food programs have emptied the shelves of the local pantries.

Beginning on Sunday, September 10, collection boxes will be in the Temple lobby for your donations. Members are encouraged to bring the following non-perishable food items when they come to Services, Religious School or at any other time during this season:

- Canned goods, including soups, meats, vegetables
- Boxed pasta (mac & cheese), noodles, rice
- Peanut butter, jams in plastic containers
- Cereals, oatmeal, and crackers
- Canned fruit and fruit juice
- Cooking oil, flour & sugar

**NO GLASS CONTAINERS PLEASE**
**NO EXPIRED FOOD PLEASE**
**NO CLOTHING**

**NON-PERISHABLE KOSHER FOOD ITEMS:**
- Del Monte or Green Giant canned vegetables
- Dole or Del Monte canned/jarred fruit
- Bush’s vegetarian baked beans
- JIF, Skippy or Peter Pan peanut butter
- Chicken of the Sea, Bumble Bee or Starkist tuna in water
- Prince, Creamettes or Barilla whole wheat pasta

Items certified as kosher have one or more of the following symbols on the label:

Collections will be accepted through Sunday, October 15. The food will be distributed to Lakeview Pantry and The Ark.

SERVICE TRIP
April 12 - 15
Sinai’s service and civil rights trip brings members together to rebuild homes and communities devastated by natural disasters. Through service, learning, worship and fun this initiative creates meaningful and lasting impacts on communities that we serve and permanent bonds of friendship among our volunteers and members. In 2018, our trip to Memphis will honor the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King’s assassination. The projects we undertake do not require special skills as there is work for all ages from 12 and up. Contact Jill Peters at jillpeters@rcn.com.

NATIONAL REBUILDING DAY
April 28
Join us for this incredible National day of rebuilding in the Austin or Englewood communities. Sinai volunteers partner with skilled tradesmen to make important home repairs, painting and landscaping for a wonderful homeowner. Sinai members both skilled and unskilled ages 14 and up are welcome. Contact Jill Peters at jillpeters@rcn.com or Andrea Moonsammy at amoonsam@gmail.com.
Every year we talk about the new school year and the Jewish New Year as a time of new beginnings. Some children are beginning school for the first time, others may be entering a new class; some are off to college, for some it might be a new job. When I think about it, really we are just taking another step on our individual and communal journeys, filled with opportunity and excitement.

This school year, this journey has most of our staff returning to Sinai Preschool. We had to say good-bye to Veronica Burns who will be completing an internship and we are thrilled to welcome Kaci Antkiewicz. Kaci has been a substitute in our classrooms and we could not be more thrilled to have her join us as an assistant teacher. We are also happy to welcome back Jennifer Singer, Sarah Weintraub, Allison Greenwood, Elke Sniderman, and Clara Roche in our classrooms, and Edna Bell as our administrative assistant.

Our belief is that children are competent and capable and we are looking forward to a year of discovery and exploration. Our teachers are planning thoughtfully and carefully for their classrooms, incorporating more and more of the Reggio Emilia approach into their environment and daily activities.

There is so much to do with and at Sinai for children, adults, and families. We hope to see you at our Tot Shabbat programs as well as in our preschool and parent-tot programs.

I am very excited to be on this journey with you and cannot wait to see all that unfolds in our classrooms and Sinai community this year.
A FAMILY DAY AT THE POLSKY ORCHARD
Sunday, September 24
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Mukwonago, Wisconsin

A Family day of Apple Picking, Games and Learning, Lunch, S’mores, and so much more!
RSVP by September 12 at RSVP@chicagosinai.org.

FAMILY RETREAT
Calling all Sinai families with children K-5th grade! Join us for our Family Retreat, January 26-28 at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute in Oconomowoc Wisconsin. Learning, Singing, Sledding, and so much more!

