

# High Holy Days Messages

RABBI AARON E. FINE

Dear Temple Sinai Chevra (Friends),

How fast a year goes! As I walked out of the last board meeting, at which the board enthusiastically supported the new Temple Sinai Youth Initiative, I was struck by how much good has happened at Temple Sinai this past year.

The simple but profound message at the heart of the High Holidays is that we have the capacity to change and renew our lives – as individuals and as communities. I want to take this opportunity to reflect on our process of communal teshuva – renewal.

Last year on the High Holidays, one of the messages I emphasized was that “you don’t find your dream community, you build your dream community.” It is with gratification that I look back on this past year and see that our community has responded to that call, and that positive momentum is taking deep root.

In the past year, I have been energized by the creative project of building community with all of you. This year, members took the initiative to reconstitute our Social Action Committee and our Chesed Caring Committee, working to help people in our synagogue and the broader community, and setting the stage for taking on more significant projects in the year ahead.

*Gan Sinai* – the Sinai vegetable garden – has been a great success. Members of all ages joined to till the soil, plant, care for the garden and harvest the veggies. Some kids (and adults) have had the chance to see for the first time in their lives how

vegetables grow; and, we have used the veggies for Kiddush and given to those in need in line with Jewish agricultural values of *tzedakah*. But as important as any of this is, is the sense of community that has grown along with the garden (I love our regular *Shabbat* garden tour that has developed after *Kiddush*).

We had a tremendously successful Adult Education event with Rabbi Arthur Green, preceded by four weeks of a study group on his book of theology. The positive energy from that event has led me to begin to explore the creation of a significant collaborative Adult Education program here on the North Shore with other communal leaders.

At *Shabbat* services, Cantor Aronson has led us in adding new energy with new tunes, and he and I are excited to add a next stage of innovation to services in the Fall. *Knesset Katan*, our *Shabbat* services for little ones, led by Elisa, has been steadily growing in its cohort, with kids loving to come to *shul* on *Shabbat* and feeling truly at home at Temple Sinai.

Our morning *minyan* has continued successfully under the committed leadership of Rebecca, Haviv and Eddie and the contributions of all the *minyannaires*. In addition, our Tuesday night contemplative *minyan* has become a peaceful prayer space where we have experimented with more reflective Jewish spiritual practices, and we plan to expand Jewish meditation opportunities in the year ahead.

After a year of evaluating our Youth and Family programming, we have developed the Temple Sinai Youth Initiative that includes the creation of "613" - an expanded and creative B'nei Mitzvah program, "Jews on the Hill" - a new Sinai Teen Group and the Sinai Chavura Network, all of which you will hear more about soon. A wonderful group of Sinai members has stepped up to reconstitute our Youth Committee to enthusiastically oversee this exciting new project.

And Temple Sinai has taken strides in the cyber world as well, with our new web and facebook pages. In short, there is a tremendous amount in the works at Temple Sinai, and this is because members are finding ways to build the community that they are in search of.

If all of these changes were just for the sake of making an institution successful, that wouldn't warrant talking about it in the High Holiday Booklet. But they are about much more than building community for the sake of "continuity", or because we

want our synagogue to be successful. This process of renewal is important for a much deeper reason - because as Jews, we have always recognized that real community is truly important to living rich and meaningful lives. All the more so today in the rapidly changing, globalized world we live in. Community built with the riches of tradition we have received from our ancestors helps us forge connections with one another in the present, and gives us the tools to together build the type of world we want to see for those who come after us.

Much of what was set in place this year are the seeds for more substantial growth and change for our community. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you to turn the community of our dreams into the community of our reality in the year ahead.

Together with Emily and Fox, I wish you a *shana tova u'mituka* - a good sweet and healthy New Year.

## CANTOR DAVID ARONSON

### IS "DOUBLE DIPPING" THE APPLE INTO THE HONEY PERMISSIBLE DURING THE HIGH HOLIDAY SEASON?

Although I can state with confidence that the above issue has not been debated in the *Talmud*, I could probably find a Rabbi willing to hypothesize that one of the reasons Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden of Eden was due to their double dipping. In the case of Adam and Eve, the Rabbi would probably say that their intention was to double dip solely for their own intentions and not for the common good.

