



# Vassar Temple

## Where You belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel Founded 1848 Bulletin Volume 164 No 2 October 2017

### Fall Rummage Sale: Nov. 5th

Start cleaning those closets of gently used items and packing your bric-a-brac; the Rummage Sale is coming very soon! We start collecting rummage items from Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

- All Rummage may be brought to the social hall.
- No rummage will be accepted after November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Two evenings available for rummage drop-off: Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

When you bring your items to the social hall, please make sure you place items on the left side of the room and keep the area in front of the stage as well as the rest of the building clear! The sale on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> runs from 9:30am to 12:30pm; the bag sale starts at 2:00pm and ends at 5:00pm. For questions or further information, you may contact [rummage@vassartemple.org](mailto:rummage@vassartemple.org) or the Vassar Temple office.

\*Please note: We CANNOT accept textbooks, old TVs, old computers, or heavily damaged goods. For large items, please contact us before you bring them! Volunteers are always welcome and needed!!

### Upcoming Events

Oct.	4	Sukkot Pizza & Service, p 3
	10	Adult Ed., p. 6
	11	Simchat Torah Dinner & Service, p.3
	12	Book Club, p5
	13	Deli Dinner, p.4
	15	CROP Walk, p2
	17	Adult Ed., p.2
	19	Adult Ed., p.2
	20	Shabbat Happy Hour, p.3
	20	Shabbat Noach, p.3
	22	Game Afternoon, p.1
	24	Adult Ed., p.6
Nov	5	Rummage Sale, p1

### VTS Game Night in the Afternoon: Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Are you a Scrabble fan or a Canasta master? Join us for Game Night in the Afternoon, for Sisterhood's opening program, in the Temple social hall on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-4:00pm. Play some old favorites or learn some new games. Feel free to bring your favorite board game. There will be lots of socializing and snacks. A few Mahjongg tables will also be set up for those interested in playing or learning how to play. Everyone is invited!

There's no charge for this fun afternoon, but please let Susan Fink know if you're coming so we know how many tables to set up. You can reach Susan at [sbudson@aol.com](mailto:sbudson@aol.com) or 473-3168.



### Coordinating Food Drives at VT: We Need Your Help!!!

Some years ago, Nancy Samson started a number of food drives at Vassar Temple. These drives were initiated, thrived and have grown steadily because of your enthusiasm and our will and shared passion to reduce hunger in Dutchess County. As a result of the drives, Vassar Temple has collected and delivered large amounts of canned and non-perishable foods to county pantries and helped disadvantaged children, teenagers and adults of all ages to have meals where none might have existed.

The time has come for new leadership of a number of our food drives. This includes:

- CAN JAM
- Souper Sale (December/Jan)
- (Purim Pasta - Marian Schartz to lead)

- Chametz-to-Table (April/Passover drive)
- Protein Plenty (June/July)

Nancy is happy to meet with anyone in our VT community who might be interested in handling any one or all of these food drives. Each of these drives is well seeded and easily initiated each year. Simple publicity and planning materials are ready-to-go, and Nancy will provide coaching to make it smooth sailing. Your fresh vision of the drive you select to lead will make it that much richer for the Temple community and to the benefit of the wider community. Please contact Nancy Samson if you are interested ([CANJAM123@aol.com](mailto:CANJAM123@aol.com) or 845-235-2860).



## Ushpizin and Halloween

Every October, Jewish professionals across America face the same perennial questions: Do we hold synagogue events on Halloween? Do we acknowledge Halloween at the synagogue?

Halloween is, of course, not a Jewish holiday. Its origins can be traced to the Celtic festival Samhain, complete with bonfires and costumes designed to ward off bands of ghosts as the community entered a darker season of year. In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III established All Saints' Day around the same time as Samhain, absorbing some of its rituals into All Hallows' Eve.

Like many Christian and pagan rituals observed in the United States, Halloween has been mostly stripped of its religious symbolism. We could argue that we already have Purim as our costume holiday, or that the ritual of mishloach manot (sending Purim baskets) is more civil than harassing our neighbors for candy. We might object to our children wearing masks and wandering our neighborhoods in the dark. But the fear of being lured into Christianity or Satanism with a couple of Kit-Kats is mostly unfounded.

