



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel Founded 1848 - Bulletin Volume 167, No. 11 June 2019

Reserve Now for Museum Trip: Sunday, September 15th

We still have a few seats available! Join us on Sunday, September 15th, for a congregational trip to **The Museum of Jewish Heritage** in New York to see the special exhibit *Auschwitz: Not long ago. Not far away.* Tickets are \$50 adults, \$25 for 18 and under. Family and friends welcome! Student attendance subsidized by the Andrew Erdreich Youth Education Fund; teens are required to be accompanied by an adult.

Tickets cover costs - this is not a fundraiser. Price includes coach bus transportation, museum admission, and guided exhibit tour. Lunch on your own (museum café or other local eateries - weather permitting, you are welcome to pack lunch for the park surrounding the museum). We will leave the Temple in the morning, provide time for lunch, then regroup for a 1:00pm tour. You'll have time for the companion exhibit, "Ordinary Treasures," featuring items donated by survivors and families.

To reserve your place, contact Susan Karnes Hecht at skarneshecht@gmail.com or 845-518-2687. **Payment due by July 31st.** Tickets are non-refundable unless we develop a waiting list. See exhibit details at: <https://mjhnyc.org/exhibitions/auschwitz/>

Tiny Temple Yoga: July 28th

Please join us for a morning of Yoga with Tiny Temple at Vassar Temple on Sunday, July 28th from 10:30am-11:30am. Liz Torres from Mindful Yoga with Liz and Emma Arnoff from The Sensory Space will lead children through a Yoga class which will be followed by a snack.

Parents, grandparents, families and children ages infant to 8 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 Sisterhood. For this event we ask for donations to help support this and other great events in

the future.

To assist in our planning, please RSVP to Emma Arnoff and Jas Russo at tinytemple@vassartemple.org. They will also be happy to answer any questions you may have about this wonderful, free, monthly program, and put you on the Tiny Temple e-mail list. Vassar Temple is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism, and additional information is available at www.vassartemple.org or by calling the Temple Office at 845-454-2570.



Upcoming Events

July	19	Shabbat Happy Hour, p.5
	28	Tiny Temple Yoga, p.1
August	3	Joe Bertolozzi's Bridge Music, p. 8
	9	Shabbat Happy Hour, p.5
	14	Vanderbilt Lawn Concert, p.1

Meet Us at Outdoor Summer Concert: August 14th

Please join Sisterhood & Vassar Temple for a Fun Family Event. Hyde Park's Summer FREE Concert Series presents West Point Academy Band at Vanderbilt Mansion, 119 Vanderbilt Park Rd. (Route 9), Hyde Park on Wednesday, August 14th (rain date August 15). Concert starts at 6:30pm. Meet up around 5:30 (This group draws a crowd!).

Bring your own chairs, blankets, bug spray, sun hats, picnic foods, beverages, bubbles for the kids. There are port-potties & handicapped parking. Look for us. We'll be looking for you. It is FREE & FUN! More details to follow in weekly emails as the time gets closer. See you there!

From the Rabbi's Desk



As I reflect upon my first year as your rabbi, the song "Getting to Know You" from *The King and I* comes to mind. Getting to know you, as Vassar Temple and as individuals, has been

my primary goal for this first year. It takes the full cycle of a year to understand a congregation's unique culture (never heard of a Soup and Chili Shabbat!). "Getting to Know You" has confirmed my initial impressions of Vassar Temple as an engaged, caring congregation, invested in the lives of its members and in the welfare of the larger community, committed to the Jewish people and its future, and open to new ways of engaging people at all ages and stages of life.

Thanks to our Membership Committee, especially Sandra Mamis and our gracious hosts, I was able to begin to get to know many of you through the 'At Home with Rabbi Altman' gatherings. I continue to welcome opportunities to get to know those unable to attend.

