

The Valley Temple



October 2013 Tishri, Cheshvan 5774

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Oneg Shabbat hosted by Len and Susan Elgowsky in honor of their son, Steven becoming a Bar Mitzvah

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Steven Elgowsky, son of Len & Susan Elgowsky, will become a Bar Mitzvah

Torah Portion: Noach, Gen. 6:9-11:32

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11-FAMILY SHABBAT

6:30 – All Religious School Dinner

7:30 pm – Family Night

Music: David Snyder

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Lech L'cha, Gen 12:1-17:27

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:00 am – Tot Shabbat

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayeira, Gen. 18:1-22:24

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Chayei Sarah, Gen. 22:1-25:18

Please join the members of

*The Women of Reform Judaism/
Valley Temple Sisterhood*

for our annual

New Member Brunch

at the home of Rabbi Sandford and Nancy Kopnick.

*Welcome our newest members,
Reconnect with old friends.*

Sunday, October 13, 10:00 am

Please bring a delish dish to share

*RSVP Dedra Perlmutter
valleywrj@valleytemple.com*



Reform: Choice Through Knowledge with Carolan Glatstein

C o n t i n u e s . . .

Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Help our rabbinic intern, Carolan Glatstein, conduct research for her thesis by participating in this focus group. We will be discussing our Jewish backgrounds and experiences, the basis upon which we make Jewish choices, and the original texts from which our traditions draw.



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

ON COMMUNITY

Adapted from Rabbi Kopnick’s Erev Rosh Hashanah Sermon

Our sense of community is realized, and has been for generations, by that which we have in common. Judaism has long valued a strong community. Some could argue that our sense of peoplehood was emphasized and institutionally promoted even more than the religious faith Judaism so richly embraces. When children are born, for example, tradition requires a ritual of circumcision or naming to bring children into the covenant. When they reach the age of 13, there is a formal welcome into the community at Bar and Bat Mitzvah. There is an expectation of minyan or prayer-quorum of 10 people, without which, many prayers including Kaddish, and the Torah Reading, are not allowed to be included. We have also been so particular, that we narrowly defined “who is a Jew” and created unforgivable anguish to those who marry out of the faith, thereby creating grandchildren where the tradition dictates they are not Jewish.

Our Rabbi Emeritus Sol Greenberg understood that there were Jews who wanted to continue celebrating Judaism, creating a new generation of Jews, embracing our religious tradition, and remaining linked to the history and shared experiences of the Jews. And when these people were lucky enough to find the loves of their lives, Rabbi Greenberg understood the great gift non-Jews would give to their Jewish partners—the freedom to continue to embrace a Jewish identity, even if it represented something the couple would not formally share through a conversion or even participation. Rabbi Greenberg said “yes” at times that most and sometimes all rabbis had declined to embrace a wedding. And for a while, this synagogue’s most shared experience was that Rabbi Greenberg officiated at our members’ weddings.

It seems that a generation ago, the memory of the Holocaust, the pride of the Six-Day War, the sense of fear from the Yom Kippur War in Israel, and continued anti-Semitic moments at college, in rural communities, and even at work— kept us connected to each other. Yet, neither Zionism nor commonly shared identification with Judaism as a result of the Holocaust is compelling Jews today to remain as connected to one another. We are similarly not united in our political opinions, either.

All definitions of community declare that its members have something in common or shared experiences. A synagogue is at its best when our focus is our religious values, and when we inspire the membership to connect

with Judaism. The more we have in common, the better our sense of community will be. The more we learn about God, experiment with ritual, and serve others through social action as a religious imperative, the more we connect. When we contribute to the Temple with an eye toward building our group, thereby ensuring access to this community for all who want or need it, we allow for a greater shared experience.

Remember that when you attend a service, you do so, not just for what you get from the service, but what your presence means to others. You take a Temple trip to Israel, not only to travel, but to connect on a deeper level with members next to whom you’ll be praying or celebrating a holiday. We send kids to camp, on retreats, to Washington D.C., and to Israel because of what they learn, but also because of the connection to classmates, teachers, and others—thereby enhancing a sense of community. When people join health clubs or AAA, they do so to get something in return. That makes them consumers. When people join Temples and synagogues as consumers, they deprive other members and themselves of a sense of community.

