

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Friday, June 2, 7:00 p.m.
Followed by
Shabbat Service at 8 p.m.

JUNE - JULY 2023 / SIVAN - AV 5783

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

JUNE

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 8:00 p.m. (NOTE LATER TIME)

Shabbat Service

Aufruf of Logan Zoot and Annie Kukla

Oneg Shabbat in honor of Logan and Annie
hosted by the Zoot family

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

9:30 a.m. - Torah Study 10:30 a.m. - Shabbat Service Torah Portion - *Nasso*, Numbers 6:1-7:89

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 6:00 p.m. (NOTE EARLY TIME)

Valley on the Road CoHatch, Mason, Ohio

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 23 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

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

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

Shabbat Service
Oneg Shabbat hosted by Jenny Broh and children in memory of Robert Broh and Dolph Broh

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



COHatch, Mason June 9th, 6pm



Special Shabbat services to encourage new members.

RedTree Gallery, Oakley
July 7th, 6 pm



August 11th, 6pm

SUMMER 2023 the Valley

Do you know of someone considering the value of joining a congregation?

Someone who wants to meet and connect with like-minded people?

Let's talk! We'd love to extend them a special invitation to meet us.

Contact Rabbi Kopnick or call Wendy at the Temple office, 513-761-3555



FROM THE RABBI... Sandford R. Kopnick

Coming Back from Isolation

In Genesis 2 we learn that it is not good to be alone. Our rabbinic tradition teaches us to "not separate yourself from the community." Leviticus gets in on the act by saying "You all shall be holy (plural commandment to the entire group), for I, Adonai your God, am holy."

Since 2020, we have been enduring a new isolation that was brought on by the fear of spreading illness in the community. Some were trapped for at least two years without seeing their loved ones. Without the internet or cell phones, some would have gone without even a video visit for at least two years. And now we see the aftermath as things are finally wide open. The hardest hit group seems to be children. Our sense of community has been challenged and redefined, and it is time to reflect:

We at Valley worked diligently to provide many on-line experiences since gathering together was not a great idea. And, for a while, it helped. However, those who are still relying on internet services and classes should consider whether that is still necessary—or just easier. We first offered streaming Shabbat Services in 2004. We were among the first. However, it was intended for those who were truly homebound. We were able to connect a 96 year old grandma who was too frail to travel to her grandson's *Bar Mitzvah*. Some who moved away kept in touch through our live-stream, and that all made sense.

Today, a few still need to remain away from large groups, and for them, we continue to stream. Others enjoyed preparing Shabbat dinner with services playing on their phone or iPad. And while these new "rituals" became normal over the past few years, I am hoping that we can all agree that this is a less than ideal way to build community while celebrating Shabbat.

Children and adults need positive and routine interactions with other children and adults. Summer camps serve an even more important purpose now than ever. As I help train the staff at Goldman Union Camp, it is clear that there has been a delay in the campers and staff creating and sustaining in-person relationships.

Adults who have gotten used to being alone or isolated with a small pod of people may have forgotten how much they contribute to a conversation or how their physical presence with friends and acquaintances can provide a warmth and comfort that is lost on a computer screen or phone call. And it takes an effort to be in each other's presence which many became accustomed to not making.

These summer months are a great time to reconnect. Come and meet our new Rabbinic Intern Matthew Berman (who grew up here at Valley). Come and learn with us at Torah study and worship with us at Services. Bring prospective members and long-time fellow Valley-ites with you to a program or a service, as we renew. And, if you find that

you remember to turn on the service on your computer at 7:30, get in the car instead and be 15 minutes late. The oneg will still be there, and so will we.

It is time to embrace the ways we can be physically present. Our bodies and souls need the hug, need to see each other, and need to relate. We have a remarkable energy when we're together. It's an energy that helps the poor and needy, helps others mourn, celebrates joy, and reminds us that we are not alone. We Jews have survived so much over the last millennia; let's not let the isolation of the pandemic define our community anymore. Let's now move from pandemic's isolation to the strength of community, and then from strength to strength again.

See you soon!

Sandford R. Kopnick Rabbi

RELIGIOUS SERVICES CONTINUED

JULY

SATURDAY, JULY 1

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

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 6:00 p.m. (NOTE EARLY TIME)

Valley on the Road RedTree Gallery, Oakley
No Service at Valley Temple this week

SATURDAY, JULY 8

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

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

Family Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 15

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

FRIDAY, JULY 21 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 22

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study 10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service Torah Portion – *D'varim*, Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22

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

Family Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, JULY 29

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



RABBI/EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE Austin Zoot

As director of the Religious School, I am fortunate to get to work with the wonderful teachers who bring their talent and enthusiasm to the classroom every week. In my three years working at Valley, I've gotten to interact with people who have taught here for close to 20 years, and those who are just getting started teaching, having graduated themselves from the program.



