



RELIGIOUS SERVICES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Music: Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *B'shalach*, Exodus 13:17-17:16

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 7:30 p.m.

Family Shabbat Service
Music: Friday Night Live

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Yitro*, Exodus 18:1-20:23

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 7:30 p.m.

Sisterhood Shabbat Service
Music: Leslie Gubitz
Oneg Shabbat hosted by Sisterhood

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Mishpatim*, Exodus 21:1-24:18

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service
Music: Marilyn Zelcer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m. Torah Service
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *T'rumah*, Exodus 25:1-27:19

Introduction to Judaism

JOIN US FOR A 12-WEEK CLASS

For those new to Judaism, converting to Judaism, or just wanting to know more about Judaism.

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

Please call 513-761-3555
for more information.

Call to register or just come
on the first day!

With Rabbi Sandford Kopnick and
Rabbinic Intern Ben Crane

*Tu B'shvat:
New Year
of the Trees
February 5 - 6*





FROM THE RABBI... Sandford R. Kopnick

EXPERIENCES MATTER

I am worried. The last few years moved us to the internet to further our relationships in a way that was necessary, but troublesome. Thank God for the technology that allowed us to Zoom and stream with each other while we isolated. Our attempts to keep each other healthy led to isolation, limited opportunities for social interaction, and significant limitations for personal growth.

Some folks are reluctant to rejoin their previous in-person lives. Temple members who stream our services are still at a higher number than before the pandemic, and many folks prefer to connect virtually for meetings and adult learning.

Thankfully, we are seeing a post-Covid bounce in our membership, adding a few more this year than we did the year before the pandemic. We are also returning to the experiential learning for our children, allowing Temple sponsored travel for our middle school and high school students.

Our students connect better when they are together. The time in the van or on the plane make life-long memories. The informal times and discussion that occur when we are sharing a meal, sitting at services in a new place or discussing Creation at the Adler Planetarium help create the relationships that keep our community together.

The times in Washington, D.C. when we learn about social justice, share our experience together at the Holocaust Museum, or stroll around the museums of the Smithsonian, all deepen our connection to our Judaism and our community.

That's among the reasons I hope you'll come to Israel in July, 2024.

If your health keeps you from being present—or if you're out of town—no problem. That's why we have the streaming. If, however, you've gotten used to not being present, we need your physical presence to help keep things dynamic.

We are taught in our tradition "to not separate yourself from the community." While I'm proud that our streaming is more advanced than many congregations our size, it is no substitute to the experience you give Rabbi Zoot and me, and that we can create when we see your face, and the way you react to us and each other. Please engage.

Have a great month....

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi

VALLEY TEMPLE TIKKUN OLAM

We continue to seek donations for the "Blue Bin" in the lobby. In January we supported "Sweet Cheeks", the only Diaper Bank in Greater Cincinnati.

For February are supporting Found House Interfaith Housing Network. This was formerly called Interfaith Hospitality Network but continues with the same mission: "Provides emergency shelter in partnership with interfaith communities to families with no place else to turn, and ongoing housing and supportive services so that homelessness does not recur."

This is an amazing organization, with many wonderful programs, but the one we're collecting donations for this month is their "Pet Support Program". This unique program provides temporary shelter for dogs, cats, and other pets whose owners are in shelters, hospitals, or rehabilitation programs all over the Greater Cincinnati area. While housing these animals they also provide access to vaccines, spay/neuter services, and veterinary care. This provides pet owners an opportunity to access services without having to surrender their beloved "4-legged family members".

Items accepted: dog food & cat food, wet or dry; toys; blankets; and of course, monetary donations.

Donations to the Social Action Fund can be made on the on website and put in comments for Found House.

Found House offers many opportunities to volunteer, including helping care for pets!

We continue to work closely with RAC-OH and URJ and expect new social justice initiatives to be announced for 2023 very soon.

