



NOVEMBER 2015/CHESHVAN, KISLEV 5776

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

9:30 AM – Torah Study

10:30 AM – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – Chayei Sarah, Gen. 23:1-25:18

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Music: Friday Night Live

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Friends of the Schneider family in honor of Aleeza becoming a Bat Mitzvah

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

9:30 AM – Torah Study

10:30 AM – Shabbat Service

Aleeza Schneider, daughter of Aron and Kara Schneider, becomes a Bat Mitzvah

Torah Portion – Tol'dot, Gen 25:19-28:9

Music: Charlene Gubitz

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6:00 pm – Tot Shabbat

7:30 pm – Family Shabbat Service

Music: Charlene Gubitz

Family and Friends of the Beasley Family will sponsor the Oneg in honor of Katie becoming a Bat Mitzvah

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:30 AM – Torah Study

10:30 AM – Shabbat Service

Katie Beasley, daughter of Rick and Laura Beasley, granddaughter of Jim and Cindi Miller and Sandy Miller (of blessed memory), becomes a Bat Mitzvah

Torah Portion – Vayeitzei, Gen. 28:10-32:3

Music: Charlene Gubitz

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

9:30 AM – Torah Study

10:30 AM – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – Vayishlach, Gen. 32:4-36:43

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN THROUGH GRIEF AND LOSS

**Sunday, November 1 at 10:30 am  
at Valley Temple**

With Debi Varland, Jewish Family Service

Loss and grief are unavoidable in life, and understanding how to speak with children about death and loss is difficult.

Join Jewish Family Service's Debi Varland (daughter of our own Dr. and Mrs. Robert Maltz) as she helps us explore the issues and possible strategies for talking with our children and grandchildren about death and loss.

**"Jewish Tradition on the  
Sanctity of the Single  
Human Life, or Would  
You Kill the Fat Man?"  
Tues., Oct 27, Mon., Nov 2,  
and Tues., Nov. 10**



Judaism has much to say about the sanctity of human life. Medical ethicists and religious Jews continually confront dilemmas that the tradition could have never anticipated, yet our values are clear. Join Dr. Mark Washofsky, professor at HUC-JIR in Rabbinic Literature as we explore the many issues connected to the sanctity of human life as we understand it from the Reform Jewish perspective.

## ANNUAL RAKE DAY



**SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER 15, NOON**



## FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Help us rake leaves for our neighbors in need. Bring rakes, gloves and wear appropriate clothing. Drivers are also needed. Contact Jeannie Hiller to participate.



## FROM THE RABBI ...

Sandford R. Kopnick

Shalom!

Recently, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College opened admission to their Rabbinic School to students who are partnered with or married to non-Jews. Some would say that allowing this change in policy signals the demise of the Jewish People. Our Reform Rabbinic School—HUC-JIR does not currently admit students whom they know to be intermarried or dating a non-Jew.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, of blessed memory, served as President of the URJ (then UAHC) when he famously called for a vigorous “Outreach Program” to engage Jewish families where one spouse or partner is not Jewish. The taboo which prevented Jews from marrying non-Jews had long been dismissed by this time (the 1980s), so Schindler’s initiatives were a hope to catch up to where American Judaism had progressed.

We find ourselves at that moment again. Rabbi Sol Greenberg, our rabbi emeritus, was among the first rabbis to look for ways to say yes to officiating at an intermarriage, rather than insisting that not officiating would make the “problem” go away. Rabbi Greenberg, like so many Valley members both at the time and now, realized that intermarriage was the result of American Judaism’s success. It signaled being accepted by the neighbors and being fully integrated into society.

Growing up, my rabbi always taught us that couples with a lot in common have the best chance for success in their marriage. So while I can understand why a rabbi would want to marry someone with whom they can share and celebrate Judaism fully, I’m not certain why HUC-JIR is in a position to insist upon it.

Rabbi Greenberg’s approach to intermarriage taught us--and the wider community--that a warm welcome to Jewish families who happen to have a non-Jewish spouse/partner are just as wonderful as any other type of Jewish family. He showed us that accepting reality allows Judaism to have a richer future than by continuing to insist that the only type of acceptable rabbinic spouse is a Jewish spouse.

It seems to me that a rabbinic program’s job is to give an education to its students. It also seems that the more a student learns about Judaism and Jewish practice, the greater chance of strain on an interfaith relationship. A couple where one member doesn’t share a love for Judaism and Jewish life will have to confront how to incorporate one spouse’s/student’s greater appetite for serving the Jewish people and participating in religious life. While there is a possibility of the

couple growing apart, it seems like this is not for HUC’s admissions process to determine.

HUC-JIR should admit Jews. It should also admit people of sound character. It should consider the best chance to succeed at HUC, and, then, congregations can hire rabbis that reflect their values. I believe that our congregation and many others would not particularly care if a rabbi’s spouse/partner was not Jewish.

