



# Vassar Temple

## Where You belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel Founded 1848 - Bulletin Volume 169 No. 6 February 2021

### Elie Wiesel's Lessons for Today with Dr. Ariel Burger

Author of *Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel's Classroom*

#### A Four-Part Series on Zoom on Four Consecutive Sunday Evenings

Feb. 14, 21, 28 & March 7 7:30pm

Hosted by Congregation Shir Chadash, Temple Beth-El and Vassar Temple

The community is warmly invited to attend. Contact any of the sponsoring congregations for the Zoom link.

#### Schedule

**Feb. 14 Ariel Burger: Witness to Elie Wiesel.** Dr. Burger reflects on his personal relationship with Wiesel as mentor, friend and teacher.

**Feb. 21 Eli Wiesel: Witness to the Shoah.** Emerging from the horrors of the Shoah, Wiesel taught the lessons of activism against hate and injustice; his message was one of both particularism in his commitment to Israel and to the Jewish people, and universalism, as expressed by his concern for suffering anywhere.

**Feb. 28 Elie Wiesel's Lessons from Jewish Tradition.** In addition to his activism, Wiesel had a passion for Judaism, especially for the biblical personalities and the teachings from the Hassidic tradition.

**March 7 Elie Wiesel: What messages would he have for us today?** What would Wiesel say about the challenges we are facing today, such as living through a pandemic, America's current confrontation with racial injustice and the polarization that plagues our nation?

Dr. Ariel Burger is an author, artist, and teacher whose work integrates education, spirituality, the arts, and strategies for social change. Copies of Dr. Burger's book *Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel's Classroom* may be purchased through Temple Beth-El (845-454-0570 or [Rabbi@tbeny.org](mailto:Rabbi@tbeny.org)).

### "Purim in Oz" Thursday, Feb. 25 7pm

Follow us down the yellow brick road, and we'll travel somewhere over Zoom to meet the Wizard of Shushan. So grab your good witch (or bad witch), friends and family -- and Toto, too -- for a Zoom family Purim service and spiel on Thursday, February 25 at 7pm when we will remember "There's no place like Vassar Temple." Don't forget to bring along a box of pasta to shake like a gragger and drown out the name of the villain Haman when it is read. Following the holiday, we'll deliver all your boxes of pasta to a local food pantry. When you come to drop off your boxes of pasta at the temple this year, you are also invited to bring in other much-needed items requested by the pantry at Dutchess Outreach (see related article: Purim Pasta "Plus" on page 3).

Watch the weekly Temple e-reminder, or contact [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) for the Zoom link for the service. If you like to sing or act, we need you for our Purimspiel. All songs will have karaoke style accompaniment available. We are looking for singers and non-singers alike. There will be two rehearsals TBD. If you are interested in having fun and being a Purim Player, please contact David Hecht at [vtritchair@gmail.com](mailto:vtritchair@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Events

February

- 7 Wines of Israel FUNdraiser
- 17 Book Club, p.6
- 14, 21, 28, March 7 Dr. Ariel Burger presentations, p.1
- 25 Purim Family Service, p.1

### Lunch Box

Vassar Temple, in conjunction with the Mid-Hudson Islamic Association has taken on the responsibility of providing two meals per month at the Community Lunch Box. For one of those meals, the MHIA has taken the lead on the main course, and VT has provided supplementary food (generally, desserts and fruit). For the other meal, roles are reversed, and VT provides the main course with MHIA providing a dessert and fruit. We have recently been informed by the Lunch Box staff that they would prefer that we NOT provide desserts.

Volunteer service opportunities are limited but very much appreciated. If you can volunteer for any of the upcoming Sundays, please let me know by emailing me at [Lunchbox@vassartemple.org](mailto:Lunchbox@vassartemple.org).

We are also looking for someone to purchase the fruit for these Sunday meals. The Lunch Box fund at the Temple has funds available so our need is really for someone to get the fruit (bags of apples or oranges or bunches of bananas; that is, fruit that you can walk with) and bring it to the Lunch Box for distribution.