I am most appreciative of the relationships that I have begun to build with so many of you through the various temple programs and activities in which you are engaged. I am so

inspired by the hard-working members of the different committees and arms of the temple who give so much of themselves to this community. I want to express special thanks to our president, Alan Kaflowitz, and our first vice president, Susan Karnes Hecht, for their on-going guidance and support from my first interview until now. My deepest appreciation, as well, to the Religious School Committee, under the leadership of Shaari Roland, for their active engagement and support of our religious school and of me.

I certainly could not function as your rabbi without the support of our staff: Michelle Havas, office assistant; Irene Vasquez, bookkeeper; Joseph Bertolozzi, accompanist, Alvin Rosen, custodian; and Maria Munoz, kitchen staff.

So many images come to my mind as highlights of this year:

- The majesty yet intimacy of our High Holy day services
- The beautiful Installation Shabbat
- The sanctuary aglow from the lights of the *chanukiot*
- Adults completely enthralled making fruit faces for Tu B'shevat
- A tie-dye clad congregation singing rock and roll Purim parodies
- Healing services that touched our souls
- LunchBox with eager children preparing meals for the hungry
- Pruning the Pershing Cemetery in the rain on Mitzvah Day

Even as I look back on this first year with a great sense of satisfaction in how far we have come in 'getting to know' one another, I look forward with great excitement to the coming year. Most especially, I look forward to welcoming Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann (See p.4) I am eager to have a clergy partner and to all that she will bring to our worship experiences.

I am also excited to introduce a 'Learners' Service' on occasional Shabbat mornings. Meaningful worship evolves from a combination of understanding the liturgy and familiarity with the prayers. Learners' Services achieve both goals by incorporating teaching within a worship service. A schedule will be announced in the fall.

As I write this article, Rick and I are preparing to move into our beautiful new home. I will be on vacation taking until mid-July as we settle in and then take some time away so that I can return with full energy for a new year. I am most grateful to Rabbi Golomb who will be available for life cycle emergencies; please contact Alan if you need to reach him.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer,

Rabbi Renni Altman

From Our President: What Success Looks Like

Just recently we had another successful Congregational Meeting where we voted on the budget and thrust forward with 2019-2020. We have some pretty amazing committees that essentially fulfill the needs and run the major functions of the Temple. We also have a new Rabbi, who is doing extraordinarily well in her first year. Rabbi Renni Altman has demonstrated positive and energetic leadership in the congregation and wider community. Her other big role is to lead the Religious and Hebrew School as the Director for which she is doing an amazing job. Her knowledge of Judaism, connecting with congregants and her understanding of pastoral care are her greatest assets. So, thank you Rabbi!

I also wanted to thank the committees for a successful year! Here are highlights

from their reports that I received for the congregational meeting:

Music Committee (Bob Abrams, Chair): lined up two wonderful cantorial students (Jenna Mark, Ilana Goldman) and a recently graduated cantor (Jacob Niemi) with the help of Rabbi Altman. The committee worked with Joe Bertolozzi to find an organization interested in taking the organ off our hands for \$500.

SCRIP (Sandra Mamis): her due diligence of pushing SCRIP made a total profit of \$8,256.31 from SCRIP sales, half of which are from nine buyers. Can you imagine if more congregants bought SCRIP?

Religious School Committee (Shaari Roland): had a larger role this year to support Rabbi Alt-

man to transition in as the Religious School Director. The RS Committee supported the supervision of the Madrachim program to plan special activities for holidays, like Passover and the Purim Carnival.

VT Sisterhood (Lisa Sue Quackenbush): held two successful rummage, Judaica shop sales for both the spring and fall, held regular Book Club meetings, bought one dishwasher, three air conditioners, held amazing Chai Noon lunches, hamantaschen for all, sisterhood Shabbat...the list goes on.

