

# APRIL 2022 / NISAN 5782

# **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 7:30 p.m.** Shabbat Service Music: Friday Night Live Band

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

9:30 a.m. Torah Study 9:45 a.m. Tot Shabbat 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service Torah Portion – *Tazria*, Leviticus 12:1-13:59

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 7:30 p.m.** Family Shabbat Service Music: Leslie Gubitz

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9** 9:30 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service Torah Portion – *M'tzora*, Leviticus 14:1-15:33

**FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 7:30 p.m.** NO EVENING SHABBAT SERVICE PASSOVER BEGINS, FIRST SEDER

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16** 10:30 a.m. Passover Festival Morning Service Torah Portion – *Yom Rishon shel Pesach*, Exodus 12:37-42, 13:3-10 6:00 p.m. Passover Temple Seder

**FRIDAY, APRIL 22** 9:00 a.m. Ending Festival Service with *Yizkor* Prayers Music: Charlene Gubitz 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23** 9:30 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service Torah Portion – *Acharei Mot I*, Leviticus 16:1-17:16

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 7:30 p.m.** Shabbat Service Music: Dan Nichols

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30** 9:30 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service Torah Portion – *Acharei Mot II*, Leviticus 18:1-30



FRIDAY, APRIL 29 7:30 p.m Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, APRIL 30 9:45 a.m. Tot Service 10:30 a.m. Service 7:30 p.m. Havdalah and Coffeehouse-Style Concert – Bring a dessert to share

### SUNDAY, MAY 1 11:15 a.m. Concert for Families

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



The Jews That Made America Exciting (Jews in Popular Culture)

With Rabbi Austin Zoot Tuesday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.



# FROM THE RABBI... Sandford R. Kopnick

Z'man Cheiruteinu—season of our freedom. Passover is a celebration of our collective exodus from Egypt, and our tradition's imperative to bring our selves back to Egypt, in order to be freed from the bondage each year. After the horrors of World War II, Jews in the U.S. began to breathe again after so many of our family were killed at the oppressor's hand. The former Soviet Union's fall allowed for unprecedented freedom for Soviet Jews—many of whom moved to Israel or the U.S. (among other places), finally freed from Soviet anti-religion and anti-Semitism. For a while, "next year in Jerusalem" seemed to be coming true for the overwhelming number of Jews. Yet, the world still oppresses.

You and I have been watching the Ukrainian situation in horror. While no one wants or likes war, sometimes, there is a cause that requires armed conflict. Sometimes, there is a threat that requires a response. Yet, Russia's invasion of the Ukraine seems to lack any real claim. Rather, it feels like there is a Pharaoh who decided to enslave rather than liberate. This lack of a real reason has many of us wondering how to support justice and truth without significant additional bloodshed, or a wider conflict that could cause destruction that does more harm than good.

Now, we watch a Jewish leader of the Ukraine fight the David and Goliath battle of his life, and we approach Passover from our American Jewish vantage point of freedom. But as we do, we have been reminded these last years that freedom in this country has felt more precarious. Colleyville, Charlottesville, and Pittsburgh have taught us that we are still targets of the oppressor, and next year in Jerusalem is a mindset as well as a physical hope.

During Purim, Professor Naveh graced us with a short section of the Megillah read in Ukrainian, she substituted the name Putin for Haman. So, too, when we read the story of our People's liberation from Egypt, we are aware of the modern-day Pharaohs and Hamans who seek our destruction, and cause havoc, pain, and conflict for others, too.

So, this year, we are thankful for the diminishing of the plague of Covid-19 that will allow us to finally gather together to celebrate the seder. We are also vigilant about discouraging would-be Pharaohs from arising. And we are sympathetic to the plight of all who are oppressed, whether they are Ukrainian, persons of color, the disabled community, or others who face persecution through no fault of their own.

Next year in Jerusalem can mean what it says. But it also can be the hope that says, "next year, may all be free. Have a joyful Passover. Remember—the current inflation problem means that finding the Afikomen means a payout of at least 8% higher than last year!

Austan

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi

P.S. It is my hope that you will consider a significant donation to a cause that feeds the hungry of our country, and a donation to help displaced Ukrainians. My suggestion is that you give a Passover gift to:

Mazon.com (National Jewish feed the hungry program)

Valley Interfaith Center: https://www.vicrc.org/contact/

Freestorefoodbank.com (Cincinnati based food bank)

HIAS.org (Jewish organization that will get money to Ukrainian refugees)

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Sydney Schneider 0 4 / 2 8   Kathy Klein 0 4 / 3 0
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# RABBI/EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE Austin Zoot

We are entering the final month of Religious School! It has been an exciting year, not least of all because we have FINALLY been able to be in the building together and enjoy getting to learn in the same room. The past two years have been a whirlwind, and I am so proud of and impressed by our resilience, our strength, and our creativity in navigating the everchanging landscape of our school.