Please don’t allow us to create this community without you! Have a great month!

B’shalom,

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi

**CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH YOUR
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FRIENDS!
ALL-SCHOOL DINNER**

Friday, October 11, 2013 at 6:30PM



\$5-children ages 3-11
\$10-children ages 12-Adults
Please bring a side dish to share and let us know if you need a vegetarian meal.

RSVP to Alison 761-3555 or alison@valleytemple.com Stay for Family Shabbat Services after dinner, beginning at 7:30PM



Shabbat Morning Torah Study
No experience expected!
Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.
With Rabbi Kopnick and/or Carolan Glatstein, Rabbinic Intern

2013 PICNIC/BBQ GREAT TIME FOR ALL...

Combine good food, perfect weather, a pleasant setting, and friends and what do you get – a great time for all at the annual Congregational Family Picnic/BBQ at Sharon Woods on August 25, 2013, sponsored by the Men's Club..

We started by thanking G-d for our sustenance with Rabbi Kopnick leading us in the *Motzi*. Thank you Rabbi Kopnick for your blessing and for helping clean up – greatly appreciated!

Once again, the planning of the Picnic/BBQ was led by its Chair, Len Elgowsky, who, unfortunately, could not make it to the event due to work responsibilities. He definitely helped propel the event to a record attendance by his Facebook prowess. Organizers believe that there were over 100 individuals in attendance, many children.

Thank you to Mike Shayeson, Board VP, who was our fire-starter and to the cooks – Tim McCarrick, Jeff Schlaeger, and Aron Schneider – you guys were great with the burgers and dog; to Board President, Craig Hoffheimer was the Ice Man who *cameth* and helped keep our drinks cool and perishables on ice ; to Past President and past Ice Man, Mark Sass (who could not be in attendance) for his moral support and added financial support for this event. It is wonderful to have such presidential support – past, present, and future and also Board support – thank you all!

Scott Steinberg, VP of Men's Club, was on hand to help with sports and also a shout out to Matt Lobar who kept many of the kids happily, safely, and wetly, occupied!

Thank you to ... Julie Rabe Fritsch who added organized volleyball to the list of activities ; to Alison Weikel and Mike Shayeson for photography of the day and for your support; to Wendy and Allie for their help; to Sisterhood President, Laura Lobar, who helped in buying all of the burgers and dogs, the sundry supplies, set-up, and clean up. She was assisted in the clean up and set up by Marcelle Lobar, Matt Lobar, and many others – thanks guys!

Thanks to all of you who attended and enjoyed a day outdoors with your congregational family and brought delicious side-dishes/desserts.

I cannot wait until next year!

Sam

Sam Lobar, Men's Club President

MEN'S CLUB COMINGS AND GOINGS

With the picnic behind us the club is still busy planning the following other events.

The next Men's Club meeting is set for Tuesday October 29 at Valley Temple at 6:30pm.

We also have the first formal men's club coffee/breakfast set up for Sunday November 3rd. The Club will go to the Panara bread in Finnytown. Please see Aron Schneider on Sunday's during religious school for further details.

Candle Pin Bowling is set for January 26, 2014, Details will follow soon.

Remember to become a dues paying member of the Men's Club. \$36 Dues checks made payable to The Valley Temple Men's Club, and left in the Temple office Men's Club mail box. You can also mail it directly to the Temple. Your dues will run fiscally from July through June, and, combined with the dues of others, will help offset *some* of our events, fully fund the annual Picnic/BBQ, and, eventually, will also serve as a fund to support other Valley Temple programs. We look forward to a terrific year for the Men's Club!

Regards,

Len

Len Elgowsky, Men's Club Secretary



Fun at the 2013 Picnic



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

ALISON WEIKEL,
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

I am an admirer and collector of words. I carry around a small notebook and collect quotes, poems, sayings and wisdom. I write down words I have read, words I have heard, words from my grandparents, parents, teachers, and friends. Words that provoke me, comfort me, and make me think. I refer to these words when I need advice, when I want to remember something that has happened in the past, or when I want inspiration for the next step forward.