Finally, we will need chili and cornbread every third Thursday of the month. You can make it any time ahead of that date and leave it in the VT freezer. We will bring it to the Lunch Box that Thursday morning.

And, of course, money for this effort is always welcome and most appreciated.

(continued on page 5)



“When [the month] Adar begins, joy increases!” Why? Because the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar is the raucous holiday of Purim. And if there was ever a winter where we needed a little silliness, it is

this one! Like the story of Esther, we need an opportunity to envision vanquishing our enemy and imagine the joy we will feel when we reach that moment.

Purim will be different this year, not only because we will celebrate via Zoom. Purim is about masquerading; that may not feel so special, as we’ve been wearing masks for a whole year already! And one of the many challenges of doing so is the difficulty we have recognizing people.

Masking – and unmasking – is actually key to the Purim story. Events turn on the concealing and revealing of characters’ true identities.

When Esther enters the beauty contest and marries the King without telling him that she is a Jew, she is, in fact, wearing a mask. Mordecai must convince her to take it off, as it is only by revealing her true identity that Esther can save her people. In doing so, Esther is transformed from a timid woman into one of courage who devises a clever plan so that when she reveals her true identity, she is assured of the King’s support. In doing so she reveals not

only her identity as a Jew, but the strength of the woman who was there all along, concealed from the King and, indeed, from herself.

On the other hand, we (the readers) see Haman’s true self when he devises the plot to kill the Jews. However, he wears a mask when he asks for the King’s permission, while offering money for the treasury but not revealing the identity of these dangerous people. In the end, Haman is unmasked by Esther when she tells the King of his plan to kill her people. Haman’s true identity as a person of evil, filled with hate and arrogance, cannot stay hidden.

The very survival of the Jews depended on Esther’s courage to unmask herself and her ability to unmask the evil Haman. The courage that we need to fight our enemy, COVID-19, however, demands that we remain masked. It is only when we wear our masks that we are most protective of ourselves and others. Esther’s courage is a model for us to continue to be strong in our efforts, despite COVID fatigue, so that we can all get through this difficult time and celebrate conquering this virus.

It is notable that the book of Esther is the one book in the Bible where the name of God is omitted. Tradition ascribes the miraculous survival of the Jews to God, working behind the scenes, as it were. In his book, *Masking and Unmasking Ourselves: Interpreting Biblical Texts on Clothing & Identity*, Dr. Norman Cohen writes of this concealed presence of God: “... the Purim story demands that we come to recognize the Presence of the Divine through the ability to hear the hidden voice of God. The

redemptive paradigm of Esther is to see the camouflaged Divine in the darkness of our lives.”

Purim, this holiday of light and hope, arrives during the heart of winter this year, as the world struggles to emerge from the darkness of the Coronavirus. By continuing to wear our masks and adhering to health and safety guidelines, by taking steps to protect life, we reveal that hidden Divine presence.

Please join us and add to the joy of our Purim celebration, as together we follow the yellow brick road to Oz.

*Note:*

*I want to express my sincere appreciation to Jen Dahnert for her very kind “Heroes Among Us” column in the January bulletin. I was completely surprised and deeply, deeply touched (if not somewhat embarrassed as well). Of course, I cannot do what I do without the incredible lay leadership of this congregation – I never feel alone!*

Rabbi Renni Altman

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## President’s Message



My early memories of temple and religious school are a jumble of grape juice and glitter, observing the bimah from afar in a suburban Los Angeles sanctuary, seeing only male clergy (assuming all Cantors were baritones)

and getting dressed up for services (white gloves required). My brother attended a Reform summer camp and became Bar Mitzvah with the requisite blowout party; my siblings were confirmed; my sister was engaged in youth group folkdance. But my own Jewish education came to a crashing halt by age 12 when, following my father’s death, my mother - embittered by the lack of support she received from the synagogue - separated from the temple.

Fast forward and, like many of you, I began to reexamine my Jewish connections when I had children. The rest is my Vassar Temple history. I learned everything – still

a drop in the Jewish bucket - as an adult.

