



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel, Founded 1848—Bulletin Volume 172 No. 7~ February 2024

A SOULFUL SHABBAT~ Friday, February 23 (snow date March 1)

Please join us for a special event on Friday, February 23 at 6pm

Simchat Shabbat Service, followed by a festive Soulful Shabbat dinner

After feeding our souls, we will break bread with a delectable meal generously provided by our member Jasmine Russo in celebration of her recent marriage to Sean Daniels, Sr.

Enjoy a variety of vegetarian and dairy culinary delights specially prepared by local vendors:

Kyro Bouquet (baked ziti, salad, salmon, mac and cheese, fruit platter, garlic bread, veggie platter, banana pudding)

and desserts from

Kothe's Custom Confections (gluten- and dairy-free options will be included)

Please RSVP by February 16 to office@vassartemple.org

We look forward to celebrating Shabbat together!

Vassar Temple's 175th Anniversary Celebration Gala: Sunday, April 14, 2024, 5pm



January's Question was: What were the occupations of the five founding fathers of Vassar Temple: Jacob Baker, Herman Heart, Isaac Hieman, Aaron Morris, and Solomon Scheldburgher?

The answer is: *Jacob Baker: a clothier; Herman Hart: a clothier; Isaac Heyman: a 'fancy goods' store keeper; Aaron Morris: a tailor; and Solomon Scheldburgher... well, unfortunately, we aren't sure... a trick question! Based on the odds, he was probably also in the clothing business, a peddler, or a butcher, which were some of the more common occupations for men of the time.*

The February Question: What three festivals do our beautiful sanctuary stained glass windows represent and by who were they gifted to the temple?

The answer will be in the next bulletin.



From the Rabbi's Desk:

"As a *Beit Knesset*, House of Assembly, community is at the heart of synagogue life. Fostering community takes more than creating opportunities to gather however; fostering community means ensuring an inclusive space where everyone feels that they belong. In my Rosh Hashanah sermons, I challenged us to consider how inclusive Vassar Temple

is, beginning with three populations: people with disabilities, the LGBTQ+, and the "Jewish Connected" (someone related to a Jewish person through marriage or partnership, supporting a Jewish home).

I am so pleased that our temple president initiated the creation of an Accessibility and Inclusivity Task Force. Lisa-Sue and I are "tag teaming" this bulletin and I urge you to read more about this effort in her column.

Almost two years ago, under the leadership of then-President Susan Karnes Hecht, a "Jewish Connected Task Force" was formed to bring to the Board recommendations in the areas of ritual, governance and membership. Such policies are an important aspect of inclusion as they inform people of the ways in which they can be involved and enable us to invite their participation. The Jewish Connected may have skills and talents, new perspectives and creative ideas that can only strengthen our congregation, when we seek positive ways to engage them. Setting policies also ensures fairness and avoids making decisions on a case-by-case basis.

Policies around membership and governance are in the temple by-laws. Membership is open to "Any person or persons of the Jewish faith, or any person seeking to be associated with those upholding the Jewish faith." The positions of board members and officers are limited to Jews. Where Task Force proposals involve changes to the by-laws, codified processes will be followed.

The Task Force is diverse and representative of the continuum of Jewish choices. We have been meeting almost monthly, using resources from the Reform Movement to guide our learning and deliberations.

Discussions at times have been very challenging, but always respectful. We all stretched and struggled and ultimately were able to present recommended guidelines in the area of ritual to the Board last spring.

These guidelines recognize the unique status of the Jewish Connected who, though not Jewish, have chosen to be part of a Jewish home and members of our congregation. The Task Force has mirrored that unique status in its recommendation that Jewish Connected individuals be welcome to receive "non-textual" honors during a service such as opening the ark doors, carrying the Torah for the *hakafah*, and lifting and dressing the Torah. The honor of opening the ark is currently available to anyone. In as much as the Jewish Connected bring honor to the Torah through their commitment to a Jewish home, the Task Force concluded that these honors around Torah could rightfully be expanded to include them.

