# The Sinai Messenger

# Temple Sinai

713 Hodges St. Lake Charles, LA 70601 http://templesingi.info / T: 337-439-2866

September, 2018 October, 2018

Elul 5778/Tishrei 5779 Tishrei/Cheshvan 5779



## REGULAR FRIDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 2018 ELUL 5778/TISHREI 5779

OCTOBER 2018

TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5779

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

6PM

TORAH: **Nitzavim:** Deut. 29:9–30:20 HAFTARAH: Isa. 61:10–63:9

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2018

6 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2018

6 PM

TORAH: B'reishit: Gen. 1:1-6:8

HAFTARAH: Isa. 42:5-43:10

TORAH: **Noach:** Gen. 6:9-11:32 HAFTARAH: Isa. 54:1-55:5

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

6 PM Shabbat Shuvah

TORAH: **Vayeilech:** Deut. 31:1-30 HAFT: Hos. 14:2–10, Mic.7:18–20, Joel 2:15–27

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2018

6 PM

TORAH: **Lech L'cha**: Gen.12:1-17:27 HAFTARAH: Isa. 40:27-41:16

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

6 PM

TORAH: **Ha'azinu**: Deut. 32:1-52 HAFTARAH: II Sam. 22:1-51

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

6 PM

TORAH: **Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot:** Ex. 33:12–34:26

HAFT: Eze. 38:18–39:7 (39:16)/Ecclesiastes

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018

6 PM

TORAH: **Vayeira:** Gen. 18:1-22:24 HAFTARAH: II Kings 4:1-37

## \*\*SEE PAGE 2 FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE\*\*

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## 2018 HIGH HOLY DAYS

## 5778/5779

## <u>Saturday, September 1</u>

8 PM

S'lichot Service – Service Leader: George Bodin

## Sunday, September 9

8 PM

Erev Rosh Hashanah – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

## Monday, September 10

10 AM

Rosh Hashanah Morning Service – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein 2:30 PM

Memorial Prayers, At Hebrew Rest (weather permitting) – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

3:30 PM

Tashlich Service, on the seawall near 911 Memorial (weather permitting) – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

## Friday, September 14

6 PM

Shabbat Shuvah – Service Leader: George Bodin

## Tuesday, September 18

8 PM

Kol Nidre – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

## Wednesday, September 19

10 AM

Yom Kippur Morning Service – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

**3:3**(

Spirituality Conversation – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

4 PM

Yom Kippur Afternoon & Reflective Services – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

5 PM

Yizkor & Neilah Services – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

6 PM

**BREAK THE FAST!** 

## <u>Friday, September 28</u>

6 PM

Sukkot, in Courtyard (weather permitting) – Service Leader: Rabbi Barry Weinstein

## FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE LEADERS

September 7<sup>th</sup> – Chris Blevins September 14<sup>th</sup> – George Bodin September 21<sup>st</sup> – Sandy Desadier September 28<sup>th</sup> – Rabbi Weinstein

October 5<sup>th</sup> – Rabbi Weinstein October 12<sup>th</sup> – Charles St. Dizier October 19<sup>th</sup> – ISJL Rabbi Aaron Rozovsky October 26<sup>th</sup> – George

## SPECIAL EVENT

## CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM SERIES

The three great monotheistic religions in our world today, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity, descend from the special relationship that existed between God and Abraham. While all three religions exhibit great diversity, it is important not to let that diversity turn into divisiveness, hate, and racism. Society stands to lose everything if that kind of fear takes over. The first step in overcoming this fear is religious literacy and finding the common denominators among us along the way.

Three educational presentations will be given on successive Tuesday evenings in October 2018 at the Central Public Library on Ernest Street. All presentations will begin at 5:30pm and conclude at 7:00pm. The public is invited.

- Presentation on Islam—October 9
- Presentation on Judaism—October 16
- Presentation on Christianity—October 23



# Talk to the President ...

If any member of Temple Sinai in good standing has questions, comments, or concerns that you would like me to address, or if it is something that a committee should take under consideration, please send them to me in writing by letter or by email. Good or bad, your thoughtful insight will be greatly appreciated.

