



the
valley
temple

**NOVEMBER 2022 /
CHESVAN - KISLEV 5783**

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Music: Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – *Lech L'cha*, Genesis 12:1-17:27

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Family Shabbat Service

Music: Leslie Gubitz

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – *Vayeira*, Genesis 18:1-22:24

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Music: Friday Night Live Band

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

9:45 a.m. Tot Service

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – *Chayei Sarah*, Genesis 23:1-25:18

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

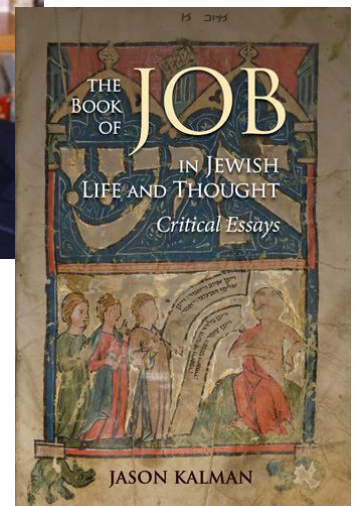
9:30 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service

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

ADULT EDUCATION

PROFESSOR JASON KALMAN: A NEW LOOK AT THE BOOK OF JOB



**3 Tuesdays, November 29,
December 6, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.**

Dr. Kalman's new book examines the Biblical Book of Job in Jewish Life and through critical essays. His book, published in January of 2022, will serve as our guide for these three sessions. No prior experience expected. Join us as we explore the insights of this most challenging book.



FROM THE RABBI... Sandford R. Kopnick

Holy Land Anyone?

What are you doing July of 2024? I hope you'll be coming to Israel with me--and members of our congregation--and members of the Cincinnati Jewish Community. Thanks to the generosity of the Cincinnati Jewish Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, we are going to Israel! The next Cincinnati Community Mission to Israel is scheduled for July, 2024. There will be generous subsidies--especially for adults who have never been to Israel. This is your chance!

There are many reasons to go to Israel. I find that folks who are not connected to Israel sometimes have a difficult time understanding why it is important for Israel to exist. Sometimes, these folks don't understand the inherent bias against Israel and the danger that it poses. Sometimes, folks who are not connected to Israel think that the land was stolen from others who have a more legitimate claim to it. A good trip to Israel (which this will be) can clarify many of these issues.

But there is more. When we walk the steps of Abraham and Moses, the Torah and Jewish life has a greater depth. When we visit the Old City of Jerusalem, the Western Wall appears and we begin to understand the grandeur of the ancient Temple, the unbelievable accomplishment in building it (twice), and the focal point it was for early Judaism. When we visit the metropolis of Tel Aviv, we can juxtapose its modernity with many of the ancient spots and archaeological sites that tell Judaism's story. When we visit Massada, we will see the remarkable fortress that kept the Romans at bay for a time, only to have the story concluded with a rare example of martyrdom. When we float in the Dead Sea, we will see the mineral rich marvel--and maybe even clear up a dry skin patch.

We will eat (a lot). Israeli, Yemenite, and other middle eastern delicacies will be offered each day. We will stay in nice hotels, We will celebrate our Reform Judaism as a congregation, while other synagogues celebrate Judaism according to their tradition. We will tour, shop, hike, eat, and get to know each other better. We will deepen our link to our Judaism, our Cincinnati community, and our Valley Temple family. So, nu? It's time!

The dates for the trip are July 7 - 16, 2024. Go to the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati website and find the link for the trip--and see if you can be with us. You may never get the opportunity to travel to Israel for a better price on such a good trip. And the honor is mine to be with our group as the "bus leader." If you have any questions, I look forward to discussing the trip with you.

Let's go!

Faithfully, 

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi



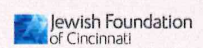
Join Cincinnati in Israel

July 7-16, 2024

Unforgettable. Joyous. Connected.



Strengthening Jewish Cincinnati



TRIPS WILL BE LED BY:

- Adath Israel Congregation
- Beth Israel Congregation
- Chabad Blue Ash
- Congregation Beth Adam
- Congregation Etz Chaim
- Congregation Sha'arei Torah
- Golf Manor Synagogue
- Jewish Discovery Center
- Jewish Federation of Cincinnati & Mayerson JCC
- Northern Hills Synagogue
- Rockdale Temple
- Temple Sholom
- Valley Temple
- Wise Temple

GENEROUS SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!

