

Korach: Disagree Better

It’s no secret that Jews like to argue. As the well-known joke goes: “Two Jews, three opinions.” The spirit of debate, of grappling with the words of another—and even the word of God—is part and parcel of our intellectual and religious tradition.

But not all arguments are created equal. Says the Mishnah, the first work of rabbinic literature, there are two kinds of *machloket*: those that are *l’shem shamayim*, “for the sake of Heaven,” and those that aren’t. The former is exemplified by Hillel and Shammai, whose sparring fills many of the Mishnah’s pages. The latter is captured by Korach, whose rebellion against Moses and Aaron is recorded in the *parsha* that bears his name—and bears out his losing claim.

What makes an argument “for Heaven’s sake”? The proof is in the product: *sofah l’hitkayem*, “its end is to endure.” Good-faith debate reaches a conclusion that stands the test of time; bad-faith dispute leads only to lasting animosity. Yet, “end” could also refer to the life of the argument itself. If for the sake of Heaven, disagreements will endure. Both sides, like Hillel and Shammai, will have to learn to embrace each other despite their differences.

Disagreements abound in our world today. Some are insincere and will inevitably pass (hopefully sooner than later); others are profound and possibly permanent. We cannot expect and ought not try to disagree *less*; we should try to disagree *better*. Let us strive to listen and learn rather than dismiss and demonize—if not for Heaven’s sake, than for our own.

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:

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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.

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

5 TAMMUZ 5786 | 20 JUNE 2026



PARASHAT KORACH | קרח

Torah reading begins: Numbers 16:1 (page 860)

Maftir: Numbers 17:9-15 (page 867)

Haftarah: I Samuel 11:14-12:22 (page 877)

“Defining Your Reputation”- Interactive Conversation with Rabbi Nicole Guzik

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.

“Defining Your Reputation”- Interactive Conversation with Rabbi Nicole Guzik
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

TORAH AT THE TABLE

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

FAMILY MINYAN BAT MITZVAH SERVICE

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

The Bat Mitzvah of Madison Ohebshalom

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



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MEHRZAD ROSHAN

Did you know that the Sinai Temple Mental Health Center:

- Is one of the only mental health programs in the U.S. meeting the emotional needs of members as an integrated part of synagogue communal life?
- Provides confidential, professional, culturally sensitive consultation for any mental health-related concern to all Sinai Temple members and families?
- Offers a variety of support groups designed to address specific concerns and create community? These groups include:
 - **Bereavement**
Find comfort and guidance after the loss of a loved one.
 - **Caregivers for Loved Ones with Dementia**
Share challenges and solutions with others navigating a family member’s cognitive changes.
 - **Estranged Families**
Find support to share feelings, build coping skills, and grieve.
 - **Personal Growth**
Deepen self-awareness, strengthen relationships, and work toward life goals.
 - **Chai Society Mental Health Book Group**
For our active senior members, enjoy lunch and a lively discussion on books highlighting a mental health topic.
- Regularly offers support for students and faculty, as well as intergenerational learning opportunities, within the Sinai Temple Religious School community?
- Maintains a referral list of community-based mental health care providers and agencies?
- Develops and implements mental health-related programs for individual synagogue constituent groups as well as the community at large?
- Welcomes your ideas and participation?

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Carolyn Hoffman, LCSW, directly at (310) 481-3209 or email choffman@sinaitemple.org.

The Sinai Temple Mental Health Center is generously underwritten by a grant from the Fredric D. Rosen and Nadine Schiff-Rosen Family Foundation.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Wine & Wisdom

Wednesday, June 24, 2026 | 7:30 PM

Join Rabbi Taff’s Learning Circle for an evening of engaging Torah study, meaningful discussion, and a glass of wine in an intimate home setting. **Private Home (address provided upon registration) | RSVP Required**

Chai Society Mental Health Book Club

Thursday, June 25, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Join the Sinai Temple Mental Health Center for the Chai Society Mental Health Book Group, featuring a light lunch and meaningful conversation. This session will explore *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans in a warm, thoughtful community setting.

Launching Into the Next Chapter: College Readiness for Parents and Students

Thursday, June 25, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join the Sinai Temple Mental Health Center and the Jewish Community Mental Health Initiative (JCMHI) for *Well On Their Way*, a special webinar designed for parents navigating the transition to college with their young adults. In light of the current climate and increased antisemitism on college campuses, this conversation will provide practical tools, guidance, and support to help families foster confidence, resilience, and well-being during this important life transition.

This is Part 1 of a two-part webinar series. A second session for incoming college students, focused on well-being, identity, and resilience, will take place on July 23, 2026.

Shabbat on the Roof

Friday, June 26, 2026 | 4:30 PM

Join Dor Chadash for a family-friendly Shabbat celebration on the Jacki and Jeff Karsh Terrace. Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy challah, Shabbat treats, and community as we welcome Shabbat together in a relaxed outdoor setting. **Jacki and Jeff Karsh Terrace | Registration Required**

Sinai Speaks: The Struggle for the Soul of Israel and the Jewish People with Alex Sinclair and Rabbi Kornsgold

Wednesday, July 1, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join us for an engaging and thought-provoking conversation with renowned educator Alex Sinclair and Rabbi Kornsgold as they explore the moral, spiritual, and political questions shaping Israel and the global Jewish community today.

Honoring Mehrzad Roshan

Join us on **Saturday, June 27** as we celebrate **Mehrzad Roshan’s final Shabbat as President of Sinai Temple**. Together, we will express our gratitude for her dedicated leadership, countless contributions, and lasting impact on our community. We hope you’ll join us for this special Shabbat of appreciation and celebration.

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/

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.

Early Bird Registration Is Here!

Register for STARS by June 26 and save \$50 off TK–2nd Grade or \$100 off 3rd–7th Grade tuition. Enroll today and join a vibrant community of Jewish learning, friendship, and growth!

Enroll today and take advantage of early bird savings! For questions, contact sprovost@sinaitemple.org



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