



the valley temple

**APRIL 2023 /
NISAN - SIVAN 5783**

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Tzav*, Leviticus 6:1-8:36

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

9:00 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
(reservation required)

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *Chol HaMo-eid Pesach*,
Exodus 33:12-34:26

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

9:00 a.m. Ending Festival Service with *Yizkor* prayers

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 7:30 p.m.

Dan Nichols - Musician-in-Residence
Family Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

Dan Nichols - Musician-in-Residence
At Glendale Gardens

10397 Springfield Pike, Woodlawn
9:30 a.m. Adult Learning
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
11:30 a.m. Adult Learning
Torah Portion – *Sh'mini*, Leviticus 9:1—11:47
No service at Valley Temple Saturday morning

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service
Torah Portion – *M'tzora*, Leviticus 12:1-15:33

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

DAN NICHOLS

MUSICIAN-IN-RESIDENCE



FRIDAY, APRIL 14

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

AT GLENDALE GARDENS

10397 SPRINGFIELD PIKE, WOODLAWN

9:30 a.m. Adult Learning

10:30 a.m. Service

11:30 a.m. Adult Learning

No service at Valley Temple Saturday morning

7:30 p.m. Havdalah

**and Coffeehouse-Style Concert –
Bring a dessert to share**

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

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.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

9:30 a.m. Torah Service
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service; Harper Wagner, daughter of
Jessica & Mike Wagner and granddaughter of Kandice
Wainer, will become a *Bat Mitzvah*
Torah Portion – *Acharei Mot K'doshim*, Leviticus 16:1-20:27



FROM THE RABBI... Sandford R. Kopnick

April is upon us, and as we celebrate Spring, we also celebrate *Pesach*. A few weeks back, I had the pleasure of returning to Israel for a rabbinic convention. While there, I was able to visit with a Valley alum who is in his first year of rabbinic school. I also spent some time learning about the profound issues plaguing the Israeli society regarding their Supreme Court and the attempt by the current government to limit the Court's role in Israeli society. As we contemplate Passover, and the phrase, "next year in Jerusalem," I am worried.

Israel's national anthem is *HaTikvah* (The Hope). The phrase that kept our oppressed people hopeful for generations was *bashanah ha-ba-ah b'y'rushalayim* (Next year in Jerusalem). I worry that changing the way the Supreme Court checks and balances the work of the Executive and Legislative branches of Israel's government may so change the society, that it will become more and more religiously traditional. If that happens, those of us in more progressive approaches to Israel may be more and more alienated.

As it is, the LGBTQ+ community is worried that the current government (filled with far right religious parties) will change rhetoric into laws that are intolerant. The Israel Progressive Movement (their version of Reform Judaism) is also concerned that gains made with access for religious women to read Torah at the Western Wall and other inroads for Progressive Judaism may be halted if not reversed. And the list goes on.

When I was in Israel, Israelis were protesting the Kneset's moves against the Courts in huge numbers. In the weeks following, the protests increased. As of this writing, no resolution, or even a proposal to discuss a resolution have been offered.

I love Israel. I am frequently comforted by Israel's existence as an alternative to the U.S. for safe haven for Jews from around the world. I am frustrated when the world questions Israel's right to exist. Yet, I worry that the current situation may create such civil unrest, that seismic changes could result. Oy.

So as we approach this "Season of our Freedom," we remember that freedom requires constant work and nurturing, and we hope that all who are in positions to make changes in Israel remember the greater good has to be considered when making changes. Having the votes to steamroll change can result in consequences that make us all wonder whether we win the battle, but lose the war. Time will tell. Next Year in Jerusalem now has another meaning, too. Oy.

May God grant you and all of our people a joyful, meaningful, and inspiring Passover.

