



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel, Founded 1848—Bulletin Volume 172 No. 2 September 2023

Vassar 175 Update: Fall Events



A variety of special events are in the pipeline for our very special year! Mark your calendar and watch for more information about...

Sunday, October 22 at 2pm - Cemetery Tour (rain date October 29)

Explore our LaGrange Avenue cemeteries, which date back to the mid-1800's and include the former Hebrew Fraternal Benevolent Society. Learn about some of our long-time Temple families who continue to be actively engaged in our community today. Light refreshments will be served. For more information contact CemeteryTour@vassartemple.org.

Sunday, November 19 - Piano Dedication Concert

A group of talented local musicians, including our own Joe Bertolozzi, will delight the audience with selections of Jewish music and composers on our incredible 100-year-old, recently restored grand piano. The piano donor, Temple member Barbara Lemberger, will offer remarks about the piano's history and her musical grandmother, its original owner. The afternoon concert will be followed by a reception. Donations at the door will benefit our music programs.

Please contact Vassar175@vassartemple.org to get involved with anniversary events!

Klezmer Group at Vassar Temple Friday, October 6 at 7pm



All are invited to Vassar Temple on Friday October 6, to enjoy The Living Shtetl klezmer group from NYC, who will be performing in conjunction with our 7pm Erev Simchat Torah service. The ensemble is led by clarinetist Alex Parke, and includes Ilya Shneyveys on accordion and strings and Ben Holmes on trumpet. Enjoy their joyous performance and come dance with the Torah! They are amazing musicians, and in high demand; we are very fortunate to have them here in Poughkeepsie. Donations to Vassar Temple designated to help defray the cost of the klezmer ensemble are appreciated.

Prior to the service, a dinner will be held at 5:45pm, outdoors in the sukkah weather permitting. Catered by Adams, the menu includes wraps, salads, grape leaves, a fruit platter, cookies and brownies. Cost: \$18 adults, \$10 children 6-12, under age 6 free. To RSVP for the dinner (A MUST!), and to let us know if you need a gluten free or vegan option, please e-mail ritual@vassartemple.org by September 26.

From the Rabbi's Desk:



I know that I'm really on vacation when I have to ask, "What day is today?" Losing track of time, breaking out of the structures of my daily routine, is a sign for me of real relaxation. The one marker of time to which I always look forward, however, is Shabbat.

Shabbat was one of earliest means of marking time and, even more important, as Heschel taught, of making time holy. Shabbat is not the

only way in which Judaism marks the passage of time. We celebrate the beginning of each new month with Rosh Hodesh and the festivals note the seasons. And, of course, it is the New Year that we will mark with the greatest fanfare in just a few weeks.

The start of a new year is so significant in Judaism that its essence cannot be contained in one day of celebration; rather, we take ten days to inaugurate the year. We mark the passage of a year with a period of deep introspection. The traditions of the holy days urge us to undergo a process of *heshbon hanefesh*, an accounting of our souls, an annual exploration of who we are, who we have been and who we want to be. We take these ten days to pause, think about the past, reflect especially on the year that has drawn to an end, and consider what we did well, where we missed the mark and what we can do better.

The Ten Days of Repentance are, in fact, a time of transition, helping us shift from considering the past to looking ahead toward the promise of the new year. The image of the Divine opening the Book of Life and writing our names for blessing, we pray, calls us to focus our attention forward. The *Unetanatokef* with its haunting, powerful imagery, reminds us that through our actions we can affect our destiny, even if not all that impacts our lives is in our control.

During 5784 we will be marking time in a most special way as we celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of Vassar Temple. A planning committee is overseeing the numerous ways in which we will mark this special anniversary throughout the year ahead. We will have many opportunities to reflect upon the grand history of this congregation and all that has evolved since five men had a vision to build a synagogue in Poughkeepsie. Just as we, as individuals, reflect upon our pasts while looking ahead towards our futures, I hope that we, Vassar Temple, will also use this celebratory year to think forward, to envision what we hope to celebrate at our 200th anniversary and beyond.

This year we are initiating a new program of reflection during the Yom Kippur afternoon service: "Sharing our Jewish Journeys." Three members of the congregation, Fredrica (Fritzi) Goodman, Howard Susser and Melissa Wall, will speak about the role that Judaism has played and plays in their lives. They have each been on very different paths, each one expressing their Judaism in different ways. It is our hope that their stories will inspire others to consider their own "Jewish Journey" as part of their introspection at this season. Please join us!

A leap year in Hebrew is called "*shanah meuberet*", literally, a pregnant year. In so many ways, every year is a "pregnant year," pregnant with new possibilities, with hope. May 5784 be a year of new possibilities and blessings for Vassar Temple and for you and your loved ones. *L'shanah Tovah Tikateivu!*

Rabbi Renni Altman





President's Message:

It's hard to believe that it's that time of year already. Even though I write this in the middle of summer (a necessity for meeting the print deadline and accommodating my vacation), the Jewish New Year and, what

seems like back-to-back holidays are around the corner. It feels like a full circle moment. Didn't I just write about High Holidays preparation? Didn't I just update our Temple High Holiday Information packet? It sure feels like it, even though that was a full year ago. Time marches on and ahead, but it often feels like it goes in circles. Sometimes I feel comforted by the circle: "Here we are again" and "This is familiar." Other times, the circle of life feels like a merry-go-round gone wrong, making me dizzy, and I desperately would like to get off.

