

The Valley



Temple

November 2012/Cheshvan, Kislev 5773

# The Valley Temple

& Rabbi Sandford Kopnick

on a memorable adventure to

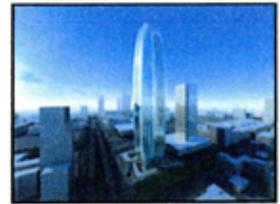
**POLAND &  
ISRAEL**

**June 9 - 23, 2013**



**\$5,499.00**

Land & Air, per person  
based on double occupancy



**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 7:30 PM**

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

Oneg Shabbat hosted by Sue and Andy Spohr  
in memory of E. Leonard Arnoff

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Genesis 18:1 – 22:24

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

6:30 pm - All Religious School Shabbat dinner

7:30 pm - Family Shabbat Service

2nd and 3rd grade classes will participate in the  
service

Music: David Snyder

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Genesis 23:1 – 25:18

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 7:30 PM**

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:00 am – Tot Shabbat with Charlene Gubitzi

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Genesis 25:19 – 28:9

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 7:30 PM**

Shabbat Service

Music: Rabbinic Intern Carolan Glatstein

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Genesis 28:10 – 32:3

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 7:30 PM**

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer



**FROM THE RABBI ...**  
**Sandford R. Kopnick**

The Genesis Torah portions are among my favorites, not just because they are good stories, and one became a hit musical—but because they seem to help us understand a lot about how to read the Bible.

When we look at Genesis 1, we learn about the earth being unformed and void. We learn about the creation of light from that chaos, and we then learn about a progression of creations—each seeming to depend on the previous. It is possible that the ancients understood the idea of a “big bang” and “evolution.”

Then, Genesis 2:4 and following tell the story of Adam and Eve as if the first story had never existed. Modern theory suggests that there may have been two authors, and the stories were linked by an editor in a later generation; our traditional commentaries argue that the second story helps illuminate some of the details omitted in the days of Creation in Genesis 1.

Both stories, and many others in this first book, may have a greater purpose. For fundamentalists, it is essential that the Torah (and entire Bible) be historically accurate without exception. For us heathens, however, it may be that we can find God in the stories—because of their brilliance.

That the story in Genesis 1 lends itself to modern scientific explanation is astounding. But, its purpose may be to remind us that some questions have no answers, and there is greater value in exploring questions that actually add to our understanding of the world and how to live in it.

Genesis 1 and 2 answer questions like, why are there two genders, how long did it take to create the world, why do we wear clothes, who were the first two people, why is there evil, and so much more. By the end of the first Torah portion, we are also asking why is there sibling rivalry, murder, and more. I believe these questions are not answered in a way that would make the curious mind satisfied. I do, however, think that they are answered in a way that tells us: there are no answers to these questions—and there never will be.

But, rather than shutting us down, the Bible goes on to help us with questions about how we are supposed to act. Some think that urges to hurt another or be egocentric would have been better left not-created; they are part of who we are—and we’ll never know why. But, the Bible gives us on going and ever-modern help about how to be created in God’s image, have regard for others, and over come urges that would have us return to chaos, thus destroying a far more orderly world of God’s creation.

So, that which y’all find irrelevant at a fundamentalist level should be revisited as thinking, critical, modern Jews. We can all stop thinking about the Torah in ways taught to us when we were little kids—because adults learn and process differently than little kids. And when you’re ready—we’ll see you on Saturday mornings or Tuesday nights!

Have a good month, and don’t forget to vote!!

Faithfully,

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi

**Abraham Joshua Heschel:**  
**God In Search of Man**

Continues...

November 6 & 13 at 7:30 p.m.



Join Rabbi Kopnick in a discussion of Abraham Joshua Heschel’s masterpiece of Jewish philosophy. In preparation for the first class you should read chapters 1-3 of *God In Search of Man*.

