



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel Founded 1848 Bulletin Volume 162 No. 6 February 2017

Concert to Benefit Vassar Temple: Feb. 11th

On Saturday evening Feb. 11th at 8:00pm, singer and cantorial student Laura Stein will present a concert to benefit Vassar Temple. "To Vassar Temple with Love" is a concert that will explore themes of love in Jewish text and liturgy, as well as in American folk and theater tradition. Please join us as we listen to the beautiful expressions of love that come from both our Hebrew and English traditions! The concert will take place at the Temple and tickets are **\$18 at the door**.

Laura is a fourth year cantorial student at Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and this is her third time working with our temple. She grew up in Westchester and has lived in many countries around the world. In her cantorial work, Laura is passionate about pastoral care and the role music can play in healing and in prayer, and she would love to travel to different parts of the world, learning about their musical cultures.

BAKERS NEEDED!

Please join us for Sisterhood's annual

HAMANTASCHEN BAKING DAY

Make friends while making Hamantaschen for our Purim service and for outreach to congregants and our out-of-town college students.

Sunday, February 12th
(snow date: 2/26/17)

9:00 to 1:00 in the Temple kitchen

RSVP to Judy Rosenfeld
635-2414 or
hamantaschen@vassartemple.org

Please bring one batch of dough and a rolling pin. Remaining ingredients will be provided. The recipe is available from Judy, the Temple office or website, and the Sisterhood Facebook page.

Not able to come and help? Please make a batch of dough and leave it in the Temple freezer in a Ziploc bag - just let Judy know.

Shabbat Services winter hours (6:00) are now in effect

Upcoming Events

February

- 5 Pancake Breakfast, p7
- 5 *Sacred Callings* at Adriaance, p6
- 5 Lunch Box. p6
- 10 Soup & Chili Dinner, p6
- 11 Tu B'Shevat, p1
- 11 VT Benefit Concert, p1
- 12 Tiny Temple, p 3
- 12 Hamantaschen Baking, p1
- 15 Book Club, p5

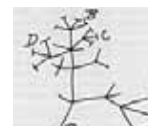
Tu B'Shevat Program and Seder

The holiday Tu B'Shevat is a time to celebrate nature and the environment, and Vassar Temple has very special activities designed for you to do just that on Saturday, Feb. 11th.

After a 9:00am torah study with Rabbi Berkowitz, a complete Shabbat morning torah service will begin at 10:00 am. Special guest speaker will be Mark Schlessman, professor of Biology at Vassar College and chairman of the board of di-

rectors of the Poughkeepsie Farm Project. As an evolutionary biologist, one of the first things he noticed about Tu B'Shevat is that it falls very close to Charles Darwin's birthday. Based on Darwin's writings, biologists have used tree-like diagrams and "tree thinking" to explain evolution. Dr. Schlessman will introduce us to Tree Thinking by offering some reflections on the evolution of trees, and by offering some reflections on trees as metaphors for evolution.

After the service, enjoy a Tu B'Shevat seder, featuring fruits and beverages symbolic of the holiday, and a free light kiddush lunch. For further information or to RSVP for the seder lunch, please contact David Hecht at vtritchair@gmail.com or 845-518-8523,



Rabbi's Message: Packing our Timbrels



One of my favorite Shabbatot of the year is Shabbat Shirah, the Sabbath of Song. Shabbat Shirah coincides with the Torah portion Beshalach,

which includes the famous "Song of the Sea" that Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites sang after crossing the Red Sea to freedom from Egyptian slavery. The script in the Torah scroll is laid out in three undulating columns, reminiscent of the walls of water the Israelites walked through on their way to the Promised Land.

This song has become even more ingrained in the Jewish consciousness because the rabbis extracted a few of its lines to create the prayer *Mi Chamocha*, which appears in our morning and evening liturgy. "Who is like You, Eternal, among the gods who are worshipped? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, working wonders?" (Exodus 15:11)

It wasn't only with song that the Israelites celebrated their freedom. The Torah tells us that "Miriam the prophetess...took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her in dance with timbrels" (Exodus 15:20).

This raises two questions: First, what is a timbrel? A timbrel was a portable hand drum, not unlike a tambourine.

