



VOICE OF SINAI

For Members and Friends of Congregation Sinai
 1532 Willowbrae Ave. San Jose, CA 95125 www.sinai-sj.org

Summer Fun! קייץ של כיף!



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Back To Shul!
Open House!

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I sit at a picnic table outside of *Binyan Bet* (Building B), listening to the sounds of the first day of second session at Camp Ramah in Ojai, California. Birds are chirping to one another. Counselors walk by hurriedly as they plan for their campers' first day activities. The air is pierced by occasional sounds of singing or excited screaming from campers who are reuniting with friends from previous summers.

Reflecting on the specialness of this place, it occurs to me that Ramah uniquely brings together campers, teen-age counselors-in-training, college students, Rabbis, teachers, professors, dancers, Israelis, and others. All of us are here to have transformative experiences.

Before the campers arrive, I attend *shacharit* (morning) services with the hundred or so staff members who are getting ready to welcome their new campers. There is something very special about praying at Camp Ramah. The room is filled with young Jews wearing *tallit* and *tefillin*, singing enthusiastically to prayers that they know well. The Ramah synagogue, *Beit K'nesset Ramah*, is located at the center of camp, nestled in hills of Ojai that are reminiscent of Israel. This is a place where Jewish prayer can be transformative. We recite the morning blessings, praising God with the words *oter yisrael b'ifarah* – who crowns Israel with glory. I think to myself, “this is surely a place for experiencing God’s glory.”

I meet up with the Sinai kids who have just arrived for second session. Their emotions are a blend of sadness after saying goodbye to parents, ex-



Rabbi Josh Berkenwald

hilaration at the thought of being on their own, and anticipation for the countless exciting activities that they will experience over the next four weeks. They will sing, swim, act, play sports like basketball, tennis, and flag football, surf, do social action projects, learn Hebrew, and more – all in an environment in which Judaism is the norm twenty-four hours a day.

Camp Ramah is important not only for the experiences that it offers kids, but also for the Jewish leadership training that it offers to their counselors. Not only are campers' experiences infused with Jewish learning, the staff also spend time exploring their own Jewish identities. Later tonight, I will lead a “Schmooze with the Rabbi” session for some of the *mumchim*, specialists – the lifeguards, sports instructors, art teachers, drama coaches... Many of the rabbis, cantors, and teachers of the Conservative movement were inspired by their time at Ramah. It is a training ground for the future leaders of the Jewish community. I believe I became a rabbi due, at least in part, to the leadership experiences that I gained during the three summers that I was a *madrich* (counselor) at Camp Ramah. That is why it is such a great privilege for me to be able to visit in the summer with my family.

I am proud and excited that parents in our community have chosen to send approximately fifteen kids to be campers and counselors at Camp Ramah this summer. Whatever they do in their lives, I hope that their experiences will be as transformative as mine have been and continue to be.



President's Message

Summer is here, filled with the sounds of kids swimming in the pool and shooting baskets, driving camp carpools and manning the barbeque. Summer always reminds me of summer camp and my childhood. I am looking forward to looking back later this month as two of my



*President
David
Fernandez*

best childhood friends are going to be in town visiting with their kids from Seattle and Los Angeles. Our Fourth Musketeer lives in Oakland. The sight of my boys along with the children of my friends, around the kitchen table that we sat at as teens, is really enjoyable. We try to get our kids together once a year and, while they are all very different, they get along pretty well. So, how does this relate to summer? While I met these friends at a Kadima event in 6th grade, what solidified our relationship is that we all went to Camp Arazim (Northern California's now defunct Conservative Jewish summer camp) together for many years. Even though we have all taken different paths and don't see each other often, these are my life-long friends whom I have always been able to count on and with whom

I have shared all sorts of life events, both happy and sad. I believe the experience we shared in Jewish youth group and at Jewish camp nourished the relationship we still share today. I also believe these experiences have led me to a successful career in sales and helped create my foundation as a committed Jewish adult.

Now to the next generation. Three of the families of the Musketeers are packing their kids' trunks, ready to send their kids to a Jewish summer camp. My children will be going to Camp Ramah in Ojai while my friend from Seattle sends his kids to a Solomon Schechter camp in Washington State. One of our other friend's daughters go to a Modern Orthodox camp in Ohio. The children in these same three families have children that are involved in Jewish youth groups. As you know, it is not always easy to get kids to pack their bags and leave home for a month, or to attend a function with kids older than they are with whom they do not have close relationships, but I really believe that attending camp and youth group makes a difference.