I have spoken often about my temple involvement but haven’t shared much about my Jewish education, or lack thereof. I struggled with feeling inadequately prepared to participate in temple leadership. This impression was corrected over time as I learned that I was hardly alone, that it was not a requirement, and to be comfortable participating in distinctively Jewish dialogue.

My first foray was a class with Rabbi Arnold covering wide-ranging topics. He suggested that we roll the Torahs for a periodic airing out. This was my first physical contact with the Torah. Understanding that it belonged to me too, being trusted to carry it, was emotional and empowering. I joined the adult Hebrew class, which morphed into an adult B’nai Mitzvah when I was 45. Most recently I became a regular at Torah study. I look forward to it for the learning, stimulation, and camaraderie as well as the unique break from the routine.

Vassar Temple has provided superb Adult Education over the years. Our Rabbis, including Rabbi Altman, have been incredible teachers. Talented members have given generously of their time and expertise to teach courses. We have a new Adult Ed team with a determination to see

our offerings reach more people, now more feasible thanks to virtual technology. The committee is aiming for a broad range of topics and interactive experiences. In addition to our regular Torah Study, and Talmud class with Rabbi Golomb, recent highlights include a review of Sacred Eating (eventually supporting a discussion of our Kashrut policy – this course was interrupted by COVID but we hope to complete it), “Back to the Sources” (about our sacred texts), and a racism reading group. Beginning on February 14, please join us for a Sunday afternoon virtual series featuring Rabbi Dr. Ariel Burger, a student of Elie Wiesel who was originally scheduled as scholar-in-residence for the 2020 Community Shabbaton.

Most of all, don’t ever feel that you lack prerequisites; all are welcome to our great tradition of study, discussion, and debate where individual growth is honored. If you have ideas or would like to support this committee, please contact [adulted@vassartemple.org](mailto:adulted@vassartemple.org).

Susan Karnes Hecht

## February Worship Service Schedule

5	7:30pm	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Altman and Joseph Bertolozzi, keyboard
6	9:00am 10:15am	Torah Study New Paths
12	6:00pm	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Altman, Cantor Goldmann and Joseph Bertolozzi, keyboard
13	9:00am	Torah Study
19	7:30pm	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Altman, Cantor Goldmann and Joseph Bertolozzi, keyboard
20	9:00am 10:15am	Torah Study New Paths
25	7:00pm	Purim Family Service with Rabbi Altman, Cantor Goldmann and Joseph Bertolozzi, keyboard
26	7:30pm	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Altman and Joseph Bertolozzi, keyboard
27	9:00am	Torah Study

*All of these events will be available virtually. Please see weekly emails for the most up to date information regarding each service.*

### New Paths Services

Join us at the New Paths Sabbath morning service Saturdays Feb. 6 & Feb. 20 at 10:15am on Zoom. 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 (BYO wine or grape juice). For more information, please contact Marian Schwartz [mschwa9882@aol.com](mailto:mschwa9882@aol.com) or Rabbi Altman [rabbi@vassartemple.org](mailto:rabbi@vassartemple.org), and for the Zoom link see the temple weekly e-reminder or contact the temple office at [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) or 845-454-2570.

### Religious School Update

The rabbis teach that when the month of Adar begins, joy increases as Adar includes the joyous holiday of Purim. If there was ever a winter where we need opportunities to have fun and be silly, this is certainly one! Adar begins on February 12 with Purim on February 25. Students will learn about the Purim story -- its heroes and villains and its serious message to stand up and speak out against hate. On Sunday, February 21, we will join with the Dutchess County Jewish community for a virtual Purim celebration with costumes and fun activities for all. All religious school families are urged to join with the Vassar Temple family for our Zoom Purim celebration "Purim in Oz" on Thursday, February 25 at 7:00pm.

