

ChaiLites

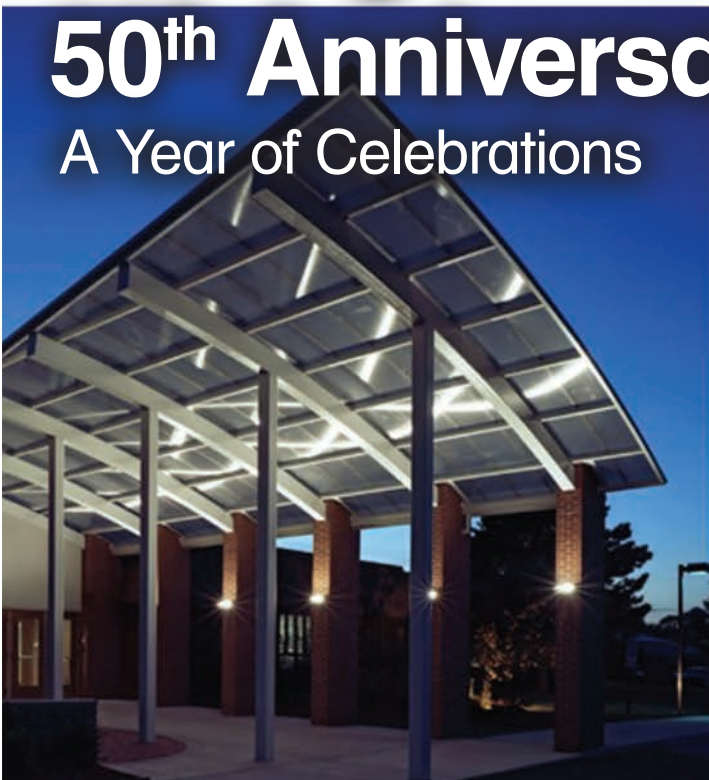
50TH ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF



Kicking Off Temple Chai's

50th Anniversary!

A Year of Celebrations



July/August 2022 | Tammuz/Av/Elul 5782

Temple Chai Leadership

Ilana G. Baden, Senior Rabbi

Scott D. Simon, Cantor

Stephen A. Hart, Rabbi Emeritus

Alison Siegel Lewin, Executive Director

Laura S. Perpinyal, Director of Congregational Learning

Jeff Kondritzer, Director of Education Emeritus

Scott Goode, Assistant Director

Jaime Marquez, Building Manager

Michele Michlin, Office Administrator

Charla Silver, Hebrew Specialist

Gabby Vega, Event Specialist

Irma Cravath, Yahrzeits & Donations

Jim Elliot, Temple President

Noam Alon, Executive Vice President

Stefani Wiemann, Women of Temple Chai President

Dan Hirschberg, Chai Guys President

Are You Getting All Our Temple Communications?

Please contact **Scott Goode** at sgoode@templechai.org if you are not receiving our digital communications. If you have changed your email address (or other contact information) you can log onto your member portal account at templechai.shulcloud.com.

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A Message From Jim Elliot – Temple Chai’s Next President

As the newly elected President of Temple Chai, I want to thank you for the honor of serving this community during such an exciting time in our history. As most of you are aware, July marks the beginning of the 50th anniversary of our congregation. Temple Chai was first incorporated on July 17, 1972, after our founding members had the vision to create a new Reform Synagogue in the NW suburbs of Chicago. Over the past 50 years, Temple Chai has grown to be the phenomenal congregation we all know and love, due to the efforts of our past and present clergy and leadership and the commitment, dedication, and engagement of our members. I look forward to celebrating with you in a full year’s worth of special events with something for all ages and interests. I invite you to join in the celebration of



our past 50 years and more importantly, in the creation of our next 50. Please consider volunteering to help on one of the 50th planning committees or finding other opportunities to become more engaged in Temple life and culture. Please contact the Temple office to learn how you can become part of the excitement. Once again, I am appreciative for the trust you have shown in me to lead Temple Chai and look forward to seeing you at many of the upcoming celebrations.

Happy Birthday to Temple Chai!



We are proud and excited to be able to launch this year's celebration of Temple Chai as we mark this incredible milestone. As you will see in this edition of the Chai

Lites, we have many wonderful events planned for this golden jubilee year. We look forward to sharing these moments with you.

As we know, whether it is for a person or for an institution, a 50th birthday celebration is an opportunity to take stock of where one has been, to reflect upon how far one has come, and to be intentional about planning where one wants to go from here.

In that spirit, I want to invite you all to share with me your thoughts about Temple Chai. It does not matter if you joined in the 1970s or the 2020s, I want to hear from you and learn from you. Please take some time to send me your responses to the following questions.

1. Why did you originally join Temple Chai?
2. What has inspired you to maintain your membership over the years?
3. How has Temple Chai enhanced your life?

4. What is a special memory you have of an interaction at or through Temple Chai?

5. What do you value most about Temple Chai?

6. What are you looking forward to most when thinking about your future at Temple Chai?

7. What else would you like me to know about how you feel about Temple Chai or how you experience our congregation?

Please send me your answers via email at ibaden@templechai.org. You can also mail them (anonymously) to me at Rabbi Baden: Temple Chai; 1670 Checker Road; Long Grove, IL 60047.

I look forward to learning from your experience and reflections as we celebrate this momentous year together.



Kick-Off Shabbat Celebration & Shabbat Under the Stars

Friday, July 22, at 6:30 PM

Please RSVP in advance at bit.ly/50thSUTS

Kol Sason – A Voice of Joy!



Shalom u'Vrachah - Peace and Blessings!

Celebrating Our Shared History - Celebrating Our Incredible Jewish Community – Celebrating Song...

Though I only go back about 23 years in the life and history of Temple Chai, I'm blessed to have shared life, celebrated and been deeply impacted for many, many years, by those who first built this magnificent place and the dedicated generation that has followed. My wife Gail and our children Nadav, Haggai and Lily are completely enmeshed with the life, the history and the spirit of Temple Chai, like so many of your families. This place, this family, this spiritual home is at the center of our connection to this community and to Jewish life. Even though two of my kids live out of state, Temple Chai is still their spiritual second home as it is for many of their peers and for all of us. With each of us adding our voices and hearts in ways big and small, it has been the locus of thousands of community memories and the nexus of our Jewish creativity, seeking and dreaming.

