

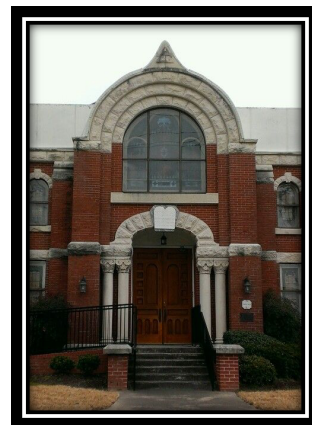
The Sinai Messenger

Temple Sinai

713 Hodges St. Lake Charles, LA 70601
T: 337-439-3031

November 2025
December 2025

Cheshvan/Kislev 5785
Kislev/Tevet 5786



Worship Schedule

November 2025

Cheshvan/Kislev 5786

December 2025

Kislev/Tevet 5786

Friday, November 7 · Va-yeira

Torah: Genesis 19:1 – 21
Haftarah: Ezekiel 18:1 – 23

Friday, December 5 · Va-yishlach

Torah: Genesis 33:1 – 20
Haftarah: Hosea 12:1 – 11

Friday, November 14 · Chayyei Sarah

6:00PM @ Temple Sinai
Torah: Genesis 24:1 – 26
Haftarah: 1 Kings 1:1 – 31

Friday, December 12 · Va-yeishev

6:00PM @ Temple Sinai
Torah: Genesis 39:1 – 18
Haftarah: Amos 2:6 – 3:8

Friday, November 21 · Tol'dot

Torah: Genesis 26:12 – 29
Haftarah: 2 Samuel 23:1 – 17

Friday, December 19 · Mikkeitz

Torah: Genesis 42:1 – 23
Haftarah: Zechariah 4:1 – 14

Friday, November 28 · Va-yeitzei

Torah: Genesis 29:12 – 30
Haftarah: Hosea 12:13 – 13:8; 14:9 – 10

Friday, December 26 · Va-yiggash

Torah: Genesis 45:8 – 28
Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:1 – 28

Rabbi Sam's Lake Charles Visits:

November 14
December 12
December 14: Chanukah Celebration

TEMPLE BIRTHDAYS:

November Birthdays:

4	Dawn Holtzman
4	Lee Wallace
7	Nancy Riff Ferguson
9	Harry Kleinman
14	Chelsey Davidson
16	Michael Reinauer

December Birthdays:

4	Tony DiBartolo
9	Linda Weinstein
13	Charlene Blevins
13	Hydee Desadier Kagan
15	David Michel
17	Michael Schwartzberg
19	Hallie Rose Ginsburgh
22	Pat Seamons

Anniversaries:

November – None

December:

12	Paige & Jody Davidson
24	Charlene & Tim Blevins
31	Shirley & Calvin Billings

Heart Felt Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Norma Levy and family on the loss of Bill. Bill Levy was a beloved congregant and dedicated board member of Temple Sinai. He passed on Friday, October 31st. Our thoughts and prayers are with Norma and his family during this difficult time. May his memory be for a blessing.

Mi' she' bei' rach

Wishing a Refuah Sh'leimah, a complete and speedy recovery, to:

Rabbi Barry Weinstein and Gwen Auld who are both recovering from recent surgeries

Joel Davidson for his upcoming total knee replacement in mid-November

Kroger Reward Program

If you have not already renewed your Kroger rewards card, please go to

www.kroger.com/account/update

log in, and renew your card with:

Organization Name:

Temple Sinai

Organization Number:

IE298

as the recipient of your rewards.

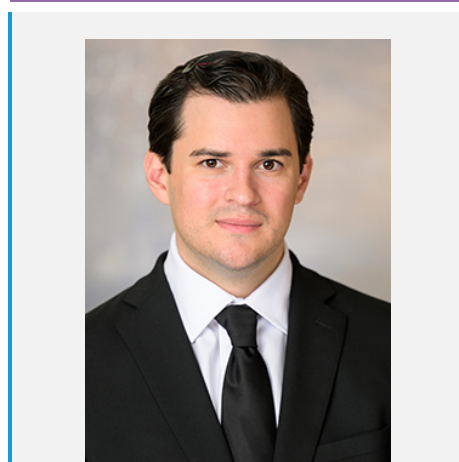


Message from the Rabbi:

Two years ago, on Simchat Torah, the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas attacked Israel. They slaughtered approximately 1200 people and took another 251 hostage. It has been an incredibly challenging time for Israel and the Jewish people.

