

OUR JOURNEY OUR HOME

Spring Edition
2026



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(Ex: rsegal@templesinaiatlanta.org)

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WELCOME TO OUR MAGAZINE, "OUR JOURNEY OUR HOME"

At Temple Sinai, we strive to create meaningful experiences for everyone. We hope this year you'll participate in one of our many events, as well as opportunities to learn, worship and volunteer together. Join us for a Brotherhood or Women of Sinai event, learning program, or youth group event. Bring your family to a Tot Shabbat, join us for social gatherings, and worship with us for Shabbat. Visit our Temple Sinai calendar to see what's happening: templesinaiatlanta.org/calendar hope to see you soon!





President Message

To my fellow Temple Sinai Members,

This first year serving as the President of the

Board of Trustees has truly been a labor of love. I am deeply grateful for each of you: for showing up to Shabbat and holiday services, engaging in adult and youth learning, supporting our vibrant preschool and Noar Sunday, and participating in social action efforts that reflect our shared Jewish values. Temple Sinai is strong because of you. I am equally appreciative of our extraordinary clergy and staff, whose dedication and creativity make Sinai such a sacred and welcoming community.

We pray for a permanent resolution to the conflict with Iran to be reached soon. We hope for a future of safety and security for Americans and Israelis alike, with a reduction in Iranian power and influence in the Middle East and beyond. We hold in our hearts the memories of the fallen soldiers and innocent civilians—may their memories be for a blessing—and we pray for comfort for the families who have lost loved ones.

My family and I traveled to the region earlier this year, spending New Year's Eve in Israel, enjoying precious time with friends and family—and also visiting the Gaza envelope, including Kibbutz Kfar Aza, and the Nova music festival site. Bearing witness to both the devastation in these area, and resilience among the

survivors, was profoundly meaningful. This column is too brief to fully capture that experience, but I would welcome the opportunity to speak with any of you about it at any time.

Here at Sinai, we recently celebrated an extraordinary Ruby Gala on March 14, honoring the 40th anniversary of our preschool, the longest-established Jewish preschool in Atlanta. With more than 330 attendees, we raised over \$230,000, exceeding our goal and reinforcing our financial strength. Under the leadership of Associate Executive Director Shelly Dresdner and Treasurer Ken Reichel, our Annual Membership Commitment Task Force continues advancing an equitable and sustainable dues model. Working closely with Vice President of Development Kevin Levingston, we are strengthening our philanthropic engagement, refining our endowment processes, and expanding planned giving. We are proud to celebrate that we recently received our 100th commitment to our Legacy Society!

In parallel, President-Elect Emily Webb has led a strategic visioning task force as we imagine Sinai's impact approaching our 60th anniversary in two short years, and beyond. We have also enhanced our social media presence, approved a congregant-led social justice initiative to preserve the Okefenokee Swamp, and continued leadership development under Vice President of Governance Adam Katz, including deepening and formalizing our leadership pipeline, as well as board

training on our Culture of Philanthropy and effective nonprofit delegation.

Temple Sinai is the heart and soul of Jewish Atlanta for so many of us, and I was grateful to see so many of you at our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 17, where the congregation voted to approve the slate of new board members and officers submitted by Immediate Past President Robert Sinsheimer and the Nominating Committee. I could not be more thrilled with our new slate of officers and at-large board members, as well as those who are continuing to serve for one more year. Thank you to everyone who participated, and for your continued commitment to Sinai's future.

We are, of course, also deeply focused on the safety and security of Temple Sinai. In light of recent events affecting synagogues around the world, we are being even more vigilant than ever. We have added additional security guards and are actively taking steps to upgrade and enhance our alarm and security systems to ensure the safety of our community.

Please do not ever hesitate to call or email me at any time with questions, concerns, or feedback about Sinai or the greater Atlanta Jewish community.

All the best,

Chuck Fox, President
cfoxmd@icloud.com | 404-862-0859

Did you know you can go green with Temple Sinai?



As we work to reduce waste and care for our environment, you can help by choosing to receive communications electronically. It's quick and easy to update your communication preferences in the Member Portal. It's just one click away on the Sinai website.

You can now receive the following electronically:

- Billing statements
- Monthly calendar
- *Our Journey* Magazine



Update your preferences in the portal. Scan here to login.

While you're in the Member Portal, you can also:

- Update your personal information
- View your yahrzeits
- Share your interests
- Access the Member Directory
- Upload a photo of yourself or your family to help make our community more personal and welcoming



Making the switch to electronic communication helps us reduce paper, save resources, and stay connected in a more efficient and environmentally friendly way.

Passover with Noar

Shanna Wilons

This year, Noar Sunday introduced a new project-based learning initiative, engaging students in Kindergarten through 6th grade in year-long explorations of meaningful topics connected to the Passover Seder. Through hands-on learning and creative projects, students connected Jewish values and traditions to real-world experiences.

Our younger learners focused on foundational themes of the holiday. Kindergarten students focused on the importance of asking questions through the *Ma Nishtanah*, creating their own "Four Questions of Freedom." First graders explored *B'tzelem Elohim* and celebrated individuality through character trait mirrors, while second graders

examined the theme "And you shall be a blessing" by writing personal blessings and performing original plays.

Older students engaged with more complex concepts and real-world applications. Third graders investigated environmental responsibility through the question, "What choices does water ask of us?" by building a rain barrel for the Sinai garden and creating a tzedakah awareness campaign for Ryan's Well. Fourth graders explored *L'dor v'dor*, connecting with family heritage through interviews, a collaborative cookbook, and creative family profiles. Fifth graders focused on *L'shana Haba'ah B'Yerushalayim* by preparing Israeli foods and designing an interactive Israel trivia

game. Sixth graders examined how Jewish history shapes identity by reimagining the Four Sons of the Haggadah through a contemporary lens, connecting ancient text to their own lived experiences.

This initiative brought Jewish learning to life, fostering curiosity, creativity, and meaningful connections to tradition and community.

REGISTRATION FOR PRE K-12 YOUTH & TEEN PROGRAMS NOW OPEN!