In our busy lives, it can take an effort to convince your child to try something new and outside of their comfort zone, and it can take effort on your part to get them to their destination amidst competing activities. But, I encourage you to give it a try.

Having friends in a different context than school or sports can be a relief for many kids and allow them to show themselves in a different light. It also allows them to meet other kids that they might not otherwise have a chance to meet and broaden their social horizons. And, who knows, some thirty years later, they may be sitting around the kitchen table with their kids and the kids of their camp friends, showing how silly they looked in their camp photos from long ago and leading our next generation of community volunteers as committed Jewish adults.

As you continue to enjoy the summer and watch your children and grandchildren grow and mature, consider the foundation that you are providing for them and what role a Jewish summer camp and youth group may play in their development as people and as Jews. At Sinai, we have Jr. Kadima for children in 5th and 6th grade led by Rozita Tabibian, Kadima for 7th and 8th grade children led by our Youth Education Director, Kate Mueller, and USY for 9th-12th graders. We are in the process of interviewing several candidates to take over USY after Debbie Lewis' retirement to raise her son, Jaren.

So, encourage your kids to attend an event this fall. Who knows whom they will meet.

Welcome New Members!

Bruchim Haba'im - ברוכים הבאים

Congregation Sinai welcomes the following new members this month:

Jonathan and Susan Sweedler, Maya and Ari

We look forward to spending time with you over the coming holidays and events.

Nursery School

Shalom,

Our summer program is going great. The staff has been busy planning and implementing exciting activities, and the children were actively involved in the different aspects of the weekly themes. As the days got warmer, the children began coming to school wearing bathing suits so they could run through the sprinklers, adding water to the sandbox so that they could build with wet sand, play at the water table, and mostly water

our amazing garden. Our corn is taller than any of us, the cherry tomatoes are yummy, the pumpkin is huge, and the rest of the vegetables are ripening nicely. Thank you Monique and our afternoon club for creating this wonderful garden in our back yard.

The school purchased a new awning to replace the old, worn out one. It helps keep our yard shaded in the summer. Thank you to our wonderful parents who helped put it together: Kevin Dyche, Marc Shull, Marc Lavi and Andrea. We are really benefiting from this addition.

The enrollment for the next school year is at its highest ever. We have very limited openings. If you or any of your acquaintances are interested in joining our wonderful school, please contact me ASAP by email at director@sinainurseyschool.org or call me at 408-264-8486. We will be having a parent orientation on Friday, August 26 between 9:30-11:00 A.M.

Miki Gurantz, Director
Sinai Nursery School

Religious School

This past June, I had the opportunity to participate in the New Director's Institute, a conference for new directors of Conservative religious schools. The conference was held outside of Baltimore, Maryland. I initially hoped to do a lot of networking with the new crop of Conservative religious school directors, learn how they deal with the common issues facing religious school education, and trade ideas for programs. I did not anticipate the most interesting aspect of the conference.

As I spoke with the other directors, I learned that most schools (day school & religious school) use a curriculum theory called Understanding by Design (UBD). This theory was written by Grant Wiggins from the secular education world. Understanding by Design is a "backwards approach" because it starts with the desired learning outcomes and then works out the learning activities, assessment tools and materials to

achieve them. I decided to research this curriculum, find out why everyone uses it, and consider whether it would be worthwhile to apply it to the Sinai curriculum.

I found it to be very organized when it comes to learning outcomes. It divides the objectives into what the students will understand, know and be able to do. There are six ways to understand something according to Wiggins: interpret, empathize, explain, apply, gain perspective, and acquire knowledge of facts. This curriculum theory involves identifying essential questions that will provoke meaningful and challenging questions in the classroom. Another interesting aspect of this theory is that it makes students aware of the goals of each lesson from the beginning.

I felt inspired to apply UBD to our current religious school curriculum. I wanted to start with a project that was accomplishable within the amount of time before religious school begins. I have begun applying

UBD to the chagim (holidays) curriculum for the entire school.

UBD will benefit our school because it will help us address the age-old issue of religious school not being sufficiently challenging for students as well as being repetitive. It challenges us to look deeper at our learning objectives and to consider what the students will be able to interpret and explain, what facts they will know, how they will be able to apply the lessons to their lives, etc...

I am very excited to be able to engage our children in Jewish learning in a deeper and more comprehensive way. If you are interested in more information about this curriculum theory and how we are applying it to our school, please feel free to come to the religious school office to take a peek at how it's developing.

