



the
valley
temple

**NOVEMBER 2023 /
CHESVAN - KISLEV 5784**

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

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

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study

9:45 a.m. – Tot Shabbat

10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service

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

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

Family Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study

10:30 a.m. - Shabbat Service

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

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

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:30 a.m. - Torah Study

10:30 a.m. - Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – *Toldot*, Genesis 25:19-28:9

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

Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:30 a.m. – Torah Study

10:30 a.m. – Shabbat Service

Torah Portion – *Vayetzei*, Genesis 28:10-32:3

Stolpersteine in Germany



**Coming to terms with a
family history of the Holocaust**

With Ron Weitzenkorn, Temple member.
Thursday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Literally a “Stumbling Stone”, the purpose of a Stolperstein is to remind us that a person was persecuted by the Nazis. We figuratively stumble across a memorial and our minds are jogged into remembrance. This evening we’ll learn about Ron Weitzenkorn’s recent trip to Germany on behalf of his father and uncle (currently in their 90s). We’ll learn about the program, the history of this interesting family, and the emotions that this event stirred.



FROM THE RABBI... Sandford R. Kopnick

WHY I SUPPORT ISRAEL

Hamas has been remarkably successful in their efforts to seriously damage Israel. Gaza is an overcrowded and difficult place. Hamas' rise to power there has made it impossible for Israelis to negotiate for peace. Contrary to popular belief, Hamas has never renounced their goal of the destruction of the state of Israel. And while Israel has not always properly handled the complex situation in which the Palestinians find themselves, they have sought peace through dealing with the adversary without the goal of destroying the other side. There have been some Israeli leaders more sincere in their desire to make peace, but even the current prime minister has negotiated peace with leaders of neighboring countries.

The Hamas attack on *Simchat Torah* is unprecedented, inexcusable, and terrorism. The taking of so many hostages, the bombardment of Israel with thousands of missiles, and the murder of so many Israeli civilians—children and elderly among them, is a provocation that had to be answered.

I support Israel because, with all of its blemishes—it is a haven for our people that few places are. Israel is the historical home of the Jewish people and the destination for thousands and thousands of refugees from various wars, antisemitism, and persecution. And while I might be appalled by the ways Israel's government behaves, I am not at the moment.

I loathe war and the death of innocents. I am fully supportive of destroying the Hamas organization—and pray that it would happen with few civilian casualties.. However, that is impossible given that Hamas warriors and politicians hide among Gazans in hospitals, tunnels, schools, and residences. Israel values human life—and defending themselves includes stopping those who pursue the life of Israelis. That is Israel's right.

I grew up in a Jewish home that was affected in previous generations with persecution which made my ancestors flee their homes and families in search of a better life. I remember the heartbreak my grandmother endured when her Polish family perished in the Holocaust. "Never again" was a serious refrain—and it still is.

I do not believe Israel was created in order to diminish the other peoples who are indigenous to the holy land. And while we did gather some of our exiles from their host countries that were oppressing them, there have always been Jews in Israel. The Palestinians need to resolve that Israel is going to exist—and the Israelis have to resolve that Palestinians are human beings that deserve the dignity for self-determination. However, Hamas is not interested in Israel existing—and they are willing to sacrifice Palestinians to that end. Shameful.

The world is already filled with people who have no problem criticizing Israelis for trying to rid Gaza of Hamas and neu-

tralize the on-going threat of rockets, kidnappings, murder, and terrorism. If Canada were to attack the U.S. in a similar way—is there any doubt what our country would do to insure it never happens again? Can we all remember the lengths the U.S. went to after 9/11 to engage war on terror?

So I proudly state that *Am Yisrael Chai*—the Jewish people lives! I hope you do, too. And I hope that you are giving generously to agencies and charities that support Israel's existence and that help the Israelis survive the anguish and challenges that this latest round has inflicted. And we pray for the peace of Israel—and for peace for Palestinians who are looking to survive and build alongside their Israeli neighbors who would also like the end to hostilities. May God grant peace to the region and to us all, amen.

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi





RABBI/EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE

Austin Zoot

As I write this with (barely) enough time to publish it in the bulletin, we are at war. Our people, both in Israel and online, are facing the ongoing and devastating task of defending our right to exist. And, as is far too often the case, the brunt of the trauma falls to our children. Despite our best efforts to keep them safe and sheltered from the harsh realities of our world, moments like this require us to show them the scarier side of what it means to live in a world of human cruelty.

It has been a challenging several weeks for us to try to process what our children are hearing in the news and how they are making sense of the things going on in our world. But Judaism has always guided us through moments like this. Judaism has helped us to process grief and loss with our children, despite our inability to choose when those conversations need to happen. Our Judaism has provided language for talking about life transitions in many areas, from morality and justice to birth and sickness. And, once again, we need to call upon those lessons in order to try to share with our families how to process a moment in history that is as scary as it is consequential.