Membership Committee (Andi Ciminello): brought in eleven new family members this year, ran very successful Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour programs, started the Y'Ladim

President continued on page 3

July Worship Services

5 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service led by Ron Rosen
6 th	9:00am	No Torah Study
12 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service led by David & Susan Hecht
13 th	9:00am	No Torah Study
19 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
20 th	9:00am 10:00am	Torah Study New Paths Service
26 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
27 th	9:00am	Torah Study

August Worship Services

2 nd	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
3 rd	9:00am	Torah Study
9 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
10 th	9:00am	Torah Study
16 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
17 th	9:00am 10:00am	Torah Study New Paths Service
23 rd	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
24 th	9:00am	Torah Study
30 th	7:30pm	Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Altman
31 st	9:00am	Torah Study

New Paths Services

Rabbi Altman will lead a New Paths service on Saturday, July 27th at about 10:15am (after Torah study). For dates and times of other New Paths sabbath morning worship during July and August, watch the weekly e-mails or contact Marian Schwartz at mschwa9882@aol.com or call the Temple at (845) 454-2570.

President's Message *continued from page 2*

Team, a task force to engage young families through special events and also, the 'New Member Mentor' program, where existing members serve as buddies to new members.

Ritual Committee (David Hecht): High Holy Days services were very successful and ran smoothly with an increase in congregant involvement, there were three well attended inter-generational Shabbatonim, including a Tu B'shevat Seder, supported the development of the community Shabbaton with Temple Beth El and Shir Chadash. The committee also worked closely with the Music Committee to select cantorial interns. Please watch for a survey from them soon about Shabbat Evening Services.

Social Action Committee (Marian Schwartz): successfully continued various ongoing and annual social action activities. A new achievement for social action at Vassar Temple this year is that a grant from the Groten Fund allowed our social action advocacy team leader (Howard Susser) to take a rigorous online course endorsed by the URJ called "Don't Kvetch---Organize." He will be using his new skills and sharing the knowledge gained from the course to help anyone who is interested in learning how to advocate more effectively. The committee successfully involved the RS School children in our Thanksgiving basket project, and with the help of Paul Ciminello, embarked upon a partnership with the Mid-Hudson Islamic Association for LunchBox.

Thank you to all the committee chairs and members. You are the reason for many aspects of our success at Vassar Temple.

Alan Kaflowitz

Scriptural Readings

July

6	<i>Korach</i> Num. 17:25-18:32; I Samuel 11:14-12:22
13	<i>Chukat</i> Num. 21:11-22:1; Judges 11:1-33
20	<i>Balak</i> Num. 23:27-25:9; Micah 5:6 – 6:8
27	<i>Pinchas</i> Num. 28:16-30:1; Jeremiah 1:1 – 2:3

August

3	<i>Matot-Masei</i> Num. 33:50; Jeremiah 2:4-28, 3:4
10	Shabbat Chazon D'varim Deut. 2:31-3:22, Isaiah 1:1-27
17	Shabbat Nachamu Va'et-chanan Deut. 5:1-7:11; Isaiah 40:1-26
24	Eikev Deut. 10:12-11:25; Isaiah 49:14 – 51:3
31	Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Re'eh Deut. 15:1 - 16:17; Num. 28:9-15; Isaiah 66:1-24

Mazel Tov

to:

Colin Pfeifer on his Bar Mitzvah;

Mariel and Sam Kelson (Joel & Claudia Kelson) on their confirmations;

Jordan Alivia Russo (Jasmine Russo and Mark Russo) on her confirmation



Condolences

to:

Bill Barbash & family on the passing of his wife, Susan Barbash



Shelby and Lisa-Sue Quackenbush at the Sisterhood Donor Dinner

Welcome Cantor Elizabeth Goldman

For the past three years we have been delighted to host student cantors from the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. These interns have made significant contributions to the richness of our services. Unfortunately, due to the increasing number of synagogues requesting students, we were not matched for the coming year with a student despite interviewing excellent candidates.

We have been fortunate to receive a substantial gift from outside the congregation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. Rabbi Altman has chosen to use these funds to supplement our music budget over multiple years, making it possible for us to engage a part-time ordained cantor. After interviewing several applicants, we are excited to welcome Cantor Elizabeth Goldman to lead our music in the coming year. Cantor Goldman will be with us during the High Holy Days, holidays, and Friday/Saturday Shabbat services, approximately twice a month.