We can look back at the past couple of years and truly feel that due to events around the world, we are worse off now than we were in prior years. The economy tanked around the globe, Israel has had its share of problems and the oil disaster down south as well as our own struggles within our community have made life, at times, very difficult to navigate. We can certainly focus on the bad that can then have the potential of masking the good.

Let's look at the potential good: Many economists now suggest the economy is in fact slowly on its way to recovery. Regarding Israel, some of the great technological leaps in all areas are due to the developments initiated in Israel. When I was in Israel a while back, everywhere we looked, we noticed construction of buildings as well as the infrastructure. In our Sinai community, we have increased our membership and have expanded our programming for all of our members. Last year, I had the privilege to teach two adult *B'nai /B'not Mitzvah* classes. Another adult *B'not Mitzvah* class will commence this year, in the fall. As for our youth, we have developed a Youth Initiative Program that will include programming for all ages of our youth. While at Temple Sinai, I encourage you to visit *Gann Sinai*, a beautiful garden started by Rabbi Fine. This garden not only allows us to benefit by enjoying the vegetables at our *Shabbat Kiddush* but also benefits the less fortunate because a large percentage of the vegetables are donated to area food banks.

So, is it permissible to double dip the apple into the honey during the High Holiday season? - absolutely. During this time of year, I would ask you to enjoy and share the fruits of the land with others. Invite guests to your homes to reconnect and enjoy the company of each other. Allow yourselves to be spiritually uplifted by participating in the service. Sing or hum the melodies of the High Holiday service. Try to attend services to not only increase your spirituality but also to assist those who are in need of a *minyán*.

During this High Holiday season, make an effort to double dip in the good life by striving to be the best that you can be. By sharing your enthusiasm with others, you can and will make the year 5771 a sweet year.

Rayna, Leonard, Elana and I wish our Temple Sinai family a *Shana Tova U'mtukah* - a sweet New Year.

## JONAS GOLDBERG, RABBI EMERITUS

### YOU WILL MEET GOD!

We were driving on the New Jersey Turnpike this summer when I saw a billboard that said, "When you die, you will see God." There was a verse cited from the Christian Bible and I decided not to look up the context but rather I searched my mind to see what this quote might mean to a Jew.

In Jewish tradition, there are quotations from the *Talmud* that ask "When we see God, what will he ask?" And I thought, why do I have to die to see God? If I understand Rabbi Fine's teachings and

what he was taught by my old friend, Rabbi Arthur Green, one does not have to wait for the end of life's journey to see and experience God.

As I approach the fourth anniversary of the 'happening' that changed my life, I have sought the opportunity to recount its details and what I've learned.

Previously I said, "When the door came down, God was sitting on my shoulder and said, 'Now that I have your attention, I have new work for you to do!'" Now I say,

"God was sitting on my shoulder and said two words at the same time: *Eykeha* and *Ayeka*." These two Hebrew words have the same identical four letters: *Aleph, Yod, Khaf, Hay*. They are vocalized differently and have different meanings. *Eykeha* is a cry of pain and anguish: How is this possible?! *Ayeka* asks the question: Where are you in relation to Me?!

As I went through the process of rehabilitation, I understood God's cry and question. The words that another old friend, Rabbi Harold S. Kushner, quoted in the name of Viktor Frankl, "I cannot control what the world does to me, I can always control how I respond. Wise people learn to focus on what we have left rather than what we have lost." These words resonated within me.

What I have lost is the strength of my right leg, some stamina, and the ability to speak a sentence in English as well as I had done in the past. But I didn't lose the compassion, caring and concern that made me who I was as a human being and a Rabbi.

I have another friend, journalist, Mitch Albom. Mitch is a graduate of Philadelphia's Akiba Hebrew Academy and lives in Detroit, both of which I shared with him. His latest book, *Have A Little Faith*, is about two clergymen, one his childhood Rabbi. The Rabbi, Albert L. Lewis, selected Mitch to deliver his eulogy and he had to spend time getting to know his Rabbi as he neared the end of his life.