## Lunch & Learn

### Judaism Confronts Contemporary Issues



**November 5 at the law offices of Jon Hoffheimer in the Mercantile Library Building on Walnut (12th floor).  
November 12 at Valley Temple.**

Rabbi Sanford Kopnick guides a discussion based on current events, recent sociological studies, resolutions or official positions of the Union for Reform Judaism.

## Torah Study

**Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.**

**In English**

**No experience required!**

## Reform Judaism's Future with Rabbi Jan Katzew, Ph.D

**Tuesdays, December 4 & 11 at 7:30 p.m.**



Rabbi Jan Katzew, Ph.D., a leading educator in the Reform Movement and distinguished rabbinical alumnus of HUC-JIR, was appointed Director of Service Learning at HUC-JIR/Cincinnati, effective

June 1, 2012. Jan received his Ph.D. in Education and Jewish Thought from the Hebrew University (1997), his M.A. in Hebrew Letters and rabbinical ordination from HUC-JIR (1983), and his B.A. in Religious Studies, magna cum laude, from Wesleyan University (1978).

## The Dead Scrolls Exhibit

**Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal**

**Sunday, December 2 at 1:30 p.m.**

**Cost: \$21 per person**

Dr. Jason Kalman will accompany us on a tour of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit.

From the Cincinnati Museum Center's website:

*Dead Sea Scrolls: Life and Faith in Ancient Times* features the most comprehensive collection of ancient artifacts from Israel ever organized, including one of the largest collections of the priceless 2,000-year-old Dead Sea Scrolls. The exhibition was created by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) from the collections of the Israel National Treasures and produced by Discovery Times Square and The Franklin Institute.

Considered among the world's greatest archaeological discoveries, the Scrolls contain the oldest known copies of the Hebrew Bible. Of the more than 500 objects from the Biblical to Byzantine Period in Israel, many objects are from recent archaeological excavations in Jerusalem and have never been publicly exhibited.



**FROM THE PRESIDENT  
CRAIG HOFFHEIMER**

We celebrate this year of 5773 with a strong congregation. We are growing, expanding and learning. We are coming up with some new and exciting fundraising concepts and looking for any member who wants to help to join committees. We have a great adult education program put together by Jenny Dapper and her committee including a special tour and education session around the Dead Sea Scroll exhibit coming up; don't miss it. We had several new members at our last Soup Kitchen and it was terrific. We fed 270 and Jon Hoffheimer kept his run of 4 perfect portions alive, giving the last scoop of spaghetti to the last person in line. Please keep watching the newsletters to see when they will be scheduled for next year. Our refurbished "gift shop" is now a wonderful office space for our Rabbinic Intern Carolan Glatstein and Alison Weikel, our Director of Education and we are working on ideas on how to make the Temple even more functional in the future as our Sunday School, Sisterhood, and Men's Club keep expanding. Keep watching my column and volunteer on a committee to help us get even better. Here is a hint. The fundraiser idea includes "sprinkles." Send Wendy your guess.

**TIKKUN OLAM**  
**Repairing The World and our Community**  
**TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**MITZVAH FOOD DRIVE**

When we arrived at The Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center the day after Yom Kippur, to deliver your donations of food and cleaning supplies, the shelves were bare ...



Through your generosity, we filled the shelves!



“SIMPLY AMAZING” were the words used by Barb Campbell, Director of the Food and Clothing Center. She told us we donated 3,654 items. When asked how long these donations would last, she responded “about two weeks.”

Our thanks for your generous support of this very important project. These donations are especially appreciated at this time of year, when, as you can see, donations/supplies are extremely low, yet the need is still great.

**OVER THE RHINE SOUP KITCHEN**

Another year of volunteering at the Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen has come and gone. Sunday, September 30, was the finale and what a great day it was. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who have consistently supported this project by baking, cooking and serving throughout the year. You have all certainly made this easier for Craig Hoffheimer, the outgoing organizer. This past Soup Kitchen we served 270 people and We are happy to report we had 270 happy customers. We are taking over the Project and will be attending the meeting soon to pick the dates for 2013. Thanks again for all the hard work that you consistently show on behalf of Valley Temple. New volunteers are always needed and welcome, so watch for opportunities to help bake, cook and serve. Together we make a difference.

