

Sinai Synagogue

November 2008

Cheshvan 5769

# Sinai Synagogue

## A Letter From The Rabbi

### MAILING ADDRESS:

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E-mail:

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Website:

[www.sinaisynagogue.com](http://www.sinaisynagogue.com)

Davening and events:

Fuchs Mizrahi School

2301 Fenwick Rd.

University Hts.

- 
- Rabbi Moshe Berger,  
*Ph.D.*
  - Rabbi Isadore Pickholtz,  
*z'l*
  - Marshall Rosenberg,  
*president*
  - Mitchell Rose,  
*ba'al tefilah*
  - Fran Hoen,  
*administrative assistant*

Dear Friends.

Two weeks ago on Shabbat Bereishit, we began the new annual cycle of Torah reading, starting, of course, with the Book of Genesis. As you know, this first of the Five Books of Moses contains very few laws. Instead, the book is almost completely devoted to narratives surrounding the history of the world: from Creation; to the story of Joseph and his brothers; and the Children of Israel entering Egypt.

Many commentators have questioned the appropriateness of such narratives in the Torah: If the purpose of the Torah is to teach us laws and values, of what relevance are the stories in Genesis (and elsewhere) in the Torah? Why is the Torah not limited to explicit laws?

Rabbi Levi ben Gershon (also known as Ralbag and Gershonides) was an important fourteenth century philosopher and Bible commentator, who lived in Provence (southern France). In his introduction to his Bible commentary, Ralbag wrote that the purpose of all of the Biblical narratives is to teach us the value of appropriate behaviors, as well as the importance of avoiding inappropriate behaviors.

In practically every Biblical narrative, people make tragic mistakes, and/ or heroically overcome tremendous challenges and temptations. Adam and Eve; Cain and Able; Noah and the Flood; the Tower of Babel; the struggles of Abraham and Sarah and our other Patriarchs and Matriarchs; Joseph in Egypt; the incidents involving Lot, Laban, Potiphar, Potiphar's wife, and Pharaoh: all of these stories contain many implicit value-laden teachings regarding human behavior. They teach us about the positive and negative consequences of: gratitude; jealousy; honoring or dishonoring one's parents; alcohol abuse; blessing one's children; rage; kindness to strangers; feeling God's invisible hand in daily life; appropriate and inappropriate erotic behavior; sibling rivalry; loyalty to God and to one's people in a pagan environment; and much more.

The Torah chose not merely to *command* most of these qualities, but also to *demonstrate* them in real-life situations, in order that we would be able to witness them and understand them not primarily as *ideas*, but as *living realities*. As negative and positive role models, these characters teach us: how to live moral and God-centered lives; how to make the right choices; and how to overcome the sometimes overwhelming temptation to make the wrong choices.

Please join us (or continue to join us) at Sinai for Shabbat morning services and Kiddush, and/or for Sunday morning breakfast and Torah study. Daven with us, learn Torah with us, socialize with us, and enjoy – and enhance – our warm and exciting atmosphere.

Sincerely,  
Moshe Berger

## Mark Your Calendar!

**The Board  
will meet on  
November  
16th 2008 at  
Fuchs  
Mizrachi  
10:15 am**

- 1) Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mervine and Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Rosenberg will sponsor a Breakfast on November 18th, 2008 in honor of Jake Feuerwerker's new Job position.
- 2) There will be a Breakfast on Thursday November 27th, 2008 for Thanksgiving Day.
- 3) Larry Pomerantz will sponsor a breakfast on November 23, 2008 commemorating the Yahrzeit of his father Dovid ben Eliezer Zusha.
- 4) The next meeting of the Sinai Synagogue Book Club is scheduled for Monday, December 15, 2008 at the home of Laura Rabinowitz starting promptly at 7:30pm. "The Yiddish Policemen's Union" by Michael Chabon will be discussed.  
Space is limited, so please RSVP to Nikki Flores at 614-562-5920 or via email at [nikkiflores.x@gmail.com](mailto:nikkiflores.x@gmail.com)
- 5) Leona Green will be sponsoring a Cholent Kiddush on December 20th, 2008 in honor of her 75th birthday!
- 6) The entire community is invited to the Sinai Synagogue annual Chanukah Party on Sunday December 21, 2008. Please mark your calendar! For reservations please call the office.
- 7) Mitchell Friedman will sponsor a Breakfast on December 25th, 2008 in honor of his son Joshua's Bar Mitzvah.