I am excited to share that this will be a musically rich year at Temple Chai, filled with the exciting sounds and songs of 50th

anniversary jubilee celebration! There will be something fantastic on the calendar every month, whether it's our home-grown pro-caliber ensembles, Temple Chai member, or friend's bands in a variety of styles at our Chai Sunday Night Coffee House-evenings, or top A-list stars in Jewish music, we are all in for our jubilee year! After all we've been through, and in celebration of 50 amazing years, we've certainly earned it!

If you or your children love making music and would like to share in the excitement of Shabbat, holidays and our upcoming concert season, even helping behind the scenes, please, please do not hesitate to contact me at ssimon@templechai.org and you'll be embraced by a dedicated and talented family of performers who enjoy singing, playing and celebrating at Temple Chai.

Mazal Tov on 50 wonderful years!

INTRODUCING
CANTOR'S
COFFEE HOUSE

SATURDAY, JULY 17 AT 7 PM

AN EVENING OF MUSIC WITH
CANTOR AND OTHER TEMPLE MUSICIANS

A circular inset image in the bottom left corner shows Cantor Scott D. Simon playing an acoustic guitar and singing into a microphone outdoors. The background of the poster is a dark, atmospheric photo of a coffee house interior with tables and chairs. A decorative flourish is above the main title. The 50th anniversary logo is in the bottom right corner.

Yovel — a Year of Jubilee



Words, and numbers for that matter, can have a lot of symbolism in Jewish tradition: 7 days of the week, 7 weeks of the Omer, (the weeks between Passover and Shavuot), 7 years of *Shmita* or agricultural Sabbatical year. In biblical and modern times alike, crops are not harvested during the *Shmita* year in Israel to give the land a restorative break. The 7 cycles of *Shmita* (or entering the 50th year) is referred to as the Jubilee year or *Yovel* in Hebrew.

“The word *Yovel* is also a matter of some dispute. Its Hebrew root — *yud*, bet, lamed — is phonetically similar to the modern English word jubilee. Many authorities — *Rashi* chief among them — believe the word refers to the blowing of shofar, since it shares a root with the biblical word for ram, the horns of which are used for shofars. But others — Maimonides perhaps most famously — believe the word means something like “to bring” or “to convey,” a reference to the return of land to its original owners. Still others believe the word means something akin to “mixture” — it is also similar to the Hebrew word for flood, *mabul*, in which all is mixed up. In this reading, the *Yovel* year is one in which private and public property become intermingled.” (<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/sabbatical-year-shemittah-and-jubilee-year-yovel/>)

I love this breakdown of the *Yovel* year, because the significance means something different to each scholar and yet is related. As we begin to celebrate our Temple Chai’s 50th year, we will have elements of all these translations!! There will be loud and proud public declarations – like that of blowing the shofar. There will be opportunities to celebrate our founders and those whose visions continue to sustain us. And finally, we will be mixed up; we will have opportunities to gather as families that when intermingled together, become our special Temple Chai community!

Our Jewish text also reminds us that we need to care for one another, just as we care for the earth. We need to pause and reset. To give space to grow (and to learn) and refresh ourselves. I am truly inspired as we embark on this exceptional milestone over the course of the next year! I cannot wait to celebrate both the past meaningful 50 years and the vibrant, future 50 years to come!

Summer
Tot
Shabbat



Bring a picnic dinner and join us for Blessings and Songs, Snuggles and Sunsets, Challah and Grape Juice to celebrate Shabbat together!

July 29 and August 19
5:30 - 6:15 pm
www.templechai.org

First Day of School



September 11, 2022

Register in ShulCloud -
We can't wait for a GREAT year of learning together!

Celebrating 50 years of Sisterhood

When Temple Chai began in 1972, men and women worked together on all programs and fundraisers. As the years progressed, women realized we would prefer working together in a women's group. During a summer gathering at the home of Beverly Schreiber, the ladies decided that we would plan activities that were independent of the male members and appealed to women.

At the beginning, this women's group supported Temple Chai by hosting the Shabbat Onegs, having picnics, and sponsoring a daytime bowling league. In 1978, Temple Chai Sisterhood received a charter from the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (NFTS, now called Women of Reform Judaism). In the first three months we raised \$3000 to be donated to the Temple. Early projects included garage sales, lox boxes, Chanukah bazaars and a gift shop where items were sold out of the trunk of our cars! We were able to continue our fundraising projects, and donate funds to build and stock a kitchen for our new building in Long Grove. Besides fundraising, education and social justice, our children became a priority. We sponsored various programs to support our schools.

Many Sisterhood women have gone on to hold positions on the WRJ (NFTS) Midwest District Board (which soon will be called Heartland District) including holding the position of President as well as serving on WRJ. To so many of us Temple Chai and the sisterhood became our home. Our success was greatly due to the dedication and support of the women of Temple Chai. And even though names have changed- NFTS to WRJ (Women of Reform Judaism), and the Temple Chai Sisterhood to Women of Temple Chai (WTC), the women of our beloved Temple Chai continue this 50 year legacy through social activities, education, Tikkun Olam, spirituality, and fundraising.

It's that time of year again. Send the Sweetest Rosh Hashanah Greeting there is!



WTC HONEY FUNDRAISER

What a special way to wish family, friends and/or business associates a "Sweet and Healthy New Year!" Receiving these honey boxes really are special, plus the honey is delicious!

.....

This distinctive 8-ounce jar of kosher honey arrives in time for the Rosh Hashanah holiday, decorated with a festive label, and includes a personalized card reading "Shana Tova—Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year." This card also lets the recipients know that a donation has been made in their honor to the Women of Temple Chai Sisterhood.

The cost is \$13.00 per jar which includes FREE shipping and handling within the United States. We will gladly mail orders outside the United States for an additional fee.

To order honey go to www.orthoney.com/TCL, click on the honey link and follow the step-by-step instructions.

Order by August 1st, 2022 for FREE shipping to avoid a \$6.50 per jar shipping fee!

Order by September 1st, 2022 for guaranteed delivery in time for Rosh Hashanah, September 25, 2022.



For more information, please contact:
Debbie Robins at honeywtc@gmail.com or cell: 847-917-7257

Sponsored by the Women of Temple Chai

Temple Chai 1670 Checker Road • Long Grove, IL 60047-5289 • 847-537-1771



~ 50 Years of Chai ~

SPONSORED BY THE WOMEN OF TEMPLE CHAI

Sunday, September 18, 2022

Mini-Golf "shot gun" start at 3:00 p.m. sharp!