The Circle of Life as a philosophical concept has us starting at the end and ending at the beginning. Our lives, from beginning to end, resemble a full circle. No matter how big or small the circle, it ends the same way for everyone.

In Jewish tradition, a bride often circles a groom several times, symbolizing the creation of a new family circle.

On Simchat Torah, there is an opportunity for a Circular Hakafot (taking the Torah scrolls out of the ark and encircling the reader and sanctuary with dancing, singing and joy) as a symbol of unity and communal cooperation.

Even at the High Holidays we recognize the circle, in the round challahs we bake and consume. These round challahs symbolize the circle of life and hope that our new year continues to give us sweetness and blessings without interruption throughout the upcoming year.

So I guess it's best to embrace these circles and continue moving along and forward.

I will close this message by quoting the refrain of Joni Mitchell's song the *Circle Game*, because who doesn't love Joni Mitchell?



And the seasons, they go round and round

And the painted ponies go up and down

We're captive on the carousel of time

We can't return, we can only look

Behind, from where we came

And go round and round, in the circle game

From our family to yours, I wish you Shanah Tovah and Chag Sameach!

Lisa-Sue Quackenbush

Bimah Flowers for our Services ~ September 2023

Just as Shabbat Services help brighten our weeks, so do the Bimah flowers which brighten our Sanctuary. Please let the office know if you would like to sponsor a flower arrangement in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one.

The donation to sponsor Bimah Flowers is now \$60 and checks should be made out to Vassar Temple Sisterhood with Bimah Flowers written on the memo line. Should there be more than one sponsor for a Shabbat a larger flower arrangement will be provided. Sponsored flowers are fresh floral arrangements.

September 2023 Bimah Flowers Sponsors:

- September 1: Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund (silk flowers)
- September 8: Selichot: Donated by David Steinberg and Kathy Moloney
in memory of Jay Steinberg
- September 15: Rosh Hashanah. Donated by the Matlin Family
in memory of Lila and Melvin Matlin
- September 22: Yom Kippur. Donated by Marian and Ralph Schwartz
in memory of Max H. & Shirley P. Richter and Albert E. & Gloria Schwartz
- September 29: Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flower Fund (silk flowers)



Past Bimah Flowers Donations Update:

- August 4: Donated by Sandra Similes Mamis in memory of Margot P. Similes

Study Groups ~ September

Torah Study with Rabbi Renni Altman, D.D. meets at 9am on Saturday mornings (hybrid). No class 9/2 and 9/16. Contact office@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570 for details and to be placed on the Torah Study email list.

Talmud Study with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb will be resuming after the summer break. Classes are on Zoom, and generally held alternating Mondays from 12-1:30pm. For details, dates and study sheets contact him at pjgolomb@verizon.net.

All welcome ~ No prior knowledge necessary ~ No charge to attend

New Paths ~ September

Everyone is invited to join us at Vassar Temple for a New Paths Sabbath morning service Saturday, September 9 at 10:15am. The moving liturgy 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 informal kiddush follows. We generally meet "hybrid" (both inside the Temple and on Zoom).

Contact office@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570 to be put on the New Paths email list, or if you need the link or to borrow our special prayer book if participating on Zoom. Policies for safe in-person attendance are on our website www.vassartemple.org.

Scriptural Readings ~September

September 2

Ki Tavo ~ Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8; Isaiah 60:1-22

September 9

Nitzavim/Vayeilech ~ Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30; Isaiah 61:10-63:9

September 16

Yom Rishon shel Rosh HaShana ~ Genesis 22:1-19; I Samuel 1:1-28 (or Samuel 1:1-2:10)

September 23

Shabbat Shuvah/Haazinu ~ Deuteronomy 32:1-52; Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20; Joel 2:15-17

September 30

Yom Rishon shel Sukkot ~ Leviticus 23:33-44; Zechariah 14:7-9, 16-21

Religious School Update ~ September

Hello, Vassar Temple family,

As I write this, teachers and staff are preparing for the launch of religious school on Sunday, September 10. Like last year, our opening day program will be a pancake breakfast sponsored by Sisterhood.

I thought I'd take this opportunity to acquaint you with a wonderful website called www.myjewishlearning.com. This is the go-to resource for thousands of Jewish seekers. It's very searchable, though you may get distracted by all the other interesting articles, videos, recipes, and stories you encounter along the way.

Myjewishlearning.com does not assume anyone's knowledge level or degree of observance; that's one thing that makes it so appealing. It's an opportunity for pure exploring. At the present moment, the site's home page includes articles such as:

- *Shekhinah: The Divine Feminine*
- *Visiting the Sick*
- *Is Creativity the Ideal Form of Divine Service?*
- *How to Plan a Gender-Neutral B'nai Mitzvah Celebration*
- *This Week's Torah portion*
- *Does Judaism Allow Organ Donations?*
- *Salt & Pepper Spaghetti Squash Kugel (recipe)*
- *What Judaism Teaches About Firearms and Hunting*

my JEWISH LEARNING

...as well as guides to celebrating, eating, mourning, praying, and living.

