



FEBRUARY 2016/
SHEVAT- ADAR I 5776

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Mishpatim, Exod. 21:1-24:18

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 7:30 PM

6:30 VTMC Dinner (with reservation)

7:30 Family Shabbat Service - All are welcome

Music: David Snyder

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Linda Lazar and Barbara DelMauro

will become Adult B'not Mitzvah

Torah Portion: T'rumah, Exod. 25:1-27:19

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: T'zaveh , Exod. 27:20-30:10

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Ki Tisa, Exod. 30:11-34:35

Purim Dinner & Shpiel March 23 - see back page for more information.

Purim Carnival March 20 - see p. 5 for more information.

Upcoming Adult Education

JEWISH-BLACK RELATIONS IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Tuesdays, February 2 & 9, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.

With Prof. Mark A. Raider,
History Department, UC

Join us as we explore the current state of Jewish-Black relations by understanding the history of the way the two communities interacted and connected during the 20th Century. Dr. Raider will present information and discussion will be encouraged.

Mark A. Raider is Professor of Modern Jewish History in the Department of History at the University of Cincinnati and a Research Associate in the University's Center for Studies in Jewish Education and Culture. He is also Visiting Professor of American Jewish History at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

SISTERHOOD BOOK SALE

Sunday, February 7th during Religious School





FROM THE RABBI ...
Sandford R. Kopnick

REMEMBER THE STRANGER?

Terrorism is scary. It makes us feel better if we know how to identify terrorists in a crowd. No one wants to feel insecure. And as we go through the book of Exodus this month—we learn all about remembering the stranger, for we were strangers in the land of Egypt.

It really doesn't matter what the politics are. We Jews have insisted upon not being stereotyped. We have worked diligently to find our place in the world, and did not have a very easy time of it. In fact, we've been turned back, kicked out, and worse for most generations—until, maybe, now. And when we give comfort to speech or practice that discriminates against everyone of a particular ethnic group—whether African American, Middle Eastern, or otherwise, we are guilty of the same wrong by which we were victimized.

The Book of Exodus tries to get us to remember a remarkable time when we overcame persecution from a regime that arose "who knew not Joseph." The great contributions of previous Israelites were forgotten in favor of fear of the "other." We, ultimately, needed to leave Egypt, and Egypt suffered as we left. The payoff for us was a covenant with God that has, as one of its commands, to love our neighbors as ourselves. Furthermore, whenever we retell that story, we are also reminded to "remember the stranger, for we were strangers in the land of Egypt."

It is true that whenever someone comes to this country, their intentions need to not seek harm. The State Department must ensure the safety of the immigrants and the U.S. citizens upon welcoming new people to America. And when it is difficult to tell, we have to get better at finding out. But we can't discriminate against all because of the sins of the few.

What if all Jews were under greater suspicion of dishonesty in business because of Bernie Madoff? What if all Jews were suspected terrorists because of Baruch Goldstein, or the others who killed innocent Muslims as they prayed in a mosque?

It is easy to paint everyone with the same brush. Yet, we are taught to resist this. We have to welcome. We have to remember that the goal is to turn swords into plowshares. We have to seek peace and pursue it, and to remember the stranger, for we were strangers in the land of Egypt. It's not a political statement—it's a Jewish one.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Sandford Kopnick



**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
PASSOVER SEDER**

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 - 6:00 PM
(Second Night of Passover)



MATZAH MITZVAH!

Bring boxes of matzah (which will be added to other Passover items to make a Seder to help families in need) to the barrel in the front hall.



**VALLEY
TEMPLE
MITZVAH
CORPS**

DETROIT RETREAT 2016

TORAH STUDY

Saturdays, 9:30 am

followed by Shabbat Service at 10:30 am



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

What's your favorite way to learn? Do you like to read? To listen? To move around? Do you like to be by yourself? With a partner or a small group? Did you love or hate those giant college lecture halls where you could get lost in the anonymity?