MITZVAH DAYS
October 7: Stay tuned for more information about our Fall Mitzvah Day.
March 9-11: Mitzvah weekend

SUNDAY MORNING FAMILY SERVICES
11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
October 15: Consecration
November 19: Thanksgiving

For information contact Rabbi Amanda Greene at rabbigreene@chicagosinai.org.
LEARN | In September + October + November

Tuesday
September 5
October 3
November 7
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

LEARNING IN THE LOOP
Tackles the Mishnah

Join our Rabbis for a special monthly session at a downtown office. We meet at noon and finish by one, so all can get back to their day. Over our shared lunches throughout the year, we will examine how our Jewish tradition responds to different challenges in differing times by exploring the Responsa literature generated through the centuries, discussing issues as varied as environmentalism and elective surgery. The sessions are held at Jenner & Block offices (courtesy of Norm Hirsch). Participants bring their lunch; the firm adds a dessert and drinks. RSVP to Kris Rosen (krosen@chicagosinai.org) at the temple office to ensure that the building’s security will be notified.

Wednesday
September 6, 13, 27
October 4, 11, 18, 25
November 1, 8, 15, 29
11 a.m. in the Chapel

WEDNESDAYS WITH RABBI LIMMER
Texts and Textures

Rabbi Limmer helps us explore the earliest Rabbinic commentary to the biblical book of Exodus: The Mekhilta of Rabbi Ishmael. This formative work of Midrash—the Jewish method of demanding additional meaning from Scripture—proceeds line by line through the biblical narrative and connects our core texts to religious thoughts and trends that emerged in antiquity. Through a study of the Mekhilta’s many legends, lore and legal discourses, we will see how our Sages of old helped understand the Torah in their time, and provided us a road map for comprehending the unfurling evolution of biblical interpretation.

Thursday
September 7, 14, 28
October 19, 26
November 2, 9, 30
11 a.m. in the Chapel

THURSDAYS WITH RABBI ZINN

Come study with Rabbi Zinn on Thursdays. He will be teaching the wisdom of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav, one of the leading early Hasidic masters and storytellers. Rabbi Nachman’s tales are filled with deep insight, and his lessons can still be as revolutionary today as they were in the early 19th Century. Because Rabbi Zinn, during his rabbinical studies, focused in on the teachings of Rabbi Nachman, you can come on Thursdays and get to know two rabbis at once!

Thursday
November 9, 16, 30
6 p.m.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Want to get back to the basics of Jewish life and values? This could be the class for you. In twelve weeks shared with our Rabbis, we will explore the Jewish Life Cycle, the meaning of our Holy Days, what we might mean when we say the word “God”, and how we can be religious people in the modern world.

“Introduction to Judaism” isn’t just for those who never learned about these topics, but it’s also a great way to examine, as adults, many of the topics we last studied in childhood.

Thursday
October 19 - God
October 26 - Torah
November 2 - Israel
6 p.m. at Sinai

TASTE OF JUDAISM

Chicago Sinai Congregation will host a special series open to all in the Chicago community who are curious to come and learn about the wonder and power of our Jewish tradition. The program will consist of three classes on the modern Jewish take on spirituality, values, and community. Our sessions are dynamic and interactive; and our Rabbis hope to provide an accessible and engaging program that can answer any and all questions. This program is open to the wider Chicago community. Please invite your friends to join us. RSVP at http://reformjudaism.org/learning/judaism-classes/taste-judaism-chicago.
SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY

On Saturday mornings members gather in the chapel to learn the many lessons of the weekly Torah portion. From one Fall to the next, we make our way, portion by portion, from Genesis through Deuteronomy. Over the year, not only will we understand the many nuances of our Torah saga, but we will also connect more deeply with the forms of communal study through which Jews have always explored the many meanings of Torah.

OPEN HEARTS & OPEN DOORS

Sinai’s program for interfaith couples is a testimony to the power of compassion, caring and open minds. This experience is not about proselytizing or conversion; instead, it focuses on how we meet fundamental spiritual needs. The program allows couples to discuss important topics in a safe, nurturing and respectful environment. This program is open to the wider Chicago community. Please invite your friends to join us. RSVP at RSVP@chicagosinai.org.

FILM REVIEW

Join us as Zbigniew Banas, a former movie critic for The Reader, leads a discussion of a current film. Participants view the movie in the theater and then meet at Sinai in the Social Hall on the first floor. The cost includes dessert. To make a reservation, please call the Temple office or email at rsvp@chicagosinai.org.

SINAI BOOK GROUP

Join fellow congregants for an exploration of both fiction and non-fiction books of Jewish interest on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 pm in the Sinai Chapel. On September 12, we will discuss Judas by Amos Oz.

On October 10, we will discuss Moonglow by Michael Chabon.