In the first weeks after the attack by Hamas against the Israeli south, our religious school students have come to class with questions and concerns. They want to understand why a world that is supposed to be full of kindness and love can also be so hateful and cruel. They want to know why we as Jews are struggling with this in America, thousands of miles from the fighting. And we owe it to them to be honest in an age appropriate manner, to show them what it means to engage healthily in our feelings and to accept the limits of our ability to understand.

It is not an act of weakness to show our children that we are scared. It is not an act of negligence to be incapable of answering every question. But, when adults look back at some of the most defining moments in history that they experienced first-hand, they frequently report that the most meaningful, helpful thing their caretakers could do was to be present with them and validate their feelings, making it ok to not know what to feel or how to process it. The relative ease of pretending everything is alright might be satisfying for the moment, but it does not set up children for long term success when life inevitably throws another curveball.

As we continue to move forward in an uncertain world, we are all here for one another. Parents are there for their children, to help them find a sense of understanding in a world so lacking in it. Our community is here to support parents as they find the right ways to navigate these challenging

The Valley Temple



וששנתם לבניך

and uncomfortable conversations. And Judaism is here to support our community, reminding us that even though we have never experienced this before, our ancestors have laid out a plan for how we can best navigate the unknown.

We can't protect our children from the world. But we can ensure that they know that as they navigate the world, they are never truly alone.

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.

HOT TOPICS WITH

Hot Temple Coffee

Join Rabbi Kopnick or Rabbi Zoot at the Temple as we explore some of the topics of the day. Free Swill for those who dare—and lively discussion and learning.

For everyone—including religious school parents!

Sunday, November 19, at 11:00 a.m.

What Happens when Science and Judaism Clash

Sunday, December 3, at 11:00 a.m.

Chanukah Refresher and Idea Sharing





We held a general meeting on October 15. This was a great meeting where we discussed what we want to do as a club, both socially and social action related. As a result of the meeting, the men's club purchased blue ribbons for support of Israel that are in the temple lobby for all members to wear. We are also donating to Swords of Iron to help Israel.

Social events discussed during the meeting were bringing back the Super Bowl party at the temple, temple game night and candlepin bowling. Additional information on these items will be shared once known.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for **December 3** when we will host **Dads and Donuts** prior to Sunday School.

Steve Deutsch & Dan Perlmutter
Men's Club Co-Presidents



IT IS TIME TO JOIN SISTERHOOD

Join sisterhood today send your 23-24 dues right now at <https://valleytemple.com/sisterhood/>

NOVEMBER MEETING LOCATION: For the November sisterhood meeting, we will be at "HER Cincinnati" – we will have our general meeting for the first hour and then we will do our program with the women supported by HER.

HER Cincinnati – provides Housing, education, and recovery for at risk women in Cincinnati. They will provide us a place for our general meeting and then we will host a Bingo party for the women. Sisterhood will bring small prizes for Bingo and cupcakes then we will play bingo and socialize with the women.

Please reach out to Linda Lazar (lazarjl1@fuse.net) if you would like to help with the cupcakes or prizes.

Location: Anna Louise Inn -- 2401 Reading Rd.
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. General Meeting
11:00 a.m. - ?? Bingo Party for the women of HER.

Future Meeting: December meeting will be our *Chanukah* gift exchange.

SAVE THE DATE
7th Cincinnati Mega Challah Bake: November 15
We will have a VTS table again this year. Reach out to Sandy Hatfield (sandylee1960@gmail.com) if you would like to sit at the VTS table.
Cost: \$35 per person.

If you have any questions, contact one of our co-presidents for the 2023 - 2024 year.

Co-Presidents: Sue Mantel (mantel@ucmail.uc.edu) ,
Robyn McCarrick (mccarrick626@yahoo.com)



Simchat Torah 2023



Sukkot 2023



TIKKUN OLAM NOVEMBER

The Tikkun Olam Committee organizes a variety of Social Action and Social Justice projects throughout the year. There are opportunities for volunteers of all ages and areas of interest, to engage in "repairing the world".

Blue Bin Donations:

Each November we collect food items for the Valley Inter-faith Community Resource Center. Throughout the month, we will be collecting canned frosting and canned carrots, as they requested.

For this and other donations throughout the year, if delivering to the temple is not convenient, you can send a check to the Valley Temple Social Action fund and we will make sure it goes to the designated agency.

Our *Tikkun Olam* committee has ideas for the other months of the year, including climate change actions, LGBTQ+ rights, and others, but we'd love to have more people join us, and bring your ideas and passions!

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES:

We work closely with RAC-OH throughout the year, to coordinate advocacy activities, such as letter-writing, calling on legislators, and education related to public policies that have been identified by the Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) and local congregations. We are currently engaged with Cincinnati Jewish community partners (Rockdale, Wise Temple, Temple Sholom, JCRC and Bend the Arc) on the Reproductive Rights initiatives in Ohio, and welcome more involvement in this. If you haven't already voted, please do so on or before November 7!

