

TEMPLE SINAI SERVICES AND EVENTS

Day	Date	Time	Description
Fri	7/17	6:30 pm	KABBALAT SHABBAT and SERVICE. <i>Oneg to Follow</i>
Sat	7/18	9:30-10:30	MORNING SHACHARIT SERVICE <i>(Link on website; same password)</i> One hour, chanted service, to honor Shabbat.
Sat	7/18	10:30-12	TORAH STUDY : <u>MATOT – MA’ASEI</u> <i>(Link on website; same password)</i> What was the criminal justice system in the Torah? What does <i>tzedek</i> mean in the face of violent crimes?
Sat	7/18	7:30 pm	ANNEXATION 101 with Union of Reform Judaism  We will watch the video together and then talk about it together. <i>(If you can't make it, I will send out a link afterwards.)</i> Havdalah to Follow
Sat	7/18	9:00 pm	HAVDALAH Facebook Live <i>Temple Sinai Facebook Page</i>
Thu	7/30	9:00 pm	SAVE THE DATE – TISHA b’AV LAMENTATIONS: Writing our Loss
Fri	7/31	6:30pm	SAVE THE DATE - SHABBAT w/ EVAN TRAYLOR* Sermon and Talk Back Session On Jews, Race, and Inclusivity  *URJ Presidential Fellow for Millennial Engagement; President of NFTY, URJ Board member, Co-founder of Hillel International Student Cabinet
Sun	8/16, 23,30	11:00am-1:00 pm	SAVE THE DATE - A TASTE OF JUDAISM 3 classes on Jewish spirituality, values and community. Part I of Intro to Judaism
Fri	8/21-22	7:30 pm	SAVE THE DATE – Shabbat/Rosh Hodesh ELUL Concert JOE BUCHANON <i>Americana with a Jewish Soul (see email)</i> 
Sat	8/29	Noon-1:30pm	SAVE THE DATE: MUSSAR TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI BARRY BLOCK, author of A MUSSAR TORAH COMMENTARY. 

July 9, 2020

17 Tammuz 5780

בס"ד



Shalom Temple Sinai!

While we finalizing details of the High Holy Days, it is clear that we will not be able to have our service in person in the sanctuary. We will be including some new options and ideas to help make this year's services real and meaningful. Here are some things you can start now to improve our shared experience:

PICTURES FOR YIZKOR:

We want you to send digital pictures of those in your family or the Temple Sinai family that you will be remembering this year at this year's expanded Yom Kippur YIZKOR service. Please send those images in an email to info@templesinaivt.org with the subject: **Yizkor Pictures**. That way, we can easily put them into a folder and give to someone to turn into a slide show or video. Please include their name, Hebrew name in known, how you are connected, and any other short details you want included.

WRITING YOUR LAMENTATION FOR THESE TIMES

The prayers and readings in our Mahzor are sometimes beautiful and moving, but hearing the words of people you know is much more immediate and meaningful. It can also be very therapeutic and clarifying to write our thoughts in journals. Certainly now we are living through times that are challenging on many levels, and in which there is for many, a great sense of loss. I want you to consider putting your feelings and experience of these times into words. Tisha b'Av, a holiday that recalls the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by reading the book of Lamentations, is coming up soon, so one form in which to write would a lamentation. We will read them that night. Others might want to write a short prose reading about a moment or single experience in all this that is crystalline in your



memory. Others might feel moved to write prayers or poems that speak to our times, please share those with me and I will incorporate them into our services during Elul and the High Holy Days. Send those to me at rabbi@templesinaivt.org with the subject line: Lamentations. Of course, your writings don't need to be sad; they can be hopeful, inspiring, poignant, mournful, angry or whatever it is you wish to express.

BETTER COMPUTER SPEAKERS

One thing you could consider that would greatly improve your experience of services on-line would be to buy a pair of computer speakers or Bluetooth speakers if your computer has that capability. There are lots of options at a wide range of prices. Here is an [article from the New York Times/Wirecutter with recommendations](#), but these are all in the \$100-200 range. Here is [an article from Tom's Guide that has a wider range of price options](#). If you can connect your computer with HDMI cable to your TV, you can listen through your entertainment system speakers.

BLOW YOUR OWN HORN

No matter how good your speakers, the SHOFAR is not going to sound the same over a broadcast. This might be the perfect year to consider getting a shofar of your own. If you do, let me know. I will offer lessons before Rosh HaShanah, and help you get the hang of it. Here is [a link to an article about choosing a shofar](#) and remember that sometimes longer horns are easier to play, and rams' horns are usually measured around the curve, not tip to tip, so a 16" shofar might only be 8 inches tip to tip.

EVAN TRAYLOR SPEAKING

I also want to **STRONGLY** encourage you to joins us on **Friday, July 31 to hear former NFTY North America President EVAN TRAYLOR** speak about his experience as a Jew of Color, and a descendant of both slaves and Holocaust survivors.



Evan has been the URJ Presidential Fellow for Millennial Engagement; President of NFTY, URJ Board member, Co-founder of Hillel International Student Cabinet, and will be starting his rabbinical studies at HUC this fall. During Oneg, Evan will be leading a *talk-back session*, a discussion on issues of race, identity, inclusivity, and navigating the complexity today's Jewish world.

Finally, this coming Shabbat, before Havdalah, we will have a learning session about the current plans Israeli plans for and debate regarding **ANNEXATION** of West Bank territories. This is of great concern to many American Jews, and to learn more about it, we will view together a recent webinar on the issues, featuring: SHIRA EFRON, Policy Advisor to the Israel Policy Forum; MICHAEL KOPLOW, Policy Director of the Israel Policy Forum; and RABBI JOSH WEINBERG, Executive Director of ARZA, and VP for Israel and Reform Zionism at the URJ.

If you would like to read the World Reform Movements combined statement on the prospect of annexation, click [HERE](#).

The graphic is a promotional poster for a webinar. On the left, a dark blue vertical banner contains the text: 'ANNEXATION WATCH' with a logo, 'ISRAEL POLICY FORUM', 'West Bank Annexation 101', 'Understanding the Ramifications', 'Wednesday, June 10 | 3pm ET / 12pm PT', and 'Registration at ipf.li/june10'. At the bottom of the banner are logos for 'UNION for REFORM JUDAISM', 'ARZA', 'CCAR', and 'AMERICAN CONFERENCE of CANTORS'. On the right, three portrait photos of speakers are shown in a vertical stack. The top photo is of Shira Efron, with text: 'Shira Efron, Policy Advisor, Israel Policy Forum'. The middle photo is of Michael Koplow, with text: 'Michael Koplow, Policy Director, Israel Policy Forum'. The bottom photo is of Rabbi Josh Weinberg, with text: 'In conversation with Rabbi Josh Weinberg, Executive Director, ARZA, Vice President for Israel and Reform Zionism, URJ'. The background of the right side is a faded image of a cityscape.

For those who can't join us for our discussion of the issue before and after watching the webinar (59 minutes), I will be sending out a link to the video.

Shalom, David