



*Fall*  
*@*  
**SINAI**

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CHICAGO SINAI CONGREGATION

# SUKKOT, SIMCHAT TORAH AND HANUKKAH

## Pizza in the Hut

- **Sunday, October 9 | 4-6PM**

All ages! Help us decorate the Sukkah, wave the lulav and etrog, recite the blessings for Sukkot. Enjoy Affy Tapples and pizza. \$5 a household



## Sukkot Under the Stars (21+)

- **Wednesday, October 12 | 6:30-8PM**

What are the four species of Sukkot? Dinner and Trivia under the stars. \$5 a person

## Simchat Torah & Consecration

- **Sunday, October 16 | 11:30AM**

Help us unroll the Torah scroll around Sinai's sanctuary, from start to end. Celebrate our newest learners as they begin their life-long journey of Jewish education.

## Hanukkah

- **Friday, December 23 | 6:15PM**

Kindle the Hanukkah lights and celebrate Shabbat Hanukkah.

# SHABBAT

## Shabbat Services

- **Fridays at 6:15PM**

Welcome Shabbat with your Sinai community. Take a moment to reflect on the past week and bring in the joy and peace of Shabbat.

## Saturday Morning Torah Study

- **9:30AM**

Join us for Torah Study each and every Shabbat Morning. Worship. Sing. Learn. Build Community. You don't need to be a scholar of Torah to find a comfortable place around the table with friends, old and new.

## Shabbat @ The Clare

- **Monthly at 4:30PM**

Sinai is partnering with residents of The Clare for Kabbalat Shabbat services. Toby Pechner leads this amazing community in song and worship as they welcome Shabbat. We are thrilled to collaborate with our neighbors and bring the joy down the block and around the corner.

## Shabbat Songs at Sinai

- **October 15, November 12, and December 3 | 9AM**

Join our Sinai young family community for Shabbat songs with our Songleader, Toby Pechner. We will sing, dance and play as we celebrate Shabbat together.

## Family Shabbat

- **October 23 and November 18 | 6:15PM**

An engaging multi-generational Shabbat service. We will offer monthly birthday blessings and learn the week's Torah portion through a story.

## SOCIAL ACTION

### Every Voice Every Vote

We are proud that dozens of our members have joined this postcarding and phone calling project to get out the vote for the mid-term elections. For up to date information on how you can participate check the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center's website: [www.rac.org](http://www.rac.org)

### Food Drive with The Ark

Chicago Sinai will partner with The Ark for our High Holy Day Pantry Collection Drive. Shopping bags and shopping lists for non-perishable items were distributed on Rosh Hashanah. Drop off your filled shopping bags in Sinai's lobby through October 21. Our Religious School students will sort and box all the donations for delivery to the ARK.



*[Click here for the full Food Pantry Shopping List](#)*

## INTERFAITH

### Interfaith Thanksgiving at Sinai

- **Tuesday, November 22 | 7PM**

We join together with our neighbors of other faiths to express our gratitude for the bounty that we share and to celebrate the diversity of our American heritage. This year, we at Sinai are privileged to host this interfaith Thanksgiving event.

### Shared History :

### 1700 years of Jewish Life on Germanic Lands

**An exhibition created by the Leo Baeck Institute**

- **October 12-30**

This exhibit will be on display at Fourth Presbyterian Church and will be co-sponsored by the German Consulate of Chicago and by Sinai. Watch for more details about hours and events, including a closing event hosted by Sinai.

# MUSIC

## Commune in Tune at Noon

- **November 7 and December 5 | In person and on Zoom**

Professional choir members and Scott Kumer present composers, music, and topics of interest from their personal and professional perspectives. Opportunity for Q&A.

## Music and Meditation

- **Fridays at Noon | In person and on StreamSpot**

Enjoy contemplative music in the Sanctuary for your personal meditation and prayer.

# FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Contact Fern Katz, Director of Early Childhood Education at [fkatz@chicagosinai.org](mailto:fkatz@chicagosinai.org) for more information

## Music and Movement

### 3-18 months with parent/caregiver

- **Wednesdays | 11AM-12PM**

This interactive class brings music and movement to life! Songs and activities are stimulating and developmentally appropriate for our youngest learners.

## jBaby New Parents Connect

- **October 20, 27, November 10, 17, and December 1 | 10-11:15AM**

Meet other first-time parents and their children. Share ideas, ask questions and learn from experts in relevant topics such as infant and child development, sleep, changing relationships, food and nutrition and more.

## Shabbat Songs at Sinai

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# Sinai Tables

*Pull up a seat today*

Contact Emma Scintu at  
[escintu@chicagosinai.org](mailto:escintu@chicagosinai.org)  
for more information and/or  
to be connected to a Sinai Table.

## **Sundays at Sinai**

- **Sunday mornings during Religious School | 10-11:30AM**  
**Sinai Social Hall (will not meet on 10/9, 11/27, 12/18, or 12/25)**

Join us for an opportunity to build your Sinai community through conversation. Enjoy bagels and coffee as you make new friends.

## **Book Group on Zoom**

- **October 11, November 8, and December 13 | 1-3:30PM**  
**Meets the second Tuesday of each month**

## **Anti-Racism Book Club on Zoom**

- **November 2 | 1PM**  
**Meets once every two months**

Join our conversation about race, privilege, and power in our own lives. Together we will reflect on how they affect each of us, the world around us, and the work we need to do to improve the world we live in.

## **Film Review on Zoom**

- **October 6, November 3 and December 1 | 2PM**  
**Meets 1st Thursday of the month**

Discuss today's blockbusters led by Zbigniew Banas, film critic extraordinaire.

## **Look Who's Cookin' on Zoom**

- **October 14, November 11 and December 9 | 2PM**  
**Meets 2nd Friday of the month**

We will meet monthly to discuss new kitchen gadgets, cookbooks, and even cook a dish together.

## **Wordsmiths**

- **October 13 and November 3 | 5PM**  
**Location to be determined**

## **What's Next**

- **October 30 | 2PM**  
**Location to be determined**

## **Mahjong**

- **October 19, November 2, 16 and 30, December 14 and 28 | 6PM**  
**Every other week in congregant homes**

# ADULT LEARNING

## Mini Series on Zoom

Join us on Zoom | Tuesday evenings | 7:30 - 8:30PM

### **Reform's Declaration Of Independence: The Pittsburgh Platform of 1885 and its Consequences**

- **October 25th with Rabbi Gary P. Zola**



In November of 1885, a self-selected group of American rabbis committed to a Reformist approach to Jewish religious practice met in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to adopt a "Declaration of Principles," which is almost universally known as the "Pittsburgh Platform." Dr. Gary P. Zola, Executive Director of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives and the Edward M. Ackerman

Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience at Hebrew Union College will explore the fascinating story of how these consequential principles came into being and, also, why this platform is arguably Reform Judaism's most consequential ideological statement.

### **Sinai's Classical Reform Heritage: The Legacies of Rabbis Emil G. Hirsch and Louis L.Mann**

- **November 8th with Rabbi Howard A. Berman**



Chicago Sinai Congregation's prominence in the Reform Movement was fostered by its two most famous and longest serving Rabbis, who together shaped our Temple's distinctive liberal religious and social vision for almost a century- from 1880 through 1962. Their proud successor, Rabbi Howard A. Berman, who led Sinai from 1982-2002, and continues to serve as Rabbi Emeritus, will offer

personal perspectives on how their teaching and community leadership continue to serve as models for the Congregation today, as it enters a new chapter in its colorful 161-year history.

### **Reform Judaism in Israel: Living the Dream, Facing the Reality**

- **November 29th with Rabbi Josh Weinberg**



This session will look at what it means to be Jewish in the Jewish state and address some of the challenges facing liberal and Reform Judaism in Israel over the last 75 years, from a societal and political perspective.