\$36 per person
6 players per group
Golfing includes:
One game of 18 hole mini-golf, picnic party dinner, raffle ticket and swag bag.

Due to Par-King restrictions, no one under 48" is allowed on the course, no exceptions, but families with small kids can still participate.



\$18 per person - No Golf
Includes:
picnic party dinner and activities from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.



Bring your friends, bring your family for a day of fun at Par-King Skill Golf, described by Travel Channel as the most imaginative miniature golf in America. Together we will celebrate and support 50 years of Temple Chai!

50 YEARS

- Pay by check payable to Women of Temple Chai. Mail to Temple Chai, 1670 W. Checker Rd., Long Grove, IL 60047. Please write the names of whom you will be playing with.
- To pay by Charge Card: type in this web address: <https://bit.ly/miniaturegolfwtc>

For more Information:
Email Marcy Weinstein at mweinstein68wtc@gmail.com

Meet our New WTC President: Stefani Wiemann



I am honored to be the next President of The Woman of Temple Chai, and want to take this opportunity to introduce myself to help you get to know me a bit. My name is Stefani Wiemann, and I have been a congregant for 8 years. I have been married to my amazing husband Kyle for 15 years, and we have two children who attend Religious and Hebrew school at Temple Chai. Jackson is entering 6th grade and Emma is entering 5th grade. Jackson plays baseball and basketball, and Emma is a dancer. We also have two of the best dogs in our family. Madison is a 15-year-old Bichon Frise and Ruby is a 3-year-old Shih-Tzu Poodle mix. I work full time as a 5th grade teacher in Northbrook, and my family lives in Palatine.

I have been part of The Women of Temple Chai for 6 years now, and have held the positions of Social Action Chair and Executive VP. I have also been on the Temple Education Committee for the last 8 years. I have worked closely with many women in this organization, and have witnessed the passion, drive, and dedication

that we bring to all that we do. I am so excited to continue to work with some amazing ladies in this new capacity. In addition, we would love to see more women get involved! We plan a plethora of events/activities, and try to plan things that appeal to a variety of people. If you are interested in getting involved on any level, please reach out to me and I will put you in touch with the right person to guide you. We are also always looking for new ideas. If there is an event or activity that you would like to do, please share that with me and we can see if we can make it happen.

As we continue to navigate this pandemic, we are trying our best to connect people, whether in person or virtually. I truly hope that you will consider joining the WTC and participating in any events that appeal to you. In fact, grab a friend and come together! I am confident that you will find our organization to be a supportive and welcoming community.

| by Dan Hirschberg – President of the Chai Guys Brotherhood |

Temple Chai: Fifty Years and The Best Is Yet To Come

The Chai Guys Brotherhood is looking forward to celebrating Temple Chai's 50th anniversary! In addition to our monthly nights out or nights in get togethers, we will be sponsoring a special Temple barbecue in August. This will be a great opportunity to schmooze with your fellow congregants and to learn all about the Chai Guys. There will also be some interesting guest speakers in the coming year. As always, we will be partnering with the Women of Temple Chai for our exciting and successful Pizza Bingo fundraiser, which benefits our students and the Religious and Hebrew schools. Once again this year, the Chai Guys will be a sponsor of Heroes and Helpers and the Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council's I-Walk which benefits local food pantries. The Chai Guys also sponsors two softball teams. If you are interested, please contact us because we would love to have you!



| By Susan Hirschberg, Israel Committee Chair |

Temple Chai's 50th and Planning for the Israel Trip

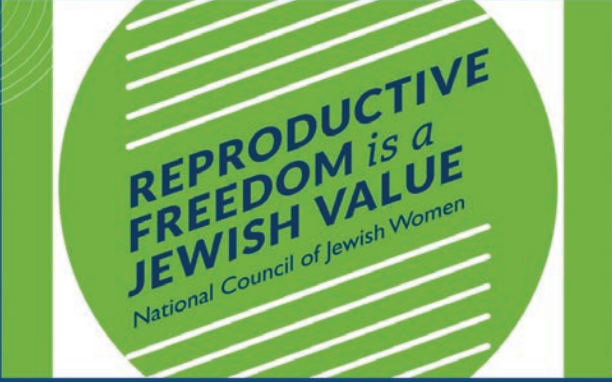


It's the year of Temple Chai's 50th anniversary celebration, and the Israel Committee is looking forward to creating programs that inspire our members to want to learn about Israel. In addition, the itinerary for the June 2023 Temple Chai Journey to Israel will be finalized.

This upcoming trip will be unique compared to the last six trips, as it will be taking place during summer instead of during winter. A summer trip will allow travelers to experience different outdoor places and activities. For example, two of Israel's national parks, which I visited many years ago, are well-suited for a summer trip. The first, Hermon Stream (Banias) Nature Reserve, contains Israel's largest waterfall. I remember the smell of the forest reminded me of a florist shop. The second, Gan HaShlosha (Sachne) has warm spring-fed pools. This experience included swimming in the water with small fish. Another

beautiful place to walk around is the Baha'i Gardens in Haifa. Since the gardens are on a steep hill, it is optimal to visit in dry weather. Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) provides opportunities for water sports or a boat ride. Located along the eastern shore of Lake Kinneret is Kibbutz Ein Gev. This kibbutz is known not only for its beautiful beaches but also for its fish restaurant which serves fresh fish from the lake. Perhaps these places will be on the 2023 itinerary.

Adult Education Programs



**AUGUST
THIRD
THURSDAY**

AUGUST 18
1:30 PM
(MULTI-ACCESS)


A DISCUSSION WITH THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

SUNDAYS @ 7
NEW Date! **August 21**
IN PERSON - OUTSIDE!

What's Jewish about Gene Editing?

Join us for a Panel Discussion with the Sarnoff Center to discuss the science, ethics and Jewish Values in this emerging tech.

CRISPR is a technology that can be used to edit genes and, as such, will likely change the world. The essence of CRISPR is simple: it's a way of finding a specific bit of DNA inside a cell.



