



SHALOM TEMPLE SINAI!

I need to say:

I'M SORRY

There are many things we've accomplished in my two years at Temple Sinai that I'm very proud of, and I'm excited about our future. Still, as we approach the new year, I've been reflecting on my work here, and I know there is one area where I have not lived up to my own expectations: keeping up with email. When a person writes to me, it is often personal, and the person has invested a great deal of meaning in sending it. For me not to respond in a timely manner, or not to respond at all, is disrespectful, hurtful and can lead to alienation from our community and from our tradition. It is never my intention to ignore anyone, but that is what happens and I'm sorry.

To be honest, I have always struggled to keep up with email. I suppose we all have our strengths and our challenges, and this is among my challenges. That being said, it has been particularly difficult keeping up at Temple Sinai. In part, it is the time I put into programming, services, and teaching. In part, it is my desire to stay in touch with the work of all our committees and groups and with other organizations, which results regularly in long chains of discussions between which a single personal email to me can get lost or deleted. I also get emails that are extremely personal and require a good deal of time and care to respond, so I rarely can get through email in an hour or two per day.

I just want you to know I will work to be better at this, and if you've reached out to me and not heard back, I want you to know that I'm sorry. Please don't let that keep you from reaching out again. A solo rabbi in a temple our size is often swamped by the work, and it is hard to know what to say 'no' to. I have always tried to find my way to yes, especially as I started here, but sometimes that comes at the expense of communication. I want you to know I'm working on finding a better balance, managing time better, but it is a built-in challenge. I just want you to know that I'm sorry and that if I've hurt you, please let me know so we can talk.

One way you could help me is to put a word like "IMPORTANT" or "PERSONAL" in the subject line or marking it important. If the subject is the same as a long string of email, but contains a personal question, I can easily miss that. If it is urgent, please call.

On a positive note, I have recently bought a new copy of Microsoft Office. When I started here, the new computer came with a faulty Outlook that swallowed emails going and coming. I had always relied on Outlook to keep my email organized and track my

responses and I just tried to manage with Gmail. That was not smart, so I'm correcting that. It should help. Know I'm trying.

With God's help,

David

Join us for a special series studying the prayer of the High Holy Day Machzor and on “making prayer real*.” *(you don't have to be a Torah study regular!)*

Special Torah Study Sat Sept 5 10:30 am

Prayers of the High Holy Days:

Naming God

אָדוֹן הַסְּלִיחוֹת / אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵינוּ

ADON HASELICHOT AVINU MALKEINU

Join us to go deeper into the key prayers of the High Holy Days. This year, September's Torah Study will focus on the *Machzor*, to help make our prayers more meaningful this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This Shabbat, we'll explore the meanings of Avinu Malkeinu and the beloved Mizrahi hymn, Adon Haselichot.

* Includes materials from the *MAKING PRAYER REAL* Curriculum by Rabbi Michael Comins

Burlington Community Shofar Sounding

תִּקְעוּ שׁוֹפָר לַיּוֹם חֲגֵנוּ

Sound the shofar for our festival!



Sunday September 6, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

Oakledge Park

(between the playground and the tennis courts)

Bring your family, snacks, and a picnic blanket.

Stay socially distanced!



Ohavi Zedek Synagogue



Ruach haMaqom

THURSDAYS IN ELUL

During the month of Elul, in preparation for the High Holy Days, the clergy of Temple Sinai and Ohavi Zedek Synagogue will explore three pathways to help us achieve transformation and renewal interpersonally, spiritually, and communally.

**AUGUST 20,
7:45PM**

Teshuvah, תשובה
(repentance) with
Rabbi David Edleson

**AUGUST 27,
7:45PM**

Tefilah, תפילה (prayer)
with Cantor Steve
Zeidenberg

Link to join in:
bit.ly/ElulLearning

**SEPTEMBER 3,
7:45PM**

Tzedakah, צדקה
(righteousness)
with Rabbi Amy
Small

**SEPTEMBER 10,
7:45PM**

Preparing for the
High Holy Days: A
clergy conversation
with Rabbi David
Edleson, Rabbi Amy
Small and Cantor
Steve Zeidenberg

TEMPLE SINAI SERVICES AND EVENTS

Day	Date	Time	Description
Thur	9/3	7:45	THURSDAYS IN ELUL: Class jointly with OZ With Rabbi Amy Small “T’ZEDAKAH” Prayer.
Fri	9/4	6:30 pm	KABBALAT SHABBAT- Our usual music-filled English and Hebrew service, followed by virtual Kiddush and Oneg <i>with Rabbi David Edleson</i>
Sat	9/5	9:30 am	SHACHARIT SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE Our 1-hour more traditional service, mostly sung in Hebrew, but you don’t need to know Hebrew to enjoy it.
Sat	9/5	10:30 AM	<p>SPECIAL TORAH STUDY:</p> <div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p style="color: blue; font-size: small;">Special Torah Study Sat Sept 5 10:30 am</p> <p>Prayers of the High Holy Days:</p> <p>Naming God</p> <p>אָדוֹן הַסְּלִיחוֹת / אַבִּינוּ מַלְכֵינוּ</p> <p>ADON HASELICHOT AVINU MALKEINU</p> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; font-size: x-small; color: blue;"> <p>Join us to go deeper into the key prayers of the High Holy Days. This year, September’s Torah Study will focus on the <i>Machzor</i>, to help make our prayers more meaningful this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This Shabbat, we’ll explore the meanings of Avinu Malkeinu and the beloved Mizrahi hymn, Adon Haselichot.</p> </div> </div> <p>We will start our month-long series of study of the High Holy Day Machzor. You don’t have to be a Torah Study regular to join us and deepen our experience of the prayers.</p>
Sat	9/5	8:00 pm (new time)	HAVDALAH on FACEBOOK LIVE Go to Temple Sinai’s Facebook Page at 8:00.
Sun	9/6	2:00 pm	SHOFAR SOUNDING IN OAKLEDGE PARK Come in your pod, picnic or swim, and the Shofar sounding will happen casually.

ZOOM SERVICES, CLASSES AND MEETINGS NOW REQUIRE PASSWORDS