It is in that spirit that the Religious School is starting the year with a school-wide project called, "Words to Live By." Each month, every class in Religious School will examine and interact with some phrases from Jewish tradition. Some are from the bible; some are from other wisdom such as *Pirkei Avot* ("Ethics of the Fathers," teachings transcribed in the 2nd century).

Rabbi Kopnick and I will guide the teachers with age-appropriate suggestions for introducing these important words to your children. Our Art Specialist, Jason Knarr, will help us formulate a culminating project to be unveiled at our celebratory Shabbat School session on Saturday, May 10, 2014.

Here are the "Words to Live By" that we will study this year:

- And God created humans in God's image...
Genesis 1:27
- You shall be holy, for I, Adonai your God, am holy.
Leviticus 19:1
- Honor your father and your mother...
Exodus 20:12
- Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy...
Exodus 20:8
- When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap all the way to the edges of your field... you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger; I, Adonai, am your God. *Leviticus 19:9-10*
- If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am for myself alone, what am I? If not now, when?
Avot 1:14
- You shall not insult the deaf, nor put a stumbling block in the way of the blind. *Leviticus 19:14*
- Am I my brother's keeper? *Genesis 4:9*

Do you collect words? Do you display them as home décor, in your email signature, or repeat a mantra to yourself every day? Your children will be learning some "Words to Live By" and I invite you to learn along with them. Be sure to ask your children about them and perhaps some of these words will show up in your notebooks and around your dinner tables.

B'shalom,

Alison

Alison Weikel

FAMILY EDUCATION DATES

4th grade - October 6 - 9:45 - 11 AM
2nd grade - October 6 - 11 AM- 12 Noon
5th grade - October 27 10- 11 AM
1st grade - October 27 11 AM-12Noon



FLOWER POWER FUNDRAISER

Please support our **Religious School** by participating in our annual **FLOWER POWER** fundraiser. There are two convenient ways to order:

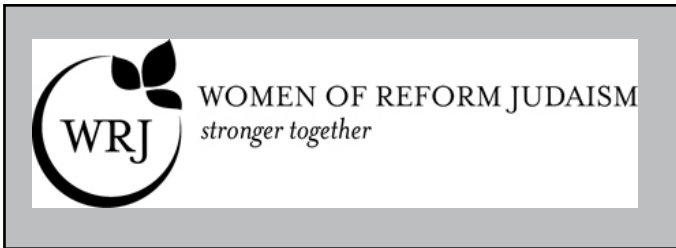
- Pick up a form at the temple and return it **by October 20** with checks made payable to *The Valley Temple Religious School*.

-Order online, by visiting http://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/campaign?campaign_id=16399

An order of \$40 or more will earn you a FREE bag of 8 Tête-à-Tête Daffodils.

The bulbs are 100% guaranteed and will be delivered to **directly to you** (for a flat shipping rate of \$5) in late October- in time for fall planting and beautiful flowers in the spring.

Thank you in advance for supporting the Religious School. If you have any questions, please contact Alison Weikel in the Temple office- 761-3555 or alison@valleytemple.com



L'SHANA TOVA!

A big thanks to Nikki Sandor for coordinating the Challah giving at our Rosh Hashanah services!

We are looking forward to a wonderful year! Keep on top of Sisterhood events by checking out our Facebook page or, better yet, attending meetings! We will post future meeting dates in the next newsletter.

We are having our New Member Welcome Brunch October 13 at 10 am. Don't be confused, all sisterhood members are invited, new and experienced. What have you been cooking up these days? Please bring a delish dish. Thank you to Rabbi and Nancy Kopnick for opening their beautiful home to us! Mark your calendars!

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.