50 YEARS 1972-2022

NORTON & ELAINE SARNOFF CENTER FOR JEWISH GENETICS

September Third Thursday

Charles Troy
presenting on
"The Sound of Music"

Thursday, September 15
1:30 PM (multi-access)



Around the Temple



Northbrook Brunch Club



Pride Parade



Mitzvah Day



A Cabaret of Cantors Concert



Pride Parade



Mitzvah Day



Last Day of School



Pride Parade



Mitzvah Day



Last Day of School



Pride Parade



Mitzvah Day



Pride Parade



Mitzvah Day



Confirmation



WTC Shabbat



Temple Chavurah Visiting Chess Records Office



Confirmation



WTC Shabbat



Temple Chavurah Visiting Chess Records Office



Confirmation



WTC Shabbat



Chai Guys Softball Trophy Presentation



Temple Chai at the Chicago Jewish Festival



Outdoor Shabbat



Chai Guys Softball Trophy Presentation



Temple Chai at the Chicago Jewish Festival



Temple Chai at the Chicago Jewish Festival

Temple Chai – Our First Fifty Years



What follows in Part 1 are excerpt or a summary of what appears in full in Our First Forty years – Temple Chai – 1973 to 2013, a book that was published in 2013 and that is available at the temple. The facts presented in Part 1 are the result of meticulous research by temple members Richard and Barbara Heinrich. Richard wrote the full version of Part 1 for the book.

Looking Back

In the fall of 1971, five couples, including Richard and Barbara Heinrich, discussed forming a Reform Congregation in the Buffalo Grove-Arlington Heights area. They believed that there would be sufficient interest to support a Reform congregation. The five grew to twenty-five by the spring of 1972. The first executive committee selected the name – Temple Chai (Temple of Life in Hebrew) for the temple's name.





Temple's First Torah & Rabbi

Temple Chai applied to the Westminster Trust and was awarded its first Torah, the Holocaust Scroll from the Pinkas Synagogue in Prague on permanent loan. On February 18, 1972, Temple Chai held its first Shabbat service in the gym of Kilmer School in Buffalo Grove. There were about 150 in attendance and the new Torah scroll was used by Temple Chai for the first time. Rabbi Haskell Bernat led the service and he then alternated once a month along with other Chicago area Reform rabbis until the community was able to obtain its own rabbi. During May 1972, the temple leadership was in touch with the Cincinnati Campus of the Hebrew Union College/Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC/JIR) to obtain the services of a part-time rabbinical student to serve the temple on a bi-weekly basis.

On June 12, 1972, the temple was informed that Lane Steinger, a fifth-year rabbinic student, would be the first spiritual leader and would begin during August. Rabbi Steinger served Temple Chai during its first year, 1972-1973, and conducted the first High Holy Day services and all the life cycle events. As well as worked with the school committee on both the religious school and Hebrew school curriculum.

By the end of 1972, after Temple Chai's first High Holy Day services, the congregation had grown to about 70 families with over 100 children in the school.

On December 11, 1972, the board formed a rabbinic search committee and the temple's first rabbinic search began with an application to the UAHC/CCAR Placement Commission. Rabbi Floyd Herman was proposed by the committee to be Temple Chai's first permanent rabbi. At its April meeting, the board approved the hiring, and he was confirmed at the annual meeting on May 3, 1973. When Rabbi Herman was hired, there were about 100 families.

Temple Chai's First Baby Naming

On September 21, 1973, during Shabbat services at Chamber Park, Rabbi Herman conducted his first baby naming at Temple Chai naming Shari, the daughter of Barb and Rich Heinrich, who had arrived on May 30, 1973. Shari went on to become the first congregant of Temple Chai to become a rabbi and was ordained in May 2000, at the HUC/JIR Cincinnati campus.

The Temple's first Torah, a Holocaust scroll from the Pinkas Synagogue, is still one of the Torah scrolls in our Aron Kodesh (Ark) today.



Temple Chai's First Permanent Worship Space

In January, 1974, Temple Chai moved to its first regular worship home at Kingswood Methodist Church and also moved the office from the rabbi's house to the church. Prior to moving to Kingswood, the rabbi and temple members would carry the Torah and prayer books in their cars to the locations of services. The move to Kingswood gave the congregation a sense of permanence and belonging.

Milestones for Youth at Temple Chai

During May, 1974, Temple Chai experienced several significant occasions. At Shabbat Services on May 10, the first bar mitzvah was celebrated. On May 19, the board adopted a by-law creating the first temple school board. Since its beginning, Temple Chai has been blessed with an active supportive congregation in regards to education and the religious school. From the temple's inception, educating both children and adults has been a high priority.

Moving To 1670 Checker Road

After the 1974 High Holy Days, the board saw the need to begin planning for a permanent location for the congregation. The Land Acquisition Committee found two possible locations. The amount of acreage that was needed had been revised upward to between four and five acres. One location was in Lake County Strathmore, Buffalo Grove, and the other was in unincorporated Long Grove. On February 9, 1976, the board approved the committee's recommendation that the temple purchase the land at Acadia Farm in Long Grove. In September 1979, the membership came together for the groundbreaking of the building. The ceremony was led by Rabbi Herman, Eli Berkman and lay leadership. Major construction of the building was finished in August 1980. Temple Chai celebrated with a weekend that included a black-tie optional ball held in the sanctuary/social hall. The sanctuary/social hall didn't look anything like the original plans since there wasn't money left in the budget to finish the bimah area, cover the cinder block walls with drywall or paneling, or carpet the social hall floor. However, temple had its own space that could accommodate over 1100 individuals for High Holy Day services and other events.

ChaiLites

At the beginning of its first official year, the first newsletter, the *Chai-Lites*, was sent to each family. The *Chai-Lites* has been published ever since and is currently in both hard copy and online.

Early Leadership at Temple Chai

Because of Temple Chai's rapid growth, the board in the Spring of 1977 authorized the hiring of the temple's first professional educator, Eli Berkman. Under Eli's direction, both the religious school and Hebrew school programs were strengthened.

Temple Chai continued its growth after moving into its permanent home and began a maturation process. Rabbi Herman left the congregation in June 1981, for a new opportunity at an older and much larger Reform congregation in Baltimore, Maryland. A search for a new rabbi began. Due to the timing of the move, Temple Chai had an interim rabbi, Rabbi Alan Secher. He served for a year before Rabbi Fred Reiner joined Temple Chai in July 1982. Rabbi Reiner served as the temple's spiritual leader for two years before leaving for a pulpit in Washington, DC. Rabbi Harold Caminker succeeded Rabbi Reiner in July 1984.