Please check out the websites of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism or the Union for Reform Judaism under "Advocacy" for ways to be involved.

RAC | Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism
<https://rac.org>

Union for Reform Judaism: URJ
<https://urj.org>

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו
מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצננו לרדוף צדק.

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher
kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu lirdof tzedek.*

Blessed are You Adonai our God,
Ruler of the universe, who sanctifies us
with *mitzvot* and commands us to pursue *tzedek*.



RABBI/EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE

Austin Zoot

Sometimes, people have a hard time finding the Valley Temple from Springfield Pike. We are set back far enough from the street that it is far too easy to drive past us and miss the turn. It doesn't help that GPS devices seem to think we're located in our back parking lot, and so whenever I have food delivered to the Temple, it is always an adventure to help the delivery driver find the way.

The Valley Temple



So from the street, it would be pretty hard to tell that Tuesday isn't just any other ordinary weeknight at our synagogue. But once you step inside, you can almost feel that something special is going on. Each Tuesday, students of all ages come to the Temple to learn the language of our people. Hebrew School isn't just for middle schoolers preparing for their B'nei Mitzvah. In fact, we have a variety of classes that bring together different levels of learning to decode and interpret letters, prayers, and even biblical chapters.

Funny as it might be, I'm one of the few people NOT studying Hebrew on Tuesday evenings. Which means that I have the unique opportunity to walk around and take in the sacred noise that is going on. It is profound to experience multiple generations coming together to practice Judaism in this intentional, vibrant way. I love seeing the parents who bring a book or a laptop with them to get comfortable in the lobby, and do a little schmoozing

while they're at it. I love the sound of the 5th graders using the letters they had learned the year prior to construct full sentences of prayers, beginning to see the connection between the abstract learning they've been doing and the experience of ritual that is fast approaching. And I love seeing adults take ownership of their Jewish identity in this intimate way, building connections with the language, with their peers, and with the teachers who are just as nourished by the teaching as the students are by the learning.

Hebrew is a very strange language when you think about it. Ancient, Biblical Hebrew has been around for thousands of years, yet as recently as 200 years ago, the language was dying out, becoming as dormant as Latin. But in the 19th century, a scholar named Eliezer Ben Yehuda came along and decided that if Judaism was going to remain viable, accessible, and meaningful for the next generation of Jews, a shared language would be the perfect way to codify our identity as a people. And so, when we gather together on Tuesday nights, we are creating a magical touchpoint between the ancient and the modern, between the traditional and the revolutionary. We gather together each week to do what we have always done as a nation, and yet to meet a very modern, very timely need. I'm writing this on a Tuesday (I don't know what day you're reading it, because that isn't how a bulletin works...) And I'm excited that tonight, the building will be full of people, all with different needs, different skill levels, and different ideas. But we get to come together and learn with one another, from one another in a way that feels electric, if we stop and appreciate the moment. I know I will. And if you ever wonder what beautiful, sacred Jewish community looks like, you're welcome to come enjoy it with me. I'll be here each Tuesday.

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.

CONSECRATION

2022





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Jody Finley

On the way into the Temple recently, I was balancing a Torah Commentary, a prayer book and a big box of diapers. Our wonderful *Tikkun Olam* Committee was collecting diapers for Sweet Cheeks, an organization that provides diapers and associated products to families in need.

According to ReformJudaism.org, *Tikkun Olam* means to “repair of the world,” a Jewish concept that it is our responsibility to partner with God to improve the world.” The Valley Temple *Tikkun Olam* Committee takes this responsibility very seriously.

I asked Linda Lazar, committee co-chair, why she has made a commitment to *Tikkun Olam*. “As a Humanist,” Linda said, “I’ve always believed we are ‘commanded,’ i.e., obligated to work for a fair and just world for everyone, and to protect our planet for future generations. I didn’t always recognize it but my passions for this work came in large part from my Reform Jewish upbringing. As a teenager growing up during the Civil rights movement, the anti-war movement and the Women’s Rights movement, my sense of right and wrong, and my obligation to work for justice was cemented for life.”