The Joy of Travel

Rabbi Ron Segal



The year 1999 is memorable for many reasons, including the world's anxious anticipation for the beginning of a new millennium. 1999 was particularly special for our family as our son Ben was born just two weeks before the year's end. And rabbinically, 1999 is especially memorable as it was during that summer I had the joy of leading my first Temple Sinai congregational trip to Israel.

From that memorable journey, I learned a truth that has been affirmed time and again through the years: few experiences in synagogue life are as effective or impactful in fostering relationships and friendships amongst our congregational family as a shared travel experience. Each of the synagogue trips I have gratefully enjoyed - many trips to Israel, Confirmation trips to New York, adult travel to Central Europe, South America, Poland, Morocco, Greece, New Orleans, and other destinations – as well as the Temple Sinai trips that Rabbis Kranz, z"l, Levenberg, Perry, and Trief (both Sam and Natan) have led through the years to Israel, Belarus, Cuba, Spain, India, Italy, and other locales have nurtured enduring connections with and between members of our congregation. I firmly believe these connections, in turn, strengthen the relational fabric of our community. The enduring impact of learning about Jewish heritage and history in significant cities and countries throughout the world brought to life by outstanding educators and guides, or exploring the history of Civil Rights in Alabama, or participating in women's and men's spirituality retreats, together with established friends and those who – by trip's end - become new ones, cannot be overstated. All on our clergy team feel truly fortunate to serve a congregational family which demonstrates a love of travel!

Next up on Sinai's travel calendar are trips to Scotland this Fall with Rabbi Brad this Fall, Israel with Rabbi Natan in December, and Morocco with me next Spring, each of which remain open for new participants (as of this writing), and I hope to announce details for a journey to the Balkans in the near future. Whether you join us on one of these adventures or another, know that we sincerely look forward to the privilege of traveling with you on a congregational journey soon. And if there is a Jewish heritage destination you would personally be interested in exploring together with fellow Temple Sinai members, please do not hesitate to let us know, as we are always excited to travel to new and exciting destinations!



Travel with us! Visit templesinaiatlanta.org or scan QR code for more information.

Upcoming Sinai Trips

Light after Darkness: Israel
December 6-15, 2026
With Rabbi Natan Trief



The Balkans
October 24-November 7, 2027
With Rabbi Ron Segal



Family Trip to Israel
December, 2027 (winter break)
With Rabbi Ron Segal & Marisa Kaiser



Exploring Israel

Dana Myer and her dad, Gary Greenhood, participated in the December 2025 trip to Israel with Rabbi Natan Trief. She shares her story here.

Traveling to Israel with my dad, Gary Greenhood, and Temple Sinai was an unforgettable experience. My second time and his third- but our first together. From the moment we arrived, I was struck by a sense of wonder at the country and its people, and a profound gratitude for the chance to explore it alongside him. Visiting the Anu Museum in Tel Aviv and the National Library in Jerusalem, I felt deeply connected to the rich culture and enduring history of the Jewish people. On Tel Aviv's streets, a graffiti tour revealed a vibrant fusion of art, politics, and modern life at every corner.

From elevated viewpoints, we glimpsed Syria, Lebanon, and Gaza—a stark reminder of the region's complexity and volatility.



At Kibbutz Be'eri and the Nova Festival site, we witnessed present day Israeli life and confronted the devastating impact of the October 7 attacks. Memorials, home hospitality meals, talks with security experts, and encounters with resilient communities all deepened my understanding of the strength and spirit that define Israeli culture.

Every moment of the trip, whether in quiet reflection at the Western Wall or amidst the bustling shuk, was enriched by sharing it with my dad. Together, we learned, remembered, and marveled at a land that is ancient, yet alive, and forever enduring. Ultimately, the journey brought us closer— not just to Israel and its history, but to each other.



Women's Retreat

Lara Dorfman, VP of Spiritual Life

I was confident that if we took about 51 Sinai congregants and two clergy members outside the walls of Sinai, we could create sacred space and community almost anywhere. That's the beauty of our community. But given the chance to take 53 Sinai women to the beautiful foothills of Texas for four days, we did more than create sacred space and community—we had a transformative, communal spiritual experience. Were there friends, wine, and pool time? Yes. Was it fun? Yes. Did we wear bathrobes to dinner? Yes. But for me, the fun pales in comparison to the powerful prayer experiences we shared as a group: looking at our surroundings through a Jewish lens, grappling with our individual spirituality, and being enveloped by **SEVEN DECADES** of wisdom and sisterhood.

We were all at different places in our lives and at different points in our spiritual journeys, and Temple Sinai was able to

meet each of us where we are. As sacred and central to our faith as our building is, there was something about being outside our daily routines that allowed a unique vulnerability and enabled cross-generational connections—rooted in sacred Jewish text, but informed by our shared life experiences.

We all have our own definitions of spirituality. Initially, in planning content with Rabbi Sam Trief and Beth Schafer, I struggled with how to make a women's retreat "spiritual." What makes something spiritual, anyway? I thought about our individual connections to God, wondering, "How can we create an environment where 53 women can connect with God?" This seemed like a daunting task, and one I realized was ultimately not necessary. If we are created *B'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God, then we simply need to connect, truly and genuinely, with one another (and the rest may follow).

I joked about calling it a "girls trip"—not entirely unlike the ones you might see on reality TV—but the reality is that we created space for spiritual connection among ourselves that will travel with us: in our souls, along our spiritual journeys, in our homes, and back at Sinai.





Ruby Gala Celebrating Temple Sinai & Honoring 40 years of Temple Sinai Preschool



On Saturday, March 14, Temple Sinai hosted its annual celebration, a Ruby Gala celebrating the 40th anniversary of Temple Sinai Preschool while raising vital support for the synagogue and its programs. More than 350 guests gathered for an evening of celebration, community, and philanthropy, raising more than \$230,000.

Inspired by the traditional ruby symbol of the 40th anniversary, the event space was transformed with ruby-hued flowers, lighting, and décor. Guests enjoyed lively entertainment from a live band, a silent auction, specialty cocktails and mocktails, and a curated dinner.

Chairs Linda Bachmann and Samantha Ellis welcomed guests throughout the evening, celebrating alongside preschool families, alumni and teachers past and present as well as synagogue members, and community supporters.

