

The Sinai Messenger

Temple Sinai

713 Hodges St. Lake Charles, LA 70601

<https://templesinailakecharles.com/>

T: 337-240-8431

January, 2026

February, 2026

Tevet/Sh'vat 5786

Sh'vat/Adar 5786



Worship Service Schedule

January 2026

Tevet/Sh'vat 5786

February 2026

Sh'vat/Adar 5786

Friday, January 2 · Va-y'chi

Torah: Genesis 49:33 – 50:13

Haftarah: 1 Kings 2:1 – 12

Friday, January 9 · Sh'mot

Torah: Exodus 3:1 – 22

Haftarah: Jeremiah 1:1 – 19

Friday, January 16 · Va-eira

6:00PM @ Temple Sinai

Torah: Exodus 6:29 – 7:18

Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25 – 29:21

Friday, January 23 · Bo

Torah: Exodus 11:1 – 12:11

Haftarah: Isaiah 19:19 – 25

Friday, January 30 · B'shallach

Torah: Exodus 14:26 – 15:27

Haftarah: Judges 5:1 – 31

Friday, February 6 · Yitro

6:00PM @ Temple Sinai

Torah: Exodus 18:24 – 19:13

Haftarah: 2 Chronicles 19:4 – 11

Friday, February 13 · Mishpatim

Torah: Exodus 22:20 – 23:13

Haftarah: 2 Kings 12:1 – 17

Friday, February 20 · T'rumah

Torah: Exodus 25:23 – 40

Haftarah: Isaiah 49:1 – 13

Friday, February 27 · T'zavveh

6:00PM @ Temple Sinai

Torah: Exodus 28:29 – 29:9

Haftarah: 1 Samuel 30:1 – 18

Rabbi Sam's Lake Charles Visits:

January 16-17

February 6-7

February 27-28 (Purim Celebration)



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Congregational Meeting, which will be on **Tuesday, March 3rd**. More information will go out at the end of February.

MAZEL TOV

Congratulations to Randy Fuerst and Susan Arnold on the birth of their newest grandchild. Jonathan and Claire Fuerst welcomed Elaine Aviv Fuerst on December 27, 2025, at 8lb, 11oz and 22" long.

Do you have good news to share? Do you need prayers for healing and recovery? We would love to celebrate with you or pray for you. Send your information to Sandy Desadier (sdesadier@gmail.com) or Tevya Turner (tevyamil@gmail.com) to share in the Mazel Tov and Mi' Shebeirach sections of our bulletin.

NEW WEBSITE!

We have a new Temple Website! Check it out and let us know what you think!

<https://templesinailakecharles.com/>

Happy
Anniversary

January Anniversaries

3: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo
19: Carol & Charlie St. Dizier

February Anniversaries

7: Carrie & Nathan Dondis

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.

MENORAH LIGHTING 2025

A huge thank you to the Chabad of Baton Rouge and Randy Fuerst for setting up our annual Menorah Lighting and to Karen Kleinman who helped arrange extra security for the event. Even after the tragic loss in Australia just days before, we had a great turnout. Mayor Simien read a declaration from his office, participants from the crowd placed roses into the menorah in memory of the individuals who were lost on Bondi Beach, and we heard the stories of 4 Israeli hostages who made it home.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January Birthdays

- 6 Sandy Desadier
- 8 Rabbi Sam Rheins
- 19 Howard Wasserman
- 21 David Holtzman
- 25 Jeff Hankin
- 27 Barbara DiBartolo
- 28 Calvin Billings
- 30 Charley Turner

February Birthdays

- 8 Bruce Katz
- 18 Shirley Riff Billings
- 22 Ron Desadier
- 23 Meyer J Schwartzberg
- 26 Sarah Hodnett

Message from the Rabbi:

Once a week in Houston, I spend my evenings teaching at Kehillah High. Kehillah High is a supplemental religious school program where 8-12th graders from Houston's various synagogues come together and study. Some of the students attend Jewish private schools, others attend public schools with sizable Jewish student populations, and a few of the students are the only Jews in their grade or even in their entire school. Most have grown up in cities like Houston with robust Jewish communities and synagogues numbering more than 1,000 member families,

Recently, a number of 8-9th grade Kehillah High students participated in a winter-break fieldtrip focused on Southern Jewish life. On their way to New Orleans, they made a meaningful stop at our synagogue, Temple Sinai in Lake Charles. The goal was to learn what it is like to be Jewish in a community different than their own.

For an hour, Sandy, Tevya, and I met with the students in the sanctuary, an experience made even more special when everyone agreed that the space is absolutely beautiful. The students asked insightful questions.

Their curiosity reflected both genuine interest and a growing awareness of Jewish diversity beyond what they know at home.

It would have been easy for the group to bypass Lake Charles on their way to New Orleans. Visiting our congregation required extra time in a packed schedule. And yet, it was an essential stop on their journey to better understanding Southern Jewish history, life, and community. While I wasn't privy to their conversations on the bus afterwards, I am certain that one takeaway was this observation: while each of us is shaped by our own Jewish experiences, when we gather with other Jews, no matter the size of the community or its geographic location, it always feels like home.