Katherine Mueller
Education Director

Youth Activities

Shabbat Storytime for Children

Saturday, August 27

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for a fun, educational session of Jewish storytelling. For ages 0-5.



Adult Activities

Sisterhood Book Club

Sunday, August 14

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

We will be discussing the book *Bad Girl* by Nario Llosa - a love story involving a girl masquerading as upper class. Please contact the Sinai office for location. For more information, contact sisterhood@sinai-sj.org.

Silicon Valley Beit Midrash

Thursdays

9:30 to 11:00 am

Join Rabbi Josh Berkenwald in an ongoing class for in-depth study of Jewish thought, belief, and practice. Free; drop-ins are welcome; no experience necessary. We are currently studying the Book of Samuel.

During August, SVBM meets on August 4, 11, 18, and 25.

Upcoming Events

Emergency Preparedness Shabbat

Saturday, August 6

9:00 am

A City of San Jose police officer will be present to lead us in our annual mock evacuation drill during Shabbat services. Please join us to celebrate Shabbat and to participate in this important event so that we can all be prepared in case a disaster should occur.

Tisha b'Av Service

Monday, August 8

8:00 pm

Join us to observe Tisha b'Av with an evening service of communal mourning including the chanting of Eicha (Book of Lamentations) and Kinot poems.

Kabbalat Shabbat and Happy Hour

Friday, August 12

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Wine and appetizers (adult and child-friendly) at 5:30 pm followed by Kabbalat Shabbat at 6:00 pm.

Get Familiar With the High Holiday Mahzor

Rosh Hashanah:

Thursday, August 25

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Yom Kippur:

Thursday, September 8

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Rabbi Josh Berkenwald will teach two stand-alone sessions about the liturgy of the High Holidays, exploring the exciting new Conservative *Mahzor Lev Shalem*. Spiritually prepare yourself for the new year by learning about the poetry, history, and meaning of the prayers for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Nursery School Orientation

Friday, August 26

9:30 am - 11:00 am

Parents and children are invited to come visit the Nursery School from 9:30 am - 11 am.

Back To Shul

Friday, September 9

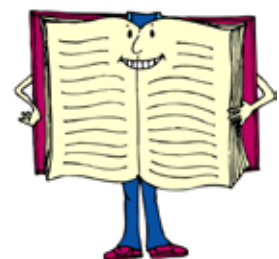
5:30 pm

Celebrate the end of summer and get ready for a great new year with Congregation Sinai! The evening includes wine and hors d'oeuvres, Kabbalat Shabbat service, and Shabbat dinner. RSVP by September 6 for the Early Bird Discount!

Early Bird Discount: \$20 per adult (age 13 and up); \$5 per child (age 5-12); free for children under age 5; \$54 maximum per family

Regular price: \$24 per adult (age 13 and up); \$10 per child (age 5-12); free for children under age 5; \$65 maximum per family

Bring a prospective member, and dinner is half-price for you and your guest! Contact Joelle at jpluemer@sinai-sj.org or (408) 264-8543 for details.



Congregation Sinai's New B'nei Mitzvah Program

A child's becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah is one of a family's signature Jewish moments, and is one of the most significant moments in a Jewish child's life. It is an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge that a child has gained through formal education as well as the beginning of new personal and communal Jewish responsibilities.

To meet the needs of our growing community, the Board of Directors of Congregation Sinai approved a major revision of the B'nei Mitzvah program. This new, comprehensive program is designed to accomplish several goals:

- comprehensively prepare all children in our congregation for their B'nei Mitzvah,
- instill a sense of Jewish identity and personal connection with the Sinai community that will last a lifetime,
- provide B'nei Mitzvah families with a meaningful Jewish experience that inspires growth and learning.

Achieving these ambitious goals requires engaging the children in our community in diverse contexts over many years. Much thought and planning has gone into developing a program that expresses the ideals of the Sinai community. Please keep in mind that the Sinai B'nei Mitzvah program is designed for everyone in the congregation. It is expected that every student will remain enrolled in the Sinai Religious School or a Jewish Day School through seventh grade.