Since the particularistic language of certain prayers, such as the Torah blessing (Aliyah) and candle lighting, identifies the person reciting the words as part of the Jewish people, the Task Force concluded that it would not be appropriate for the Jewish Connected to say those words *alone*. Since the Jewish Connected are so because of their relationship with a Jewish person, the Task Force proposed that they could take part in these prayers *together with a Jewish partner*. Depending on their comfort level, the Jewish Connected person might choose simply to stand with their partner or read an alternative prayer recommended by the rabbi. At B'nei Mitzvah services, the Jewish Connected parent will be welcome to participate in the Torah passing ceremony; by raising Jewish children they are, indeed, participating in passing Torah to the next generation.

After a few months of discussion, the Board, with an overwhelming majority, supported these recommendations and they are now incorporated in the ritual practices of Vassar Temple.

The Task Force is near completion of its recommendations regarding governance and will then move on to membership. For a fuller explanation of this process, please read my Rosh Hashanah morning sermon; it is posted on the Vassar Temple blog, accessible through the temple website.

I concluded that sermon with a blessing of the Jewish Connected. These individuals certainly are a blessing to this congregation. Let us continue to embrace them that they and their families will continue to build up the Jewish people.

Rabbi Renni Altman



President’s Message:

All good things take time. It was exactly one year ago that I wrote an article in the Bulletin about speaking with our then *Kitah Zayin* class, about accessibility or lack thereof at Vassar Temple as it related to their Religious School lesson on **b’tzelem elohim** (in the divine image). This concept and lesson extended into tolerance and acceptance of all people in our

congregation and in trying to meet the needs of those with accessibility issues. This class brainstormed and came up with a very extensive list of possible projects, ranging from the very simple and attainable (for example-affixing mezuzot on doorposts at wheelchair height) to some very complex and expensive projects (for example, redesigning the bimah for wheelchair accessibility) all with the ultimate goal of making our physical space easier to navigate for all.

I brought their ideas and concerns to the Board as promised. Through many discussions with a variety of people, it was decided that we at Vassar Temple would benefit from expanding the idea of forming an Accessibility Committee into an Accessibility and Inclusivity Committee which would include making our spaces at Vassar Temple feel welcoming to our LGBTQ+ community as well. There are many times when accessibility and inclusivity overlap (for example, redesigning and building gender-neutral bathrooms) and we felt that it would be beneficial to have a committee that would be cognizant of these issues and concerns.

Over time the Board drafted a resolution that was voted on in November 2023 to establish such a committee. We welcome all who are interested to join and participate. We will need to make a list of needs and wants. I saved the preliminary list made by this

class and have added to it as concerns and issues have come up. We will certainly need to have people help research many of these potential projects and, of course, make sure we are mindful of ADA guidelines, etc. We will need people to help in finding available grants for funding. I believe we will need to prioritize these projects based on needs, finances and complexity of implementation and determine both short-term and long-term goals. I fully expect that subcommittees will be formed after our initial assessments.

Our first meeting for all interested individuals will be Tuesday, February 6 at 7pm at the Temple. After the initial meeting in person and in our physical space to discuss an overview of possible goals, I believe that Zoom or hybrid meetings will be appropriate for most ongoing discussions. Please reach out to me at vassartemplepresident@gmail.com if you are interested in participating in any way. Your input here is so important. Again, all good things take time, and by addressing these issues, we are taking the first forward steps in making Vassar Temple a more accessible and welcoming place for our present and future congregants.

Lisa-Sue Quackenbush



Bimah Flowers for our Services

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.

February 2024 Bimah Flowers Sponsors:

- February 2: Donated by Benjamin and Ellie Krevolin in memory of Lewis Krevolin
- February 9: Donated by the Quackenbush family in memory of Sandor Margolin
- February 16: Donated by Marilyn McGaulley Lampell in memory of Julie McGaulley and Susan Budson Fink in memory of Allen Fink
- February 23: Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flowers Fund (silk flowers)



Tiny Temple Fun and Learning ~ Sunday, February 11

All tots through age five and their grownups are warmly invited to "Tiny Temple" on Sunday, February 11 at 10:30am at Vassar Temple. We'll join with PJ Library for fun and learning, make a craft, and enjoy a healthy snack. Vassar Temple is a welcoming, inclusive Reform congregation. There is never a charge to attend Tiny Temple events, but please help us in our planning by RSVPing to office@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS

We would like to reach out to your college students during the semester. Can you please provide us with their update address and email address? You can send it to office@vassartemple.org. Thank you!