Second, how was it that the Israelite women, who left Egypt so quickly that

their bread did not have time to rise, thought to pack musical instruments for their arduous journey?

For this, we have to turn to *midrash*. Rabbi Ishmael suggests that the righteous women of Israel were so confident that a miracle would take place that they brought timbrels with them when they left Egypt. They anticipated that G-d would deliver them, and they knew that such an occasion would require more than a simple, "Thank you."

It is wonderful that the women of Israel were so optimistic, but their choice of accoutrements raises another question: why pack timbrels and not, say, sparklers, confetti, or a stack of thank-you notes?

We have to conclude that music is an essential part of the Jewish experience, and that none of our learning, prayer, or celebration would be complete without it. On Shabbat Shirah, we celebrate the power of music to entertain, to inspire, and to heal.

This year, in honor of Shabbat Shirah, Vassar Temple is planning a very special weekend, **FEBRUARY 10TH-12TH** with Cantorial Student Laura Stein, from the School of Sacred Music at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Here are some of the events to look forward to!

FRIDAY, FEB. 10TH 6:00pm: Laura will help to lead a Tisch Shabbat in the social hall. A Tisch or "Table" Shabbat is held around the Shabbat table, and features melodies and stories and highlights com-

munity. The service will include Shabbat prayer and liturgy as well as a spirit of learning and singing. Sisterhood will provide a festive meal of homemade soups, vegetarian chili, cornbread, and salad during the service. RSVP to Cathy Bokor at catherine.bokor@gmail.com or 462-5862 so that we can get a head count.

SATURDAY, FEB. 11TH 10:00AM:

Laura will lead our Shabbat morning worship with me, and chant the Song of the Sea for us. Mark Schlessman, an Environmental Biology professor at Vassar College, will speak during the service as well. Laura will also offer her musical gifts during our Tu BiShevat Seder and luncheon immediately following the service. RSVP to vtritchair@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, FEB. 11TH 8:00PM: Laura will present a concert to benefit Vassar Temple. "To Vassar Temple with Love" is a concert that will explore themes of love in Jewish text and liturgy, as well as in American folk and theater tradition. Please join us as we listen to the beautiful expressions of love that come from both our Hebrew and English traditions! Contact music@vassartemple.org for more info. Tickets are \$18 at the door.

SUNDAY, FEB. 12TH: Laura will drop into Tiny Temple, and then lead a school-wide tefillah and song session.

Don't miss this incredible weekend of music, prayer, and learning!

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz

President's Message



The Board of Trustees, together with Rabbi Berkowitz, has been diligently working to gain for Vassar Temple a greater presence in our community. One example of such work was a program last fall, given to the community by Rabbi Berkowitz and Jonah Ritter, called "*A Taste of Judaism*." It was very well received and led to interest in Judaism and our Temple. The Board's efforts also resulted in new members to our congregation.

Marian Schwartz and the Social Ac-

tion Committee are always finding ways to have Vassar Temple volunteers improve the lives of our less fortunate neighbors. The activities of our members show the community the many meaningful ways Vassar Temple participates with and helps our neighbors. The positive activities that VT volunteers, together with Rabbi Berkowitz, engage in throughout the community create interest in Vassar Temple and will lead to a stronger congregation.

Volunteers are always needed at Temple and in the community. Volunteering is very likely to bring a new dimension to your

life. You may be able to find the time to organize or participate in activities to help our community while also helping our Temple. Working to make VT as well as our community stronger is a goal we can all work at and be proud of.

If you have a little time, and the desire, to be involved in meaningful and fulfilling service, your skills will be valued and appreciated by the Temple and our surrounding community.

Please consider volunteering.
Thank you.

