

# The Valley Temple



February, 2014 Adar 1 5774

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

9:30 am – Torah Study  
10:30 am – Shabbat Service and Kiddush Lunch  
Torah Portion: T'rumah, Exod. 25:1-27:19

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service  
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9:30 am – Torah Study  
10:30 am – Shabbat Service and Kiddush Lunch  
Torah Portion: T'tzaveh, Exod. 27:20-30:10

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 7:30 PM - FAMILY SERVICE

Shabbat Service  
Music: David Snyder  
Rabbi Sol Greenberg will participate in tonight's service  
Oneg Shabbat hosted by friends and family of Emma Heines in honor of Emma becoming a Bat Mitzvah

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

9:30 am – Torah Study  
10:30 am – Shabbat Service  
Emma Heines, daughter of Andrea Frieder & Michael Heines, and granddaughter of Rabbi Sol and Sue Greenberg, will become a Bat Mitzvah  
Torah Portion: Ki Tisa, Exod. 30:11-34:35

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 7:30 PM - FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Shabbat Service  
Music: Friday Night Live

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

9:30 am – Torah Study  
10:00 am- Tot Shabbat  
10:30 am – Shabbat Service and Kiddush Lunch  
Torah Portion: Vayak'heil, Exod. 35:1-38:20

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service  
Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

שבת שלום  
Shabbat Shalom!



**SISTERHOOD'S  
USED BOOKS SALE**  
Sunday, February 23  
During Religious School



### VALLEY NIGHT AT CYCLONES HOCKEY

Saturday night, March 8th

The Valley Temple Men's Club invites all to the Cincinnati Cyclones vs. Toledo Walleye at U.S. Bank Arena. Puck drops at 7:30 PM.

This is a family event - all are welcome. Tickets are only \$10 each but there is a limited supply. Please contact Elliot Spieler if interested at [513-351-9749](tel:513-351-9749) or [valestrania@aol.com](mailto:valestrania@aol.com).



### LUNCH AND LEARN

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

#### DOWNTOWN

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3 at noon**  
at the office of Jon Hoffheimer  
in the Mercantile Building

#### AT THE TEMPLE

**NO LUNCH AND LEARN IN FEBRUARY**

### KIDDUSH LUNCHEONS TO FOLLOW SATURDAY MORNING SHABBAT SERVICE

During the month of February (Feb. 1, 8, and 22), a Kiddush lunch will follow our Saturday morning Shabbat service so that we can encourage a sense of community. Thanks to the contribution of an anonymous donor, this is free to Temple members and their guests. No RSVP is needed -- just come and share Shabbat together.



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

**IN MEMORY OF ARIEL SHARON ...**

Ariel Sharon died last month. He was in a coma as a result of a stroke for eight years. Eight years! His family interpreted our tradition very conservatively, and determined that it was inappropriate to remove the life-supports that artificially kept him breathing, but held no promise for any type of recovery. Prime Minister Sharon's life was over eight years ago. And he was buried quickly after his breathing stopped last month.

I respect Mr. Sharon's family and their interpretation of our tradition. But I do not agree with it. As I understand our tradition, we are not to hasten death, nor are we required to get in the way of death occurring. My understanding of Mr. Sharon's stroke, and his subsequent hospitalization led me to understand that the life-support machines stood in the way of his death. The machines were not therapeutic or medicinal, they were in the way of allowing a terminal patient (truly one on his death bed) to die.

It is my hope that Mr. Sharon's family understood the Prime Minister's end-of-life wishes and adhered to them. It is my fervent prayer that you all consider what you would hope your family would do in a similar situation, and discuss it with them. It would be even better if you were certain to have a legal *health-care power of attorney* and *advance directives* in writing.

The gift you give your family is immeasurable. If your wishes are clearly known and are in writing, then family members are much less likely to fight about protecting your wishes. Discussion will focus on how to best carry out your wishes, rather than determining what they actually are.

Ariel Sharon was one of the last Israeli pioneers to be buried. He did many things in his life that I do not respect, and many things in his life that I find inspirational. Regardless of politics, I feel profound sympathy and sadness for Mr. Sharon's family—for they were unable to find their way to allowing their father and grandfather to naturally die. I believe that it is not a stretch, nor a "liberal" idea that life-supports can be removed. My understanding of the sources from our tradition makes it clear that if the doctors determine someone to be brain-dead, life-support is not only allowed to be removed, but encouraged.