Make no mistake, I believe that the RRC changed the policy with hopes of attracting new students that would help put that rabbinic school on sounder financial footing. That aside, I also think their decision should now be ours. We all know many great Jewish families where one member is not Jewish. We also know that we are better for having these families in our midst. They should be allowed to attend the Hebrew Union College, ordained as a teacher in Israel, and dispatched to the congregations that embrace a rabbi who is a good fit for their community.

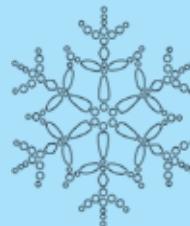
B’shalom,

Sandford R. Kopnick  
Rabbi

## The December Dilemma Strategies for Mutual Respect

with Rabbi Sandford Kopnick  
Sunday, November 22 at 10:30 a.m.

Many agreed to raise Jewish children, but feel a conflict only at Christmas time. Some worry about how to show respect for both faiths without sending mixed messages to their kids or grandkids. Join us for a respectful discussion of the issues and possible strategies for navigating the holiday season.





Did you know you can help the Sisterhood to support programming at the Valley Temple? If you shop at Kroger, just link your Plus card to Valley Temple Sisterhood, and each time you swipe your card at the checkout, you will be contributing!

If you have already registered at <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>, it will be very simple to renew and continue helping Sisterhood to support Valley Temple programming. If you have not registered before, you can also go to this website to sign up and link your KrogerPlus card. Just have your card ready and follow the on-screen prompts to start helping Sisterhood every time you shop!

Individuals must re-register each spring, so if you haven't done it yet, please update your account - there's still time! And Remke shoppers, a similar community rewards program will soon be up and running - details to come!

**Sisterhood Thanks You!!!**

## **TORAH STUDY**

*Saturdays, 9:30 am*

*followed by Shabbat Service at 10:30 am*

## *Simchat Torah Celebration 2015*



## **JUDAISM CONFRONTS CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**



2nd Monday of the month  
November 9  
at Valley Temple  
3rd Monday of the month  
November 16  
at the office of Jon Hoffheimer  
in the Mercantile Building

A lively discussion of contemporary events, business ethics, and other issues through Jewish eyes.  
Feel free to bring your lunch.

## **TOT SHABBAT FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20**



**6:00 PM**  
**Puppets, prayers,  
songs and a story  
for children  
birth to 6**



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

### Immersive Attention: Looking, Listening, Reflecting

Last month, I wrote about how we read and reread the Torah each year. Our tradition teaches us that when we read the Torah over and over again, we can always find something new.

I want to connect that to the way our teachers are 'reading' and 'rereading' their classrooms...

Have you ever read and then reread a book or watched a television show, movie, or even a commercial more than once? Have you ever noticed something in the second reading or viewing that you had not noticed before? Do you know that feeling when something is revealed or you come to an understanding that you had not had before? Have you ever said to yourself, 'I can't believe I missed that!'

The teachers and I have been exploring what happens when we approach our classrooms with fresh eyes and ears each week. We go in with a question such as, what can I learn about listening when I observe my own class at work? And then we reflect on what we 'read' in the room.

Listening, observing, and reflecting are skills that can help us elevate our teaching practice, which can then elevate our students' learning experiences. I am working with the teachers to slow down, look, and listen to the interactions in their classrooms. To borrow a term from Harvard professor Jennifer L. Roberts, we are practicing *immersive attention*. Roberts suggests that students have become accustomed to fast-paced, technology-driven, immediate responses to situations and questions and we need to give them permission, time, space and practice in slowing down, looking, listening and interacting with each other in a way that encourages questioning and reflection.

Roberts writes: "... just because you have *looked* at something doesn't mean that you have *seen* it. Just because something is available instantly to vision does not mean that it is available instantly to consciousness. Or, in slightly more general terms: access is not synonymous with learning. What turns access into learning is time and strategic patience."

The teachers and I will be taking observation and description a bit further as we consider the following

prompt a colleague shared with me:  
*What do we see when we listen and what do we hear when we look?*

I will report back in a future article, but in the meantime, try slowing down in your own life... You may be surprised by what you see and hear.

(To read more from Roberts, check out: <http://harvard-magazine.com/2013/11/the-power-of-patience>)

B'Shalom,

**Alison**

Alison Weikel, Director of Education

### Alan Goodis Concert October 11, 2015

*Thank you to the Jewish Foundation for support.*





WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM  
*stronger together*

Our annual Sisterhood brunch, chaired by Kathy Klein, was outstanding and we got the chance to welcome six new members! True to form, we shared some fabulous dishes, good conversation, and lots of laughter.