The evening included a meaningful program led by the Temple Sinai clergy team—Rabbis Ron Segal, Brad Levenberg, and Sam Trief, and Bunzl Family Cantorial Chair Beth Schafer—which marked the close of Shabbat and introduced a special video honoring 40 years of Temple Sinai Preschool and the generations of families it has served.



Scan the QR code to watch this amazing tribute.

“When I think of Temple Sinai Preschool, I am hopeful.” said Rabbi Ron Segal “Knowing the Preschool began with 11 students and that we now have more than 170 young learners is a remarkable testament to the excellence of our Preschool – the leadership, teachers, curriculum, facilities, families, and more all combine to create a special learning environment that is quite magical. The fact that our Preschool is flourishing serves as an incredible foundation for our congregation, helping to ensure our continued strength and bright future for the generations to come. Marking the Temple Sinai Preschool’s 40th anniversary on Saturday evening was truly meaningful, and it was wonderful to celebrate the Preschool together with so many people from our community.”

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Linda Bachmann & Samantha Ellis

Spotlight: Refugee & Immigrant Justice Committee Chairs

Janie Fishman:

I have been involved in the Immigrant Refugee Committee since its inception about 10 years ago! Working with diverse communities and learning about other cultures has always been my passion. I feel it is more important than ever to build bridges and offer support to newly arrived families struggling to make a better life in the United States.

All the projects I've participated on this committee have been meaningful because they are all personal and create relationships. One example is volunteering weekly at Parwana where I help illiterate Afghan women learn English. These women were never allowed to attend school in Afghanistan and some had to be taught how to hold a pencil! In addition, I've enjoyed volunteering at

Winter and Spring festivals in Clarkston and organizing and participating in baby showers for newly arrived moms to be.

Susan Schwartz:

I've been part of the committee since it was started by Kevin Abel. I've been working with refugees for years and started when JF&CS was resettling Russian Jewish refugees. My husband was an immigration lawyer and immigrants and refugees have been part of my life for a long time.

The best part of being on the committee is working with the refugees directly. I also enjoy getting to work with Sinai volunteers and the dedicated staff at the refugee agencies.



Janie Fishman



Susan Schwartz

If you'd like to get involved in the Immigrant/Refugee Committee we'd love to hear from you! Please contact Janie Fishman (jf9870@gmail.com) or Susan Schwartz (susan.schwartz45@icloud.com).



Answering the Call: A Conversion Story

Jason Lehnert

Jason Lehnert participated in Temple Sinai's Exploring Judaism class and converted to Judaism with Rabbi Natan Trief. Here he tells us more about his experience. To learn more about our conversion process and the Exploring Judaism cohort, scan the QR code here.



My story begins not unlike Abraham, with what I can only describe as a call from God — not sudden, but as an increasingly persistent yearning. That yearning began with the discovery of my Jewish lineage and grew into a deep curiosity about Judaism, Israel, and Jewish thought.

The painful events of October 7, became the final impetus to answer that call. At a time when the Jewish community could understandably have turned inward, I instead encountered warmth, openness, and extraordinary kindness at Temple Sinai. Rabbi Natan Trief and the entire clergy team guided me along a path into Jewish life that was intellectually rigorous, spiritually moving, and deeply welcoming. Rabbi Natan's knowledge, passion, and thoughtful guidance made each stage of the journey both meaningful and enriching.

As someone who loves books, I embraced the study and the growing collection of Jewish texts that now fill my shelves. From learning and reflection, to immersion in the mikvah, to standing before the ark holding the Torah scrolls, each step felt both sacred and grounding — connecting me to generations of Jews before and after me.

Now, as I settle into the rhythm of the Jewish calendar and continue studying Torah, what once felt like uncertainty is giving way to something deeper: a sense of homecoming. Judaism has brought a profound sense of identity, belonging, and sacred purpose to my life.



8-9th Grade Civil Rights Trip

Over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, 16 teens from Temple Sinai went on a Civil Rights trip alongside, together with Temple Beth Tikvah and Temple Emanu-El. Our teens learned first-hand from a foot soldier in Selma, a school leader from the Children's March in Birmingham, Dr. King's lawyer's son, and more. Throughout this trip, teens engaged in difficult questions and topics as we visited some of the sites most integral to the Civil Rights movement in America, and monuments that pay homage to the movement and ongoing struggles on Black Americans.

Leila Reiss, an 8th grade participant, shares her experience here.

One part of the trip that stuck with me the most was visiting the lynching museum. There was something incredibly powerful about walking through it and seeing the structures hanging from the ceiling, each one representing different counties. As we moved through the space and the structures seemed to get higher and higher, it hit me in a way I had never experienced before. It created a feeling that is hard to put into words. Later, when I began reading the names and stories of the people represented there, the experience became even deeper and more personal. It made me stop and think about the lives behind those names and the history that so many people had to

endure. It was emotional, eye-opening, and something that will stay with me for a long time.

Another meaningful part of the trip was the people I met along the way. One person I connected with was Lulu. I met her on the very first day, and before we even said a word to each other, I had a feeling we were going to become good friends. That feeling turned out to be true. Throughout the trip we shared so many laughs and made memories that I know I'll never forget. I also met a group of kids from New York who were amazing to get to know. Even after the trip ended, we have stayed in contact, which makes

me really grateful because it shows how strong those connections were.

Overall, this trip gave me the opportunity to learn not only about history, but also about people, empathy, and the importance of remembering the past. It challenged me to think more deeply about things I had never fully considered before. At the same time, it allowed me to build friendships and share experiences that I will carry with me long after the trip ends.

Mazel Tov to our April 2026, Adult B'nei Mitzvah Students!



It is important for me to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah because...

Maureen Cartoon

I want to continue my Jewish education, strengthen my Jewish identity, and show Jewish pride! My sincere thanks to Rabbi Natan Trief for his patience and guidance.

Tracy Kuzminsky

The learning process has greatly enriched my Jewish journey. The opportunity to read from the Torah is a powerful connection to our ancient Jewish roots. Thank you, Rabbi Natan for your inspired teaching.

