

## Bo: From Doorpost to Signpost

Why do we hang a mezuzah on our doorframe (if not that the Torah tells us to)? Some believe that it guards our home with Divine protection. God willing, it does—but surely, God doesn't need a piece of parchment to make it so.

The same question can be asked of our Israelite forebears. Why did they mark their *mezuzot*—that is, their “doorposts”—with the blood of the Paschal lamb? Did God really need the indication to know whom to spare the plague of the firstborn? The Torah suggests otherwise:

“And the blood on the houses where you are staying shall be a sign *for you*: when I see the blood I will pass over you, so that no plague will destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 12:13)

The blood on the house was not a sign for God but for those living in it. Explains the medieval commentator Rabbeinu Bahya, in smearing their doorposts with the blood of a lamb—worshipped as an Egyptian deity—the Israelites proved themselves to live with faith and without fear. God’s protection was the result of their own fortitude.

So it is in our times. When we affix a *mezuzah* to our doorframe, we affirm our faithfulness as a people and our fearlessness in a world that too often threatens us. It is a sign *for us*, that we are willing to stand behind our values and against the plagues of ignorance and hate. That commitment on our part is the one sign that God truly needs.

Shabbat Shalom.  
Rabbi Moe Howard



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**Special thanks to the staff and lay leaders who make Shabbat services exceptional:**

Jessica Green - Executive Director

Jay Harwitt - Ritual Director

Benjamin Fingerhut - Musical Director

Cantor Keith Miller - Cantorial Support & B’nai Mitzvah Mentor

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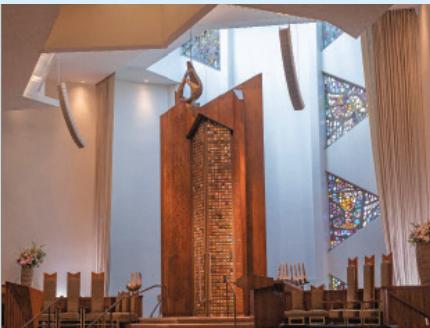
Michael Nazarian

David Matloob

Faith Gershbock

Jacob Gershbock

**Mehrzed Roshan, Sinai Temple President**



**TOMORROW!**  
Celebrating 120 Years of Music at  
Sinai Temple  
Sunday, January 25, 2026



**6 SH'VAT 5786 | 24 JANUARY 2026**



**PARASHAT BO | בָּא**  
Torah reading begins: Exodus 10:1 (page 374)  
Maftir: Exodus 11:1-3 (page 378)  
Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28 (page 395)  
“There is No Last”- Sermon by Rabbi Erez Sherman

### SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.  
The Bat Mitzvah of Adrianna Daneshvar  
The Bar Mitzvah of Noah Neman  
Also available to watch on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents)

### TORAH AT THE TABLE

in Blumenthal Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.

### TORAH IN THE ROUND

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.  
The Bar Mitzvah of Aiden Danialifar

Honor or remember someone special  
with a meaningful gift to Sinai Temple.  
Scan this QR code to make a contribution  
in their name and create a lasting tribute.



Find us on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents](https://www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents)

# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MEHRZAD ROSHAN

The reasons we come to Sinai Temple vary for each of us.

We carry different stories, different emotions, and different needs. Some of us walk through these doors in moments of joy, celebrating a milestone, a birth, a B'nai Mitzvah, a wedding, or a personal achievement. Others come with heavier hearts, seeking comfort, healing, or strength, to mourn the loss of a loved one, or face uncertainty and challenges in our lives.

Whatever brings us here, gratitude or grief, hope or longing, this sacred space gives us the opportunity to pause and to be present through music, prayer, connection, inspiring words of wisdom, and the embrace of other congregants. We are part of something bigger than ourselves.

Thank you for giving yourself the opportunity to be here today and for choosing to pray with us as a community.

## WINE & WISDOM

Join Rabbi Taff's Learning Circle for an intimate and enriching series that blends thoughtful Torah study with meaningful conversation in a warm, relaxed setting. Each session offers an opportunity to explore Jewish wisdom, ask big questions, and connect with fellow members over a shared glass of wine.

