

The Valley Temple



December, January 2013/2014 Kislef, Tevet, Shevat

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 - CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

6:15 - Dinner (for those with reservations)
7:30 PM - Shabbat Service and Consecration
Music: Teen T'fillah Team with Charlene Gubitz
Oneg Shabbat hosted by Families of the Consecrants in honor of this special occasion

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:30 am - Torah Study
10:30 am - Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Vayigash, Gen. 44:18-47:27

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 - FAMILY SHABBAT

7:30 pm - Shabbat Service
Music: David Snyder

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

9:30 am - Torah Study
10:30 am - Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Va-y'chi, Gen. 47:28-50:26

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:30 am - Torah Study
10:30 am - Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Sh'mot, Exod. 1:1-6:1

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service
Music: Eric Mollo and Carolan Glatstein

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:30 am - Torah Study
10:30 am - Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Va-eira, Exod. 6:2-9:35

See Page 2 for January Service Schedule

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION at



**CINCINNATI ZOO
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
6th Night of Chanukah
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 - 7:00 pm**

For more info see back page of bulletin

CHANUKAH AT VALLEY AND CONSECRATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

JOIN THE TEMPLE CELEBRATION

See Details Inside Bulletin



**American Judaism
With Rabbi Ken Kantor,
Director of Rabbis HUC-JIR**

December 3 at 7:30 p.m.

**Give Us Your Tired, Your Poor:
The Immigrant Experience in Popular Culture**



**The GOD Upgrade
with
Rabbi Sandford Kopnick**

Tues., Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Belief in God can evolve as Judaism evolves. This is a primary focus of the book, *The God Upgrade* by Rabbi Jamie S. Korngold. We will explore some of the ideas from this book, as we explore our own ideas about God.

HISTORIC JEWISH CINCINNATI BUS TOUR



**With Rabbi Abie Ingber
Sunday, December 8
at 10:00 a.m.**

Meet at Valley Temple at 9:45 a.m.
Space limited due to concurrent Family Ed

Call the Temple office, 761-3555 or email
wendy@valleytemple.com to reserve your seat!



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

**JEWES AND THE END
OF DECEMBER**

This year, the Jewish Calendar is not in sync at all with the Gregorian Calendar. As a result, Jews will spend most of December remembering Chanukah, but not really having a holiday to embrace as our Christian friends and family embrace Christmas.

It is normal to feel excluded. Some feel like a huge party was planned, and they are being left out. Others decide to embrace what is secular of the season, and celebrate with their co-workers, schoolmates, or family.

When raising children, this issue is very challenging. I frequently hope that children are told to think of Christmas as going to someone else's birthday party. You can have fun without it being your birthday! You can give gifts, eat at the party table, and help someone else celebrate! Why not?

But it is important to hear the word Christ in Christmas. (I know, sounds strange coming from a rabbi!) I believe it is important to acknowledge what is different between the beliefs of Jews and the various beliefs of our friends, family, and neighbors who are not Jewish. Our world is best when people act religiously, without imposing their/our religion on others. Some religious Christians find a secular celebration of Christmas to be offensive.


It is always so well intended when our holiday is included in the seasonal celebrations of December. We must appreciate the gestures. But, when it is appropriate, it is OK to share that Christmas and Chanukah have only the season in common (and no so much this year).

As a Jew and as an American, I want Christians to live up to their highest ideals—and be inspired by their faith to fix what is broken in this world. I want Jews to be inspired by the Maccabees sense of commitment and religiosity—so that we continually rededicate ourselves to our faith traditions—which include fixing what is broken in God's world.

I pray that as our friends and family celebrate Christmas, they do so with a sense of community that has us value each other. I hope that we, as Jews, will find ways to help the "Christmas Community" to celebrate without losing our sense

of self. Truth is, being American makes this the safest place in our history to be different and a minority all at the same time. We can help others embrace the season without feeling like we are missing a huge event! How great it will be if we find each other at the Chinese Restaurant, the movies, or engaged in a social action project on December 24 and 25. By doing so, we honor our faith—and appreciate the neighbors, too.