In the late spring of 1992, Rabbi Caminker informed the board that he had accepted a position with another congregation and would be leaving Temple Chai at the end of June 1992. Since there wasn't enough time to conduct a thorough rabbinic search, the board decided to bring in interim rabbis for the 1992-1993 year and to conduct an intensive search to find the right rabbi for Temple Chai. Rabbi David Saperstein, the Director of the UAHC Religious Action Center was the temple's High Holy Day rabbi. Rabbi Alan Secher and Rabbi Steven Denker served as the interim rabbis during the 1992-1993 year. Since the temple's rabbi was also the teacher for the confirmation class, the temple hired Jerry Kaye, the director of the UAHC Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute Camp, as the confirmation program educator. He worked with the interim rabbis and the temple's educational director.

Welcoming Rabbi Hart

In April 1993, Rabbi Stephen Hart was selected to be the next rabbi of Temple Chai. Rabbi Hart came to Temple Chai after being the associate rabbi of North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe, for eight years. He had been one of Temple Chai's song leaders in the late seventies before going to the Hebrew Union College/Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rabbi Hart made an immediate impact on Temple Chai, especially in the areas of youth programming, outreach, and membership.

Welcoming Dr. Jeff Kondritzer as the Director of Education

Dr. K came to Temple Chai after having served as the education director for Temple Emanuel in Chicago for many years. Dr. K remained with the temple for seventeen years, retiring in June 2011. He is still an integral part of the Temple Chai community. He helped to grow Temple Chai's education programs as well as his famous portrayal of Rabbi Soul.

Temple Chai at 25 years

In October 1996, as part of the congregation's 25th year celebration, the board authorized the writing of a "Sefer Torah". The two Torahs that were being used were the Holocaust Memorial Scroll acquired in 1972 and the Torah bought from Temple Judea. They were both heavily used due to the number of services and b'nei mitzvah and numerous other life cycle events. The writing of the Sefer Torah kicked off Temple Chai's 25th anniversary celebration. The culmination weekend occurred with the Torah dedication at Shabbat Services on December 19, 1997, when the last letters were inscribed by the sofer. The Torah scroll was unrolled and held by congregants for all to see. The 25th year celebration also included a special calendar that was given to all members. On October 20, 1996, the temple held a dinner honoring Rabbi Hart for his ten years in the rabbinate. During the celebratory year, the Temple Chai Players presented the play Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat with Rabbi Hart playing the role of Joseph.





Welcoming Cantor Simon

Cantor Scott Simon joined Temple Chai's clergy team in July 1999, replacing cantorial soloist Ian Geller. Cantor Simon came to temple from Temple Beth Israel in Skokie with his wife Gail and their three children. Cantor Simon recently celebrated his 20th year at Temple Chai in 2019 and continues to inspire the congregation with his dedication, leadership, and of course, his amazing Purim spiels.

The Creation of the Temple Chai Israel Trip

In his 2009 High Holy Day message, Rabbi Hart introduced the custom of developing a study theme for the entire year. The topic for the 2009-2010 year was "This I Believe". The theme was incorporated in sermons and Lifelong Jewish Learning. In December 2009, Steve and Maxine Sukenik along with Rabbi Hart and his wife Mendy led a trip to Israel. The Israel trip has now become a biennial event and has included the celebrations of b'nei mitzvah in Eretz Yisrael.

Welcoming Laura Perpinyal

Temple Chai's beloved educational director, Dr. Jeff Kondritzer, retired in June 2011, after serving Temple Chai for 17 years and welcomed Laura Siegel Perpinyal during the summer of 2011 as the Director of Congregational Learning. Laura graduated from HUC/JIR Rhea Hirsch School of Education at the Los Angeles campus and has emphasized Temple Chai's approach of focusing on Jewish study for the entire temple community, not just the children. Laura continues to develop and grow Temple Chai's educational, youth, adult, and community programming. She recently celebrated ten years at Temple Chai this past year.

Welcoming Rabbi Baden

In 2015, Temple Chai brought in Rabbi Ilana Baden as the Senior Associate Rabbi. She previously served at Isaac M. Wise Temple in Cincinnati, Ohio and at Temple Beth-El of Battle Creek, Michigan before joining the Temple Chai community with her husband Jeff and two kids, Ellie and Zachary. In 2018, Rabbi Baden became Temple Chai's Senior Rabbi after the retirement of Rabbi Hart. Rabbi Baden has been instrumental in helping Temple Chai navigate the ever-changing landscape of Reform Judaism and strengthening our congregation.

This article is a very brief overview of an extremely vibrant and inspiring fifty years at Temple Chai. Thank you to all those who have worked to make Temple Chai the welcoming warm congregation that we all cherish. We look forward to praying, learning, and celebrating with you at Temple Chai during the next fifty years.

The Logo

On June 12, 1972, the board asked Stuart Argentar, a commercial artist and temple member to design the logo, which is still in use today.

B'nei Mitzvah Celebrants

Congratulations to our August B'nei Mitzvah Celebrants!



Travis Passman is a student at Aptakisic Junior High. He enjoys swimming, watching sports, playing video games, and meteorology. He's active in the Boy Scouts and volunteers frequently at the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

JOIN A TEMPLE CHAVURAH

CREATING FAMILY WITHIN THE CONGREGATION

A Temple Chavurah is a group of individuals or families at the synagogue brought together with common interests who plan social outings and attend Temple programming together.

Fill out the Chavurah form at:
<https://bit.ly/TCChavurah>



Confirmands from left: Jacob Shapiro, Jeremy Iskowitz, Eden Plotsky, and Mark Gingiss

Donations

Thank you to all of our donors between
April 1 – May 31, 2022.

