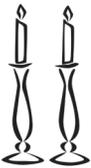


RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Sisterhood Shabbat

(for all Valley members and families)



Friday, March 4th, 7:30 pm

Service led and special Oneg
by Sisterhood Members

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayak'heil, Exod. 35:1-38:20

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 7:30 pm

Family Shabbat Service

Music: David Snyder

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: P'kudei, Exod. 38:21-40:38

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 7:30 pm

Shabbat Service

Music: Friday Night Live

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayikra, Lev. 1:1-5:26

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23 PURIM CELEBRATION

6:00 pm - Dinner (for those with reservations)

7:00 pm - Purim Service and Schpiel

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 7:30 pm

Shabbat Service

Music: Bob Pollack and Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

9:30 am – Torah Study

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Tzav, Lev. 6:1-8:36

PURIM AT VALLEY

HAMANTASCHEN BAKING



Sunday, March 6

10:00 – Noon

CARNIVAL

Sunday, March 20 Noon
(FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL)

To Benefit the Temple Youth Group

GAMES • PRIZES • LUNCH

HAMANTASCHEN • FUN



DINNER & SCHPIEL

Wednesday, March 23

6:00 PM DINNER

7:00 PM SERVICE AND SCHPIEL

\$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.

(see back page for reservation form)

TORAH STUDY

Saturdays, 9:30 am

followed by Shabbat Service at 10:30 am



FROM THE RABBI ...
Sandford R. Kopnick

Two Swimmers Teach Us About *Mentschlichkeit*.

I recently read in the newspaper about a swimmer who was awarded a gold medal in a regional high school swim final. The problem was, he finished 3 seconds slower than the fastest swimmer there. Michael Spark knew he was slower, but the rules state that Rich Fortels had to be disqualified for wearing a regulation swimcap that had the name of a team Rich did not represent in the meet. In other words, because he was wearing another team's swim cap, he was disqualified.

After Fortels appealed the disqualification, Michael Spark went to Rich Fortels' school, and presented him with the medal. The rules were clear. But the winner's disqualification had NOTHING to do with swimming. The original gold medalist said that he felt that the fastest swimmer should be given the top prize, not the one who wore the appropriate swim cap. That is a hero.

We live in a world where the technicality sometimes matters more than the people who are affected. Michael's kindness was not a random act, it was what was right. The rule about the swim cap needed to be enforced prior to the race, but not to disqualify a swimmer who clearly and legally won the race.

We Jews are a rules loving people. It seemed to be Maimonides' pleasure to count 613. Even Emil Fackenheim added another rule—calling upon us to honor the 614th Commandment to “not give Hitler a posthumous victory.” But our tradition also considers our mitzvot as dynamic. The rules of Shabbat are accompanied by an age-old adage that says, “live in them, but don't die in them.” The rules should never be so inflexible as to create victims where otherwise there are none.

I love hearing stories of people doing the right thing. I love that this kid knew that the winner's medal should go to the fastest person. It is clear that cheating would have been wearing an outlawed swim cap because it gave the swimmer an unfair advantage. Our tradition teaches us to interpret laws for the betterment of the community. And when the good is best served by embracing a rule or law, even when it creates an occasional unintended consequence, there is honor in doing the right thing when the rules fail us.

May these two swimmers inspire us to see the world as filled with people who err, and with rules that help us move forward as a community. And when a rule gets in the way of doing the right thing, let's find a way to make it right anyway. That's called being a *mentsch*.

Have a great month!

B'shalom,

Rabbi Sandford Kopnick

Upcoming Adult Education

TEXTS AND TWEETS: A JEWISH PERSPECTIVE ON NAVIGATING SOCIAL MEDIA

Sunday, March 6 at 10:00 am

With Mindy Gold



As adults, we are part of many communities. These include, to name just a few, the Jewish community, our neighborhood community, and often, online communities. In this session, we will explore online community

participation and social media through a Jewish lens. We will explore lessons from Jewish texts and current thought on responsible online behavior to foster on-going conversations with our peers and positive role modeling for the children in our lives.

Mindy Gold is a Chicago-based instructional technology specialist, former elementary school teacher, lifelong learner, and the founder of Edtech MMG, an instructional technology consulting firm specializing in professional development for educators in Jewish settings.

WHEN KIDS ASK ABOUT GOD

Sunday, March 13 at 11:00 am
(note later time)

With Rabbi Sandford Kopnick

Join us for this open discussion on strategies for discussing God, even if you question faith.

