

Yitro: Go Far, Together

There are two instances in the Torah when a thing is proclaimed lo tov, “not good.” The first is in the book of Genesis, when God creates the human being singly and reflects, *Lo tov heyot ha-adam levado*, “It is not good for the person to be alone” (2:18).

The second is in this very parsha. Yitro, father-in-law of Moses, sees his son-in-law toiling from morning to night, adjudicating disputes among the people as sole magistrate. Yitro admonishes Moses: *Lo tov ha-davar asher atah oseh*, “The thing you are doing is not right; “You will surely wear yourself out, and these people as well. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone.” (Exodus 18:17–18)

The Torah is unequivocal: We are not meant to go it alone, both in work and in life. Adam needed Eve as partner in crime (literally and figuratively); Moses needed his people as partners in carrying out God’s law. Neither would have gotten very far on their own. “If you want to go fast, go alone,” says a well-known African proverb; “if you want to go far, go together.”

As a congregation, our aim has always been to go far. The words of *lador vador*, “from generation to generation,” adorn the outside of our building as they fill the inside with voices of children, parents, and grandparents singing them in harmony. We have reached the milestone of 120 by working together as a community and by partnering with others—Reform and Orthodox, American and Israeli, Jewish and Christian and soon-to-be Hindu (stay tuned!).

God willing, we have 120 years yet to go. And God knows, we will only get there together.

Shabbat Shalom.
Rabbi Moe Howard

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Rabbinic Intern



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
- Roy Regev - Director of Media and Communications
- Christopher Princivalli - Audio Visual Tech
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- Michael Nazarian
- David Matloob
- Faith Gershbock
- Jacob Gershbock

Mehrzad Roshan, Sinai Temple President



20 SH’VAT 5786 | 7 FEBRUARY 2026



PARASHAT YITRO| יתרו
Torah reading begins: Exodus 18:1 (page 432)
The Reading of The Ten Commandments: page 440
Maftir: Exodus 20:15-23 (page 449)
Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-7:6 and 9:5-6 (page 452)
“Step Back to Step Forward”- Sermon by Rabbi Gavriella Kornsgold

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

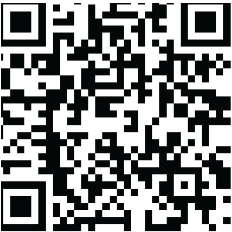
TORAH AT THE TABLE

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 Darren Shirian

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

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT

in Kohn Chapel
Every Friday at 5:45 PM
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

DAILY MINYAN

in Kohn Chapel
Monday–Friday at 7:30 a.m.
Sunday morning at 8:30 am
Sunday-Friday evenings at 5:45 pm
Saturday evenings 9:00 p.m. (online only)
Please consult the website for holiday locations and times.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Let’s Talk: Interpersonal Communication

A Men’s Group at Sinai Temple
Next Wednesday, February 11, 2026 | 7:00 PM | In Person

The Sinai Temple Mental Health Center invites the men of Sinai Temple to a facilitated conversation with Dr. Michael J. Whitman, Psy.D. This gathering will explore interpersonal communication in relationships, work, and daily life, creating space for connection, reflection, and growth.

Faith.Connection.Sport: An Inaugural Conference

Next 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.

2026 Abner (z’l) and Roslyn Goldstine Scholar-in-Residence

Lecture Series: AI & Judaism

February 17-19, 2026

Sinai Temple welcomes Dr. David Zvi Kalman as the 2026 Abner (z’l) & Roslyn Goldstine Scholar in Residence. Over three days, he will lead timely conversations exploring AI, Judaism, ethics, and human dignity—and how Jewish wisdom can guide us in a rapidly changing world.

Learn with Rabbi David Wolpe

Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Rabbi Wolpe will trace the wisdom, texts, and teachings that have guided Jewish life, from ancient foundations to medieval depth and modern relevance.

The Middle East’s Regional & Global Strategic Transition with IDF Major General (ret.) Oded Bassiuk

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 | 8:15 AM

Join the Flesh Family Sinai Temple Israel Center and the Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA) for breakfast with IDF Major General (ret.) Oded Bassiuk. Don’t miss this opportunity for high-level analysis and community discussion.

Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 1, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Step into a world of high-energy fun at Sinai Temple’s Purim Carnival J-Pop Joy Level Up: Adar Edition with festive games and family-friendly activities to celebrate the holiday together.

Purim at Sinai Temple

Monday, March 2, 2026 | 5:00 PM

Celebrate Purim at Sinai Temple with programs for all ages throughout the evening, including family celebrations, a traditional Megillah reading, and an adults-only Purim party. Events are designed for young families, older children, adults, and the entire 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. The Siddur Project will accept prayer submissions through February 14.

SAVE THE DATE

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

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 will take place on **Wednesday, March 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 marilynstern1@yahoo.com or visit sinaitemple.org/sisterhood. To receive our monthly newsletter, email Natalia Rojas at nrojas@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 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 from the bimah on Shabbat.

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at jbegin@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3222.



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

For more information contact Amanda Harrison at aharrison@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3246