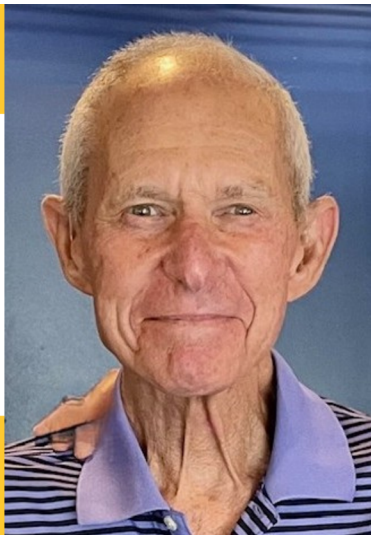
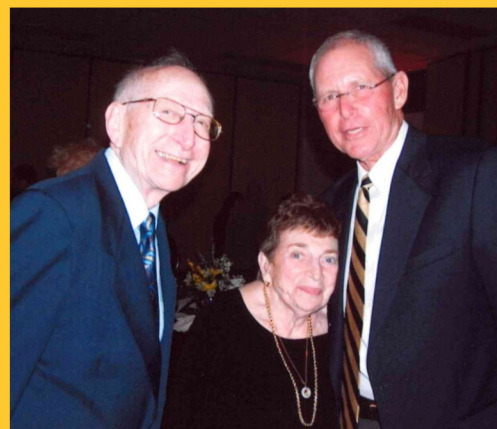
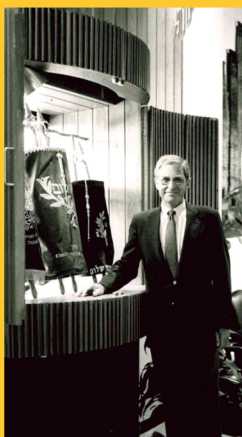


June - July 2026
Sivan - Tamuz - Av 5786



Rabbi Solomon T. Greenberg
August 2, 1938 - April 28, 2026



We mourn the recent death of Rabbi Solomon T. Greenberg, who became Rabbi of the Valley Temple in 1968 and served as rabbi until 2000. He was our honored Rabbi Emeritus for 26 years. That means for 58 years, Rabbi Greenberg blessed this congregation with his unique approach to Jewish life. He leaves behind his wonderful wife, Sue, four daughters, two sons, and a bunch of grandchildren.

Rabbi Greenberg created a warm and welcoming congregation at a time that many were disenchanted. His approach to weddings, in particular, created a haven for families wishing to include Judaism in their marriage and their family. It is no exaggeration when Rabbi Kopnick states, "Sol saved hundreds of Jews to Judaism with his warmth and expertise."

Rabbi Greenberg was well known in clergy circles, and beloved by more than just our Temple members. Rabbi Greenberg was a leader in the establishment of the Reform Jewish High School, helped secure funding for high school trips to Israel, was active on the Jewish Community Relations Council, and so much more. He oversaw the construction of our current home on Springfield Pike, and was the inspiration for two different remodeling efforts prior to his retirement. The Temple sanctuary was named for him at his retirement.

May the memory of our Rabbi Sol Greenberg be for an eternal blessing!



From the Rabbi Sandford R. Kopnick

When Rabbi Greenberg died, I had the honor of meeting with his family. I also took the opportunity to check in with many of our longtime members who had been active in our congregation while Rabbi Greenberg was working. The familiar theme from *Pirkei Avot*, “acquire for yourself a teacher (rabbi), and make for yourself a friend,” kept popping into my head. Sol Greenberg was a devoted rabbi, a mentor to me and a bunch of others, a great dad and grandfather, and wonderful husband, and he was a terrific friend. And that was his style: by being your rabbi, he was establishing a relationship that would frequently transform into a friendship.

Many of Sol’s Temple members called him “Sol.” I recently attended a rabbinic seminar where the presenter reminded some of the participants that their first name isn’t “rabbi.” We live in a world where the formality has diminished in lots of places, and it is almost jarring when a medical person or professor introduces themselves with their title. Yet, Rabbi Greenberg seemed happier when he was just, “Sol.” I can relate.

Small congregations are at their best when the sense of intimacy and personal contact is only formal when required, yet not always expected. A “familiar” feeling synagogue allows for the respect and honor that is earned when someone is ordained, yet leaves space for people to connect Jewishly and personally. This is why I’m so proud to be working with Rabbi Austin Zoot, and am so thrilled to welcome Rabbi Rocki Schy-Brunson as our new Director of Education.

