

Be'ha'alot'cha: A Book Unto Itself

Any fan of *Indiana Jones* knows that the Ark of the Covenant was a force to be reckoned with. It bore the power of God Himself to vanquish Israel's foes (if not to melt their faces), as Moses proclaims in this *parsha*—and as we repeat before parading the Torah scroll around the sanctuary:

“When the Ark was to set out, Moses would say: ‘Advance, O Lord! May Your enemies be scattered, and may Your haters flee before You!’” (Numbers 10:35)

The verse is set apart from the text that surrounds it, according to the Talmud, because it constitutes “a book unto itself.” How so? Says Rabbi Me-nachem Sacks, it encapsulates our people’s entire history. During years of wandering, exile, and persecution, when we were vulnerable to those who sought to do us harm, Moses’s charge was a prayer for safety. It remains so in the present—when enemies and haters have yet to be put to flight.

But there is another side to our story, captured in the very next verse:

“And when [the Ark] halted, he would say: ‘Return, O Lord, You who are Israel’s myriads of thousands!’”

It is at times of rest from external threat when we fall prey to the dangers of assimilation, excess, and infighting. No sooner do the Israelites make camp than they break into complaint and rebellion. If we lack for enemies, we fill find them among friends.

The Talmud goes on to reconsider. In fact, the verses are set off because they are misplaced—and in time to come, when enemies without and within are no more, will be unnecessary. May that time come speedily and soon.

Shabbat Shalom.  
Rabbi Moe Howard



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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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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  
Roy Regev - Director of Media and Communications  
Christopher Princivalli - Audio Visual Tech  
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Mehrzad Roshan, Sinai Temple President



MISSION STATEMENT

Sinai Temple is dedicated to providing a welcoming and caring community for its members, devoted to Jewish learning and support for Israel and the Jewish people, and committed to improving ourselves and the world through a growing relationship with God from generation to generation. We are committed to the principles and values of Conservative Judaism and we welcome Jews of all backgrounds and affiliations to observe life cycle events, and pursue our mission through prayer, rituals, learning, music and the other gifts God has given us.

SHABBAT CHILDCARE

Ages Potty Trained - 5 Years Old

9:45 AM | Room 114

Ages 6 - 10 Years Old

9:45 AM | Youth Lounge

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.



SINAI TEMPLE

21 SIVAN 5786 | 6 JUNE 2026



PARASHAT B’HA’ALOT’CHA | בהעלתך  
THE BAT MITZVAH OF ALEXANDRA GHODSIAN  
Torah reading begins: Numbers 8:1 (page 816)  
Maftir: Numbers 9:12-14 (page 821)  
Haftarah: Zechariah 4:1-7 (page 838)  
“Recharging”- Sermon by Rabbi Erez Sherman

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.

The Bat Mitzvah of Alexandra Ghodsian  
“Recharging”- Sermon by Rabbi Erez Sherman  
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

TORAH AT THE TABLE

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

FAMILY MINYAN SHABBAT SERVICE

in Upper Traub at 9:30 a.m.

FAMILY MINYAN BAT MITZVAH

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.  
The Bat Mitzvah of Danielle Nourmand

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

Today, I'd like to highlight some of the incredible opportunities available through our Teen Center, led by Atara Rush, which helps teens build Jewish identity, leadership skills, and lifelong friendships.

## Did you know about Chai School?

**Chai School (Grades 9–12):** A post-B'nai Mitzvah program where teens deepen their Jewish knowledge, explore contemporary issues, and connect with inspiring educators and speakers.

## Did you know about our fellowship opportunities?

**David and Angella Nazarian Youth Leadership Program (Grades 9–10):** An exclusive fellowship focused on Jewish leadership, Israel engagement, mentorship, travel experiences, and meaningful conversations about Jewish identity.

**Beren Scholar Fellowship (Grades 11–12):** A college-prep fellowship that equips teens with the knowledge, confidence, and tools to navigate antisemitism and proudly represent their Jewish identity.

## Have you heard about our social opportunities?

**Teen Center, USY, and BBYO (Grades 8–12):** From Lounge Nights and challah bakes to Disneyland trips, holiday celebrations, and social action projects, there are countless ways for teens to connect and have fun.

