

Please Join Us For These New and Exciting Programs!

In furtherance of Sinai's mission, "to foster a lifetime of Jewish learning," we are pleased to present the following programs, classes and special events. Please check our website, www.chicagosinai.org, for expanded highlights of upcoming events and watch the Temple Bulletin for details on these and other programs.

FIRST FRIDAYS: A NEW SHABBAT EVENT

Beginning in **November**, and on the **first Friday** of every month **until May**, Sinai will offer a new Shabbat service lead by **Todd Kessler**, his band, and **Rabbi Levinsky**. The service will be a lively, participatory, and casual way to bring Shabbat into our hearts and souls through music and meditation. The event will begin at **7:15 pm** in the social hall with food, drink and socializing and will continue with the service in the Sanctuary at **8:00 pm**. This service is for anyone over the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah looking for a participatory and spiritual Shabbat experience.

RELIGION IN INTERFAITH HOMES: A Series for Couples and Families

As more and more people marry someone from a different faith, change faiths, or choose to embrace more than one faith, religious homes have become complex. This **joint program** between **Chicago Sinai Congregation** and **Fourth Presbyterian Church**, formerly Sinai's successful Outreach program, explores many of the questions and issues that arise when more than one faith is a part of a religious home. This course will be team taught by **Rabbi Levinsky**, **Rev. Joyce Shin** and a Catholic priest as a guest teacher. How do you talk to your kids about God when parents think differently about the divine? How do we respond to parents and in-laws about our religious choices? These questions, among others, will be discussed once a month in a conversational and supportive environment.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM 101

Beginning **Thursday, October 20** from **7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**, we will once again offer our Introduction to Judaism course, free of charge.

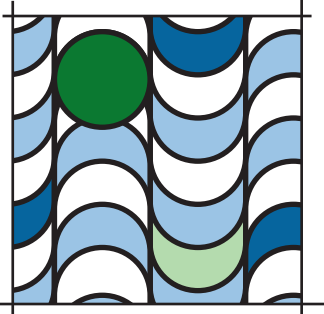
JUDAISM 102

Beginning on **Thursday, March 1** from **7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**, **Rabbi Sternfield** will teach Judaism 102. The course will be ten sessions. The text will be **Choices in Modern Jewish Thought: A Partisan Guide** by Dr. Eugene Borowitz. The class is open to all and the only cost is \$25 for textbook which will be available at the Temple.

SUNDAY STUDY AND BRUNCH WITH OUR RABBIS

Join our Rabbis for another exciting and illuminating year of Brunch with the Rabbis on Sunday mornings before services. This year we welcome special guests and offer a number of mini-courses. We will offer a mini-course on Martin Buber taught by **Dr. Claire Sufirin** of Northwestern University, sessions on Jewish music taught by **Cantor Deborah Bard**, sessions taught by **Dr. Kenneth Seeskin** from Northwestern University and sessions presenting various positions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Our interfaith focus will be Buddhism, with a guest appearance by local Buddhist clergy.

SUNDAYS AT SINAI



A worship service conducted by the Rabbis and featuring the Sinai choir is held every Sunday morning beginning at 11 am.

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICES

We have a once-a-month holiday-themed family worship service.

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SOCIAL ACTION SUNDAY FOR ADULTS

Join us for Social Action Sundays, where you will participate with other members in a morning of service and education. Watch upcoming bulletins or visit our web site at www.chicagosinai.org for dates and more information.

CINEMA/BOOK GROUPS

SINAI BOOK GROUP

Join fellow congregants for an exploration of both fiction and non-fiction books of Jewish interest on the **second Tuesday** of each month at **2:30 pm** in the Sinai Library.

SUNDAY SINAI BOOK REVIEW GROUP

The Sunday Book Review Group meets at **12:30 pm** after our Sunday morning worship service.

INTERNATIONAL FILM SERIES AT SINAI

Once a month we will watch and explore a film that focuses on themes that are both morally profound and engage issues of contemporary or historical Jewish concern. The evening begins at **6:00 pm** with dinner and an introduction to the film by **Rabbi Sternfield**. The cost of dinner is \$10.

FILM REVIEW SERIES

On Thursday, **October 20 at 7:00 pm**, **Zbigniew Banas**, a former movie critic for **The Reader**, will lead a discussion of a current film. Participants view the movie in the theatre and meet to discuss the film at Sinai. The cost of \$10 per person includes dessert.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Sinai's Young Professionals Group is open to those in their mid-twenties to late thirties who are interested in exploring their Judaism intellectually, spiritually and socially. Sinai's YPG is a great way to connect with others in the city through a variety of programming which includes social action, networking and cultural activities. Please join us at future events which are posted on our Facebook page (you can search "Chicago Sinai Congregation Young Professionals Group") or by contacting Carrie Baker at CarrieLeeBaker@gmail.com or Rabbi Levinsky at dlevinsky@chicagosinai.org with any questions.