While many synagogues and schools

try to ignore the holiday on the grounds that it is not Jewish, Rabbi Tali Zerkowicz encourages Jewish institutions to embrace Halloween as an opportunity to engage with the challenges of being a minority in a majority culture, and explore how our own traditions compare to those of our American neighbors. If you think that the ancient rabbis didn't believe in the ghostly, the demonic, or the supernatural, you are mistaken. The Talmud and other Jewish books are crawling with golems and dybbuks and goblins, oh my! (See: <http://urj.org/blog/2015/10/27/why-halloween-no-threat-our-judaism>).

While similarities can certainly be drawn between Purim customs and trick-or-treating, Halloween shares an important similarity with Sukkot: it is a time to invite people in! On Sukkot, we are encouraged to step out of our closed-off homes, build open dwellings in the yard, and invite people in. We do this in the physical sense, of course, welcoming our friends, our neighbors, and the needy to share in the bounty of our harvest.

We are also encouraged to make spiritual invitations. The custom of ushpizin—the Aramaic word for “guests”—originated with the 16th century Kabbalists. Each night, they invited in one of the biblical patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, and David. (Today we also invite the matriarchs: Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, Rachel, Miriam, Ruth or Abigail, and Esther).

Each biblical guest was said to embody a spiritual attribute, such as loving kindness, strength, splendor, glory, holiness, eternity, or sovereignty. In Sephardic communities, a chair is left empty for the guest, and the money that would have been spent on a physical guest is donated to the poor.

So here we have two strong similarities with the custom of Halloween. On the one hand, we are inviting our biblical ancestors to visit us from the spirit world. On the other hand, we are opening our doors to our neighbors, inviting them in—or at least greeting them at the door—to share something sweet!

One colleague of mine grew up in a more traditional household. She was not allowed to go trick-or-treating, but she was permitted to sit at the door and hand out candy. This might sound like cruel and unusual punishment, but my colleague saw it differently. “My father told me we were practicing hachnasat orchim—the Jewish value of welcoming the stranger—as Abraham did.”

October begins with building sukkot and ends with trick-or-treating. Throughout this month, may we open our doors and our hearts to all those in need of sustenance.

*Rabbi Leah Berkowitz*



### CROPWalk Against Hunger: Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>

The annual Interfaith CROPWalk against Hunger will be held Sunday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, with headquarters at Temple Beth El, 118 S. Grand Ave., Poughkeepsie. Join us on what promises to be a beautiful fall day to walk all or part of a safe 6-mile route to raise funds to combat hunger locally, nationally and globally.

Walk with Vassar members, walk with family, friends, or by yourself. You may start any time between 10:00am and 2:00pm, and all walkers should plan to finish by 3:30pm.

Whether or not you can walk, you can help in other ways. You can watch for information on how to sponsor on line our Temple members who are

walking. Help is also very much needed at the registration table at headquarters the day of the event. Perhaps you can bake for, or patronize, a bake sale to be held at walk headquarters.

For more information and to sign up as a walker or to bake, please contact Howard Susser at [cropwalk@vassartemple.org](mailto:cropwalk@vassartemple.org) and to sign up to help at the registration table please contact Marian Schwartz at [socialaction@vassartemple.org](mailto:socialaction@vassartemple.org).

25% of funds raised comes back to Dutchess Outreach and other agencies that combat hunger in our home community. The remainder goes to important anti-hunger projects and disaster relief efforts in the USA and abroad. Last year our local walk raised \$60,000. Let's top that this year, when the need is so much greater!

### Weekly Study Groups

Torah Study, which examines passages from the week's torah portion or haftorah, will be held every Saturday at 9:00am with Rabbi Leah Berkowitz.

“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](mailto:rabbi@vassartemple.org) or (845)454-2570

## October Worship Service

4 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	Joyous Sukkot Service
6 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Shabbat Services with Rabbi Berkowitz and organist Joseph Bertolozzi
7 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	No Torah Study
	10:00am	New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship
11 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Pizza/Pasta dinner
	7:00pm	Simchat Torah Service
12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Yizkor service
13 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Deli Dinner
	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Services with Rabbi Berkowitz, organist Joseph Bertolozzi and cantorial student Laura Stein
14 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Torah Study
20 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour
	7:30pm	Shabbat Noach Services with Rabbi Berkowitz, organist Joseph Bertolozzi, cantorial student Laura Stein and guest speaker
21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00am	Torah Study
	10:00am	Leah Barlow's Bat Mitzvah
27 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Berkowitz and organist Joseph Bertolozzi
28 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Torah Study
	10:00am	New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship

### Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour

Join with old and new friends for Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour on October 20th from 6:00-7:00pm. Everyone welcome – bring the kids! We'll meet on the patio in front of the Synagogue (weather permitting) or downstairs in the social hall and enjoy wine, beverages, delicious appetizers and small plates before services.