At the Valley Temple, we don't really see our Religious School as an academic experience. We strive for Sunday mornings to be a time of exploration, creativity, fun, and identity formation. We don't do grades, we don't do homework, and we certainly don't do tests. But for this last month, it might be fun for parents to take the below quiz, reviewing some of the amazing things our students have gotten to learn this past year. If you don't know the answer, go ask a student, and have a conversation about the amazing things we did over the course of the year!

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.

## **OUR SYMPATHY**

Ricklie Vordenberge (Charles), Chad Vordenberge (Clare Dahmen) and Leon and Nina Vordenberge on the death of their mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Donna Levi

Jim Levinson (Pam), Phillip Levinson (Jaime), Jay Levinson (Alexis), Alex Levinson and Parker and Jonah Levinson and Ronnie Shore on the death of their father, grandfather, great grandfather, and uncle, Robert Levinson

Gail Lewin on the death of her mother, Gerri Lewin

Question 1: How many books are there in the Torah?

- a. Five
  - b. Six
  - c. Seven
  - d. Six hundred thirteen

Question 2: We had a baby naming this past year. What animal did the Katan school name?

- a. Woodchuck
- b. Hedgehog
- c. Penquin d. Giraffe

Question 3: Jews celebrate trees during this holiday:

- a. Lag B'omer
- b. Yom Ha'Atzmaut
- c. Purim
- d. Tu B'shvat

Question 4: This is the most frequent holiday in the Jewish year.

- a. Rosh Hodesh
- b. Shabbat
- c. Tisha B'av
- d. Chanukah

Question 5: Havdalah, the celebration of the end of Shabbat, is the Hebrew word for what?

- a. Shabbat Is Over
- b. Holy Day
- c. Separation
- d. Candles

Question 6: On Sukkot, we shake this while hanging out in the Sukkah.

- a. Hands
  - b. Groggers
- c. Lulav
- d. Our bodies

Question 7: The Jewish New Year is celebrated on...

- a. Yom Kippur
- b. Passover
- c. Shmini Atzeret
- d. Rosh Hashanah

Answer key: 1.A 2.B 3.D 4.B 5.C 6.C 7.

## **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Linda & Jeff Lazar	04/02/1978
Elliot & Helen Spieler	04/02/2000
Jaime & Jaramy Carmody	04/14/2003
Rabbi Gerry and Carenjean Walter	04/15/1973
Dan & Ginger Friedberg	04/24/1961
Izar & Stacey Spivak	04/30/2011
Steven & Nicole Deutsch	04/30



# **PRESIDENT'S** MESSAGE **Elliot Spieler**

As I am writing this, the last gasp of winter seems to be giving way to spring. Purim is a few days away (yes, it's history when you're reading this), Pesach on the horizon. There is a trend of positive news with regard to the covid pandemic. And there's a horrific war going on across the world that, regardless of your political persuasion, just makes no sense and is hard to fathom.

And in three months, my term as president will be over.

It has not been a normal time. And as soon as it seems to be getting closer to normal here, world events remind us that things are unpredictable and it is never really normal, is it? My rambling point? That we need each other. We made it through two years of covid, with its ups and downs, hopes and false starts. Now we've got an unstable, uncertain world situation, and we've got a situation of unimaginable destruction and suffering in Ukraine.

Some of us may have relatives in Ukraine. A great many of us, myself included, have family roots there. We want to help and feel powerless.

Jewish Family Service of Cincinnati [https://www.jfscinti. org/services/ukraine-relief/] is raising funds for Ukraine relief. Their efforts include:

- Ensuring welfare services for displaced populations
- Providing emergency Aliyah and community security needs
- Locating temporary housing for those in transit
- Stockpiling of goods including food and water

 Providing satellite phones to ensure communication across the country

· Ensuring that five World ORT schools and Hillel locations continue to operate

 Dispatching medical staff support, especially on the border with Moldova

• Funding the need for moving JAFI operations from Kyiv to L'viv

And we can pray for peace, together. See you soon.

B'Shalom Elliot

### The Value of Life and the Way We Mourn

With Rabbi Sandford Kopnick

Sundays, April 10 and 24 at 11:00 a.m.