*Rabbi Renni Altman*

### Scriptural Readings

- Feb. 6 Yitro Ex. 18-1-20:23;  
Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6
- 13 Shabbat Sh'Kalim & Rosh  
Chodesh Mishpatim Ex. 21:1-  
24- 18;  
II Kings 12:5-18 and Isaiah 66:1,  
23
- 20 T'rumah Ex. 25:1-27:19;  
II Kings 5:26-6:13
- 27 Shabbat Zachor T'tzaveh Ex.  
27:20-30:10;  
Esther 7:1-10; 8:15-17 or I  
Samuel 15:2-34

### Purim Pasta Plus

Don't forget to bring a box of pasta (any type will do) to shake as your gragger at our virtual Purim service at 7pm on Thursday Feb. 25. Drown out the name of evil Haman, in true Vassar Temple fashion, whenever it is mentioned! Afterward, also in Vassar Temple tradition, we always collect the boxes of pasta to donate to a local food pantry. Given the increased state of need this year, we invite you to bring any of the following items which were requested by Dutchess Outreach's Beverly Closs Pantry to the temple, in addition to your boxes of pasta:

Food: spaghetti sauce (to put on all that pasta!), peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, canned soup, canned vegetables, tuna, instant coffee, tea bags, cereal, baby formula

Personal Hygiene: toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, shampoo, deodorant, feminine products, razors, shaving cream, toilet paper, tissues, diapers, baby wipes

Your donation of any of the above items will be greatly appreciated by neighboring families in need! (Please do not donate unrequested items, previously opened containers, or outdated packages.) You can drop items off any time the temple is open, EXCEPT please avoid Wednesdays. If you would like to donate to Purim Pasta "Plus" but are unable to shop yourself, please contact Marian at [socialaction@vassartemple.org](mailto:socialaction@vassartemple.org) and we will be happy to shop for you. Join us in making merry on Purim, as well as in bringing extra joy to others this year!

## Thank You

We thank the following donors who have generously contributed to Vassar Temple's High Holy Day Appeal during December 2020. Please join your fellow Congregants in supporting the financial stability of Vassar Temple. Future donors will be listed in the next Bulletin. Again, our sincere gratitude for your support of our HHD Appeal and your ongoing commitment to the future of Vassar Temple.

*Lisa-Sue Quackenbush*

Jack & Fritzzy Goodman  
Elaine Lipschutz  
Oliver Mackson  
Jerold Slate

## Sisterhood News

At our December general meeting, I had the pleasure of presenting the 2020 Evelyn Kahn Spirit of Sisterhood Award to Linda Babas. Linda has been active in Sisterhood for many years and has volunteered at the Lunch Box and helped run the Book Club for quite some time. Congratulations Linda on a job well done.

Our Sisterhood continues to work hard to keep our members connected. A group of us spent an afternoon baking Chanukah cookies and putting together bags to deliver to our homebound members. I was touched by all of the lovely notes of thanks that were received.

Although we will not be able to get together in our usual large group for our annual hamantaschen baking day, we are hoping to have bakers willing to bake at home and drop off the hamantaschen at the temple. Please contact Judy Rosenfeld at [hamantaschen@vassartemple.org](mailto:hamantaschen@vassartemple.org) if you are able to help. The dough recipe for hamantaschen is included in this Bulletin for your enjoyment.

*Without you we are one woman short!*

*Marcia Tanzman*

## Condolences

To:

The family of Betty Brunzman,  
mother of Angie Colbert

The family of Herbert Jacobson,  
husband of Rita Jacobson

The family of Norman Blaustein,  
brother-in-law of Marge and Arthur  
Grotten

## Sponsor Cantor Goldmann!

Over the past two years, our congregation has enjoyed Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann's musical contributions to our service (chanting, leading us in song, and occasionally introducing new music). We are a musical congregation and she adds so much to our worship, at High Holy Day services, during special Friday evenings and Saturday morning Shabbat Services. We continue to need the congregation's financial assistance to defray expenses and to help ensure cantorial leadership at Vassar Temple into the future.

If you enjoy the music portion of our service, please consider sponsoring Cantor Goldmann with a contribution to the Music Fund (indicate Cantor Sponsorship). For a recommended contribution of \$250 (or any other amount), you can sponsor the Cantor for a specific service that she's leading, recognize a family simcha, or just help the temple with your contribution. For more information, please contact Bob Abrams at [music@vassartemple.org](mailto:music@vassartemple.org).



