Chayei Sarah: My House Is Your House

I don't remember much of the Spanish I learned in school (for four years), but one familiar phrase has stuck with me: *mi casa es su casa*, "my house is your house." It's a message of warmth, welcome, and hospitality, values the Hispanic and Jewish communities share.

From the very beginning, our people had an open-door—or, rather, open-tent—policy. Abraham's tent was a waystation for all who passed by it. While we only hear of Sarah's after her passing, when "Isaac brought [Rebekah] into the tent of his mother" (Genesis 24:67), it too was a place of grace and goodwill. The midrash relates:

"All the days that Sarah was alive, a cloud hung over the entrance to her tent; its doors were wide open; her dough was blessed; and a lamp was kindled from one Shabbat eve to the next. When she died, the cloud, the wide open doors, the blessing, and the lamp ceased. When Rebekah came, they returned."

A perpetual cloud, a holy loaf, an eternal lamp—these are more than amenities. As Rabbi Michael Hattin points out, they are the sacred ornaments of the Mishkan, God's own tent that traveled with the Israelites through the wilderness. Like Sarah's, God's had ever-present clouds of glory, bread of display baked weekly, and a menorah lit each day. And like Sarah's, God's was open to all who came to it with pure heart and humble spirit.

Let us learn from Sarah, and from Rebekah after her, to spell "Your" with a capital Y (and *Su* with a capital S): "my house is Your house"—that our world may be a home for God.

Shabbat Shalom.
Rabbi Moe Howard

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Max Webb Emeritus Rabbi
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Rabbinic Intern

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

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27 CHESHVAN 5787 | 7 NOVEMBER 2026

PARASHAT CHAYEI SARAH | חיי שרה

THE B'NOT MITZVAH OF DYLAN HAKAKIAN AND ELIANA KASHEFI

Torah reading begins: Genesis 24:10 (page 132)
Maftir: Genesis 24:50-52 (page 136)
Haftarah: I Kings 1:15-31 (page 144)
"How To Put The Pieces Together" - Sermon by Rabbi Erez Sherman

Shabbat Dancing with Shinshinit Shir — TODAY at 12:00 PM

TODAY, Saturday, November 7 at 12:00 PM**, join us at Sinai Temple for Modern Israeli Dancing led by Shinshinit Shir! Come enjoy an opportunity to dance, connect, and experience Israeli culture with our community. Dancing will take place after Shabbat services in Rickles Gym on the 4th floor. **Drop in — no RSVP needed!

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



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.

EVENING MINYAN
in Kohn Chapel
Every Friday at 5:45 PM
Also available to watch on YouTube

SHABBAT SERVICES
in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 AM
Also available to watch on YouTube

TORAH AT THE TABLE
in Blumenthal Library Class at 9:00 AM

FAMILY MINYAN SHABBAT SERVICE
in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 AM

SHABBAT CHILDCARE
Ages 18 Months - 5 Years Old
9:45 AM | Room 112

DAILY MINYAN
in Kohn Chapel
Monday–Friday at 7:30 AM
Sunday morning at 8:30 AM
Sunday-Friday evenings at 5:45 PM
Saturday evenings 9:00 PM (online only)
Please consult the website for holiday locations and times.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Israeli Dance Class
Thursday, November 12, 2026 | 9:00 AM

Join Sinai's Shinshinit Shir for a fun and welcoming Israeli dance class! Enjoy dance instruction, music, and dancing with friends in a lively environment open to all ages and experience levels. Light snacks will be provided. Classes are $10 per session and will take place January 14, February 18, March 18, April 8, and May 13, 2027.
Register here: https://bit.ly/4z4ZjsL

Shabbat Lunch & Learn with Max Webb Emeritus Rabbi David Wolpe
Saturday, November 14, 2026 | Approximately 12:30 PM

Reflections on Israel: What I Learned in Israel

Join us for a special Shabbat lunch and an engaging conversation with Max Webb Emeritus Rabbi David Wolpe. Enjoy some light nosh, meaningful learning, and the opportunity to connect with our community as we gather together for Shabbat. Register here: https://bit.ly/4kzBZQa

Sinai Temple Attends a Clippers Game!
Sunday, November 15, 2026 | 1:30 PM | Intuit Dome