For more information:
jewishcincinnati.org/mission



Questions? Jan Evans, jaevans@jfedcin.org or 513-985-1528





RABBI/EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE

Austin Zoot

It isn't that we are in a post-pandemic world exactly. Rather, I think it would be fair to say that we are beyond the point of letting COVID-19 get in the way of going about our daily lives. We are back to in-person services, dining in restaurants, and generally going about business as usual, albeit with a different set of priorities we keep in mind when we leave our homes.

The Valley Temple



But one area of ongoing concern is the mental health consequences of the past two years, especially for the younger members of our community. There are high school students who have had over half their educational experience devastated. 3-year-olds are going to preschool and are encountering other children perhaps for the first time in their lives. At a time in our human development where the world can feel like a constantly changing set of rules, imagine what it must be like to have even the adults steering you through the experience bewildered and overwhelmed.

Our community is incredibly lucky to have the support of Jewish Family Service, an organization that has worked diligently in recent years to create a Teen Mental Health program. This group prioritizes working with congregational leaders who can help to serve as conduits between the resources JFS has to offer and the congregants who need them most. I am in conversation with the facilitators of the program to ensure that we have access to any and all needs that might come up within our community. We have resources to deal with the diagnosis of cognitive disabilities and learning challenges, have the tools to help students who are encountering anxiety, depression, and trauma, and are in a position to tailor the tools to the individual to best meet their needs.

For years, mental health treatment has been stigmatized to the point that far too many were embarrassed to identify their own struggles. The past three years have guaranteed that we have all experienced some kind of trauma, and that we could all benefit from having a space to be able to work through the things that give us a sense of unease and stress. I am incredibly proud of our Jewish community for putting the time and energy into ensuring that mental health is no longer neglected and left in the shadows, instead helping our people to find the best ways to face the challenges of being a human at an incredibly overwhelming time in history.

This issue does not start and end with adolescents. The mental health of all of our Valley community members is a

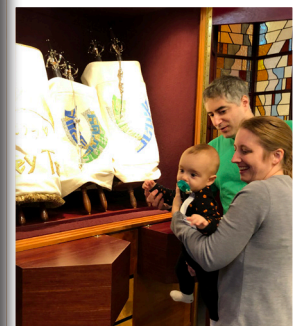
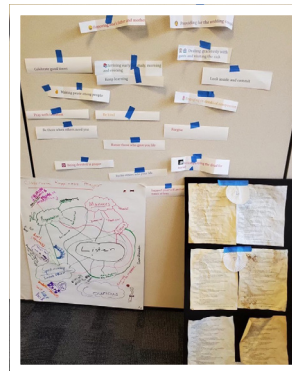
top priority, and we are here with a long list of resources, including rabbinic pastoral care, access to mental health referrals, and other similar resources. Judaism has always been the language our people has used to try to make sense of the world around us, and at a time when that task is as difficult as ever, I am proud of and excited for the ways our tradition and our professionals can help guide our people during these trying times. It is far too easy to walk through the world and feel alone and isolated in the tumult. Our commitment at the Valley Temple, regardless of age, is to ensure that you have the compassion, support, and knowledge to be able to confront whatever this moment throws at you, and for you to know with full clarity that you are not alone in your mental health journey.

If you or a loved one needs help getting access to these profoundly valuable tools, please feel free to reach out to me at any time. That is why we are here.

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.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Jody Finley

Hello to all,

I am one of THOSE people – a service goer. I think there are elements of my life that makes service attendance easier. I'm, well, "mature;" my children are older; I don't have Saturday morning sports to consider.

Why do I go Torah Study and Saturday morning services? I think it centers me – it helps me bring a close to the week and refresh for the week to come. When I attend services, I feel like I'm part of a broader community.

I also love being with Valley Temple members. At Torah Study, a diverse group gathers to think, argue, discuss. We even read a little Torah! When you read in the bulletin, "no experience necessary," that is an understatement. Torah study and services tend to have 'regulars.' The number who attend change over time and we're not always a huge group. But the sense of *kavannah* can still be strong.

Services have changed and evolved over time. Some changes have been made to help bring us closer to the Eternal. Some are a recognition of modernity. This summer, we've convened and prayed together in such non-traditional places as a park, a brewery and an art gallery. The *Rosh Hashannah* Experience at the 20th Century Theater was lively and well attended.