So, when you have a few moments, treat yourself to a visit to myjewishlearning.com.

May I send the best wishes from my family to yours, for a sweet, healthy, happy, and rewarding new year.

Rabbi Shoshana Hantman

Religious School Director

High Holy Day Highlights

Selichot: Saturday, September 9 at 7:30pm

Honor & congratulate Marcia Tanzman, 2023 recipient of the Arnold Award, at a festive dessert reception, followed by an extended Havdalah, all in the Social Hall. Our moving Selichot service follows at 9pm in the Sanctuary.

Second Day Rosh Hashana: Sunday, September 17 at 10:30am

For those who observe a second day, an informal service in the East Chapel led by Rabbi Altman and Cantor Goldmann, including highlights of the liturgy, and an interactive program in lieu of the sermon. This year's focus: The *Akedah* (the Binding of Isaac), using the technique of "Bibliodrama" to see the events from the perspectives of the different characters.

New for Yom Kippur! Monday, September 25

2pm: Sam Finnerman, Vassar Temple member and student of *musar*, will lead a study session on repentance at the Temple.

3pm: In the sanctuary, long-time Vassar Temple member Linda Cantor will lead us in meditation, using guided imagery to help us start.

4pm: The Afternoon Service will focus on the Torah reading (Holiness Code) and Haftarah (Jonah) and will include a program called "Exploring Jewish Journeys."

Tiny Temple Celebrates in the Sukkah

Sunday, October 1 at 10:30am

All tots through age five and their grownups are invited to "Tiny Temple" to celebrate the harvest festival of Sukkot on Sunday, October 1 at 10:30am at Vassar Temple. We'll shake the *lulav* in the outdoor succah, learn all about this fun fall holiday with Rabbi Rennie Altman, make a holiday craft, and enjoy a healthy snack. (In case of inclement weather, we'll be indoors.) There is never a charge to attend Tiny Temple events, but please help us in our planning by RSVPing to office@vassartemple.org.



Celebrate Sukkot at Vassar Temple!

Erev Sukkot, Friday, September 29

Family Friendly Service 6pm, Dinner following

Come one, Come all! Celebrate our fall harvest festival with a family friendly service at 6pm. Everyone will have the opportunity to fulfill the mitzvot of waving the lulav and “dwelling” in the Sukkah immediately following the service. Then enjoy a “Bring Your Own” dinner in the sukkah (in case of inclement weather, we will eat indoors). Drinks and dessert will be provided.



Sukkot/Shabbat Morning Service, Saturday, September 30 at 10:15am

Following the 9am Torah Study, when we will study the special portions for Sukkot, we'll hold a short Sukkot morning service in the East Chapel (and on Zoom) beginning at 10:15am.

Tashlich at Sunset Lake ~ Saturday, September 16

For many generations, Jewish communities have gathered at bodies of water on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and recited the *Tashlich* prayer to symbolize our wish to rid ourselves of our sins and errors, and to be forgiven by God. *Tashlich* has now become an increasingly popular and meaningful Jewish practice for people of all ages, enabling them to feel that they're starting out the new year with a clean slate. As part of our own High Holy Day observances, we will be able to “cast our sins” (in the form of bread crumbs) into the water immediately after the Family Service for Rosh Hashanah. Plan to join us with your family on Saturday, September 16 at 4pm at Sunset Lake on the Vassar College campus.

Try to BYO breadcrumbs to cast into the lake. Light refreshments will be served, courtesy of the Ritual Committee. In case of inclement weather, this event will take place the following day (Sunday, September 17) at the same location and time. If you've never done this before, make this the year you come to *Tashlich*, and start the year 5784 with a clean slate!



Two (Relatively) Painless Ways to Give to the Vassar Temple Endowment Fund

Some Temple members have asked, "Is it possible to both give to the Endowment Fund and save on taxes?" The answer is "yes." Below are two ways to get a bigger bang for your buck.

Contributing "appreciated" stock held for more than one year is one of the most tax-efficient ways that one can make a gift to the Vassar Temple Endowment Fund. A donor can transfer stock with a relatively low basis (i.e. cost) which can be sold at a higher price without having to pay any capital gains tax on the gain. The donor should notify his/her/their broker to transfer the stock to Fidelity, whose institutional "DTC" number is 0226. Call the Temple office, (845) 454-2570 for the account number of the Endowment Fund. Your broker should instruct Fidelity to notify the Temple office of the name of the donor(s) and the proceeds. The gift will then be recorded and the donor credited for it. As the donor, you should keep a record of the stock's cost basis and the amount of proceeds. By making a gift this way, you can make a more impactful gift than either giving cash or selling stock and then transferring the proceeds (which would require you to report a capital gain on your income tax return).

Another tax-favorable mechanism is a direct transfer of funds from the financial institution hosting a donor's IRA or other retirement account to the Vassar Temple Endowment Fund. You, as donor, should direct the plan administrator via letter or email to pay the amount(s) that would normally be transferred to your account DIRECTLY to Vassar Temple, 140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 payable to the Vassar Temple Endowment Fund. This could involve one lump-sum payment or a series of monthly payments. By not passing through you, the payments are not part of your income for income tax purposes, yet the Endowment Fund receives the full benefit. In this way, donors can painlessly give more without an income tax bite.