Jeannie and Bob Hiller  
Co-Chairs



**ANNUAL  
RAKE DAY**



**SUNDAY, NO-  
VEMBER 11**

**NOON**

**FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

Help us rake leaves for the elderly,  
low-income and disabled. Bring rakes, gloves and wear ap-  
propriate clothing. Drivers are also needed.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

ALISON WEIKEL,  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

### Introducing... the MADRICHIM!

Think back to when you were between the ages of 14 and 18 years old. . . What were you most likely to have been doing at 9:30 on a Sunday morning? If your answer is that you were inspiring young Religious School students while honing your own people and teaching skills, then you might have been part of a madrichim (teaching assistant) program at your temple!

Allow me to introduce the wonderful high school students who as madrichim, partner with the teachers each week to help create the experience your children are having in Religious School.

PreK: Josh Beasley and Madeline Weikel  
Kindergarten: Adrian Niedermann and Rachel Spohr  
1<sup>st</sup> grade: Sarah Sawin and Matt Lobar  
2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Josh Weikel  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade: Adam McCarrick  
4<sup>th</sup> grade: Alex Spohr  
5<sup>th</sup> grade: David Deutsch  
6<sup>th</sup> grade: Sarah Deutsch  
Office: Monica Valentini

Here's what some of the teens wrote when they signed up for this experience:

"I like to be creative. I can help the kids in a creative environment."

"Kids respond well to my positive attitude."

"I am very responsible."

"I love helping out at the temple."

"I loved working with the kids last year and I would love to do it again."

"I have a love for the country of Israel and I would like to help kids learn about it."

"I would like to work with little kids and get them involved in the Jewish community."

"I am always interested in learning and helping anyone learn."

"When I was younger I always looked up to the madrichim and I want to be a good role model for kids."

"I want to form relationships with the younger members of the temple and maybe even their parents."

"I want to be more involved at temple."

"I want to re-learn some of the things I learned when I was in Religious School."

Each madrich (boy) or madrichah (girl) is a high school student who attends Kulanu (the combined Religious School for high school students of Valley, Wise, Rockdale and Sholom) and has expressed an interest in

working with children. These teens wake up early every Sunday (no small task) and work with their partner teachers to help kids feel comfortable, stay on task, and complete projects, while showing the younger ones that it is "cool" to be in Religious School and involved in temple life. Madrichim also offer a unique perspective when we reflect on the morning's classes. They often bring insights that help us make the experience better for the next week.

Take a moment next Sunday to introduce yourself to the teen teaching assistants in your children's classrooms. They are a vital part of our Valley community and we are fortunate to have them on Sunday mornings!

B'shalom.

*Alison*



**Pre K Class in the Sukkah**

## ALL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SHABBAT DINNER

**Friday, November 9, 6:30 pm**

\$10 adult; \$5 children 3-12

Bring a passing dish to share

RSVP to Alison at 761-3555 or [Alison@valleytemple.com](mailto:Alison@valleytemple.com)

Family Shabbat service  
will follow the dinner at 7:30 pm





WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM  
*stronger together*

Sisterhood is excited about some upcoming events! Firstly, the Women of Reform Judaism are having their annual meeting this year in Detroit, MI. Our own Sandy Hatfield, Jan Goldstein & Jenny Broh are all ready set to attend, If you are interested in attending, let Jan Goldstein know.

Jessica Wagner and Chai Life are going to make Chanukah cards after Religious school on November 11. Anyone can join Chai Life for \$9 per child, not to exceed \$18 per family. Events such as this one typically cost \$5 per child (not to exceed \$10 per family) and include pizza.

We will be looking for volunteers for gift wrapping in December at three Barnes & Noble locations on Monday, December 24. This is a fun fundraiser that also gives an opportunity to get to know fellow Temple members you may not have yet met. Anyone interested, please contact Jan Goldstein.