CJE AT SINAI ADULT DAY PROGRAM

CJE will offer a two-day per week program on Mondays and Thursdays for older adults with early stage memory loss. This five-hour program offers a great variety of stimulating programming and includes lunch in a social setting. For more information please contact **Judy Holstein**, Director of Adult Day Services, at **847.492.1400**.

Jews at 33 1/3:

Album Art and Jewish Cultural History

Using album art from **Rabbi Levinsky's** collection of 3500 records, an exhibit in the social hall will explore Jewish culture in America. Whether spectacular examples of kitsch or true artistic expressions, album art can tell us much about how the Jews present themselves to the world. The exhibit, which takes a cue from **Roger Bennett** and **Josh Kun's** book **And You Shall Know Them by the Trail of Their Vinyl**, asks these and other questions. How do Jews see themselves in America? How do Jews cope with being different than other Americans? How do Jews strive to be the same as other Americans? Album covers can provide us an entertaining lens into these questions. The opening of the exhibit will happen on **Friday, February 3 at 7:30 pm** as a part of the First Friday event.

For more information please check our web site at chicagosinai.org or our monthly bulletin. Call the Temple office at 312.867.7000 to make reservations.



FOR CHILDREN

ADULT EDUCATION

SHABBAT MORNING PRAYER & TORAH STUDY

Join in a discussion of the week's Torah reading on **Saturday mornings at 10:00 am** led by **Rabbi Levinsky**. Torah study will be preceded by a brief Torah service which begins at **9:30 am**. Everyone is welcome and no prior knowledge or experience is required.

BEGINNING PRAYER BOOK HEBREW CLASS

This Fall we are offering a ten-week prayer book Hebrew class for beginners which will meet in the second-floor library on **Saturdays from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm**. Participants will be charged for the text book. At the conclusion of the ten sessions you will know how to read, as well as understand the words of the most important prayers, like the *Shema*, the *Barachu*, the *Malech Ozair*, the Adoration and the *Kaddish* prayers. Class size is limited so call the Temple office to register.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Join **Rabbi Sternfield** on **Wednesdays at noon** to study the Torah with commentaries by the great Rabbis. The class meets every Wednesday from **noon to 1:15 pm**.

This Fall **Rabbi Levinsky's** class **Thursday at noon** will explore the interaction of Jews and Christians in the first six hundred years of the Common Era. Before both Rabbinic Judaism and Christianity solidified into separate faiths, there was a long period where the two faiths overlapped to various degrees. The class will explore this period of extensive Jewish and Christian interaction with an eye towards what it tells us about Jewish and Christian interaction today. The class, as always, is discussion based. There will be no need to prepare for any particular session. Just bring curiosity and a desire to learn about how our past effects our present. The class will be held on **Thursdays at noon** in the library on the second floor. Coffee and tea will be served.

SUNDAY MORNING FAMILY SERVICES 11 am - 12 noon

October 16:	<i>Sukkot</i> , followed by lunch and <i>Sukkah</i> Decorating
November 20:	Thanksgiving
January 22:	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
February 12:	Family Torah Service
March 11:	<i>Purim</i> , followed by Purim Carnival
May 13:	Mother's Day
June 3:	Confirmation

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

The Sinai Religious School offers a full curriculum for students in grades K-9. Some of the concepts emphasized throughout our school are: learning is best when it is experienced; Judaism has a rich culture with relevant lessons for today; Jewish teachings as a guide for values clarification; and each family is unique and can choose what holidays and/or lifecycles are celebrated and in what way. Contact **Heidi Kon** at ext. 243 for more information.

SINAI PRESCHOOL

Sinai Preschool is a NAEYC accredited preschool serving families with children 24 months to 5 years of age. We also offer Parent/Tot classes for families with young children 12 to 26 months. We provide a developmentally appropriate and emotionally supportive learning environment where the needs of the individual child as well as the group are met. The program is relationship-based, where young children learn to explore through play. Children are encouraged to express feelings, play imaginatively, form friendships, identify interests and develop autonomy. The curriculum is rich in child-centered activities in a warm Jewish setting. Afternoon enrichment classes are also available. Contact **Ruth Taxy** at ext. 231 for more information.