## Bimah Flowers Donations

Just as Shabbat Services help brighten our weeks, 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 let the office know. The sponsor's name and remembrance or Simcha will be acknowledged just like with our fresh Bimah flower arrangements.

## February 2021 Bimah Silk Flowers Sponsors:

- February 5: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund
- February 12: Donated by Susan Fink in memory of her husband, Allen Fink on the anniversary of his death, and Allen's father, Irving Fink
- February 19: Donated by Marilyn & David Lampell in honor of Julie McGaulley
- February 26: Donated by Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund

## Vassar Temple Bulletin

Published Monthly  
Publisher: Marianne Abrams and  
Bob Abrams  
Editor: Jo Schaffel  
Technical support & understudy  
Bob Abrams

Articles for the **April Bulletin** must be submitted to the Temple office by **March 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.



## Sisterhood Recipe Hamantaschen

4 cups sifted flour  
4 teaspoons baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 cup softened butter (not margarine)  
2 cups sugar  
2 eggs  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
4 tablespoons orange juice or milk

Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. Cream butter and sugar in a separate larger bowl. Add egg and vanilla and beat well.

Add dry ingredients alternately with juice or milk to the butter and sugar mixture, mixing until well blended. The dough will seem a little soft (not like bread dough).

This dough freezes well and rolls out best when it's chilled.

Refrigerate or make ahead and leave it in the refrigerator to thaw overnight.

Roll out dough on lightly floured surface to ¼ inch thick and cut circles out with a drinking glass. Fill with ½-1 teaspoon filling in center of circle. Shape into triangles.

To bake: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place filled hamantaschen on parchment paper or foil then on a cookie sheet 1-2 inches apart (they spread a little). Bake 12-15 minutes or until dough is cooked.

Makes about 6 dozen.

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## Hamantaschen

Contact [sisterhood@vassartemple.org](mailto:sisterhood@vassartemple.org) no later than February 12 to pick up a plate of hamantaschen at the temple at designated times during the week of February 25 (Purim).

Homebound congregants will have their hamantaschen delivered.

We will also send hamantaschen to our college students, so please make sure we have your student's mailing address.

It's our way to stay connected, even if it is at a distance.

## SCRIP Made Simple

Did you know that you can order, pay for and receive scrip without ever leaving your own home? Electronic cards - or eCards- that can either be printed out or downloaded to your smart phone can easily be obtained by families directly from <https://www.shopwithscrip.com> with Vassar Temple receiving profit from your purchase! Many national retailers offer this option, in addition to getting the more traditional plastic gift card that many of you have come to rely upon for personal use and gift giving.

Here is a very abbreviated list of stores offering eCards: Abercrombie and Fitch, Bath and Body Works, GAP/Banana Republic/Athletica/ Old Navy, Chico's, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Home Depot, GrubHub, Marshall's/TJ Maxx/ Home Goods, LL Bean and William Sonoma. For a complete list of retailers offering eCards, go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com>, scroll to the bottom and select "Retailer list." If you see the letter "E," that retailer offers an electronic version as an option.

Want more information on how to get started? Contact Sandra, SCRIP coordinator, at [scrip@vassartemple.org](mailto:scrip@vassartemple.org).

Shop spontaneously - Shop easily - Shop securely.... and support your temple!

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## Story Circle in Rectangles Tuesday, Feb. 16 7pm "Honoring Our Ancestors and Traditions"

Join our warm and friendly gathering to share a story or just to listen. Many of us have been unable to come together with family for traditional celebrations this year. Our story circle will share stories of our ancestors, members of our families, spiritual ancestors from our faith communities, or based on traditions, that have shaped who we are today. Please contact [DCICstory@optonline.net](mailto:DCICstory@optonline.net) to register, and you will receive the Zoom link. This event is co-sponsored by the Dutchess County Interfaith Council.

Lunchbox (*con't from page 1*)

Donations to the Lunch Box fund at the Temple will help to defray the costs of buying the fruit.