Mark Metzger

February Worship Services

3	6:00pm 7:30pm	Family Dinner Family Shabbat Services with Rabbi Berkowitz and organist Joseph Bertolozzi
4	9:00am 10:00am	Torah Study New Paths Service
10	6:00pm	Shabbat Services with Rabbi Berkowitz, organist Joseph Bertolozzi and Cantorial Intern, Laura Stein
11	9:00am 10:00am 12:00pm	Torah Study Shabbat Morning Service Tu B'Shevat Seder – Ritual Committee
17	6:00pm	Shabbat Services with Rabbi Berkowitz, organist Joseph Bertolozzi and soloist Elisa Dugatkin
18	9:00am 10:00am	Torah Study Bat Mitzvah of Haley Kflowitz
24	6:00pm	Shabbat Evening Services with Rabbi Berkowitz, organist Joseph Bertolozzi and soloist Elisa Dugatkin
25	9:00am 10:00am	Torah Study New Paths Service

Scriptural Readings

- Feb. 4 *Bo* Ex. 10:1-11:3;
Jeremiah 46:13-28
- 11 **Shabbat Shirah/Tu BiShevat**
B'shalach Ex. 13:17-15:26;
Judges 4:4 – 5:31
- 18 *Ytro* Ex. 18:1-20:23;
Isaiah 6:1 – 7:6, 9:5-6
- 25 **Shabbat Shekalim**
Mishpatim Ex. 21:1-30:16; II
Kings 12:1-17

Weekly Study Groups at VT

“*Torah Study*” with the Temple’s Rabbi Leah Berkowitz, which examines passages from the week’s torah portion or haftarah, will be held every Saturday at 9:00am.

“*The Talmud: Modern Ideas from an Ancient Text*”, taught by Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb, will be held every Tuesday at noon.

All are welcome to come, learn and join in the lively discussions at both classes--no previous training required! No charge to attend. Questions? rabbi@vassartemple.org or (845)454-2570



New Paths Services

Join us at the New Paths sabbath morning service Saturdays, February 4th & 25th at 10:00am in the informal, intimate setting of Vassar Temple’s East Chapel. The moving liturgy of the New Paths prayer book includes both traditional and contemporary writings, mostly in English, and participants may bring supplemental materials to share. Each New Paths service, whether lay led or rabbi led, provides a unique and thoughtful shabbat morning experience. A brief mini-kiddush follows. For more information, please contact Marian Schwartz mschwa9882@aol.com, Rabbi Berkowitz rabbi@vassartemple.org, or the Temple office 845-454-2570.

Tiny Temple to Bake Hamantaschen: Feb.12th



Calling all tots! Let’s make yummy hamantaschen in anticipation of the joyous holiday of Purim at this month’s free Tiny Temple program, Sunday, Feb. 12th from 11:00am-noon (snow date: Feb. 26th). All children ages infant to 5, and those raising them, are warmly invited to join in the fun.

Tiny Temple is open to all regardless of temple affiliation, is always free of charge, and is sponsored by the Vassar Temple Sisterhood. Invite your friends and neighbors with young children to join in the fun! To assist in our planning, please RSVP to Laura Brundage at tinytemple@vassartemple.org. She will also be happy to answer any questions you may have about this wonderful free program, and can put you on the Tiny Temple e-mail list.

Mazel Tov to...

Paul Goldberg on his 90th birthday;
Jim & Maryann Robinowitz on the birth
of their grandson, Lucas Sterling Pena,
born to Leah & Emmanuel Pena

VTS Judaica Shoppe

The Vassar Temple Sisterhood Judaica Shoppe is open Mon-Thur. during office hours. It will also be open on Sunday, February 12th (snow date: February 26th) for your convenience.

VTS Shoppe Hanukkah Sale

Donna Loshin, Olga Ibañez and Sherrie Geisler, our faithful volunteers, were again at the helm! I couldn't have done it without you gracious ladies! A big thank you to our wonderful customers!

Hanukkah baby socks = sold out!

Electric menorot = sold out!

Paper goods and decorations = sold out!

YES! We had a successful sale, thanks to YOU! Last, but not least, thanks to Tamara Gruszko for her help in storing the remaining inventory...to be continued next year!

Perla Kaufman

Condolences to...

Len, Barbara and the Greenberg family on the loss of Len's father, Jerry Greenberg

Refuah Shelemah

Ellen Zelig recuperating from a broken leg;

Rachel Rolland undergoing tests;

Joel Babas recuperating from surgery;

Fern Lox recuperating from surgery;

LisaSue Quackenbush recuperating;

Sandor Metlis back in rehab;

Barbara Stern recovering from pneumonia.