Azriel, Benjamin & Rachel

– in honor of Rabbi Baden (RBDF)

Azriel-Prager, Laura & Prager, Howard

– in memory of Elyce Azriel (GDF)
– in memory of Bea Azriel (GDF)
– in memory of Edward Frank (GDF)
– in memory of Ann Frank (GDF)

Bergman, Allan & Jan

– in memory of Bernice Lillian London (RBDF)

Berman, Douglas & Janice

– in memory of Kenneth Streicher (EF)

Berman, Richard & Lisa

– in memory of Sylvia Berman wonderful
Mother and Grandmother of Lisa, Richard
and Michael Berman (CSDF)

Block, Ryan & Anne

– in memory of Rose Kolb (FtHF)

Bloom, Hilary

– in memory of Belle Bloom (CC)

Bradley, Steven & Janice

– in memory of Marion Holtzman, Hyman
Holtzman, Estelle Bradley, Alan Bradley,
Elaine Rubinstein (LLJLF)

Brot, David & Ilene

– in honor of Cantor Simon's Cabaret of
Cantors Concert (HOSF)
– in memory of Bryan Rosenblum (PNF)

Bryan, Mitchell & Barbara

– in honor of Cantor's Cabaret Concert (CSDF)

Caitung, Arlene

– in memory of Rose Jacobson (RBDF)
– in memory of ArleMax Paul (RBDF)

Cravath, Irma

– in memory of Lon Stephen Cravath (CC)

Epstein, Richard & Reesa

– For the Birth of our new grandson, Shlomo
(CSDF)
– in memory of Thelma (Tibey) Epstein (PNF)

Ezell, Barbara

– in memory of Martin Borodkin (CC)
– in honor of Jeremy Iskowitz (RBDF)
– in honor of Aaron Iskowitz's Bar Mitzvah
(RBDF)

Falk, Marlene

– in memory of Robert Charles Falk (CSDF)

Firsell, Michael & Sandra

– for the yearzeit of Lowell Stolerow (FEF)
– for the yearzeit of Pauline Stolerow (FEF)

Fisher, Paula & Brian

– in honor of Rabbi Baden (RBDF)

Frid, Roman & Anna

– in memory of Maya Smolynsky (GDF)

Gelfond, Solomon & Vicky

– in memory of Elaine Gelfond (RHDF)

Glickson, Bruce & Lynne

– in memory of Ben Goldfarb (DKEF)

Glink, Martin & Gail

– in honor of Bill Bradley's engagement to
Sara Lauter (PNF)

Gluskin, Adam & Lisa

– for the yearzeit of Debra Gluskin (GDF)

Gluskin, Jason & Melissa

– for the yearzeit of Debra Gluskin (CC)

Gluskin, Lawrence

– for the yearzeit of Debra Gluskin (RBDF)
– for the yearzeit of Lenore Gluskin (RBDF)

Golan, Scott & Deborah

– for the yearzeit of our beloved father,
Norman B Marshall (EF)
– for the yearzeit of my good friend, Susan
Rosenblatt Polson (RHDF)

Gold, Phyllis

– in appreciation of Cantor Simon for
conducting Shiva for Stephen Gold (CSDF)
– in memory of Dave Gold (RHDF)
– in memory of Samuel Kleiman (RHDF)

Gordon, Bruce & Linda

– in memory of Nate Gordon (CGSAF)
– in honor of the marriage of Alan Marlowe
and Jodie Ray (FtHF)
– in honor of the engagement of Bill Bradley
and Sara Lauter (FtHF)
– in memory of Elaine Gordon (FtHF)

Gordon, Jeffery & Barbara

– for the yearzeit of Ruth Gordon (RBDF)
– for the yearzeit of Jerry Gordon (RBDF)

Greenberg, Robert & Sandra

– in memory of Louis J. Greenberg (CSDF)

Grossman, Bruce & Cheryl

– in memory of Hildred Grossman (PNF)

Halperin, Renee

– in memory of Donald M. Halperin (RBDF)

Hochman, Joel & Janet

– in memory of Samuel Zigmund Hochman
(RBDF)
– in memory of Doris Core (RHDF)

Hoffman, Donald & Holley

– in memory of Maureen Perper (RBDF)

Iskowitz, Warren & Michelle

– in honor of Aaron Iskowitz's Bar Mitzvah
(CSDF)
– in honor of Aaron Iskowitz's Bar Mitzvah
(RBDF)

Kadens, Michael & Judith

– in memory of Albert A. Berg and Sally F.
Kadens (CGSAF)

Kaplan, Nolan & Norma

– in honor of the upcoming wedding of Nadav
Simon and Molly Whitaker (CSDF)

Katzen, Leon & Beverly

– in memory of Sadie Katzen (RBDF)
– in memory of Sara Katzen (RBDF)
– in memory of Robert Harris (RBDF)

Krawitz, Charles & Laiyew

– in memory of Stanley Fong (CSDF)

Kreisman, Shirley

– in memory of Evelyn Berman (GDF)

Kriss, Mitchel & Toby

– for the yearzeit of Florence Ridzinski, mother
of Toby Kriss (PNF)

Krupp, Rob & Barbara

– for the yearzeit of Barbara's mother,
Ruth Glick (LLJLF)

Kuenneth, Eileen & Charles

– for the yearzeit of Burt Garbow (DKEF)
– in honor of the engagement of Bill Bradley
to Sara Lauter (RMHIAF)
– for the yearzeit of Fay Langer (RBDF)

Lee, Robert & Janet

– in memory of Joseph L. Nathan (HOSF)

Levine, Bruce & Dede

– for the yearzeit of Samuel Norman Plotkin,
beloved father of Dede (Bruce) Levine (CC)

Levit, Mark & Judi

– for the yearzeit of Rose Weiss (RBDF)
– in memory of Shirley Lewis (GDF)

Loewy, Kitty (Kathryn) & Steczo, Terry

– for the yearzeit of Sally Loewy
& Sam Kweskin (CC)
– in honor of our anniversary (CC)

Lombardo, Claire

– in memory of Morris Caesar (RBDF)

Marlowe, Craig & Debra

– in memory of Blanche Moyer Gordon (PNF)

Mell, Michael & Sharon

– for the yearzeit of Rudolph Mell (RBDF)
– for the yearzeit of Rudy Mell (RBDF)

Millstone, Douglas & Susan

– in appreciation of Cantor preparing Carlie
Normyle for her bat mitzvah (CSDF)
– in appreciation of Charla preparing Carlie
Normyle for her Bat Mitzvah (CC)
– in appreciation of Rabbi Baden guiding
Carlie Normyle in her Bat Mitzvah
preparation (RBDF)

Moons, Gerard & Terry

– in memory of Marie Moons (LSRF)

Moore, Marla

– in memory of Jerome M Berns (RBDF)

Nevel, Arlyn

– in memory of Michael E. Friedman (RHDF)

Pohn, Robert & Marilyn

– for the yearzeit of Lorraine Pohn (PNF)