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi

Goodbye to Amanda

We wish a fond farewell to Amanda Rosenberg, our amazing administrative assistant, who is leaving Valley to take on a full time job. She has worked in the office for 5 years, answering the telephone, maintaining the website, overseeing the directory and memorial book projects and much, much more. We thank her for her excellent work. She has been a valuable part of The Valley Temple team and we will miss her. *Lehitraot!*

PURIM





RABBI/EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE

Austin Zoot

Did you know that Passover is the holiday that is responsible for inventing the concept of Spring Cleaning? Well, maybe that's an overstatement; people probably have wanted to clean out the junk and clutter from their homes for as long as we've had homes. But Passover has given the Jewish world a way to prepare for the beautiful, exciting, and exhausting work of the Passover ritual by way of a deep clean.

The Valley Temple



It is customary that, in leadup to *Pesach*, Jews go through their homes, removing all of the *chametz*, or bread products, and in so doing clean out the rest of the unneeded stuff in their lives. We dust, we polish, we empty, we replenish. For most Jews, this corresponds with the time that we are welcoming others into our homes. We want to make sure that we are accepting guests into a clean and beautiful environment. Not only are we trying to get rid of the leftover bread that is in the back of the pantry, but we might just find some of those crumbs that got stuck in between the couch cushions while we're at it. But is there a spiritual component of this Spring Cleaning?

After all, we are asked during Passover to be fully present in the rituals, to feel as though we ourselves were the ones going out of Egypt to freedom and liberation. It can be hard to be completely invested when we have surrounded ourselves with too much clutter. How can we pay attention to the depth of our feelings when we are crowded by our obligations, expectations, and the demands that life throws our way? How are we supposed to answer the questions that our children ask if we aren't fully listening to what they want to know? In the weeks leading into Passover, we are reminded that it is our opportunity to examine all of the things that fill our lives, whether they be physical artifacts or conceptual congestion, and to try to free up enough space in order for us to get something worthwhile and profound from the holiday.

This is an exciting and deeply experiential time in the Jewish calendar. We encountered the joy of Purim before turning our attention to the liberation of Passover. Soon, we will be welcomed into the celebration of Shavuot, when we demonstrate our gratitude for the covenant we made with God and the sacred text that we hold so dear. And in order to be able to get the most out of what these holidays have to offer, we are invited to clear out the distractions, make space for what is yet to come, and to ensure that we are able to pay attention to the truly important spiritual work that is asking for our attention.

May this holiday season continue to be one of meaning, intention, and peace for all of you..

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

April is a banner month! Not only do we see more signs of Spring, but lots is happening at "The Valley Temple for Living Judaism," as Rabbi Kopnick says!

Some of April's upcoming news/activities include:

- The Congregational Seder is on April 6, the second night of Passover. Not only is it a meaningful way to celebrate the holiday, the Congregational Seder is a great way to reconnect with Temple family and friends.
- The Create Your Jewish Legacy participant dinner is April 14. Those who have signed a Letter of Intent or a Confirmation of Commitment document will be honored. CYJL is an important program to help support the successful financial future of The Valley Temple. It's not too late to participate! I'd be happy to tell you more.
- Dan Nichols Weekend also starts April 14. Dan is our favorite contemporary Jewish musician and there will be multiple opportunities to experience his music.
- Our fundraiser, Denim and Diamonds 2023 will be held April 29. Join us for a wonderful evening of music, food and fun.

We also wish our Rabbinic Intern Ben Crane many good wishes on his April wedding!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our wonderful Valley Temple events.

Best for now,

Jody

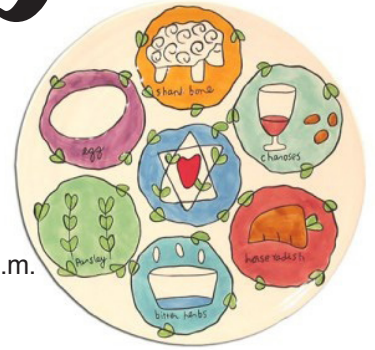
Jody Finley

Passover



Let All Who Are Hungry Come and Eat!