The B'nei Mitzvah program is designed both to teach Jewish children how to participate in Jewish worship as well as to be future leaders in the Jewish community and in the world. It has been designed to meet the needs of the families of Congregation Sinai and reflect the values of the community. Here are some aspects of the new program towards which to look forward:

- To help students develop confidence and mastery of the Shabbat morning service, children will be given many opportunities to lead prayers during youth programs and in the main sanctuary. A comprehensive list of objectives will enable teachers to support each child's individual progress beginning in 3rd grade.
- B'nei Mitzvah families will meet in 5th grade for the first of several family education sessions with the Rabbi, as well as to select B'nei Mitzvah dates.
- During sixth grade, all students attending Sinai Religious School or a Jewish Yavneh Day School will spend one hour on Sunday mornings from 9:00 am to 10:00 am learning to lead prayers from the Shabbat morning service, as well as to chant Haftarah.
- During seventh grade, all students will meet weekly on Sunday mornings through December. Students will explore real-world Jewish ethics, and will develop family mitzvah projects, to be performed monthly by the entire class during the Spring.
- Students will receive individual tutoring at the synagogue with a Sinai-employed tutor in weekly, half-hour sessions.

This new program represents the hard work of a number of Sinai staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. We look forward to continuing to provide meaningful Jewish experiences for all of our members.

Meet our B'nei Mitzvah

When our young people become B'nei Mitzvah, it is an opportunity for the entire Sinai community to take pride in their accomplishments. This month at Sinai, we celebrate as Leila Ullman and Samuel Lichy become our newest adult members.



Leila Ullman - August 20

Throughout the time that my older sister, Izzy, was preparing for her Bat Mitzvah in May of 2009, I was constantly thinking to myself; *in just two years, all of this will be about me!*, and I was very excited. Then, when my turn came to begin going to my tutoring classes, and finding a perfect tallit, and planning my party, everything became real for me. I realized that having a Bat Mitzvah is not all about having all of the attention on you, but about how you are really becoming a part of the community, and working hard! Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means learning trope, going to services to actually pray, (rather than going to see your friends), helping the community by doing community service, and so much more. I am very excited to be celebrating my entrance into the Jewish community on August 20th! I hope that you all can join me on this special day.



Samuel Lichy - August 27

Hi, my name is Sam Lichy and I am part of the 2010-2011 B'nei Mitzvah class. I am looking forward to having my Bar Mitzvah ceremony at Congregation Sinai, where I began my formal Jewish education at Sinai Nursery School. Preparing for my Bar Mitzvah has been a long but exciting process. Music is a very important part of my life. I play trumpet, guitar, bass, and trombone. As a musician, it was interesting for me to learn trope and how it works with my awesome teacher Debbie.

Athletics are also very important to me. I swim competitively year round with Osprey Aquatics and I have been swimming since I was five years old. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I am going to raise money and run a half marathon for the Leukemia Lymphoma society. It will be very special to have all my family and friends with me to celebrate my Bar Mitzvah.

The families of our August B'nei Mitzvot warmly invite the entire congregation to join them for Shabbat services and to celebrate afterwards with Kiddush luncheons.

Sinai's New B'nei Mitzvah Program Parent Informational Meeting

Thursday, August 3, 7:30 pm

This is an opportunity to learn about the exciting new B'nei Mitzvah program, beginning this year. All Religious School and Day School parents of students in 5th, 6th, and 7th grades should plan to attend this meeting at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary, unless they attended the earlier session in July.

Todah Rabah, Thank You

תודה רבה

Todah rabah to...

