



## Heal, Harmonize, Uplift

At this time of national division, our country deeply needs an initiative for unity and a desire to bridge our divides. We welcome you to share in this event, inclusive of many faiths and backgrounds, to raise awareness and pursue this essential goal.

## What is this event?

A live virtual gathering that will include music, poetry, and teachings as well as a Havdalah ritual, expressing our shared desires and visions for a peaceful and harmonious society. The program may build and shift, based on national events and participants, as we approach the date.



Thursday, December 3rd at 12:00 PM  
"Teaching the Holocaust and Antisemitism in 2020"



Amy Simon

Thursday, December 10th at 12:00 PM  
"How Samuel Joshua Rocker and *Die Yiddishe Velt* Turned Jewish Immigrants in Jewish Americans"



Kenneth J. Levine

Thursday, December 17th at 12:00 PM  
"Jewish Werewolves and What We Can Learn From Them"



Not a  
picture of  
the speaker

Margot B. Valles

Each of these presentations will deal with the meaning of Jewish identity in a complex world. All three speakers are professors involved with Jewish Studies at Michigan State University.

## Chanukah Cookie Baking, Sponsored by Sisterhood Sunday, December 6, 2020, 1:00 - 3:00 PM



Let's Join Together (safely\*) in our Social Hall to create Chanukah sugar cookies.

- Want to bring a batch of dough? This is optional, the recipe will be provided at Registration
- Decorations will be provided
- Bring a rolling pin if you have one

You must preregister by December 3 to attend [cookies@vassartemple.org](mailto:cookies@vassartemple.org)  
Please include the number in your group and whether you will bring dough.

\*We will cap the participants at 25% of the Social Hall Capacity. CDC & Dept of Health Guidelines may determine the need to postpone or cancel this event.

Temperature checks, health questionnaires, masks, hand washing, and social distancing required.

Family units or Familiar Social Pods/Bubbles will be kept together.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

# COMMUNITY HANUKKAH VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

ALL ARE WELCOME

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

	
9:30 am	Improvisation Games with The Bible Players Pre K – Grade 2 and families
10:00 am	Welcome all participants  Milton the Menorah: A Hanukkah Adventure starring The Bible Players  Community Hanukkah Celebration Film
11:00 am	Improvisation Games with The Bible Players Grade 3 & Up and families
TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CONGREGATION OR ORGANIZATION	
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS FOR MAKING THIS PROGRAM POSSIBLE	



Vassar Temple  
Congregation Beth Shalom of Vassar  
Where You Belong



Congregation  
Shir Chadash



The Jewish Federation  
OF DUTCHESS COUNTY



PJ Library & PJ OUR WAY

For parents, children, grandparents, and grandchildren (they do not have to be local!) For security purposes, everyone must register in advance to get the Zoom link. To register: email [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org)

## **"Mitzvah Now" Great Thanksgiving Pie Give Away**

The Jewish Federation is joining with the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department to provide home-baked and store-bought pies to local families in need. Please drop off a pie at the Public Safety Building, 505 Main Street, on Monday, November 23rd or Tuesday, November 24. The pies will be delivered on Wednesday, November 25. Questions? Call the Federation at 845.471.9811