Today, Jews live throughout the world. We speak many different languages and maintain unique traditions unique to the places we call home. There is tremendous diversity within the Jewish people, and yet we have more in common than not. We pray to the same God. We are connected to the same sacred texts. We share an ancient/modern homeland in *Eretz Yisrael*, the Land of Israel. And as we begin once again to read the Book of Exodus, we are reminded that the story of our people begins with a journey - from slavery to freedom, from restriction to possibility.

As we enter 2026, let us remember that to be part of the Jewish people is a blessing and a responsibility. May we continue to care for one another, strengthen our shared bonds, and always help one another feel at home.

Rabbi Sam



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Shalom, and happy 2026 to all! I hope everyone had a wonderful Hanukkah and if you attended our latke dinner on December 12th, then you had a fantastic treat. Many, many thanks to Judy and Bruce Katz for their culinary expertise as well as to Sandy Desadier for organizing and leading the clean-up crew, and to those who provided desserts! Also, on December 16th, Chabad of Baton Rouge celebrated Hanukkah with us by lighting a 9-foot menorah on the steps of Historic City Hall. We wish to thank Rabbi Peretz Kazen and his wife Mushka of Chabad of Baton Rouge, and Randy Fuerst for uniting us to enjoy the Festival of Lights. We wrapped December up with a wonderful visit from Kehillah High students, as described in Rabbi Sam's message.



As we stand at the threshold of a new year, I want to take a moment to not only reflect on the blessings we have shared in our community but also to express my heartfelt wishes for the year ahead. The arrival of 2026 brings a fresh opportunity to embrace the warmth of fellowship and the strength of our friendships within our small but vibrant congregation.

As the winter chill settles around us (eventually, we hope!), let us remember the warmth that comes not only from the Chanukah lights so recently lit, but also from our connections with one another. Our community is a source of comfort, support, and joy. It is through our shared experiences—whether in prayer, shared meals, or simple conversations—that we create an atmosphere of acceptance and love. Let us continue to extend our hands to welcome newcomers and strengthen our ties with one another. As we gather together to welcome this New Year, I encourage each of you to reflect on the importance of friendship and community in our lives. Let us celebrate the joy of being together, support one another through challenges, and uplift each other with kindness. Our bonds nourish our spirits and remind us that we are all part of something greater than ourselves.

May this New Year bring you and your loved ones renewal, joy, and the warmth of friendship. Wishing you a year filled with peace, happiness, and abundant blessings.

B'shalom,

Terya

tevyamil@gmail.com | 337-794-7418



Kehillah High Visit



Zichronam Livracha

May their memories be a blessing**January 2, 2026**

Minnie Pearl Levy (1)

Mother of Bill Levy

Roy Prater (1)

Brother of Hilda Landry

Jacob Winner (1)

Grandfather of Harry Kleinman

Isaac Reinauer (2)

Great Grandfather of David Reinauer

January 9, 2026

Vergie Comeaux (3)

Grandmother of Rebecca Cowie

Kenneth Hartman (3)

Father of Ted Hartman

Rebecca Reinauer (4)

Great Grandmother of David Reinauer

Esther Goldman (5)

Mother of Michael Goldman

Rose Hebert (5)

Mother of Barbara DiBartolo

Sarah Rebecca Wolf Klaus (5)

Grandmother of Millie Mylander

Cora Gulou Mylander (5)

Father of Matthew, Sam, & Jonathan Goldman

David Mitchell Goldman (6)

Mother of Pat Seamons

Bertha Greenwood Runte (6)

Father of Harold Bachrack

Sharon Allured (7)

Mother of Bev Buncher

Dora Thibodeaux (7)

Stepmother of Beverly Lowenthal

Irving Bachrack (8)

Aunt of Davidson Siblings

Marlene Levite (9)

Father of Beverly Buncher

January 16, 2026

Adele H. Greenberg (10)

Sister-in-Law of Pat Seamons

Theo Frank (13)

Mother of Alan Buncher

Sonya (Toni) Harris (14)

Father of Hector Garcia

Robert Levite (14)

Gr. Aunt of Davidson/Greenberg Siblings

Florence Eisen Rosenthal (14)

Gr. Uncle of Davidson Siblings

Cindy Primeaux (14)



Zichronam Livracha

May their memories be a blessing**January 23, 2026**

G. B. Walker (18)	Father of Brenda Goldman
Ethyl Landau Jacobs (19)	Grandmother of Michael Schwartzberg
Louis Reinauer (19)	Great Uncle of David Reinauer
Marie Gold (20)	Wife of Maurice Gold
Bernard Loftin (20)	Father of John Loftin
Irma Hoffman Smith (20)	
Lucia Amara (21)	
Paul Naumann Hay (21)	Husband of Bev Hickman
Deborah Levy (21)	Sister of Stan Levy, Jr.
Henry Packman (21)	
Eugene Earl Toerner (21)	Uncle of Barbara Peck
Sidney Hoffman (22)	
Fannie Sorkow (22)	Aunt of Eli Sorkow
Blanche Michel (23)	Mother of Ellen Raley