Be certain to discuss your wishes with loved ones. Write it down in a way that makes it very difficult to wonder what you want at life's end. And by all means, do everything you can to live a life worthy of God's blessing—so that whenever we are faced with a world in which we rely on our memories of your life, they are filled with inspiration of how you were in your highest moments.

Have a meaningful month!

B' shalom,

ck, Rabbi

**BRIAN MEERON BECOMES  
YOUTH GROUP ADVISOR**



In anticipation of our Rabbinic Intern, Carolan Glatstein's ordination in May, Rabbi Kopnick has named Brian Meeron as youth group advisor. He will work with Carolan until her ordination, and then he will continue as advisor.

Brian Meeron lives in Finneytown, and is a beloved high school math teacher in the Lakota School District. Brian has been teaching at Valley for over 10 years, and has developed a wonderful curriculum for the sixth grade on Holocaust studies and anti-Semitism. As Brian begins his work with the youth group, he has promised to continue on as our sixth grade teacher.

**Shabbat Morning Torah Study**



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

**Coming Soon ..  
New Adult Education  
Program for Spring  
Watch your mail**



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

ALISON WEIKEL,  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

"...what we need to bring to our schools are [Jewish] experiences that are so full of the wonder of life, so full of connectedness, so embedded in the context of our communities, so brilliant in the insights that we develop and the analyses that we devise, that all of us, teachers and students alike, can learn to live [Jewish] lives that leave us truly satisfied."

from *Other People's Children* by Lisa Delpit with parenthetical words added

When I was revisiting one of my favorite books about schools, I was struck by the passage above. Since my mind tumbles with thoughts of *Jewish* education, I immediately inserted the word, *Jewish*, in front of 'experiences' and 'lives.' During each session that you bring your children to us, our teachers try to create exactly the types of experiences Delpit recommends. We hope to spark their imaginations, build on their feelings of connectedness not only to their heritages within your families, but also to their Valley family, and to a Jewish world outside the doors of home and temple.

By the time you read this, you will have received progress reports for the first semester. The progress report is designed to give you a small glimpse into the classroom experiences your children are having. Family Education sessions give you a chance to see your children in action and to learn alongside them. Communication with your children's teachers can help more. Please contact me or your child's teacher directly to discuss any concerns or to share any tips that work at home or at secular school.

B'shalom,

*Alison*

Alison Weikel

*The Valley Temple*



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES FOR FEBRUARY...

*Sundays:* February 2, 9, 23

*Tuesdays:* February 4, 11, 18, 25

*Family Education:*

February 9, 2014- 10:00-11:00 AM- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

February 23, 2014- 10:00-11:00 AM - 5<sup>th</sup> grade and

11:00AM -12:00 Noon - 4<sup>th</sup> grade

## TOT SHABBAT

Saturday, February 22 - 10 am



Join Rabbi Kopnick as he invites our little ones to pray, sing and listen to a story.

Parents & Grandparents should plan to come for the fun and prayers! Best suited for children ages birth to 6 years.

## TEEN T'FILAH BAND



Teen T'filah Band, led by Rabbinic Fellow, Eric Mollo, participated in a recent Family Shabbat service

## MITZVAH CORPS GOES TO CHICAGO



**FROM CRAIG HOFFHEIMER**  
**President, Board of Trustees ...**

As I write this note on January 6, it's -8 outside and the wind chill is in the mid -20 range. I think of Valley Temple as a warm place. A haven from the cold, emotionally speaking. Somewhere you can go where you are accepted for who you are and are part of a larger family. Looking out the window at a tundra, we now know as Reform Jews that there is no direct relationship between our prayers and God making it warm, or making it rain. We pray as a community for things to be better and one of my favorite prayers in our book is "Pray as if everything depends on God, act as if everything depends on you." So...Let's Act!

2014 is going to be a great year at Valley. We have big projects and program and fund raisers scheduled. We need everyone's help and ideas and participation.

Our Biennial experience was inspiring, we met with leaders and Rabbis from around the country and exchanged ideas. We had a personal meeting with Rabbi Aaron Pankin the new President of HUC-JIR worldwide to talk about our mutual needs and programs and how great it is to have HUC in our backyard.