Anyone interested in joining Sisterhood is welcome to attend any of our meetings - many friendships have developed as a result of Sisterhood, and it's a great way to meet new people and have some "girl time."

Upcoming Sisterhood dates are: November 11, December 9, January 13, February 3, March 10, April 21 & May 12. We will also meet on February 10 to bake Hamantaschen - YUM!

Looking forward to seeing you at some meetings.

*Susan Elgowsky*  
*Recording Secretary*

**SAVE THE DATE...**

January 27 following RS  
Yoga with Hollie J. Nesbitt  
from Little Yoga Sunshine

Contact Jessica Wagner  
for more information

**GIFT WRAP AT  
BARNES & NOBLE**

*Monday, December 24*

*It's easy, fun and helps raise funds for Sisterhood*

*In the past we have raised close to approx \$1,000  
by gift wrapping for tips -- help us do this again!*

*Anyone can wrap (18 and up)*

*Please volunteer to work at one  
of the three Barnes & Noble locations:  
Fields Ertel, Kenwood or  
Newport on the Levee*

*Contact Jan Goldstein at valley-  
wrj@valleytemple.com  
or call 761-3555*



**CHAI LIFE**

Making Cards for Chanukah

NOVEMBER 11

Following Religious School

Creating Chanukah cards  
for our Temple members  
and individuals  
in the Cincinnati community



Pizza lunch is \$5 per child  
with a maximum of \$10 per family  
RSVP to Jessica Wagner at valleywrj@valleytemple.com

If your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews  
are not members of Chai Life, please join us  
by paying \$9 per child with a maximum  
of \$18 per family for the year

**MAGICAL NIGHT OF GIVING**

**Tri-County Mall**

**Sunday, November 18**  
**5:00 - 8:00 pm**

*After Hours Shopping Gala  
Exclusive Discounts & Offers  
WRISTBANDS AVAILABLE*

*(in the Temple office or through Kathy Schlaeger)  
FOR A \$5.00 DONATION TO SISTERHOOD  
(Must have a wristband to attend these hours)  
Children 12 and under free*



## HIGH HOLY DAY THANK YOUS

Thank you to Sam Lobar, President of Men's Club, for organizing our High Holy Day ushers including: Bill Clark, David Feldstein, Dan Gehr, Jan Goldstein, Gil Kaufman, Sam Lobar, Brian Meeron, Paul Newman, Kerry Rabe, Jon Shapiro, Mike Shayeson, Ron Weitzenkorn, and Elizabeth Woosley.

Thank you to Sue Bortz and Clare Deutsch for organizing our amazing Rosh Hashanah reception. Thanks for all our bakers for their delicious desserts.

Thank you to Jenny and Bob Broh for the wonderful Yom Kippur Break the Fast.

Thank you for sponsoring our High Holy Day Music:  
 Nancy and Dolph Berman  
 Jan and Mark Sass and Helen Sass in memory of Robert Sass  
 Sue and George Trenkamp in memory of Laurie Ruskin

Thank you for our bimah flowers:  
 Our Rosh Hashanah service flowers were donated in memory of Estelle Wigser  
 Our Yom Kippur service flowers were donated by Bobbie Reckseit in memory of her beloved husband, Bernard (Reggy) Reckseit

## *Sustaining the Generations ...*

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

### **FRANCIE BROWN MEMORIAL OFFICE FUND**

In honor of Jan Goldstein's election to the WRJ Central District Executive Committee; *from Jenny & Bob Broh,*

### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of Harold Rosenbaum; *from Bob & Jeannie Hiller*  
 In memory of Jacob Hatfield; *from Bob & Jeannie Hiller*  
 In memory of Harold Rosenbaum; *from Carol & Julian Magnus*  
 In memory of Rabbi Benno M. Wallach, *from Robert & Rheda Harris*  
 In memory of Patricia K. Walker, *from the Kramberg-Walker Family*