On November 14, we will discuss Founding Faith by Steven Waldman.

On December 12, be sure to join us for a discussion led by Rabbi Limmer about The Secret Book of Kings: A Novel, by Yochi Brandes.
Rabbi Greene’s Discretionary Fund
Andrew and Dana Ellbogen
In memory of David Ellbogen
Joel Salk
In memory of my mother, Mildred Salk
Cheryl and Steven Margolis
In memory of Jack Newman
Rabbi Limmer’s Discretionary Fund
Marc and Sharen Berman
In loving memory of Ruth Berman
Leah Bricker
Gerald and Penny Swarzman
In honor of Chicago Sinai Congregation
Alexa and Matt James
In honor of the naming of our daughter Sadie James
Joseph & Trina Zych
In appreciation of Chicago Sinai Congregation
Aisling Holt
In honor of Rabbi Limmer
Rabbi Zinn’s Discretionary Fund
Jeff Gardner, Gretchen Kottkamp, Carrie and Josh Mangoubi, and Jill Baker
In memory of Charles Klein
Temple Fund
Helaine Billings
In memory of Gerald Franks, uncle of Evy Asch and Jamie Asch
Jerry Dreyfuss & Beverly Goldberg
In memory of Mildred Salk
Sharon & Harris Goldenberg
In memory of Roger Goldhamer and David Ellbogen
Jill Graham
In memory of Jean Abramowitz Samuels
Harry B and Ady Rosenberg
In memory of Tom Kallen
Edith DeMar
In honor of Ady Rosenberg’s birthday
Jill Graham
In memory of my husband Burton Lewis Samuels
Jerry Dreyfuss & Beverly Goldberg
In memory of David Ellbogen
Elaine and Floyd Abramson
In memory of Floyd Whellan’s birthday
Patricia Sklar & Samuel Polsky
In honor of the birthday of Bruce Boruszak
Social Action Teen Living Program
In memory of David Ellbogen
Condominiums of Northbrook Ct Bldg III
Jose Luis and Amy Cuevas
Jill Goldhamer
Marlene Iser
Lawrence & Barbara Korman
Lynn Mense
Cathy Nachman
Charlotte & Sidney Projansky
Marian Scheffler
Hazel Schwartz
Music Fund
Michael & Judi Greenberg
In memory of David Ellbogen
Steve Andes
In memory of my mother Charlotte Andes
Jenner School Fund
Ferle Terry
In memory of my father, Joseph Citron

Conclusions to the
Family and Friends of
Vince Leavitt
Father of Jennifer (Jimmy),
Grandfather of Charlie and Sienna Oppenheimer

Diane Smoler
Aunt of Lesly (David) Koo

Charles Klein
Uncle of Jill Baker, Great-Uncle of Carrie Mangoubi

Mildred Salk
Mother of Joel (Lorrie) Salk,
Grandmother of Andy Salk

Nora C. Owens
Sister of Will Jones (Heidi Kon) and
Aunt of Noah, Franklin and Levi Jones

David Ellbogen
Father of Andrew (Dana) Ellbogen
and Brother of Marian Scheffler

Bernard Berman
Father of Rabbi Howard Berman

Laverne Murphy
Good friend of Ferle Terry

Gerald Franks
Uncle of Evy Asch and Jamie Asch

Thomas Kallen
Husband of Esta Kallen

Congratulations to
Carter Glass and Evelyn Fernandez
on their marriage

Joanna Burgraf and Alex Moritz
On their marriage

Alexa and Matthew James
On the naming of their daughter Sadie Rose James

Stephanie and Brent Steele
On the naming of their twin daughters Sophie and Jane Steele

Talia Albert
Daughter of Heidi and Craig Albert
On becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Eve Darke
Daughter of Liz and Richard Darke
On becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Ava Falk
Daughter of Lesli and Bradley Falk
On becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Amon Gray
Son of Chandra and Steven Gray
On becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Mamie Hirsh
Daughter of Ying and Evan Hirsh
On becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Congratulations to
Phoebe Krueger and Scott Swift
Daughter of Rachel and Michael Krueger
Son of Sara and Blake Swift
On becoming B’nai Mitzvah