February's Pulpit Flower Donations



February 3: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund

February 10: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund

February 17: Donated by Marilyn Lampell, in memory of her sister, Julie McGaully

February 24: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund

Anyone who wishes to honor the memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion can do so by sponsoring the sanctuary flowers with a donation to the Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund. The donation to the Fund is \$55. Just call the Vassar Temple Office at 454-2570.

We Need Your Help!

We are, once again, asking that you be the eyes and ears in the lives of our congregational family. Federal patient privacy regulations limit the information that hospitals make available to clergy and volunteers.

We are encouraging you to contact the Temple office when a congregant is admitted to a hospital and wishes to have Rabbi visit during the hospital stay. Our goal is to meet the needs of all our congregants, and we can only do this with your help.



Vassar Temple Bulletin

Published monthly

Publisher: Marianne Abrams
Editors: Sue Lesser and Donna Loshin

Technical Support & Understudy: Bob Abrams

Articles for the March Bulletin must be submitted to the Temple office by February 1. Articles may be sent via email to publicity@vassartemple.org. The editors reserve the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.



From the Religious School Director

During the winter months, most educators find that it is the time that we “get down to business.”

I would like to introduce you to this

year’s faculty who will be hard at work doing just that.

Fern Wolf, Grade 2 teacher, is a longtime VT member and experienced RS teacher. Her class can typically be found learning through hands-on activities, with a focus on early Bible Stories, Mitzvot and Holidays. Fern’s students love spending the morning learning with her.

Emma Arnoff & Rachel Roland Grades 3-4 co-teachers. **Emma**, a new teacher this year, is a longtime VT member and with her knowledge and experience as a school social worker, she is a great asset to the school program. **Rachel**, a past graduate of VT’s Religious School, brings joy and laughter to the classroom. Using the URJ Chai curriculum, the class has had lessons in holiday celebrations, holiness and what it means to be holy, Torah, prayers and blessings and beginning Hebrew.

Joan Quaderer, Grades 5-6 new teacher. Her class focuses on Jewish history from early times to the present, Israel and prophets. On Sunday mornings if you

happen by her classrooms, you may find her students creating real estate ads for different places in Israel or debating the ideas of a particular prophet. Joan has told me that she is very impressed with the level of social action that takes place at Vassar Temple and can’t wait to participate in Lunch Box with her students.

Craig Gittelman, Grade 7 teacher, is working his magic with this year’s class of Bar & Bat Mitzvah students. His dedication to engaging his students in thinking and digging deep into what makes them Jewish is right on. He is the perfect fit for this class on the cusp of Jewish adulthood, allowing them to have a voice and be heard.

Charlotte Katz, a past graduate of Vassar Temple Religious School, helps the school tremendously stepping in to assist other teachers or to cover classes when a teacher is unable to be here. Her quiet enthusiasm for our school Tefilah and song sessions encourages our students to participate wholeheartedly!

Michelle Klein, veteran Hebrew teacher, has stepped up to the challenge of learning and teaching our new Hebrew curriculum, *Mitkadem*, with grace and always a smile on her face. Her love of teaching here can be felt in all her interactions with the students. Michelle is always at the ready to assist a struggling student, providing individual activities and lessons

to help him/her become a successful learner.

Yoni Korn is new to Vassar Temple Religious and Hebrew School. Yoni, a student at the Culinary Institute of America, brings with him years of experience as the son of a Jewish educator from Rochester, NY. Yoni has been involved in teaching the *Mitkadem* Hebrew program in past years.

Olivia Di Ioria, Vassar Temple Religious School Music Educator, brings such joy to the school with her efforts to teach new songs to our school community. Olivia was just awarded a special scholarship to attend the *Jewish Song Leader Boot Camp* in St. Louis this winter. I want to congratulate Olivia on this exciting award. I can’t wait to see what new and exciting songs she brings back to share with our VT community.

Please feel free to come and meet our teachers on a Sunday morning, and if you are so inclined, please shake their hands or give them a hug and let them know how much you appreciate their dedication and hard work!