Please join me at Valley Temple for great programs and warmth this winter.

B'Shalom,



Craig Hoffheimer  
President, Board of Trustees

**VALLEY TEMPLE AT THE**  
**URJ CONVENTION IN SAN DIEGO**



Pictured: Left to Right:  
Front Row: Jan Goldstein, Debby Hoffheimer, Craig Hoffheimer, Mike Shayeson  
Back Row: Alison Weikel, Rabbi Sandford Kopnick, Laura Lobar, Mark Sass

**L'CHAYIM COMMITTEE**

The L'Chayim Committee is looking to add new committee members to provide cheer and support to congregants who are facing a family event such as a new baby, illness, accident, or death of a loved one. Our current members get a lot of satisfaction from helping others, often in their times of need, and are only "on point" for a few months out of the year. Please contact Linda Denham at bdenham@one.net to tell her you would like to help.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU**

A special thank you to Andy and Alex Spohr who recently worked to take down a dead tree on the Temple property as well as cut back the bushes near our handicapped parking spaces, thus making them a little more accessible.

Thank you, also to Peggy Barrett and Sharon Feldstein who work tirelessly all year to make sure the Temple property looks lovely. We can't wait to see what you have planned for the spring!

We are very grateful for the dedication of our members who work so hard to make sure our Temple property looks lovely.

**SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT**

Help us continue our lovely tradition of providing delicious "goodies" at our Oneg Shabbats (the reception following services). These "onegs" are wonderful ways to celebrate the joy of the Sabbath, schmooze with members, meet new people and have a "nosh." Please help us maintain this tradition by calling Wendy at the Temple office for more information, or to say that you will sponsor an oneg. It can be in honor of a loved one, a special occasion or just because!

Our thanks to the following for sponsoring recent onegs:

*GAIL AND SCOTT SILVERSTEIN*

*in memory of Beverly Shussett*

*BOBBIE RECKSEIT*

*in memory of Bernard Reggy Reckseit*

*FAMILIES OF OUR CONSECRANTS*

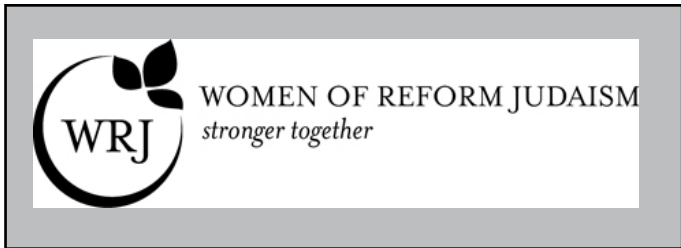
*STAN AND JOANNE SHUCK*

*in honor of Stan's 70th birthday*

*SANDY HATFIELD*

*in memory of Marcia E. Geltner and Herbert B. Geltner*





Happy 2014!

Sisterhood has an exciting year planned for 2014. We look forward to the return of our current members and we hope to see many new faces this year! Our membership has increased, and it's great to meet new women each month at our meetings, which have become very proactive with a new format that includes time for creative thinking, committee meetings, or just fun social time!

Chai Life has some great projects planned including Hamantaschen baking on March 9, at 12 pm... typically there is a \$5 per child \$10 per family charge for pizza and soda to fill bellies before getting little hands busy!

We are still looking for experienced Mah-Jong players with game sets to help put together an instructional session of teaching those of us with no experience. Please contact the Sisterhood if you are willing to teach if you are an experienced player.

Thanks are in order for those of you who donated their time to gift wrapping this past holiday season. Our next fundraising event will be the used books sale on February 23 during Religious School. If you have gently used books, movies, games, etc. please bring to them to Temple. We are collecting for the sale now.

Gift cards are always available for purchase, and they are a great way to help with fundraising. Contact Sue Spohr if you are interested in purchasing any.

Upcoming meeting dates are as follows: February 9, March 9, April 27 and May 18. Hope to see you there!

B'Shalom,

*Susan*

Susan Elgowsky



**SISTERHOOD MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**  
**10:00 AM**

**MAJJONG PLAYERS WANTED**



Sisterhood is looking for experienced Mahjong players who would be willing to help assist new players with learning the game.

