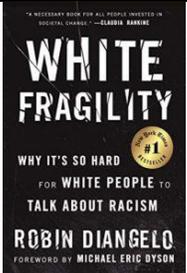


TEMPLE SINAI SERVICES AND EVENTS

Day	Date	Time	Description
Fri	7/31	6:30pm	<p>SHABBAT w/ EVAN TRAYLOR* Sermon and Talk Back Session On Jews, Race, and Inclusivity</p> 
	8/1-8/9		<p>Rabbi on Vacation (but will be there for next weekend's Singalong Havdalah [Kumsitz] and the Sisterhood Book Club.)</p>
Sat	8/1	9:30-10:30	<p>MORNING SHACHARIT SERVICE with RABBI JAN SALZMAN</p> <p><i>(Link on website; same password)</i></p> <p>One hour service to honor Shabbat.</p> 
Sat	8/1	10:30-12	<p>TORAH STUDY : <u>VE'ETCHANAN</u> with Rabbi Jan Salzman</p> <p><i>(Link on website; same password)</i></p> <p>Moses pleads to enter the promised land.</p>
			<p>CANCELLED THIS WEEK - HAVDALAH Facebook Live</p> <p><i>Instead, this week, try it yourself at home with scented plants from your gardens. It's great outside with kids.</i></p>
Mon	8/3	7-8:30pm	<p>SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE ANTI-RACISM BOOK GROUP: WHITE FRAGILITY</p> <p>facilitated by Carol Heffer</p> <p><i>Obtain this short (170 pages) book yourself and read the first three chapters for the initial discussion.</i></p> <p><i>Identify sections or ideas that engage you to discuss with the group.</i></p> 
Sat	8/8	8 pm	<p>KUMSITZ AND HAVDALAH WITH OHAVI ZEDEK</p> <p>A Kumsitz (meaning 'come sit' in Yiddish) is a musical gathering, where we sit around the camp fire and sing songs. Even though we can't gather in person, we will get together <i>(at your own fire if you have service and data)</i> and sing campfire songs in English and in Hebrew, and we will have our Havdalah in the middle.</p>
Fri	8/21-22	7:30 pm	<p>SAVE THE DATE - Shabbat/Rosh Hodesh ELUL Concert JOE BUCHANAN</p> <p><i>Americana with a Jewish Soul (see email)</i></p>

ZOOM SERVICES, CLASSES AND MEETINGS NOW REQUIRE PASSWORDS



July 29, 2020

9 Av 5780

בס"ד

Shalom Temple Sinai!

In our temple community, we have people from a healthy range of political perspectives and affiliations, and so we also have differing reactions to recent protests against excessive police force and for Black Lives Matter. While I believe we all support justice, fairness, equality before the law, we differ on what we believe gets us there. In these days of polarization and narrowing of discourse, I think it is important for all of us, especially me, to remember that we don't all agree about these issues and that is healthy. We are Reform Jews; we eschew dogma, and we value well-intentioned debate and critical thinking. As Jews, we believe that asking questions and probing for deeper answers is sacred.

Whatever your opinion or political stripe, I want to encourage you to join us for services Friday evening when our *d'var Torah* (sermon) will be given by **EVAN TRAYLOR**, who is a descendant of slaves on one side and Holocaust survivors on the other. Evan has grown up with a foot in the African-American and Jewish communities, and he will share some of his experiences navigated that growing up and in college. Evan was the President of North American NFTY (National Federation of Temple Youth, the Reform youth movement), a URJ Presidential Fellow for Millennial

Engagement, and a URJ Board Member. He is now starting his rabbinic studies at Hebrew Union College, but agreed to join us to talk about growing up black and Jewish, and about being a Zionist and a Progressive in today's world. After services, our Oneg will be a discussion, "talk-back session" where we can ask Evan questions, and push back respectfully at ideas with which we don't agree.