It is inevitable that, at this time of year, I'm looking to hire one or two new teachers to our staff. Sometimes a teacher has gone through a transition, looking to focus more time on their growing family or step away from teaching when their own kids graduate. Other times, we have teachers who decide that getting a little extra sleep on Sundays is a well-earned right (the horror of such a thing...) But one way or another, I find myself doing a lot of thinking during the summer about what it is I'm looking for in an educator for our program.

Knowledge of the subject matter is always important, sure. After all, we are introducing a new generation of Jews to their peoplehood and identity, and I want to ensure that we have teachers who are knowledgeable and qualified. You might be surprised to hear, though, that there is one factor that I look for far more than pre-existing information. Because there is something I can't teach my educators, and it might be the most important detail of all.

What makes the best Religious School teachers is a contagious love for their own Jewish identity. After all, I'm willing to name the limits to what we're doing: there is no test at the end of religious school, no way to prove that students took in the information we were hoping they'd learn. I don't quantify our success by how much data has been downloaded onto the mental hard drive of a student, because if we do our jobs well, we will earn the right to continue learning with and engaging that student for many years to come. But when a teacher is able to show the kind of enthusiasm and commitment to Judaism that is the trademark of our program, I know that we are creating a generation of students who are going to learn first-hand what it is like to find value in their Jewish identity, and continually want to engage with us.

Having been to rabbinical school, I can safely say that I know a small fraction of what Judaism has to offer. There aren't enough days in a lifetime to read every word of the Talmud, to study every philosopher and theologian, to fully immerse in over 2000 years of our history. But what makes Judaism so magnificent is the way that we, as a

community, come together to continually learn and play with Jewish tradition. And when I think about the people who create those learning opportunities in our school, I am so lucky to get to work with so many talented, thoughtful, and dedicated Jews, who are excited to share their love for our people with the students they teach.

If you would like to explore the possibility of teaching in our program, feel free to reach out and start a conversation. Because our school is done best when we all invest in making a warm, inclusive, refreshingly positive Jewish experience. And that starts with our teachers.

Thank you to all who make this possible. And thank you to all the parents who trust us with teaching your kids about how amazing it is to be a Jew.

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.



WELCOME MATTHEW BERMAN



Matthew Berman, a rising second year Rabbinic Student at HUC-JIR, will be our summer Rabbinic Intern. Matthew is the son of Lisa and John Berman, and grandson of Dolph and Nancy Berman. Matthew is a talented person who is a proud graduate of The Ohio State University. Matthew was a frequent leader at OSU Hillel services, and a devoted member of the Hillel community. After graduation from OSU, Matthew took a year to get to know Israel. While there, he applied and was accepted to Hebrew Union College, and stayed for his Year In Israel. Matthew will be doing some adult education in July, helping with services and B'nai Mitzvah tutoring, and covering the Torah study when Rabbis Kopnick and Zoot are at camp or away. You'll have a chance to meet Matthew at the Annual Meeting on June 2 and throughout June and July. We are proud to welcome our own back to Valley!

2023 GRADUATES



Front row: Jacob Moeller, Ella Naveh, Ella Schlaeger Middle row: Matt Enneking, Jacob Clark, Micah Nourie Back row: Rabbi Kopnick, Jody Finley, Rabbi Zoot



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If you link your Kroger account to Sisterhood, Kroger will give us a percentage of all money spent at Kroger. To link your account:

- 1. Sign into your account at Kroger.com
- 2. Click your name or picture (upper right)
- 3. Click My Account
- 4. Click Community Rewards (left column)
- 5. Click Find an Organization
 - a. Search by Organization –Type "Valley Temple Sisterhood"
- 6. Save your choice.

You are now enrolled to donate to Sisterhood as you shop. THANK YOU

Rummage Sale Shopping Friday, June 9 (10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Sunday, June 11 (9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

To donate or volunteer contact: valleytemplesisterhood@gmail.com

The Year in Review

Sisterhood had a great year with activities for everyone.

Programs: We had programs as part of each meeting, including:

- · Gift collection for West End Sisters 9:for Life
- Chanukah Gift Exchange
- Stop the Bleed Training
- Studying the Torah portion from Sisterhood Shabbat
- Learning about Create Your Jewish Legacy and the District Convention
- End of the Year Brunch for all women of Valley Temple

We went out to dinner every other month to different restaurants.

We hosted the Religious School beginning and end of the year picnics.

We hosted a moving and spiritual Sisterhood Shabbat .

Next Year

Plan to join us September 10 from 10:00 a.m. - Noon at Valley Temple.