Have a great December, and a wonderful secular New Year!

B'shalom,

Sandford R. Kopnick
Rabbi

Religious Services continued from pg 1

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 7:30 PM
Shabbat Service
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4
9:30 am – Torah Study
10:30 am – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Bo, Exod. 10:1-13:16

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 - FAMILY SHABBAT
6:00 pm - PJ Library Tot Shabbat
6:30 - Dinner (for those with reservations)
7:30 pm – Shabbat Service
Music: Charlene Gubitza

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11
9:30 am – Torah Study
10:30 am – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: B'shalach, Exod. 13:17-17:16

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 7:30 PM
Shabbat Service
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18
9:30 am – Torah Study
10:30 am – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Sh'mot, Exod. Yitro, Exod, 18:1-20:23

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 7:30 PM
Shabbat Service
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
9:30 am – Torah Study
10:30 am – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Mishpatim, Exod. 21:1-24:18

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 7:30 PM
Shabbat Service
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

ALISON WEIKEL,
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

I write this having just returned from a hugely successful 4th, 5th and 6th grade retreat to Goldman Union Camp in Zionsville, Indiana. Sixteen students, Rabbi Kopnick and I joined our Israeli friend, Oren Enzwaig, Valley graduates Matt McCarrick and Isabel Gruenhagan as well as twenty students from Temple Israel in Dayton and their rabbis and counselors on this adventure. We welcomed artist-in-residence and Valley graduate, Megan Sass with her songleading and Torah interpretation talents for a wonderful weekend of learning and community building. Nothing can compare to this concentrated amount of time that we spend together.

This year, we have 25 Sunday sessions. At 2 hours and 15 minutes per session, that adds up to just over 56 hours. TOTAL. That's equivalent to about 8 secular school days. I find that to be mind-boggling. How can we hope to build a community, instill Jewish pride, learn about holidays, history and customs, and facilitate Jewish identity in this short time?

RETREATS can help! When your children go on a retreat, we have more than 40 additional hours together! And these hours are a more intense experience than the 2 hours each week throughout the year. We have the opportunity to get to know each other in a different way as we share the van or bus ride, laughing and listening to music, share meals, participate in smaller worship services designed with each retreat's specific theme in mind, play games, make art, explore new places, study text, have discussions, and solidify our relationships as a learning and spiritual community.

On this particular retreat, as we prepared to return to Valley, I told the kids that I was so very proud of them for joining us on this trip and for the way that they engaged in the learning and treated each other during the weekend. There were so many instances of both individual and community growth. Our tradition is full of reverence for and commandments to study, especially as a community. Thank you for trusting us with your children and for giving them the opportunity to learn and grow on this retreat.

If you did not send a child on this retreat, perhaps the next time we load the van or bus with plenty of snacks and water, Sharpies and Post-Its, costumes and props, worship service booklets, and a Havdalah set. . .it will be your child's turn to join the fun!

B'shalom,

Alison
Alison Weikel



PJ LIBRARY TOT SHABBAT

Friday, January 10, 6:00 pm
Rabbi Kopnick will share a story
from the PJ Library
Come for Shabbat and stay for the Dinner
which follows at 6:30 pm.
(Reservations for dinner are needed)

Sunday dates: December 8 and 15; January 12 and 26

Tuesday dates: December 3, 10, and 17; January 7, 14, 21, and 28



All-School Shabbat Dinner on Friday, January 10.

PreK Family Education: Sunday, January 12 at 11:20AM
6th grade Family Education: Sunday, January 26 at 9:45AM

4TH/5TH/6TH GRADE RETREAT AT GOLDMAN UNION CAMP IN ZIONSVILLE INDIANA



This year's retreat was subsidized by grants the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati's SEED program as well as the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati.

CHANUKAH AT VALLEY



Friday, December 6, 2013

*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 3-11)

Please set your own dinner cost based on what you can afford to join us!

Chanukah Dinner December 6, 2013 Reservation Form

Name _____

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

We wish to order a vegetarian meal _____ (how many?)