- Hilda Balakhane for planning, organizing, shopping and cooking a wonderful and delicious Persian Shabbat dinner in May
- Joan Abrams, Angela Balakhane, Rita Balakhane, Itan Boothehsaz, Malka Doron, Renee Fields, Shira Fishbin, Alisa Israel Goldberg, Isaac Jason, Marcia Klein, Cindy Levinson, Suze Peters, Rene Prupes, Kiana Sedighpour, Susan Silver and Hope Yaghutiel for helping Hilda Balakhane with the Persian Shabbat dinner
- Albert Sedihpour & Hilda Balakahne and Ahsan Boothehsaz & Rita Balakhane for their donation to help subsidize the Persian Shabbat dinner
- Rozita Tabibian for organizing the Jr. Kadima picnic at Houge Park
- Steve and Susan Ellenberg for hosting the Kadima Teen Lag B'Omer Bonfire event at their home
- Alan and Leslie Steinberg for hosting the USY float-in movies and elections party at their home
- Alisa Israel Goldberg for hosting the Sisterhood Girls Night Out potluck dinner at her home
- Lorraine Hoff for hosting the Sisterhood Book Club meeting at her home
- Julie Firsty for volunteering to take on a special office project
- Rita Jacobson for her help with office mailing
- Julie Firsty, Alisa Israel Goldberg, Stan Goldstein, Rita Jacobson, Jerry Lopatin, MJ Lopatin and Julie Tardos for editing and proofreading the Sinai Directory
- Miriam Leiseroff for her help in the office
- Jack Sloan for donating food for Kiddush
- Cindy Levinson for organizing, shopping and cooking for the Dairy Delight Dinner and to Janet Dombro, Malka Doron and Susan Silver who helped with the cooking for the Shavuot dinner in June
- Rabbi Josh Berkenwald, Alisa Israel Goldberg and MJ Lopatin for organizing the Tikkun Leyl Shavuot program
- Cindy Levinson, Chair of the B'teavon Committee, for organizing and preparing the Independence Day Shabbat Barbecue dinner in July, assisted by Teri Baron, David Fernandez, Hadassah Levinkron, and Susan Silver
- Roger and Cindy Levinson for their donation to help subsidize the Independence Day BBQ Shabbat dinner
- Teri Baron and David Fernandez for grilling at the BBQ Shabbat dinner
- Joan Abrams for coordinating the Sinai volunteer team, and shopping and cooking lunch at the homeless shelter
- Joan Abrams, Wendy Askenas, Rabbi Josh Berkenwald, Steve and Faye Citron-Pousty, Sy and Lorraine Hoff, Jessica Intrator, Rita Jacobson, Rambod Jacoby, Ilene and Eliana Marks, David and Dahlia Tabibian, Bob and Ellen Tobin who prepared lunch for residents at the San Jose Family Shelter
- Rita Jacobson for helping with the shopping and Jessica Intrator for bringing desserts for the residents of the San Jose Family Shelter
- Sunday minyan daveners for their donations to sponsor lunch for the homeless residents at the San Jose Family Shelter
- Leah Thorpe for sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon in memory of G.D. Vredenbrugh
- Jonathan and Susan Sweedler for sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon in loving memory of Rose Weiner
- Steve and Janet Dombro for sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon in honor of the aufruf of Andrew Wysong and Rachel Dombro
- Robert and Ellen Tobin for sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary
- Jerry and Arielle Kurtze for sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon in honor of the baby naming of their daughter Madalyn Taylor
- An anonymous donor for sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon in remembrance of all mothers, that their presence and their memories be a blessing
- All Nursery School parents who treated the Nursery School teachers to a surprise end of the year luncheon and Maureen Krantz for coordinating the event
- Andy Pluemer for computer support

- Eve-Lyn Redhill for the beautiful calligraphy on the B'nei Mitzvah certificates
- Aaron and MariaElena Jarson for donating a bookcase for the Quiet Room
- Aaron and MariaElena Jarson for leading Torah for Tots and Shabbat Storytime
- David Fernandez, Ed Fields, Alisa Israel Goldberg, Rita Jacobson, Rambod Jacoby, Jerry Lopatin, Michele Myron, Eric Rosenblum and Lauren Smith who attended the Membership Brainstorming meetings to provide input on ways to attract new members and grow our Sinai community
- Charles Statman and Sara Hammer for their donation to help with production costs of the Sinai Voice
- Rabbi Josh and Dana Berkenwald for graciously opening up their home to host Friday Evening Shabbat Services
- Doug Brook and Julie O'Neill for being guest darshanim and giving the Divrei Torah during Shabbat services

Thank you and Yasher Koach to the following participants for leading learning programs at the Tikkun Leyl Shavuot:

- Cantor Meeka Simerly of Temple Emanu-El - "Tiyul Ba'aretz" - A Journey in Israel through the songs of Naomi Shemer
- Al Sporer - "Life Lessons"
- Malka Doron - "Bringing Jewish Law into a Democratic Modern Legal System"
- Doug Brook - "The Bible Two-Point-0," a humorous analysis of the presence of computers throughout the Torah
- Rabbi Josh Berkenwald - "Chatzot Lailah - Midnight in Judaism"

Back to Shul Night & Open House at Congregation Sinai

Friday, September 9

Celebrate the end of summer and get ready for a great new year

5:30 p.m. Wine and Hors D'oeuvres

Join Rabbi Berkenwald, staff, and members of the Board of Directors for a pre-Shabbat "Happy Hour."