George Bodin 3510 Cross Street Lake Charles LA 70607

Email: abodin@suddenlink.net

## **Kroger Reward Program**

If you have not already renewed your Kroger's reward card, please go to <a href="https://www.kroger.com/account/update">https://www.kroger.com/account/update</a>,

log in, and renew your card with:

Organization Name: Temple Sinai

Organization Number:

IE298

as the recipient of your Kroger rewards.

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# Message from the Rabbi:

REFORM JUDAISM האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית

SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

The Most Beautiful Thing

Forgiveness.

Throughout the approaching High Holy Days one of the most prevalent themes is our prayer to be inscribed in the Safer Chayim, The Book of Life, for the New Year.

Alongside these precious and beautiful words, this most memorable Metaphor, are our petitions for Teshuvah, Forgiveness.

When a rabbi taught that we ought to repent one day before our death, a student asked: "But rabbi, how will we know which is the day before we die?"

# Rabbi Weinstein's Schedule:

Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018 Monday, Sept. 10, 2018 Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018 Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018 Friday, Sept. 28, 2018 Friday, Oct. 5, 2018

The rabbi replied: "Then repent today!"

I have always tried my best when I lie my head on my pillow to sleep to reflect on the day now ending. Whom might I have hurt in some manner by word or deed? Which words did I say in haste, without thinking? Did I choose words that heal in place of words that hurt? What ought I have done, even in some small way, that might have made our world better?

As I write these words I am just in the middle of Elul, the month preceding Tishri, whose first day is Rosh Hashanah. Elul urges us to begin our "Cheshbon HaNefesh" at least one month before Yuntif.

The reason?

I believe that for most of us it takes at least a month to seriously review our past eleven months and so many days, giving as much consideration as possible to this "Personal Accounting" of ourselves in the year soon to conclude.

Of course, as we approach the Ten Days of Repentance we will be focusing on Forgiveness: seeking out those whom we wronged and begging their forgiveness, turning toward the Source of Life and Goodness for Divine Forgiveness of our sins.

Together with all this, I believe we are to turn toward ourselves, forgiving ourselves for those times when we did not live up to the best of our ideals.

Long ago Rabbi Eleazar ben Judah of Worms (ca. 1165-1238) taught: "The most beautiful thing that one can do is to forgive a wrong." (Mishkan HaNefesh: Machzor for the Days of Awe, CCAR Press, 2015, p. 4)

If you, like me, have ever been asked by family or friend to grant forgiveness for some offense committed against you, and G-d Willing you did forgive, then you surely agree with Rabbi Eleazar.

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I imagine that each of us can think about a way in which our feelings were hurt, or our sense of self was injured by others. And yet, when we consider that "we are to number our days and get us a heart of wisdom, "wisdom seems to me to teach us to let go of those offenses and to express our forgiveness.

While Elul might be just a little "early" to do so, I agree with the Rabbinic teaching that we are to repent one day before we die. And to hold a grudge or a grievance is a real sin, and can be so self-damaging, self-defeating.

As you read these words we shall be just a few days from our beautiful congregational worship for the New Year. In my mind's eye I envision the beauty of our Sanctuary, the regathering once again with members and friends of our precious temple, and the beautiful tones of the unique music and melodies of Yuntif. As I envision my personal return to the Bimah of Temple Sinai for High Holy Days 5779, I praise G-d for the absolutely miraculous incredible blessing of restoring me to life now over two years ago so that I can so very gratefully begin my ninth year of service to our congregation!

Ever since that Friday the 13th of May 2016, when I was so severely critically ill, life, my life, has become all the more precious and all the more meaningful to me. And I have come to believe in my heart and my Neshama that H'S reached down and saved me through my skilled surgeons and nurses, my loving family, and the many, many prayers and good wishes of each of you in our temple. Even more, I believe that G-d kept me alive through such a complex surgery and recovery so that I could continue to help my family, serve our temple and fill in as needed for Congregation B'nai Israel in Baton Rouge, and above all to bless me "Yom Yom," One Day At A Time.

