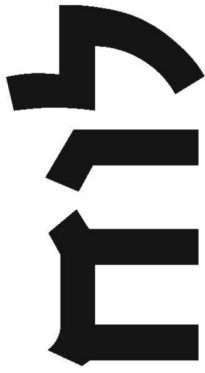




# TEMPLE SINAI

A vibrant, progressive community



Tevet/Shevat 5778  
January 2018

Vol. LXX  
Issue 5

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## January in the Sanctuary

Friday, Jan. 5	7:30 PM	Erev Shabbat Service, with guest speaker Alit Wiel-Shafran
Saturday, Jan. 6	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Community Minyan
Friday, Jan. 12	6:00 PM	Shabbat@Six!: New Member Welcome Shabbat
Saturday, Jan. 13	10:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service, including the Bar Mitzvah of Oscar Reichgott
Friday, Jan. 19	7:30 PM	Erev Shabbat Service
Friday, Jan. 26	6:00 PM	Shabbat@Six!
Saturday, Jan. 27	9:00 AM	Shabbat Mishpacha

### Two Shabbat Dinners in January!

**Friday, Jan. 12 following Shabbat@Six services:** We will gather together for a lovely catered meal at our monthly Community Shabbat dinner. We invite everyone--all ages--to join us for our first dinner of the new year. At this dinner, we especially welcome and celebrate members who have joined Temple Sinai in the last year. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are always available. Come enjoy conversation, good food, and community.



**Friday, Jan. 26 following Shabbat@Six services:** Join us for a Tu B'Shevat Seder and dinner -- for all ages and for our entire community. We will celebrate the Jewish New Year for the Trees and discover Jewish perspectives on the environment and nature. There will be singing, readings, and other activities and we sample ritual foods of the Land of Israel. *Register and pay for each dinner through our website. Financial assistance is always available. Join us for both evenings!*



### Guest Speaker Alit Wiel-Shafran "Success and Continuing Challenges"

Erev Shabbat Services  
Friday, Jan. 5  
7:30 p.m.

Please join us at Erev Shabbat Services on Friday, Jan. 5. Guest speaker **Alit Wiel-Shafran** will draw from her experience and knowledge of renewable energy, sustainable food, and light contamination.

*Alit serves as Head of the Har HaNegev Environmental Unit, where she is responsible for implementing sustainability practices such as resource management, energy efficiency, environmental education, environmental design, a sustainable food project, and environmental enforcement. She is an alum of the Environmental Fellows Program, Heschel Sustainability Center, Israel and is currently a Wexner Fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School for Public Policy. We welcome all to join us!*

For a complete listing of upcoming events at Temple Sinai, go to our website: [www.sinaibrookline.org](http://www.sinaibrookline.org)

# a n n o u n c e m e n t s

*Save the Date!*

## 9th Annual Jewish Poetry Festival Sunday, Feb. 4, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

This year's event for adults will include a reading by **Barbara Helfgott Hyett** and an open mic. Join us for an afternoon of poetry, music, and refreshments, with readings by accomplished Jewish poets on Jewish themes. The event will be moderated by Larry Lowenthal. *Coordinated by Deborah Leipziger, Judith Steinberg, and Jennifer Barber.*

### Shabbat Torah Yoga

Saturday, Jan. 20, 9:30 a.m.

Join us for a morning of embodied prayer and reflections on the week's Torah portion, expressed through a gentle yoga flow led by a certified yoga instructor. All levels and physical abilities welcome. These monthly classes take place in a second-floor classroom. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one.



### Tzedek@Sinai

Tzedek@Sinai is the social justice arm of Temple Sinai. It has four action teams:

Climate Change, Criminal Justice Reform, Immigration Justice, and Healthcare Reform. For more information about our upcoming programs and to find out how you can get involved, please email [tzedek@sinaibrookline.org](mailto:tzedek@sinaibrookline.org)

The next **Tzedek Sundaes, "2,600 Strong Support Our Muslim Friends,"** is Sunday, Jan. 29, 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Weintraub Auditorium.



### Temple Sinai Book Group II

Book Club 2 will meet on **Tuesday, Jan. 9** (not the usual first Tuesday of the month) at 7:00 p.m. at the Brookline home of Rose Perrizo and Rich Goldstein for a potluck dinner and discussion. The book is ***Here I Am*** by **Jonathan Safran Foer**. New members are welcome. For more information, contact **Malcolm Russell-Einhorn** at [m.russell-einhorn@umb.edu](mailto:m.russell-einhorn@umb.edu).