New Paths ~ February

Everyone is invited to join us at Vassar Temple for a New Paths Sabbath morning service Saturdays, February 3 and 17 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 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.

Scriptural Readings ~February

February 3

Yitro:

Exodus 18:1-20:23; Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6

February 10

Mishpatim:

Exodus 21:1-24:18; Isaiah 66:1-13;23

February 17

T'rumah:

Exodus 25:1-27:19; I Kings 5:26-6:13

February 24

T'tzaveh:

Exodus 27:20-30:10; Ezekiel 43:10-27

Study Groups at Vassar Temple

Torah Study with Rabbi Renni Altman, D.D. meets at 9am on Saturday mornings (hybrid). Come join our lively discussions. 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 meets from noon-1:30pm on Zoom select Mondays—this month February 5 & 19. For details, study sheets, and to be placed on the Talmud Study email list, contact him at pjgolomb@verizon.net.

All Welcome
No prior knowledge necessary
No charge to attend

Religious School Update ~ February

The book of the prophet Isaiah exhorts us: “Learn to do good; seek justice, defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless, and plead the case of the widow.” In the thousands of years since those words were written, the Jews, who so often have been victims of injustice, have cherished them as a central creed of our people.



In recent times, Bella Abzug, a fearless American who battled her entire life for the rights of the powerless, said, “Judaism has had a very profound effect on me. Jews believe you can’t have justice for yourself unless other people have justice as well. That has motivated much of what I’ve done.”

Both in history and in our time, our people have been at the forefront in the cause of equality for minorities, women, the disabled, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community. Too many rabbis to count have been in the struggle; some are Jacob Rothschild, Joseph Glaser, and Joachim Prinz, a speaker at the March on Washington. And other Jews supporting Dr. King, Cesar Chavez and John Lewis—in the streets and in the courts—include William Taylor, Marshall Ganz, Bella Abzug, Albert Vorspan, Kivie Kaplan, Jack Greenberg, Jerry Cohen, and Betty Friedan. Many Jewish organizations organized for the same purposes are the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, the International Rescue Committee, and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

The repair of the world is a central focus of the Reform movement, and of this, we should be very proud.

Rabbi Shoshana Hantman
Religious School Director

Bakers Needed

Please join us for Sisterhood's annual Hamantaschen Baking Day, Sunday, March 3 (snow date March 10) 9am to 1pm in the temple kitchen. Make friends while making Hamantaschen for our Purim service and for outreach to congregants and our out-of-town college students.

RSVP to Judy Rosenfeld at hamantaschen@vassartemple.org to let her know you're coming and/or making dough. If you can, please bring a batch of dough and a rolling pin. Remaining ingredients will be provided by Sisterhood.

Not able to come and help? Please make a batch of dough and leave it in the temple freezer in a ziploc bag—just let Judy know.

Hamantaschen Dough

- 4 cups sifted flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup butter, softened (please use real butter—the pastries are superior and all batches cook evenly regardless of dough source)
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 4 tablespoons milk or orange juice

Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. Cream butter and sugar in separate larger bowl.

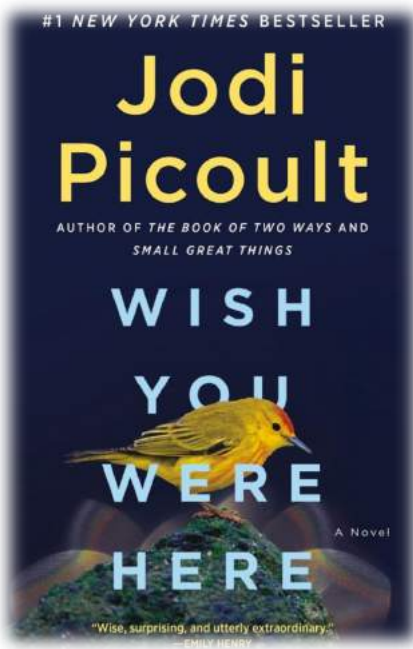
Add egg and vanilla and beat well. Add dry ingredients alternating with juice to the butter and sugar mixture, mixing until well blended. The dough will seem a little soft (not like bread dough). Refrigerate.