I am certain that those of us who have had a similar near-death experience share these very deep, personal feelings. And, whether we have had such illness or crises in our lives, we still recognize that each and every day is a gift from the Source of Life, Love, and Goodness.

This is why I am so very grateful to be Jewish: To affirm the existence of a Loving G-d, a Merciful Creator Who Awaits Us Always with Forgiveness, a G-d of Compassion, Mercy, and Lovingkindness. And this is why we are so blessed once again to have Teshuvah in all its many meanings: Return to our Better Selves, Return to those we have wronged and ask their forgiveness, Return to Forgiveness, Return to G-d.

L'Shanah Tova Tikatevu Everyone: May each of you in our Beloved Temple Sinai be blessed with a Sweet, Healthy, Joyous New Year.



# RABBI BARRY'S WORD OF THE MONTH: TESHUVAH

Teshuvah: Repentance
Teshuvah literally is "Return."

However, this very potent Hebrew word has come to have the much deeper and potent meaning of Repentance. "Repentance," Edith Samuel teaches in her most helpful Your Jewish Lexicon "is a profound Jewish concept. Genuine Teshuvah, in the Jewish sense, is an active, soul-searching process, involving far more than a casual 'I'm sorry.' When a serious wrong has been committed, the offender must acknowledge responsibility, make amends or compensation to the injured party, and secure that person's forgiveness. The offender must resolve never to repeat the wrong; and finally, the offender must return to the good - the ways of G-d.

Teshuvah...is a conscious process, a turning away from evil and a returning to G-d. In the Jewish tradition, G-d will not accept the prayers for forgiveness made by penitents on Yom Kippur unless they have first obtained the forgiveness of these whom they have wronged."

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz in Teshuvah: A Guide for The Newly Observant Jew, writes: "Teshuvah occupies a central place in Judaism and has many facets. As individuals differ from one another, so too do their modes of teshuvah, in both motive and form of expression. Broadly defined, teshuvah is more than just repentance from sin; it is a spiritual reawakening, a desire to strengthen the connection between oneself and the sacred. The effectiveness of teshuvah is thus frequently a function of one's sense of distance from the sacred. The greater the distance, the greater the potential movement toward renewed connectedness. As one Jewish sage put it, A rope that is cut and retied is double strong at the point where it was severed. ... All forms of teshuva, however diverse and complex, have a common core: the belief that human beings have it in their Power to effect inward change."

In the words of our High Holy Days prayer book, we are reminded in the Meditation before Kol Nidre: "Kol Nidre is also a confession: we are all transgressors, all exiled from the Highest we know, all in need of the healing of forgiveness and reconciliation. For what we have done, for what we may yet do, we ask pardon; for rash words, broken pledges, insincere assurances, and foolish promises, may we find forgiveness." (Gates of Repentance, p. 250)

As Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur fast approach, I hope these descriptions will help bring deeper meaning, faith, understanding and inspiration to your personal worship, prayers, and meditations on these High Holy Days. Then as we approach The Holy One, our G-d of

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Forgiveness, we shall be able to recite together: "V'al Kulam, Eh'lo'ha S'lee'chot, S'lach La'nu, M'chal La'nu, Kah'per La'nu! For all these (sins), O G-d of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement!" (Gates of Repentance, p. 272)

With Loving Blessings,



### Sources:

- 1. <u>Your Jewish Lexicon</u> by Edith Samuel, Union of American Hebrew Congregations New York, 1982, p. 116.
- 2. <u>Teshuvah: A Guide for The Newly Observant Jew</u>, Adin Steinsalz, The Free Press, 1982, pp. 3-4.
- 3. Gates of Repentance, Central Conference of American Rabbis, New York, 1978, p. 250, 272.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

#### L'Shanah Tovah!

It's hard to believe that another year has gone by and that the High Holidays are upon us once again. For me, it has been an eventful year, and I am grateful for the chance to have served in such an important role in temple life. My sincere wish for everyone in our congregation, and for our extended family also, is a fruitful year filled with many wonders and blessings. May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life, and may those pages be filled with love, peace, music, laughter, art, chutzpah, the good company of friends, and every other thing that make our hearts sing! L'chayim! L'shalom!