January 30, 2026

Julia Gross (24)	Aunt of Robert Landry
Nanette Hess (24)	Aunt of Claire Sorkow
Marjorie Hebert (25)	Aunt of Barbara DiBartolo
Joey Stoner (25)	Stepfather of Barbara Peck
Lena Messer (26)	Aunt of Michael Goldman
Leon Gordon (27)	
Robert F. Michel (27)	Father of Ellen Raley
Sanford Gold (28)	Father of Leslie Loftin
Jack Labovitch (28)	Father of Paul Labovitch
Lucy Manoff (29)	Sister-in-Law of Bill Kushner
Leha Bohn Gordon (30)	Mother-in-Law of Beverly Lowenthal
Michael Helman (30)	Brother of Tootsie Fournet
Samuel Milstein (30)	Grandfather of Corene Davidson
Marx Weill (30)	



Zichronam Livracha

May their memories be a blessing**February 6, 2026**

Fannie Hart (Jan. 31)

Freda Marcus (31)

Isidora Reinauer (31)

Dan Glitz (Feb. 2)

Rose Margulis (2)

Irving S. Stein (2)

Coleman Greenwood (4)

Hinda Stopnik (4)

Harry Bressler (5)

Irving Sorkow (5)

Ann Luce (6)

Mother of Brenda Bachrack

Grandmother of David Reinauer

Father of Preble Glitz Landry

Great Aunt of Jill Greenberg

Father of Sherman Stein

Great Grandmother of Davidson Siblings

Father of Elaine Weiss

Uncle of Eli Sorkow

Aunt of Robert Landry

February 13, 2026

Mrs. Julius Goldsmith (7)

Great Aunt of Leslie Katz

Clara Spector (7)

Son of Paul Labovitch

Robert Kennelly (8)

Uncle of David & Bruce Katz

Lou Katz (9)

Father of Irving Gorin

Jacob Gorin (10)

Mother of Carol St. Dizier

Arthur Weiss (11)

Cousin of Corene Davidson

Florence "Titter" Wise (11)

Sid Atlas (12)

Joseph Fry (12)

Alfred William Mayer (12)

David Reims (13)

February 20, 2026

Cecile Mandelbaum (14)

Great Grandmother of Todd Holtzman

Murray Seidenberg (14)

Husband of Edith Seidenberg

Mary Gilbert (15)

Sister of Rose Stander

Francine Messer (15)



Zichronam Livracha

May their memories be a blessing**February 20, 2026, continued...**

Maurice Gold (16)
 Julius Goldsmith (16)
 Angus Jennings (16)
 Gay Gold (17)
 Louis Kushner (17)
 Mary Jane Lobel (17)
 Mary Altman (18)
 Harry Goldman (18)
 Jennie Helman (18)
 Ethel Love (18)
 Jacob Sukiennik (19)
 Muriel Fuerst (20)
 Alorene Greenwood (20)

Father of Debra Gold Foreman
 Great Uncle of Leslie Katz
 Grandfather of Brenda Goldman
 Stepmother of Linda Castoriano
 Father of Claire Sorkow
 Millie Mylander's Rabbinic Roommate
 Grandmother of Tootsie Fournet
 Uncle of Michael Goldman
 Grandmother of Tootsie Fournet

Father of Nathan Sukiennik
 Grandmother of Randy Fuerst
 Aunt of Dan Wise

February 27, 2026

Jacob Ecker (21)
 Stuart Greenberg (22)
 Elias Berwin (23)
 Albert Fraenkel (23)
 William Wilson McGhee (23)
 Rose G. Greenberg (24)
 Francis Austin (26)
 Frances Raley (26)
 Walter J. Armentor, Jr. (27)
 Marguerite Whiting (27)

Father of Jill Greenberg
 Father of Val Whiting
 Dear Friend of Rabbi Barry Weinstein

Grandmother of Todd Holtzman
 Mother of Scott Raley
 Father of Gail Armentor
 Mother of Gene Whiting

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

Send Checks to:

Ellen Raley
5920 Camelia Way
Lake Charles, LA 70605

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

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.)

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund:

From: Sandy Desadier
In Memory of: Bill Levy

From: Karen & Harry Kleinman
In Memory of: Bill Levy

From: Charlene & Tim Blevins
In Memory of: Bill Levy

From: Charlene Seamons
In Memory of: Bill Levy

From: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo
In Memory of: Bill Levy (A Good Man)

From: Karen & Harry Kleinman
In Memory of: Maurice Kleinman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

From: Norma Levy
In Memory of: Bill Levy

From: Barbara & Tony DiBartolo
In Honor of: Rabbi Sam Rheins

Tikkun Olam Fund:

From: Tevya & Matt Turner
In Memory of: Si & Corene Davidson and
Thomas Desadier