Cantor Goldman was born and raised in Closter, NJ, where she was a proud member of the original Temple Beth El Junior choir. After attending Cornell's School of Hotel Administration, she went on to HUC-JIR where she was ordained as a Cantor and earned her Master of Sacred Music in 1991. From 1991 to 2004, she served as Cantor at Temple Beth Torah in Upper

Nyack, New York where she founded the Regional Rockland/Bergen Junior Choir Festival, served on the faculty of the URJ's Crane Lake Camp and created a Shabbat Torah study and minyan which has met weekly for over 25 years. Since 2004, Cantor Goldman has served numerous congregations in the region on a part-time basis. She volunteers at the MacBain Farm in Closter, Meals-on-Wheels, and the Joe Rasso Hospice Residence in New City. She lives in Nanuet with her husband, Michael, a veterinarian, her daughter Shira, her son Noah, two sweet cats, and eight charming chickens. Rabbi Altman, Joe Bertolozzi, and the Music and Ritual Committees look forward to working with Cantor Goldman over the coming months.

We will continue to make cantorial sponsorships available in order to defray expenses, in turn increasing the duration of this unexpected gift. Please consider sponsoring one of Cantor Goldman's visits during 2019-20. Sponsorships are \$200 for Friday services and \$350 for Friday/Saturday visits. Please contact Bob Abrams at music@vassar temple.org for more information, and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Bob Abrams
Chair, Music Committee



Honorees of Generations Shabbat

Vassar Temple Bulletin

Published Monthly

Publisher: Marianne Abrams

Editor: Sue Lesser

Technical support & understudy
Bob Abrams

Articles for the **Sept 2019 Bulletin** must be submitted by **Aug 1st** sent via email to publicity@vassar temple.org. The editors reserve the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.

Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hours! Fun, Friendship & Food (oh, and good wine, too!)

Join the Fun for upcoming Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour events. Watch the calendar for weekly announcements and join with your Vassar Temple friends and family. We feature themed nights with a variety of food from local restaurants and some of Vassar Temple's finest chefs! The agenda is simple: Fun, Friendship and Food! During spring, summer and fall, we gather before services to socialize and nosh together. In the winter, we hold these gatherings after our service.

Upcoming Shabbat Happy Hours
July 19
August 9
September 13
October 18 - in Sukkot
November 15
December 13
January 10
March 6
April 3
May 8
June 12 - picnic shabbat/happy hour

It's easy and fun to host a Happy Hour event. You choose the menu, and we give you a written easy-to-follow guide to minimize any guess work. Weather permitting, we enjoy outside events on the patio, or in our newly renovated social hall. We thank Sisterhood for their ongoing support to underwrite these festive monthly gatherings. If you would like to "host" an upcoming event – just let us know. It's fun and easy. Melissa Erlebacher (maerlebacher@gmail.com)
Andi Ciminello (andi@ecopkny.com)

There Was (Broadway) Music in the Air at Vassar Temple

More than 50 Vassar Temple congregants and guests were wowed by a performance from retired Rabbi Deborah Zecher at our May 19th "Cabaret Rabbi" event where she performed her production of *Broadway Bible* in our social hall.

By way of a trip through the Torah, Rabbi Zecher sang songs from many

great historic Broadway musicals, including *South Pacific*, *Oklahoma*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Kiss Me Kate*. It was a wonderful evening of Torah study from a completely different perspective!

The audience was enthralled, offering nods, smiles, and applause after each number, and singing along with Rabbi Zecher's encouragement. Billed as a Vassar Temple 'fun raiser,' the evening was a resounding (with a standing ovation) suc-

cess!

Thanks go to Rabbi Renni Altman, Susan Karnes Hecht, Marian Schwartz, Ron Rosen, and the Temple office staff for their support and assistance on this event....and, of course, to Arnie Serotsky for all the work he put into seeing this program to fruition!