Martin Charwat,
Endowment Fund Co-Chair

mazel tov!

Our Temple Musician Joseph Bertolozzi was recognized in the local arts magazine *Chronogram* with two 2023 Readers' Choice Awards (Chronogrammmies!), one in the category of Public Art for his "Bridge Music" sound art installation in Poughkeepsie, and one for Local Band/Musician.

Welcome to
Lydia Brown and
family, our newest
congregation
members!

Climate Corner ~ an update from our Dayenu Circle

Our Dayenu Circle has expanded to include like-minded folks at Temple Beth-El under the leadership of Rabbi Miriam Hyman. We'll be working together on our Green Teams and, in the near future, a peer-to-peer decarbonization workshop.

We are thrilled to have supported, through the NYS Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, the successful passage of a state ban on fossil fuel use in new buildings (the All-Electric Buildings Act), which is the first bill of its kind in the country, and to have made substantial progress in passing a second important bill (the HEAT Act).

NEW! We are now working with the Environmental Voter Project, a non-partisan organization that uses research-based methods to turn out infrequent, but registered voters who are likely to factor environmental concerns heavily into voting decisions. Postcards for EVP are available for the Virginia election and must be returned to us before October 3 for mailing in accordance with EVP's strictly controlled process. We will have only a limited number of EVP postcards available for this round, but expect to continue with additional elections.

For postcards for the current effort, please contact Howard or Margery at civicengagement@vassartemple.org.

We will distribute EVP materials in physical form only. EVP also does phone banking to environmental voters around the country.

More information is at <https://www.environmentalvoter.org/get-involved> where you can sign up directly for future postcard trainings and materials, and learn more about this proven-effective organization.

Contact dayenu@vassartemple.org for more information.



Rebuilding the Vassar Temple Youth Program

After a bit of a hiatus due to COVID and demographics, we are excited to rebuild our youth program this year. Chloe Mengden, one of our great religious school teachers and Vassar College senior, will serve as Coordinator for "*Tochnit Noar*" (youth program) for post *b'nei mitzvah* age students. The goal is to begin with monthly programs of a social, social justice and educational nature. Some of our teens also serve as *madrichim* (teaching assistants) in the religious school. This program is made possible through the generosity of the Ann and Abe Effron Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley. For more information, please contact Rabbi Altman.



PRESERVE DEMOCRACY IN ISRAEL

Support the struggle to preserve democracy in Israel through our Reform movement: Emergency Campaign of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism

<https://reform.org.il/en/campaign-2023/>



The Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism

Join the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA www.arza.org). Vassar Temple benefits if you join through the temple; you can pay by check or credit card



Upcoming Adult Education Offerings at Vassar Temple

Judaism 101 with Rabbi Altman ~ Sunday mornings, beginning October 22, 2023

If you never had formal Jewish Education, if that education ended in your teens, or if you want a refresher in core practices and beliefs in Judaism, then this is the course for you. We will learn about the holidays, liturgy and our ritual practices, basic texts, history and more. The class will meet in person every other Sunday morning (time TBD) for an hour, beginning October 22. The class is open to anyone, especially those who would like to become adult *b'nei mitzvah*. More details to come in the October bulletin. Please RSVP to adulted@vassartemple.org if you are interested.

Judge Rosenblatt ~ Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 3pm, Social Hall at Vassar Temple

The Honorable Judge Albert Rosenblatt will be speaking about his new book *The Eight: The Lemmon Slave Case and the Fight for Freedom*. *The Eight* tells the story of Lemmon vs. New York. All but forgotten today, it was one of the most momentous civil rights cases in American history. The book will be available for purchase at the event.

Jennifer Rosner ~ Early January, date TBA on Zoom

Renowned author Jennifer Rosner will present her new book *Once We Were Home*.

In Honor of Our 175th

The Roots of Reform as Prophetic Judaism with Rabbi Altman

Wednesdays at 7:30pm on January 24, 31 and February 7. Reform Judaism in America grounded itself in the teachings of the Prophets and their calls for social justice. In this course we will explore teachings of the main prophets and their resonance for Reform Judaism.

CROP Walk ~ Sunday, October 15

Hello potential Walkers and Donors,

The annual Dutchess Interfaith CROP walk is now less than two months away—it is scheduled for Sunday, October 15, along a safe and pleasant route in the City of Poughkeepsie. The walk raises funds for major projects that combat hunger globally, and provides aid at sites of natural disasters and refugee crises. And 25% of the money we raise comes right back here to combat hunger in our local communities in Dutchess County.

We need WALKERS! I'm the Vassar Temple Team Captain again this year, so please contact me at CROPwalk@vassartemple.org if you have any questions or want to sign up to be a walker. I'll be leading a Temple group in the walk that day, but if you want to walk on your own, start times can be from 10am to 2pm.

Likewise, we need SUPPORTERS! Once we get a few walkers, we'll pass around the donor info and you can sponsor one or more of our walkers, or make one donation in behalf of our entire team. The need this year is higher than ever, so we are calling for record-breaking participation. Thanks for helping however you can!.