The two were talking about heaven, and Mitch asked what he would ask God if he got five minutes. "In the final minute, I would say, 'Look, Lord, I've done 'X' amount of good stuff on earth. I have tried to follow your teachings and to pass them on. I have loved my family. I've been part of a community. And I have been, I think, fairly good to people. So, Heavenly Father, for all this, what is my reward?' And what do you think God will say? He smiled. 'He'll say, 'Reward? What reward? That's what you were supposed to do!'"

If you are as fortunate as I am, you may discover where you are in relation to God and we don't have to wait to meet Him. Chelly joins me in wishing you and the entire household of Israel *Sh'nat Shalom v'Shalva*, a Year of peace and tranquility.

#### MICHAEL H. SILVERMAN, MD, PRESIDENT

This is my second High Holy Day note, so naturally, I looked back to see what I had written last year, and whether – in retrospect – it was all relevant. Here is how I started out:

*"The High Holy Days provide us all with a unique opportunity to reflect on both the old and the new; to look both backward and forward; to blend the comfort and reassurance of a familiar, age-old tradition with the promise and*

*anticipation of a new beginning. It is particularly fitting, therefore, that Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur of 5770 bring Temple Sinai to one of those rare moments when the past and the future intersect in a powerful and meaningful way. On the one hand, we gather as a congregation to celebrate together as we have for years, with all the familiar faces, prayers, and rituals. On the other, we look forward with great expectation as members of a synagogue*

*experiencing a new energy, spirit, and sense of purpose."*

Reflecting on those words, and the note in general, I am pleased to report that the tone of optimism was warranted. Events of the past year at Temple Sinai have indeed embodied a renewed sense of purpose and energy, reflected in both the reinvigoration of existing programs and the creation of new and innovative ones. One only needs to think for a few minutes about some of the past year's most notable occurrences to appreciate this fact:

- The wonderful 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tribute to the Aronsons in March;
- Successful fundraising efforts through the Annual Golf Tournament, the High Holy Day appeals, and the Party Expo;
- Our active participation in community-wide events, including the new *Purim Carnival* and *Shavuot Chagenu*;
- Temple Sinai's hosting of Rabbi Arthur Green's lecture to over one hundred community attendees in June;
- The "growing success of *Gan Sinai*;" and
- The launch of a series of new programs under the umbrella of the Temple Sinai Youth Initiative.

Of course, these events and programs do not occur in a vacuum. They are a

testimony to the hard work and commitment of dozens of people to whom we all owe our heartfelt thanks. First and foremost amongst them is Rabbi Aaron Fine, whose leadership is abundantly evident in our educational, youth and community-oriented programs. Fully supporting Rabbi Fine in these activities is Cantor David Aronson, whose contributions to youth programming are especially noteworthy. But, also, vitally important are the indispensable and selfless contributions of time, effort and creativity of the many congregants who lead, assist and attend these and a host of other events.

In short, I think 5770 has been good to Temple Sinai. We have the solid foundation, we have the momentum and we have the spirit to make 5771 an even more successful year. I invite you to share my ongoing sense of optimism, and to participate as fully as you can in the occasions and events that will make 5771 a special year.

Please join me in thanking – and wishing the best for the New Year – to all those who contribute so much of their time and energy for the betterment of Temple Sinai: our Clergy, Employees, Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs, Members and Volunteers. Finally, allow me, on behalf of the lay leadership and my family, to wish everyone a sweet and happy *Shana Tovah*.

## OFFICIATING AT HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

Rabbi Aaron Ezra Fine

Cantor David L. Aronson

### *Ba'alay Shaha<sup>ri</sup>t*

Dr. Alison Brookes

Dr. David Greenseid

Linda Greenseid

### *Ba'alay K<sup>ri</sup>ah*

Dr. Edward Berman  
Dr. David Greenseid

George Gammel  
Julie Levy

Sara Gindes  
Barbara Rosenstroch

### *Ba'alay T'<sup>k</sup>iyah*

Ira Dinnes

## Floral Offerings

### *ROSH HASHANAH*

in loving memory of our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents,  
LENA and GEORGE M. SIEGEL and CONNIE and ADRIAN COMINS  
by Arthur Siegel, Brenda and Norman,  
Scott, Steven, Alan, George, Melissa, and Sarah Comins