#### Join us in April

#### April 3, 10:00 a.m.

Sisterhood meeting at Valley Temple and via Zoom. Stay with us for the second hour (11:00am) and learn how working dogs are trained. Sheilah Abramson Miles will bring a dog she's trained and share about the program and how she trains.

#### Join us in May/June

#### May 1, 10:00 a.m.

Sisterhood meeting. Come to our last meeting of this term. Vote on next year's budget and slate of officers. Help set up and volunteer for the end of the year religious school picnic.

#### May 4th, 6:30 p.m.

Dinner Out at Ferraris Little Italy in Madeira



May 21, 7:00 p.m. Looking forward, we are hosting SNAG-A-BAG Saturday evening. You don't want to miss being entertained by our own "Vanna White" modeling the purses that our auctioneer will be offering. Put

the fun in fundraiser. Participate in the purse and jewelry sale. Women who

joined us at our previous Snag-a-bag can attest to how fun and funny it was. Please drop off donations of new or gently used purses and costume jewelry in the bins in the Temple lobby. Contact us at valleytemplesisterhood@ gmail.com if you want to volunteer to help set up or during the auction.

#### June 24, noon to 4:00 p.m.

Sisterhood estate sale, your chance to buy items too special for the rummage sale.

#### June 26, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Rummage Sale. Please save any items you want to donate. Drop off times will be closer to the sales. Stay tuned!!

### **Rabbi Kopnick Will Lead Three Sessions** on Judaism and Homosexuality



Tuesdays, April 12, 19, 26 at 7:30 p.m.

# SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

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

In memory of Donna Levi; *from Dorothy Stiebel* In memory of Donna Levi; *from Harriet & Chris Collins and Shirley Hoodin* In memory of Richard Springer; *from Micki & Jerry Springer* 

#### **RABBI/EDUCATOR DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of James Hoffman; *from Minette Hoffheimer* In memory of Donna Levi; *from Renee Janovitz* 

#### **CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Donna Levi; *from Jackie Frank Misheiberach* of Ilene Hodesh; *from Rica & Stuart Hodesh* 

#### VIDEO STREAMING FUND

In memory of Arthur Lewin; *from Gail Lewin* In memory of Esther Schwartz & Arlene Signer; *from Hank Rosenthal* In memory of Frances Shore; *from Ronnie & John Shore* In memory of Eric Wilson Waits; *from Helen & Ernie Waits* 

#### ROBERT & CHARLOTTE LANZIT ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In appreciation of The Valley Temple; from Tom Steger

#### ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Donna Levi; *from Rachel Rosen* In memory of Alan Fischoff; *from Kathie & Ivan Tamarkin* In memory of Gerri Lewin; *from Jenny Broh* In memory of Gerri Lewin; *from Linda Lazar, Jenny Broh, Jody Finley, Kathy Schlaeger & Rabbi Judy Spicehandler* In memory of Gerri Lewin; *from Ellen & Mark Kovacic* In memory of Gerri Lewin; *from Edward Maslov* In memory of Sophie Feldman; *from Helen & Elliot Spieler* 

#### JANE MUNICK MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

In memory of Esther Schwartz & Arlene Signer; from Hank Rosenthal

#### FRANCIE BROWN MEMORIAL OFFICE FUND

In memory of Bob Levinson; from Jenny Broh

#### LOUISE MARKS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In memory of Bob Levinson; *from Sue Price, Spivak Family, and Phillip & Jamie Levinson Family* In memory of Eric Wilson Waits; *from Helen & Ernie Waits* 

#### **CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND**

In memory of Bob Levinson; *from Minette Hoffheimer* In memory of Bob Levinson; *Debby & Craig Hoffheime* In memory of Donna Levi; *from Marian & Fred Orringer*  In memory of Donna Levi; *from Nancy & Mark Lefton* In memory of Bob Levinson; *from Selma & Irving Harris* In memory of Bob Levinson; *from Laura & Sam Lobar* In memory of Donna Levi; *from Laura & Sam Lobar* In memory of Gerri Lewin; *from Amy & Alan Immerman* In memory of Joel Kahn; *from Susan Kahn* 

#### BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Gerri Lewin; from Laurie Craig

NOW GIVING IS EVEN EASIER: Go to ValleyTemple.com and click on "Giving"

Create Your Jewish Legacy... From generation to generation...



"Have you signed your letter of intent?"

#### Now is the time.

Join the over 50 members including the Priceand Spivak families who have made a legacy gift commitment to Valley Temple!