Amount Enclosed _____

*Please send reservation form to the Temple office, 145 Springfield Pike, 45215 by **December 3***

CONSECRATION TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 DURING CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Kindergarteners and children who are new to our Religious School will participate in Consecration during our Friday night Chanukah celebration. During the service, these students will be called to the bimah, and receive a blessing. An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service hosted by the families of the Consecrants in honor of this special occasion. Please join us for this moving ceremony as our young Religious School students formally start their Jewish education.

MAZAL TOV TO THE CONSECRATION STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

ELANA BERMAN

daughter of Neil Berman and Susan Marmo

KEVYN CARMODY

son Jaramy and Jaime Carmody

MYLES CONNOCK

son of Laura and Steven Connock

MOLLIE DAVIS

daughter of Ben and Francie Davis

ANDREW ENNEKING

son of Amanda Stein and Tom Enneking

LILY PLUM GARTENLAUB

daughter of Andrea Beck and Fred Gartenlaub

JENNA GELLER

daughter of Pamela and Jim Geller
granddaughter of Michael and Judy Green

LEAH MOELLER

daughter of Cheryl and Don Moeller

SARAH MOELLER

daughter of Cheryl and Don Moeller





WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
stronger together

Sisterhood has its annual gift wrapping fundraiser coming up soon and would love any extra hands - there are many time slots available at multiple locations - contact Jan Goldstein if you would like to help; we've had a lot of bonding and laughs in the past, it's a lot of fun!

Keep on top of Sisterhood events by checking out our Facebook page or, better yet, attending meetings!

We'd love to see new faces at our meetings! Here are some future dates: December 8, January 12, February 9, March 9 (Hamantaschen baking!), April 27 & May 18 (end of the year RS picnic).

A great way to support the Sisterhood would be to register your Kroger card to the Sisterhood through the Kroger Community Rewards program. Just register at krogercommunityrewards.com and help Sisterhood support Valley Temple programming just by doing your shopping! Please contact Chrissy Knarr with any questions.

Happy Chanukah.

Susan

Susan Elgowsky
Recording Secretary

HELP WANTED (TO GIFT WRAP)

**Thursday, December 19 and
Tuesday, December 24**

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

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

Anyone can wrap, even guys (16 and up)

Please volunteer to work at
Barnes & Noble Kenwood 12/19

or

Barnes & Noble Fields Ertel or
Joseph Beth, Rookwood 12/24



Contact Jan Goldstein at Valleywrj@valleytemple.com
or call 761-3555

MEN'S CLUB COMINGS AND GOINGS

The Valley Temple Men's Club held its biannual general meeting at the Valley Temple on Tuesday, October 29, 2013. There were 8 men in attendance. The meeting was begun with an insightful *D'var Torah* by Elliot Spieler, Club Treasurer. Some of the ideas that were discussed for social activities were: Bicycling, poker, Buffalo Wings trivia night, beer tasting night at Whole Foods in Deerfield Towne Center. Poker was also mentioned as a possible fundraiser. Also, it was agreed that we would look at Red, White, and Blue Ash again – manning a vendor booth is a way to raise a few hundred dollars on a single day. Dues are coming in VERY slowly. It was discussed that perhaps we should send out a mailing with a return envelope to help encourage dues paying membership in the club. Men's Club objectives were reviewed briefly, and a list of already scheduled activities were discussed.

The Men's Club also held its first formal /informal breakfast at Panera in Finneytown on Sunday, November 3. Nine men attended and enjoyed just sitting, noshing, having coffee, and schmoozing with the guys. This event was organized by Aron Schneider and hosted by Daniel Perlmutter. We think it was a big hit.

Men's Club Upcoming Activities (Look for details in e-mail blasts, on the Valley website, and on the Men's Club Facebook page):

December 15 – Daddies & Donuts

**January 26 – Men's Club Candle Pin Bowling
in Wyoming, OH**

**March 8 – The Valley Temple Men's Club
Family Night at the Cyclones**

Regards,

Len

Len Elgowsky, Secretary

**CHAI LIFE
PROJECT LINUS WORKSHOP
Sunday, January 26 at noon
following Religious School**

Come and help us make blankets for Project Linus who gives handmade blankets to children in hospitals, shelters, etc. who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need.