### *YOM KIPPUR*

in loving memory of  
SHIRLEY GINSBERG  
by the Ginsberg Family

### *SUKKOT*

in memory of  
RUTH and SAMSON LEAMON  
by their children

### High Holy Day Ushers

Bernie Woodrow\*, Emeritus  
Harry Schrater, Emeritus  
Ira Dinnes and Michael Lawee  
members of Temple Sinai Sisterhood and Brotherhood

\*of blessed memory

## BABYSITTING SERVICE

Our classrooms will be available for the care of your children *ONLY* if they are registered by responsible personnel. Contact the synagogue office for registration information. On the days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, children should be brought directly to the classrooms. It would be helpful if your child brings his/her favorite toy and book.

## HONORS POLICY

Honors and *aliyot* are assigned to all families on a rotating basis with honors re-assignable to any member of the family of Bar or Bat Mitzvah age. Exceptions are Kohen *aliyot*, Levi *aliyot*, and past presidents' Kol Nidre honors.

!!!! LEARN OUR GREAT NEW HIGH HOLIDAY TUNES !!!!

Cantor Aronson will be leading us in a few great new tunes these High Holidays, and we hope that you will take the time to enjoy listening to these tunes and learning them so that you may sing along on the High Holidays. The recordings can be found on our website at [www.temple Sinai web.org/](http://www.temple Sinai web.org/)

**TEENS  
are encouraged to join the  
congregation for  
Rabbi Fine's sermons.**

High Holy Day Schedule - 5771

COMMUNAL SELIHOT SERVICE - ,σφηκξ

SATURDAY EVENING, September 4  
[see the attached flyer]

"I will rise at midnight to praise you..."

Psalm 119.62

*KEVER AVOT - ,υχτ ρχε*

The Annual Memorial Service  
 at Temple Sinai Memorial Park  
 Route 114, Danvers  
 Sunday, September 5, 2010 at NOON

---

*ROSH HASHANAH - ωβαω ατρ**EREV ROSH HASHANAH - Wednesday, September 8*

<i>MA'ARIV EVENING SERVICE</i>	<i>6:00 PM</i>
--------------------------------	----------------

*First Day - Thursday, September 9*

<i>SHACHARIT</i>	<i>8:45 AM</i>
<i>TORAH SERVICE</i>	<i>9:30 AM</i>
<i>SHOFAR</i>	<i>10:30 AM</i>
<i>KNESSET KATAN</i> [age 4 through 9]	<i>10:45 - 11:30 AM</i>
<i>RABBI'S SERMON</i>	<i>10:45 AM</i>
<i>TEEN PROGRAM</i>	<i>11:15 AM</i>
<i>MUSAF</i>	<i>11:15 AM</i>
<i>NOAR YOUTH SERVICE</i> [age 9 to B'nei Mitzvah]	<i>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM</i>

<i>TASHLICH and MINCHA at PRESTON BEACH</i>	<i>5:00 PM</i>
---	----------------

*Second Day - Friday, September 10*

<i>SHACHARIT</i>	<i>8:45 AM</i>
<i>TORAH SERVICE</i>	<i>9:30 AM</i>
<i>SHOFAR</i>	<i>10:30 AM</i>
<i>KNESSET KATAN</i>	<i>10:45 - 11:30 AM</i>
<i>RABBI'S SERMON</i>	<i>10:45 AM</i>
<i>TEEN PROGRAM</i>	<i>11:15 AM</i>
<i>MUSAF</i>	<i>11:15 AM</i>
<i>NOAR YOUTH SERVICE</i>	<i>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM</i>