We at Valley frequently speak about the “Temple Culture.” Long before the Reform movement adopted the phrase, “audacious hospitality” as one of its primary goals, Rabbi Greenberg inspired and modeled it. When I first arrived in 2001, I knew Valley to be warm and welcoming—not just for intermarried families, but for many Jews who were seeking Judaism without judgement. I tried to not screw that up! We looked to have high standards for our congregation without imposing words like “should, must, or required.” We try to have invitational in our approach, rather than holding so fast to a tradition that seems to be immune to the reality of what people desire. And while it doesn’t always work, the process and philosophy feel right.

I will long remember the many ways Rabbi Greenberg touched so many lives. Many called him Rabbi, even when he’d introduce himself as Sol. He knew that some people needed him to use his title with them. But he lived that phrase from *Pirkei Avot*, when his remarkable way with people might start as them acquiring a Rabbi, yet they ended up with a friend. Our rabbinic team strives for this not just because of Sol’s legacy, but because it is the best way for our wonderful congregation to move from strength to strength! Have a great summer.

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi

JUNE RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE

7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting
8:00 p.m. Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Beha’alotcha*, Numbers 8:1-12:16

FRIDAY, JUNE 12,

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Sh’lach L’cha*, Numbers 13:1-15:41

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Korach*, Numbers 16:1-18:32

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Chukat-Balak*, Numbers 19:1-22:1; 22:2-25:9

JULY RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, JULY 3

7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 4

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Pinchas*, Numbers 25:10-30:1



Rabbi/Educator's Message Austin Zoot

As the weather gets warmer, there are few activities more peaceful than heading outside with a good book. Whether you are going on a vacation or taking a few moments to yourself, Summer Reading can be a great way to bring our Jewish values into our lives in a meaningful and engaging way. Below are my suggestions for a few of the best books for stimulating your Jewish identity, whether it be fiction, non-fiction, or secular reading that inspires us. And, of course, once you've finished reading, come back to the Temple where we can sit together over a cup of coffee and discuss all of your thoughts about what you've read!

Jewish Non-Fiction: *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom

What do you say when your rabbi asks you to write their eulogy? Mitch Albom worried that his mentor and spiritual leader was ill when he was approached with the monumental task of remembering a community giant. Instead, he got to spend several years building a strong a beautiful relationship with Albert Lewis, one that would benefit both men for the rest of their days. Told in parallel with the story of Reverend Henry Covington and the church that he created, this book is the only one that has ever guaranteed that I will cry upon each re-reading. It is a reminder of the power of religion when it is done right, and the ways that people of faith can bond together to make the world a brighter, more beautiful place.

Jewish Fiction: *The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss

Who doesn't love a book about books? And even better, it is about Jews and their relationship to books. This story follows Leo, an elderly Polish immigrant, who is looking to connect with his son after years of distance. Meanwhile, 14-year-old Alma tries to find a sense of purpose in the wake of her father's death by searching for the book that inspired her name. Two people in two

very different circumstances are brought together by their shared history with a novel that changed both of their lives forever. It is a tale of grief and longing, but also one that explores the beauty of love transcending time and space. The Jewish themes are evident, at times even explicitly stated, but any reader will feel the echoes of Jewish identity thrumming throughout.

Secular Non-Fiction with Jewish Implications: *Courage Is Calling*, by Ryan Holiday

The first in Holiday's Cardinal Virtues series, *Courage is Calling* kickstarts a powerful exploration of the values that undergird human life, and that can change our world for the better, if only we put our energy and resources toward morality. Courage, Discipline, Justice, and Wisdom are the four values that Holiday explores, offering robust examples of how each can drive us to be the best version of ourselves. What makes this such a compelling read is that it is highly accessible, relatable, and puts our values into terms that we can easily understand. And, when read through the lens of Judaism, can be a powerful examination of what it means to bring ethics into the world without the burden of God or faith. While Judaism has our own system of right and wrong, reading a secular exploration of similar themes can heavily impact our understanding of not only the values Holiday explores, but also how we talk about virtue in the first place.

Rabbi Austin Zoot
Rabbi/Educator

We are grateful to the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati's S.E.E.D. Program, The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati and an anonymous donor for their support in funding this position.