### Caring Committee

The Caring Committee offers support to those facing stressful life transitions such as the birth or adoption of a child, a death in the family, an illness, a move to a new home, or an injury. Thanks to our numerous volunteers, we can provide:

- food deliveries (meals, *shiva* or *bris* platters, fruit)
- transportation to the Temple
- hospital and home visits
- prescription pick-ups
- check-in phone calls

Please don't hesitate to call on us in times of need.

The January co-coordinators are

<b>Ellen Blinder</b> 617-645-9997 <a href="mailto:ecblinder@aol.com">ecblinder@aol.com</a>	<b>Stephanie Erber</b> 857-998-1681 <a href="mailto:stepherber@hotmail.com">stepherber@hotmail.com</a>
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**The Caring Committee needs volunteers!** If you would like to help, or if you have ideas or questions about the Caring Committee, please contact co-chair **Andrea Fein** at 203-858-5328.

*Many thanks to December's Caring Committee co-chairs, Rose Perrizo and Jen Ford, and to the Temple members who in many ways showed the caring that makes Temple Sinai such a special place.*

### A Note from Rabbi Andy Vogel and Rabbi Shoshana Friedman

As your rabbis, we want to be present with you at significant moments in your life. Please contact us at times of joy as well as times of sadness. We want to offer support, express sympathy, celebrate with you, and otherwise be present for you in your lives. **IN THE CASE OF A DEATH IN YOUR FAMILY**, please notify one of us, even if the funeral is out of town. Please contact us in the case of illness as well, so we may be helpful to you and your family.

**To reach Rabbi Vogel:** Call me at the office at 617-277-5888 x2, or email me at [RabbiVogel@SinaiBrookline.org](mailto:RabbiVogel@SinaiBrookline.org). **In an emergency or a death in your family:** Please call me on my cell phone at (617) 257-6848 in the case of a death or other emergency. **To set an appointment:** You may call me directly, or call Nancy Hogan in the Temple office to schedule an appointment with me. If you need to change an appointment, please call Nancy.

**To reach Rabbi Shoshana:** Please note that Rabbi Shoshana Friedman is currently on maternity leave during Spring 2018. She will be available for pastoral needs and other temple-related business when she returns from her leave.

## Temple Sinai לוח CALENDAR LU'ACH

CONTENT EDITOR: Deborah Nam-Krane  
PRODUCTION EDITOR: Beth Winickoff

The deadline for material to be included in the Sinai Calendar/Lu'ach is the 1st of the previous month. ([news@sinaibrookline.org](mailto:news@sinaibrookline.org)) For advertising rates and information please call the Executive Director, Linda Katz.

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Member of the Union for Reform Judaism; affiliated with the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts

## adult learning

### The Nentershausen Synagogue

with Stephen Denker

Author Stephen Denker will read from his book *The Nentershausen Synagogue*, about a small Jewish community in Germany—before and after the years of Nazi tyranny—told in the stories of the Community's cherished Synagogue and of two surviving families. On Kristallnacht, in one of Germany's small rural villages, the community's Synagogue was trashed, but not destroyed. Its desecrated lintel above the Torah ark is on exhibit at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. In 1987, the derelict building was dismantled, moved to Hessenpark in Neu-Anspach, Germany and lovingly rebuilt, the witness to Jewish presence. The book is currently available at the USHMM museum shop.

*Stephen Denker, formerly a university professor and consultant, has been collaboratively researching family histories since 2000. He has self-published nine family history, genealogy and commercial books. In 2007 he spent two weeks in Havana, Cuba doing research, visiting where his family lived in the 1920s, including their underwear factory, and updating the Havana United Hebrew Congregation's Jewish Cemetery records on-site and photographing the 1,600 gravestones.*

**Sunday, Jan. 28, 11:00 a.m.-12:20 p.m.**

### Israeli Film Series: *The Kind Words*

coordinated by Temple Sinai member Amos Lassen

Join us at Temple Sinai for our own mini Jewish film festival. Each film has been specially chosen for an evening together with friends. Schmooze, watch a movie and discuss it afterwards.

January's film is *The Kind Words*. When her mother is admitted into hospital for an operation in Tel Aviv, Dorona



and her two brothers rush to be with her. As they deal with their mother's condition, they put aside what is happening in their own lives. There are several surprises they will have to face that will change their lives forever.

**Saturday, Jan. 20, 7:30 p.m.**

### Shabbat Morning Torah Study

with Rabbi Andy Vogel

Join us to discuss the ideas presented by the week's Torah portion (in English).