BOOK DISCUSSION: THE ISRAELI SOLUTION BY CAROLINE B. GLICK

Two Tuesdays, March 8 & 22 at 7:30 pm

Led by Rabbi Sandford Kopnick



The book is advertised as “A manifesto that exposes the flaws in the two-state policy of the United States toward Israel and the Palestinians and offers a direct and powerful call for Israeli sovereignty in the region.” Many find creating a two-state solution more appropriate. We have studied various books about the politics in Israel, we will explore Ms. Glick's thoughts about the future in the region and her take on the best way to proceed. Discussion will be encouraged—especially by those who read the book!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL?

In the world of education the phrase "21st century learner" appears prominently in journal articles, tweets and TED talks, and on websites, blogs and conference agendas. One of the features of a classroom that supports 21st century learners, as you would undoubtedly predict, is **technology**. Preparing our students for their future educational and professional endeavors involves exposing them to the 'constantly evolving array of technological tools and activities that demand problem-solving, decision-making, teamwork, and innovation' (<https://www.naesp.org>).

Where can the conversation about and the use of technology fit into our Religious School classrooms? While we are not practicing blended learning where students experience a combination of face-to-face and online instruction and we are far from the 1:1 classroom where there is one device per student, we certainly can think about what and how and why to integrate technology into our school. I believe it is important to start with the WHY. We have to make sure we are not using technology just for technology's sake. Teachers who effectively use technology in the classroom answer the why question by thinking about increasing student engagement, introducing students to a wealth of resources, differentiating learning choices for students with different learning strengths and needs, and encouraging collaboration.

Our wonderful teachers have been using technology to include videos, music and primary sources (in the form of testimonials and historical footage) in their lessons; to allow their students to conduct research and then present their findings to their classmates; and to assess learning through the use of Plickers and Kahoot. We have used Wordle to discover and discuss the implications of the most repeated words in Israel's Declaration of Independence; looked at the history of American Judaism right here in Cincinnati; and viewed and discussed sukkah structures around the world to see all the creative ways people celebrate and express their connection to the commandment to dwell in booths.

When we use technology, we also have the opportunity to consider Judaism's take on it and to talk about positive digital citizenship. I hope you will join the conversation on Sunday, March 6 at 10AM when Instructional Coach and Tech Specialist, Mindy Gold, visits Valley to present Texts and Tweets: A Jewish Perspective on Navigating Social Media.

B'Shalom,
Alison

Alison Weikel, Director of Education
FAMILY EDUCATION DATES
(ALL AT VALLEY UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE):
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

JUDAISM CONFRONTS CONTEMPORARY ISSUES



2nd Monday of the month
March 14
at Valley Temple
3rd Monday of the month
March 21
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.

MEN'S CLUB

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Men's Club for building shelves in the storage room!

UPCOMING SCHEDULED EVENTS:

Our semiannual general meeting will be on April 10, from 10-11AM before the Dan Nichols concert.



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 scottydock6@zoomtown.com. Our next date is April 17.



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
stronger together

Hard to believe it's March, with spring inching closer, and Purim and Passover not far behind. Recently, thanks to Helen Waits and her crew, Sisterhood held its annual Used Book Sale. While I couldn't bring myself to part with any books to donate, I did my duty by shopping and taking home an armload, which I now need to make room for on our already crowded shelves! It was worth it though, as one of the finds was a book about women of the bible, and I decided that with Purim approaching, I'd read up on Esther.

Frankly it has always bothered me a bit that Esther's great beauty is mentioned so often, and that such a superficial quality was so celebrated. One of the nice things about re-reading Torah each year is that sometimes we see things we hadn't seen before. As I thought about it this time, it seemed to me that while Esther had the good fortune to be beautiful, she didn't let it end there. Admittedly, her looks allowed her to be in the right place at the right time, namely in the king's palace while the evil Haman plotted first against her Uncle Mordecai, then against all the Jewish people in the kingdom. Esther's admirable qualities ran much deeper than the surface. She was smart enough to gather information and wait until the right time to present it. She was brave enough to risk her life by approaching the King uninvited, and then by asking him to save her people – the Jewish people. Esther didn't just wait to see what would happen, or hope things would work out all right. She acted, and her actions saved the Jews from destruction. Now that's a reason to celebrate!

Happy Spring, and Chag Sameach!

Chrissy

Christine Knarr
Recording Secretary



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.



PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

- **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.

Also watch for information about a weekend where women will have the opportunity to go to GUCI for a weekend to help get the camp ready for summer!

YOUTH GROUP

On Saturday, February 13th, Valley Temple Youth Group went to the Barbash Family Vital Support Center at Hebrew Union College. Throughout this event, teens got to package food at the pantry, sort between kosher and non-kosher food items, experience what it's like to live on food stamps, and brainstorm ways to resolve obstacles that people face on a daily basis. Afterwards, teens enjoyed Chipotle and a Havdallah service to conclude the program.