The next gathering takes place on **Wednesday, February 4, from 7:30–8:30 PM**, with additional sessions continuing through the spring. This members-only learning circle is hosted in a private home to foster open dialogue and community.

RSVP is required. Address will be provided upon registration.

## Sinai Temple Sisterhood

Sinai Temple Sisterhood enriches members' lives through programs, classes, and volunteer opportunities. We run the Gift Shop and cater luncheons, with proceeds supporting Sinai Temple, its schools, partial Jewish camp scholarships for members' families, and the wider community. Classes include Mah Jongg, Arts & Crafts, Balance, Calligraphy, and Needlepoint.

For more information, contact Marilyn Stern at [marilynsterne1@yahoo.com](mailto:marilynsterne1@yahoo.com) or visit [sinaitemple.org/sisterhood](http://sinaitemple.org/sisterhood). To receive our monthly newsletter, email Natalia Rojas at [nrojas@sinaitemple.org](mailto:nrojas@sinaitemple.org).



## TEMPLE EVENTS

### TOMORROW!

Celebrating 120 Years of Music at Sinai Temple  
Tomorrow | 7:00 PM

Join us for a SPECIAL CONCERT celebrating 120 years of music at Sinai Temple, featuring Cantor Marcus Feldman and an extraordinary lineup of past and present musical leaders.

Tickets will be available to purchase at event.

## ROCK Wednesday!

**This Wednesday, January 28, 2026 | 6:00 PM**

Rock Wednesday brings our community together for an evening with residents of Alexandria House. Learn about their work, hear powerful stories, and connect through games, art, and sports, all while sharing a pizza dinner and meaningful conversation.

## *Paradise Cove: They Escaped the Cuckoo's Nest*

**This Wednesday, January 28, 2026 | 7:00 PM | Online Only**

Join Co-Senior Rabbi Erez Sherman and Rabbi Pini Dunner for a compelling online book talk exploring *Paradise Cove*, the true story of courage, survival, and resistance inside a notorious psychiatric institution. Sign up at [sinaitemple.org](http://sinaitemple.org)

## Feit Family Live Community Havdalah

**Next Saturday, January 31, 2026 | 5:30 PM**

Gather for a special community Havdalah on the Jacki and Jeff Karsh Terrace featuring a private stargazing show led by professional astrophysicist Jack Lubin of Galaxy Guides, with food, drinks, and family-friendly activities to close out Shabbat together.

## Singles 35+ and ATID Attend a Kings Game

**Wednesday, February 4, 2026 | 7:00 PM**

Join other Singles 35+ and ATID for a fun night out at the Kings vs. Kraken game at Crypto.com Arena, featuring great hockey, a social atmosphere, and the chance to connect with new people.

## Faith. Connection. Sport: An Inaugural Conference at Sinai Temple

**Thursday, February 12, 2026 | 9:30 AM**

With the NBA All-Star Game coming to Los Angeles, Sinai Temple is proud to host the inaugural Faith. Connection. Sport conference in partnership with *Rabbi on the Sidelines* and Fabric. This full-day event will feature athletes, media personalities, authors, and thought leaders exploring the intersection of sports, faith, and community.

## Siddur Project

Share your personal prayers, art, or music for a new Sinai Temple Siddur created by and for our community. Enrich our collective prayer experience. Submit your original works to [siddurproject@sinaitemple.org](mailto:siddurproject@sinaitemple.org).

## WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT?

Host your next event at Sinai Temple, where exquisite catering meets a stunning setting to create unforgettable experiences. Let our expert caterers transform your special occasion into a celebration filled with flavor, elegance, and impeccable service.

For more information, please contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jbegin@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3222.

## SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT



Honor a simcha or yahrzeit by sponsoring an oneg! Your sponsorship will be featured in the Shabbat bulletin and announced

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jbegin@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3222.

## Save the Date

Join us May 17 for the annual Sinai Temple Gala, a festive dinner and dance honoring President Mehrzad Roshan.



Scan the QR code to RSVP and to learn about more events.

For more information contact Amanda Harrison at [aharrison@sinaitemple.org](mailto:aharrison@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3246