## RABBI AARON ROZOVSKY

Rabbi Aaron Rozovsky was ordained in 2018 at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the seminary of the Reform movement. Prior to beginning his rabbinical studies, he also completed a Master's degree in International Studies with a concentration in Latin America at Central Connecticut State University, and a Bachelor's degree in History with a Spanish minor at Providence College in Rhode Island.

"This is my dream job," Rozovsky says of his new role with the ISJL. "To serve small Jewish communities throughout

the South who have added so much to the American fabric and our understanding of what it means to be Jewish is the opportunity of a lifetime."

The experience he brings to the position is relevant and extensive. As a student rabbi, he served in an array of positions, primarily in small communities: teaching at Kulanu Cincinnati Reform Jewish High School, working at the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, advising students at the Hillel at Miami University of Ohio, and holding student pulpits at United Hebrew Congregation in Terra Haute, IN, and Temple B'nai Israel of Petoskey, MI.

Rozovsky also has a special commitment to this nation's armed forces. He has served as a military chaplain in multiple settings, and as a fellow at the Jewish War Veterans of America (JWV) Cincinnati-Dayton chapter, Cincinnati, OH; and he has worked for twelve years with the Rhode Island Army National Guard. He also spent a year as a Liaison Officer for the US Army-Israel Defense Forces, in Jerusalem.

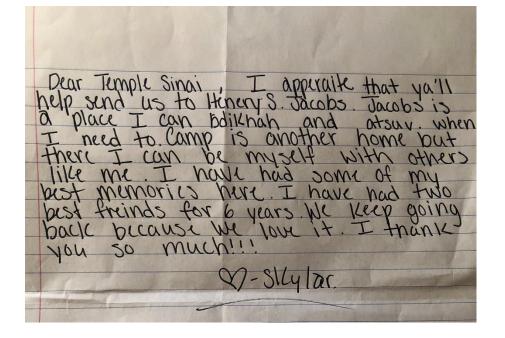
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See the article on Rabbi Rozovsky in Shalom Y'all

http://www.isjl.org/shalom-yall.html

# THANK YOU FROM OUR CAMPERS:

# Thank you so much for the camp scholarship! It means so much for me to be able to go to camp and see all my friends and make amazing bonds and memories in my last year as a campur. Being able to go to camp as a Jerrish girl means a lot pecause there are not many Jerrish reoph nore i live so to be able to meet up and be around other Jerrs is such a great experience everyone should none. Thank you so much! - Maday a guain



# Temple Birthdays:

# September

- 5 David Reinauer
- 8 Earl Barton
- 10 Sam Steirman
- 10 Gregory Michel
- 13 Lesley Kushner
- 13 Jonathan Fuerst
- 14 William Levy
- 16 Emily Bachrack Makuch
- 16 Madyson O'Quain
- 18 Joel Davidson
- 18 Nathan Dondis
- 21 Leah Fuerst Raley
- 21 Tim Blevins
- 22 Diane McCarthy
- 22 Kai Reinauer
- 27 Brian Goldman
- 27 John Loftin

# October

- 4 Carol St Dizier
- 4 Wendy Parsons Yates
- 4 Hector Garcia
- 5 Ben Castoriano
- 7 Chloe Yates
- 12 Daniel Castoriano
- 14 Steven Levy
- 15 Tootsie Helman Fournet
- 19 Simone Levy
- 20 Jennifer Wygoda Israel
- 25 Mark Congiundi
- 26 Rebekah Goldman Maag
- 29 Robert Landry
- 29 Anita Fields-Gold

## Hey, Temple Sinai

I really had fun at camp there was a lot of new stuff including people. They got a trampoline in the lake. Also Anna and Nevada are so nice they make camp so much fun. My conselors were so AWESOME i wish it was longer. I am definitely going to HSJ next year. I cant thank y'all enough for donating money to us. If i did not get the experience of HSJ jewish camp then i would not have jewish friends also i would be very bored at home. Thanks to y'all i had the best time of my life.

