What is Pesach Without Matzoh Ball Soup?

Isn’t life challenging enough without having to schlep to the grocery store, cut the veggies and form those delicious matzoh balls to perfection, just to enjoy a bowl of this yummy Passover treat?

Well, several members of the Vassar Temple Sisterhood have volunteered to do all the work for you!

You can pick up your quart(s) of soup broth* with 4 large matzoh balls/qt for only $10.

**RSVP your order by Wednesday, March 17th to passover@vassartemple.org**

Orders can be picked up after 3/21/21, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday between 10 am and 2 pm at the Temple**.

Next year in Jerusalem? Wonderful.
Next year in post-pandemic Dutchess County? Let us pray.

Chag Sameach.

*Please specify chicken or vegetarian based
**Home delivery might be accommodated on a case-by-case basis
You are invited to a very special 2021 convening of the Dutchess County Interfaith Council's Annual Membership Meeting.

Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 5:30 PM

We will share a brief report of activities from the past year, one that has been challenging for congregations in the county on many fronts. But, this period has also been inspiring in the love, dedication and perseverance exemplified. We will gather in unified spirit and reaffirmation.

Following the short business meeting is a profound program launching the DCIC peace and reconciliation initiative, *Engaging Differences: A Journey Toward Understanding*, keynoted by Kenneth S. Stern, Director of the Bard Center for the Study of Hate. You won't want to miss this stimulating address and conversation on how Dutchess County congregations can advance their interfaith voices in bridging the civic and cultural divide in our lives and of our times.
CLEAN SWEEP DRIVE

- Let’s help struggling local immigrant and refugee families!
- Let’s show them our American and Jewish values of welcome and compassion!

Two ways we can help:
1. They are in desperate need of funds to help cover their rent, electricity, medications, and gasoline. You can help with a tax-deductible online donation in any amount at https://www.granniesrespond.org/supportus.

   PLEASE follow these instructions carefully: Under DONATE HERE, at "Where would you like this donation to be used?", click on "Choose One." Then, in the drop-down window, be sure to select "Hudson Valley, NY."

2. They need basic household necessities we take for granted. During the month of March, please bring any of the items requested below to the Temple between 10 am - 2 pm, any weekday except Wednesday. To arrange to make a drop off at other days/times, please contact socialaction@vassartemple.org.

REQUESTED ITEMS:

- Diapers in all sizes (the most needed item!!), Dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent (50 oz. or less), Cleaning supplies & disinfectants, Hand Sanitizer, Toilet paper, Sanitary napkins, Baby wipes, Deodorant (unisex), Body wash, Bar soap, Toothpaste, All-in-one Shampoo/conditioner

This Vassar Temple drive is being held in cooperation with the local chapter of Grannies Respond.

Thank you for supporting our effort to Welcome the Stranger & Protect the Refugee!
First Night Virtual Seder

The pandemic may seem like a modern-day plague, but with the perseverance and resilience shown by the Israelites in Egypt, it will not thwart us! So, Vassar Temple has committed to celebrating Pesach VIRTUALLY this year on the first night, Saturday, March 27th at 6 pm.

In the spirit of our first community seder in 2012, we will join for the reading of Vassar Temple’s own Haggadah and enjoy some of the traditional customs, each of us from the comfort of our own homes. Gathering via Zoom, individuals are invited to participate in the readings (advance sign-up required) while everyone enjoys drinking the wine (or its substitute), dipping those bitter herbs, and eating the matzoh & charoset that you provide.

**RSVPs required by March 17th; respond to passover@vassartemple.org** and additional details will be sent to those expressing interest in participating.

*Chag Sameach!*
Passover Festival & Yizkor Service
Saturday, April 3rd, 10:30 am

Celebrate the last day of Pesach at our Festival morning service, celebrating the moment of redemption at the crossing at the Sea of Reeds and Yizkor (memorial service).

At these seasons of joy, we pause to remember our loved ones; no doubt, we will have felt their absence around the seder table. As a nation and as a world we mourn overwhelming losses since last Passover; these too, we will remember. It can be comforting to remember one’s loved ones in the context of community.
SPRING 2021 LECTURE SERIES:  
Women of Faith, with Bruce Chilton, Institute of  
Advanced Theology @ Bard  
Sundays, March 21, April 18th, and May 16th at 1:00 pm 
Participants can register at the following link: https://jewishdutchess.org/events

During a time of unique cultural and political challenge in the United States, this series will investigate the unique contributions of women within the traditions of Judaism and Christianity to a human, peaceful future. Women from both traditions will be paired in a comparative analysis:

March 21st: the medieval period  
Hildegarde of Bingen  
Inés Esteban

April 18th: the early modern period  
Francesa Sarah of Safed  
Theresa of Avila

May 16th: the twentieth century  
Eleanor Roosevelt  
Trude Weiss-Rosmarin
HUC Connect
The Hebrew Union College (HUC) is offering six stimulating lectures in a Zoom-based series that runs from February-June and are free to all VT members:

- **Judaism & Civil Society**
- **Judaism & Culture**
- **Judaism & History**
- **Judaism & (Grand)Parenting**
- **Judaism & Religions**
- **Judaism & Women’s Studies**

Detailed information can be obtained by clicking on the following link: [http://huc.edu/huc-connect/huc-connect-2021](http://huc.edu/huc-connect/huc-connect-2021)

Once reaching the site, **you must register for the courses in which you are interested**. Please note that the Vassar Temple Adult Education Committee will also be obtaining recordings of the following three sessions:

- **The Qu’ran and the Jews**
- **Creative Thinking as Our Compass**
- **Chagall and the Bible**

They will be offered Wednesdays at 7:30 pm on April 14th, June 9th, and June 16th followed by discussion facilitated by Rabbi Altman. Please plan on joining us!
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. The sponsor’s name and remembrance or Simcha will be acknowledged just like with our fresh Bimah flower arrangements.