Your legacy matters. Make a gift through your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy. Your gift will help ensure the future of our congregation. Contact Wendy Walsh at the Temple office or Sam Lobar to make your gift commitment.

### MISHEIBERACH

Bernice Blatt Mark Apseloff Sarah Singer-Nourie Michael Gelfand Ron Kull Minette Hoffheimer Dolph Berman Laura Beasley Bob Hiller Irving Harris



### A Few Readings Which May Grace Your Passover Seder

### Introduction to the Seder

The special meal we are about to eat is a commemoration of a religious - historical rite which is over 3000 years old.

The meal itself is referred to as a Seder. The word Seder means "order" and is so applied because it follows a strict ritualistic pattern or order.

At the Seder, one is directed to use the various symbols of the Passover Season.

We eat Matzah (the unleavened bread), for example, because our ancestors had to leave Egypt in haste and had no time to allow their bakery provisions to rise naturally. Also, Matzah is said to be the "Bread of Affliction" and we eat it to remind us of the hard times our ancestors had when they were in bondage as slaves.

Further we drink wine, or grape juice as a symbol of the joy of freedom. Traditionally, four cupfuls are to be consumed as each one represents a form of deliverance mentioned in the book of Exodus of the Bible.

Passover, for Jews, is a very happy holiday. It is a festival at which we give thanks for all the blessings of life we enjoy. Most particularly it is a time when we especially consider and appreciate the blessing of freedom. It is a time when we not only prayerfully offer our gratitude but consciously strive to secure freedom for all people.

### **The Four Sons**

An interpretation by Rabbi Sandford Kopnick inspired by the Family Participation Haggadah: A Different Night

We are now at the section of the service called the Four Sons. In a moment we will read about the four types of children identified by our Haggadah: the Wise, the Wicked, the Simple and "The One Who Does Not Know What to Ask."

While many of us seek to identify our children in one of these ways, the Haggadah reminds us that all of our children learn differently. The Haggadah and the Seder, therefore, must address the needs of *all* of our children: the academic and the academically challenged; the disabled and the ablebodied; the mild and the extremely active. It's not about giving our children labels, but rather understanding that the story is important enough to embrace all learning styles - not just the easiest to teach.

And so it is with all that we want to impart to our children. May we always remember that allowing our children to learn acccording to their gifts *enables* learning, while forcing a particular style upon them, might only communicate our impatience or lack of respect for the wonderful people they are. May we take the essence of this Haggadah passage to heart when we help our children find their voice as people, and as Jews, Amen.

# IN PERSON Congregational Passover Seder

## Saturday, April 16, 2022 - 6:00 pm

Catered by Jeff Thomas Catering Traditional Seder Meal including Chicken for entree

> \$36 per adult \$12.50 per child (ages 3-12)

Children under 3 free assuming you are not ordering meal for them

## **RSVP by April 8, 2022!**

It is imperative that we receive your reservation by this date so we can let our caterer know and allow for Covid safe seating! SEDER TO GO

If you prefer to have your Seder at home, you CAN order Seder-to-Go from Out of Thyme Kitchen. Place orders through outofthymechef.com by **APRIL 10**. Orders can be picked up at Valley Temple on Friday, April 15 between 11 a.m. and noon.

Name (s) (Please list names of all who will attend, including children):

No. Adults @\$36 \_\_\_\_\_ No. Children (3 - 12) @\$12.50 \_\_\_\_\_ No. Children under 3 (free) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Chicken Meals (Adult) \_\_\_\_ (Children) \_\_\_\_

# of Vegetarian Meals (Adult) \_\_\_\_ (Children) \_\_\_\_

# of Gluten-free Meals (Adult) \_\_\_\_ (Children) \_\_\_\_

Other food allergies (please specify)

Amount Enclosed (I am/We are including \_\_\_\_\_ for Mazon.) \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested \$5 additional donation per person to Mazon to feed the hungry.

Please send with check payable to Valley Temple, 145 Springfield Pike, 45215 MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 8, 2022

If you need financial assistance to attend, please call Rabbi Kopnick for a confidential conversation.

Please list who you would like to sit with: (No guarantee)





145 springfield pike wyoming, oh 45215

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi Austin Zoot, Rabbi/Educator Wendy Walsh, Temple Administrator Solomon T. Greenberg, Rabbi Emeritus Elliot Spieler, President Jan Goldstein & Stacey Spivak, Co-Presidents, Women of Reform Judaism Ari Buchwald, President, Men's Club

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