Please let Andi or myself know if you can help. Any questions, please contact me at [Lunchbox@vassartemple.org](mailto:Lunchbox@vassartemple.org).

*Paul Ciminello*

## Brotherhood News

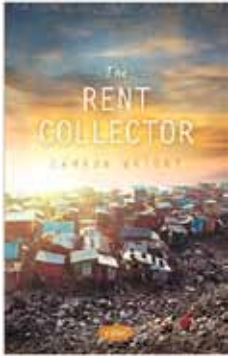
As you may know, a project to create and utilize a virtual document room has been ongoing at temple. Among the documents found was the Vassar Temple Men's Club Constitution, dated 10/31/78. The document begins; "With a view to enlisting the support of the men of American Jewry in the cause of Judaism, we do hereby band ourselves together and declare this to be our Constitution and By-laws." It goes on to say there shall be four officers and four more directors to form a Board. The rest of the by-laws are very simple and describe membership and basic operations.

When I accepted the position of Men's Club President, there was only one other paid member. While the men support the activities like erecting the Sukkah or cooking pasta dinner for Purim, it is not enough. Without the commitment to membership, we aren't reaching our potential as an effective arm of the temple, while providing comradery and mutual support. This what I hope that we can be. I would like to rejoin the MRJ Men of Reform Judaism, formerly the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods. This takes members and as of today, we have 3 paid members. Dues are \$36 for the year and checks should be made out to Vassar Temple Men's Club or to Vassar Temple with the notation Brotherhood Dues on the memo line.

I was persuaded to change our name to the Brotherhood but legally it remains Men's Club and Brotherhood is an acceptable alias. Now is the time to fill our board and to become more active or else we will go the way of many things in 2020. It is the time to "build back better". Who is ready to join me?

*Glenn Tanzman*

## Book Club to Discuss *The Rent Collector* on February 17



Vassar Temple's Sisterhood Book Club will discuss award winning novel *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright. Taking place in Cambodia, *The Rent Collector* has been described by critics as a story

of hope, of one women's journey to save her son, and another woman's chance at redemption.

Survival of Ki Lim and Sang Ly is a daily battle at Stung Meanchey, the largest municipal waste dump in Cambodia. They make their living

scavenging recyclables from the trash. Life would be hard enough without the added worry for their chronically ill child, Nisay, and the expense of medicines that are not working. Just when things seem worst, Sang Ly learns a secret about the bad-tempered rent collector who comes demanding money – a secret that sets in motion a tide that will change the life of everyone it sweeps past.

Although a work of fiction, *The Rent Collector* was inspired by real people living at the Stung Meanchey dump in Cambodia. The book is available in paperback through Amazon as well as the local library system. The meeting will take place through Zoom, on Wednesday, February 17, at 2:00pm. Barbara Hulnick will lead the discussion to which everyone is welcome. To RSVP or get more information, please contact [bookclub@vassartemple.org](mailto:bookclub@vassartemple.org).

## Historians wanted!

As part of the overall effort to update our archives and preserve our history, I'm looking for individuals interested in research. While historic materials and interviews were gathered and organized in the early 1990's, in time for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1998, since that time a wealth of additional resources have become available on the web. We hope to find additional background information, especially concerning our long-ago Rabbits. This can be done from home on your own schedule, and anything you discover will be captured for posterity! Let's fill in some history in anticipation of celebrating Vassar Temple's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Please contact me at [president@vassartemple.org](mailto:president@vassartemple.org) or by leaving a message on the office phone if you would like to be involved.

Susan Karnes Hecht

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## Eisendrath Legislative Assistants Sought for the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

The Legislative Assistant Program is a year-long fellowship for recent college graduates or individuals with equivalent academic and professional experience, who are interested in Judaism, social justice, and policy. Especially sought this year are applicants who come from underrepresented and marginalized backgrounds, including People of Color, people with disabilities, those coming from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds, members of the LGBTQ+ community, etc.