EVAN TRAYLOR

SERMON AND DISCUSSION

FRIDAY
JULY 31
6:30 PM

Former President of NFTY North America; URJ Presidential Fellow for Millennial Engagement; URJ Board Member

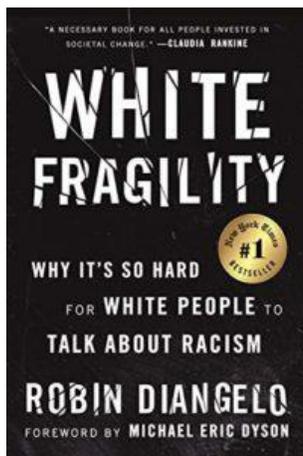
Talk-back session to follow services.

JEWISH. BLACK. PROGRESSIVE. ZIONIST. AMERICAN.

Evan Traylor is the descendant of both slaves and Holocaust survivors. In his sermon and discussion, hear what this young leader has to say about our Torah portion, being Jewish and African American, and the fight against racism and anti-Semitism.

Zoom link at www.templestsinait.org. Passcode available upon request or from members.

I will be taking a **vacation** next week (*yeah!*), starting after services Friday night, so our Saturday morning services and Torah Study will be led by **RABBI JAN SALZMAN**, as will next Friday night's services (together with our beloved Mark Leopold). So please show your love and appreciation by joining via Zoom, especially Saturday morning. Vermont is so beautiful in the Summer it is hard to stay inside, but if you can, let's lean into our desire to keep deepening our web of Jewish community connections.



Even though I'll be on vacation, I plan to join the **ANTI-RACISM BOOK GROUP Monday Night at 7pm** to be part of the discussion of the book **WHITE FRAGILITY**. I've read the first few chapters, and for me it was challenging, thought-provoking, and at times irksome. It will be good to discuss in with a thoughtful group of people from our community. Join us. Be part of the conversation that is happening around the country.

Next **Saturday night, August 8**, we are joining with **Ohavi Zedek** for a virtual **KUMSITZ AND HAVDALLAH**. A Kumsitz is a Jewish singalong, and ours will include favorites in Hebrew and in English, as well as Havdalah. Join us by your own fire, with S'mores, (if you have service and data!)



ELUL AND HIGH HOLY DAYS

In Jewish tradition, the period of the High Holy Days begins a month before Rosh Hashana, with the month of Elul. Elul is a time to reflect on your life, ask is it in line with your beliefs and value. It is a time for asking for and offering forgiveness, and asking ourselves how we have grown and how we have not. This year, I will be offering several classes, some together with Ohavi Zedek's clergy. Here are some details:

• JOE BUCHANAN CONCERT

Friday, Aug 21. Shabbat Service 6:30pm

Concert 7:30pm

We'll begin Elul with a special service with Rabbi Edleson and Mark Leopold, followed by a concert by Jewish musical artist, Joe Buchanan. Joe, who lives in Texas, is a Jew-by-Choice who brings his own spiritual journey into his Americana southern-folk music. On Aug 22, he will have a special "**Lunch and Learn**" for the community, with a focus on the experience of Jews-by-Choice. Here are links to his songs:



[RETURN](#)

[UNBROKEN](#)

[LECHU N'RANENA](#)

- **THURSDAYS IN ELUL with Ohavi Zedek.** Led by **RABBI AMY SMALL, CANTOR STEVE ZEIDENBERG** and **yours truly**, this series of four Thursday night classes will be on T'shuvah (return) Tefilah (prayer) and Tzedakah (charity) and how they connect to the High Holy Days. The flyer is above.
- **CLASS: MAKING PRAYER REAL** will explore what prayer is, and how we can learn to pray more fully and openly. It is based on a nationally known curriculum through Hebrew Union College. I'll be announcing dates for those next week.
- **ELUL TORAH STUDY.** Our Saturday morning Torah Study during Elul will be focused on **specific prayers of the High Holy Days**. Together we can learn more about their history and meaning, and discuss whether and how we can relate to them.
- **KAVANOT.** Several times each week during Elul, I will be sending out *Kavanot*, or short questions or readings for reflection. The goal is simply to kick-start the reflection process about our behavior and lives this past year, and consider where we have done well and where we have work still to do. I am doing this together with Ohavi Zedek, so some *kavanot* will be from Rabbi Small, some from me.
- **PHOTOS 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**. Please include their name, Hebrew name in known, how you are connected, and any other short details you want included.

This year, as we apart physically, let's connect and deepen spiritually. Shalom, David