Want an easy way to participate? Consider the Temple lobby “big blue barrel.” Each month, the *Tikkun Olam* Committee selects a cause to collect items for. In November, food for the Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center was collected. December was a toy drive for the West End Sisters for Life. Check the Temple Bulletin for upcoming donation efforts.

Or take this next step – join the *Tikkun Olam* Committee. Linda Lazar and Bindy Waits can tell you more.

Thank you, *Tikkun Olam* Committee, for all you do.

Best for now,

Jody Finley

MISHEIBERACH

Bernice Blatt
Michael Gelfand
Ron Kull
Minette Hoffheimer
Alberta Hemsley
Danny Stempler
Charlene Gubitz
Michelle Lightfoot



JOIN SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood is a multi-generational group of women who are involved in social action, educational programs, helping with Valley needs, and social time (we had dinner at the Oriental Wok in December). We have monthly meetings with an hour program after. They are held at Temple during Religious School.

We offer two ways to support Valley Temple Sisterhood. Join online at valleytemple.com/sisterhood. You will be redirected to an online form to fill out to pay using PayPal. To pay by check, print the form and mail it and your check to the temple. Please reach out to us at valleytemplesisterhood@gmail.com for questions.

MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Our most recent programs (*Chanukah* gift exchange in December and “Stop the Bleed” in January) were both fun and interesting. We learned basic skills of stopping a bleeding injury possibly saving someone from serious injury.

Our next meeting is February 5 at 10:00 am. After the hour meeting, we will have a morning of learning using the Torah portion Mishpatim in preparation for Sisterhood Shabbat February 17. To join the meeting virtually, please use the following link: bit.ly/GeneralMeetingsVTS

Our March meeting is Sunday, March 19. Mark your calendar.

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

One of Sisterhood’s most treasured activity is coming up. The Shabbat service February 17 will be designed and led by Sisterhood members. Save the date and come to the service to support the Temple and Sisterhood. If you are interested in participating, please email valleytemplesisterhood@gmail.com.

DINNER OUT

Save the date: our next social dinner will be March 15 at 6:30 p.m. Location to be determined.

SUMMER RUMMAGE SALE

The Rummage sale is back. Please start saving any items you would like to donate.

Contact valleytemplesisterhood@gmail.com for more information or if you need them stored until this summer.

WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM HEARTLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION

March 9 - 13

Eaglewood Resort & Spa, Itasca, Illinois

The WRJ Heartland District has planned a fabulous weekend of leadership development, motivation, recognition, networking, prayer, and the blessing of joining together as a community of dedicated Jewish women. Early bird registration through February 15 is \$299. Valley Temple Sisterhood has funds to help with the early bird registration. Register at wrj.org/our-community/wrj-districts/central/news-events

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Devon Brandt	02/01
Sue DuCovna	02/01
Jon Hoffheimer	02/02
Alanna Schlaeger	02/02
Stephen Kovacic	02/03
Richard Gaynor	02/04
Alice Weitzenkorn	02/06
Jo Anne Steinberg	02/06
Jenny Broh	02/07
Lois Benjamin	02/08
Olivia Spivak	02/08
Emmeram Morning	02/10
Rica Hodesh	02/10
Rick Michelman	02/11
Joel Davis	02/11
Dan Perlmutter	02/12
Karen Blatt	02/12
Gil Kaufman	02/13
Josh Knarr	02/13
Jerry Springer	02/13
John Amber	02/15
Emma Weitzenkorn	02/17
Betsy Cusack	02/18
Clare Deutsch	02/18
Barbara DelMauro	02/19
Shelly Morning	02/22
Isabelle Clark	02/23
Rebecca Clark	02/23
Katherine O'Neill	02/23
Ronn Mervis	02/24
Donna Goodman	02/25
Jonah Levinson	02/25
Aubrey Yeazell	02/25
Alicia Stoughton	02/26
Jackie Frank	02/26
Shayna Codd	02/27
Dedra Perlmutter	02/27
Nancy Magnus Kopnick	02/29
Jan Rosenbaum Sass	02/29