## Yahrzeits- Novemeber/Cheshvan

**Thank you to  
all who set up  
and prepared  
the Sukkah for  
the annual  
"Dining in the  
Sukkah Party".  
It was a great  
Success.**

Cheshvan 1- Fannye Shafran

Cheshvan 2- Eliezer Amsterdam, Yehudit Grewald

Cheshvan 3- Jack Newman

Cheshvan 5- Michael Leaventon, Hershel Gross

Cheshvan 6- Rachael Mindlin

Cheshvan 7- Max Reiger, Emil Salick

Cheshvan 8- Nathan Roth, Hermine Berkowitz

Cheshvan 11- Carl Roth, Doris Silverberg

Cheshvan 12- Sally Pompan, Minnie Rehmar, Mary Schwimmer, Morris Arberman

Cheshvan 13- Ruth Eisen, Fred Holden

Cheshvan 15- Rebecca Friedland, Harry Greenfield

Cheshvan 16- Marie Felder, Sheldon Eisen, Rose Lefkowitz, Morris Rehmar, Morris Spanner

Cheshvan 17- Jacob Seifter, Betty Gaynor

Cheshvan 18- Max Goodman, Israel Leaventon, Rose Seiter, Henry Abzug

Cheshvan 20- Samuel Fried

Cheshvan 21- Irvin Miller, Fannie Rosenblatt

Cheshvan 22- Lillie Brenner

Cheshvan 23- Yetta Bleich

Cheshvan 24- N. Gaynor, Harry Weiss

Cheshvan 25- Samuel Fenster

Cheshvan 26- Bessie Botnick, Louis Transky, David Berkowitz

Cheshvan 27- Anna Ente, Morris Appelaum, Fannie Bieder

Cheshvan 28- Dr. Heilpern, Naftoli Pintchuk, Rose Waldman

Cheshvan 29- Blanche Pinkus, Greta Roth, Morris Abrahams

Cheshvan 30- Morris Frankel

## Mazel Tov!

### OCTOBER:

\*\*\*Happy Birthday to Rabbi Moshe Berger

\*\*\*Happy Anniversary To Rabbi Moshe and Marilyn Berger.

\*\*\*Happy Birthday to Martin Flox

\*\*\*Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mervine on the Bat Mitzvah of their Grand-daughter Penina.

## Donations

### Breakfasts and Breakfast Fund

Jake Feuerwerker

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mervine

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Rosenberg

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Pickholtz

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Robins

Mr. Milt Weinstein

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Frum

### Kiddushes and Kiddush Fund

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Zahler

Ms. Miriam Levin

Ms. Esther Swertloff

Mr. Milton Weinstein

Mr. Hy Weiss

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Pomerantz

Mr. Joel Pomerantz

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mervine

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Rosenberg

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Rose

Rabbi and Mrs. Berger

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Pressel

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Flox

Juliana Sadock-Savino

Mr. and Mrs. Marty Rabinowitz

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Robins

### Refuah Shleimah

We wish a speedy recovery to, Al Wasserman, Saittle bat Hannah, Hadassa bat Chaya, Renabas Batya, , Beila bas Luba and Shmuel ben Osher Anshel, Tzvi Hirsh ben Devorah, Yehuda Simcha ben Sora Esther and Shimon Dovid ben Aryeh Leib .

## Donations

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Baskin– General Contribution

Mrs. Rachel Spira- Yahrzeit Fund and Rabbi's Fund

Mrs. Lottie Franklin– IMO Norman Franklin, IMO Blanche Meadow

Mr. and Mrs. Irv Auerbach– Mishaberach

Mrs. Rose Zukerman– Yizkor

Mr. Joseph Congress– IMO Pauline Weiss

Mrs. Natalie Fried– IMO Shmuel Pintchuk, IMO Norton Pintchuk

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Leizman– Yahrzeit Fund and Brian Gould Memorial Fund

**The next Cholent Kiddush will be on November 22, 2008. We are in need of sponsors for this event. Please call the office if you would like to help sponsor this event.**

Rabbis:  
 Moshe Berger, Ph.D.  
 Isidore Pickholtz, z"l

Ba'al Tefilah:  
 Mitchell Rose, Ph.D.

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 Marshall Rosenberg

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*Administrative Assistant*  
*Fran Hoen*



**Eruv Hotline number : 586-9222**

**Minyan**

**Monday thru Friday: 6:45 am**

**Please call or email the office if you are available for minyan.**

**Rosh Chodesh : 6:30 am (November 28th)**

**Candle Lighting for November:**

**Nov. 14- Earliest C/L - 4:07pm ~ Latest C/L - 4:50 pm Parsha– Vayera**

**Nov. 21-Earliest C/L - 4:02 pm ~ Latest C/L - 4:44 pm Parsha– Chaye Sara**

**Nov. 28 -Earliest C/L - 3:59pm ~ Latest C/L - 4:40pm Parsha– Toldos**

**Important Dates**

**NOVEMBER 16TH- BOARD MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 22- CHOLENT KIDDUSH**

**NOVEMBER 27- THANKSGIVING**

**NOVEMBER 28- ROSH CHODESH KISLEV**