HEROES AMONG US: A Fortunate Relocation

Anyone who tends plants knows that when you clip an offshoot of a flower, then replant and nurture it in the right environment, it will flourish. This is a fitting metaphor for this month's Heroes Among Us.

She grew up in Philadelphia, transplanted her life to Poughkeepsie in 1954, and with the support of the 'Poughkeepsie family' she found at Vassar Temple and professional encouragement through Arlington Schools and Vassar College, she blossomed. Our hero was a working Mom decades ahead of her time, as she pioneered teacher training programs. In short, because of our latest hero, Elaine Lipschutz, our community has also flourished.

Elaine's trail-blazing path began in 1947 when, after completing her BA and MA at Temple University and eyeing a PhD, she was told by a professor that she had to choose between her PhD or marriage. Much as she wanted both, she chose marriage. This decision brought her to Poughkeepsie when the family relocated so Bob could manage one of his family's cigar factories. A few years later, Elaine's substitute teaching in Arlington resulted in a permanent job offer. Thanks to flexibility from the district, she was able to balance work with family life, and she flourished. Elaine eventually helped launch an innovative teacher training program between Arlington Schools and Vassar College's psychology/education department, incorporating team-teaching and open classrooms in a program that still exists today.

Elaine has held nearly every volunteer position one can hold at Vassar Temple, while also being a devoted wife and mother, and building a career in education that would, over nearly five decades, have a profound impact on the teaching profession. At the same time, she paved the way for women who sought the same work-life balance she ultimately established, at a time when it was uncommon for women to do so.

It is said that when you teach, you touch eternity. Elaine is the embodiment of that statement, yet she remains humble. When I asked Elaine if I could feature her in my column, she said she "would be honored," but truly, the honor was all mine. Thank you, Elaine. Our conversation touched my heart, and your life will touch eternity.

Jennifer Sachs Dahnert

Contributions

SUSTAINING FUND

In Memory of:

Jack Jacobson
 Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Jacobson
 Jack Quackenbush The Quackenbush
 family
 Maurice Margolin The Quackenbush
 family
 Jesse Barbash Bill & Sue Barbash
 Pauline Abrams Bob & Marianne
 Abrams
 Bernard Rheingold Irma Jacobs
 Jonathan Muehl Lisa Rubenstein &
 Richard DuVall
 Sandra LoGuidice
 Muriel & Matt Lampell
 Paulene Slote
 Muriel & Matt Lampell
 Emily Himelstein Sandra Mamis
 Pearl Goldstein The Friedman family
 George Plotsky Beth Plotsky
 Reuben Lewis Polly Lewis
 Margot Similes Sandra Mamis
 Sue Barbash Sue & Hal Lesser

In Honor of:

Vassar Temple Neil Salzman
 Polly Lewis, Sandra Mamis
 & Ron Rosen for all of their hard work
 during the Passover season
 Hilary & Lew Wrobel

LUNCHBOX

 Dan & Susan Albinder
 Brian & Helen Silverman
 Richard Partridge
 Sheila Kohl
 Rabbi Stephen & Cecile Arnold
 Vassar Temple Men's Club

In Memory of:

Rose Budson Susan Fink
 Mary Ann Robinowitz Miriam Cohen
 Jesse L. Colodner Alan & Susan Colodner
 Manuel Darwin Alan & Susan Colodner

TZEDAKAH FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Altman
 Lila Matlin

HINEINI FUND

In Honor of:

Danni Abrams receiving her PhD
 Marilyn & David Lampell
 Fern Wolf receiving the
 Evelyn Kahn award
 Marilyn & David Lampell

MUSIC FUND

In Memory of:

Claire T. Moselle
 Margery Moselle Mann & Fred Mann
 Phillip R. Moselle
 Margery Moselle Mann & Fred Mann
 Gertrude Troeger
 Margery Moselle Mann & Fred Mann

Jewish Storytelling

Storytelling has a rich tradition in Judaism. Perhaps you sat on the knee of a parent or grandparent who told you a biblical tale or a modern parable as a way to share heritage and moral concepts. Or maybe a child or grandchild has sat at your side while engaging in such a memorable experience. It was surely a wonderful way to make intergenerational connections!