Considering what a bustling place the Temple is now, it might be hard to imagine a time before there was a Valley Temple (even for those who were there!) It is the same with Sisterhood. The Sisterhood has long been active at Valley, supporting Temple programs, the Religious School, camperships, as well as social action projects and even a few events just for fun! The history of women's groups supporting their congregations goes back quite a way. In fact, in Cincinnati in 1913, 156 delegates from 52 Reform temples came together to formally incorporate the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, now called the Women of Reform Judaism.

From the very beginning, WRJ has been a strong advocate for religious education for both boys and girls, for social justice issues at the national level, and a major supporter of scholarships for HUC students. The Valley Temple Sisterhood contributes a portion of our dues to the national WRJ, enabling this important work to continue.

The above information about the beginnings of the WRJ is from Women of Reform Judaism: A Centennial Celebration. Over the next several months I plan to share more about the growth of the WRJ, so if there is anything you are curious about, please let me know - I'll be happy to share what I can find!

**Please Join us for these Upcoming dates:**

November 8 - Meeting  
December 6 - Meeting and Chanukah party  
January 10 - Meeting  
February 7 - Used Book Sale  
February 21 - Meeting and Guest Speaker  
March 6 - Meeting and hamantaschen baking  
April 10 - Meeting (prior to Dan Nichols concert)  
May 15 - Meeting & Religious School closing day picnic.

Hope to see you soon!

*Chrissy*

Christine Knarr  
Recording Secretary

**Sisterhood Brunch 2015**



**MEN'S CLUB**

The Valley Temple Men's Club would like to thank all the fathers and kids who came out for our Fall Dads and Donuts on October 11th. Additionally we appreciate the Religious School teachers who welcomed our sugar-charged children to class.

Following donuts, the Men's Club held our Fall semiannual meeting where we began planning our 2015-16/5776 calendar. We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting a family Superbowl party on Sunday, February 7th. More details will follow in the upcoming months, but please mark your calendars now.

Other scheduled events:

Candlepin Bowling at the Wyoming Civic Center on Sunday, January, 31 during Religious School hours.

Family night with the Cincinnati Cyclones will be on Saturday, February 27. Break out your Turtle gear as its TMNT night with \$1.00 pizza.

Wings & Trivia continues at Buffalo Wings and Rings in Finneytown hosted by fellow congregant Brian Meeron. We play once a month on a Wednesday night. Check the Men's Club Facebook page for dates or contact Scott Steinberg at [scottydoc6@zoomtown.com](mailto:scottydoc6@zoomtown.com).

**THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING  
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 for sponsoring a recent oneg, a wonderful way to celebrate the joy of the Sabbath.

Sandy Hatfield in memory of Herbert E. Geltner

Rita and Bill Clark in memory of Arthur and Beatrice Feldman

Helen and Elliot Spieler in honor of Ross becoming a Bar Mitzvah

appreciate.  
congregate.  
celebrate.

valley temple renovation  
october 10, 2015

gala  
2015



The recent Gala that was held to celebrate the completion of our temple expansion was by all accounts a resounding success! It was a beautiful evening, made possible by the hard work and the spirit of everyone involved, whether by giving time, making a donation, or sharing talents. It was also wonderful to hear stories about the very beginnings of The Valley Temple, and to look through the remarkable archive of photos, letters, and articles chronicling the development of Valley, as a community as well as a physical space. Special thanks to Co-chairs Amy Paul and Kathie Tamarkin and their committee for a wonderful evening. (Thanks to Wendy for preparing the display!)

*When asked to make a quilted wall hanging to commemorate the building addition, I began thinking about the components that make up the Valley Temple community – our rabbinic and board leadership, our services, rituals, life-cycle events, our families, and our children. Like the building blocks of the physical structure, these components are foundational to a rich Jewish experience. What's already happening in the building is fantastic. The enhancements to our building will allow us to expand our Jewish life, making it even better for generations to come. - Barb Stewart*

Top, l-r: Jay Price and Mike Shayeson; Jerry and Micki Springer

Bottom, left: Valley Temple members; right: Alan Goodis and Rabbi Sandford Kopnick during Havdalah



## MISHBERACH

NIKKI SANDOR  
BEN SANDOR  
SUE KATZ  
RHEDA HARRIS

## OUR SYMPATHY

Jessie, Adam and Emma Heines on the death of their grandfather, Jack Heines

## *Sustaining the Generations ...*

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

*A gift from Helen Sass*

In appreciation for the High Holidays;  
*from Stacy McAnulty*

In appreciation for the High Holidays; *from Donna Levi*

In memory of Samuel L. Harris & Samuel S. Roberts;  
*from Rheda & Robert Harris*

In memory of Patricia Walker; *from Carol Kramberg-Walker & Bruce Walker*

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick; *from Sally & Ernie Waxman*