B'Shalom,
Susan

Susan Elgowsky, Recording Secretary

**PLEASE NOTE:
OUR SHREDDING DAY PLANNED
FOR OCTOBER 6 HAS BEEN
POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE**



Sunday, March 2, 2014
Sharonville Convention Center
A Valley Temple Fundraiser



MAZAL TOV

Len and Susan Elgowsky on their son, Steven, becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Jacob and Miriam Hodesh and Ricki and Stuart Hodesh and Dorothy Siegel on the birth of their daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughter, Naomi
Marilyn Altman and David and Jennifer Snyder on their grandson and son, Max Snyder becoming a Bar Mitzvah

MISHEBERACH

ALYSON DEMPSEY
ETHAN KADISH
DOROTHY SIEGEL

OUR SYMPATHY



Bob Hiller on the death of his Father, Sig Hiller
Andrea Beck and Stephanie Rhein on the death of their Grandmother, Hope Zapolean Beck Taft
Nancy Illman on the death of her Father

VALLEY TEMPLE YOUTH GROUP

Valley Temple Youth Group this year has plans to make some big steps toward success for the future, and we've already started. We started off the year with a social event to Kings Island. This event was very well attended and a highlight was seeing Rabbi Kopnick on roller coasters. Also just a few weeks ago two Valley Temple youth board members and I attended a North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) leadership conference. We learned essential leadership skills such as writing official programs and ways to get people excited to come to events.

This year we have several exciting things planned such as building more benches around our temple's fire pit, participating in a fundraiser alongside Wise Temple and Rockdale Temple, and of course, the annual Purim Carnival. We are trying to get as many Valley Temple high schoolers to attend our local Cincinnati events as possible, as well as send as many people that we can to NFTY events throughout the year to show a better representation of Valley to all the Midwest region. High hopes ahead!

Josh

Josh Weikel
Valley Temple Youth Group President

ADULT EDUCATION

Reform: Choice Through Knowledge with Carolan Glatstein Continues ...

Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Help our rabbinic intern, Carolan Glatstein, conduct research for her thesis by participating in this focus group. We will be discussing our Jewish backgrounds and experiences, the basis upon which we make Jewish choices, and the original texts from which our traditions draw.



Jewish Community in Liquid Times with Dr. Michael Marmor

Vice President of HUC-JIR
Tuesday, October 8 at 7:30 p.m.

We are living in "liquid times" (a phrase coined by the sociologist Zygmunt Bauman). Many of the institutions, assumptions and identities which our grandparents experienced as solid and fixed are now in a state of flux. What does it mean to live in community under such conditions. We will explore this theme using Jewish and other sources.

Born and raised in England, Rabbi Marmor completed a BA in Modern History at the University of Oxford before moving to Israel in 1984. While studying for an MA in Ancient Jewish History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, he completed his studies in the Israel Rabbinic Program of HUC in Jerusalem, where he currently lives and works.



American Judaism With Rabbi Ken Kantor

Dean, HUC-JIR

Tuesdays, October 22,
29 at 7:30 p.m.



October 22

The Greatest Gift to the World: The Jew in American Music.

October 29

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

Adult Hebrew

Begins on Tues., Sept 24
and Mon., Sept. 30

Level Aleph

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Join instructor, Rabbi Julie Schwartz. No experience necessary

Level Bet

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Join instructor Carolan Glatstein as she helps students who know the letters and are hoping to read more fluently. We'll also learn how the language works, so we can translate some of the prayers.

Level Gimmel

Tuesdays at 6:30p.m.

Rabbi Sandford Koprnick, instructor

For those who can read Hebrew and know basic grammar. A continuation of Bet and Gimmel class from 2012-13. New students welcome.

Advanced Hebrew

Mondays at 5:30 p.m.

Rabbi Sandford Koprnick, instructor

Students with very good Hebrew or continuing Advanced Hebrew students. We'll be translating the prayer book as we focus on grammar. New students welcome.



Judaism Confronts Contemporary Issues

First Monday of the Month at Noon
Law Office of Jon Hoffheimer
12th Floor of Mercantile Bank Bldg on Walnut
Street

Second Monday of the Month at Noon
Valley Temple

Whether from the headlines, medical ethics, business ethics, and ritual dilemmas, our one-hour discussions provide an opportunity to learn and to share Judaism's on-going relevance to our world.