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

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

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

For information about any and all Tikkun Olam projects, please call or email:

Linda Lazar
lazarjl1@fuse.net / (513) 260-1026

Helen Waits
bindywaits@gmail.com / (513) 310-7633

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו לרדוף צדק

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



Linda and Bobby Denham on the marriage
of their son, Corey to Allison Gayer

MISHEIBERACH

Bernice Blatt
Michael Gelfand
Ron Kull
Alberta Hemsley
Peggy Barrett
George Dilworth
Margie Schneider
Pam Levinson
Barry Goldhoff
Ricki Hodesh
Dr. Larry Freeman

OUR SYMPATHY



Craig Hoffheimer (Debby) on the death
of his mother, Minette Hoffheimer

Colin Nourie, Zoe, Rae and Micah Nourie, on the death
of his mother and their grandmother, Mary Lou Nourie

The family of JoAnne Steinberg

Neil Berman (Susan Marmo) and Elana Berman on the
death of their mother and grandmother, Roberta Berman

SUSTAINING THE GENERATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Erwin Colish and Ruth Kravitz; *from Lynn and Neil Kravitz*

A gift to The Valley Temple Food Drive; *from June Ridgway*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Daniel Hoffheimer*

In honor of Cole John Verchick; *from Mr. & Mrs. Verchick*

In memory of JoAnne Stineberg; *from Joe Steinberg and Family*

IRVIN AND JANET MAKRAUER MEMORIAL RITUAL FUND

In memory of Janet Makrauer; *from Zola Makrauer*

ALLEN & SELMA WIENER BERKMAN SOCIAL ACTION FUND

A gift to The Valley Temple Food Drive; *from Dan and Anne Lovell*

A gift to The Valley Temple Food Drive; *from Kim Blatt*

A gift from Donna Goodman

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

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of Sophie Zoot; *from Drene and Philip Levinson*

In memory of Mary Lou Nourie; *from Jeff and Linda Lazar*

SASS FAMILY MUSIC FUND

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Ronnie and John Shore*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Helen and Ernie Waits*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Jim and Pam Levinson, and Jon Levinson*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Carol Magnus*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Lucy, David, Sandra, and Meg Reckseit*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Gail Lewin*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Ellie Shott*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from Gregg, David, Kevin, Kimberly, and Kara Feltrup & Company*

In memory of Minette Hoffheimer; *from James and Emily Daffin*

VALLEY TEMPLE GENERAL FUND

In appreciation of High Holy Day services; *from Ida Schwartz*

In appreciation of High Holy Day services; *from Rabbi Jonathan Hecht and Gladys Rosenblum*

VIDEO STREAMING FUND

In appreciation; *from Rhoda and John Ulas*

BRYNA SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL ONEG & HOSPITALITY FUND

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

In memory of Ernie Waits Sr.; *from Ernie and Helen Waits*

NOW GIVING IS EVEN EASIER

Go to ValleyTemple.com and click on "Giving"

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
Herb DuCovna	11 / 07
Ron Weitzenkorn	11 / 09
John Habbert	11 / 10
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
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
Skye Dornheggen	11 / 30

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Marc & Kimberley Deitsch	11/05/2022
Michael & Jessica Deitsch	11/08/2018
Gila & Michael Naveh	11/08
Barbara & David Neman	11/12/2000
Grant & Samantha Dornheggen	11/15/2015
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



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sandford R. Kopnick, Rabbi
Austin Zoot, Rabbi/Educator
Wendy Walsh, Temple Administrator
Solomon T. Greenberg, Rabbi Emeritus
Jody Finley, President
Robyn McCarrick & Sue Mantel, Co-Presidents,
Women of Reform Judaism
Steve Deutsch & Dan Perlmutter,
Co-Presidents, Men's Club

513-761-3555
WEBSITE: www.valleytemple.com
E-MAIL: wendy@valleytemple.com

RSVP for dinner
by 12/1/23



Chanukah

Celebration & Consecration

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8



Bring your
family menorah!

6:30 p.m. Chanukah Dinner (Chicken & Latkes) • 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service & Consecration

Return form to: The Valley Temple, 145 Springfield Pike, Wyoming, OH 45215

Names: _____

**Cost is \$6 - \$36 / person depending on what you wish to pay.
Temple's costs for the dinner run about \$20/adult and \$12/child.**

Adults (ages 12 & up)	Children (ages 3-11)	Ages 3 & Under	
# grilled chicken meals _____	# grilled chicken meals _____	# Attending _____	Total Enclosed \$ _____
# fried chicken meals _____	# fried chicken meals _____	Free if not ordering a meal	

Dietary restrictions? Allergies? Please let us know: _____