If you would like to assist with food, "sponsor" a Happy Hour, or need further information, please contact Andi Ciminello at [andi@ecopkny.com](mailto:andi@ecopkny.com).

### Sukkot and Simchat Torah Celebrations at Vassar Temple

On Wednesday, October 4th, Vassar Temple will be hosting a joint Sukkot celebration in conjunction with the Geshar Hebrew High School Program. 7th-12th graders and their families will enjoy "Shakes in the Shack" at 5:45pm, followed at 6:30pm by a special dinner in the sukkah, "Pizza in the Hut." At 7:30pm, EVERYONE is invited to gather in the sanctuary for a Sukkot Service, open to all in the community. During the service we will present our 7th graders with their very own siddurim, which they can use to prepare for their bat/bar mitzvahs. An oneg sponsored by the 7th grade will follow the service and will be held in the sukkah, weather permitting. Families of the teens grades.7-12 should RSVP for dinner to [educationassistant.tbeny@gmail.com](mailto:educationassistant.tbeny@gmail.com) by October 1st.

On Wednesday, October 11th, come eat, sing, dance, and joyously celebrate Simchat Torah at Vassar Temple! As is our tradition, as part of the festivities we will honor our new Religious School students. A pizza/pasta dinner will be held at 5:30pm and services will begin at 7:00pm. There is no charge for the dinner, (donations appreciated). Please RSVP for the dinner to [shaarirs@gmail.com](mailto:shaarirs@gmail.com) by October 6th.

### October Scriptural Readings

- 7 Shabbat Sukkot Ex. 33:12 – 34:26, Num. 29:26-31; Ezek. 38:18 – 39:16
- 14 B'reisheet Genesis 2:4-4:26; Isaiah 42:5 – 43:10
- 21 Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Noah Gen. 8:15-10:32, Num. 28:9-15; Isaiah 66:1-24
- 28 Lekh L'kha Gen. 14:1-15:21; Isaiah 40:27 – 41:16

### Shabbat Noach Program – Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

#### From Noah to Now: A Flood for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

*All the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of the sky were opened. (Genesis 7:11)*

Mark your calendar for our annual Shabbat Noach gathering. Start Shabbat with our monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour at 6:00pm, sponsored this month by the Vassar Temple Advocacy Group. While reservations are not required, they are greatly appreciated for planning purposes. RSVP to Susan Karnes Hecht at [skarneshecht@gmail.com](mailto:skarneshecht@gmail.com) or 845-518-2687.

Continue with the 7:30pm service featuring speakers from Citizens Climate Lobby. CCL is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. Our speakers will discuss the Jewish ethical basis for this urgent issue, review the causes and devastating consequences of climate change including rising seas, talk about how we can all help to lower carbon footprint, and suggest potential long-term solutions. Additional information will be available during the oneg. Our Religious School students will also participate in this event. For background on the Union for Reform Judaism's policy concerning climate change, read the Commission on Social Action's resolution at <http://urj.org/what-we-believe/resolutions/climate-change-and-energy>.



## Mazel Tov to...

Doi Cohen, on the engagement of her daughter Lisa of Washington, DC to Hershel Kleinberg of Alexandria, VA

## Refuah Sheleimah to...

Linda Babas  
Roz Kaffowitz

## Cemeteries on LaGrange Avenue

This summer, we tackled badly needed repairs to the Benevolent Cemetery. The entrance pillars and plaques damaged by temperature extremes were reset and re-pointed. Both pillars were a liability, as the cement between the bricks was almost non-existent. The ruins of the washbasin were removed, and we plan to have grass seeds planted and a bench installed in the near future. The bushes and flowers were trimmed, as always, in advance of the HHDs. More work needs to be done....trying our best!

*Perla Kaufman*  
Cemetery Chairperson



## Deli Dinner: Oct. 13th

Join us in the social hall on Friday, October 13th, at 6:00pm for a real deli dinner from Ben's Deli.