Well, with technology being what it is, none should be surprised that there is a modern way to continue having such experiences. With the help of a podcast, free from the URJ, "Stories We Tell" offers the weekly listener a short story filled with meaning. Only a few minutes in length, some are allegories others parables, but each one lends itself to thoughtful reflection. Whether you personally consider the question posed by the moderator at the end of the telling or you gather the family and have a thought provoking conversation as a group, you will find these moments well worth your time.

As you undoubtedly know, podcasting is a free service that allows Internet users to pull audio files (typically MP3s) from a podcasting Web site to listen to on their computers or personal digital audio players. You can access this URJ podcast on ReformJudaism.org/podcasts, or download it on iTunes or wherever you listen. A new story is available every Thursday, just in time for discussing at your Shabbat dinner.

If you wish to learn more about this concept, Rabbi Kaye offers a lovely reflection on why we should be a listener: <https://reformjudaism.org/blog/2017/04/27/stories-we-tell-tune-your-new-favorite-jewish-podcast>

Sandra Mamis

July-August Jahrzeits

JULY 5

Dr. Sheldon J. Solomon
Dr. Jacob Kronman
M. Fred Praeger
Lillian Lampell
Hillard Mann
Anne Kahn
Marie Robinowitz
Eileen Rosenhaus
Michael Wrobel
Henry Chunev
Samuel E. Trivers
Lloyd Fertig
Lawrence L. Landau

JULY 12

Lawrence Blumenthal
Dora Rosenmann
Winona Rosenthal
Michael L. Solomon
Linda Fertig Waldman
Merlin B. Lass
Marshall Effron
Leon R. Bloom
Edward Moffit, Jr.
Shirley Green Chertock
Minnie Lass
Sylvia Reifler Silberman
Ida Cohen
Philip Cohen

JULY 19

Ludwig Willner
Morton Bloch
Cynthia R. Feldman
Dr. Sidney S. Cohen
Jerry Bass
Sol Present
Robert J. Creedon, Sr.
Dr. Alan E. Apfel
Flora M. Hoffman
David Clearfield

JULY 26

Sylvia Soirefman
Sam Lessin
Siegfried Frank
David Krevolin
Saul A. Lazarus
Joshua Aaron Himmelstein
Minnie Schudroff Coleman
James Effron
Martin Brenner
Meta Altman
Gertrude Rosenthal
Robert H. Lipschutz
Irving Schwartz
Cecelia Riechman
Charlotte Wechsler
Louis Gellert



AUGUST 2

Dr. Phillip R. Moselle
Lawrence Paradis
Dr. Martin L. Dreyfuss
Dr. Irving Dreishpoon
Hortense Feldman
Kurt Harlam
Dr. Melvin Matlin
Louis Temlock
Walter B. Goldfinger

AUGUST 9

Yetta Prisansky
Saul Lox
Jacov Markowvitch
Jack Wiseman
Marjorie Gluck
Margot Similes
Saul Norman Nectow
Mae Berger
Hy Miller
Katherine Moffit
Louis I. Worona
Muriel Weingart
Alexander D'Imperio
Aaron Reifler
Dr. Richard Slater Cohen
Dr. Burton Katz
Evelyn Herman

AUGUST 16

Blanche Adler
Anna Saperstein
Eve Canter Goldberg
Gloria Berlin
Dr. Harry Barbash
Minnie Toroker
Howard S. Abrams
Frances Myer
Zerline Lehman Simon
Beatrice A. Goodman
Emanuel Zimmer
Bernard Reifler
Jeanne M. Payne
Kurt Similes
Edna Z. Kleiner
Dorothy Rauh Fogle
Nettie Jacobs
MaryLouise Parke
Lee Schwartz
Oscar Charwat

AUGUST 23

Samuel Sumner
Mary Weiss
Anna Baum
Dr. Saul R. Kelson
Morris Kaufman
Frederick C. Tuchmann
Melvin Stolack
Max Matlin
William Miller