A particularly Jewish way to learn, referenced as early as in the Talmud, is in *chavruta* or with a partner. "The Talmud asserts that the Torah is only acquired in a group, *chaburah* (Babylonian Talmud, Berakhot63b). The word *chaburah* derives from the same root as *chavruta*-*chaver*, or, in English, friend. The Talmud also particularly extols the value of learning in pairs: "Two scholars sharpen one another" (Babylonian Talmud Ta'anit 7a)-two scholars, through discussion and debate, help to sharpen each other's insight into the text."¹

Several teachers in Religious School are teaching their classes how to work in *chavruta* in our continued attempt to not only play to our students' diverse strengths but also because learning in *chavruta* ties us to our ancestors and truly offers a range of skill-building that includes critical thinking and interpersonal proficiency.

Chavruta is a process that benefits from practice and reflection. As I sit in on some of the sessions during which the students have thought about and discussed what makes them good *chavruta* partners and what makes the practice worthwhile, I am amazed by their insights. Your children have said things such as:

- "We are building something."
- "We are using everyone's creativity."
- "It means helping someone figure something out."
- "I can feel comfortable asking a question."
- "I am paying attention and finding new things."
- "We are teaching each other."

I believe these understandings they have about themselves as learners will serve them inside the walls of Valley Temple and beyond.

¹ www.myjewishlearning.com

To read more about *chavruta*: *A Philosophy of Havruta: Understanding and Teaching the Art of Text Study in Pairs* by Elie Holzer with Orit Kent

B'Shalom,
Alison

Alison Weikel, Director of Education

FAMILY EDUCATION DATES (ALL AT VALLEY UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE):

- February 7 at 9:45AM – 6th grade
- February 28 at 11AM – 1st grade
- March 6 at 10AM – 3rd grade
- March 13 at 10AM – 5th grade
- April 17 at 10AM – 4th grade
- April 17 at 11AM – 2nd grade
- April 24 at 10AM – 6th grade at Mapping Our Tears
- April 24 at 11:15AM – Kindergarten
- May 1 at 10AM – 5th grade at Weil Funeral Home

CONSECRATION 2015



MEN'S CLUB



UPCOMING SCHEDULED EVENTS:

Superbowl Party Sunday, February 7, at 5:30pm. Pizza and wings will be ordered from LaRosa's; families should bring side dishes to share. Tickets for the Superbowl Raffle currently on sale. Please bring cans of soup to donate to the Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Pantry. **Please RSVP by Wednesday, February 3 to Jeff Schlaeger at schlaegersith@gmail.com. \$10 per family.**

Valley Temple 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. Our next date is February 10.



It seems that Winter has arrived, and along with it plenty of cold, snow, and darkness. Technically, since December 21 the daylight hours have been increasing one small minute or so each day, but to me this always feels like the darkest time of year. It can be pretty tempting to hibernate. Thankfully, there is plenty going on at Valley that makes it worth braving the elements. We have so many opportunities to connect with each other in groups both large and small that it becomes less and less appealing to turn into a hermit! Some activities are more business-oriented, some are purely social, and others are geared toward social action and providing assistance to the greater community.

We have some exciting new fundraising ideas in the works, thanks to Allison Schneider. One is a summer opportunity at Kings Island, in case you need something warm to look forward to! If you're interested in learning more, join us at our next meeting!

Before the January meeting we had a great time learning to braid challah, then we all got to leave with a beautiful (maybe) and delicious (certainly!) challah to bake at home. Many thanks to Amanda Stein for organizing and to Erika Hecht for leading this fun activity!

We have a several things happening on February 7: We'll have a short meeting, and we will also help out with (or shop at) the Used Book Sale. Thanks to Helen Waits for chairing this event! We are also collecting donations of

toothpaste, toothbrushes, and other oral care items, which will be donated to Caracole, which provides housing and services to people with HIV/AIDS.

With such a variety of activities happening in Sisterhood, there is room for every woman to find a niche. If you're a "regular," we look forward to seeing you again soon. If you haven't been to a Sisterhood event before, check the dates below and be sure to look for the weekly email from the temple - you're sure to find something that is meaningful to you.

So, cozy up at home with a good book and a cup of tea, but also lace up your boots, grab a hat, and come warm up with your Sisters!

Chrissy

Christine Knarr
Recording Secretary

Please mark these dates on your calendar:

- February 7 - Short meeting and Used Book Sale - please bring books, CDs and DVDs to donate to the sale!
- February 21 - Guest Speaker - Jan Goldstein will share what she learned on her recent trip to Cuba!
- March 6 - Hamantaschen baking
- April 10 - Meeting (prior to Dan Nichols concert)
- May 15 - Meeting and Religious School closing day picnic.