MISHEIBERACH

Bernice Blatt Michael Gelfand Ron Kull Minette Hoffheimer Alberta Hemsley Peggy Barrett

OUR SYMPATHY

Micki Springer on the death of her husband, Jerry Springer

TIKKUN OLAM JUNE / JULY

The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety

This is the title of the amendment to the Ohio Constitution prepared by the Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom and Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights, adopted by a large coalition of supporters. The amendment is to Article 1, which states: "All *men* (italics added) are, by nature, free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and seeking and obtaining happiness and safety."

This bill would add:

"Every individual has the right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care and abortion."

There are 4 other portions to this amendment, addressing such things as fetal viability, and evidence-based standards of care.

To be on the November ballot, we need a total of 413,000 valid signatures, from 44 counties, and bill would have to pass with over 50% majority. They must be collected by June 30.

We continue to work closely with RAC-OH and the Cincinnati Jewish community partners, including Rockdale, Wise, Adath, Temple Sholom, JCRC and Bend the Arc, Cincinnati.

THIS IS A VERY JEWISH ISSUE:

"The *Torah*, the *Mishnah*, the *Talmud* and later rabbinic sources consider the woman's physical and emotional health before that of the fetus. Until the baby is born, Judaism considers the fetus to be part of the woman's body. She is never the villain when difficult choices need to be made."

- Rabbi Mara Nathan

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

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

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

Or email:

Linda Lazar lazarjl1@fuse.net Helen Waits bindywaits@gmail.com

> "Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

> > - Maya Angelou

JUNE / JULY "BLUE BIN" TIKKUN OLAM DONATIONS BENEFIT

As many of you know, the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Cincinnati has greatly expanded the number of families they serve. They can now accommodate 177 families each night, including parents, siblings and children receiving outpatient treatment. This has resulted in an increased need for donations from the community, so we've decided to collect these in our "Blue Bins" for June and July. These are the top five items on their wish list:

- · Individually packaged snacks
- Travel-size toiletries

(shampoo, body wash, deodorant, etc.)

- Cereal boxes and individual serving boxes
- 13-gallon trash bags
- · Individual pump hand soaps

Their teens would also appreciate "Gaming Gift Cards". Gift cards for X-Box or Play Station can be purchased at Kroger or other stores.

Denim & Diamonds

Thank you to all who donated items to the silent auction:

FC Cincinnati Amy Paul and Jerry Newfarmer Residence Inn by Marriott at the Phelps Lytle Park Hotel and The Taft Museum AC Hotel at The Banks Beck/Gartenlaub Family Linda and Jeff Lazar Allison and Phil Schneider Wendy Walsh Rabbi Sandford Kopnick Goldman Union Camp Institute The Cincinnati Zoo, The Cincinnati Museum Center, Graeter's and Skyline Organized Cincinnati, LLC Anonymous and Izzy's Bernay Family Western and Southern Open David and Sharon Feldstein Andrea and David Knarr Jenny Broh Craig and Debbie Hoffheimer/Steve Mai The Valley Temple Sisterhood Anne and Fred Strauss Stacey and Ivan Spivak Josiah Dapper Sunssand and Jon Hoffheimer Beth Schwartz and Gene Smiley John and Greer Schneider Uncle Bill's Garden Center and Chelsea Joy CIncy Shirts Esquire/Mariemont Theatres and Dewey's Pizza Gail Lewin

Barb and Buz Stewart

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick; From Paul Crane and Rachelle Weiss

In memory of Albert DuCovna; from Susan and Herbert DuCovna

In memory of Jerry Springer; from Bob and Jeannie Hiller In memory of Jerry Springer; from Jenny Broh and Family In appreciation of Rabbi Kopnick; from Micki Springer In memory of Pauline Kallek; from Lynn and Neil Kravitz In memory of Jerry Springer; from Laura and Sam Lobar In memory of Jerry Springer; from Dr. Andrea Beck and Fred Gartenlaub

RABBI/EDUCATOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Ruth Goldhoff; from the Goldhoffs

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

In memory of Wyle Weiman and Len Goldstein; from Jan Goldstein and Charles Frank

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Julian Magnus Sr. and Edith Magnus; from Carol Magnus

L'CHAYIM FUND

In honor of family yahrzeits; from Dan Perlmutter

ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Maurice Dick; from Ken and Diane Mitman In memory of Edward Spieler; from Elliot and Helen Spieler In memory of Jerry Springer; from Helen and John Habbert In memory of Gerald N. Springer; from Leslie and Ben Sorrell

In honor of Jeff Lazar; from Helen and Ernie Waits

ROBERT & CHARLOTTE LANZIT ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In appreciation; from Tom Steger

VALLEY TEMPLE BUILDING FUND

In memory of Kelsey McGhee and Rose Schott; from Hank Rosenthal

ESTELLE WIGSER FLOWER FUND

In appreciation; from Kim Blatt

Thank you to our recent Oneg Shabbat Sponsor:

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

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



Thank you to our 2023 sponsors!