6:00 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat service

7:00 p.m. Shabbat Dinner

RSVP by September 6 for the Early Bird Discount

\$20 per adult (age 13 and up)
\$5 per child (age 5 - 12)
Free for children under age 5
\$54 maximum per family

Regular Price

\$24 per adult (age 13 and up)
\$10 per child (age 5 - 12)
Free for children under age 5
\$65 maximum per family

Bring a prospective member, and dinner is half-price for you and your guest.

Talk to Joelle for more details.

August 2011 Sponsored Shabbat Kiddush Luncheons

- **August 6:** Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Gary and Sheila Romalis in honor of the 10th wedding anniversary of Rabbi and Dana Berkenwald.
- **August 13:** Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Leah Thorpe in memory of G.D Vredenbrugh.
- **August 20:** Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Peter Ullmann and Vicki Harrison in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Leila.
- **August 27:** Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Joe and Elizabeth Lichy in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Samuel.

Todah rabah to our generous sponsors!

Tribute Funds

We gratefully acknowledge donations to the following funds:

Chesed Fund

- Andrea & Howard Greyber in memory of Samuel Irving Cohen
- Josh Roza & Melissa Marfia-Roza in memory of Gerald Roza
- Al & Ruth Sporer in appreciation of David & Rozita Tabibian for the wine tasting event

General Fund

- Bernie & Merle Askenas-Kaplan in honor of their granddaughter Lyndsey graduating from High School and in honor of Bernie receiving an Aliyah
- Mark Beliaevsky & Kira Belyavskaya in memory of Yewel Berkovsky
- Carl & LeAnn Berkenwald in memory of Fania Berkenwald
- Evie & Mike Berliner in memory of Simon Amsel
- Zina Brisker in memory of David G. Smirin and in celebration of his birthday
- Dave Fernandez & Lori Krauss in honor of Naama Ben David's Bat Mitzvah
- Dave Fernandez & Lori Krauss in honor of Natalia Frumkin's Bat Mitzvah
- Dave Fernandez & Lori Krauss in honor of Rachel Lopatin's graduation from college
- Shirley & Phil Goldstein in memory of Leon Goldstein
- David & Beverly Hirsch in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- David & Beverly Hirsch in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- Seymour & Lorraine Hoff in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- Seymour & Lorraine Hoff in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- Jerry & Rita Jacobson in honor of the baby naming of Jerry & Arielle Kurtze's daughter Madalyn Taylor
- Rina Katzen in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- Rina Katzen in honor of the wedding of Jerry & Rita Jacobson's grandson Hananya to Mindy
- Jerry & MJ Lopatin in memory of Daniel & Esti Ben David's mother Shoshana
- Jerry & MJ Lopatin in appreciation of James & Teri Baron
- Alan Polish & Merle Orellove in memory of Ebi Yaghoubi
- Eli Reinhard in honor of receiving an Aliyah
- Jon & Susan Silver in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- Jon & Susan Silver in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- David & Elena Weinberg in memory of Aylon Engler
- David & Elena Weinberg in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- David & Elena Weinberg in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro in appreciation of Rabbi Berkenwald performing their wedding ceremony

Kiddush Fund

- David & Joan Abrams in memory of Sydney Abrams
- David & Joan Abrams in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- David & Joan Abrams in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- James & Teri Baron
- Stan & Evie Goldstein in memory of George Weiss
- Jerry & Rita Jacobson in honor of the wedding of Andrew Wysong & Rachel Dombro
- Jerry & Rita Jacobson in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- Jack Sloan in memory of Jacob Goodstein

...continued next page.

Tribute Funds continued:

Ellner Religious School

- Harold & Alisa Israel Goldberg in memory of Richard J. Israel
- Rina Katzen in memory of Aylon Engler
- Rina Katzen in honor of Lillian Katzen's granddaughter Esther Katzen Ramsay becoming a Bat Mitzvah
- Rina Katzen in appreciation of Daniel Katzen, for preparing the delicious and beautiful kiddush luncheon in honor of his niece, Esther Katzen Ramsay, who became a Bat Mitzvah. The luncheon was held at Congregation West Suburban Temple Har Zion in River Forest, Illinois
- Marci Schwartz & Gary Richman in memory of Leonard E. Schwartz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Daniel, Esther & Naama Ben David in appreciation of Rabbi Berkenwald helping Naama prepare her Bat Mitzvah speech
- Mark & Judith Golod in honor of Bob & Ellen Tobin's 45th wedding anniversary
- Jerry & Rita Jacobson in memory of Joseph Berger
- Ilya & Edith Matov
- Rita Pearl in memory of Moses Pearl
- Eve Lyn Redhill in appreciation of Harold Goldberg & Alisa Israel Goldberg for the Girls Dinner Out evening
- Eric & Lisa Rosenblum in memory of Lawrence Harold Ginsberg and Isobel Radovsky Rosenblum
- Harvey Slater in memory of Joseph Slater