Save the date for the Central District Spring Kallah (retreat) at GUCI, April 15-17. This weekend is a chance to connect with other Valley Sisterhood members as well as women from other Sisterhoods in our area, celebrating Shabbat, enjoying a campfire, attending workshops, all in the company of new and old friends.



Remember, whether you shop at Kroger or at Remke, you can help support Sisterhood just by doing your regular grocery shopping. When you link your shopper card to either the Kroger Community Rewards Program or to the Remke Caring Neighbor Program, every time you swipe your card or enter your alternate ID at the checkout, a portion of the sale goes to Sisterhood, which in turn helps to support Valley Temple programming.



For Kroger:
<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>
Click to sign in or create an account.

For Remke:
<http://www.remkes.com/Community.aspx>
Options to sign in or register are at the top right corner of the webpage.

If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy Knarr.

YOUTH GROUP



For the weekend of January 8-10, five of our Valley Temple teens joined 84 other Jewish high schoolers from around the country at the Hebrew Union College here in Cincinnati for the NFTY Winter Kallah. The Ohio Valley region of the North American Federation of Temple Youth planned a fun and educational weekend where our youth groupers were able to come together with old and new friends and learn about various Jewish and social action topics. Jeremy Cronig, the President of NFTY as a whole, joined them to teach about NFTY's stance on gun violence prevention and the role that its advocacy played on influencing President Obama to take an affirmative stand on gun violence prevention. Four LGBTQ rabbinical students later joined them to discuss being an LGBTQ member of the Jewish community and the acceptance they were largely shown from the Jewish community. Our attending youth groupers also sang, danced, attended creative Shabbat services, watched the Bengals game, and hung out with like-minded Jewish teens whose hometowns stretched from Indianapolis to Baltimore. They were also together to welcome the first big snowfall of the season, as can be seen in the picture.

--Presidents Adrian Niedermann
and Ashley Schlaeger

PURIM CARNIVAL

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20 NOON
(FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL)**

To Benefit the Temple Youth Group
GAMES • PRIZES • LUNCH
HAMANTASCHEN • FUN

Youth Group set up will be Saturday, March 19.

Donations of new toys, gift cards and other items that can be used for prizes are needed.

Cakes for the cake walk should be brought to Religious School.

Please contact Brian Meeron, Youth Group Advisor at the Temple for more information or to make a donation.

CHANUKAH 2015



MISHBERACH

Judith Kanofsky
Rheda Harris
Judy Gehr

OUR SYMPATHY

Roberta Pappenheimer on the death
of her husband, Paul.

Jenny Dapper on the death of her father.

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS ...

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A Chanukah gift; *from Bill & Rita Clark*
A Chanukah gift; *from John & Hank Rosenthal*
A Chanukah gift; *from Mark & Jan Sass*
A Chanukah gift; *from Barry & Marsha Pinsky*
A Chanukah gift; *from Jenny Broh*
A Chanukah gift; *from Helen Sass*
A Chanukah gift; *from Dave & Mandy Katz*
A Chanukah gift; *from David & Shannon Clark*
A Chanukah gift; *from Craig & Debby Hoffheimer*
A Chanukah gift; *from Sue & Jay Price*
A Chanukah gift; *from Phyllis Bossin and Robert Strauss*
A Chanukah gift; *from Minette Hoffheimer*
A Chanukah gift, in memory of Lily Liebman;
from Laura & Sam Lobar
A Chanukah gift; *from Beth Schwartz & Gene Smiley*
A Chanukah gift; *from Allie Weiner*

TEMPLE OPERATING FUND

A Chanukah gift; *from John & Hank Rosenthal*
A Chanukah gift; *from Ellen Bamberger*
A Chanukah gift; *from Izar & Stacey Spivak*
A Chanukah gift; *from Kathleen & Ivan Tamarkin*
A Chanukah gift; *from Joanne & Sidney Cohen*
A Chanukah gift; *from Allie Weiner*