Our goal is to start a Valley Temple Mahjong group once enough people know how to play. Please contact Allison Schneider at

Allisonpgschneider@gmail.com



**HELP US BAKE  
HAMANTASCHEN**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9**  
AT 10 AM

Hamantaschen will be used for  
the Purim dinner and Purim Carnival  
as well as our members in need of cheer

No Experience Necessary

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12 Noon-2 PM - Chai Life Hamantaschen Baking

Stay for lunch immediately  
following RS and bake with your kids  
\$5/child \$10 max per family

**PURIM CELEBRATION**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15**  
6:00 PM DINNER  
7:00 PM SERVICE AND SCHPIEL



**\$10.00 / adults**  
**\$5.00/ child (ages 3-12)**

Bring your friends -- Costumes invited! Send in your reservation for the dinner to the Temple office.

Name(s) .....

# of Adults @ \$10.00 .....

# of Children (ages 3-12) @ \$5.00 .....

(Children under 3 free) .....

AMT ENCLOSED .....

*Please let us know if you need a vegetarian meal*  
**PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATION FORM & PAYMENT TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE, 145 SPRINGFIELD PIKE, 45215 BY MARCH 12**

**SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED FEBRUARY 16  
Food Preparation, Servers,  
Brownie Bakers Are Needed  
Call Jeannie Hiller to volunteer**

**Brownie volunteers –  
please cut into squares and use wax paper  
between layers so they don't stick together**



**MAZAL TOV**

**Andrea Frieder and Michael Heines and Rabbi Sol and Sue Greenberg** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter and granddaughter, Emma Heines

**Leon and Judy Silverman** on the engagement of their daughter, Amber to Josh Stevens

**Leon and Judy Silverman** on the engagement of their daughter, Elyse to Brad Parker

**MISHEBERACH**

**DANI STEMLER**



**OUR SYMPATHY**

**Miriam Hodesh** on the death of her father, Alvin Lipson

**Jeff Schlaeger** on the death of his cousin, Sam Engel

**Bill Cusack** on the death of his father, Pat St. Denny

**Jenny Broh** on the death of her brother, Todd P. Boering

**Susan Marmo** on the death of grandmother, Sara Marmo

**Jeannie Hiller** on the death of her nephew, Anthony Fischer, her aunt, Dorothy Borotraeger and her uncle, Harry Reilman

**Bette and Tom Sherman** on the death of their son-in-law, Michael Vesio

**Alison Weikel** on the death of her grandmother, Lillian Block

**YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES**

The third weekend in January the Valley Temple Youth Group celebrated Martin Luther King Jr day. We went downtown with hundreds of other supporters to march in the annual Commemorative Civil Rights March. After the march we went to bowling with a surprise visit from Rabbi Kopnick.

The Youth Group's next step is to begin the planning for the upcoming Purim carnival. This is the Youth Group's biggest event of the year with food and prizes and the entire congregation is invited. The Purim carnival is on Sunday, March 16th at 12:00pm.

*Josh*

Josh Weikel  
Valley Temple Youth Group President



*Youth Group attends Martin Luther King, Jr. March in downtown Cincinnati*

**Purim**

**Carnival**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16 -- NOON  
(FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL)**

New toys, gift certificates and other items that can be used as raffle and/or game prizes are needed for this year's Carnival.

Cakes for the cake walk are also needed.

Please contact Brian Meeron or Josh Weikel for more information or to make a donation.