Ken Reichel

The process has helped me address a gap in my identity that has only gotten larger as I've gotten older. It's also helped me take a significant step forward in my Jewish journey. The richness of this experience has been much greater than I ever could have anticipated.

Sebastian Russell

I am at the right place with the right community to take on something outside of my comfort zone. Rabbi Natan's discussions and probing questions help me explore Judaism while also wrestling with my beliefs. Rabbi Natan and my classmates support and encourage me every step of the way.

Lynn Shapiro

Going through the process has helped me learn a lot more about being Jewish. It has given me a lot of new things to learn more about and helped explain some of the things I already do.

B'nei Mitzvah: November-April



Eden Ames

Daughter of Marcy & David Ames



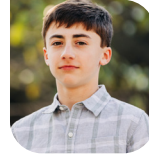
Jack Borenstein

Son of Sarah & Adam Borenstein



Max Bregen

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Aaron Cohn

Son of Valerie & Seth Cohn



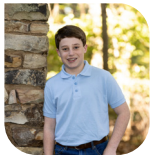
Andi Covett

Daughter of Holly & Josh Covett



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Nate Garton

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Olivia Gold

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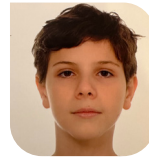
Izzy McCall

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Jessica Zeewy and Adam Hydrick

Mazel Tov To...

Jaron Alexander, son of **Tanya and Marc Alexander** and **Julia Promoff**, daughter of **Gabbi and Michael Promoff**, for being recognized as one of Rough Draft Atlanta's 2026 "20 Under 20", and **Reid Alexander**, son of **Haley and Ben Alexander**, for being named as a runner-up.

Sari and Randy Alifeld on the marriage of their daughter, Chase Alifeld, to Glen Becker.

Patty and Gene Benator on their son, Brian Benator, being named Coach of the Year (4A) for the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA).

Erika and Matthew Benton on the birth of their son, Phillip Matthew Benton.

Lauren and Joe Bernath on the birth of their son, Nolan Reeves Bernath. Mazel Tov as well to big brother and sisters, **Jackson, Charlotte, and Stella Bernath.**

Carly Blynn and Erica Ruder, and David Sirzyk on being selected as members of the class of 2026 Emerging Leaders for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta—a distinguished leadership development board comprised of business professionals, physicians, and community volunteers in their 30s and 40s.

Nicole and Seth Buchwald on the birth of their son, Theodore Frederick Buchwald.

Susan and David Capilouto on the marriage of their son, Josh Capilouto, to Lena Pyatkovsky.

Darby and Patrick Citrano on the birth of their son, Nathan James Citrano. Mazel Tov as well to grandparents, **Cathy and Jeff Schwartz.**

Stephanie Covall and Ed Rappaport on their marriage. Mazel Tov as well to Ed's father, **Mark (Brenda) Rappaport**, and Ed's sister **Heidi (Paul) Lipman.**

Hilary and Ryan Flink on the birth of their daughter, Addison Maia Flink.

Norma Gallow on celebrating 50 years of employment with the law firm King and Spalding.

Gina and Pete Genz on the birth of their granddaughter, Anora Judith Genz.

Lauren and Mitchell Gersten on the marriage of their son, Jack Gersten, to Rebecca Adler.

Stacey and Rick Goldstein on the marriage of their son, Noah Goldstein, to Shahar Laks.

Jennifer and Eric Hartz on the marriage of their daughter, Jessica Hartz, to Aaron Shaw.

Kim and Lonnie Herzog on the birth of their grandson, Maddox Bradley Decker.

Marisa Kaiser for receiving the 2026 Distinguished Educator Award from the ARJE.

Gloria Kantor on being elected as an alumnae trustee to Goucher College's Board of Trustees.

Samantha and Daniel Ketchel on the birth of their daughter, Romi Eloise Ketchel. Mazel Tov as well to big sister, **Charlotte Ketchel.**

Sherry and Cary King on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Scarlett Paige Jacobs.

Katie and Josh Kirsch on the birth of their son, Adrian Hollis Kirsch. Mazel Tov as well to grandparents, **Barbara and Scott Halpern.**

Tamar and Josh Levy on the birth of their son, Gavin Theodore Levy. Mazel Tov as well to big sisters, **Emilia and Serena Levy.**

Kim and Mark Lewis on the marriage of their son, Tanner, to Allison Rose.

Pam and Randy Miller on the birth of their granddaughter, Molly Eagle Miller. Mazel Tov as well to great grandmother, **Harriet Simmons.**

Melanie and Allan Nelkin on the birth of their grandson, Shaia Anarcha Mazursky.

Lori Peljovich on receiving the ADL's Frank McCloskey Board Service Award.

Craig Perry on the publication of his book, *Slavery and the Jews of Medieval Egypt: A History.*

Carol and Michael Reznik on the birth of their granddaughter, Lily Anne Reznik.

Olivia Reznik and Izzy Jackson on their wedding. Mazel Tov as well to Michael Reznik (Carol) on the marriage of his daughter

Alexa and Zach Rifkin on the birth of their son, Andrew Jordan Rifkin. Mazel Tov as well to big sister, **Margot Rifkin.**

Pam and Mark Rosenthal on the marriage of their daughter, Julia Rosenthal, to Will Campbell.

Emily Sauerteig on the completion of her successful term as JELF Board Chair.

Lori and Herman Schwarz on the marriage of their daughter, Kayla Schwarz, to Jacob Goldberg.

Transitions: November 2025 - April 2026

Linda Selig on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award, from the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, for extraordinary service to the Atlanta Jewish Community.

Stefanie and **Stewart Shabman** on the birth of their grandson, Joseph Solomon Ganz.

Gabrielle and **Vladimir Shklovsky** on the birth of their daughter, Rachel Shklovsky. Mazel Tov as well to grandparents, JoAnn and Dan Sirow.

Myron Smith on winning the silver medal at the US Indoor Rowing Championships and for winning the bronze medal at the Atlanta Erg Sprints.

Nan Street and **James Ellner** on their marriage.

Alana and **Brian Teitell** on the birth of their son, Carson Teddy Teitell. Mazel Tov as well to big sister, **Sloane Teitell**.