AUGUST 30

Sarah Peles Samuels
W. Carlton Bernard
Tobias Wolfson
Anna Dick Kronman
Paul S. Waxman
Sara G. Rice
Mary Elizabeth
O'Donnell-Moore
Hyman Silverman
Rose Ritter
Dr. Edward J. Newman
Rose Markowitz
Joseph LaLone
Elma S. Rosenberg
Adolph Milton Fein
Claire Entner Gad
Joseph Samuels
Rose Weisman
Sheila Mardon Sukert
Stuart Dick
Seymour Niesen
Saul Nectow

Bertolozzi's Bridge Music 10th Anniversary: August 3rd

5:30pm at VT: Bridge Music in Film & Print; screenings, commentary and Q&A examining films and books will provide context to Bridge Music's place in music history. Screen & projection provided courtesy of **Story Screen**.

For ten years, *Bridge Music* has been a touchstone of internationally recognized public **sound-art**. Composed by our house musician, Joseph Bertolozzi, Bridge Music will be celebrated August 3, 2019 with this program at VT and other events listed below.

2:00pm: Re-dedication and tour of the Bridge Music installation with composer, Joseph Bertolozzi, Johnson-Iorio Park, 281 Haviland Rd, Highland, NY. A festive ribbon cutting followed by a tour led by Bertolozzi out to the Listening Station on the west tower

of the Bridge itself where the public can play along to the music with supplied drumsticks. Free giveaways such as BM10 tote bags, magnets, etc.

9:00pm: Bridge Music Light Show on Mid-Hudson Bridge

Tune in to **Q92.1 FM** from anywhere you can see the Mid-Hudson Bridge and watch the lights on the bridge change color and pulse to the rhythms of a complete broadcast of Bertolozzi's *Bridge Music* or join the live broadcast from the Walkway Over the Hudson.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information about Bridge Music and this event, go to www.josephbertolozzi.com/bm10/.

Jewish War Veterans

July 28th: Installation of Officers at Milanese Restaurant Poughkeepsie at 1:00pm

August 4th Regular Meeting

The Private Herman Siegel Post 625, Poughkeepsie, Jewish War Veterans of The United States of America, monthly meetings begin at 9:30am (with coffee/cake schmooze at 9:00) and are held at Congregation Schomre Israel, 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York. If you are Jewish and have served in any branch of the Regular Military, Guard or Reserve, in wartime or peace, you are welcome to come and attend. Non-veterans are also welcome to attend. Questions may be directed to Rob Rubin, Presiding Officer at qbee5@optonline.net.

Let's Help the Children Learn

As you are probably aware, 85% of the children right here in Poughkeepsie come from economically disadvantaged homes. We all know how important education is so that they will be able to make a brighter future for themselves and for their own children. To help them succeed in school, during July & August, we at Vassar Temple are collecting money to help provide school supplies they will need during the coming school year, and which a great many of their families cannot afford.

Please help the children learn by donating to this project today. Just bring your tax-deductible check in any amount to the Temple or mail it to Vassar Temple, 140 Hooker Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Checks should be made out to Vassar Temple with 'School Supplies' on the memo line. Money collected in the temple tzedakah boxes during July and August will also go toward school supplies for the children.

We are currently working with Morse Elementary School, located on Mansion Street in Poughkeepsie, which has about 550 students. Last year, through your generosity, we raised enough to also provide art supplies, as well as to make a donation to the Teen Closet to be sure all Poughkeepsie middle and high school students have access to such essentials as deodorant, tooth paste, feminine hygiene products, and underwear.

Investing in the next generation is sure to yield great dividends. Thank you for whatever you can give!

Marian Schwartz

Vassar Temple Social Action Committee
845-849-0025 or socialaction@vassartemple.org

CROP Walk

During these hazy, humid days of summer, picture a leisurely stroll in the brisk fall air. Picture yourself at the Dutchess County Interfaith CROP Walk against hunger! Join our Temple team on Sunday, October 20th to raise money for this worthwhile cause. For more info, please contact Ron Rosen at rosen@alum.mit.edu or (845) 454-4936.