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Anne Waxman; *from Ernie & Sally Waxman*
In memory of Louis Kaller; *from Lynn & Neil Kravitz*
In memory of Sidney Berkowitz & Robert F. Stewart;
from Robert & Barbara Stewart
In memory of Joanne Shuck; *from Jenny Broh*
In memory of Helen Kramberg; *from Bruce Walker & Carol Kramberg-Walker*
In appreciation of Valley Temple;
from Rabbi Jennifer M. Lader

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick;
from Ivan & Kathie Tamarkin

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick;
from Aron & Kara Schneider

In memory of Miriam Berkowitz;
from Buz & Barb Stewart

In memory Fan Colish; *from Neil & Lynn Kravitz*

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick, Jenny, Alison and
Wendy; *from Elliot & Helen Spieler*

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick;
from Roberta Pappenheimer

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Phyllis Boering, Todd Boering, Adele Broh,
Shirley Broh-Davis; *from Jenny Broh & children*

In memory of Dr. Julien E. Benjamin; *from Lois Benjamin*

In memory of Robert Shore; *from John & Ronnie Shore*

SEINSHEIMER MUSIC FUND

In memory of Nathan Goodman; *from Donna Goodman*

In memory of Helen Globe;
from Diane, Chuck, Evan & Jeremy Powers

In memory of John Siegel; *from Mark & Ellen Kovacic*

LOUISE MARKS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Mazel Tov on the birth of Sue & Jay Price's grandson;
from Laura & Sam Lobar & Family

Mazel Tov on the birth of Ivan & Kathie's granddaughter;
from Laura & Sam Lobar & Family

In appreciation of Valley Temple; *from Larry Bauman*

In honor of Aleeza Schneider's Bat Mitzvah;
from Mark, Rachel Ann, Mori, & Abraham Miller

ETTA AND HARRY STARK YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

In memory of Nathan Goodman; *from Donna Goodman*

ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND

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

JANE MUNICK MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

In honor of David Feldstein's birthday;
from Laura & Sam Lobar & Family

ALLEN AND SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In honor of Marsha Pinsky's birthday;
from Kathie & Ivan Tamarkin

In memory of Ida Tamarkin; *from Kathie & Ivan Tamarkin*

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
Judith Kanofsky	02/07
Lois Benjamin	02/08
Emmeram Morning	02/10
Rica Hodesh	02/10
Joel Davis	02/11
Rick Michelman	02/11
Dan Perlmutter	02/12
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 Zwick	02/19
Jonathan Sass	02/22
Shelly Morning	02/22
John Rosenthal	02/23
Isabelle Clark	02/23
Rebecca Clark	02/23
Katherine O'Neill	02/23
Ronn Mervis	02/24
Liz Wilson	02/24
Donna Goodman	02/25
Aubrey Yeazell	02/25
Alicia Stoughton	02/26
Meghan Jones	02/26
Shayna Codd	02/27
Dedra Perlmutter	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
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

MAZEL TOV!

Brad and Elyse Parker and Leon and Judy Silverman on the birth of their son and grandson, Cooper Leon Parker.

Linda Lazar and Barbara DelMauro
on becoming B'not Mitzvah.



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.

Bobbie Reckseit in memory of Bernard “Reggy” Reckseit

Hatfield, Seltzer and Geltner Families in memory of Marcia E. Geltner

Jenny Broh in memory of Phyllis Boering and Todd Boering

L'CHAYIM COMMITTEE: PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

The L'Chayim Committee NEEDS to add new members. The Committee provides cheer and support to congregants who are facing a family event such as a new baby, illness, accident, or death of a loved one. We have several Committee members who have chosen not to continue so we are really low on support as we move into 2016. Please contact Linda Denham at bdenham84@gmail.com to get more details, ask questions and tell her you would like to help.



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



PURIM



Purim dinner and shpiel - Wednesday, March 23

Purim Carnival - March 20 - see p. 5 for more info

6:00 PM DINNER • 7:00 PM SERVICE AND SHPIEL

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

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

Name _____

Adults @ \$10 _____ No. of Children (3 - 12) @ \$5 _____ No. of Children under 3 (free) _____

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

We wish to order a vegan meal _____ (how many)

Other food allergies (please specify) _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please send payment & reservation to the Temple office, 145 Springfield Pike, 45215 by March 18.