**2nd & 4th Saturday mornings of each month  
9:00-10:20 a.m. in our classroom building**

### Thursday Morning Study Group

with Rabbi Andy Vogel

This informal class studies a wide variety of topics with lively discussions, museum trips, films and text study.

**Every Thursday, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Ehrenfried**

### Havurah Groups for Shabbat and Study

Forming a Havurah ("friendship group") to celebrate Shabbat and Jewish holidays or to study together once every 6-8 weeks builds community and develops deeper relationships within a Jewish context. Temple Sinai is continuing our initiative to develop additional Havurot within our congregation, and we provide support for our members who wish to form a Havurah for study or Shabbat and holiday celebrations. Currently, these Havurot are meeting within our community:

- Young Adults Havurah
- Jamaica Plain/Roslindale Families Havurah
- Families with Young Children

More Adult Learning, p. 8

## acknowledgments

### RABBI'S FUND

- In honor of our grandson Ruben Mendoza's Bar Mitzvah by Harvey and Shirley Stein
- In memory of Alvin Glick by Lili Meisel
- In appreciation of our wedding ceremony by Elliot Friedman and Paula Kaplan

### GENERAL FUND

- In memory of Louis Marks by Larry Marks
- In memory of Steven Anteen by Norman Levin
- In appreciation of the baby-naming ceremony by Eric and Caren Elias
- In memory of Glen Trimble by David Trimble
- In memory of Rose Kauffman by Judith Baker

In honor of Rabbi Vogel's special birthday by Kathy Arnstein, Mario Calderon, Rabbi Cherina Eisenberg, Rabbi Shoshana Friedman, Nancy Hogan, Heidi Smith Hyde, and Linda Katz

In memory of Abraham Kauffman by Judith Baker

In memory of Ruth Seltzer by Steven and Rochelle Seltzer

In memory of Edward Gartman by Steven and Rochelle Seltzer

In memory of Robert Berenholz by Steven and Rochelle Seltzer

In memory of Fannie Ziskind Swareman by Steven and Rochelle Seltzer

### PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of Henry Kaplan by Paula Kaplan

### WEINTRAUB FUND FOR EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC

In memory of Edward Axelrod by Toby Axelrod

### RABBI FRANK AND BETH WALDORF SCHOOL FUND

In appreciation of Mike Klau's tireless efforts on behalf of URJ summer camp by Larry Marks and Toby Axelrod

In honor of Lucy Waldorf on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah by Larry Marks and Toby Axelrod

### INTERFAITH PROGRAM FUND

In memory of Donald Dennis by Ann S. Kliman





# i n o u r l i v e s

We congratulate our members Steven and Rochelle Seltzer on the dedication of an oil painting portrait of Steven at the Brigham & Women's Hospital, on Nov. 17, in celebration of Steven's 20-year service to the hospital as department chair of the radiology department, until his retirement in 2016. *Mazel tov*, Steve and Rochelle!

We are very sorry to inform you of the death of John Anders, father of our member, Jennifer Katz, who passed away on Nov. 25, in Bucks County, PA. He was 71 years old. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Jen, her husband Jon Katz, their children Jonah and Jacob, and their entire family.

The *Boston Globe* printed a letter to the editor on Nov. 28 by our member Susan Laster about gender stereotyping. You can read her letter at [www.tinyurl.com/y7s2kupn](http://www.tinyurl.com/y7s2kupn). *Mazel tov*, Susan!

*Mazel tov* to Caryl Hull Leavitt, whose oil painting "A Small Arrangement of Joy" was selected by juror John Stomberg,

Director of the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College, as "1 of 70 pieces out of 600 high quality entries" for the upcoming Catamount Arts Juried Show at Catamount Arts in St Johnsbury, VT. The art show runs from Dec. 2 to Feb. 16, 2018.

Temple member Rachael Cerrotti was featured in a beautiful segment on WBUR's "Kind World" segment, discussing her discovery of her grandmother's survival of the Holocaust and Rachael's own experiences meeting the descendants of the people who rescued her grandmother in Sweden. You can hear the 8-minute segment at [www.tinyurl.com/cerrottikindworld](http://www.tinyurl.com/cerrottikindworld), where photos of Rachael's grandmother, the mother of our member Janet Seckel-Cerrotti, are also available. *Mazel tov*, Rachael!