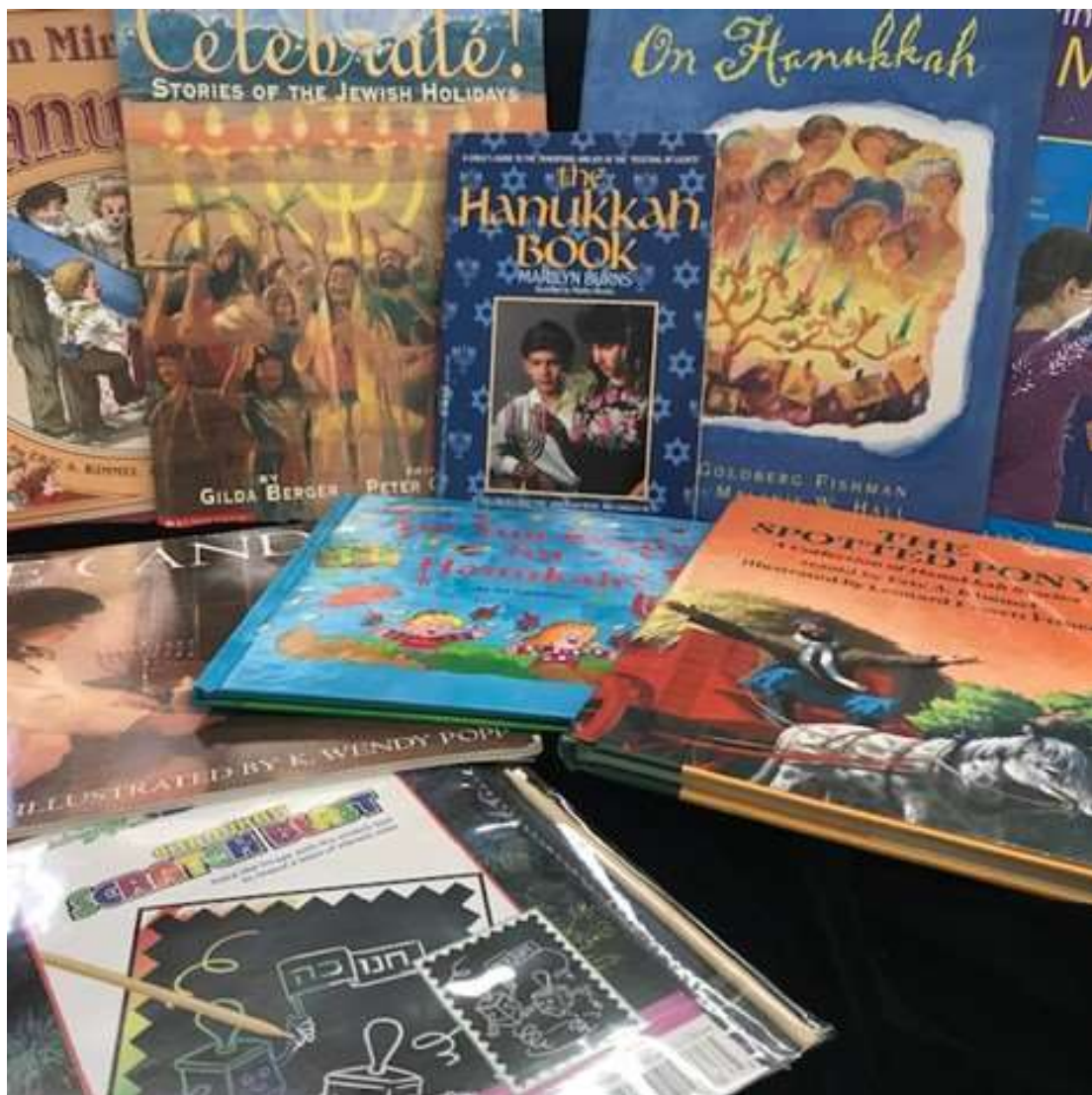
## Celebration time for Chanukah



**The Mensch on a Bench** wants to be in a home this year with a family of Vassar Temple. \$20

- Adding More Funukkah to Hanukkah: The Mensch on a Bench is a NEW Hanukkah Tradition meant to bring families together
- Mensch on a Bench was created by a Jewish father who wanted to teach his sons about the Jewish holiday while adding new traditions for the family
- First came the story of Moshe the Mench who helped Judah Maccabee at the temple. Moshe played dreidel, loved gelt, and was a true Mensch.
- The Mensch on a Bench set is a 12" doll and book!
- The book tells the eight rules of having a Mensch, which are meant to drive more Jewish family traditions and reinforce the values we want to hand down to our children





Bag of Chanukah Books to cover all the nights of Chanukah. \$50

We could not have done this without the support of so many!



## Certificate of Appreciation

Is hereby granted to:

**Vassar Temple**

*for your gracious generosity, outstanding performance  
and consistent contribution*

**Lunch Box**

November 6, 2020

*Brian Riddell*

**Executive Director**

Amy Lipman  
**Lunch Box Manager**

Danielle Bakst  
**Asst. LB Manager**

Nyhisha T. Gibbs  
**Manager of Volunteers**





**SHOP WITH SCRIP** Thanksgiving is right around the corner - start planning your menu and order SCRIP gift cards to purchase your items! The temple will benefit and everyone will get a piece of the pie...



**It's not too late to donate:  
The High Holy Day Appeal is still going on**



**Is your Appeal Packet sitting in that pile we all have on our desks?**

There is still time to pull it out and join your fellow congregants and help support Vassar Temple. If you need a new donation card, contact us at [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) or call the office 845.454.2570. If you have already donated, we graciously thank you for your generous support.