Congregation Sinai Fund Contribution Form

A contribution is made in the amount of \$ _____

In Honor of
 In Appreciation of
 in Memory of
 for the Speedy Recovery of

Name of individual: _____

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Building Endowment Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Kiddush Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Chesed Fund | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery School Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Roy Uffer Synagogue Beautification Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Ellner Religious School Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Lillian & J. Lester Cowans Endowment Fund |
|---|--|

August 2011 1 Av 5771 - 1 Elul 5771

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Rosh Chodesh Av	2	3 7:30 pm Bnei Mitzvah Program-Parents Only Information Meeting	4 9:30 am Silicon Valley Beit Midrash	5 Candle Lighting 7:54 pm	6 Devarim 9 am Emergency Preparedness Shabbat 9 am Shabbat Services 12 pm Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Gary and Sheila Komalls Shabbat Ends: 8:53 pm
7 9 am Sunday Minyan	8 8 pm Community Tisha B'Av Service hosted at Sinai	9 Tisha B'Av	10	11 9:30 am Silicon Valley Beit Midrash	12 Last Day of Nursery School Summer Program 5:30 pm Happy Hour Wine and Appetizers 6 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services Candle Lighting 7:46 pm	13 Vaetchanan 9 am Shabbat Services 12 pm Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Leah Thorpe Shabbat Ends: 8:45 pm
14 9 am Sunday Minyan 7:30 pm Sisterhood Book Club	15 Tu B'Av	16	17	18 9:30 am Silicon Valley Beit Midrash	19 Candle Lighting 7:37 pm	20 Ekev 9 am Leila Ullmann Bat Mitzvah 9 am Shabbat Services Shabbat Ends: 8:37 pm
21 9 am Sunday Minyan	22	23	24	25 9:30 am Silicon Valley Beit Midrash 7:30 pm Mini Course with the Rabbi - Get Familiar with the High Holiday Mitzor	26 9:30 am Nursery School Orientation Candle Lighting 7:28 pm	27 Re'eh 9 am Samuel Lieby Bar Mitzvah 9 am Shabbat Services Shabbat Ends: 8:27 pm
28 9 am First Day of Religious School 9 am Religious School Ethel Mitzvah Program 9 am Sunday Minyan	29 First Day of Nursery School Program	30 Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 1 4:15 pm Religious School	31 Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 2			
		1 ELUL				

Congregation Sinai is pleased to announce that Chazan Motti Hasfari will be joining us from Israel for the third year running to serve as our cantor for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

HIGH HOLIDAYS - SAVE THESE DATES:

Selichot	Saturday, September 24
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Wednesday, September 28
Rosh Hashanah I	Thursday, September 29
Tashlikh	Thursday, September 29
Rosh Hashanah II	Friday, September 30
Erev Yom Kippur	Friday, October 7
Yom Kippur	Saturday, October 8
Sukkot	Thursday, October 13 – Wednesday, October 19
Shemini Atzeret	Thursday, October 20
Leil Simchat Torah	Thursday, October 20
Simchat Torah	Friday, October 21



Chazan Motti Hasfari

Yizkor Memorial Book Form

We honor the memory of those who have been called to their eternal rest in our annual Yizkor Memorial Book. You will be receiving a Yizkor Memorial Book Form in the mail in August. If you wish to make a dedication to a loved one, please make sure to return your remembrance form to the synagogue office. If you do not receive a form and would like to have your loved ones listed, please contact the Sinai office.

High Holiday "Sadranim" Needed

Come join our team of "sadranim" (ushers) and help us facilitate a smooth, friendly, comfortable and pleasurable experience for our congregants and guests during the High Holidays. If you're a friendly person who doesn't mind giving up some davening time during the service to greet people as they come in, then you're the right person for the job! If you are available to help during Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur, please contact the office at office@sinai-sj.org or (408) 264-8542, or email sadranim@sinai-sj.org. Todah rabah!