Rabbi Josh Weinberg serves as the Vice President of the URJ for Israel and Reform Zionism and is the Executive Director of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He was ordained from the HUC-JIR Israeli Rabbinic Program in Jerusalem, and he is currently living in New York. Josh previously served as the Director of the Israel program for the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, and as a

faculty member of NFTY-EIE High School in Israel teaching Jewish History. Josh is a reserve officer in the IDF spokesperson's unit, has hiked the Israel-trail, and came on Aliyah to Israel in 2003.

Originally from Chicago, he has a B.A. from University of Wisconsin in Hebrew Literature, Political Science and International Relations, and an M.A. at the Hebrew University in Jewish Education.

## **Jews On The Chocolate Trail**

- **December 13 with Rabbi Deborah (Debbie) R. Prinz**



Join Rabbi Prinz on the chocolate trail for a gastronomic adventure. The next time you pick up a piece of chocolate, consider that you are partaking in an age-old passion for religion and food. Explore the surprising chocolate narratives and rituals of Pre-Columbians, Jews, Catholics, Protestants and Quakers. On the Chocolate Trail uniquely melds a popularity of chocolate with a fascination about

religions. Those interested in the connectedness among peoples will crave this unique approach. Delight your mind and your taste buds as this book unscrambles the mysteries of religions and chocolate along a trail of economic development spanning cultures, countries, centuries, continents, and convictions.

## **DAYTIME LEARNING AT SINAI**

**Wednesdays at Sinai**

### **The Messianic Ideal in Judaism**

- **October 12, 19, 26 and November 2 | 11AM-12PM**  
**With Dr. Ken Seeskin**



It is hard to imagine Judaism without belief in the coming of a Messiah. Hard to see how a people could look to the future even in the darkest moments of history. This course will examine how this belief originated. It will go on to raise difficult but important questions. When will the Messiah come and exactly what will he/she do? How can we identify false Messiahs? What dangers does belief in a

Messiah pose? Can we still accept such a belief?

### **How Do We Know What We Know?**

- **November 9, 16, 30 and December 7 and 14**  
**With Rabbi Michael A. Weinberg**

We will study together famous and not-so-famous stories from the Talmud (in English translation) in order to understand Rabbinic epistemology. What did the rabbis believe were legitimate sources of knowledge and truth and how might we learn from them?



# SINAI COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



- **Sunday, November 6 | 10AM and/or 1PM**

Re-connect with our Sinai family through a series of facilitated community conversations. Sinai's leadership seeks to engage our entire Sinai family to talk about expectations and responsibilities, about belonging and becoming. These conversations will help to shape the future of our great congregation. Save the date and watch for further details.

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## OFFICER'S COUNCIL

Alec Harris – *President*  
Barbara Markoff-Eggner – *Vice President*  
Susan Lucas – *Vice President*  
Jacki Torshen – *Secretary*  
Jason Taylor – *Treasurer*

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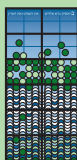
## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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| Ellie Bahrmassel  | Larry Schor        |
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| Kyle Haverback    | Emily Stone        |
| Penny Pollack     | Christine Tepper   |
| Mike Rosenthal    | Alison Tothy, M.D. |
| Alexandra Salomon |                    |

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## PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNSEL

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Donna Barrows        | Victoria Woolner Samuels |
| Peter Bensinger, Jr. | Mark Segal               |
| Norman Hirsch        | Bruce Stern              |
| Susan Lucas          | Errol Stone              |
| Michael Mannis       | Jack Tovin               |
| Bruce Miller         | Alison Tothy, M.D.       |



Michael A. Weinberg, *Interim Senior Rabbi*  
Amanda Greene, *Associate Rabbi, Director of Lifelong Learning*  
Todd Zinn, *Adjunct Rabbi*  
Jan Kaufman, *Executive Director*  
Howard A. Berman, *Rabbi Emeritus*

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