# September & October Anniversaries

September 8 Anita Fields & Maurice Gold

October 1 Lisa & Josh Green

October 7 Hydee & Ryan Kagan

October 13 Pattie & Marc Davidson

October 25 Mary Katherine & Aaron Ginsburgh



# Temple Yahrzeits:

(Week Ending)

## September 7, 2018

Florence W. Goldsmith Donald Seamons Sarah Lindenberg Abraham Goldman Ceil Milstein Morris C. Kleiman

## **September 14, 2018**

Samuel Hudson
Adam Cormier, Sr.
Lilian Bachrack
Bessie Katz
Alma Little
Isadore Horn
Dora Madson
Dotty Sander
Sam Goldsmith
Ezrael Kushner

## <u>September 21, 2018</u>

Sydell Schoolsky Little Stanley Rosen Harry Chozen David Job Toerner Sol Katz Abe Gold Frank Gordon Jack Sandler

## September 28, 2018

Ethel Berwin
Dera Bates
Dan Wise
Sylvia Rich Kay
John F. Wiegman
Edward Hoffman

## October 5, 2018

Henry Austin
Joe Davidson
Carrie Frank
Ruth Reinaur Hoffman

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# Temple Contributions Funds:

<u>Sisterhood</u>: Decorating Fund

General Fund
Meal of Consolation

Temple:

Adult Education Fund

Camp Fund (Stu Greenberg Fund)

Cemetery Fund Courtyard Fund General Fund Music Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Tree of Life Fund

Name:

## Send Checks to:

Ellen Raley 4270 Indigo Place

Lake Charles, LA 70605

Temple Sinai 713 Hodges St.

Lake Charles, LA 70601

## **Contributors**

		_
Address:		
City, State:	Zip:	

(Please print, clip and submit this form with your contribution to avoid any confusion during the acknowledging process.)



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Temple Yahrzeits:

(Week Ending)

## October 5, 2018

Alfred Levin
Tyler Riff Ferguson
Albert Gordon

## October 12, 2018

Marx M. Levy
Rebecca Kleiman
Goldie Goldsmith Ruskin
Florence Fuerst
Frank Harry Kleinman
Joseph Szell
Tena Davidson
Sol Riff
Lyllian Weill

## October 19, 2018

Cecil Alexander Berman Ann Jeanette Cohen Abraham Donn Ples McManus Bernard G. Winner Sol Spector Simon Wise Rae Packman

#### October 26, 2018

Florence Pearl Kushner
Carolyn Bess (Betsy) Ecker
Abraham Green
Marvin Greenberg
David Helman
Irene B. Winner
Jennie Greenberg
Ken Lewitter
Rose Unger

## November 2, 2018

Lewis Rosenfeld Bertha Stoner Henry Jacobs Harry Marcus Ruth Lewitter

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# We are grateful for these contributions:

## **Courtyard Fund:**

From: Tim & Charlene Blevins

## **Library Fund:**

From: Tim & Charlene Blevins

## **General Fund:**

From: Rochelle Kristal Miesel In Memory of: Samuel Gollis Lipsey In Memory of: Bernise Lipsey Goldberg

From: Tim & Charlene Blevins

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

From: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo In Honor of: Linda Weinstein's Speedy

Recovery

From: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo

In Honor of: Anita Fields Gold's Speedy

Recovery

## **Camp Fund:**

From: Karen & Harry Kleinman In Memory of: Marc Becker

From: Sandy & Ron Desadier

In Honor of: Linda Weinstein's Complete

Recovery

From: Sandy & Ron Desadier

In Honor of: Anita Fields Gold's Complete

Recovery

From: Lilly Rae Buncher