## SHABBAT SHUVA - πχυα ,χα

Friday, September 10

KABBALAT SHABBAT

6:00 PM

SHABBAT - Saturday, September 11

SHACHARIT

9:30 AM

## YOM KIPPUR - ρυπφ ουη

EREV YOM KIPPUR - Friday, September 17

MINCHA and KOL NIDRE

6:00 PM

YOM KIPPUR - Saturday, September 18

SHACHARIT	9:00 AM
TORAH SERVICE	10:30 AM
KNESSET KATAN	10:30 - 11:30 AM
NOAR YOUTH SERVICE	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
RABBI'S SERMON	11:45 AM
TEEN PROGRAM	12:15 PM
YIZKOR	12:15 PM
MUSAF	12:30 PM
MINCHA	5:15 PM
N'EELA	6:15 PM
MA'ARIV	7:20 PM
HAVDALAH and Final T'KEEYA	7:31 PM

The Temple Sinai Family is invited to Break the Fast in the Chapel following Havdalah.

## SUKKOT - ,υφξ

EREV SUKKOT - Wednesday, September 22

MA'ARIV

6:00 PM

## First Day - Thursday, September 23

CHAGENU at the JCC 10:00 AM  
 MA'ARIV [AT TEMPLE SINAI] 7:00 PM

## Second Day - Friday, September 24

SHAHARIT 7:00 and 9:30 AM  
 KABBALAT SHABBAT 6:00 PM

## HOL HAMOED - ΣΤΥΝΩ ΚΥΦ

### Saturday, September 25

SHAHARIT 9:30 AM

### Sunday, September 26 - Wednesday, September 29

SHACHARIT 7:00 AM  
 MA'ARIV 7:00 PM

### EREV SH'MINI ATZERET - Wednesday, September 29

MA'ARIV 6:00 PM

## SH'MINI ATZERET - ,ρμγ ηβηνα

### Thursday, September 30

SHAHARIT including YIZKOR 9:30 AM

### EREV SIMCHAT TORAH

MA'ARIV 7:00 PM  
 Inauguration of 1<sup>st</sup> year Hebrew School and Cohen-Hillel students.  
 HAKAFOT

## SIMCHAT TORAH-טרו, ,פנא

Friday, October 1

SHAHARIT

9:00 AM

MA'ARIV

6:00 PM

### A Reminder from the Ritual Committee

Temple Sinai is a family-oriented congregation, embracing young and old alike. During the year, our services and decorum are informal. However, during the High Holy Day Season, the Ritual Committee provides the following guidelines to ensure a meaningful experience for all of us:

1. All services will begin promptly. Please bring your tickets for identification purposes and show them to the ushers when asked. All seating is by prior arrangement with the High Holy Day Seating Committee. Please use our time together for the intended purpose: Prayer. There is ample time following the service to greet friends and family.
2. Please bring head coverings, *mahzorim*, and *tallitot*. The synagogue has a limited quantity of each. *Mahzorim* are available for purchase from the synagogue office prior to the holidays.
3. Please refrain from congregating in the halls and in Founders' Hall, and please refrain from conducting unnecessary conversations in these locations. Noise affects congregants sitting near these areas and additionally affects the ability of the Rabbi and the Cantor to convey their message and conduct the service. Even though whispered, many whispered conversations create a noticeable undertone that can distract the most focused congregant.
4. Please follow the instructions of the ushers regarding movement in and out of the Sanctuary during Services. Movement in and out is inappropriate and should be avoided during the following:
  - a. When the Congregation is standing
  - b. When the Ark is open
  - c. During the Sermon and Cantorial Solos
  - d. During the Reading of the Haftarah
  - e. During the Sounding of the shofar
  - f. During *Yizkor*
  - g. During *Kol Nidre*

5. Those Congregants who have High Holy Day Honors should be in the Synagogue in advance of the anticipated time of their honor and should ascend the Bimah from the right.
6. Children are a very important part of our Temple Family and our future. We encourage families to pray, participate, celebrate and be together with their children during the High Holy Days. We only ask that you be sensitive to the spiritual needs of our entire Congregation and to those of us who do not have children. Sometimes, unintended distractions can make it difficult for some Congregants to focus on their own prayer or participate in the special joy and celebration that we are trying to create. We only ask parents to be sensitive to all our needs and respect the instructions of the ushers who volunteer to help us maintain the dignity of our services.