Rabbi Shoshana is featured in *The Tide Is Rising*, a short film by Protest Songs about how a pipeline fight in Boston gives rise to a meditation on climate activism and faith. Watch it here: [www.tinyurl.com/rsvtideisrising](http://www.tinyurl.com/rsvtideisrising)

## y a h r z e i t s

Rafael Abrahamer	Henry Englander	Terry Hulley	Nate Mroz-Shapiro	Dr. Sumner Smith
Esther Angoff	Charlie Falke	Arthur Israel	Rose Myerov	Iris Soiffer Miller
Alvin Anteen	Anna Atkins Fasten	Scott Jack	Helen Myers	Cynthia Spark
Mildred Axelrod	Melvin Feins	Abraham Jacobson	Lawrence Nagin	Frederick Marshal Stack
Sheila Babbie	Sanford Fine	Ada Just	Gertrude Nimon	Richard Alan Stone
Norma Bahm	Edith Fried	Miriam Kallen	Irving Norman	Morris Sugarman
Minnie Lazar Bakalar	Theodore Galkowski	Sidney D. Kallman	Jack Platt	Bernard Suskind
Martha Langham Barta	Jane Glick	Mary Kaplowitz	Murray Reich	Lloyd Dudley Tarlin
Irving Binney	Julie Goldberg	Joseph Karp	John Robbins	Steven R. Teitelbaum
Sherry Brand	Ronald Goldner	Stanley Kass	Scott Alan Rosenthal	Jacob Trachtenberg
Marty Bresnick	Fred Goldsmith	Arnold Kirshen	Ada Rov	Eleanor Cray Trimble
Helen Blanck Gartman Brodie	Adam Gordon	Sadie Klingenstein Klau	Irene Beatrice Rower	Mary Weinstein
Nicholas Burk	Daniel Gordon	Florence Klepeck	Elliott Harris Rutenberg	Walter Wekstein
Y. Lorimer "Lori" Caplan	Marvin Greenfield	Harold Landy	Marion Birkenmeier Sandell	William N. Wheeler
Ida Cline	David Greenglass	Sam Malcolm Levy	Lois Schneider	Joseph White
Albert Cohen	Richard Grossman	Allen Sidney Lewis	Morris Schneidman	David Winitzer
Elliot Corman	Kathleen Eric Hardoon	Stephan Liebow	Abe Schwartz	Florence Cohen Wolfe
Samuel "Mickey" Cotton	Claire Harr	David London	Dora Segal	Evelyn Wolkoff
Beverly David	Jami Hirsch	Celia Kamm Lurensky	Anita Sheola	Murray David Zellner
Anne Devine	Elias Honig	Jack Miller	Dolores Abraham Simon	Frank Zwick
Dorothy Edinburg	Lillian Honig	Timothy Charles Miller	Arnold Singal	
	Kenneth Hopkins	Richard Missan		

# religious school

## Grade 5 Family Programs Sundays, Jan. 7 & 28 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Grade 5 families will take part in a Torah learning program led by Rabbi Vogel and Family Learning Coordinator Justin Held. The programs will begin with a family breakfast in Ehrenfried Hall.

## Tikkun Olam Sunday Sunday, Jan. 7

Sinai U is volunteering at Family Table in Waltham! Please arrive at Temple Sinai by 8:30 a.m., and bring a snack. We will return in time for 12:30 p.m. pick-up. It's a mitzvah!

## Sinai U Classes for Grades 7-8 Sundays, Jan. 7, 14, 21, & 28

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Our Sinai U Sunday nights continue for students in Grades 7-8 in Ehrenfried Hall. As always, a tasty dinner will be served.

## Shabbat@Six! Services Fridays, Jan. 12 & 26 6:00 p.m.

Join us for our twice monthly "Shabbat @ Six!" services. The service will last one hour, and a "nosh" will be served beforehand. The service on Jan. 12 will feature a band and will be followed by a congregational Shabbat dinner. The service on Jan. 26 will be followed by a Tu B'Shevat seder.

## Parent Town Meeting Sunday, Jan. 14

Following religious school drop-off at 9:30 a.m., parents will meet in Ehrenfried Hall to check in about how things are going at religious school. *Sponsored by the Education & Youth Committee.*

## Grade 6 Pre-Bar and Bat Mitzvah Workshops Tuesdays, Jan. 16, 23, & 30 5:30-7:00 p.m.

These workshops kick off the Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience for families, with discussion led by Rabbi Vogel. Students will have religious school classes that day, as usual, but will be served a pizza dinner. *Students should attend with at least one parent.*

## Grade 4 Class Shabbat Friday, Jan. 19 7:30 p.m.

Our fourth graders will share with the congregation their thoughts about *Bo*, the Torah portion of the week.