The following Temple Sinai members on being selected by Atlanta Magazine as one Atlanta's Most Powerful Leaders: Rick Aaronson, David Birnbrey, Ted Blum, Jerry Cooper, Jack Halpern, Steve Koonin, Robby Kukler, Tim Schrage, and Steve Selig.

Bob Thompson on receiving JELF's Garber Family Honor Roll Award for his many years of dedicated service and generous support.

Laura and **Peter Zhiss** on their son, **Max Zhiss**, being elected Vice President of Social Justice on NFTY's North American Board. Mazel Tov as well to **Max** on being a recipient of the Hadassah Chesed Student Award.

Melanie and **Scott Zucker** on the marriage of their son, Jack Zucker, to Jordan Weckler.

Condolences to...

Mike St. Amand on the passing of his father, Col. Charles Larry Bacon.

Bill and **Donna Apple** on the passing of his brother, Charles Apple.

Dr. Robert Bashuk on the passing of his wife, Marcie Bashuk.

Gene Benator on the passing of his sister, Karen Sukloff.

Daniel Berke on the passing of his mother, Jane Val Berke. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Ryan** and **Morgan Berke**.

Harriet Berlin on the passing of her husband, Robert Berlin.

Family and friends on the passing of **Sybil Bernath**.

Betty Blass on the passing of her husband, Allen Blass. Condolences as well to daughter, **Naomi Blass-Schutz**, and grandchildren, **Louisa Von Steinruck** and **Joshua Blass**.

Rita Bloom on the passing of her husband, Herschel Bloom.

Jaimee Boettcher on the passing of her uncle, Howard Lempert.

Darby and **Pat Citrano** on the passing of their son, Cameron Shawn Citrano. Condolences as well to grandparents, **Cathy** and **Jeff Schwartz**.

Beverly Cohen on the passing of her sister-in-law, Irene Loef.

Jodi Daniels on the passing of her father, Michael Hoffman. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Sydney** and **Dorielle Daniels**.

Joan Durbin on the passing of her father, David Redleaf. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Hazel** and **Sam Durbin**.

Eric Egan on the passing of his father, Frank Egan. Condolences as well to his grandchildren, **Gregory** and **Benjamin Egan**.

Ron Eichel on the passing of his brother, Paul Eichel.

Erica Faircloth on the passing of her father-in-law, Bill Faircloth. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Shannon** and **Zoe Faircloth**.

Fred Feinberg on the passing of his sister, Linda Miller.

Richard Fenster on the passing of his wife, Judith Fenster.

Brian Fink on the passing of his father, Stephen Fink. Condolences as well to granddaughter, **Maddie Fink**.

Jay Fisher on the passing of his mother, Diane Fisher.

Alan Fishman on the passing of his mother, Evelyn Fishman Kardon.

Lauren and **Mitch Gersten** on the passing of their son, Jack Gersten. Condolences as well to his brother, **Simon Gersten**

Michele Goodelman on the passing of her father, Gerald Theodore Rubin.

The family of **Bob Golomb**.

Keri Greenwald on the passing of her grandmother, Shirley Baratz. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Jacob**, **Lindsay**, and **Maddie Greenwald**.

Jody Greenwald on the passing of her husband, Gary Greenwald.

Michael Haberman on the passing of his brother, Dr. Fredric Haberman.

Hannah Habif on the passing of her grandmother, Barbara Brock. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Shaya** and **Bari Habif**.

Jeff Hertz on the passing of his father, Stephen Hertz. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Josh** and **Micah Hertz**.

Gwenn Holland on the passing of her mother, Beverly Weissman.

Daniel Howard on the passing of his father, Thomas "Tommy" Howard. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Matt** and **Kate Howard**.

Laurence Kessler on the passing of his mother, Marsha Tenenbaum Kessler. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Samuel** and **Jordyn Kessler**.

Nancy Kranz on the passing of her husband and our Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Phil Kranz. Condolences as well to all in our community who are mourning the loss of our beloved rabbi and teacher.

Lois Kuniansky and **Rick Lenner** on the passing of their brother.

Carol Lazerson on the passing of her husband, Dr. Robert Lazerson.

Lindsey Lewis on the passing of her grandfather, Allen Moinester.

Maury Margol on the passing of his mother, Esther Landey Margol.

Beth Meyers on the passing of her mother, Peggy Hylan. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Hanna** and **Max Meyers**.

Justin Milrad on the passing of his mother, Elaine Milrad. Condolences as well to **Alyza Berman**, and grandchildren, **Kayla**, **Ethan**, and **Talia Milrad**.

Sonia Mitropoulos on the passing of her mother, Louise Stolaroff.

Jenny and **Jonny Mopper** on the passing of their brother-in-law, Bill Needle.

Gabriel Murphy on the passing of his grandfather, Daniel Murphy.

Transitions: November 2025 - April 2026

Natalie Pepper on the passing of her husband, Ronald Pepper. Condolences as well to brother-in-law, **Andy Zadoff**.

Ilse Reiner on the passing of her Nephew, Rob Reiner, and Rob's wife, Michele Singer.

Anita Samuel on the passing of her brother, Joel Barash.

Herman Schwarz on the passing of his father, Michael Schwarz.

Ken Shapiro on the passing of his mother, Lucille Shapiro.

Lynn Shapiro on the passing of her cousin, Susan Woodnick.

The family of **Diana Silverman**.

Elisa Simmons on the passing of her father, Howard Simmons. Condolences as well to granddaughter, **Hayven Simmons**.

Edrea Triff on the passing of her husband, Robert Triff.

Sheri Weiner on the passing of her mother, Diane Blondheim. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Eli Weiner, Kate Weiner, and Dana Rubin**, and great-grandson **Leo Rubin**.

Michael Weiser on the passing of his brother, Bob Weiser.

Rachel Wolff on the passing of her grandmother, Glenda Jaffe.

Bradley Young on the passing of his mother, Linda Young. Condolences as well to grandchildren, **Joshua and Anna Young**.

Robin Zeldin on the passing of her mother, Anna Mae Ross.