This dough freezes well and can be made ahead of Hamantaschen Baking Day. Leave it in the refrigerator to thaw overnight.

Thank you.



VTS Book Club to Reach *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult



An associate with a promising future at Sotheby's, Diana O'Toole finds herself stranded in the Galapagos during the COVID lockdown. Medical resident boyfriend Finn stayed home, caring for COVID patients on the frontline at a major New York hospital. With her hotel shut down, Diana stays with a local family, becoming part of the island culture and a teen mystery. What was originally supposed to be a romantic getaway makes her wonder if the full life she'd planned is also empty in some ways.

Jodi Picoult, once again, has created a bestseller with twists and turns that keep the reader engaged throughout and, maybe, surprised at the end!

Discussion of this book will be on Wednesday, February 21, at 2:00pm, in-person at the Collegeview Tower meeting room, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie. For questions, please contact bookclub@vassartemple.org.

“Un-decided is really “Decided”

The decision to commit to pursue a course of study or action, or to contribute to a cause or a specific project (such as the Vassar Temple Endowment) can be and often is fraught. There are many things to consider: “Is this really what I want?” “Can I make better use of my time or financial resources?” “How does my contribution to this cause or project make me feel?” “Is it really needed, or merely something that would be *nice* to do?” “Will my contribution make a difference?”

Many of us decide to solve this dilemma by taking the position that “since I really can’t decide what to do—I’m going to punt.” Indecision substitutes for action and gives us a somewhat guilt-free justification for NOT committing. Being **undecided** becomes our default for making a decision. There is no need to quote Biblical passages here which emphasize that you shouldn’t pretend that you are not your brother’s/sister’s keeper when, in fact, you have decided not to ask yourself whether and how you can help.

The Endowment Fund is Vassar Temple’s “insurance policy” against the unforeseen risks of financial instability, special needs, and is just simply good planning. You take these steps to protect yourself and your loved ones. Do the same for the temple on the occasion of its 175th birthday. Your contribution really will make a difference. Take the opportunity NOW to make the decision to join those who have already contributed.

Martin Charwat & Lou Lewis

Co-Chairs of the Endowment Fund

Mazel Tov!

To Gail D'Alessio on the birth of her grandson, Elio Rosenzweig-DiBennardo on December 18. The proud parents are Rebecca DiBennardo and Julia Rosenzweig.

To Jas (Russo) and Sean Daniels on their marriage on December 16, 2023.

What is Can Jam?

Can Jam is Vassar Temple's system of supporting our local food banks. In the hall outside the office we have a beautiful custom-made wooden bin, hand-crafted by our own Howard Himelstein. You can jam cans and boxes of nonperishable foods into the bin any time you come to the temple, year-round. As you are aware, with the current rate of inflation many more families are having to visit food pantries. Dutchess Outreach, which has one of the largest pantries in the area, for the first time has had to start restricting families to come "food shopping" there only twice a month, and on top of that, the amount of food they're allowed each time is less than in the past. So especially now, when you are out doing your routine food shopping and you see something from the "requested*" list on sale or "BOGO," please think of our neighbors in need, pick it up, and drop it in the Can Jam bin the next time you're at temple. Please contact Joel Kelson, project chairman, at canjam@vassartemple.org, to volunteer to bring some bags of collected food from the temple to the food pantry of your choice. Even if you can help just once a year, it will be very much appreciated!