Passover First Night – April 5
Passover Festival Service – April 6 at 9:00 a.m.
Congregational Seder – April 6 at 6:00 p.m.
Ending Festival Morning Service - Wednesday, April 12 at 9:00 a.m.
Yizkor prayers will be recited



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 able-bodied; 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 according 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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Bette Ann Sandor	04/01
Jake Moeller	04/02
Dr. Jim Geller	04/02
Anna Steinberg	04/03
Mark S. Miller	04/03
Alberta Hemsley	04/04
Robin G. Miller	04/04
Sadie Munitz	04/04
Leah Moeller	04/04
Sarah Moeller	04/04
Margie Schneider	04/05
Jared Dornheggen	04/06
Emanuel Friedman	04/06
Alfred Straus III	04/06
David Knarr	04/06
Bob Pollack	04/06
David Steed	04/07
Jeff Lazar	04/07
Jamie Buchwald	04/08
Brady McClelland	04/09
Sophie Greenberg	04/10
Amy Paul	04/10
Brian Meeron	04/11
Steven Levine	04/11
Tim McCarrick	04/12
Susan Katz	04/13
Matthew Berman	04/14
Jaime Carmody	04/14
Larry Wolf	04/14
Andrea Frieder	04/14
Ginger Friedberg	04/15
Daniel Stewart	04/15
Susan Marmo	04/15
Ellie Spivak	04/15
Henry Codd	04/17
Sylvia Maltz	04/18
Neil Berman	04/19
Marcelle Lobar	04/19
Leo Bernay	04/20
Rick Beasley	04/20
Linda Lazar	04/21
Michael Naveh	04/22
Ashley Schlaeger	04/24
Emma Bernay	04/24
Cherie Brandt	04/25
Joe Frecker	04/25
Aaron Bernay	04/27
Sarah Ran	04/27
Bobby Denham	04/27
Len Elgowsky	04/28
Evie Buchwald	04/28
Sydney Schneider	04/28
Kathy Klein	04/30

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



MEETING AND LEV-EL-LEV (HEART TO HEART) CONVENTION

Our April meeting is Sunday, April 16 10:00am - noon. Mark your calendar. Come listen to Stacey Spivak (Co-President) and Jan Goldstein (Past-President) share the takeaways from *Lev-el-Lev* (Heart to Heart) Convention. The Sisterhood offered substantial grants to offset the cost of the convention. In exchange, participants will bring back ideas and knowledge gained from the talks and workshops.

Valley Temple sponsored an ad thanking Past President, Jan Goldstein and Co-Presidents Stacey Spivak and Sue Mantel. Our Sisterhood sponsored part of the convention's social action project. The ads and sponsorships were projected on screens throughout the weekend. And Jan won the Deborah award for leadership and past work for our sisterhood.

We hope you can join us in person for camaraderie and treats. To join the meeting virtually, please use the following link. bit.ly/GeneralMeetingsVTS

END OF THE YEAR BRUNCH

Sue Mantel has graciously invited Valley Temple women into her home (previously scheduled for Café Alma) for our May 21 meeting (short) and brunch (large). Please plan to attend our May 21st meeting when we vote on next year's budget and the slate of officers. Then we will have a catered brunch and schmooze to meet old and new friends. 10:00am – noon.

Watch for the Google form to RSVP so we know how much food to provide.

DENIM AND DIAMONDS SISTERHOOD BASKET

The Sisterhood is donating a themed basket to the silent auction. The theme is Good Food. It will include really good unusual things, grocery totes, and gift cards for restaurants, groceries and bakeries. Keep track of the cost so we can value the donation correctly.

Please contact valleytemplesisterhood@gmail.com to offer donations to the basket.

FLYING PIG

We are not volunteering for the Flying Pig this May. The volunteer shift we were being asked to staff did not match what we could staff.

END OF THE YEAR PICNIC

Sisterhood is hosting this fun picnic to wind up Religious School Sunday, May 7 at noon. Please contact valleytemplesisterhood@gmail.com to volunteer.