FRIDAY, JULY 10
7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 11
9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Matot-Masei*, Numbers 30:2-36:13

FRIDAY, JULY 17
7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 18
9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Devarim*, Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22

FRIDAY, JULY 24
7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 25
9:30 a.m. – Torah Study
10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Vaetchanan*, Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

FRIDAY, JULY 31
7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Service



President's Message Neil Berman

This is my last bulletin message as President of Valley Temple. As of July 1st, Beth Schwartz will succeed me as President. As the CEO of the non-profit HER Cincinnati, Beth has a unique skill set to lead The Valley Temple through a time of transition. She has already been a huge asset as a member of the Board's Executive Committee.

Beginning on July 1, 2026, Rabbi Kopnick will begin his final year as Senior Rabbi, and Rabbi Zoot will officially become Associate Successor Rabbi. Effective July 1, 2027, Rabbi Zoot will succeed to the position of Senior Rabbi, and Rabbi Kopnick will become Rabbi Emeritus. In addition, we are quite fortunate to have Rabbi Rocki Schy-Brunson returning to Valley as our new Director of Education.

I look forward to serving on the Board as Immediate Past President.

Best wishes and a happy Summer to all!

Neil Berman,
President

THE VALLEY TEMPLE YOUTH GROUP



Many thousand years after escaping Egypt, the Valley Temple Youth Group escaped the Monopoly Escape Room at Breakout in West Chester. Pictured are Sadie, Brian, Molly, and Elana. All are safely on the GOOD side of the jail bars now :)

MISHEIBERACH

We pray for healing for:
Bernice Blatt
Dr. Michael Gelfand
Pam Levinson
Robert Pollack
Sharlene Stempler
Lizzie Spicehandler



Some exciting things to look forward to in the 2026 – 2027 year (but not limited to):

- Rummage Sale June 14.
Look in the Bulletin for Drop off dates beginning June 1.
- Opening of Sunday School Picnic
- Sisterhood Shabbat
- Sisterhood Brunch
- Rosh Hashana Honey & Challah
- Mah Jong Party / Hanukkah Party
- Her Cincinnati Party
- Monthly fun / educational speakers
- Other events throughout the year.

Our annual Dues mailing will happen after the High Holidays, but if you want to get ahead of the game – send your 23-24 dues right now at <https://valleytemple.com/sisterhood/>

RUMMAGE SALE DATE

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH

9 AM - 2 PM

Drop off dates: June 1st 10 a.m. - Noon
June 3rd 5 - 7 p.m. / June 5th 10 a.m. - Noon
June 7th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / June 9th 10 a.m. - Noon
June 11th 5 - 7 p.m. / June 12th 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

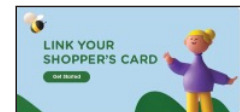


High Holiday Honey Jars

Our annual Honey Jar Program for the holidays is coming soon! Sales will begin in June, with all orders due by August 2.

More details will be shared in early June—stay tuned!

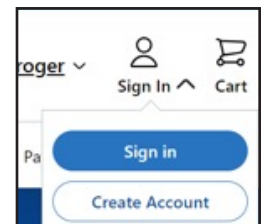
KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS POINTS



PLEASE ALLOCATE your Kroger community rewards to Valley Temple Sisterhood (you still get all of your same personal rewards – they just allocate a donation to us based on your spending).

How do you do that?
Simply follow this link
<https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

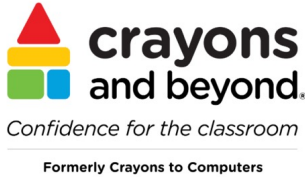
If you have an account – sign in; if not, create an account





He [Rabbi Tarfon] used to say: It is not your responsibility to finish the work, but neither are you free to desist from it. Pirkei Avot, 2:16

OUR JUNE / JULY BLUE BIN PARTNER IS CRAYONS AND BEYOND BRING DONATIONS TO THE BLUE BIN IN THE TEMPLE LOBBY



Crayons and Beyond, formerly Crayons to Computers, has been serving Greater Cincinnati since 1997, primarily supplying school supplies and donated computers to teachers. As their scope has grown and

changed, and multiple new partnerships formed, they updated their name to reflect these changes. One of these new partners is the Sam Hubbard Foundation, which has established "Hubbard's Cupboard" in many schools, to provide underserved students with timely access to essential supplies, including hygiene products, school supplies and healthy snacks. The two lists below reflect the items in both categories, most requested by teachers. As always, monetary donations can be made to the Valley Temple Social Action Fund, that can be used to purchase these items.

TOP 9 ITEMS TEACHERS NEED MOST IN THEIR CLASSROOMS:

- Colored Pencils* • 24-Count Crayons* Markers (washable* and/or dry erase) • Filler Paper Composition Books • Highlighters Index Cards Mechanical Pencils • Notebooks (1-subject)

*Teachers prefer Crayola Brand markers, crayons, & colored pencils

PICK 6 ITEMS FOR HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD:

In addition to the top items above, these 'Pick 6' items are often requested by teachers with a Hubbard's Cupboard in their school.