Ron Rosen
Team Captain

Support Vassar Temple's Annual Yom Kippur Food Drive

"Is this the fast I seek, a day of self-affliction? ...Is not THIS the fast I look for: to unlock the shackles of injustice, to undo the fetters of bondage, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every cruel chain? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and to bring the homeless poor into your house?"

(Isaiah 58)

- Please take home a grocery bag on Rosh Hashana, September 15, 16 and 17.
- Please bring it back full of nonperishable foods by Yom Kippur, September 25 – we'll stuff the truck!
- When shopping, please select any foods listed here, containers unopened and not out of date:

Peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, coffee, tea, cereal, baby formula, and these canned goods: tuna, soup, fruit, vegetables



Thank You!

SUSTAINING FUND

In Memory of:

Hyman Silverman
Oscar Charwat
Sonia Rubenstein
Nettie Jacobs & Sara G. Rice
Carl Hoppermann
Kyle Hoppermann
Howard Mayer
Irving Revitz
Carol Mardon
Dr. Nathan Bernstein
Sheila Mardon Sukert
Roy Riechman & Molly Garber
Phyllis Mamis Bell
Mary Elizabeth O'Donnell-Moore
Jeanne Payne
Aaron Silverman
Dr. Sheldon J. Solomon
Cora Frances Solomon
Michael L. Solomon
Hilda Klausner & Melvin Klausner
Phillip R. Moselle
Albert D. Kahn
Henry Cantor
Joseph LaLone, Bryan Matson &
Kathryn LaLone Austin
J. Ralph Stein
Ida Goldberg

Susan Fink

Helen & Brian Silverman
Eleanor & Martin Charwat
Lisa Rubenstein & Richard DuVall
Irma Jacobs
Charlene & Loren Rosenthal
Charlene & Loren Rosenthal
Gloria & Tom Mayer
Lynn & Martin Revitz
Kathy & Kent Mardon
Kathy & Kent Mardon
Kathy & Kent Mardon
Vivian & Ed Garber
Sandra Smiles Mamis
The Chernack Family
The Chernack Family
Linda Cantor
Alan Solomon
Alan Solomon
Alan Solomon
Alfred Scope
Jonathan Moselle
Muriel Lampell
Richard & Linda Cantor

Jane LaLone
Roni & Charles Stein
Dr. Sara Jane Goldberg

Oliver Mackson

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

In Honor of:

Arlene Seligman's Special Birthday The Quackenbush Family

LUNCH BOX FUND

In Memory of:

Emily Z. Himelstein Howard Himelstein
Morris Kaufman Perla & Charles Kaufman
Regina R. Ribbi Perla & Charles Kaufman

ROBERT H. LIPSCHUTZ SCHOLAR'S FUND

In Memory of:

Shelia Bamberger Elaine Lipschutz
Dr. Arthur Lipschutz Elaine Lipschutz
David Clarfield Elaine Lipschutz
Irma Manheim Elaine Lipschutz
Robert Lipschutz Elaine Lipschutz

**Thank you for
your
Contributions**

ENDOWMENT FUND

Barbara & Andrew Chernack
Shirl Davis-Susser & Howard Susser
Marcia & Glenn Tanzman
Robert & Judith Creedon
Robert & Marianne Abrams

YOUTH PROGRAMING AND EDUCATION FUND

In Memory of:

Delbert LaLone
Ethel Graves
Joseph LaLone
Millie Gould
Harriet Fein

Jane LaLone
Jane LaLone
Jane LaLone
Jane LaLone
Jane LaLone

TREE OF LIFE

In Honor of:

Muriel Lampell's 94th Birthday!
From her children:
Janet Lampell
Kirk & Karen Lampell Endicott
Marilyn & David Lampell

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Rita Sims
Cynthia Lewin
Barbara & Joseph Friedman

MUSIC FUND

In Memory of:

Howard S. Abrams

Marianne & Bob Abrams

In Honor of:

Lola Riddick
The Music Committee

James Robinowitz
Roni & Charles Stein

For Summer Services 2023 with Joe Bertolozzi:

Piano Fund:

Arlene & Gilbert Seligman
Bonnie Scheer
Margery & Arthur Groten

MARJORIE GLUCK 21st CENTURY FUND

In Memory of:

Marjorie Gluck

Nancy Gluck

FLEXIBLE FEAST

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations
to the Flexible Feast in addition to the numerous attendees:

Doi Cohen
Susan Colodner
Susan Budson Fink
Kathy & Kent Mardon
Gloria & Tom Mayer
Charlene & Loren Rosenthal
Helen & Brian Silverman

THE WINDOWS PROJECT AT VASSAR TEMPLE

Vassar Temple Sisterhood
Andi & Paul Ciminello

**When making a donation to the
temple, please consider
choosing this fund:
Marjorie Gluck 21st Century Fund**

This Fund, endowed in 2021 by her family, honors the legacy and memory of former member Marjorie Gluck. Designed to support the Temple's relevancy in a changing Jewish community, it enables our outreach through information technology and social and traditional media. It also supports outreach and membership development and has a special focus on sustaining the future of Judaism through engagement with youth, students, and young adults and support for our religious education programs.