Julie Makowsky

Book Club to Discuss *The Boston Girl* February 15th

Vassar Temple’s Sisterhood Book Club will discuss *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant, author of *The Red Tent* and *Day After Night*. The story, told through the eyes of a young Jewish woman growing up in Boston in the early twentieth century, tells of family ties and values, friendship, and feminism. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 15th at 2:00pm in the Community Room of Collegeview Tower, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie.

The protagonist is Addie Baum, born in 1900 to immigrant parents who are unprepared for and suspicious of America and its effect on their three daughters. An eighty-five year old Addie is asked by her granddaughter what her life was like growing up and how she became the woman she is. Addie begins her story in 1915, the year she found her voice and made friends who would help to shape the course of her life. From the one room tenement apartment she shared with her parents and sisters, to the library group for girls she

joins at a neighborhood settlement house, to her first disastrous love affair, Addie recalls her experiences.

The Boston Girl is available in paperback and through the local library system. Sondra Chertok will lead the discussion to which everyone is welcome. To RSVP or get more information, please contact Linda Babas at 473-7931, or linda.babas.41@gmail.com. As always, your book suggestions are always welcome.

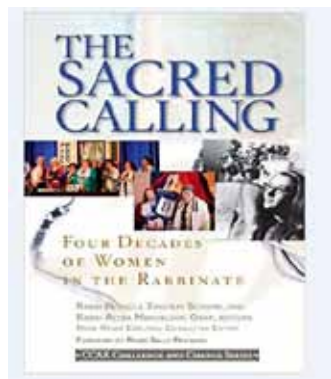
“Sacred Calling” Feb. 5th

**2:30-4:00pm Adriance Library
Charwat Room**

For the past 40 years, women in the rabbinate have impacted all aspects of Jewish life, including congregational culture, liturgical development, life cycle ritual, spirituality, theology, and more. And many unique issues impact on the personal and professional lives of rabbis who happen to be women.

Adriance Library is hosting a conversation focusing on these topics and more, featuring our very own **Rabbi Leah Berkowitz** and two other local women rabbis, Rabbi Miriam Hyman of Temple Beth El (Conservative), and Rabbi Rena Blumenthal (Reconstructionist), a freelance rabbi residing in New Paltz. Moderator will be Rabbi Alysa Mendelson, co-editor of *The Sacred Calling: Four Decades of Women in the Rabbinate*. This anthology contains reflections on the historic significance of women in the rabbinate written by rabbis and scholars from across the spectrum of the Jewish world. Rabbi Berkowitz is one of the rabbis whose writings are included in the collection.

So mark your calendar now and don't miss what should prove to be a provocative and illuminating discussion featuring three inspiring leaders of our local spiritual community!



Support Lunch Box: Feb. 5th

Our 7th grade families will be preparing and serving a hot, wholesome and tasty chili dinner for our neighbors in need at Lunch Box on Sunday, Feb. 5th. If you can donate any of the following items, please contact Rose Hartman at rhartman123@optimum.net or 845-896-1769 to let her know what you can contribute.

- 3 lb. ground beef or ground turkey browned with ½ c. chopped onions
- 1 to 2 dozen bananas/ pieces of fresh fruit/ or sandwich baggies of washed grapes

Non-perishables may be dropped off beforehand (during regular Temple hours) in the bin on the counter just inside the kitchen door. Please leave perishables in the fridge and label everything prominently “For Lunch Box.” Tax deductible checks made out to Vassar Temple with “Community Tzedakah Fund” on the memo line also help!



VaTY (Youth Group)

Upcoming Events:

- February TBD: Ski/snow tubing day with TEmTY
- March 5: Lunch Box
- March 11: Purim hopping. Purim carnival at TEmTY and Purim Schpiel at VaTY
- March 19-20: Albany Advocacy Day
- April 21-23: NFTY NAR Spring Kallah

Table Shabbat Soup & Chili Dinner: Feb. 10th

Friday night, Feb. 10th at 6:00pm, accomplished student cantor Laura Stein will help lead a Tisch Shabbat for us in the social hall. A “Tisch” or Table Shabbat is held around the Shabbat table, features melodies and stories, and highlights community. The service will include Shabbat prayer and liturgy as well as a spirit of learning and singing.