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Bill & Betsy Cusack	02/06/1988
Rick & Karen Michelman	02/18/1996
Ashlee Justice Crowell & Kevin Crowell	02/22
Jeff and Deby Sweren	02/28/1996
Aubrey & Arlene Herman	02/20/1972
Norman & Wendy Wasserman	02/24/1963
Chuck & Ricklie Vordenberge	02/25/1984
Aron & Kara Schneider	02/26/2000

MAZAL TOV

Dr. Robert and Sylvia Maltz on the marriage of their granddaughter, Carly Varland to Drew Wayman

Marc, son of Marcia Chetwood, and Kimmie Deitsch on their recent marriage

SO PROUDLY WE HAIL... TEMPLE GRADUATE DANIEL SOKATCH, AUTHOR OF: CAN WE TALK ABOUT ISRAEL?

WITH VALLEY & GUCI FRIENDS



AT THE MLK DAY MARCH



OUR SYMPATHY

Josiah Dapper on the death of their brother in law, Daniel Swanson

Dan Yeazell on the death of his father, Leo

Selma Harris on the death of her husband, Irving

Betsy Cusack on the death of her brother, Allen Tolchinsky

Stephen (Nicole) Deutsch, and Joseph and David on the death of their mother and grandmother, Lore Deutsch

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick; *from Larry Freeman*
In honor of Ella Naveh's high school graduation;
from Gila & Michael Naveh
In honor of Sara Naveh's 21st birthday;
from Gila & Michael Naveh
In memory of Sam Darnell; *from Helen & Elliot Spieler*
In memory of Donald Miller; *from Robin & Mark Miller*
In appreciation of Rabbi Zoot; *from Angelica Gheen*
In appreciation of The Valley Temple;
from Nancy & Thomas Sarosi
In memory of Louis Kaller; *from Lynn & Neil Kravitz*
In memory of Robert F. Stewart & Sidney Berkowitz;
from Barb & Robert Stewart
In memory of Allen Tolchinsky; *from Lisa Ernst*
In memory of John G. Schwab; *from Cathy Schwab Prichard*

RABBI/EDUCATOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Barbara & Harvey Katz's 60th wedding anniversary;
from Jenny Broh
In honor of John & Susan Frank's 25th wedding anniversary;
from Charley Frank
In memory of Julian Magnus; *from Charley Frank*

ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

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

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Leslie Levy; *from Barbara & Harvey Katz*
In memory of Annabel Levy; *from Barbara & Harvey Katz*
In memory of Julien Benjamin; *from Lois Benjamin*
In memory of Ted Schwartz; *from Minette Hoffheimer*
In memory of Betty Lindenberg & Alvin Lindenberg, Jr;
from Peggy Barrett
In memory of Robert D. Shore; *from John & Ronnie Shore*
In memory of David Hochstein; *from Cheryl & Steve Hecht*

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Donna Freeman; *from Ricki & Stuart Hodesh*
In honor of get well wishes for Michael Hodesh;
from Ricki & Stuart Hodesh
In memory of Donna Freeman; *from Sue Price*
In memory of Bernard Festenstein; *from Rob Festenstein*
In memory of Sybil Kerman; *from Helen & Elliot Spieler*

A Chanukah Gift

from Micki & Jerry Springer
from Mandy & Dave Katz
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass
from Pam & Jim Levinson
from Allison & Philip Schneider
from Linda & Jeff Lazar
from Laura & Sam Lobar
from Jeannie & Bob Hiller

In honor of the birth of her great grandson
Ezra Whitcomb; *from Minette Hoffheimer*