Yahrzeits

Av		Abner M. Fritz	12	Goldie Musin	21
		Albert M. Grushkin	13	Isadore Pearlstein	21
Harry Stein	1	Bernice G. Gutstein	13	Rose Weiner	21
Lillie Cohen	2	Batya Krugolets	14	Elka Seclar	22
Marion Barrett Goldman	2	Yetta Feinstein	15	William Schunick	23
Tillie Askenas	3	Jacob Samuelson	15	Jacob Goldblum	24
Paul S. Nash	3	Marion Anderson	16	Edward Feinstein	25
David Sendowski	3	Pincus Rudoy	16	Sheila Fernandez	26
Eli Altman	5	Ruby Avzaradel	17	Louis Krever	26
Esther Bronshvatch	5	Charles Brenner	17	Sultana Shebby	26
Fay Gross Vogelbaum	5	Rachel Goldblum	17	Esther Pick	27
Rose Kaplan	6	Edythe Heibman Goodman	17	Sarah Levine	28
Farideh Yagobzadeh	6	Harry Finkelstein	18	Bessie Schwartz	29
Avram Voscoboinik	8	Leon Moskowitz	18	Alick Glimcher	30
George Moline	9	Aron Bieber	19		
Esther Carroll	10	Ruth Eisberg	19	Elul	
Julia Shebby	10	Morris Hirsch	19		
Harry Stoch	10	Leopold Leiserowitsch	19	Bess Lurie	1
Yewel Berkovsky	11	Tony Drian	21	James Raisher	1
Riva Kazarnovsky	11	Samuel Margolis	21	Ruth Sigman	1

In Memoriam

May her memory be a blessing

Esther Alexander
Mother of Phil (Monique) Alexander

Congregation Sinai & Congregation Beth David

Tisha b'Av Service

at Congregation Sinai

Join us to observe Tisha b'Av with an evening service of communal mourning including the chanting of Eicha (Book of Lamentations) and Kinot poems.

Monday, August 8 at 8:00 pm
1532 Willowbrae Avenue, San Jose

Tisha B'Av, "the Ninth of Av", is an annual fast day commemorating the destruction of both the First and the Second Temples. It has also become a day of general mourning for other major disasters that have befallen the Jewish people, many of which coincidentally have occurred on or near the ninth of Av. The day has been called the "saddest day in Jewish history."

Looking for a serious adult Jewish education program?

Sign up for the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School.



- Year-long & semester courses.
- No homework.
- No exams.
- Program designed by Hebrew University.
- For details, see www.SiliconValleyJCC.org/jplace



14855 Oka Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032
408.357.7311 | info@svjcc.org
www.SiliconValleyJCC.org



Adult Education at the Jewish Community Center

Looking for Jewish education for adults? The Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center of Silicon Valley has an extensive menu of offerings. Each month, this column will let you know about a few of them. You don't have to be a JCC member to attend these classes.

- **After Evil.** This 3-session class begins this year's One Community One Book program. One Community One Book is a year-long initiative aimed at bringing the entire Jewish community together in a discussion of one book and the ideas it considers. This year's book, Viktor Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning*, will be the jumping-off point for our year-long investigation of evil in the world and how we live in response to it. The "After Evil" class meets on Mondays, Sept 12, 19 and 26, from 7:00-8:30pm. Cost is \$30 for JCC members, \$45 for non-members.
- **Hebrew Reading Crash Course.** Have you always wanted to learn to read Hebrew? Have you tried before and failed? Join this 5-session course and learn to read Hebrew whether this is your first or your fifth try. Classes are FREE and are offered on a variety of dates and times. See the JCC website or call for details.
- **Melton Core:** Ethics and Dramas of Jewish Living. The Melton program offers serious Jewish education for adults. This year-long course explores Jewish history and Jewish ethical foundations. Class meets on Wednesdays from Sept 7th, 2011 through June 13th, 2012, from 7:30-9:45pm. Cost for the year is \$500 JCC members, \$600 non-members.

The Addison-Penzak JCC is located at 14855 Oka Road, Los Gatos. For more information, contact the JCC's Center for Jewish Life and Learning at (408) 357-7411 or visit the website at www.SiliconValleyJCC.org/jplace.



Save The Dates:

September 3

Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Sager

September 8

Mini course "Get familiar with the High Holiday Mahzor"

September 9

Back to Shul and Open House

September 17

Bar Mitzvah of Jonathan Hochberg

September 24

Selichot Program with film screening

September 28-30

Rosh Hashanah



CONGREGATION SINAI

1532 Willowbrae Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125

408-264-8542 www.sinai-sj.org

Rabbi Joshua Berkenwald

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