We'll be having an assortment of corned beef, pastrami, tongue and turkey sandwiches on rye with cole slaw and potato salad, assorted pickles and homemade potato knishes. Please let us know when you make your reservation if you prefer the vegetable wrap vegetarian option instead of a sandwich. Following the dinner, Rabbi Berkowitz will be joined by our cantorial intern Laura Stein in leading services in our sanctuary at 7:30.

RSVP by Wednesday, October 11th. We will not be able to accommodate late reservations for this dinner.

\$25 per adult  
kids 12 and under pay their age

Make checks payable to "Vassar Temple Sisterhood" and RSVP to Lisa-Sue Quackenbush at [lisasueq@hvc.rr.com](mailto:lisasueq@hvc.rr.com) or call her at 876-5859.

## We need your Help!

We are, once again, asking that you be the eyes and ears in the lies 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.

## New from Membership!

Over the past year Rabbi Berkowitz gathered a group of newer and longstanding members to form the Engagement Cohort, intended to explore opportunities building strong relationships within our community through Jewish study and fellowship. This group has transformed into the Membership Committee, chaired by Andi Ciminello and Emma Arnoff. It is focused now on outreach for new members and engagement projects and events for existing membership. If you have any ideas or thoughts about membership, please contact us at [membership@vassartemple.org](mailto:membership@vassartemple.org).

## October Bimah Flower Donations

- October 6: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund
- October 13: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund
- October 20: Donated by Marilyn Barlow in honor of Leah's Bat Mitzvah
- October 27: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund



## September Bimah Flower Donations Update:

- September 15: Donated by Ken and Amy Horn Oclatis in honor of Bonnie Scheer receiving the Arnold Award

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.

## Vassar Temple Bulletin

Published Monthly	
Publisher:	Marianne Abrams
Editors:	Sue Lesser
	Donna Loshin
	Carol Nectow
Technical support & understudy	Bob Abrams

Articles for the **November Bulletin** must be submitted to the Temple office by **October 1st**. Articles may be sent via email to [publicity@vassartemple.org](mailto:publicity@vassartemple.org). The editors reserve the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.





## From the Religious School Director

This week we will begin our celebration of Sukkot. I have always loved the idea of Sukkot: the building of a Sukkah, the gathering around for festive meals and the imperative to invite friends and family- and symbolically our ancient ancestors- to join us around the table. I love the smell of the Etrog and the sound that the Lulav makes when you shake it back and forth.

However, sometimes getting our family's Sukkah built is sometimes more than I can manage in the craziness of the beginning of the school year and the High Holidays. But even so, Sukkot speaks to me. I have come to realize that I am a community-builder. The idea of the Sukkah - of working together to bring in the harvest while sheltering in these makeshift huts - this is community. In ancient times we would all come together to build, gather, grow and today, although different in many ways, we are still coming together to build, gather and grow.

This year, the Seth A. Erlebacher Religious School is working very hard to grow our school. Religious School parents, teachers, students and others need the larger Vassar Temple community's support and help. While doing so, we are also looking to build stronger ties with the larger community. We hope that this stronger bond will allow you, the Temple membership, to feel invested in our growth.

In addition to sharing the news about our wonderful school and by sharing contact information with us when you meet a potential Religious School family, there are a number of ways for you to be involved, help us build an amazing school program and help us grow stronger and larger.

On Saturday, November 18th, the Seth A. Erlebacher Religious School will hold its first Shabbat Morning Family Program. This falls on Shabbat Toldot. Toldot means generations. It is my hope that the learning and praying that we do on this Shabbat morning be intergenerational. I want to personally invite each and every member of our Vassar Temple community to come and participate. You do not have to have any previous ties

with the school - just come and be part of this wonderful day!

There will be a number of other opportunities for the Religious School to join with the larger community for special Programs, as well. Two more Shabbat mornings are planned as Religious School Shabbat Programs: January 27th and Saturday, March 10th. We are also planning an intergenerational Field Trip to the Tenement Museum in NYC on Sunday, April 8th.

Sukkot runs right into another of my favorite holidays, Simchat Torah. I am looking forward to this celebration when I can sing and dance with all of you as we, once again, begin our Torah Reading cycle and the year 5779 begins in earnest!

Chag Sameach!