To learn more, please contact Atara Rush at [arush@sinaitemple.org](mailto:arush@sinaitemple.org).

# TEMPLE EVENTS

## Dodger Game with Sinai Temple

**This Sunday, June 7, 2026 | 1:10 PM**

Join us at Dodger Stadium for an exciting game as the Dodgers take on the Los Angeles Angels! Get ready for a day filled with fun, food, and of course, baseball! We will be seated in section 164LG in the shade!

This will take place at Dodger Stadium.

## Sisterhood Installation & Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

**This Tuesday, June 9, 2026 | 10:00 AM**

Join us for the Sisterhood Installation & Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at Sinai Temple as we install President Estelle Marco and welcome the incoming Board of Directors. We will also take time to honor and celebrate our volunteers, followed by a festive breakfast together.

## Sinai Speaks: The Hidden Key to a Meaningful Life with Rabbi Nicole Guzik & Chanel Halimi, LMFT

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026 | 7:00 PM | Online**

Join Co-Senior Rabbi Nicole Guzik and Chanel Halimi, LMFT, for an open and thoughtful conversation exploring *The Hidden Key to a Meaningful Life*. Together, they'll reflect on why therapy matters and the powerful role it can play in helping us better understand ourselves.

## Pink Shabbat

**Saturday, June 13, 2026 | 10:00 AM**

Join Sinai Temple STARS Religious School for Pink Shabbat as we come together to spread kindness, love, and support for those affected by breast and ovarian cancer. We will also celebrate our fearless Shinshinit, Lia, with a meaningful morning of community, connection, and pink spirit.

## Learning with Rabbi David Wolpe

**Tuesday, June 16, 2026 | 7:00 PM**

Don't miss the final class in this inspiring series as we trace the wisdom, texts, and teachings that have guided Jewish life, from ancient foundations to medieval depth and modern relevance.

## Sinai Speaks: Lo Ta'amod, A Jewish Response to Ukraine

**Wednesday, June 17, 2026 | 7:00 PM**

Join us for a timely and meaningful conversation with Jesse Corey, Founder, *End of Indifference*, and Rabbi Gavriella Kornsgold as they explore the ongoing crisis in Ukraine through a Jewish lens.

## Meet Your Mensch: Jewish Singles 35–65 Wine Tasting with California Kosher Wines

**Thursday, June 18, 2026 | 6:30 PM**

Join us for an elegant evening featuring exceptional California Kosher Wines, light apps, great conversation, and the opportunity to connect with other Jewish singles in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

## Calling All Young Voices!

Sinai Temple children **ages 8 to 11** have an exciting new opportunity to lead our congregation in prayer. Every Shabbat morning, students are invited to arrive early at **8:30 a.m.** to meet in Cantor Feldman's office and receive a solo for that day's service.

Whether it is singing *Romemu*, *Baruch Sheamar*, *Ashrei*, or *Yotzer Or*, just show up and the solo is yours! Family and friends can proudly watch in person or via our livestream. As an added bonus, participants will receive a special assortment of sweet treats.

**No RSVP is needed.** Step into your Jewish roots, enjoy some baked goods, and let your voice be heard in the Ziegler Sanctuary!

L'Shalom,

Cantor Marcus Feldman and Benjamin Fingerhut

## Expand Your Mind with the Community Scholar Program

Learning doesn't stop. It evolves, deepens, and inspires. Sinai Temple is proud to partner with the Community Scholar Program (CSP), now in its 24th year, to bring members dynamic online learning with renowned scholars, authors, and thought leaders exploring Jewish history, culture, and ideas that resonate today. With engaging programs for June, there is something for everyone to learn, connect, and be inspired.

Explore upcoming programs and register at [www.sinaitemple.org/adult-education-classes-2025-26/](http://www.sinaitemple.org/adult-education-classes-2025-26/)

# THE FAMILY MINYAN KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED BY

Hilla and Michael Nourmand in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Danielle Nourmand.

## 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 from the bimah on Shabbat.

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto: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](mailto:aharrison@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3246