**HELP THE YOUTH GROUP MAKE THIS  
A BIG SUCCESS!**

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Marc Deitsch              | 02/01 |
| Devon Brandt              | 02/01 |
| Harold Blatt              | 02/02 |
| Jon Hoffheimer            | 02/02 |
| Alanna Schlaeger          | 02/02 |
| Stephen Kovacic           | 02/03 |
| Richard Gaynor            | 02/04 |
| Alice Weitzenkorn         | 02/06 |
| Joanne Steinberg          | 02/06 |
| Jenny Broh                | 02/07 |
| Cathy Cryder              | 02/07 |
| Tim Huseman               | 02/08 |
| Lois Benjamin             | 02/08 |
| Rica Hodesh               | 02/10 |
| Joel Davis                | 02/11 |
| Rick Michelman            | 02/11 |
| Karen Blatt               | 02/12 |
| Gil Kaufman               | 02/13 |
| Gerald Springer           | 02/13 |
| Donald Kaplan             | 02/14 |
| Benjamin Zellhuber        | 02/14 |
| John Amber                | 02/15 |
| Emma Weitzenkorn          | 02/17 |
| Betsy Cusack              | 02/18 |
| Clare Deutsch             | 02/18 |
| Barbara DelMauro          | 02/19 |
| Sydney Sloan Zwick        | 02/19 |
| Jonathan Sass             | 02/22 |
| Almog Gal                 | 02/22 |
| John Rosenthal            | 02/23 |
| Isabelle Clark            | 02/23 |
| Rebecca Clark             | 02/23 |
| Katherine Janelle O'Neill | 02/23 |
| Betsy Ach                 | 02/23 |
| Donna Goodman             | 02/25 |
| Alicia Stoughton          | 02/26 |
| Megan Zellhuber           | 02/26 |
| Mollie Davis              | 02/27 |
| Shayna Codd               | 02/27 |
| Sidney Cohen              | 02/28 |
| Nancy Magnus Kopnick      | 02/29 |
| Jan Rosenbaum             | 02/29 |
| Evan Powers               | 02/29 |

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

|                  |             |            |
|------------------|-------------|------------|
| Bill & Betsy     | Cusack      | 02/06/1988 |
| Richard & Marsha | Kuhr        | 02/14/1982 |
| Carl & Judy      | Gehr, Jr.   | 02/17/1963 |
| Rick & Karen     | Michelman   | 02/18/1996 |
| Stephanie & Jeff | Rhein       | 02/18/2001 |
| Aubrey & Arlene  | Herman      | 02/20/1972 |
| Michael & Nancy  | Shayeson    | 02/20/1971 |
| Norman & Wendy   | Wasserman   | 02/24/1963 |
| Chuck & Ricklie  | Vordenberge | 02/25/1984 |
| Brian & Mindy    | Sefferino   | 02/29/1999 |
| Aron & Kara      | Schneider   | 02/26/2000 |



## Sustaining the Generations ...

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

### **ALLEN AND SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND**

A gift from *Sam & Laura Lobar*  
 A gift from *Susan Marmo & Neil Berman*  
 A gift from *John & Hank Rosenthal*  
 A gift from *Michael & Nancy Shayeson*

### **BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND**

In honor of Rabbi Kopnick; *from Joanne & Sydney Cohen*  
 In memory of Bryna Schwartz; *from Alan Schwartz*  
 A gift from *John & Hank Rosenthal*  
 A gift from *Gail & Scott Silverstein*  
 A gift from *Peggy Barrett*  
 A gift from *Lois Benjamin*

### **SEINSHEIMER MUSIC FUND**

In memory of Dr. Julian Benjamin; *from Lois Benjamin & sons*  
 In memory of Helen Kramberg; *from Carol Kramberg-Walker & Bruce Walker*

### **CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Meyer Silver; *from Sue & Jay Price*

### **ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND**

A gift from *Kurt & Myrna Bloch*

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

In memory of Fan Colish; *from Lynn & Neil Kravitz*  
 In memory of Robert F. Stewart, Miriam Berkowitz, Sidney Berkowitz; *from Buz & Barb Stewart & family*  
 In memory of Michael Vesio; *from Bette & Tom Sherman*  
 A gift from *Dorothy Siegel*

### **L'CHAYIM CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND**

In memory of John Siegel; *from Mark & Ellen Kovacic*  
 In memory of Todd Broering; *from Fay May & Robert Prescott*

### **VALLEY TEMPLE GENERAL FUND**

A gift from *John Frank*  
 A gift from *Jan Goldstein and Chuck Frank*  
 A gift from *Beth Schwartz & Gene Smiley*  
 In memory of Eric Liebman; *from Lily Liebman*

## OUR GRATEFUL THANKS

*Honor a special occasion by donating to one of our funds which will suit the donor or honoree. These contributions support special programs and projects not covered by our operating budget. For more info, call the Temple office.*

The Valley Temple



145 Springfield Pike Cincinnati, OH 45215

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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

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E-MAIL: [wendy@valleytemple.com](mailto:wendy@valleytemple.com)

or use links at [valleytemple.com](http://valleytemple.com)

## 2013 CONSECRATION CLASS