In honor of Adele Broh & Phyllis Boering;
from Jenny Broh
In memory of Arlene Benswanger;
from JoAnne Steinberg

VALLEY TEMPLE GENERAL FUND

In appreciation of The Valley Temple; *from Ned Lanzit*

A Chanukah Gift

from Jan Goldstein & Chuck Frank
from Micki & Jerry Springer
from Rabbi Gerry & Carenjean Walter
from Mark Sass & Jan Rosenbaum Sass
from Pam & Jim Levinson
from Jody & Kent Finley
from Laura & Sam Lobar
from Sharlene Stempler
from Jeannie & Bob Hiller

In honor of Wendy Walsh's 40 years of service to
Valley Temple; *from Laurie & Jeff Marks*
In memory of Diane Bongard; *from Diane & Ken Mitman*
In memory of Brian Wainer; *from Kandice Wainer*

ROBERT & CHARLOTTE LANZIT

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In appreciation of Valley Temple; *from Tom Steger*
In appreciation of Valley Temple;
from Andrea Beck & Fred Gartenlaub
In memory of Janice & Alfred Spieler;
from Helen & Elliot Spieler

SASS FAMILY MUSIC FUND

In memory of Julian Magnus; *from Ken & Brenda Tewel*
In memory of Robert F. Stewart & Sidney Berkowitz;
from Barb & Robert Stewart
In memory of John Siegel; *from Ellen & Mark Kovacic*

VIDEO STREAMING FUND

In appreciation of The Valley Temple;
from Nancy & Thomas Sarosi
In appreciation of The Valley Temple;
from Elizabeth Coombe

LOUISE MARKS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In memory of Meyer Silver; *from Sue Price*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

In memory of Nathan Goodman; *from Donna Goodman*

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Janice & Alfred Spieler;
from Helen & Elliot Spieler

Thank you to Andrea Beck & Fred Gartenlaub
for sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat
in loving memory of their grandparents

Thank you to Marcia & Mark Chetwood; Jessica,
Michael & Amelia Deitsch, Kimberly & Marc Deitsch;
and Susan Obrien (Weiss) for sponsoring
an Oneg Shabbat in memory of James Weiss.

**Consider honoring an event or memorializing a loved one...
Go to ValleyTemple.com and click on "Giving"**

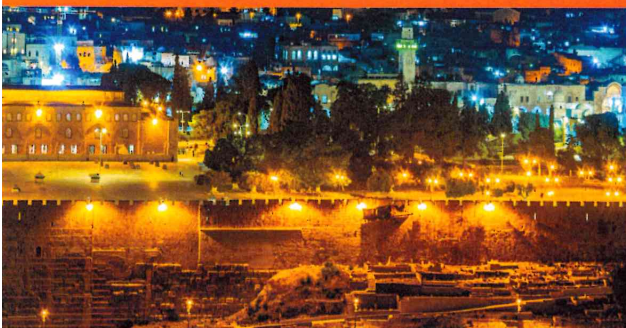
CHANUKAH 2022



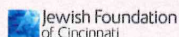
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- Congregation Beth Adam
- Congregation Etz Chaim
- Congregation Sha'arei Torah
- Golf Manor Synagogue
- Jewish Discovery Center
- Jewish Federation of Cincinnati & Mayerson JCC
- Northern Hills Synagogue
- Rockdale Temple
- Temple Sholom
- Valley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

GENEROUS SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!

For more information:
jewishcincinnati.org/mission



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





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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

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PURIM



MONDAY, MARCH 6

Carnival for kids starts at 5:30 p.m.

Pizza Dinner and Hamentashen

for everyone at 6:15 p.m.

Schpiel and service begin at 7:00 p.m.

Wristband for games \$11

Dinner

\$5 for kids | \$10 adults

RAFFLE FOR EVERYONE!

Proceeds from the dinner, carnival,
and raffle go to the Youth Group