No sewing required --
please bring some fleece

Join us and be a volunteer
"blanketeer"





A major Valley Temple Fundraiser to be held at Sharonville Con- vention Center on March 2

Many volunteers are needed. Please call the Temple office, 761-3555, to help us with this new, exciting and very important Temple fundraiser.

Sustaining the Generations ...

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

ALLEN AND SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL AC- TION FUND

In honor of Jay Price receiving the AJC Community Service Award; *from Jenny Broh*

In memory of Bob Broh; *from Jenny Broh*

In memory of Sig Hiller; *from Bob & Jeannie Hiller*

A gift *from Jeff & Linda Lazar*

A gift in appreciation; *from Harold & Bernice Blatt*

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory Harvey & Hilda Price; *from Sue & Jay Price*

In memory of Thomas S. Benjamin; *from Lois. Benjamin & Sons*

In memory of Tom Ungar; *from Anne & Freddy Straus*

A gift *from Jenny Broh*

A gift *from Jody Finley*

A gift *from Rita & Bill Clark*

A gift *from Phyllis Bossin*

JANE MUNICK MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

In memory of Nathan Mitman; *from Diane & Ken Mitman*

L'CHAYIM FUND

In memory of Jacob I. Fleischer; *from Joan F. Reckseit & Family*

A gift in appreciation; *from the Family of Bob Broh*

FRANCIE BROWN MEMORIAL OFFICE FUND

A gift in appreciation of Wendy & Jim Walsh; *from Jenny Broh*

VALLEY TEMPLE GENERAL FUND

A gift *from Helen Sass*

A gift *from Ernie & Sally Waxman*

A gift *from Laurel & Marvoin Fischbaum*

A gift *from Gail & Scott Silverstein*

A gift *from John & Jean Amber*

In honor of Rabbi Sandford Kopnick; *from Joanne & Sidney Cohen*

In honor of Megan and Jonathan Sass; *from Mark & Jan Sass*

In memory of Rabbi Benno M. Wallach; *from Robert & Rheda Harris*

In memory of Eric Bamberger; *from Ellen Bamberger*

In memory of Roslyn Schear; *from Ricki & Stuart Hodesh*

In memory of Edward Doseck; *from Sue & Arn Bortz*

MISHEBERACH

DANI STEMLER
DEBBY HOFFHEIMER
JIM WALSH



OUR SYMPATHY

Barry Goldhoff and Dedra Perlmutter on the death of their brother and uncle, Leon Goldhoff

HELP OUR NEIGHBORS HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY



HOLIDAY BASKETS

Fill your grocery cart with canned peas to help fill holiday baskets



TOY DRIVE

New toys are needed for holiday presents

All donations will benefit the Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center's holiday programs. Bring your donations to the Temple lobby by December 11.

We received a letter from the Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center thanking us for the two thousand four hundred and seventy five items that we collected and donated during our High Holy Day Food Drive. In their words "Your donation is a miracle and we and so many have been blessed by your extreme generosity. Thank you from the bottom of our heart(s)! You are proving the power of working together! We are so thankful for neighbors such as you!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Laurie Marks	12/01
Robert Harris	12/01
Karin Gelfand O'Neil	12/01
Corey Denham	12/03
Scot Krumbein	12/04
Randy Russell	12/04
Maxwell Huseman	12/07
Rachel Ran	12/08
Judy Silverman	12/09
Barbara Stewart	12/12
Lawrence Nagler	12/12
Micah Nourie	12/13
Helen Spieler	12/13
Howard Pinsky	12/14
Leonard Zwick	12/14
Andrew Amann	12/14
Alexander Spohr	12/15
Rachel Stewart	12/15
Jean Amber	12/17
Dianne Rabe	12/17
Kathy Schlaeger	12/17
Tom Wertheimer	12/18
Brian Kaplan	12/18
Francesca Miles	12/18
Sally Waxman	12/19
Robert Hiller	12/19
Harrison Knarr	12/20
Michael Amann	12/20
Joanne Cohen	12/21
Donald Pollack	12/22
Matthew Silverstein	12/22
Barry Goldhoff	12/22
Lily Liebman	12/26
Alan Schneider	12/27
Emma Heines	12/28
Sydney Dornheggen	12/28
Carol Spritzer	12/28
Daniel Valentini	12/29
Melissa Klotz	12/29
Barbara Morgenstern	12/29
Mae Cohen	12/30
Leah Joos	12/31