Jacob Laytin
Son of Kerrie Maloney Laytin and
Daniel Laytin
On becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Braden Sedler
son of Marla and Eric Sedler
on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Albert Family
In honor of Talia Albert becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Darke Family
In honor of Eve Darke becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Falk Family
In honor of Ava Falk becoming a Bat Mitzvah

The Gray Family
In honor of Amon Gray becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Hirsh Family
In honor of Mamie Hirsh becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Krueger and Swift Families
In honor of Phoebe Krueger and
Scott Swift becoming B’nai Mitzvah

The Laytin and Maloney Families
In honor of Jacob Laytin becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Rosenfeld Family
In honor of Annie Rosenfeld becoming a Bat Mitzvah

The Sedler Family
In honor of Braden Sedler becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Taylor and Pollack Families
In honor of Hudson Taylor becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Pulpit Flowers
Kate Kestnbaum, Ellyn and John Daniels,
Meyer Kestnbaum and Cynthia Cook
In memory of Robert Kestnbaum and
Nathan Trynin

The Leichenko Family
In memory of Harold Leichenko

The Barrows Family
In memory of June H. Barrows
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<td>12pm Learning in the Loop</td>
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<td>Lunch Program: Bring Bag Lunches 9am Pancake Breakfast</td>
<td>Movie Group</td>
<td>10am CJE at Sinai</td>
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<td>10:15am Movie Group</td>
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<td>12:30pm Confirmation</td>
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<td>20th Anniversary Shabbat Eve/Oneg</td>
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<td>10:30am Annie Rosenfeld Bat Mitzvah</td>
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<td>10:30am Apple Picking at Polsky Orchard</td>
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<td>10am CJE at Sinai</td>
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<td>SUKKOT TEMPLE CLOSED</td>
<td>6:15pm Sukkot Shabbat Eve/Oneg</td>
<td>9:30am Torah Study 10:30am Amon Gray Bar Mitzvah FALL MITZVAH DAY</td>
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<td>Lunch Program: Bring Bag Lunches</td>
<td>COLUMBUS DAY 9:15am Movie Group</td>
<td>10am CJE at Sinai 2pm Book Group</td>
<td>11am Adult Ed with Rabbi Limmer 6:30pm Beer &amp; Bourbon in the Booth</td>
<td>SIMCHAT TORAH TEMPLE CLOSED</td>
<td>6:15pm Simchat Torah Shabbat Eve/Oneg</td>
<td>9:30am Torah Study 4:30pm Ronald McDonald</td>
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<td>10am Cafè Sinai 10:30am Make Yourself More 11:30am Consecration Family Service 12:30pm Confirmation 2pm Sunday Supper at Fourth Church</td>
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<td>11am Adult Ed with Rabbi Limmer 6pm Open Hearts, Open Doors</td>
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<td>9:30am Torah Study 10:30am Eve Darke Bat Mitzvah 12pm B’ni Mitzvah Retreat</td>
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<td>10am CJE at Sinai 11am 50’s &amp; Beyond Outing 12pm Learning in the Loop</td>
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<td>10am CJE at Sinai 2 pm Book Club</td>
<td>11am Adult Ed with Rabbi Limmer</td>
<td>6:15pm Shabbat Eve/Oneg</td>
<td>Fall Choral Program</td>
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<td>10am CJE at Sinai 7pm Interfaith Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break Temple Closed</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break Temple Closed</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break Temple Opens at 4PM 6:15pm Shabbat Eve/Oneg</td>
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<td>11am Adult Ed with Rabbi Limmer 6pm Open Hearts, Open Doors</td>
<td>10am CJE at Sinai 11am Adult Ed with Rabbi Zinn 3pm B’ni Mitzvah with Rabbi Zinn 6pm Intro to Judaism</td>
<td>9:30am Torah Study 10:30am Phoebe Krueger &amp; Scout Swift B’not Mitzvah</td>
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SINAI | Save the Date!

PLEASE JOIN THE SINAI PRESCHOOL AND TEMPLE FAMILIES

TOT SHABBAT!
Friday, October 13
Friday, November 3
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

This music filled service will be conducted in our Chapel by one of our Rabbis and is ideal for children under the ages of 5 years.

Jeremy Raskin, singer, songwriter and children's entertainer, will be sharing his music and songs.

Dinner and entertainment in the social hall will immediately follow service.

$40 per family

Call the Temple office at 312.867.7000 to RSVP.