TOT SHABBAT

The Young Families Club, together with the Preschool, has planned Tot Shabbats for families with children ages 5 and under. This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce your children to the Temple and to meet other families! Tot Shabbat begins with a brief worship service at 5:30 pm, followed by dinner and entertainment for the children. Tot Shabbats will be held on the following Friday evenings: **September 16, October 14, November 11, January 13, February 10, March 9 and April 27.**

SHABBAT ON THE BEACH

During the summer months, **June, July and August**, you are invited to a 30-minute music-filled Shabbat Service at **Oak Street Beach**. Kids of any age, parents and grandparents, Sinai members and non-members are all welcome!

SOCIAL ACTION/VOLUNTEER

SINAI SCHOOL INITIATIVE

This initiative facilitates tutors and funding to benefit Jenner School. Volunteers donate both time and resources to help the students and teachers. Help is needed throughout the school year.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

This program is beginning its second year of providing weekend food to students at Jenner School. It only costs \$80 per child per academic year to send home a bag-full of easy-to-prepare, ready-to-eat food to provide them with nourishment over the weekend.

ENVIRONMENT

The Environment Committee focuses on improvement of the environment, starting with our own backyard. Membership is open to members interested in specific projects, both at Sinai and in the community.

HEALTHCARE

Healthcare related issues and initiatives are explored as they affect the local community.

APRIL 2012 TIKKUN OLAM TRIP

For the past four years, Sinai families have gone down to New Orleans during Spring Break to help rebuild. We have planted grasses in the bayou, painted houses and planted flowers. We have heard people's Katrina stories. If you are interested in this year's trip during the week of **April 9, 2012**, please contact **Jill Peters** at jillpeters@rcn.com or **Heidi Kon** at hkon@chicagosinai.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We will continue our commitment to help feed the homeless by cooking and serving dinner at **Fourth Presbyterian Church**. Eight volunteers (16+ years old) are needed. To sign up please email **Merle Terry** at mterry1013@aol.com.

On the **second Monday of every month** we invite you to join us as we help Fourth Presbyterian Church **serve dinner** at **Catholic Charities**, 721 North LaSalle Street. Five volunteers are needed from **3:30 p.m. until 6:15 p.m.** To sign up please email **Eva Farkas** at eva.farkas@sbcglobal.net.

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH PROGRAM

On the **second Sunday of every month** we make bag lunches to donate to the Greater Bethlehem Healing Temple. Bag lunches include a sandwich, juice box, packaged bag of chips and packaged dessert. We are committed to donating 200 bag lunches on each second Sunday.

A MUSICAL PREVIEW

Please plan to join us for Sabbath Evening Service on **Friday, November 18 at 6:15 pm** to experience an unforgettable performance by the **Millar Brass Ensemble**, based at Alice Millar Chapel of Northwestern University. These fine players, some of whom you may recognize from our Rosh Hashanah services, have put together an unusual program of compositions by Jewish and non-Jewish composers. It is rare to hear a large brass ensemble perform in a synagogue. Don't miss the opportunity!

In observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, on **Friday, January 20, at 6:15 pm**, we once again welcome the "Sinai Ensemble" of the **Chicago Community Chorus** under the dynamic direction of the **Keith Hampton**. We'll be treated to a wide array of gospel-style music.

In the spring, be sure to catch the exhibit: **See the Music, Hear the Art**. The Art and Judaica Committee, in collaboration with Scott Kumer and the Music Committee, will be exhibiting music manuscripts, sheet music, and sheet music cover art from the Sinai collection and from additional sources. Highlights will include scores by composers **Max Janowski, Nikolai Kaufmann, Ben Steinberg**, and others. In conjunction with this exhibit a Sermon-in-Song will be scheduled. This is a unique opportunity to see and hear together significant pieces of Classical Reform Jewish music. The show will be up approximately from mid-March through early June.

On **Friday, May 18, 6:15 pm**, please plan to join us for our **11th Annual Spring Choral Program**.

Other Important Calendar Dates

09.25	High Holy Days for Interfaith Families
10.26	High Holy Days Food Sorting
11.06	Change clocks back one hour
11.22	Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
12.20	Light first <i>Hanukkah</i> candle
03.02	<i>Mitzvah</i> Weekend
03.11	Change clock ahead one hour
04.07	Congregational <i>Seder</i> at Standard Club
05.20	Last Sunday Service
06.01	Annual Meeting of the Congregation
06.03	Confirmation

There will be no Worship service on the following Sundays: November 27, 2011, December 25, 2011, January 1, 2012, March 4, 2012 and April 8, 2012.