- ChapStick®/Lip Balm • Correction Tape/White-Out® Gallon Zip-lock bags • Post-It® Notes • Sharpies Travel Sized Lotion



Another huge part of our Social Action work is providing lunch four times a year, approximately 40-50 meals, to individuals and families at Queen City Kitchen in Walnut Hills.

Food is provided by temple members and money from our social action fund, and volunteers serve the meals.

Upcoming summer dates are: June 28 & August 23

JUNE - JULY

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES



We work closely throughout the year with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC). RAC is the Social Action arm of the Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) and the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). RAC works to educate,

inspire, and mobilize around federal, state, provincial, and local legislation on more than 70 pressing socio-economic issues, including gun violence prevention, immigration, reproductive rights, criminal justice reform, LGBTQ rights, health care reform and climate change. Ohio is one of 7 states, plus Washington, DC, to have a RAC affiliate that addresses specific issues in our state.

The Reform Movement has launched its 2026 "EVERY VOICE, EVERY VOTE" campaign throughout the country, and in Ohio. Per the RAC website:

Our Jewish tradition teaches: "A ruler is not to be appointed unless the community is first consulted" (Babylonian Talmud Berachot 55a).

This means that voters should pick our leaders. We want a vibrant, inclusive, and representative democracy where everyone belongs, regardless of skin color, ZIP code, disability, or gender identity. But today, divisive voices are spreading hate while restricting the freedom to vote and sowing fear in our communities.

Let's work together to ensure that every eligible voter has a say in the decisions that impact our lives to create a better future for ourselves and for all people.

Details about this campaign and how Valley Temple can participate, will follow!!

Please check out the websites of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism or the Union for Reform Judaism for more information on these campaigns.

RAC | Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism
Union for Reform Judaism (URJ)
<https://rac.org> | <https://urj.org>

For information about any and all Tikkun Olam projects, please call or email:

Linda Lazar
lazarj11@fuse.net
(513) 260-1026

Helen Waits
bindywaits@gmail.com
(513) 310-7633



Sustaining the Generations

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick;
from Sue Greenberg & Family

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg:
from Stuart & Carolyn Lowitz
from Andrea & David Knarr
from Diane & Ken Mitman
from Helen & Elliot Spieler
from Bill & Rita Clark

RABBI/EDUCATOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum

ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Edward Spieler;
from Helen & Elliot Spieler
In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Carol Striker

L'CHAYIM CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Susan Kahn

ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Gayle Arlen
from Harriet Lazarus
from Dawn Engel
from Barb & Steve Levinson
from Bradley Arlen

SASS FAMILY MUSIC FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Dan & Dedra Perlmutter
In memory of Dorothy Sall Rosenbaum;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass
In memory of V. Elizabeth Gray;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Amy Paul & Jerry Newfarmer
In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Bruce Walker & Carol Kramberg-Walker

RABBI SOLOMON T. GREENBERG PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg
from Helen & Ernie Waits
from Hamilton County Clerk of Courts senior staff
from Stuart & Terry Fishman
from Barbara & Jack Hahn
from Angela Packer & Brittany Retherford
from John & Amy Dakoske
from Marlene & Sonny Pierce
from Bruce Walker & Carol Kramberg-Walker
from Jane Meranus
from Michelle & Brian Goret
from Jeffrey & Robin Waksman
from Daniel Hoffheimer
from Elaine Lazarus & Herb Weiss
from Rick & Anita Silverman
from Lisa Ellis
from Ric & Julie McCoy
from Julie & Barry Brock
from Ilissa & Alan Perlman, Michael & June Bloch, and Ari & Marlyn Jaffe
from The Jewish Federation of Cincinnati
from Ellen & Mark Kovacic
from Elaine & Stephen Wiesenfeld
from Richard Bernat
from Jennifer & Alex Triantafilou
from Tom & Bette Sherman
from Jeffrey Waltman
from Kellie Smith, MD
from the Spivak Family
from Sue Price
from Kathie & Donald Kaplan
from Karin Susskind
from Herb DuCovna
from Julie Lerner Grayson
from Amanda Stein & Tom Enneking
from Bradley Arlen



Go to ValleyTemple.com & click on "Giving"