### Temple Sinai Board of Directors 5771 / 2010-2011

<i>President</i>	MICHAEL H. SILVERMAN	
<i>Vice Presidents</i>	MERLE HYMAN BENNETT LOCKE	MICHAEL LAWEE PHILIP MANN
<i>Treasurer</i>	BRUCE HASKIN	
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	RUSSELL GRAND	
<i>Recording/Corresponding Secretary</i>	FRANCES BROWN	
<i>First Term Board Members</i>	NANCY HAMLIN JANE MIKITYANSKY DEBORAH TITELBAUM	CAREN NEWMAN LAWEE PETER SHORT
<i>Second Term Board Members</i>	MICHAEL DALE ROSALIE MILLER HAVIV SHAUL	MURRAY DAVIS LEON REMIS

## Committee Chairs

<i>Adult Education</i>	GEORGE GAMMEL	<i>Legal</i>	MARJORIE WITNER
<i>Brotherhood</i>	ALAN BARNETT	<i>Membership</i>	ELISA TORSTENSSON
<i>Building Fund</i>	BERNARD KUMMINS	<i>Memorial Park</i>	ELLEN LODGEN
<i>By-Laws</i>	MYRANNE JANOFF	<i>Physical Plant</i>	BERNARD KUMMINS
<i>Endowment</i>	RUSSELL GRAND	<i>PR/Website</i>	IRA DINNES
<i>Finance</i>	BENNETT LOCKE	<i>Rabbi Liaison</i>	LEON REMIS
<i>Function Coordinator</i>	JUDITH SHERMAN	<i>Ritual</i>	MICHAEL LAWEE
<i>Hebrew School</i>	PHILIP MANN	<i>Sisterhood</i>	CAROL DINNES/JUDY LOCKE
<i>High Holy Day Seating</i>	EVELYN KUMMINS	<i>Social Action</i>	BARBARA ROSENSTROCH
<i>Interior Design</i>	BRENDA SILVERMAN	<i>Youth</i>	ALLEN KAMER
<i>Landscape</i>	BOB GROMELSKI		

## Past Presidents

1953-1955	ADRIAN COMINS*	1981-1983	JACK SAVAL*
1955-1957	MORRIS COHEN*	1983-1985	BENJAMIN WEINER*
1957-1959	MILTON FRISCH*	1985-1987	HERBERT ZIMMERMAN
1959-1961	WILLIAM ABRAMOWITZ*	1987-1989	JESSIE LIPSON
1961-1963	JACK WHITE*	1989-1991	ALAN KALIKOW
1963-1965	BARNEY MAZONSON*	1991-1993	CLAIRE SANDLER
1965-1967	AL BACKMAN*	1993-1995	EDWARD GOLDEN
1967-1968	IRVING KALIKOW*	1995-1997	BRUCE BARLAM
1968-1969	JAMES GORALNICK*	1997-1999	EVELYN KUMMINS
1969-1971	AL ZAIGER*	1999-2001	JONATHAN LEAMON
1971-1973	SAMUEL ISAACSON	2001-2003	IRA DINNES
1973-1975	ARTHUR ZOLOT	2003-2005	HERBERT NEWBORN
1975-1977	NORMAN COMINS	2005-2007	MYRANNE JANOFF
1977-1979	JEROME SILVERLIEB	2007-2009	ALLEN KAMER
1979-1981	SYDNEY BERG*		

\* of blessed memory

---

## TEMPLE SINAI FUNDS

Temple Sinai has numerous funds through which milestones and life-cycle events may be acknowledged and honored and loved ones may be memorialized.

The MILDRED and IRWIN ZERAMBY WALL OF TRIBUTE, located in Founders' Hall, is a wonderful addition to our synagogue. Plaques of many sizes may be chosen in honor of

an occasion or in memory of a loved one.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND – provides speakers and programs of Jewish content and interest to the Temple and community at large.

RICHARD BERMAN EDUCATION FUND – helps support programming for the North Shore Hebrew School.

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – for charitable endeavors at the Cantor's discretion.

GAN SINAI FUND – the Sinai Vegetable Garden – planting and growing food to be donated to a local food bank or shelter.