The Windows Project at Vassar Temple

Vassar Temple will replace the windows in the Sanctuary (including the East Chapel and the balcony) as part of energy saving efforts recommended in the recently completed (2022) Energy Audit. This does not include the stained-glass windows. The replacement of these 75-year-old windows is expected to occur in the Fall, after the High Holidays.

Vassar Temple completed its first Energy Audit in 2008 and updated in 2022. In both studies, the windows were highlighted as a major loss of energy because of the heating and cooling directed at the Sanctuary. The Temple formed a working group in 2022 to review and consider a wide array of options (including complete closure of the Sanctuary windows). The working group (Paul Ciminello, Eve Gendron, Margery Groten, and David Lampell) met with potential contractors, investigated various replacement options and materials, and solicited and reviewed proposals.

The culmination of the working group's efforts was the selection of BASEC Corporation of Milton, NY. The proposal totals \$82,110 and includes the following:

- The removal and proper disposal of the six north-facing windows in the Sanctuary, the five windows in the East Chapel, and the six windows in the balcony, including repair work necessary to one balcony window (the windowsill has fallen out) and the disposal of all debris.
- The installation of windows comprised of high-efficiency Kalwall translucent panels which will allow the same amount of light into the Sanctuary at significant savings of energy. All Sanctuary windows will open at the base to permit fresh air.

This project will begin after the High Holidays and is expected to take a total of 10 working days. The windows will be fabricated sometime in the late summer so that they will be ready for installation when the old windows are removed. The contractor is intending to use scaffolding in the rear of the building (both the north and the east side) to facilitate window replacement.

Vassar Temple has received leadership gifts from Paul and Andi Ciminello and Vassar Temple Sisterhood that total \$45,000. With these funds in hand, the Board has approved the contract to move forward. Vassar Temple is offering naming opportunities to complete the project funding. Gift opportunities are as follows:

\$8,000 to name a full window and \$4,000 to name a half window.

We have already secured \$14,500 towards the goal of \$37,000 for named windows!

Donations of any amount are welcome and will be restricted to the Windows Project. All donors to the project will be recognized unless requested to remain anonymous. If you have questions, you can send email to windows@vassartemple.org. A member of the committee will get back to you.

September 1

Rose Ritter
 Edward J. Newman, MD (L)
 Rose Markowitz
 Joseph LaLone
 Elma S. Rosenberg
 Precious Viviana Rosen
 Adolph Milton Fein
 Claire Entner Gad
 Melvin H. Klausner
 Joseph Samuels
 Rose Weisman
 Sheila Mardon Sukert
 Stuart Dick
 Seymour Niesen
 Phyllis Mamis Bell
 Martha Feinman
 Louis Rosen
 Jack L. Cohn
 Regina R. Olivar
 Irving Revitz
 Molly Garber
 Florence Altman

September 8

Rebecca Baskin
 Leonard Roth
 Joseph W. Sparks
 Murray Gordon
 Dr. Nathan Bernstein
 Ryan Creedon
 Jay H. Steinberg
 Ida Schwartz
 Carl Hoppermann
 Allene Braw Baskin
 Rebecca Slutsky Cohen
 Margaret M. Feldman
 June Siegel
 Zelda Cohen Swatlo
 Karen Kirk
 Barbara Mason

September 15

Norman Lesk
 Ada M. Shelton
 Solomon Diamond
 Kyle Hoppermann Rosenthal
 Samuel Feldman
 Emilie Scharf
 Edward Markum
 Donald Hulnick
 John Sparks
 Herbert Kurz
 Celia Levine
 Louis Lass
 Solomon Dunn
 Martin Gross
 Philip Finnerman
 Eva D. Lippmann
 Michael Hanagan
 Dora J. Chertock
 Sam Brozen
 Klara Haas
 Saul Heiser
 Richard M. Held
 Sophie Heymann
 Roy Riechman

September 22

Rose S. Weigert
 Charlotte Zuckerman
 Raphael Horn
 Aaron Rabin
 Hilda Klausner
 Aaron Silverman
 Morris Goldberg
 Sally Schaffer
 Alan Lemberger
 Carol Mardon
 Edward Cohen
 Bernard Decovnick
 Edna Cohn
 A.D. Hoffman

September 29

Howard Cohen, MD
 Goldie H. Worona
 Barnett Colton
 Howard Mayer
 Louis Altman
 Emanuel Aloise
 Patricia Kramer
 Dorothy Schmukler
 Albert D. Kahn
 William Falenki
 Susan Alpers
 Jason Dlugacz
 Dr. Ely Rosenthal
 Sadie Gross



September Jahrzeits

SISTERHOOD RECIPE OF THE MONTH:

Susan Colodner's Quinoa and Kale Salad

Ingredients

- 4 cups baby kale
- 3/4 cup uncooked quinoa—cook quinoa as per the package instructions
- 1 veggie bouillon cube
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 small garlic clove minced or put through a press
- 8 twists of black pepper from a pepper mill
- 1 squeeze of honey, about 1 teaspoon
- 2 tablespoons red onion, minced
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- 2 ounces of feta, cubed (not non-fat)
- 1 can of chick peas, rinsed and drained
- Edamame (optional)



Directions

- Roughly chop the baby kale and place in a large bowl (make sure the stems are removed).
- Whisk together olive oil, white wine vinegar, Dijon mustard, minced garlic, black pepper and honey. Pour half of the dressing over the chopped kale.
- Cook dry quinoa according to package instructions. Add 1 veggie bouillon cube to the water before cooking.
- Add minced red onion, cranberries, chopped pecans or walnuts, feta and chick peas (and edamame if using) to the kale and toss gently.
- When the quinoa is done and cooled slightly, add it to the bowl with the kale mixture.
- Toss with remaining dressing and serve.