VALLEY TEMPLE GENERAL FUND

In appreciation of The Valley Temple;
from Jocelynn Jason
In memory of Toby Ruben;
from Tom Steger
In memory of Rabbi Greenberg:
from Julie & John Cohen
from David & Karen Hoguet
from Peter & Betsy Levick
from Amy & Alan Immerman
from Helen & John Habbert
from Marcia & Clyde Dempsey
from Debbie & Kevin Mattis
from Myrna & Kurt Bloch
from Mary Lee & Louie Sirkin
from J. David & Dianne Rosenberg
from Marcia & Richard Goldberg
from Robert Karl
from Michael & Andrea Rapp
from Fred & Anne Straus
from Jim Walsh
from Harriet Friedman
from Jo Ellen Spitz
from Michael & Janelle Gelfand
from Elizabeth & Jonathan Wolf
from Carol Randman
from the family of James Chalfie
from Nancy & David Wolf
from Martha & Lee Schimberg
from Margot Fishman
from Andy & Wendy Fuhrman
from Lorraine & Michael Quittman
from Peter Block and Family
from Peter & Beth Levine, Kate Levine, Anne Delyons & Jean Wyman

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg:
from Jeffrey & Robin Waksman
from Tracy Schusterman
from Richard Schwartz

VIDEO STREAMING FUND

In memory of Rabbi Greenberg;
from Paul Bellet

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING RECENT ONEG SHABBATS:

Nate and Kelli Gleiner in memory of Nate's mother, Nancy Adelson Gleiner.

Jenny Broh and Family in memory of Dolph Broh and Bob Broh.

Ernie and Helen Waits in memory of Gladys Garcia Waits-Chappell

TRAVEL

to Central & Eastern Europe

Europe

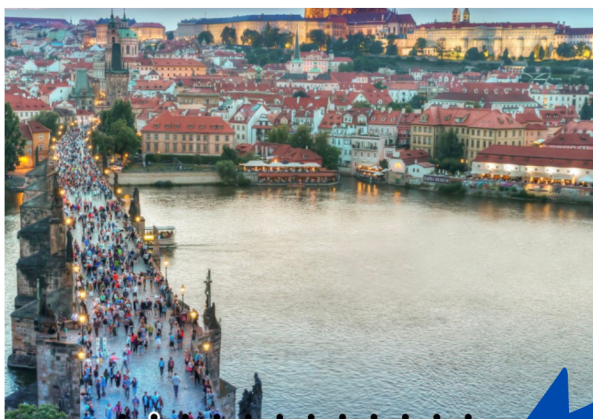


**February 23
to
March 5,
2027**

with Rabbi Sandford Kopnick



Join Rabbi Sandford Kopnick and fellow members of the Valley Temple community on a powerful journey through the historic centers of Jewish life in Prague, Kraków, and Warsaw. This meaningful exploration of Central and Eastern Europe traces more than a thousand years of Jewish history—celebrating vibrant cultural achievements while confronting the devastating legacy of the Holocaust. However, Jewish history in Europe neither begins nor ends with the Holocaust. Together we will explore 1,000 years of Jewish history. We'll confront the horrors of the past, experience the nascent Jewish renewal of the present, and discuss the challenges that face a Jewish future in Europe.



INCLUDED IN MAIN TOUR:

- 4 nights at Kings Court, Prague • 3 nights at Stradom House, Krakow
- 2 nights at Sofitel Victoria, Warsaw • Breakfast daily
- Welcome dinner • Shabbat dinner with Prague Jewish community
- Dinner with JCC Krakow • Dinner with JCC Warsaw • Farewell dinner

COST: \$4,895(cash/check) / \$5,066 (credit card)

Does not include airfare.

Visit <https://secure.ayelet.com/Kopnick2027.aspx>



145 springfield pike
wyoming, oh 45215

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi
Austin Zoot, Rabbi/Educator
Rabbi Solomon T. Greenberg z"l
Kelli Gleiner, Administrator
Neil Berman, President
Linda Lazar & Elizabeth Woosley,
Co-Presidents, Women of Reform Judaism
Steve Deutsch & Scott Steinberg,
Co-Presidents, Men's Club

513-761-3555

WEBSITE: www.valleytemple.com

E-MAIL: kelli@valleytemple.com

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The Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center honored The Valley Temple and Rabbi Kopnick for our annual High Holiday Food Drive which helps to fill their shelves every year.



Mazal Tov to our 2026 Graduates/Confirmands!
Elana Berman, Asher Buchwald (not pictured),
Andrew Enneking, Lily Plum Gartenlaub,
Jenna Geller, and Sarah Moeller