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Thanks also to the following for helping to make the auction a success: Helen Waits, Linda Lazar, Sandy Hatfield, Andrea Beck, Jenny and Beckett Broh, Kathy and Ivan Tamarkin, Kent Finley, Gene Smiley, Josiah Dapper, Neil Berman, Helen Spieler, and Brian Meeron and a very special thank you to our co-chairs Jody Finley and Allison Schneider.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Nathan Sefferino Daniel Davis Rabbi Sandford Kapnick Wendy Wasserman Jessica Heines Emily Brown Brett Schwartz Simon Steinberg Jenna Elgowsky Marilyn Randman Kandice Wainer Matthew Enneking Peggy Barrett Mary Stagaman Helen Habbert Luis Doblado Danny Kopnick Robyn McCarrick John J. Frank, Jr. Elana Berman June Ridgway Linda Denham Alex Woosley Emmett Kaufman Andrew Welch George Trenkamp Laura Lobar Aaron Deutsch Andy Stark Jeffrey Levine Jessica Deitsch Samuel Steed David Deutsch Kevin Crowell Ivan Tamarkin Kyle Fritsch Adam McCarrick	06/03 06/06 06/07 06/08 06/09 06/09 06/10 06/11 06/11 06/11 06/11 06/13 06/14 06/15 06/15 06/15 06/15 06/15 06/16 06/17 06/17 06/17 06/17 06/21 06/21 06/21 06/21 06/24 06/25
Ivan Tamarkin	06/24
Kyle Fritsch	06/24

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Brett Schwartz & Deena Abernathy	06/01/2014
Sam & Laura Lobar	06/14/1987
Neil & Lynn Kravitz	06/15/1980
Chuck & Ginny Myer III	06/15/1975
Les & Carol Appel	06/17/1973
John & Ronnie Shore	06/17
Gil & Stephanie Kaufman	06/19/1999
Marvin & Laurel Fischbaum	06/20/1976
Herb & Sue DuCovna	06/22/1964
Ron Kull & MaryStagaman	06/23/2002
Garrett & Susan Levy	06/24/1995
Wendy & Jim Walsh	06/25/1972
Susan and Mike Mantel	06/28/1986
Ron & Alice Weitzenkorn	06/29/1986

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Fred Gartenlaub Cynthia Cronin Sarah Cronin Carol Wolf Michel le Steed Nicholas McNair Elizabeth Woosley Nancy Berman Amanda M. Katz Aaron Hatfield Anna Schrager Jenna Geller Rachel Hodesh Ryan Mather Rose Apseloff Rob Festenstein Ronnie Shore Zayn Davis Eli Neman Kimberly Deitsch Naomi Abernathy Charles Frank Jody Finley Sue Greenberg	07/01 07/03 07/03 07/03 07/04 07/05 07/05 07/06 07/06 07/06 07/09 07/10 07/11 07/11 07/12 07/13 07/14 07/14 07/18 07/18
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Zayn Davis	07/13
	07/14
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Eris Barzman	07/19
Samuel Frank	07/20
Dr. Robert Maltz	07/21
Ross Spieler	07/21 07/22
Daniel Blumenfeld	07/22
Jeff Schlaeger Jeff Miller	07/24
Kayla Geller	07/26
Dr. Charles Pierce	07/26
Dr. Janet Zydney	07/27
Maya McNair	07/27
Joshua Beasley	07/28
Michael O'Neill	07/30
-	

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Fred & Anne Straus III	07/03/1960
Steven & Cheryl Hecht	07/04/1971
Ken & Diane Mitman	07/06/1986
Ernie & Sally Waxman	07/11/1965
Dr. Donald & Bernice Pollack	07/14/1963
Doug & Bette Ann Sandor	07/14/1974
Steven & Cindy Pinsky	07/20
Jim & Pam Levinson	07/18/1981
Rob & Paula Rappaport	07/16/1978
David & Joelle Levine	07/21/1984
Sarah & Joel Davis	07/23/2009
Richard & Karen Blatt	07/26/2000
Bruce Walker & Carol Kramberg-Walker	07/27/1986
Barry & Marsha Pinksy	07/31/1977
Ernie & Sally Waxman Dr. Donald & Bernice Pollack Doug & Bette Ann Sandor Steven & Cindy Pinsky Jim & Pam Levinson Rob & Paula Rappaport David & Joelle Levine Sarah & Joel Davis Richard & Karen Blatt Bruce Walker & Carol Kramberg-Walker	07/11/1965 07/14/1963 07/14/1974 07/20 07/18/1981 07/16/1978 07/21/1984 07/23/2009 07/26/2000 07/27/1986



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