BEGINS MONDAY, OCT 7 & 14

COMMUNITY SUKKAH

Members of Valley met to plan and create a panel for the community sukkah as a part of the JCC initiative to celebrate 5 years "under one roof" at the Mayerson JCC. "Under One Roof: Be A Part of the Art" is a project done in the spirit of community giving and thanks. The JCC transformed its entire courtyard into a giant sukkah from Sept. 18 - 25. The sukkah showcased an array of art created by more than 40 organizations, visualizing what community means to them. Supper in the sukkah was held. Valley's panel was created by Jenny Dapper, Francie, Judy and Mollie Davis, Barb Stewart, Alison and Maddie Weikel, and Elizabeth Woosley, with special thanks to Mike Shayeson for taking pictures, Andrea Knarr for providing inspiration and Jason Knarr for adapting the menorah design.



Sustaining the Generations ...

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

ALLEN AND SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In honor of Sam Smith becoming a Bar Mitzvah; *From Peggy Barrett*

In memory of Sigmund Hiller; *From George & Sue Trenkamp, John & Helen Habbert*

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In honor of Mel Friedman's birthday; *From Judy and Marty Young*

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Beatrice and Arthur Feldman; *From Rita & Bill Clark*

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Jerry Teller's 2nd Bar Mitzvah; *From Marsha & Dick Kuhr*

In memory of Bob Broh; *From Carol Kramberg-Walker & Bruce Walker, Alice & Ronald Weitzenkorn,*

In memory of Erwin Colish & Ruth Kravitz; *From Lynn, Neil, Max, & Alicia Kravitz*

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

SEINSHEIMER MUSIC FUND

In honor of Sam Smith becoming a Bar Mitzvah; *From Jenny Broh*

In honor of their anniversary; *From Jan Goldstein & Dr. Charles Frank*

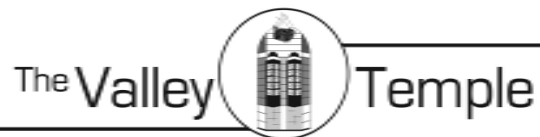
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Scott Steinberg	10/01
Diane L. Mitman	10/01
Phil Sawin	10/02
Jeremy Klotz	10/03
Henry Bernay	10/03
Steven Hecht	10/04
Joelle Luebbers Levine	10/04
Izar Spivak	10/05
Samuel Huseman	10/06
Richard Blatt	10/06
Madeline Marks	10/07
Charles Steed	10/09
Conner Bradley McClelland	10/09
Benjamin Perry	10/10
Jeffrey Marks	10/12
Zoe Nourie	10/13
Judy Gehr	10/14
Jennie Waits	10/15
Myles Connock	10/15
David S. Levine	10/15
Ron Kull	10/17
Logan Fritsch	10/17
Sara Naveh	10/20
Alex Kopnick	10/21
Neil Bortz	10/21
Jeffrey Silverstein	10/21
Jaden Ely Shapiro	10/22
Bette Sherman	10/22
Sandy Hatfield	10/23
Lillian Plum Gartenlaub	10/23
Judy Green	10/24
Rhoda Tessel Ulas	10/24
Max Kravitz	10/26
Ari Hoffheimer	10/15
Michah Schneider	10/27
Megan Sass	10/27
Julia Habbert	10/28
Paul A. Pappenheimer	10/28
William Klein	10/29
Emily Walsh	10/29
Rachel Silverstein	10/29
Rebecca Klein	10/31
Donald H. Dornheggen II	10/31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Len & Suzanne	Segal	10/02/2001
Mark & Ellen	Kovacic	10/07/1979
David & Shannon	Clark	10/12/2002
Ernie & Helen	Waits, Jr.	10/19/1986
Kira & Tim	Gruenhagen	10/19/2002
Daniel & Dedra	Perlmutter	10/22/2000
Jeff & Kathy	Schlaeger	10/21/1994
D' Shon & Jon	Shapiro	10/21/1995
John & Jean	Amber	10/26/1962

Mazal Tov!



145 Springfield Pike Cincinnati, OH 45215

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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

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E-MAIL: wendy@valleytemple.com
or use links at valleytemple.com



**OUR YOUTH GROUP
HARD AT WORK ADDING
ADDITIONAL BENCHES
TO OUR CAMPFIRE AREA**

***THANKS FOR
A GREAT JOB!***