But two weeks ago, the last remaining living hostages were released. Leading up to that moment, we had cautious optimism that the hostages would be freed. When the living hostages returned home, we breathed a sigh of relief. We watched video after video of loved ones reuniting after two long, horrible years of separation. It was a wonderful sight. For the first time in two years there was a true sense of happiness and joy.

But we know that the work is far from over. There are still hostages who perished in captivity who deserve a proper burial in the Land of Israel. The freed hostages have a long road to physical and mental recovery. Many of our brave IDF soldiers suffered injuries or were killed in the fighting. They and their families need our attention and care. We are up to the challenge. We will take care of our brothers and sisters in Israel and help in their recovery as best we can.



In a few weeks, we will celebrate Chanukah, a holiday of inspiration. The word Chanukah in Hebrew means rededication. The Seleucid Greeks desecrated the Second Temple and persecuted our people. When the Maccabees defeated them, we set to work. We cleaned, purified, and rededicated the Temple. We will do the same. With hard work and unity, we will rebuild, recover, and come back stronger than ever.

Rabbi Sam Rheins

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

As the autumn leaves begin to fall and we enter the season of reflection and light, I find myself feeling deeply grateful for our congregation—our spiritual home, our extended family, and our community of care and connection.



November invites us to pause and give thanks. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I want to express appreciation for each of you—the congregants, family, and friends of Temple Sinai—who bring life and heart to our synagogue. Your acts of kindness, your presence at services, your participation in learning and social action—all these moments weave together the beautiful tapestry of our communal life.

Together we have shared in reflection over the High Holidays and celebrated a joyful Sukkot in our beautiful courtyard. We've enjoyed spiritual, moving services led by Rabbi Sam and our musical leaders, Gwen and Katie, and we've joined together on Saturday mornings to worship and study.

Then, as winter's chill (we hope) settles in, we turn toward the warmth of the menorah and the miracle of Chanukah. Each candle we light reminds us that even a small spark can push back great darkness. The story of Chanukah—of courage, perseverance, and renewed faith—feels especially meaningful in our world today. It reminds us that hope is not passive; it's something we nurture and share.

As we gather with family and friends, may we carry forward both the gratitude of Thanksgiving and the light of Chanukah. Let us celebrate our blessings, strengthen our connections, and continue to bring more light, justice, and compassion into our world.

Wishing you all a season filled with warmth, health, and peace.

B'shalom,

Terya tevyamil@gmail.com | 337-794-7418

Mark your calendars for our Temple Sinai Chanukah Celebration on Sunday, December 14th. Information will be emailed out as we get closer to that date.

Mazel Tov!

Sarah Katz, daughter of Judy and Bruce Katz, for her promotion to assistant director of nutrition for the Miami Marlin's minor leagues.

Lindsay Katz and Misha Dworsky on their November wedding. Lindsay is the daughter of Leslie and David Katz.



HANUKKAH 2025

The first night of Hanukkah is Sunday December 14th this year.

You can find blessings for lighting the menorah candles on page 11 of this bulletin, and a recipe for traditional potato latkes on page 12.





Zichronam Livracha May their memories be a blessing



November 7, 2025

Chana Bernice Burns (1)
Arthur K Strauss (1)
Charles Kushner (1)
Frederick Berther (1)
Max Fleckman (2)
Sumner Stopnik (3)
Edward Mitchell (4)
Robert Schoolsky (5)
Elaine Crigler (6)
Reica Paymar Krinsky (6)
Michael Gold (7)
Fern Myrick (7)
Harry Eisen (7)

Friend of DiBartolo's
Grandfather of Susan Battestin
Brother of Claire Sorkow
Gr Uncle of Barbara Peck
Brother of Elizabeth Helman
Great Uncle of Davidson Siblings
Brother of Kathy Steirman