## B'Yachad Family Havdalah Sunday, Jan. 21

9:30-10:00 a.m.

Families will come together for a havdalah gathering in the sanctuary, led by Rabbi Vogel and Music Educator Ari Sussman. There will be joyous singing and candle lighting.

## Grade 2 Family Program Sunday, Jan. 21

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Grade 2 families will take part in a learning program with Rabbi Vogel. We will begin with *B'Yachad* Family Havdalah! Afterwards, the students will return to class with their teachers.

## K'tonton Program for 3- and 4-Year-Olds

Sunday, Jan. 21

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Three- and four-year-olds will delight in Karen Halfon's monthly holiday program. Early drop-off and late pick-up are available. Free and open to the community. The topic? *Tu B'Shevat*, the New Year of the Trees!

## Mitzvah Day Task Force Meeting

Sunday, Jan. 21

11:30 a.m.

Join us in Ehrenfried Hall to help plan this year's event dedicated to community service. New task force members welcome!

## Grade 5 Kiddush Friday, Jan. 26

6:00 p.m.

At the Shabbat@Six! service, Grade 5 students will recite Kiddush.

## Shabbat *Mishpacha* Saturday, Jan. 27

9:00-9:45 a.m.

Come to our cozy Saturday morning Shabbat for families with children ages 0-7. These monthly celebrations, led by cantorial student Jennifer Boyle, include singing, a Shabbat story, Kiddush, and challah! Free and open to the community.

## Grade 4 Clayroom Visit Sunday, Jan. 28

In preparation for their Haggadah curriculum, Grade 4 students will walk to the Clayroom and paint Seder plates. This will occur during religious school hours.

## Grade 6 Visit to Mayyim Hayyim Community Mikveh

Sunday, Jan. 28

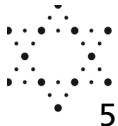
Grade 6 students will take a bus to Mayyim Hayyim Community Mikveh for an educational program and tour. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend this amazing trip!

## Bar Mitzvah

Oscar Reichgott  
Bar Mitzvah  
Jan. 13, 2018



Oscar Reichgott is a 7th grader at Boston Latin School. He enjoys playing soccer, tennis, piano and Magic, the Gathering. He also enjoys hanging out with his cats, Miggory and Pickles.



**TEMPLE SINAI**

A vibrant, progressive community

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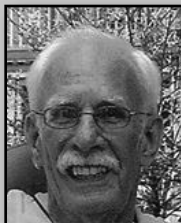
## adult learning

### **"Shared Stories, Rival Narratives"**

*with Temple Sinai member Amos Lassen*

What do the differences in the sacred stories narrated in the Hebrew Bible, the Christian Bible and the Qu'ran say about these faiths? This course looks at the scriptural interpretations of the three major religions. We will concentrate on four narratives: Cain and Abel, Sarah and Hagar, Joseph and Potiphar's wife, and Jonah and the whale. As we reread these stories from three different points of view, we will see the role of the interpreter as someone who shaped the development of the three religions and therefore also contributed to what sets the three apart from each other.

*Amos Lassen spent many years living in Israel after moving there in 1967. He moved to Brookline in May 2012 after seven years in Arkansas and New Orleans. He has taught at the Hebrew University, the University of New Orleans, and the University of Central Arkansas, and is a product of Young Judaea. Amos has also served as the book reviewer for the Jewish Advocate.*

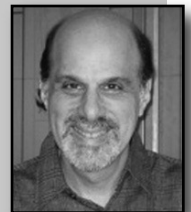


**4 Sundays, Jan. 7, 14, 21, & 28, 9:30-10:50 a.m.**

### **"Going Deep: Exploring the Bible through the Prayer Book"**

*with Temple Sinai member Sandy Goldfless*

Jewish liturgy contains numerous citations from the Bible, which provide layers of background to the prayers and enrich them. This three-session course will look at a selection of such passages and will also get into basic questions about what the biblical texts are in and of themselves and how they came to be. When we look at biblical texts through the lens of the prayers, we are also led to seek answers to even broader questions, among them: What do Jews mean by the word "Torah"? How has the idea of "holiness" changed over time? What is a "prophet"? Sandy Goldfless received his Ph.D. in Biblical and Near Eastern studies from Harvard University. He has led weekly discussions in Tanakh (Hebrew Bible), on beginning and advanced topics, for Temple Sinai and other synagogue communities, for more than 10 years.



**3 Sundays, Jan. 7, 14, & 21, 11:00 a.m.-12:20 p.m.**

More Adult Learning, p. 3