Contributions: November 2025 - April 2026

Accessibility Fund *in memory of*

Diane Blondheim
Ed Lenner
by Michelle and Gary Simon and Family

Arlene & Bruce Turry Fund

in honor of
Andrea Turry
Adam Turry
Zach Turry
Paul Turry
Bruce Turry
Arlene and Bruce Turry
by Arlene and Bruce Turry

in memory of

Arthur A. Turry
Murray Hoffman
by Arlene and Bruce Turry

Arthur and Elsy Heyman Endowment Fund

in memory of
Charles Apple
by Terri Heyman and Marc Cohen

in honor of

Terri Heyman and Marc Cohen
by Laurie and Bill Robbins

Backpack Buddies

in memory of
Jerry Rubin
by Evelyn and Milt Crane

Linda Miller
by Gail Cohn and Harvey Danits

Bob Lazerson
by Jill and Joseph Segal

Louise Stolaroff
by Hope Cohn

Harriet Engel
by Stephanie and Marshall Abes

Backpack Buddies (con't) *in honor of*

Tara Targovnik
by Michele Goodelman

Lindsey and Michael Kuniansky and Family
by Marilyn Shubin

Lynn Shapiro
by Helaine and Andrew Lasky

Barbara & Arnold Katinsky Spirituality Endowment Fund

in memory of
Barbara Katinsky
by Norma Gallow
Margaret Sheer
Katherine Sider
Kathy Denison
Beth and Edward Sugarman

Beth and Edward Sugarman Environmental Endowment Fund

in memory of
Jerry Rubin
Harriet W. Greenblatt
Anita Freedman
Ann Whitehill
by Beth and Edward Sugarman

Herschel Bloom
by Linda Harris and Family

Beth Schafer Discretionary Fund

in memory of
Harry Kuniansky
Marcia Kuniansky
by Erica and Eric Kuniansky

in appreciation of

Beth Schafer
by Miriam and Seth Friedman

in honor of

Beth Schafer
by Melanie and Scott Zucker
Gail Cohn and Harvey Danits

Beth Schafer Discretionary Fund *in honor of (con't)*

David Feldstein
by Judie Jacobs

to thank

Beth Schafer
by Helaine Milch-Schroder and Kevin Schroder
Marissa and Paul Share
Richard Berlin

Brenda and Mark Lichtenstein Israel Endowment Fund

in memory of
Tommy Howard
by Brenda and Mark Lichtenstein

in honor of

George Scheer
by David Apseloff

Robin Eleanor Sloan
Annabelle Sloan
by Roseann and Steve Gerson

Brian Waronker Memorial Fund for Addiction and Recovery

in memory of
Brian Waronker
by Sue and Harold Waronker

Martin Klinberg
by Mary Lou, Jody, and Mitzi Waronker

in honor of

Mitzi Waronker
by Ruth and Mark Rosenberg
Sharon Seltman
Richard Zane
Darcy and Joe Oxman and Family
Karen and David Birnbrey
Nancy and Ronnie Galant
Tanya Jacobson
Shirley and Gary Bernes
Staci and Maury Shapiro
Kay and Dan Weber
Cathy Goldstein

Contributions: November 2025 - April 2026

**Brian Waronker Memorial Fund for
Addiction and Recovery**
in honor of (con't)

Mitzi Waronker
by Ellen and Billy Balsler
Bruce Berman
Roberta and Warren Sirzyk

Carolyn Chayet
by Mitzi and Steve Waronker

Brotherhood
in memory of

Diane Fisher
by Kathy and Jason Evans

Bunzl Family Cantorial Chair Fund
in honor of

Beth Schafer
by Ilana and Raphael Shure

in appreciation of

Beth Schafer
by Rhianna and Jason Shemper

Camp Jenny
in honor of

Zachary Markwood
Lynn and Bert Reese
by Miriam and Seth Friedman

Lynn and Bert Reese
by Sarah Gail and Allan Hytowitz

**Candy and Stephen Berman Leadership
Development Fund**
in memory of

Vera Burtman
Dr. Seymour O. Solodar
Eva Fleischer
Evelyn Faskowitz
Linda Feinberg Miller
by Candy and Steve Berman

in honor of

Candy and Steve Berman
by Miriam and Seth Friedman

Cantor Sid Gottler Music Fund
in memory of

Karen Sukloff
by Judy Paul

**Cathy and Robert Sinsheimer Social
Justice Endowment Fund**
in memory of

Stephen Fink
Jack Gersten
by Cathy and Robert Sinsheimer

Chesed Fund
in memory of

Helen Cohen
by Robyn and Jeffrey Cohen

Chesed Fund (con't)

in appreciation of
Roberta Sirzyk
by Susan and David Rosner

in honor of

Rabbi Natan Trief and Beth Schafer
by Maureen Cartoon

Community Assistance Center Fund
in memory of

Diane Blondheim
by Lynn and Rick Shapiro

Congregant Relief Fund
in memory of

Jack Gersten
by Lori and Allan Peljovich

Morris "Buster" Frank
by Stacy and Mark Frank

Alice Brill
by Elaine and Stephen Brill

Cultural Arts Fund
in memory of

Lynn Davis
by Maury Gerson

Disaster Relief Fund
in memory of

David Andrew Israel
by Faye Peterken

**Drucker Family Camp Barney Medintz
Scholarship Endowment Fund**
in honor of

Dr. Marty Throne
by Julie Zier

Early Childhood Program
in memory of

Bob Lazerson
by Rachael and William Brown

Education Scholarship Special Fund
in memory of

Ann Tourial
Bob Triff
by Rachael and William Brown

Diana Silverman
by Helaine and Andrew Lasky

Sybil Bernath
by Gail Cohn and Harvey Danits

in honor of

Mitzi Waronker
by Tracy and Betty Holzer

in appreciation of

Rabbi Natan Trief
by Lynn and Jan Saperstein

Education Scholarship Special Fund
in appreciation of (con't)