Mother of Jennifer Sternberg
Great Aunt of Corene Davidson & Reve Greenberg
Husband of Cathy Gold

November 14, 2025

Elaine Broussard Bodin (8)
Dorothy Gold (8)
Sally Erdmann (9)
Henry H Kaufman (11)
William John Kelly (13)
Sam Kushner (14)
Abe Ordinsky (14)
Jennifer Levine (14)
Sarah Davidson (14)

Mother of George Bodin
Mother of Maurice Gold
Aunt of Tootsie Fournet
Father of Laura Myrick

Father of Bill Kushner
Father Eli Sorkow
Sister of Barbara Maxey
Great Grandmother of Davidson Siblings

November 21, 2025

Selma Liebman (16)
Solomon Davidson (17)
Sam Katz (17)
Jean Horn (18)
Al Cohn (18)
Rae Labovitch (18)
Harry Horn (18)
Mina Donn Rosenberg (19)
Max Deutscher (19)
Hannah Kushner (19)
David B Greenberg (20)
Rae Wygoda (21)
Eugene Balengero (21)

Great Grandfather of Davidson Siblings
Grandfather of Bruce & David Katz

Brother of Rose Stander

Aunt of Bill Kushner
Brother of Sylvia Kushner
Grandmother of Bill Kushner
Father of Beverly Lowenthal
Mother of Mark Wygoda
Uncle of Kathy Steirman



Zichronam Livracha May their memories be a blessing



November 28, 2025

Jim Levy (23)
Martin Sternberg (24)
Sarah Lowenthal (27)
Mathilde Marx (28)
Yvettta Eisen (28)
Kate Raley (28)

Brother of Bill Levy
Father of Dexter Sternberg
Mother of Joe Lowenthal
Grandmother of Susan Battestin
Mother of Florence Rosenthal
Daughter of Ellen & Scott Raley

December 5, 2025

Irwin E. Coen (30)
Kenneth Strauss (30)
Helen Sopkin Lowenthal (1)
Jules Reinuer (2)

Father of Linda Weinstein
Father of Susan Battestin

Father of David Reinauer

December 12, 2025

Seymore Zilbert (6)
Anita Fields-Gold (7)
Sheldon Rosenthal (8)
Edwin Frank (8)
Max Klaus (8)
Jack Gordon (9)
Norman Makuck (10)
Manuel N. Kleiman (10)
Ethel Estelle Toerner Prater (10)
Simon Weil (12)
Herman Adler (12)
Maurice Kushner (12)

Wife of Maurice Gold

Husband of Emily Bachrack Makuck

Great Aunt of Barbara Peck

Father of Rhoda Gorin
Husband of Elaine Kushner

December 19, 2025

Josephine Frank (13)
Billie Schoolsky (14)
Leon Gordon (15)
Molly Coen Abramowitz (16)
Shirley Bonin (17)
David Dondis (17)
Lillian Epstein (17)
Gladys Kushner (18)
Anna Holtzman (18)
Thomas Desadier (19)
Maurice Kleinman (19)

Wife of Sam Schoolsky

Mother of Linda Weinstein
Mother-in-law of Nathan Dondis
Brother of Nathan Dondis
Sister of Joe Lowenthal
Mother of Claire Sorkow
Mother of Sam Holtzman
Father-in-law of Sandy Desadier
Father of Harry Kleinman



Zichronam Livracha
May their memories be a Blessing



December 26, 2025

Gerald Weiss (20)
Simon Marx (20)
Dale McCown (22)
Michael Kassner (22)
Pearl Weinstein (23)
Maxine Landsman (23)
Beverly Harris Given (25)
Ann Madson Levy (26)
Gertrude L Petrova (26)
Sanford Gold (26)

Grandfather of Susan Battestin
Brother-in-law of Pat Seamons

Mother of Rabbi Barry Weinstein
Grandmother of Leslie Goldsmith Katz
Cousin of Davidson Siblings
Mother of Lillie Ray Levy

January 2, 2026

Lottie Riff (29)
Ida Gollis Lipsey (29)
Roy Prater (Jan. 1)
Minnie Pearl Levy (Jan. 1)
Jacob Winner (Jan. 1)
Isaac Reinauer (Jan. 2)

Grandfather of Harry Kleinman
Great Grandfather of David Reinauer

As always, if you have any corrections or additions that need to be made to our Yahrzeit list, please send this information to Sandy at sdesadier@gmail.com.