Resnick, Louise

– in honor of the engagement of Bill Bradley to
Sara Lauter (PNF)

Rohr, Allan & Susan

- in memory of Sadie Alperstein (3rdT)
- in memory of Raymond Rohr (3rdT)

Rosenblum, Marcia

- in memory of Bryan Rosenblum (RBDF)

Ross, Mark & Elaine

- for the yahrzeit of Mary Touriel Barrat (CC)

Sachs, Robert & Frances

- for the yahrzeit of Harriett F. Levy (FtHF)

Saffrin, David & Joni

- in memory of Selma Saffrin (RHDF)

Schaeffer, Barbara

- in honor of my Grandson Zach Jarrett's Bar Mitzvah (FtHF)

Schwartz, Marion

- in memory of Bryan Rosenblum (PNF)
- for the yahrzeit of Pine Schwartz (PNF)
- for the yahrzeit of Rose Schwartz (PNF)
- for the yahrzeit of Bill Schwartz (RBDF)

Sherman, Alan & Beverly

- For the Birth of Dan & Susan Hirschberg's grandson Tyler (GDF)

Silver, Charla & Arnold

- in appreciation of Cantor's Cabaret Concert (CSDF)

Sophian, Laurence & Ardis

- in memory of Lee Esador (GDF)

Stender, Claudia

- in memory of Bernard Stender (PNF)

Stewart, Ronald & Sherry

- in memory of Arthur Shattil (RBDF)
- in memory of Helen Shattil (RBDF)
- in memory of Ann Stewart (RBDF)

Sukenik, Steven & Maxine

- in memory of Steve Gold (RMHIAF)
- in honor of Chicago Israeli Film Festival (RMHIAF)

Taitel, Karen

- in memory of Steven Taitel (HOSF)
- in memory of Steven Taitel (PNF)

Teplinsky, Steven & Susan

- in memory of Lillian Teplinsky (RBDF)

Thomashow, Andrew & Blythe

- in memory of Margo Philbrick (CC)
- For the Birth of Dan & Susan Hirschberg's grandson, Tyler (RMHIAF)

Waitz, Steven & Davidson Waitz, Andrea

- in memory of Adele Waitz (RBDF)

Yakubov, Avnun

- in honor of Yakubov's 77th Birthday (GDF)
- in honor of my 77th Birthday (CSDF)
- in honor of my 77th Birthday (RBDF)

Zimmer, Seth & Ellen

- for the yahrzeit of Edward Gralnick (RBDF)

Donations can be made in honor, on behalf of, on behalf of, for the yahrzeit of, or in memory or in memory of a person or event. You can see a description of all available funds from our website at templechai.shulcloud.com/payment.php.

Many employers will match your donations. Please check with your employer about potentially increasing the value of your donations to Temple Chai. Donations to Temple Chai, a 501(c)3 organization, are tax deductible. A minimum donation of \$18 is required to send an acknowledgment letter. All donations will be recognized in the bi-monthly ChaiLites publication.

Funds That Received Donations

Cantor Simon's Discretionary Fund (CSDF)	In support of various projects and people in our congregation and community
Caring Community (CC)	Assist congregant families in times of need and celebration
Carlyne Gilbert Social Action Fund (CGSAF)	Support <i>Tikkun Olam</i> (Repair of the World) activities and programs
Dr. Kondritzer Education Fund (DKEF)	Donations provide special equipment and programs for our school
Endowment Fund (EF)	Ensure Temple Chai's future
Feed the Hungry Fund (FtHF)	Donations support area food pantries, shelters and individuals in need
Firsel Education Foundation (FEF)	Assist parents of Temple Chai students with tuition for school and camp
General Donation Fund (GDF)	Support ongoing Temple programs and services
Hart OSRUI Scholarship Fund (HOSF)	Assist parents of Temple Chai students with tuition for OSRUI
Levinson Scholar-in-Residence Fund (LSRF)	Support opportunities to study and learn with prominent Jewish scholars
Life Long Jewish Learning (LLJL)	Meaningful programs to enhance Jewish education for adults of Temple Chai
Memorial Plaque (MP)	Remember your loved one with a plaque on our Memorial Wall (Yahrzeit board) in the Heinrich Memorial Foyer
Pikuach Nefesh Fund (PNF)	Support individuals and families to meet their Temple Chai financial obligation
Prayer Book Fund (PBF)	<i>Siddurim</i> (prayer books) and <i>Chumashim</i> (Torah commentary) for Temple Chai
Rabbi & Mendy Hart Israel Action Fund (RMHIAF)	Promote greater involvement in, and connection to, the State of Israel
Rabbi Baden's Discretionary Fund (RBDF)	In support of various projects and people in our congregation and community
Rabbi Hart Discretionary Fund (RHDF)	In support of various projects and people in our congregation and community
Waterman Family Music Fund (WFMF)	Support Temple Chai Music and Fine Arts programming
Tree of Life Leaf (ToLL)	Commemorate special events with a Leaf (\$180), a Raised Leaf (\$360), or a Rock (\$1800) on our Tree of Life in the Heinrich Memorial Foyer

Please accept a contribution of \$ _____


In Memory/Yahrzeit/Honor/Appreciation of: _____

Donor Name: _____

Donor Contact Information: _____

Please list which fund(s) you'd like your donation to go to: _____

Form of Payment: Enclosed Check Charge Credit Card on File



Women of Temple Chai Uniongrams

To: Debbie and Michael Blitstein

In memory of Marshall Medges

From: Sandi and Mike Firsel

To: Janice and Steve Bradley

*Mazel Tov on the engagement of your son,
Bill to Sara Lauter*

**From: Sandi and Mike Firsel
Donna and Chuck Schwartz**

To: Lisa and Phil Cole

In memory of your father, Dr. Robert Katin

From: Biv Dorfman Michaels

To: Jim Elliott

Mazel Tov on becoming President of Temple Chai

From: Donna and Chuck Schwartz

To: Bobbi Ezell

*Mazel Tov on your grandson, Aaron becoming
a Bar Mitzvah*

**From: Sandi and Mike Firsel
Phyllis Gold
Barb Heinrich
Marcia Rosenblum**

To: Cheryl and Robert Giddeons

*Mazel Tov on the marriage of your son
to Kineret Brokman*

From: Debbie and Craig Marlowe

To: Marla Goldberg

In memory of your father, Harvey L. Goldberg

**From: Sandi Firsel
Barb Heinrich
Mae Schwab
Women of Temple Chai**

To: Sandy and Bob Greenberg

*Mazel Tov on your grandson, Tyler becoming
a Bar Mitzvah*

From: Marcia Rosenblum

To: Susan and Dan Hirschberg

*Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson,
Tyler Mason Hirschberg*