Larry Weiner
by Lynn and Rick Shapiro

in celebration of

Nori and David Levine
by Jan and Lynn Saperstein

**Eisenstein Family Youth and Teen
Scholarship Endowment**
in memory of

Israel Eisenstein
by Susan Eisenstein

Jack Gersten
by Amy and Adam Coffsky

**Elaine Hyman Education Endowment
Fund**
in honor of

Gail Bates
by Eric Kaltman

**Ellen and Paul Goldstein Keshet
Endowment Fund**
in memory of

Eva Fleischer
Diane Blondheim
Robert Triff
by Ellen Goldstein

Gerald Rubin
by Linda Harris and Family

Jack Gersten
by Amy and Adam Coffsky

**Ellyse and Warren Zindler Preschool
Fund**
in memory of

Anna Levy Zindler
Sterling Mayer Zindler
Gerald Rubin
Beth Cooper
Ralda Reish
Linda Miller
Robert Triff
Ron Wand
Alon Panovka
Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
Robert Weiser
Anita Grien-Medwin
Harmon Kling
by Ellyse and Warren Zindler

Gary Greenwald
by Janis and Steve Swit

**Freeman Family Preschool Enrichment
Endowment Fund**
in memory of

Eva Fleischer
by Viki Freeman

Contributions: November 2025 - April 2026

Freeman Family Preschool Enrichment Endowment Fund (con't)

in honor of

Adele Sheftel
by Arline and Solomon Agin

Gary and Jackie Metzel Spirituality Fund

in honor of

George Scheer
by Betsey Goldsmith

Geer Family Special Needs Education Fund

in memory of

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
Jack Gersten
by Stacey and Ron Geer

General Endowment Fund

in memory of

Morris Piha
Dr. Bob Lazerson
Sara Piha
Edith Schiff
by Caroline and Rubin Piha

Howard Simmons
by Janet Task and Family

Robert Triff
by Michael Triff

Karen Sukloff
by Helen Steinheimer

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Nancy and Robbie Baron
Jill and Kenneth Goldman
Abe Sharony
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Jack Gersten
by Marcia Nuffer

Hymen Freedland
Sophie Freedland
by Sarina and Neil Freedland

LaVerne Siegel
Saul Siegel
by Marcy and Marshall Siegel

George and Inge Robbins Enrichment Endowment Fund

in memory of

Alon Panovka
by Alli and Mitchell Allen

Irving B. Schoenberg Leadership & Ethics Fund

in memory of

Lynne Sheridan Davis
by Ann Schoenberg

Jan and Warren Epstein Cultural Arts Endowment Fund

in memory of

Diana Silverman
Robert Triff
Irene Berson
Jerome Epstein
Rose Gold Lincove
by Jan and Warren Epstein

in honor of

The Gastonia Epsteins
by Glen and Linda Epstein

Warren Epstein
by Don Sklar
Lane Epstein and Family

Nanci Epstein
by Jan and Warren Epstein

Kesher Fund

in memory of

Charles Milton Sawilowsky
by Susan and Howard Pelteson and Family

Eric Matison Scharff
by Helene Scharff and Family

Linda Feinberg Miller
by Sue and David Capilouto

Bob Triff
by Irene Aronin

Herschel Bloom
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Robert Berlin
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Jerry Blonder
Lois Blonder
by Leslie and Doug Isenberg

Millie Kinbar
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Rose Saidman
Milton Kinbar
by Suzan and Gary Saidman

Bernice Fitterman
Abraham Fitterman
by Geri and Richard Fitterman

Hyman Kirsch
by Sara Lampert

Kesher Fund (con't)

in honor of

Michele Scheer
by Suzan and Gary Saidman

Morgan Dolezal and Family
by Arielle and Lee Hart

Ken Reichel
by Marilyn and Jonathan Arkin

Jan Jackson
by Sandra Mislow and Skip

in appreciation of

Andrea Oppenheim
by Lynn and Rick Shapiro

praying for refuah sh'laymah (a speedy recovery) for

Elise Halpern
by Leslie and Stephen Walden

Laurie and Zachary Solomon Technology Endowment Fund

in memory of

Carol Solomon
Stanley Solomon
by Laurie and Zachary Solomon

Loventhal Scholarship Fund

in memory of

Judy Fenster
by Rita and Bill Loventhal

Louise Stolaroff
by Rachel Burt and Daniel Loventhal

Mark E Silverman Maimonides Award Endowment Fund

in memory of

Diana Silverman
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Marilyn Shubin

Melanie and Allan Nelkin Teen Empowerment Fund

in honor of

Reva Martin
by Hicham Drissi

Merrill & Sheila Wynne Judaic Scholarship Fund

in memory of

Warren Steinberg
Larry Joseph
Eva Fleischer
Robert Triff
by Sheila and Merrill Wynne

Operating Enhancement Fund

in memory of

Seymour Solodar
Jeff Fink
by Judy and Marty Kogon

Contributions: November 2025 - April 2026

Operating Enhancement Fund in memory of (con't)

Betty Ann Margol
by Barbara and Ronald Balsler

Jerry Rubin
by Lynn and Lewis Redd

Lucille Shapiro
by Linda and Allen Altman

Jeff Fink
by Peggy and Maurice Levitt

Diane Fisher
by Lori and Allan Peljovich

Herschel Bloom
by Dwight Davis

Diana Silverman
by Carol Nemo

Robert Triff
by Barbara and Ronald Balsler

Joel Barash
by Judy Gilman Etta Cohen

Evelyn Fishman Kardon
by Leslie and Stephen Walden

Gary Greenwald
by Eydie and Steve Koonin

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by Robyn Tanenbaum and Robert Orovitz

Jack Gersten
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Michael Polinsky
by Selma and Berney Shapiro

Yetta Golden
by Judith and Ronald Golden

Clifford Abrams
by Sylvia Talley

Mashallah Moradi
by Julie and Dan Moradi

Steve Weinstein
by Alyson and Shane Roach

in honor of
Jessica Denbo Smith
by Merle and Myron Smith

Allan Peljovich
by Juliet Asher and Michael Golden

Ken Reichel
by Cindy and Howard Gibbs

Operating Enhancement Fund(con't) in appreciation of

Linda and Steve Citron
by Beeppy and Buddy Tiller

**praying for refuah sh'laymah (a speedy
recovery) for**
Randy Miller
by Sam Appel

**Philanthropic/Social Action Fund
in memory of**
Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Ellen and Jeffrey Nemhauser