Study Groups at Vassar Temple

All are invited to come, learn and join in the lively discussions --no previous training required!

Torah Study with the Temple's Rabbi Renni Altman, DD, which examines passages from the week's torah portion or haftorah, will be held at 9:00am every Saturday in July and August (except July 6 & 13). You are advised to watch weekly e-mails or call the Temple office if in doubt, as this schedule may change. Questions? rabbi@vassartemple.org or (845)454-2570.

The Talmud: Modern Ideas from an Ancient Text, taught by Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb, is on hiatus for the summer and will resume in September.

Social Justice at Vassar Temple

There is a story of a small village near a river. One day, a baby floats down the river. Someone rescues it. Another cares for the baby. More babies float down the river. The village organizes for the babies' care and feeding. Eventually the villagers mount an expedition upriver to find the source, and what they find is complex and troubling. Metaphorically, this expedition represents the beginning of an attempt to create social justice.

Social Action, i.e. direct care for needy people, is critically important and very valuable. Our temple does good work in this area and we should continue to do so. We would also like to organize members interested in social justice. We want to form a team that attempts to understand and address root causes of some of society's ills.

Jews have long been interested in social justice. Imagine Shabbat thousands of years ago. A day off from work every week was revolutionary. Passover teaches us to identify with those who are exploited, and repeatedly tells us to treat the stranger well, for we were strangers in a strange land, and we recognize our joy as diminished because of the suffering of our oppressors. Our Talmud has always expressed multiple points of view as valid; helping us understand diversity and inclusivity. And the books of our prophets are full of calls for justice.

Effective social justice work is not just about taking limited actions, but includes organizing people, forming alliances, and engaging in thoughtful, strategic campaigns. Right now we have no specific agenda or commitments; instead, our first step is to listen to the concerns, worries, interests and motivations of our members. If you want to join our team or have other concerns, contact me at hssusser@gmail.com or 845-206-8496.

Howard Susser

August Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10am SEP 7pm Ritual Committee Meeting	2 7:30pm Shabbat Service	3 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths 4pm Bridge Music 10th Anniversary
4 11am LunchBox	5	6 10am SEP	7	8 10am SEP	9 6pm Happy Hour 7:30pm Shabbat Service	10 9am Torah Study
11	12	13 10am SEP	14 7:30pm Sisterhood Family Picnic & Music Night at Vanderbilt's with West Point Military Band	15 10am SEP	16 7:30pm Shabbat Service	17 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
18 2pm Men's Club / Federation Renegades Baseball	19	20 10am SEP	21 2pm VTS Book Club 7pm Finance Cmte Meeting	22 10am SEP 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm Board Meeting	23 7:30pm Shabbat Service	24 9am Torah Study
25	26	27 10am SEP	28	29 10am SEP	30 7:30pm Shabbat Service	31 9am Torah Study

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Men's Club Co-Presidents:	Glenn Tanzman & Dan Teich
Immediate Past President:	Mark Metzger

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July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10am Senior Exercise Program (SEP) 7pm Ritual Committee Meeting	3	4 Independence Day	5 7:30pm Shabbat Service led by Ron Rosen	6 No Torah Study 10am New Paths
7 11am LunchBox	8	9 10am SEP	10 Community Solar Information Session	11 10am SEP	12 7:30pm Shabbat Service led by David & Susan Hecht	13 No Torah Study
14	15	16 10am SEP	17 7pm Finance Cmte Meeting	18 10am SEP 12 noon Talmud Study with Rabbi Golomb 12 noon Chai Noon	19 6pm Happy Hour 7:30pm Shabbat Service	20 9am Torah Study 10am New Paths
21	22	23 10am SEP	24	25 10am SEP 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm Board Meeting	26 7:30pm Shabbat Service	27 9am Torah Study
28 10:30am Boker Tov Yoga (Tiny Temple)	29	30 10am SEP	31			