

# Vassar Temple

## Weekly Newsletter

Please join us to welcome Shabbat!

Friday, February 14th

6:00 pm – Shabbat Service  
led by Cantor Goldmann

Saturday, February 15th

*Torah Study & Learners' Service originally scheduled  
are CANCELLED this week*

### Can you name that *Mi Chamocha*?

Many of you joined me in November as we reviewed and learned several Shabbat opening songs. This week, we'll begin the service singing some old and new *Mi Chamocha* settings. We'll choose our favorite to use that night and consider the others for future services. The more voices we have, the more joyous our singing will be! I hope you can join us.

Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann

No Religious School on Sunday, February 16th

**Vassar Temple office will be closed on Monday, February 17 in observance of the federal holiday.**

**Sisterhood's Chai Noon Luncheon  
February 18 at 12:00**

at Paula's Runway Cafe, Wappingers Falls  
Call Perla Kaufman to arrange a ride if needed

**The Vassar Temple Golden Gelt Fundraiser**

Only 200 tickets to be sold for \$100.00 each.

Win one of 7 cash prizes!

**1st Prize: \$5000.00 cash**

**2nd prize: \$1000.00 cash**

**3rd prize: \$500.00 cash**

**4th prizes (4): \$250.00 cash each**

All proceeds go directly to the temple. Tickets may be purchased by credit card, cash or check made out to Vassar Temple (with *Golden Gelt* marked in the memo line). Purchase your tickets over the phone at the Temple office 845-454-2570 or stop in during office hours

Mon-Fri 10 am-2 pm.

For further information email [gaildalessio@yahoo.com](mailto:gaildalessio@yahoo.com)

*We encourage our local businesses to support us and offer advertising in the temple bulletin in return as our thank you.*

Drawing will be held on **April 26 at 1:00** pm at Vassar Temple and refreshments will be served.

**BAKERS NEEDED!** for Sisterhood's annual  
**HAMANTASCHEN BAKING DAY**

**Sunday, February 23rd**  
**(snow date: 3/1/20)**  
**9:00 to 1:00 in the Temple kitchen**

**RSVP to Judy Rosenfeld**

**635-2414** or [hamantaschen@vassartemple.org](mailto:hamantaschen@vassartemple.org)

Please bring a batch of dough (*and your favorite rolling pin if you like*). Remaining ingredients will be provided. The temple recipe can be found in the February Bulletin, or contact Judy.

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.

***Anti-Semitism and Hate:***  
***Approaches to counter this new reality***  
**with speaker Jodi Miller**

**Tuesday, February 18, 7:00 pm**

***\*New location\****

Congregation Schomre Israel  
18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie

Registration is required. To reserve your seat, [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Talmud Study with Rabbi Golomb on Thursday, Feb. 20, 12:00-1:30**

In addition to remembering *Neil Gould*, one of the first promoters of the class and a faithful attendee, we take up some passages that best might be titled: "*A Christian and a Jew walked into a bar.*"

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & VOTE**

**Wednesday 2/26 at 7 pm**

Please refer to the mailing sent to your home address for details.

## **SINGERS NEEDED!**

for Disney-themed Purim - Monday, March 9th

All are welcome - experience and talent not required!

No solos - help to lead the congregation!

We will have 2 rehearsals prior to the holiday.

Please contact David Hecht

[ritual@vassartemple.org](mailto:ritual@vassartemple.org) or **845-518-8523**

**The Women's and Men's Chevrah [Burial Society]** serve the community by providing the ritual of Tahara: a solemn and spiritual preparation of the deceased for burial. A dinner thanking the Chevrah for their services and inviting members of the community to become involved is being sponsored by Schomre Israel on March 3rd. No experience is needed to become a member. If you want to attend to learn more, please contact Sandra Mamis [914-456-3524]; the dinner is free to interested people but reservations are required by February 25th. Please click on the button below to learn more about the Chevrah Kadisha.

**[Click here to read about the Chevrah Kadisha](#)**

## **Learners' Saturday Morning Services**

**February 29 & March 14**

**10:15 am - 11:45 am**

Learners' Services integrate teaching and discussion within an actual Shabbat morning service, including a Torah reading. All are welcome, whether or not you attend Torah Study at 9am.

## Challah Baking

**Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 9:30 - Noon**

Learn the basics of making dough - learn how to braid a different number of ropes - learn how to stuff. Just bring a sheet pan, rolling pin and basting brush [*come even if you don't have one*]. Ingredients will be provided by Sandra Mamis. Expect to go home with your own 'ready to bake' challah.

**RSVPs are a MUST, so there are enough ingredients for everyone.**

RSVP to Sandra Mamis, [mamis@optonline.net](mailto:mamis@optonline.net) **by February 20, 2020**

**Contact Sandra Mamis by email, text or phone: 914-456-3524**

*No snow date scheduled, so pray for dry weather!*

**\*\* Please note this date is also the snow date for Hamantaschen Baking so, in the event of snow on February 23, this event will be canceled.**

## **Cantorial Sponsorship Match Opportunity**

Do you enjoy the music portion of our services?  
Help us bring *Cantor Goldmann's* Shabbat musical leadership to  
Vassar Temple by sponsoring!