--Presidents
Adrian Niedermann
and Ashley Schlaeger

NFTY-OV Spring Kallah

April 14-17, Nashville TN

visit www.nfty.org/ov/events
for more info!



10TH GRADERS GO TO WASHINGTON

Rabbi Kopnick accompanied 10th graders Avi Shapiro, Rae Nourie, Marcelle Lobar, Devon Brandt, and Steven Elgowsky to Washington, D.C., to lobby their Congress-people on issues that they felt strongly about. All five students presented their speeches to the congregation at a Friday night Shabbat service upon their return.



MISHEBEIRACH

Kim Stark
Karen McClelland
Julius Saslow
Danny Stempler
Sharlene Stempler
Rheda Harris
Ken Mitman

OUR SYMPATHY

Andrea Knarr on the death of her uncle,
Harry Louis Schuman
Bobby Denham on the death of his mother,
Beulah Denham

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS ...

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick;
from The Estate of Lily H. Liebman

In honor of Linda Lazar's Bat Mitzvah;
from Deborah S. Miller

In memory of Betty DuCovna; *from Herb & Sue DuCovna*

In memory of Dorothy Trenkamp;
from George & Sue Trenkamp

In memory of Bernard Katz; *from Harvey & Barb Katz*

In memory of Arthur Hoffheimer, Sr.;
from Minette Hoffheimer

In memory of Paul Pappenheimer; *from Bobbie Reckseit*

In honor of Linda Lazar and Barbara DelMauro's B'not
Mitzvah; *from the Weikel Family*

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Paul Pappenheimer; *from John Schwab*

In honor of Barbara DelMauro's birthday; *from Laura &
Sam Lobar & Family*

In honor of Linda & Bob Denham's granddaughter,
Addison; *from Laura & Sam Lobar & Family*

In honor of Linda Lazar & Barbara DelMauro's B'not
Mitzvah; *from Laura & Sam Lobar & Family*

In memory of Mark Dapper; *from The Knarr Family*

In memory of Mark Dapper; *from Laura & Sam Lobar &
Family*

In memory of Bob Denham's Mom; *from Laura & Sam
Lobar & Family*

In memory of Miriam Lobar & Ruth Levenson; *from Laura
& Sam Lobar & Family*

In memory of Louis Kuhn Benjamin;
from Lois G. Benjamin

In honor of Jon Hoffheimer's birthday; *from Peggy Barrett*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

In memory of Beulah Denham; *from Jenny Broh*

LOUISE MARKS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In memory of Mark Dapper; *from Jenny Broh*

In memory of Mark Dapper; *from Linda & Jeff Lazar*

ROBERT AND CHARLOTTE LANZIT ADULT LEARNING FUND

In memory of Abraham Wolpo;
from Craig & Debby Hoffheimer

ALLEN AND SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Mark Dapper;
from Laurel & Marvin Fischbaum

ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND

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



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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Pam Levinson	03/01
Karen Rosenfield	03/02
Joan Reckseit	03/02
Barbara Neman	03/03
Michael Gelfand	03/04
Lawrence C. Freeman	03/06
Beth Schwartz	03/06
Anne Weitzenkorn	03/06
Avery Frank	03/08
Andrew Enneking	03/10
Rainie Perlmutter	03/11
Jenny Dapper	03/11
Robert E. Levinson	03/12
Helen Waits	03/12
Laura Sagle	03/12
Samuel Lobar	03/13
Nicole Deutsch	03/13
Phillip Levinson	03/14
Michelle Lightfoot	03/14
Ann Shulman	03/14
Cheryl Moeller	03/15
Melissa Hoffheimer	03/16
Richard Magnus	03/19
Nicole Sandor	03/20
Michael Shayeson	03/21
Karen Frecker	03/21
Carl Gehr, Jr.	03/22
Sharon Ran	03/22
Leah Joos	03/22
Ella Naveh	03/23
David Neman	03/23
John Shore	03/23
Lynn Wertheimer	03/25
Mike Wagner	03/25
Bradley Mannheimer	03/25
Max Pennix	03/26
Marjorie Rauh	03/26
Noah Seltzer	03/28
Dr. Martin Fritzhand	03/28
Sharon Kollasch	03/28
Avi Schneider	03/30
Don Moeller	03/30

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Janelle	Gelfand	03/24/1973
Mike & Judy	Green	03/25/1964

MAZEL TOV!

Linda and Bobby Denham on the birth of their granddaughter, Addison



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

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.



Dan Nichols

Musician-in-Residence
Friday, April 8-Sunday, April 10

Our thanks to the Sass Family in memory of Robert Sass and a friend of Valley Temple whose donations help to make Dan's visit possible.



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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 schpiel - Wednesday, March 23
Purim Carnival - March 20

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

\$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.