Temple Contributions

Funds:

Sisterhood:

Decorating Fund
General Fund
Meal of Consolation

Temple:

Building Fund
Cemetery Fund
Courtyard Fund
Ecker/DiBartolo Fund for Adult Education
General Fund
Music Fund
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Tikkun Olam Fund
Tree of Life Fund
Youth Fund

Send Checks to:

Ellen Raley
5920 Camelia Way
Lake Charles, LA 70605

Temple Sinai
713 Hodges St.
Lake Charles, LA 70601



Contributors

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Fund Designation: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Celebration of: _____

Other: _____

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

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THESE CONTRIBUTIONS

Cemetery Fund

From: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo
In Memory of: Roger Seamons

General Fund

From: Karen & Harry Kleinman
In Memory of: Lewis Rosenfeld &
Sylvia R Kay

For: High Holy Day Honors

From: Sandy Desadier
For: High Holy Day Honors

From: Pat Seamons
For: High Holy Day Honors

From: Tim Blevins
For: High Holy Day Honors

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

From: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo
In Memory of: Miriam & Sam Holtzman

Courtyard Pavers

From: David Reinauer (2 Pavers)
In Memory of Jules & Shirley Reinauer
David, Anne, Mike, Rob, Richman, & Amanda

From: Davidson Family & Jill Greenberg (2 Pavers)
In Memory of Tena & Joe Davidson
In Memory of Ceil & Hy Milstein

From: Temple Sinai Board (2 Pavers)
In Honor of Nick Perieux & Family for
Their Loving Support of the Jewish People

From: Anne Reinauer (1 Paver)
William-Emily Coleman

From: Preble & Robert Landry (1 Paver)
Zol Zayn Bashert 2024
Preble & Robert



Hanukkah Blessings

Candles are added to the *hanukkiyah* (menorah) from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first. On the Shabbat of Hanukkah, kindle the Hanukkah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.

Light the *shamash* (the helper candle) first, using it to kindle the rest of the Hanukkah lights. As you do, say or sing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וְצִוֵּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ
וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנָן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

For first night only:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיָּנוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזִּמְנָן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

Hanerot Halalu

We kindle these lights because of the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Hanukkah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance.

ReformJudaism.org
Jewish Life in Your Life

From *Mikdash Tefillah* © 2010 Doron Nussli

TRADITIONAL POTATO LATKES

Recipe by Tina Wasserman

(<https://reformjudaism.org/reform-jewish-life/food-recipes/classic-latkes-potato-pancakes>)

INGREDIENTS

6–8 large thin-skinned potatoes, California long whites or Yukon Gold,
3 eggs, beaten well
1 tablespoon salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

1/2 cup matzah meal or cracker meal,
1 large onion, cut into 8 pieces
oil for frying

DIRECTIONS

1. Grate the raw potatoes using the large grating disk on a processor or the largest holes on a grater if doing it by hand. Place the grated potato in a colander, rinse with cold water. Set aside to drain.
2. Combine eggs, salt, pepper, and matzah meal or cracker meal in a 3-quart bowl. Mix thoroughly.
3. Change to the cutting blade on your processor. Add the onions to the work bowl. Pulse on and off 5 times. Add 1/4 of the grated potatoes to the onion and pulse on and off to make a coarse paste. Add to the egg mixture and stir to combine.
4. Add the drained potatoes to the bowl and mix thoroughly, using a large spoon or your hands.
5. Heat a large frying pan or large skillet for 20 seconds. Add enough oil to cover the pan to a depth of 1/4 inch and heat for an additional 10 seconds. Drop mounds of potato mixture into the pan. Fry on both sides until golden. Drain the fried latkes on a platter covered with crumpled paper towels. Serve with applesauce and sour cream.