Sisterhood will provide a festive meal of homemade soups, vegetarian chili, challah, cornbread, and salad during the service. Dinner will be at 7:30 right after the 6:00pm service.

\$10 per person
\$25 per family
under age 13 free.

Checks should be made payable to: “Vassar Temple Sisterhood.” RSVP to Cathy Bokor at catherine.bokor@gmail.com or 462-5862



February Tzedakah: Wind Chill Fund

As we relax in our warm, secure homes, let's think of those who don't share these comforts by dropping a donation in the Temple tzedakah box.

This month's donations to the tzedakah box (located near the staircase) will benefit Hudson River Housing's **Wind Chill Fund**, which supplements their emergency overnight shelter when that facility is overflowing. HRH provides the homeless not only a warm, clean, safe place to sleep, but also dinner, breakfast, a hot shower, transportation to and from the shelter, and perhaps most importantly, referral services.



Your tax deductible checks made out to Vassar Temple with "Wind Chill Fund" on the memo line are also appreciated, and may be dropped

off or mailed to the Temple. To learn more about what the amazing agency known as Hudson River Housing, Inc. does, visit <http://hudsonriverhousing.org>, and thank you for your support of the Wind Chill Fund drive at our Temple this month.

A reminder that we also have "Jewish night" one Thursday night a month when members of the local Jewish community and their friends provide homemade dinner foods for the guests at the shelter, and we have a collection box in the East Chapel of our temple for toiletry donations. To help with the dinners, or if you have men's PJs or washable bedding/pillows to donate, please contact Judy Harkavy of our Social Action Committee at judystan@verizon.net.

Pancake Breakfast to Benefit Refugee Families: Feb. 5th

Come enjoy a yummy pancake breakfast at the Temple on Sunday, February 5th from 9:00am-10:00am. Proceeds will benefit the refugee resettlement project.

Choose from three complete meals:

- Pancake meal
- Banana Allergen-Free Pancake meal (no dairy, egg, soy, gluten, or nuts)
- Rabbi B Special (challah French toast meal).

Each breakfast includes syrup, one side (turkey sausage, turkey bacon, or seasonal fruit) and choice of beverage (orange juice, apple juice, coffee, decaf, or tea).

Pancake breakfasts:

- \$5 adult, \$3 child,
- \$20 maximum family
- \$10. RabbiB Special
- \$1 each: hot toppings (blueberry, apple, strawberry), chocolate chips, blueberries.

Questions? Contact Jasmine at jasmainerusso@gmail.com.

FUND FACTS: Don't Forget Adult Education!

Just when I thought I had exhausted all potential topics for this column, I received an email from Marian Schwartz offering the inspiration I needed, so thanks are due to Marian for what follows.

Many members of our congregation, such as Marian, take regular advantage of the many Adult Education offerings throughout the year. Whether it is the weekly Torah Study, ongoing Talmudic study, exploration of special topics such as Middle East politics and the refugee crisis, or simply learning the basics of Judaism, these programs comprise an integral piece of our congregation's programming.

We are indebted to our Rabbis who have provided the vision, leadership and instruction that make them possible. These programs not only enlighten and educate members of our congregation, as courses that are offered to the wider community, they are a source of learning to all, and a means to attract new congregants.



Important as they are to the life of our Temple community, however, thanks to Marian's email I realized that the fund that supports them – the **Rabbi Paul Golomb Adult Education Fund** (established in honor of Rabbi Golomb's retirement) – is not listed among the funds on the donations page of the Temple website! I am, thus, devoting this month's column to the Adult Education Fund to remind readers of this as a potential recipient of your contributions.

By supporting this fund, you can have a direct impact on the intellectual vitality of our community and provide a platform for our learned leaders to impart their knowledge and wisdom. When making your next donation to the Temple, consider supporting the Rabbi Paul Golomb Adult Education Fund.

