

"Whither Thou Goest: Journeys into Jewish Life"

A Program for Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

With Congregation Shir Chadash and Temple Beth-El

Sunday, May 16, 2021

7:45 pm, Ma'ariv (Evening) Service / 8:00 pm, Program begins

It is traditional on the Festival of Shavuot, which celebrates the revelation of Torah at Mt. Sinai, to read the Book of Ruth. The book tells the beautiful and touching story of Ruth, a Moabite, who, after the death of her husband, accompanies her mother-in-law, Naomi, back to the land of Judah and commits her life to Naomi and Judaism. Ruth becomes the model of one who chooses Judaism. Today, whether born a Jew or choosing Judaism as an adult, we are all "Jews by Choice" and we have all been on different journeys into our Jewish lives.

Our Tikkun Leyl Shavuot program this year will explore our different journeys. Rabbis Altman, Polish, and Victor will open the Tikkun (learning session) with teachings about the Book of Ruth. Then a member from each congregation, including Melissa Wall of Vassar Temple, will speak about their "Journey into Jewish life." For the final part of the program, we will all have the chance to reflect on our own personal journey and share in small groups. We have to wait until next year to share the traditional cheesecake and blintzes; please feel free to bring yours with you!

May 16, 7:30 Vassar Temple's celebration of Shavuot continues: Monday, May 17 at 10:30 am - Festival & Yizkor Service led by Rabbi Altman. The service will include a brief Torah study, Hallel, and the Yizkor (memorial) service where we remember our loved ones. We will use *Mishkan Tefillah*. If you don't have the physical prayer book, you can follow in the flipbook <https://www.ccarnet.org/publications/resources-repaginated/#> which will also be posted during the service.

May 17, 10:30 AM

BROTHERHOOD HAPPY HOUR
Sunday, May 17, 2021, 5:00 PM

Cereal Counts!!!
May 1- May 31

Let's enable school children, and those in need of all ages, to start each summer day with a tasty nutritious breakfast! Please help by dropping off unopened boxes of breakfast cereal to the temple, any time the temple is open between now and May 31. All the cereal we collect will be distributed to food pantries throughout the county! This is a "Mitzvah Now" project sponsored by our local Jewish Federation (JFedDC). Questions? just contact canjam@vassartemple.org

We at Vassar Temple are joining with other congregations and organizations around the country to urge the administration to deal with the refugee crisis in a pro-active way by significantly increasing the refugee admission quota and helping those refugees with a robust resettlement program. Here is the link to the HIAS signature page. You may have to cut and paste it into your browser.

https://act.hias.org/page/28624/action/1?utm_source=Welcome+Campaign&utm_campaign=31201e8c2c-Welcome_Campaign_NY_Newsletter_Nov_2017_COPY_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b2bec5a128-31201e8c2c-439264933

Please take a moment to add your name. Thanks.

Art Groten, Vassar Temple HIAS liaison

The Jewish Community Preschool (JCP) of the Hudson Valley is welcoming a new generation of students who are looking for a place to thrive. Vassar Temple is thrilled to be hosting the new Jewish Community Preschool, opening in September. The school's dedicated board and advisors have worked for several years to bring this vision to reality, and we are delighted to partner with them in support of this Jewish Community endeavor. Check out the school's brand-new site at <https://jcphv.net/>

**SPRING 2021 LECTURE SERIES:
Women of Faith, with Bruce Chilton,**

Institute of Advanced Theology @ Bard

Sunday, May 16th at 1:00 pm

Participants can register at the following

link: <https://jewishdutchess.org/events>

The 20th century: Eleanor Roosevelt / Trude Weiss-Rosmarin

May is Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month
Speaker Series events via Zoom

Speaker Series events via Zoom

Anti-Asian Hate: Covid, Asians and Pacific Islanders & Creating A Caring Community

Part 1: May 12, 12:00pm-1:30pm *How does Covid-related anti-Asian rhetoric and actions fit into a long pattern of stereotyping and*

racism? What narratives are told and not told? Who are Asians? Presenters: Yu Zhou, Kk Naimool - Register [here](#) for May 12

Part 2: May 26, 12:00pm-1:30pm What does it mean to respond to anti-Asian violence including both overt attacks (verbal or physical) and micro-aggressions? What does it mean to create a caring community that responds in ways that build trust, increase safety and foster strength and resilience? Presenters: Christine Wang, Paloma Wake, and others - Register [here](#) for May 26

DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP SOME SCRIP BEFORE YOU SHOP! Email or call ahead of time, and we will have your order ready to go. 845.454.2575, Contact Karen at office@vassartemple.org or Sandra, SCRIP Coordinator, at 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. The sponsor's name and remembrance or Simcha will be acknowledged just like with our fresh Bimah flower arrangements