## VT Tech Team members needed!

We are in need of volunteers to take periodic turns hosting online services on our fabulous new streaming PC, located safely on the balcony. Training will be provided by Brett Colbert, our Treasurer and PC builder extraordinaire. No special background required; if you know how to mute and unmute on a Zoom call, you're qualified! If you enjoy this kind of activity, please consider donating your time to support Vassar Temple in this move into the future. We welcome our tech-savvy college students to participate when they are in town. To get involved, please contact [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) or [president@vassartemple.org](mailto:president@vassartemple.org)





Do you share your home with a furry, finned, or feathered friend?  
Well, you could do all your pet shopping at PetSmart with gift cards from  
the Temple SCRIP program and earn a whopping 9% for the Temple  
- **WOOF & MEOW!!!**



What an amazing contribution to your Temple, while you fill all your pet's  
needs in one place. Have questions? Contact Sandra, the  
SCRIP coordinator, at [scrip@vassartemple.org](mailto:scrip@vassartemple.org)

**The Dutchess County Interfaith Council presents:  
The 45th Annual Interfaith Music Festival & Thanksgiving Service  
"Still We Give Thanks!"  
Sunday, November 22 at 2 pm**

*Due to Covid 19 precautions, the event will be held online.*

**LINK TO EVENT:**

<https://youtu.be/mT8kyVHcO9k>

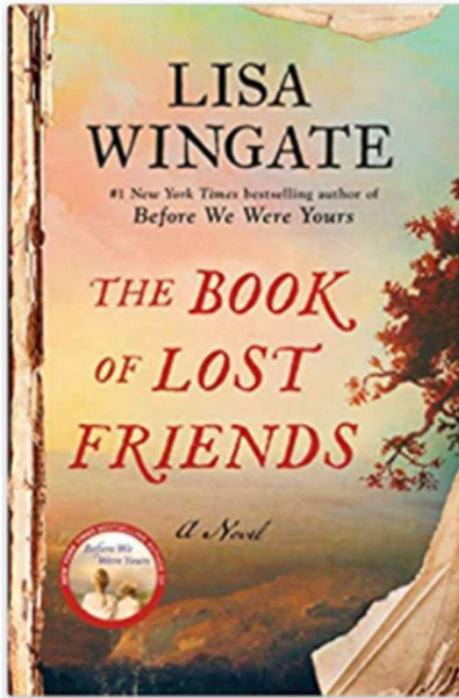
Please join us! We always conclude every festival with all the participants and audience members joining together to sing "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me." This year's CROP Walk results will also be announced.

The Interfaith Music Festival is one of the largest fundraisers of the Dutchess County Interfaith Council and the proceeds support the many worthwhile programs of the Interfaith Council, which include the CROP Walk to End Hunger & the Interfaith Story Circle. Tax-deductible donations to support the work of the DCIC can be made via PayPal through the donation link on our website at [www.dutchesscountyinterfaith.org](http://www.dutchesscountyinterfaith.org); checks may be mailed to DCIC, 9 Vassar Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

The Vassar Temple Blog at <https://vassartemple.wordpress.com/>



**Book Club to Discuss “The Book of Lost Friends”**  
**Wednesday, December 16, 2:00 pm via Zoom**



**Vassar Temple’s Sisterhood Book Club** will discuss “The Book of Lost Friends” by Lisa Wingate, bestselling author of “Before We Were Yours.” Irma Jacobs will lead the discussion to which everyone is welcome. To RSVP or get more information, please contact [bookclub@vassartemple.org](mailto:bookclub@vassartemple.org).





IT'S EASY! Organizations such as, but not limited to, Children's Home of Poughkeepsie, Grace Smith House, Family Partnership, and Hudson River Housing are supporting many families who are financially challenged, more so than ever, during these difficult times. If you would like to help, you can purchase scrip (gift cards) to be distributed to the neediest. Cards will be used for food and other non-perishable family and household supplies. Send your check to the Temple, labeled "donation, scrip." Vassar Temple will make some revenue off the scrip sales and, at the same time, you will be doing a mitzvah for members of the community who desperately need help. For any questions please contact [scrip@vassartemple.org](mailto:scrip@vassartemple.org)


Just as Shabbat Services help brighten our week, so do the Bimah flowers, which brighten our Sanctuary. If anyone would like to make a donation to sponsor our silk flower arrangements while services are being held virtually, please call the temple office at 845.454.2570 or email [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org). The sponsor's name and remembrance or Simcha will be acknowledged just like with our fresh Bimah flower arrangements.



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 Calendar