KIDDUSH FUND – provides refreshments for Shabbat and Holiday kiddushim.

RUTH AND SAMSON LEAMON MEMORIAL FUND – presents copies of the Jewish Publication Society's Torah to Bnai and B'not Mitzvah.

NORTH SHORE HEBREW SCHOOL FUND – provides funds for student enrichment.

LOUISE NOVELETSKY BIBLE CLASS MEMORIAL FUND – purchases supplementary materials for Bible class.

ETZ HAYIM FUND – provides modern Chumashim [Bibles] for synagogue use. Donation - \$50

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – for charitable endeavors at the Rabbi's discretion.

SCHACHTER-KAPLAN ALEF-BET FUND – provides scholarships for students at the North Shore Hebrew School.

SINAI YOUTH INITIATIVE FUND – supports youth and family programming at Temple Sinai,

YAHRTZEIT FUND – enables those observing yahrtzeit to fulfill the mitzvah of tz'dakah on the anniversary of a loved one's death and the recitation of Yizkor four times a year.

## SISTERHOOD FUNDS

GARDEN FUND – enhances the beauty of the landscaping around the synagogue and serves as a permanent remembrance.

BLOOD BANK – Donations of blood by any of our Temple Sinai family ensures availability of blood to the entire synagogue family, provided that we meet a quota. This requires broad participation in donations as well as solicitation of donors.

A minimum \$10 contribution is requested for donations.



"God was sitting on my shoulder and said two words at the same time: *Eykha* and *Ayeka*. These two Hebrew words have the same identical four letters: *Aleph, Yod, Khaf* and *Hay*. They are vocalized differently and have different meanings. *Eykha* is a cry of pain and anguish: How is this possible?! *Ayeka* asks the questions: Where are you in relation to Me?!

As I went through the process of rehabilitation, I understood God's cry and question. The words that another old friend, Rabbi Harold S. Kushner, quoted in the name of Viktor Frankl, "I cannot control what the world does to me; I can always control how I respond. Wise people learn to focus on what we have left rather than what we have lost." These words resonated within me.

What I have lost is the strength of my right leg, some stamina and the ability to speak a sentence in English as well as I had done in the past. But, I didn't lose the compassion, caring and concern that made me who I was as a human being and a Rabbi.

I have another friend, journalist, Mitch Albom. Mitch is a graduate of Philadelphia's Akiba Hebrew Academy and lives in Detroit, both of which I shared with him. His latest book, *HAVE A Little Faith*, is about two clergymen, one his childhood Rabbi. The Rabbi, Albert L. Lewis, selected Mitch to deliver his eulogy and he had to spend time getting to know his Rabbi as he neared the end of his life.

The two were talking about heaven and Mitch asked what he would ask God if he got five minutes. "In the final minute, I would say, 'Look, Lord, I've done 'X' amount of good stuff on earth. I have tried to follow your teachings and to pass them on. I have loved my family. I've been part of a community. And, I have been, I think, fairly good to people. So, Heavenly Father, for all this, what is my reward?'" And what do you think God will say? He smiled. "He'll say, 'Reward? What reward? That's what you were supposed to do!'"

If you are as fortunate as I am, you may discover where you are in relation to God and we don't have to wait to meet him.

Chelly joins me in wishing you and the entire household of Israel *Sh'nat Shalom v'Shalva*, a  
Year of peace and tranquility.

MICHAEL H. SILVERMAN,  
MD, PRESIDENT

This is my second High Holy Day note, so naturally, I looked back to see what I had written last year, and whether - in retrospect - it was all relevant. Here is how I started out:

"The High Holy Days provide us all with a unique opportunity to reflect on both the old and the new; to look both backward and forward; to blend the comfort and

reassurance of a familiar, age-old tradition with the promise and anticipation of a new beginning. It is particularly fitting, therefore, that Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur of 5770 bring Temple Sinai to one of those rare moments when the past and the future intersect in a powerful and meaningful way. On the one hand, we gather as a congregation to celebrate together as we have for years, with

*all the familiar faces, prayers and rituals.*

*On the other, we look forward with great*