**From: Sandi and Mike Firsel
Barb and Rich Heinrich
Phyllis Gold
Mindy and Mark Kessler
Shirley Kreisman
Debbie and Dave Robins
Elaine and Mark Ross
Fran and Bobby Sachs
Donna and Chuck Schwartz
Women of Temple Chai**

To: Marcia Katin

In memory of your Husband, Dr. Robert Katin

**From: Sandi and Mike Firsel
Susan Millstone**

To: Julie and Darren Kaye

Mazel Tov on Landon becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: Fran and Bobby Sachs

To: Bruce Levine

Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery

From: Phyllis Gold

To: Leon Linderbaim and Family

In memory of your wife, Bonnie Londenbaim

From: Irma Cravath

To: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schwartz

In memory of your cousin, Alan

From: Carol and Norm Letofsky

To: Jane and Sal Sidoti

*Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson, Parker
Leo Sidoti*

**From: Sandi and Mike Firsel
Marcia Rosenblum**

To: Andrea and Steve Waitz

In memory of your mother, Adele Waitz

From: Sandi and Mike Firsel

To: Debbie and Brian Weinberg

In memory of your mother, Rochelle

From: Biv Michaels

To: August Bar Mitzvah; Travis Passman

Mazel Tov on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: Women of Temple Chai

How can I obtain the YES Fund products?

If you want to send a Uniongram for a celebration, simcha, death, or life cycle events, just send an email to Fran Sachs at fransta@hotmail.com and she will send one out to the receiver of the Uniongram and inform them of your contribution. It will cost \$5.00 and Fran will bill you for your contribution. Also, you can purchase packets of Uniongrams, special cards, or make your own contribution to Women of Reform Judaism to the YES Fund. We can help you with your generous gift and help you make a difference.



TEMPLE CHAI'S

REFER-A-FRIEND

GROW TEMPLE CHAI WITH THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE
(AND SAVE A LITTLE MONEY TOO!)

Know someone who would love to join Temple Chai? Have them contact
Executive Director - Alison Lewin at ALewin@templechai.org
\$360 account credit to member/\$180 account credit to incoming family*.

*Account credit cannot exceed 25% of 2022-2023
Membership Financial Commitment

Calendar

July 2022

7/1/2022	10:00 AM	jBaby Zumbini
7/1/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
7/1/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
7/4/2022	9:00 AM	Office and Building Closed for Independence Day
7/8/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
7/8/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
7/12/2022	7:00 PM	WTC Board Meeting
7/13/2022	7:00 PM	CG Night Out
7/15/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
7/15/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
7/17/2022	7:00 PM	Cantor's Coffee House
7/20/2022	7:00 PM	CG Board Meeting
7/22/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Under the Stars & 50th Celebration Kick-Off, with Simcha Blessings
7/22/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
7/29/2022	5:30 PM	Tot Shabbat
7/29/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
7/29/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze

August 2022

8/2/2022	5:30 PM	Temple Chai at National Night Out
8/5/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
8/5/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
8/9/2022	7:00 PM	WTC Board Meeting
8/10/2022	7:00 PM	CG Night Out
8/11/2022	7:00 PM	WTC Book Club
8/12/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
8/12/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
8/13/2022	10:30 AM	Travis Passman Bar Mitzvah
8/14/2022	8:00 AM	Taste of the Towns (Lake Zurich Area Chamber of Commerce)
8/16/2022	7:00 PM	WTC Book Club (Zoom only)
8/17/2022	7:00 PM	CG Board Meeting
8/18/2022	1:30 PM	Third Thursday
8/19/2022	5:30 PM	Tot Shabbat
8/19/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service
8/19/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
8/21/2022	10:00 AM	Bagels and Books Beyachad
8/21/2022	7:00 PM	Sundays @7 CRISPR (n person)
8/23/2022	7:00 PM	WTC Event
8/26/2022	6:30 PM	Shabbat Worship Service with Simcha Blessings
8/26/2022	7:30 PM	Shabbat Schmooze
8/28/2022	5:00 PM	Chai Guys Barbecue & Festival

SAVE THE DATE!
Temple Chai Retreat at OSRUI
November 4 - 6, 2022
 Experience the magic of a weekend together
 with your Temple Chai community!

50 YEARS 1972-2022

OSRUI A URJ CAMP

Life Cycle

MAZEL TOV TO:

Steven & Janice Bradley on the engagement of their son Bill to Sara Lauter

Bobbi Ezell and Warren & Michelle Iskowitz on the birth of their great grandson & great nephew, Hudson Michael Dean

Dan and Susan Hirschberg on the birth of their grandson Tyler Mason Hirschberg

Sandy Mosefick on the birth of her grandson, Abram George Hanson McAnallen

Sal & Jane Sidoti on the birth of their grandson, Parker Leo Sidoti

OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Dina Bergman on the death of her friend, Diann McHaney

Donal and Linda Brubaker on the death of their aunts, Margaret Turley and Evelyn Hersh

Marcia Katin and Lisa (Phil) Cole on the death of their husband and father, Dr. Robert Katin

Violet (David) Lewis on the death of her mother, Evelyn Goldberg

Steven (Andrea) Waitz on the death of his mother, Adele Waitz

May the memory of your loved ones be for a blessing.

BAGELS AND BOOKS

Sunday, August 21

10 AM

Join Temple Chai for a morning of hands-on Jewish crafts, bagels and storytime with Rabbi Baden!



SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAY EDITION IS JULY 15.



Temple Chai 50th Jubilee Year!

July
22nd

Shabbat Under the Stars & Kick-Off Celebration
Congregational picnic before services
Featuring the Chai & Mighty Players with 70's music!

Chai Guys BBQ
WTC Mini Golf
Scholar-in-Residence
OSRUI Retreat

Art Installation
Founders Shabbat
and more throughout the year!



APRIL 2023
Nefesh Mountain will be
coming to Temple Chai



For more information - www.TempleChai.org