SUMMER RUMMAGE SALE

The Rummage sale June 9th and 11th. Please save items you would like to donate.

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

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Lori & Ira Pedowitz*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Ruth & Dennis Rice*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Ellen & Bruce Cohen*
In memory of Nathan Kaller; *from Lynn & Neil Kravitz*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Kathleen Boyd*

RABBI/EDUCATOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Susan & Norman Wasserberger*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Andrea & Kevin Young and Family*

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Marnie Stein & Scott Poulos*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Rochelle & Joseph Barchick*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Sharon & Richard Schwab*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Alan Schwartz*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Mary Haslam & George Scanlon*

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Sue & Gary Goldblatt*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Rica & Stuart Hodesh*
In memory of Sophie Feldman; *from Helen & Elliot Spieler*

RABBI SOLOMON T. GREENBERG PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Sue Price*

ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Ruthanne & Ron Field*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Karen & Lenny Kanterman*
In honor of birthday of Helen Waits; *from Linda & Jeff Lazar*

JANE MUNICK MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Susan & Ted Kohan*

SASS FAMILY MUSIC FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Suzy & Michael Isaacson*

ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Jenny Broh & Beckett Broh*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Ila Frankel*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Fern & Barry Wolk*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Lilly & Mark Kurtz*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Peg & Don Richter*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Janet & Zane Morganstein*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Miriam Grode*

STARK FAMILY YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Heather Cohen*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Robin Starr*
In memory of Les Waltman; *from Gail Bluestein & Mitch Wisset*

RITUAL FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Rabbi Gerry & Caren Jean Walter*

ONEG FUND

In memory of Les Waltman; *from Gail Sternstein & Deborah Germroth*

Thank you to our recent Oneg Shabbat Sponsors:

Jeff & Linda Lazar in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary; Helen & Elliot Spieler in honor of their 23rd wedding anniversary; Gail Lewin in memory of her parents, Arthur & Gerri Lewin. Rachelle & Paul Crane and Nancy & Larry Simons in honor of the wedding of Ben Crane & Megan Simons

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



MISHEIBERACH

Bernice Blatt
Michael Gelfand
Ron Kull
Minette Hoffheimer

Alberta Hemsley
Sue Spohr
Peggy Barrett

MAZAL TOV

Barbara and Buzz Stewart on the marriage of their daughter, Rachel to Andrew Welch

Mike and Jessica Wagner on their daughter, Harper, becoming a *Bat Mitzvah*.
Mazal tov to happy Grandmother, Kandice Wainer

Denim & Diamonds

April 29, 2023

6:30 P.M.



**We're excited to announce
this year's fundraiser,
but first we need YOUR help!**

SAVE THE DATE & PLEASE CONSIDER



Being an **EVENT SPONSOR**



DONATING to the Silent Auction



VOLUNTEERING prior to or day of the event

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Jody Finley
jafinleyoh@gmail.com
513-513-324-2210

Allison Schneider
allisonpgschneider@gmail.com
513-479-2823



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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

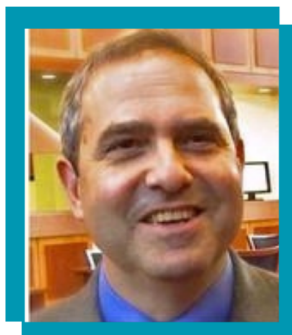
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Adult Education



"The Dynamic World of the American Jew"

Professor Mark Raider

Department of History, University of Cincinnati

Tuesdays, April 11, 18 & 25

7:30 p.m.

Professor Raider will lead three interactive sessions focused on significant themes in American Jewish life in the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Drawing on his recent book, *New Perspectives in American Jewish History*, coedited with Gary P. Zola, the sessions will center on readings and discussions of hitherto unknown and neglected archival texts. No prior knowledge of the subject matter is required. Please join us!