I would encourage everyone to take a thoughtful, considered approach to service attendance. You may find a connection that enhances your Jewish perspectives. I'd love to meet you there!

Best for now,

Jody Finley



Sisterhood Happenings

Membership renewal forms have gone out in the mail. Please watch for it and renew your membership to Sisterhood. You can mail the form back in the enclosed envelope or you can renew online at: <https://www.valleytemple.com/sisterhood/>
Questions? Reach out to Sue Mantel at: mantelsp@ucmail.uc.edu

Social Action will be helping provide Thanksgiving Meals to families in need. Please bring thanksgiving food items or a monetary contribution as you feel able. Suggested items are as follows**:

Pre-k through 2nd grade – canned vegetables (green beans/corn/etc.)

3-5 grade – Cranberry sauce or cornbread mix or biscuit mix

5-9 grade – stuffing mix or potatoes or sweet potatoes

Non-religious school families – pick any category or contribute to the turkeys in cash

** You may also contribute to a fund to buy the turkey

**THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE –
PLEASE BRING ANY CONTRIBUTION TO
THE TEMPLE BY NOVEMBER 13TH.**

Questions reach out to Laura Beasley lbeasley65@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATE

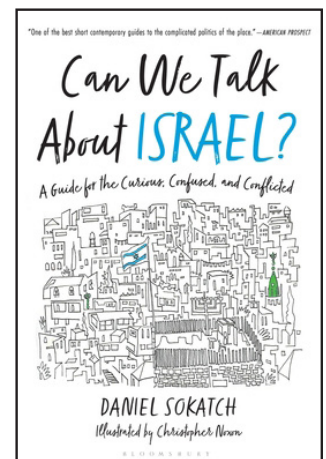
Sisterhood will be doing giftwrap as a fundraiser again this year. Save the dates of December 23rd and 24th more details to follow – questions reach out to Sue Spohr at saspohr222@gmail.com

UPDATE: the November meeting has been moved to November 20th – business meeting from 10 a.m. -11 a.m. and programing from 11 a.m. -12 p.m. See you then!

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m.

**SPECIAL NIGHT WITH THE AUTHOR:
CAN WE TALK ABOUT ISRAEL:
A GUIDE FOR THE CURIOUS,
CONFUSED, AND CONFLICTED.
BY DANIEL SOKATCH**



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Cheryl Hecht	11 / 04
Rae Nourie	11 / 04
Jennifer Pennix	11 / 04
Jonathan Kopnick	11 / 06
Pam Greenberg	11 / 06
Brad Greenberg	11 / 06
Stefan Arostequi	11 / 07
Sue DuCovna	11 / 07
Herb DuCovna	11 / 07
Ron Weitzenkorn	11 / 09
John Habbert	11 / 10
Ella Schlaeger	11 / 11
Sam Greenberg	11 / 11
Aleeza Schneider	11 / 11
Noah Festenstein	11 / 11
Nina Hayutin	11 / 13
William Cusack	11 / 14
Doug Sandor	11 / 15
Sophia Pennix	11 / 15
Kathryn Beasley	11 / 16
David Feldstein	11 / 16
Harvey Katz	11 / 22
Daniel Doblado	11 / 24
Peggy Markstein	11 / 26
Ian Cronin	11 / 26
Ernest Waits, Jr.	11 / 27
Micki Springer	11 / 27
Jeannie Hiller	11 / 28
Amy Levy	11 / 28
Nancy Dornheggen	11 / 28
Kenneth Mitman	11 / 29

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Jessica Deitsch	11/08/2018
Gila & Michael Naveh	11/08
Barbara & David Neman	11/12/2000
Bobby & Linda Denham	11/17/1984
Chad Munitz & Michelle Lightfoot	11/17
Lou & Margie Rauh	11/21/1959
Jeff & Laurie Marks	11/22/1980
John & Susan Frank, Jr.	11/22/1997



**Thanks to Alex Spohr for making
our amazing Sukkot campfire!**

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Jack Heines; *from Sue & Herb DuCovna*
In memory of Sarah Pennington Pierce-Davis;
from Charles Pierce

RABBI/EDUCATOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Janice, Harold and Christine Wright;
from Susan & Jon Hoffheimer

ROBERT & CHARLOTTE LANZIT ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In appreciation of The Valley Temple; *from Laura Marsan*

SASS FAMILY MUSIC FUND

In memory of Harold M. Rosenbaum;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass

In memory of Mildred C. Rosenbaum;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass

In memory of Marc S. Buff;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass

In memory of Shirley Shorr; *from Diane & Ken Mitman*

ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND

In memory of Edward Levy; *from Jenny Broh*

VIDEO STREAMING FUND

In appreciation of The Valley Temple; *from Rhoda Ulas*

In memory of Fern & Jack Kopnick; *from Laurie Friedman*

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Helen Sass;
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass

ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Patricia Hassell; *from Linda & Jeff Lazar*

In memory of Eugene Lazar; *from Linda & Jeff Lazar*

A gift to The Valley Temple;
from Rabbi Jonathan Hecht & Gladys Rosenblum

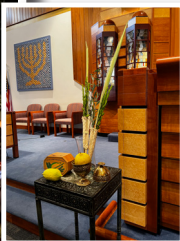
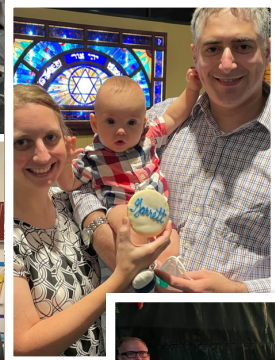
NOW GIVING IS EVEN EASIER:
Go to ValleyTemple.com and click on "Giving"

MISHEIBERACH

Bernice Blatt
Michael Gelfand
Ron Kull
Minette Hoffheimer

Irving Harris
Alberta Hemsley
Danny Stempler
Donna Freeman

ROSH HASHANAH YOM KIPPUR SUKKOT SIMCHAT TORAH



HIGH HOLY DAY THANK YOUS

Craig and Debby Hoffheimer and family and Minette Hoffheimer for their donation for the flowers for our *Rosh Hashanah* services in memory of Philip Goldsmith and Arthur Hoffheimer, Jr.

Bobbie Reckseit for her donation for the flowers for the *Yom Kippur* services in memory of Bernard "Reggie" Reckseit

Jenny Broh and Sharon Kollasch and members of the congregation for the delicious Break the Fast

Members of the congregation for serving as ticket checkers and ushers

Sisterhood for providing the delicious *Rosh Hashanah* challahs

FOR SPONSORING OUR HIGH HOLY DAY MUSIC:

Nancy and Dolph Berman in memory of Leon Cohen, Mae Cohen, Ces Berman, and I.A. Berman

Jan Rosenbaum Sass and Mark Sass in memory of Robert and Helen Sass

George Trenkamp and family of Sue Trenkamp in memory of Sue Trenkamp and Laurie Ruskin

Peggy Barrett, Sharon Feldstein, Andy and Alex Spohr for making certain the temple grounds look lovely

Diane Mitman, Jenny Broh and Sue Spohr for their help in the office

Ernie Waits, Josh Knarr, Dorian Naveh, Cori and Tyler Friedman and Sue Mantel for their time and talents in our *Rosh Hashanah* Band

Beth Schwartz for helping with the 20th Century registration table

The Jewish Federation for their grant which made our service at the 20th Century possible.

VALLEY INTERFAITH RESOURCE CENTER HOLIDAY SHARING PROGRAM

The following items are needed to help fill holiday baskets for our neighbors.

Please bring your donation to the Temple by November 22.

There will be a container in the front lobby for your donation(s) or order from Amazon and have them sent directly to the Temple.

The need is very great, so please be generous.

CAKE MIX | CANNED FROSTING | CANNED SLICED CARROTS





145 springfield pike
wyoming, oh 45215

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

513-761-3555

WEBSITE: www.valleytemple.com

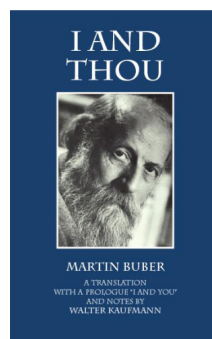
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ADULT EDUCATION

BOOK REVIEW: I AND THOU BY MARTIN BUBER WITH RABBI SANDFORD KOPNICK



Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Martin Buber is one of the 20th Century's most celebrated modern Jewish philosophers. His famous understanding of the relationships described in *I and Thou* have helped Jewish people connect with God and more. While not easy, we will try to understand some of what Dr. Buber intends for us to learn. Feel free to look at *I and Thou* prior to joining us on November 10.

You are not required, however, to read in advance.