Legislative Assistants (LAs) have primary responsibility for monitoring legislation and ensuring that the voice of the Reform Movement's nearly 850 congregations, 2,000 rabbis, and 1.5 million Reform Jews is heard on Capitol

Hill. Each LA takes on a different policy portfolio, bringing a Reform Jewish perspective to the crucial social justice issues of the day, playing a key role developing strategy, drafting materials, and driving our work forward. They help guide our website, social media, and other communications. LAs may also have the opportunity to serve as the faculty of our weekend social justice seminars for high school students, assist congregations in bringing social justice closer to the forefront, and support the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism.

Base salary is \$36,000 and the program dates are August 24, 2021 - August 12, 2022. **Applications are due Sunday, February 28.** For further information and the application, visit <http://rac.org/eisendrath-legislative-assistant-fellowship> and call Juri Jacoby at 202-387-2800 with any questions you may have.

## Study Groups at Vassar Temple

**"Torah Study,"** which examines passages from the week's torah portion or haftorah, will be led by the Temple's Rabbi Renni S. Altman, D.D., every Saturday from 9-10am. New attendees should contact [rabbi@vassartemple.org](mailto:rabbi@vassartemple.org) for further information.

**"The Talmud: Modern Ideas from an Ancient Text,"** taught by Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb, select Thursdays from noon to 1:30pm. For further information and to obtain the study sheets, please contact [pjgolomb@verizon.net](mailto:pjgolomb@verizon.net).

*All are welcome to come and join in all the classes--no previous training required! No charge to attend. All classes will be conducted on Zoom as long as necessary for public health reasons. Watch the weekly temple e-mails or contact the temple for updated information at 845-454-2570 or [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org).*

## Contributions

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

#### In Memory of:

Marjorie Gluck David & Nancy Gluck

#### In Honor of:

Rabbi Altman David & Susan Hecht  
Suzanne Mackson

### SUSTAINING FUND

#### In Memory of:

Lillian Friedman The Friedman Family  
Alma Barbash William Barbash

#### In Honor of:

Birth of Matthew Daniel Lampell-Ling,  
Grandson of Marilyn and David Lampell &  
Great-Grandson of Muriel Lampell  
Fern & Dave Wolf

#### Mazel Tov to Lampell family for the

Birth of Matthew Daniel Lampell-Ling  
Robert & Judith Creedon

#### In Honor of Linda Babas receiving

Sisterhood Award Susan & David Hecht

#### In appreciation of

New Paths Service Gene Fleishman

### GRANDMOTHER'S FUND

#### In Honor of Parker's 1st Birthday

Faith Deveaux

### MUSIC FUND

#### In Celebration of Giving Tuesday

Cantorial Sponsorship James Robinowitz  
Arthur & Marge Groten

### LUNCH BOX FUND

#### In appreciation of our Lunch Box Team

Elizabeth Krevolin  
Bob & Marianne Abrams  
Susan Fink

Susan & David Hecht

### RICHARD SATZ AUDIO-VISUAL FUND

Mark & Shaari Roland

### LILA MATLIN TECHNOLOGY

Doris Cohen

#### In Honor of:

Rabbi Altman Oliver Mackson

#### In appreciation of

our Tech Team Susan & David Hecht

#### In Memory of Lila Matlin

Lisa & Mark Schwartz

#### SCRIP PURCHASES:

Helping the Community &  
Helping Vassar Temple!  
Martin & Ellie Charwat

### ROBERT H. LIPSCHUTZ SCHOLAR'S FUND

#### In Honor of:

Elaine Lipschutz's new  
Great Grand-daughter, Maya Goodis  
Muriel Lampell

## Yahrzeits

### FEBRUARY 5

Aaron Estrin  
Alan Pack Greller  
Russell B. Oppenheimer,  
DVM  
Ronah Gordon Posner  
Mark Rosenthal  
Lewis Krevolin  
Susan Matlin  
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Jane Kramer  
Jeanette Bergman  
Martha Held  
Dorothy Parish  
Margit Horowitz  
Dr. M. Alden Weingart  
Evelyn Slotte Kahn  
Leo Livingston