**Thanks to a generous congregant who prefers to remain anonymous, we can match cantorial sponsorships of \$250, up to a maximum of \$1000, by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Turn your \$250 contribution into \$500 with this matching donation!**

You can sponsor the Cantor for a specific service that she's leading (this year or next year), recognize a personal or family *simcha*, or just help with your contribution by sponsoring the cantor with this special opportunity.

Please help us bring Cantor Goldmann back to VT for additional services in the coming year! For more information, please contact Bob Abrams at [music@vassartemple.org](mailto:music@vassartemple.org).

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Adult Education Series, “**Sacred Eating: Creating a Jewish Food Ethic**” (see **below**). If you are interested in reading relevant articles either before or after the lectures from *The Sacred Table: Creating a Jewish Food Ethic*, published by CCAR Press, we can get a discount by ordering through the synagogue. *The Sacred Table* is an anthology of diverse essays on Jewish dietary practices. It explores Kashrut not only as a ritual practice, but also as a multifaceted Jewish relationship with food and its production, integrating values such as ethics, community, and spirituality into our dietary practice. **If you would like to order a copy of the book through Vassar Temple, please contact Daniel Scherrer by FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup> at [DanielScherrer55@gmail.com](mailto:DanielScherrer55@gmail.com) to get the books in time for the series.**

**Vassar Temple Adult Education Committee  
presents:**

***A four-part series on Sacred Eating:  
Creating a Jewish Food Ethic***

**March 4 at 7PM** - An "Overview and Synopsis of Sacred Eating"

will be presented by **Rabbi Renni Altman at Vassar Temple**

The lecture will consist of the tenets of traditional kashrut.

**March 11 at 7PM** - Oshek; "The Meeting Point of Ritual Piety and Moral Purity",

will be presented by **Rabbi Richard Litvak via SKYPE at Vassar Temple**. Rabbi

Litvak has an article of the same title in the book entitled "The Sacred Table:

Creating a Jewish Food Ethic"

**March 18 at 6:30PM** - **Meet at The Vassar Farm** and will be presented by **the**

**head farmer, Leon Vehaba**. It will involve a walking tour of the hot houses, as well

as a lecture in the barn on sustainable farming. **Rabbi Altman** will integrate Jewish

teachings into the farm presentation.

**April 1 at 7PM** - will be a wrap up/reflection on the series led **by Rabbi Renni**

**Altman Vassar Temple**.

**PLEASE RSVP to Gail D'Alessio at [gaildalessio@gmail.com](mailto:gaildalessio@gmail.com)**

**All members of the community are welcome.**

**MAKE MERRY ON PURIM MONDAY MARCH 9**

Homemade Pasta Dinner presented by our Brotherhood at 5:30 pm - a donation  
of \$5 for all ages 16+ appreciated. RSVP [gtr714@yahoo.com](mailto:gtr714@yahoo.com)

\*Megillah reading and hilarious spiel featuring Disney Tunes at 7:00pm

\*Costume Parade- Adults, children, everyone--come in costume, perhaps  
representing your favorite Disney character

**\*DON'T FORGET-** bring unopened boxes of pasta to shake as noisemakers to  
drown out the name of Haman during the megillah reading. After Purim, the boxes  
of pasta will be delivered to a local food pantry by the Social Action Committee.



### Passover Judaica Sale

Our *Sisterhood Judaica Shoppe* carries all your needs for your festive Passover table: seder plates, matzah plates, kiddush, Elijah and Miriam cups, table cloths, fun items for the children, and so much more. Come and browse--our prices will amaze you.....no shipping charges for special orders either!! Special sale hours

Sundays March 22 & March 29 from 9:30 am - 11:30 am

For recipes and samples of Passover goodies to taste, stop by March 22 for "Passover 101." The shop is also open during regular temple hours. For more information:

**Perla Kaufman** [brandaliz5@optonline.net](mailto:brandaliz5@optonline.net) **914-456-7309**

We invite the Vassar Temple family to join us for Shabbat services on Friday, March 13 when Rabbi Altman will offer blessings for the upcoming **marriage of members, Andi and Paul Ciminello's son and future daughter-in-law, Adam Ciminello and Uriah Johnson.**

The Ciminello's are delighted to host the Kabbalat Shabbat Happy Hour before services at 6 PM and also celebrate at the Oneg following services.

**Save the date!**  
**NINTH ANNUAL VASSAR TEMPLE SEDER**  
**4-8-20**

**Details will follow next week!**

Do you plan to buy Scrip?

Place your Scrip order in advance by calling or emailing the office to pre-fill your order to be picked up during office hours, weekdays, 10am-2pm

Contact Sandra Mamis at [scrip@vassartemple.org](mailto:scrip@vassartemple.org) or **914-456-3524** to place your order, or contact the temple office at **845-454-2570**