Jennifer Sachs Dahmert

Dr. Grunfeld's Advice on Refugees

So moved was Dr. Mihai Grunfeld by our Shabbat service, that he went off-script to share a highly personal and bare side of his immigrant experience. Dr. Grunfeld, a professor of Spanish and Latin American Literature at Vassar College since 1987, was the guest speaker at Vassar Temple's 12/10/17 Shabbat service. His life is the embodiment of the challenges and emotions of leaving one's homeland to travel to faraway lands in order to start over in search of a better life. His advice about the special needs that immigrants have was warmly received by Vassar Temple's congregation. Author and playwright, Dr. Grunfeld is a deeply introspective person, who still struggles with giving up his Romanian homeland. Check out Dr. Grunfeld's play, *The Dressmaker's Secret*, playing in NYC at this time.

Jewish War Veterans Meeting Feb. 12th

The Private Herman Siegel Post 625 of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States will hold its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, January 15th, 9:30am, at Congregation Schomre Israel, 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York.

All persons of the Jewish faith who have served in any branch of the United States armed forces (Active, Reserve or National Guard) are invited to attend and participate in the activities of this J.W.V. Post. Additionally, all persons of the Jewish faith who have family members who served in the armed forces of the United States are also invited to attend and participate.

As Congregation Schomre Israel is strictly kosher, no food or drink may be brought into the synagogue. For further information please contact our Presiding Officer Rob Rubin at qbee5@optonline.net

CROPWalk Breaks Record!

The latest CROPWalk results are in, and the 2016 Interfaith CROPWalk Against Hunger raised almost \$60,000, exceeding all previous local records! This is thanks to all of you who sponsored walkers, and a very special thank you to our own Vassar Temple team who walked: team captain Rabbi Berkowitz, Haley Kalfowitz, R. Jonah Ritter, Ron Rosen, Ralph Schwartz, and Howard Susser (who also acted as Temple recruiter), with much appreciation to Linda Babas and Jane Lalone for helping at the very busy registration table that day.



Contributions

Eugene Fleishman & Judy Elkin

SUSTAINING FUND

In Honor of:

The birth of their grandson,
Lucas Sterling Pena
Jim & Maryann Robinowitz

The birth of granddaughter,
Charlotte Evelyn Ritter

R. Jonah & Mary Ritter
R. Jonah & Mary Ritter on the birth of
granddaughter Charlotte

Harry & Sandra Mamis
Paul & Andi Ciminello

Emma Arnoff for her Unity Service
leadership Paul & Andi Ciminello

Bob Creedon on being inducted to the
Sports Hall of Fame
Paul & Andi Ciminello

In appreciation of Sam Finnerman's
participation in our service
David & Susan Hecht

In Memory of:

Jerry Greenberg The Hecht Family
Sherrie Geisler

Jenny Krevolin

Linda & Joel Babas Art & Marge Groten
Harry & Sandra Mamis

Anne Richard
Kate Hecht The Hecht Family
Marion Tierney Debbie & Kevin Tierney
Marion Present

Debbie Tierney & Brian Landesman
Cecilia Zuckerman Adrian Zuckerman
Erin Konheim Lila Matlin
Maurice Troger Dr. Jonathan Moselle
Thelma Fival Lewis & Hilary Wrobel

COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

In Honor of:

Paul Goldberg's 90th birthday
Lila Matlin

Vassar Temple and all it does
in the community Richard Levien

Ralph & Marian Schwartz
& the New Paths Services

In Memory of:

Jenny Krevolin
Benjamin Krevolin
Beverly Slone
Mort & Rita Alterman
Harriet Englander
Joel & Linda Babas
Carol Gordon
Scott Carlton
Francis & Diane Keilly
Doug & SueEllen Fairbanks
Barbara Kalleberg
Laura Seagren
Arthur & Nancy Pite
Nina Lynch

ADULT EDUCATION

In Honor and in Memory of:

Jerry Greenberg for his and his family's
service to the Jewish community
R. Jonah & Mary Ritter

HINENI FUND

In Memory of:

Seth Erlebacher Paul & Andi Ciminello
Melissa, Rachel & Brianna Erlebacher

Yahrzeits

FEBRUARY 3

Leonard H. Arnold
Jeanette Bergman
Jacqueline Sydney Colodner
Alice Davidson
Harold Devorsetz
Abraham Ginsberg
Pedro Gitler
Alan Pack Greller
Pauline Gross
Morris Kahn
Jane Kramer
Davida Krevolin
Nancy Levinson
Virginia Newman Livingston
Arlene Mates
Susan Matlin
Sylvia Mednick
Russell B. Oppenheimer
Ronah Gordon Posner
Sara Poley-Rosenberg
Mark Rosenthal
Gertrude Rothstein
Isadore Shefts
Herbert Schiffman
Paul M. Schwartz
Michael Sommerfield
Irving Wrobel