Sisterhood Chai Noon Luncheon ~ September 18

Vassar Temple Sisterhood's Chai Noon Luncheon, which meets on the 18th of most months (when the date does not conflict with holidays or weekends) will meet on Monday, September 18. Specific details about the restaurant name and address will arrive in Vassar Temple's weekly newsletter just prior to the meeting. Members are asked to RSVP to the link in the newsletter email so we can let the restaurant know approximately how many guests to expect. As always, guests get separate checks, and the restaurant is wheelchair accessible.



Thank You, Vassar Temple

Inflation continues to wreak havoc with household budgets. Appreciation goes out to all who sponsored our *Protein Plenty* and *Hanukkah in August* drives this summer, to ease the burden of food insecurity on those most vulnerable in our community, to help Poughkeepsie's most economically disadvantaged children get outfitted for school, and to provide backpacks filled with school supplies for children living in local shelters and hotel rooms. And if you missed those, it's not too late for the Yom Kippur Food Drive!

Thanks to all who have been helping our local asylum seekers by tutoring, translating, driving, delivering, or donating needed items or money. You are most certainly making an undeniable difference in the lives of these 73 brave men.

Because of everyone who walked in, or financially supported, our Temple members in the Dutchess Interfaith CROP Walk Against Hunger last year, we received a Certificate of Recognition which is currently on display on the bulletin board. And it's definitely NOT too early to sign up to participate in this year's walk, which will be held Sunday, October 15! Ron Rosen is once again our Temple's CROP Walk captain, and will be happy to answer your questions and help you sign up at CROPwalk@vassartemple.org. And if you want to help with any social action projects in the new year, or if you have a great new project to suggest, we'd LOVE to hear from you! Just contact socialaction@vassartemple.org.

THE FABULOUS FLEXIBLE FEAST!



The 2023 Vassar Temple Flexible Feast was an overwhelming success, with another varied and creative selection of delicious and popular meals that were quick to sell out! Thanks to our generous hosts, avid participants, and supportive donors, this event was a huge financial success—we raised over \$5,700 on top of enjoying a series of wonderful parties! This year's Feast calendar, covering an extended summer period, made it possible for more people to attend and looks like a winning formula for next time! Gratitude goes to our hosts: Laura & Micha Sperling, Lisa Rubenstein & Rick DuVall, Lisa-Sue & Kurt Quackenbush, Roni & Charlie Stein, Judy & Eric Rosenfeld, Susan Avery, Cathy Bokor, Marlene Straus, Gail D'Alessio, Val Carlisle, Susan & David Hecht, and Sandra Mamis. A special thank you to Karen Clark for her talents and constant support. Did you have a great time? Will you host next time around? It's not too soon to contact fundraising@vassartemple.org!

Lunch Box News

Vassar Temple will be preparing a meal (beef chili and a piece of fruit) on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend (September 3). We will be assisted by members of the Mid-Hudson Islamic Association who will be providing a dessert as well as volunteers to help us cook and distribute the food. Here is what Vassar Temple needs:

- We need 30 pounds of ground beef (NOTE THE CHANGE FROM TURKEY) and 30 pounds of canned beans brought to the Temple kitchen before September 2. Please contribute so that the Temple does not have to expend funds to purchase these items.
- We need 100 pieces of fruit (bananas, oranges, apples) for distribution. Please bring any fruit to the Temple before September 2. The Temple will purchase any fruit not donated.
- We need four volunteers to assist in making the meal. These volunteers should arrive at Dutchess Outreach by 10:30am and can plan to leave by 11:30am.
- We need two volunteers to assist in packaging and distributing the meals. These volunteers should arrive at Dutchess Outreach by 11:30am and will leave at 1pm.

2023/5784 HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

All services, with the exception of outdoor and off-site gatherings, will occur in a hybrid fashion, Zoom links will be provided to members and guests via email in advance.

Selichot Service: Saturday, September 9

- 7:30pm - Dessert and schmoozing in the social hall, followed by Arnold Award presentation and Havdalah
- 9pm - Selichot Service in the sanctuary

Erev Rosh Hashanah: Friday, September 15 at 8 pm (there will NOT be an oneg that Friday)

Rosh Hashanah: Saturday, September 16

- 10am - Morning Service
- 3pm - Family Service at Sunset Lake, Vassar College (sanctuary in case of inclement weather)
- 4pm - Tashlich at Sunset Lake, Vassar College (9/17 in case of inclement weather)

Rosh Hashanah Second Day Service: Sunday, September 17 at 10am

Memorial Service: Thursday, September 21 at 5pm at Vassar Temple Cemetery on LaGrange Ave