*Julie Makowsky*

### Book Club to Discuss *Joy Comes in the Morning* on October 12th

Vassar Temple Sisterhood's Book Club will discuss *Joy Comes in the Morning* by Jonathan Rosen – a book described by critics as a welcoming and intelligent look at a young rabbi's effort to weld her many identities - woman, rabbi, Jew – into a cohesive whole. Rosen's love story is told with both humor and extraordinary emotional insight.

Deborah Green is a highly capable young woman, adored by her Manhattan congregants, adept at both weddings and funerals. She craves goodness and certainty in her life, while wrestling with her own desires and the sorrow and pain she sees around her. Her hospital encounter

with Henry Friedman, who has attempted suicide, and his family, draws her into a world of tragedy, love, and finally hope.

*Joy Comes in the Morning* is available in paperback through Amazon, as well as through the local library system. Ellen O'Hara will lead the discussion to which everyone is welcome. The meeting will take place on Thursday, October 12th at 2:00 P.M., in the Community Room of Collegeview Tower, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie.

To RSVP or get more information, please contact Linda Babas at 473-7931 or [linda.babas.41@gmail.com](mailto:linda.babas.41@gmail.com). As always, your book suggestions for future reading are always welcome.

### Thanks from Ritual Committee

Ritual Committee thanks the following individuals for stepping up to lead summer services. Each service was unique, personal and creative. Leaders were: Ron Rosen, Linda Cantor and Ed Rosenberg, Andi and Paul Ciminello, Shira Teich and Emma Arnoff, Sandra Mamis and Richard Levien, Joel and Claudia Kelson, the New Paths group, Ben Krevolin, and Susan and David Hecht and Gail D'Alessio. Please consider participating in 2018!

*David Hecht*  
Ritual Committee Chair

### New Paths Service

Join us at the New Paths sabbath morning services Saturdays, Oct. 7th & Oct. 28th at 10:00am in the informal 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. We take the time to let the service get through us, rather than getting through the service. 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 at [mschwa9882@aol.com](mailto:mschwa9882@aol.com), Rabbi Berkowitz at [rabbi@vassar temple.org](mailto:rabbi@vassar temple.org), or the Temple office at 845-454-2570.

## Adult Education Classes

*Coming To America: Writing Our Personal and Collective Stories* with Rabbi Paul Golomb

Three Tuesdays at 7:00pm: October 10, 17 & 24 (possible extra session on Oct. 31)

Most Jews in America have at least one ancestor who came from Eastern Europe between 1880 and 1925. There are some general and historic reasons why Jews migrated westward and across the ocean at that time. Yet, everyone's story is also unique. The course will discuss the Jewish condition in the late nineteenth century and will focus on determining one's own personal history.

Rabbi Berkowitz will follow up this course in Winter/Spring with a series exploring narratives of the Jewish Immigrant Experience, from the Bintel Briefs in the Jewish Daily Forward to classic short stories from Jewish literature.

*Israel and Syria: Forever Enemies?* with Martin Charwat

Thursday, October 19, 7:00 pm

Israel and Syria have been bitter enemies since 1947. With Syria torn apart by civil war, where do relations between it and Israel now stand? Martin Charwat will review the history and project where relations between the two are heading.

## FUND FACTS: Opportunities Knock Locally

With truly no pun intended, just when I thought my well of ideas for this column was running dry, along came Hurricane Harvey to give me a powerful blast of inspiration. Indeed, as I write this month's piece, we are watching with horror and disbelief as Texas residents' lives are being upended – figuratively and, in some cases, literally - by this frightening event.

Witnessing this at the same time we are organizing this year's Vassar Temple Gala, which will celebrate our fellow congregants whose lives have had a marked impact on those around them, I am reminded about the many opportunities we have in communities near and far to address the needs of those in our midst. Whether it is reaching out to a community across the country as it is trying to survive a catastrophic weather event, providing safe refuge for a family that has relocated from a hostile country abroad, or helping our Poughkeepsie neighbors who need a meal, clothing or shelter, there are innumerable ways we can make a difference.

Tikkun Olam compels us to keep these needs in mind. The devastation in Texas is a vivid reminder that in the face of adversity or needs of other human beings, we are all equal and have a collective responsibility to think and act with compassion, and do what we can to help those in need. Locally, Social Action at Vassar Temple is a great place to start. . . . keep that in mind when considering your next volunteer or philanthropic contribution.