Sinai Temple is heading to the Intuit Dome to cheer on our favorite team, the Clippers, as they take on the Charlotte Hornets. Early access to the game! Arrive at 11:30 AM to watch your Clippers warm up. Game starts at 1:30 PM.
Register here: https://bit.ly/4iAwPB3

Sinai Speaks: The Story of a Lone Soldier in the Gaza War
Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join Rabbi Taff for a conversation with former IDF Lone Soldier and *Once a Paratrooper* Author Ira Kohler. Hear his firsthand account of October 7, including combat with Hamas, the loss of friends, and his experiences at Kibbutz Be'eri. Explore themes of courage, sacrifice, and loss, and hear his perspective on Israel. Books will be available for purchase and signing at the event.
Register here: https://bit.ly/4isVvg4

Weekly Parsha Class
Every Thursday | 8:30 AM

Every Thursday for 30 minutes, a member of Sinai Temple's clergy will lead an in-depth exploration of the weekly Parsha, drawing out contemporary insights that can be applied to everyday life. This class is offered exclusively online.

Miller Introduction to Judaism Program

Join the Miller Introduction to Judaism Program at Sinai Temple for an engaging, in-person learning experience open to everyone, regardless of background or prior Jewish knowledge. Classes meet Tuesdays through March 16, 2027, from 6:30–8:30 PM, with weekly topics including Shabbat, Torah, prayer, holidays, Israel, and more.

Individual $360 | Couple $540
Additional family/friend: $180

Questions or interested? Contact Gabriel at gprunty@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3200.

Zooz Fitness Volunteer Opportunity at Sinai Temple

Sundays, November 8, December 13, 2026 & January 10, February 7, March 21, April 11, and May 16, 2027
12:30–2:00 PM

Join Sinai Temple's Social Action Committee for a fun and meaningful volunteer opportunity with Zooz Fitness! Volunteers will join Keen+ members for a fun basketball experience led by Zooz Fitness coaches, helping build connections and make a difference through the power of play.

Location: 3rd Floor, Weinberg Gym at Sinai Temple
No basketball experience necessary—just bring your energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to have fun!

Register here: https://bit.ly/4BskK9M

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, November 14, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Join us for Tot Shabbat in Weinberg Gym! Enjoy a fun Shabbat family service with music, dancing, and activities for little ones. The morning begins with Tot Shabbat Mini Minyan at 10:00 AM, followed by Kiddush, snacks, and an art project at 10:45 AM. We look forward to celebrating Shabbat together!
Location: Weinberg Gym

Register here: https://bit.ly/4kBh2Ew

Torah on Tap

Join Rabbi Avi Taff's learning circle for men in their 20s–40s for meaningful conversation, learning, and community. Sessions take place from 7:00-8:30 PM in a private home, with the address shared before each gathering.

November 18, December 15, 2026 & January 26, February 23, March 16, and April 6, 2027

Membership required. RSVP required. For questions, contact Gabriel at **gprunty@sinaitemple.org** or 310-481-3200.

SINAI TEMPLE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Save the Date: Purim Carnival 2027

Get ready to unleash your inner superhero! **Purim Carnival 2027** is coming to Sinai Temple on **Sunday, March 14**, and this year's theme is **Superheroes**.

More details to come...mark your calendar now!

SINAI AKIBA ACADEMY

Holiday Boutique: Shop, Create & Celebrate at Sinai Akiba Academy

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 8:30 AM | Barad Hall
Join us for the **Sinai Akiba Academy Holiday Boutique**, featuring a variety of special shopping experiences and ticketed activities for all to enjoy! Start your day with SculptCult Pilates or a Latin Fusion dance class, get creative with a butterfly dip bowl workshop, enjoy Mahjong with friends and lunch from Hatch Kitchen, or add some sparkle with hair tinsel. Whether you're looking to shop, create, dance, or spend time with friends, there's something for everyone!

Advance tickets required. Purchase tickets by November 16 at: sinaiakibaholidayboutique.com

WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT?

Host your next event at Sinai Temple. Our kitchen handles everything from a kiddush lunch to a wedding, and Barad Hall seats up to 650 people. For more information, 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

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