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Andy & Kim	Stark	12/06/1997
Jody & Kent	Finley	12/08/1984
Cathy & Jim	Cryder	12/15/1979
Bradley & Karen	McClelland	12/16/1995
Alan & Margie	Schneider	12/18/1965
Arn & Sue	Bortz	12/22/1979
Robert & Clare	Deutsch	12/22/1991
Michael & Rose	Apsehoff	12/26/1971
Lynn & Tom	Wertheimer	12/27/1964
Mike & Jessica	Wagner	12/28/2002
Leon & Judy	Silverman	12/30/1979
Andrew & Susan	Spohr	12/30/1989



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jacob Clark	01/01
Brian Sefferino	01/02
Sarah Sterner	01/02
William Clark	01/03
Marcia Dempsey	01/03
Leon Silverman	01/04
Carol Kramberg-Walker	01/06
Rachel Schwartzman	01/06
Bernice Pollack	01/08
Susan Price	01/09
Joseph Cochran	01/11
Susan Trenkamp	01/12
Richard Kuhr	01/12
Michael Mannheimer	01/12
Erika Hecht	01/14
Monica Valentini	01/15
Grant Dornheggen	01/15
Aubrey Herman	01/15
Thomas Sherman	01/16
Judy McKinney	01/16
Jillian Nagler	01/17
Elliot Spieler	01/18
Jim Cronin	01/19
Ryan Kirzner	01/19
Andrea Beck	01/20
Michael Green	01/21
Stan Shuck	01/22
Cindi Miller	01/22
Randi Solomon	01/23
Janelle Gelfand	01/24
Tom Enneking	01/25
Mindy Sefferino	01/26
Eli Cogan	01/28
Jessica Kaplan	01/30
Susan Levy	01/31

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry Newfarmer & Amy Paul	01/01/2001
Jules & Sandra Saslow	01/02/1993
Don & Cheryl Moeller	01/03/1998
Robert & Rheda Harris	01/04/1953
Ron & Barbara Stern	01/25/1969
Ron & Sharon Ran	01/26/

DECEMBER 31 IS APPROACHING

A reminder that December 31 is quickly approaching. Payment of your contributions, endowment fund, etc. by then would be beneficial to the Temple and may be advantageous to your tax situation. Please consult your tax advisor regarding this.

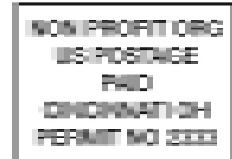
If you bank online, you may wish to add Valley Temple to your list of payees.



The Valley Temple



145 Springfield Pike Cincinnati, OH 45215



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi
Solomon T. Greenberg, Rabbi Emeritus
Carolyn Glatstein, Rabbinic Intern
Eric Mollo, Rabbinic Fellow
Wendy Walsh, Temple Administrator
Alison Weikel, Director of Education
Craig Hoffheimer, President
Laura Lobar, President, Women of Reform Judaism
Sam Lobar, President, Men's Club

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

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION
at
CINCINNATI ZOO
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
6th Night of Chanukah



MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 – 7:00 pm
In the
GARDEN OF PEACE

Sponsored by Valley Temple
Come for the celebration and stay to enjoy the Zoo's Festival of Lights.

A limited number of complimentary tickets are available

For more information, call Wendy or
Allie -- 513-761-3555
or email wendy@valleytemple.com

Please note: The zoo will be crowded.
Remember to give yourselves plenty of time to arrive and park.