*Jennifer Sachs Dahmert*

---

## From the Ritual Corner

The 2017 Torah Restoration Project will be completed on Sunday, October 29th. Please consider taking part in cleaning and lettering the scroll with our sofer, Neil Yerman, between 10:00am and noon. Our Religious School students and their families will share in this experience.

For others, making a pledge to the Vassar Temple Gala includes hands-on restoration of two or more letters depending on donation level (please refer to your Gala invitation for details). It is also possible to participate in the restoration by making a donation of \$50 for cleaning or \$100 for lettering or crowns. Each participant's experience will conclude with a personal discussion with the sofer about the significance of this mitzvah.

Regardless of which way you choose to participate, please contact David Hecht, Ritual Committee Chair, at [ritual@vassartemple.org](mailto:ritual@vassartemple.org) or 845-518-8523 to schedule a time slot.

## Music Committee News

As mentioned in the June Bulletin, Laura Stein, a cantorial student at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (DFSSM/HUC-JIR), will continue her relationship with Vassar Temple and will be our cantorial soloist for the coming year. Laura will be leading the music for the upcoming High Holy Days and at Friday night services approximately twice a month, as well as B'nai Mitzvah and Shabbaton Saturday morning services. Please help us welcome Laura at Vassar Temple services when she is singing. We promise you will enjoy the experience!

In order to help defray Laura's travel expenses, the Music Committee invites Temple members to sponsor Laura for a Friday night or weekend when she will be at Vassar Temple. Sponsorship opportunities for many of the ten Friday evenings and nine weekends are available for \$200 and \$350, respectively. If interested, please contact Bob Abrams at [music@vassartemple.org](mailto:music@vassartemple.org).

*Vassar Temple Music Committee*

## Jewish War Veterans Meet Oct.1st

The Private Herman Siegel Post 625, Poughkeepsie, will have its regular monthly meeting on October 1st at 9:30am at Congregation Schomre Israel, 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. There will be a friendly 9:00am schmooze.

All persons of the Jewish faith who have served or who know someone who served in the Armed Forces of the United States are invited to attend and participate. Congregation Schomre Israel is strictly kosher so no outside food may be brought in. We look forward to seeing you there. Further questions may be directed via email to Rob Rubin, Presiding Officer, at [qbee5@optonline.net](mailto:qbee5@optonline.net).

## Contributions

### RABBI'S FUND

#### In Honor of:

Rabbi Berkowitz                      Gail D'Alessio  
 Gail D'Alessio's conversion to Judaism  
    Hal & Sue Lesser  
    Linda & Richard Cantor  
    Ken & Amy Horn Oclatis

### SUSTAINING FUND

#### In Honor of:

Birth of Jacob Hartley Swift      Irma Jacobs  
 Marriage of Kristen Judd          Sandra Mamis  
 Susan Hecht's hard work          Sandra Mamis  
 Gail D'Alessio's conversion to Judaism  
    Elaine Lipschutz  
 Vivian and Ed Garber's kindness  
    Elaine Lipschutz  
 Linda Cantor's faithful friendships  
    Dick and Harriet Fein

#### In Memory of:

Emily Himmelstein  
  
 Sara G. Rice & Nettie Jacobs  
 Peter Edman  
 Lewis & Jenny Krevolin  
 Barbara Stern

Maurice Goldemberg

### MUSIC FUND

#### In Memory of:

Claire T. & Phillip R. Moselle  
 Gertrude F. & Maurice L. Troeger  
 Louis Troeger  
 Edith Posner  
 Fannie & Joseph Moskowitz  
    Margery Moselle Mann

### COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

#### In Honor of:

Susan Karnes Hecht                      Linda Cantor

## Volunteers Needed for Morse School Library Program

As there are no librarians at the City of Poughkeepsie elementary schools, the Jewish Social Action Coalition is working with Morse elementary school to give students exposure to their library and to provide some literacy programs there. Over the summer we have organized their school library! Now we need volunteers, for however many or few hours you can give, to do the following:

- People to help students find and check out books;
- Readers/storytellers/artists who would like to come one time or more to share with the children;
- More members for the Steering Committee

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Perla Kaufman of Vassar Temple at [perlakaufman22@gmail.com](mailto:perlakaufman22@gmail.com) or Muriel Horowitz of Temple Beth El at [murielh@optonline.net](mailto:murielh@optonline.net). Later in the school year we plan to strongly advocate for functioning libraries in all Poughkeepsie City Schools!