Shabbat Shuvah Service: Friday, September 22 at 7:30pm

Kol Nidrei: Sunday, September 24 at 8pm

Yom Kippur: Monday, September 25

- 10am - Morning Service
- 1pm - Family Service in the sanctuary
- 2pm - Study Session with Sam Finnerman
- 3pm - Meditation in the sanctuary led by Linda Cantor
- 4pm - Afternoon Service
- 5:30pm - Yizkor (Memorial) Service
- 6pm - Ne'ilah (Concluding) Service followed by Havdalah and Ritual Break the Fast
- Break the Fast meal for those registered will follow Havdalah

Erev Sukkot: Friday, September 29

- 6pm - Service
- 7pm - BYO dinner in the sukkah (indoors in case of inclement weather)







Simchat Torah: Friday, October 6

- 5:45pm - Dinner (details will follow in temple publicity, outdoors (weather permitting))
- 7pm - Erev Simchat Torah Service featuring The Living Shtetl klezmer ensemble

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah Yizkor Service: Saturday, October 7 at 10:30am

Please look for details about these services in the weekly email and website

Calendar of Events—September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:30pm Shabbat Service	2 No Torah Study
3 10:30am Lunch Box 	4 Labor Day Office Closed 	5	6 7pm Brotherhood: Hudson Valley Renegades Game 	7 7pm Ritual CTME	8 7:30pm Shabbat Service	9 Selichot Eve 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths 7:30pm Selichot Service
10 Selichot 9am Pancake Breakfast 9am Religious School 1st Day 10am Religious School CMTE	11	12 5pm Brotherhood Happy Hour 	13 4:30pm Hebrew School 1st Day	14 7:30pm Cemetery CTME	15 Rosh Hashanah Eve 8pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	16 Rosh Hashanah Day 1 10am RH AM Service 3pm RH Family Service, Sunset Lake, Vassar College 4pm Tashlich Service, Sunset Lake, Vassar College
17 Rosh Hashanah Day 2 No Religious School 10am RH AM Service	18 12 pm Chai Noon Sisterhood Luncheon	19	20 4:30pm Hebrew School 7pm Finance CMTE	21 5pm Cemetery Service at Vassar Temple Cemetery	22 7:30pm Shabbat Shuvah Service	23 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
24 Yom Kippur Eve No Religious School 9am Brotherhood Sukkah Raise 8pm Kol Nidrei 	25 Yom Kippur Office Closed 10am YK AM Service 1pm YK Family Service 2pm Study Session with Sam Finnerman 3pm Meditation in the Sanctuary led by Linda Cantor 4pm YK PM Service, Yizkor, Ne'ilah & Break the Fast	26	27 4:30pm Hebrew School	28 6:30pm Shelter Meal 6pm Board Orientation & Dinner 7pm Board Meeting	29 Sukkot Eve 6pm Dinner in the Sukkah 7pm Erev Sukkot Service 	30 Sukkot Day 1 9am Torah Study

Please see weekly emails for the most up-to-date
information regarding changes to in-person events

Vassar Temple Bulletin
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Rabbi: Rabbi Renni S. Altman, DD

Religious School Dir: Rabbi Shoshana Hantman

Cantor: Elizabeth Goldmann

Rabbi Emeritus: Rabbi Stephen A. Arnold

Senior Scholar: Rabbi Paul Golomb

Temple Musician: Joseph Bertolozzi

President: Lisa-Sue Quackenbush

1st Vice President: Roni Stein

2nd Vice President: Susan Avery

Secretary: Marcia Tanzman

Treasurer: Maxine Finkelstein

Sisterhood President: To be determined

Brotherhood President: Glenn Tanzman

Immediate Past President: Susan Karnes Hecht

Bulletin Editor: Jo Schaffel



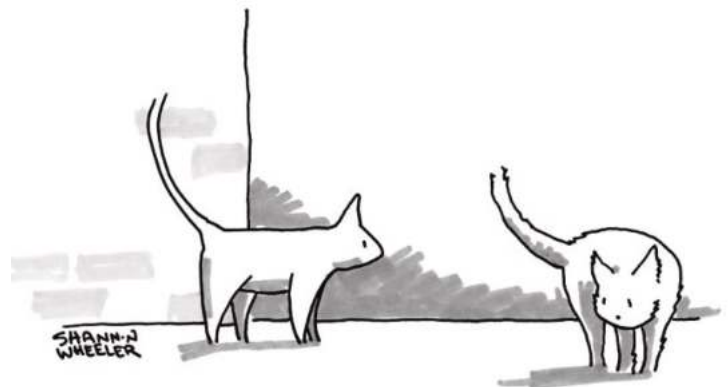
Vassar Temple Bulletin is published monthly. Articles for the November Bulletin must be submitted by October 1 sent via email to publicity@vassartemple.org. The editor reserves the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.

Crazy Pet Videos for Shabbat Noach

Is your pet entertaining? Does your pet do any tricks? Then we would love to show a video of your pet in action as part of our celebration of animals on Shabbat Noach, Friday, October 20.

For planning purposes, we need to know by September 5 if you want to send in a video. Then we will need the videos by October 10.

Please email ShabbatNoach@vassartemple.org.



"Didn't I see you on YouTube riding a Roomba?"