Frank Butterfield
by Ian Davis

in honor of
Ted Blum
by Gail Cohn and Harvey Danits

**PNK Learning Center
in memory of**
Ethel M. Levenson
by Caryn and Jason Bernstein

Louise Stolaroff
Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Cindy and Howard Gibbs

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Graham Satsky
Sally and Bruce Alterman
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Elise and Scott Halpern
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Paula and Bennet Alsher
Gene Morgan and Bob Weinstein
Wendy and Hal Goldberg
Jeffrey Roberts
Angela Ball

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
Robert Weiser
by Elaine and Jerome Blumenthal

Charles Apple
by Roseann and Steve Gerson

in honor of
Rabbi Natan Trief
by Roseann and Steve Gerson
Wendy and Dale Bearman
Patrice Levy

**Preschool Fund
in memory of**
Esther Landey Margol
by Lori and Allan Peljovich

Seymour Weiner
by Laura and Larry Weiner

Preschool Fund (con't) in appreciation of

Lauren Mahady
by Marissa and Paul Share

**Preschool, Youth and Teen Scholarship
Endowment Fund
in memory of**
Jerry Blonder
Lois Blonder
Scott Blonder
Michael Blonder
by Marilyn Shubin

Esther Landey Margol
by Lori and Allan Peljovich

in honor of
Debbie and Ed Levin
by Lana and Stephen Royal

in appreciation of
Lauren Mahady
by Marissa and Paul Share

**Rabbi Kranz Institute for Jewish Learning
Fund
in memory of**
Rob Reiner
by Reene Weinstein

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Barbara and Bert Levy
Brian and Sharla Kahn
Linda Levy
Michael and Sharon Corenblum
Patrice Levy
Jerome and Elaine Blumenthal
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Melissa Strada
Daniel Loventhal and Rachel Burt
Marcia Nuffer
Marilyn Weston
Temme Barkin-Leeds
Stephen and Leslie Walden
Noah and Berna Levine
Robert Binswanger

Contributions: November 2025 - April 2026

Rabbi Kranz Institute for Jewish Learning Fund

in memory of (con't)

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Ted Jonas
Robert and Joan Perkins
Shirley Cohen
Penny Gruner
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Anthony and Betsy Cabot
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David and Susan Capilouto
Michael and Charlotte Horwitz
Carol Nemo
Terry and Arleen Golden
Louis Friedman and Leslie Vogelman
Ramon and Jody Franco
Sheila Gerstein

Rabbi Kranz Institute for Jewish Learning Fund

in memory of (con't)

Rabbi Philip N. Kranz
by Patrice Levy
Nanci Epstein
Barbara and Bert Levy
Sharla and Brian Kahn
Linda Levy
Melanie and Scott Zucker

Rabbi Levenberg Discretionary Fund

in memory of

Flo Magaziner
Carl Magaziner
By Mindy and Greg Bloom

Evelyn Faskowitz-Montague
by Simie and Larry Faskowitz
Barbara Kornblit

Diane Wolf
by Simone and Steven Nehmen

Jerry Rubin
Rob Reiner
Michele Reiner
by Andrea and Steven Steinman

Robert Triff
Sharon Crystal Browdy
by Sherry and Cary King

Diana Silverman
by Vickie and Bill Skandalakis

Margot Flamini
by Gail and Robert Flamini and Family

Evelyn Kardon
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Herschel Bloom
Ron Wand
by Wendy Katz and Darrel Gilbert

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Ed Lenner
by Dale and Jimmy Glenn
Brenda and Mark Lichtenstein

Charles Apple
Martin Katz
by Gloria Starkman

Leon Hendee
by Lisa and Barry Diamond

Beverly Berger
by Michael Berger

Bill Lasher
by Beth Lasher

Rabbi Levenberg Discretionary Fund

in memory of (con't)

Irwin M. Levine
by Cathey Steinberg

Myer Cohen
by Marlene Schwartz

in honor of

Oliver and Violet Webb
by Marc Taub

Max Zisook
by Karla and David Zisook

Ken Reichel
by Amy and Chuck Fox

in appreciation of

Rabbi Levenberg
by Susan and David Goldberg
Terri Heyman and Marc Cohen
Tracy and Michael Kuzminsky
Cathy and Jeffrey Schwartz
Loren and Philip West
Miriam and Seth Friedman
Bonnie and Leslie Cohn
Elizabeth Goldberg and Scott
Greenwald

Debbie and Ryan Jacobs
Michelle and Rick Young
Brad Levenberg
by Robin and Adam Mayer

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Marissa and Paul Share
Gabrielle and Nicholas Ressler
Richard Berlin

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to thank

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Sinai Refugee and Immigrant Relief Fund

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Sandy Schwartz
Evelyn Fishman Kardon
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Tobyanne and Arnold Sidman
Arnold Sidman
by Sharon and Neal Tarlow and Family

Youth/Teen Program Fund

in memory of

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by Matt Hanin

in appreciation of

Lori Peljovich
by Hilary and Brian Unell

Zachary Tolchin Memorial Fund to Support Caregivers

in memory of

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in memory of

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Seeking Sinai



For nearly five years now and more than 70 distinct episodes, our Seeking Sinai podcast, hosted by Rabbi Natan Trief, has explored the most pressing spiritual and communal questions facing the Jewish people today. Since October 7th, the podcast has focused with urgency and care on Israel, Jewish peoplehood, and the evolving challenges of Jewish life in a complex and often volatile world.

Recent episodes begin not with headlines, but with human stories—whether a quiet poolside conversation between parents, a personal encounter with antisemitism in the American South, or the lived experience of a group of Atlanta mothers

traveling through Israel during wartime. From there, the podcast opens into thoughtful, substantive conversations with a wide range of voices: authors, policy experts, rabbis, and community leaders.

Seeking Sinai has developed a distinct tone—serious but accessible, grounded but searching. Each new episode is dedicated to a victim of October 7th, anchoring the conversation in memory, responsibility, and purpose.

At its core, the podcast resists easy answers. Instead, it models a different kind of discourse: one that is intellectually honest, emotionally aware, and rooted in

a deep love of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. In a time of polarization and noise, Seeking Sinai invites listeners to slow down, ask better questions, and remain part of a meaningful and ongoing conversation.