## OCTOBER YAHRZEITS

### OCTOBER 6

Howard Cohen, MD  
 Fannie Levy  
 Robin Rayfield  
 Jessie Barker  
 Alfred J. Bogad  
 Michael Oremus  
 Daniel L. Cohen  
 Mary Stolack  
 Jeanne Loth Rubin  
 Gertrude C. Clarfeld  
 Bessie Rabin  
 Minnie Israel  
 Aleeyah Yankajtis Sansola  
 Ira Greenberg  
 Arthur Peritz  
 Bonnie Gordon

### OCTOBER 13

Aaron Parish  
 Bernat Ackerman  
 Margaret Ciminello  
 Lucilla Albinder  
 Sarah Pauline Benton  
 Joseph Sparks, Sr.  
 Susan Doppelt Pearlman  
 Lisa Heidelberger  
 Marion Miller  
 Norman Kramer  
 Jean W. Dampf  
 Gertrude Hines-Groten  
 Jean Strauss  
 Harold Posner  
 Maia Scherrer

### OCTOBER 20

Charles Finnerman  
 Evelyn Locke  
 Dr. Martin Rabin  
 Ida Goldberg  
 Morris Bronfeld  
 Abraham Swatlo  
 Dr. Barry G. Jordan  
 Dr. William J. Lazarus  
 Lisa Lemberger  
 Morris Fertig  
 Dr. Lawrence Gould  
 Max Eli Kosstrin  
 Arthur Fink  
 Ruth Muraskin  
 Leo Klausner  
 Sophia S. Wolfson  
 Susan Salit Lowe  
 Henry Cantor  
 Howard Kapner  
 Samuel Scope  
 Murray Sigalow  
 Ethel Solomon  
 Charlotte Konick  
 Frank Spilke  
 Haim Ribbi  
 Lisette Goldemberg  
 Alice Slonim

### OCTOBER 27

J. Ralph Stein  
 Lillian Greenman  
 Ida S. Miller  
 George Tofel  
 Rose Maisel  
 Joshua Russell Karp  
 Monroe Robbins  
 Lawrence Schaffel  
 Herman Katz  
 Sidney Locke  
 Bernard Himmelstein  
 Mollie Daniels  
 Leo Feinstein  
 Jacob Haber  
 Lawrence Slate  
 Mark Zatzkis  
 Lenore Schiffman  
 Bessie Rothauser  
 Abraham Zack  
 Benjamin Michel  
 Adele Lerman Warshaw  
 Benjamin Genshaft  
 Lisa Graney  
 Louis Heidelberger

**Vassar Temple Bulletin**  
**140 Hooker Avenue**  
**Poughkeepsie, NY 12601**  
**845-454-2570**  
**www.vassar temple.org**



PRSTD STD  
 U.S. Postage  
 Paid  
 Permit # 11  
 Newburgh, N.Y.

**DATED MAIL**  
**PLEASE**  
**RUSH**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**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:** Alan Kafowitz  
**2nd Vice President:** OPEN  
**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

**October 2017**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Religious School 9am B'nai Mitzvah Date Selection	2	3 7pm Ritual Committee meeting	4 No Hebrew School 6:30pm Geshet Sukkot Dinner (TBE) 7:30pm Sukkot Service, 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Siddurs	5	6 7:30pm Shabbat Service	7 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
8 No Religious School	9	10	11 No Hebrew School	12	13 6pm Deli Dinner 7:30pm Shabbat Service with Cantorial Student Laura Stein	14 9am Torah Study
15 9am Religious School	16	17 7pm AED training	18 4:30pm Hebrew School 12 noon VTS Chai Noon	19	20 6pm Shabbat Happy Hour 7:30pm Shabbat Service with Laura Stein	21 9am Torah Study 10am 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Shabbaton 10am Leah Barlow Bat Mitzvah
22 9am Religious School 9am 7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Parent- Student Learning 2pm VTS Open Pgm	23	24	25 4:30pm Hebrew School	26 6pm VT Exec Cmte 7pm VT Board meeting	27 7pm Shabbat Service	28 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
29 Rummage Sale Drop-off 9am Torah Restoration 9am Religious School	30	31				