### **SEINSHEIMER MUSIC FUND**

In memory of Harold Rosenbaum; *from Jaklyn Buff,*  
 In memory of Harold Rosenbaum; *from Jenny & Bob Broh*  
 In memory of Jean Ehrle; *from Emily Ehrle, Aaron Ehrle, Laurel & Marvin Fischbaum*  
 In memory of Harold Rosenbaum; *from Helen Sass,*  
 In memory of Harold Rosenbaum; *from Sam and Laura Lobar and family*

**THANK YOU**

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Stephanie Rhein	11/01
Jack Guggenheim	11/01
Drew Geller	11/02
Joanne Shuck	11/02
Joyce Kaufman	11/02
Kira Gruenhagen	11/03
Charlyne Gaynor	11/03
Cheryl Hecht	11/04
Rae Nourie	11/04
Jennifer Pennix	11/04
Valerie Perry	11/04
Jonathan Kopnick	11/06
Pam Greenberg	11/06
Brad Greenberg	11/06
Zoe Klotz	11/07
Sue DuCovna	11/07
Herb DuCovna	11/07
Rachel Habbert	11/08
Ellen Schaengold	11/09
Ben Davis	11/09
Ron Weitzenkorn	11/09
John Habbert	11/10
Ella Schlaeger	11/11
Sam Greenberg	11/11
Aleeza Schneider	11/11
Noah Festenstein	11/11
Alan Solomon	11/12
Samuel Newman	11/12
Gail Silverstein	11/12
Carmen Kovarsky	11/13
Alison Weikel	11/13
William Cusack	11/14
Barbara Sutter	11/14
Alexis Amann	11/14
Sophia Pennix	11/15
Nancy Illman	11/15
Kathryn Beasley	11/16
David Feldstein	11/16
Randi Kaplan	11/17
Samuel J. Mantel	11/17
Larry Wiggins	11/19
Marilyn Altman	11/23
Peggy Markstein	11/26
Ian Cronin	11/26
Ernest Waits, Jr.	11/27
Micki Springer	11/27
Jeannie Hiller	11/28
Amy Levy	11/28
Nancy Dornheggen	11/28
Benjamin Self	11/28
Charles Powers	11/29
Kenneth Mitman	11/29

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Rob & Rachel	Festenstein	11/06/1999
Barbara & David	Neman	11/12/2000
Bobby & Linda	Denham	11/17/1984
Louis & Christy	Goldner	11/18/1995
Lou & Marjorie	Rauh	11/21/1959
Jeff & Laurie	Marks	11/22/1980
John & Susan	Frank, Jr.	11/22/1997
Nora Moreira & Joe	Cochran	11/25/2006
Sidney & Joanne	Cohen	11/28/1985
David & Sharon	Feldstein	11/30/1985

The Valley Temple



145 Springfield Pike Cincinnati, OH 45215

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi  
Solomon T. Greenberg, Rabbi Emeritus  
Carolyn Glatstein, Rabbinic Intern  
Wendy Walsh, Temple Administrator  
Alison Weikel, Director of Education  
Craig Hoffheimer, President  
Laura Beasley, Sandy Hatfield, Dianne Rabe  
Presidium, Women of Reform Judaism

513-761-3555  
WEB SITE: www.valleytemple.com  
E-MAIL: wendy@valleytemple.com  
or use links at valleytemple.com

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY**

**CHANUKAH AT VALLEY**



**Friday, December 14, 2012**

*Dinner - 6:15 pm (Reservations Required)  
7:30 pm - Shabbat Service*



*Dinner of Chicken, Latkes and more!  
Bring your menorah to light at your table!*

**COST:** \$1-\$18/per person depending on what you wish to afford (and 1/2 the amount for ages 3-12)

*You are asked to set your own dinner cost which we hope will encourage everyone to participate!*

**Chanukah Dinner December 14, 2012 Reservation Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Children (12 and under) \_\_\_\_\_ No of Children under 3 (free)

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send reservation form to the Temple office, 145 Springfield Pike, 45215 by December 11*