FEBRUARY 10

Leon Alpers
Evelyn Bersak
Marjorie Rubin Brody
Evelyn Brown
Timothy Creedon
Joseph Drobner
Lillian Feldman
Lillian Geber
Martha Held
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Evelyn Slote Kahn
Jon Franklin Katz
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Owen J. Sacks
Elizabeth Satz
Dr. Lawrence Schuyler
Benjamin Uttal
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Reuben Wiseman
Gary M. Zimmer

FEBRUARY 17

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Sylvia Cantor
Philip Cochran
Lawrence Edell
Jacob Erdreich
Blanche Fertig
Henrietta Greenberg
Jacob Greenberg
David Haber
Jarrod Harrington
William Hyman
Dr. Irma (Earma) Koltai
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Louis Kovacs
Rabbi Marcus Kramer
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Julie McGaulley
Bernard Miller
Walter L. Mock
Joseph Moselle
Wendy E. Newman
Catherine Peluse
Freda Reifler
Louise S. Rosen
Mary R. Scheer
Lewis Schwartz
Ida Scope
Alec Stall
Robert Toroker
Rosanne Weber

FEBRUARY 24

Stuart Alpers
Irving M. Bloch
Aaron Estrin
Irving Fink
Gloria Fischman
Jack Frankel
Esther Frances Goldberg
Paul S. Goldberg
Robert Joseph
Fannie Kagan
Herbert Kallman
Marjorie Kallman
Shirley Kaskowitz
Ida Klein
Ethel Haber Kohan
Milton Kramer
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Harry Lewis
Stanton Lipschutz
Milton Rauh
Michael Rothenberg
David Stephen Satz
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Rabbi:	Leah Berkowitz
Rabbi Emeritus:	Stephen Arnold
Senior Scholar:	Paul Golomb
Religious School Director:	Julie Makowsky
Cantorial Soloist:	Elisa Dugatkin
Organist:	Joseph Bertolozzi
President:	Mark Metzger
1st Vice-President:	OPEN
2nd Vice-President:	Alan Kaflowitz
Secretary:	Susan Karnes Hecht
Treasurer:	Len Greenberg
Sisterhood President:	Judy Rosenfeld
Men's Club Co-Presidents:	Dave Samson & Dave Wolf
Immediate Past President:	Bob Ritter
Youth Group President:	OPEN

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Gesher High School at TBE	2 10am Senior Exercise Program	3 7:30pm Family Shabbat	4 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
5 8am Setup for Pancake Breakfast 9am Religious School 9am R/S Pancake Breakfast 10:30am Lunchbox	6	7 10am Senior Exercise Program 12pm Talmud Study 7pm Ritual Committee	8 4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Gesher High School at TBE	9 10am Senior Exercise Program	10 6pm Shabbat Service with Cantorial Student Laura Stein 6:00 Family Dinner	11 9am Torah Study 10am Shabbat Service 12pm TuB'Shevat Seder—Ritual Cmte 8pm To VT With Love concert with Cantorial Student Laura Stein
12 9am Hamantaschen Baking 9am Religious School 11am Tiny Temple	13	14 10am Senior Exercise Program 12pm Talmud Study	15 4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Gesher High School at TBE	16 10am Senior Exercise Program	17 6pm Shabbat Service with Elisa Dugatkin	18 9am Torah Study 10am Bat Mitzvah—Haley Kaflowitz
19 No Religious School	20	21 10am Senior Exercise Program 12pm Talmud Study	22 4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Gesher High School at TBE	23 10am Senior Exercise Program 7pm Board meeting	24 6pm Shabbat Service with Elisa Dugatkin	25 VaTY Ski/Snow Tube Day 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
26 9am Religious School 9am SNOW DATE for Hamantaschen Baking	27	28 10am Senior Exercise Program 12pm Talmud Study				