In memory of John L. Hooven; *from Margie & Lou Rauh*

### ROBERT AND CHARLOTTE LANZIT ADULT LEARNING FUND

In memory of Robert G. Lanzit; *from Ned Lanzit*

### SEINSHEIMER MUSIC FUND

In appreciation of High Holy Days; *from Jane Meranus*

In memory of Jean Ehrle; *from Emily Ehrle, Aaron Ehrle, Laurel & Marvin Fischbaum*

In honor of Sally and Ernie Waxman's 50th Anniversary;  
*from Richard & Lynn Moschel*

### LOUISE MARKS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Mazel Tov on the birthday of Marsha & Barry Pinsky's granddaughter; *from Leah & Allen Cohen*

Mazel Tov on the birth of Ben & Erin Pinsky's daughter;  
*from Leah & Allen Cohen*

In memory of Ernest Jacob Waits, Sr; *from Ernie & Helen Waits*

### ETTA AND HARRY STARK YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

*A gift from Andy & Kim Stark*

### BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

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

## MAZAL TOV

Philip and Missy Hoffheimer on the birth of their daughter, Meredith Lee. Congrats also to happy grandparents, Debby and Craig Hoffheimer and great grandmother, Minette Hoffheimer.

Terri and Seth Campbell on the birth of their son Declan. Congrats also to happy grandparents, Debby and Craig Hoffheimer and great grandmother, Minette Hoffheimer.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Drew Geller	11/02	Aleeza Schneider	11/11
Joanne Shuck	11/02	Noah Festenstein	11/11
Lisa Sommer	11/02	Alan Solomon	11/12
Kira Gruenhagen	11/03	Alison Weikel	11/13
Charlyne Gaynor	11/03	William Cusack	11/14
Sasha Kirzner	11/03	Doug Sandor	11/15
Cheryl Hecht	11/04	Sophia Pennix	11/15
Rae Nourie	11/04	Kathryn Beasley	11/16
Jennifer Pennix	11/04	David Feldstein	11/16
Valerie Perry	11/04	Randi Kaplan	11/17
Jonathan Kopnick	11/06	Harvey Katz	11/22
Pam Greenberg	11/06	Peggy Markstein	11/26
Brad Greenberg	11/06	Ian Cronin	11/26
Paula Braverman	11/06	Ernest Waits, Jr.	11/27
Sue DuCovna	11/07	Micki Springer	11/27
Herb DuCovna	11/07	Jeannie Hiller	11/28
Rachel Habbert	11/08	Amy Levy	11/28
Ellen Schaengold	11/09	Nancy Dornheggen	11/28
Ron Weitzenkorn	11/09	Charles Powers	11/29
John Habbert	11/10	Kenneth Mitman	11/29
Ella Schlaeger	11/11	Jacob Hodesh	11/30
Sam Greenberg	11/11		

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Ryan & Golda	Kirzner	11/02/2003
Miriam & Jacob	Hodesh	11/03/2007
Bill & Nina	Strauss	11/04/1969
Gila & Michael	Naveh	11/08
Barbara & David	Neman	11/12/2000
Bobby & Linda	Denham	11/17/1984
Chad Munitz & Michelle Lightfoot		11/17
Lou & Marjorie	Rauh	11/21/1959
Jeff & Laurie	Marks	11/22/1980
John & Susan	Frank, Jr.	11/22/1997
Linda Kean & Ronn Mervis		11/26/1983
Barry & Arlene	Goldhoff	11/27/1966
Sidney & Joanne	Cohen	11/28/1985
David & Sharon	Feldstein	11/30/1985





145 springfield pike  
wyoming, oh 45215

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CINCINNATI, OHIO  
PERMIT NO. 2333

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

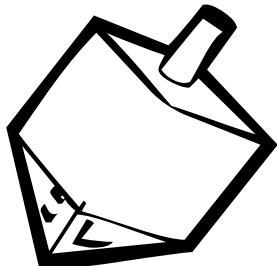
Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi  
Solomon T. Greenberg, Rabbi Emeritus  
Wendy Walsh, Temple Administrator  
Alison Weikel, Director of Education  
Michael Shayeson, President  
Laura Beasley, President, Women of Reform Judaism  
Scott Steinberg, President, Men's Club

513-761-3555

WEB SITE: [www.valleytemple.com](http://www.valleytemple.com)  
E-MAIL: [wendy@valleytemple.com](mailto:wendy@valleytemple.com)  
or use links at [valleytemple.com](http://valleytemple.com)

# **CHANUKAH DINNER, SERVICE, AND CONSECRATION OF OUR STUDENTS NEW TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11**



**HOOSIER:**  
**The Indiana University  
Jewish A Capella Group  
Returns to Valley**  
**Special Chanukah Concert**

**Saturday Night,  
December 12  
7:30 p.m.**