### FEBRUARY 12

Maxwell Shapiro  
Stanley Soirefman  
Hon. Henry Morgen-  
thau, Jr.  
Lillian Geber  
Morris "Moe" Gilbert  
Mary Hyman  
Evelyn Brown  
Samuel Warshaw  
Leon Alpers  
Reuben Wiseman  
Timothy Creedon  
Harold Robinowitz  
Theodore Garber  
Armand H. Newman  
Owen J. Sacks  
Joseph Drobner  
Gary M. Zimmer  
Jon Franklin Katz  
Arlene Loshin  
Herman Kraut  
Lillian Feldman  
Evelyn Bersak  
Marjorie Rubin  
Brody  
Julia Tebordo  
William Hyman  
Jules H. Lippmann  
Lawrence Edell  
Sidney I. Love  
Jarrod Harrington  
Blanche Fertig  
Goldie Abraskin  
Jacob Greenberg  
Mary R. Scheer  
Freda Reifler  
Rosanne Weber  
Allen Fink

### FEBRUARY 19

Harry Lashinsky  
Celia Frank  
Rose Kahn  
Morris Levine  
Cynthia Blumenthal  
Hinda Lessin  
Jacob Erdreich, DMD  
Henrietta Greenberg  
Louise S. Rosen  
Louis Kovacs  
Ida Scope  
David Charles Albert  
Dr. Irma Koltai  
Bernard Miller  
Vladimir M. Konheim, MD  
Sylvia Cantor  
Robert Toroker  
Anne Alpers  
Alec Stall  
Lewis Schwartz  
Julie McGaulley  
Catherine Peluse  
Walter L. Mock  
Wendy E. Newman  
David Haber  
Milton Rauh  
Robert Joseph  
Ida Baskin Schwartz  
David Stephen Satz  
Mary Solomon  
Irving Fink  
Stanton Lipschutz  
Theresa E. Ryan

### FEBRUARY 26

Mildred Gould  
Victor Fein  
David Blanksteen  
Peter Luttinger  
Stuart Alpers  
Esther Frances Gold-  
berg  
Jack Frankel  
Paul S. Goldberg  
Irving M. Bloch  
Ruth Levitt  
Shirley Kaskowitz  
Harry Lewis  
Fannie Kagan  
Gloria Fischman  
Ida Klein  
Milton Kramer  
Michael Rothenberg  
Dr. Vito J. Ciminello  
Jeannie Lawrence  
Shirley E. Reifler  
Matilda Bancheck  
Morris Haas  
Frances Lewis  
Francesca Vadersen

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**Senior Scholar:** Paul Golomb  
**Keyboards:** Joseph Bertolozzi  
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**2nd Vice President:** Shaari Roland  
**Secretary:** Glenn Tanzman  
**Treasurer:** Brett Colbert  
**Sisterhood President:** Marcia Tanzman  
**Brotherhood President:** Glenn Tanzman  
**Immediate Past President:** Alan Kaflowitz

**February 2020 Calendar**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 3:30pm Hebrew School	4 7pm Ritual Committee	5 7:30pm Shabbat Service	6 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths
7 10am Religious School 10:30am Lunchbox 4pm Kosher Wines FUNraiser	8	9	10 3:30pm Hebrew School	11	12 6pm Shabbat Service w/ Cantor Goldmann	13 9am Torah Study
14 7:30pm Community Lecture with Dr. Ariel Burger	15	16	17 2pm VTS Book Club 3:30pm Hebrew School 7:30pm Finance Cmte	18 12pm Chai Noon 12pm Talmud Study with Rabbi Golomb 7pm Board Meeting	19 7:30pm Shabbat Service w/ Cantor Goldmann	20 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths
21 Community Purim Program 10:30 to 11:30am 7:30pm Community Lecture with Dr. Ariel Burger	22	23	24 3:30pm Hebrew School	25 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm Erev Purim Family Service with Cantor Goldmann	26 7:30pm Shabbat Service	27 9am Torah Study
28 10am Religious School 7:30pm Community Lecture with Dr. Ariel Burger						