Vassar Temple Social Action Committee

- * Requested foods: peanut butter, canned meat and fish products, canned soup, canned ravioli & chili, pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruits and vegetables, powdered milk, small bag or boxed rice, instant potatoes, baby food & baby formula, jelly

Jewish War Veterans

JWV Herman Siegal Post 625 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, February 11 at Shomre Israel. The meeting format will follow that which we used before the pandemic. Future meetings will be March 17, April 14, May 19 and June 9. All are Sundays.

The meeting will begin at 9:30am and there will be a half hour schmooze at 9am. Shomre Israel is strictly kosher. The Post will supply nosh stuff and coffee. The use of masks is optional. We look forward to seeing you.



Jewish War Veterans
of the United States of America

Ralph Schwartz
Senior Vice Commander

The Roots of Reform as Prophetic Judaism, Adult Ed Series with Rabbi Altman

The prophets raged against injustice and demanded ethical and righteous behavior. With its emphasis on social justice and a universal call to strive for the betterment of humanity, it is no wonder that when Reform Judaism began in America it was grounded in the teachings of the prophets and even referred to as "Prophetic Judaism." Two sessions remain in our three part-series will touch upon the teachings of some of these prophets:

Wednesday, January 31 (7:30pm) – Isaiah: Though there is one book called Isaiah, it is clearly a work reflecting multiple authors and spanning the time from the fall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel to the Assyrians through the destruction of the Temple and conquest by the Babylonians.



Wednesday, February 7 (7:30pm) – Jeremiah and Ezekiel: Jeremiah prophesied through the Babylonian conquest, foretelling the destruction, yet promising ultimate redemption. Ezekiel is the prophet of the exile, mourning the destruction of the Temple and loss of Jerusalem with the exiles in Babylonia, yet inspiring the people's hope that God has not abandoned them and that they will return and rebuild.



Jeremiah



Ezekiel

Even if you missed earlier sessions, you can still join the class. Just RSVP to adulted@vassartemple.org as to whether you plan to attend in person or on Zoom, and if you need the Zoom link. Try to bring a Jewish Bible (Tanakh); you can also access the text at <http://www.sefaria.org>.

SAVE THE DATE

175th Anniversary Shabbat Service

Friday, April 19, 2024 at 7:30pm

Guest Speaker: Rabbi Rick Jacobs

President, Union for Reform Judaism



SUSTAINING FUND

With thanks to: Vassar Temple for allowing us to use your kitchen to host a family Shabbat dinner

In Honor of: the hard work and dedication of Marcia & Glenn Tanzman to the temple community

In Memory of:

Sandor Jay Margolin, Esther Francis Goldberg

Paul S. Goldberg, Bettina Del Vescovo

& Ann R. Margolin

Dotty Sternberg & Morris "Moe" Gilbert

Charles Scope

Donald L. Goldfarb, MD

Brian Matson, Forrest Graves, Kathryn LaLone Austin

& Shirley Ione LaLone

Evelyn Tanzman

Flora Silverman

Marjorie Rubin Brody

Joan Plotsky

David Teich

Mark Rosenthal

Stephen Berr & Vernon Brundage

Judy Golub

Jacqueline Sydney Colodner

Ida Scope

Louis Satz, Elizabeth Satz & Naomi Goldberg

Sylvia Cantor

Sondra Chertock

Thelma Fival, Irving Wrobel & Shirley Kaskowitz

Sidney Friedman & Henry Goldstein

Harry Mamis, Kurt Similes & Katherine Lerner Mamis

Alfred Schneider

Elaine Mayer

John Ciminello & Vito Ciminello

Ruth Parry

Ilene & Robert Friedman

Sue & Phil Margolis

Johanna & Derek Kosciolek

The Quackenbush Family

Gloria Mayer

Randi, Pam and Alfred Scope

Michael G. Goldfarb

Jane LaLone

Marcia & Glenn Tanzman

Helen & Brian Silverman

Eleanor & Martin Charwat

The Plotsky Family

Mindy & Martin Teich

Charlene and Loren Rosenthal

Laura & Thomas Brundage

Ed Gordon

Susan Colodner

Alfred Scope

Sara Jane Goldberg & George Papageorge

Linda & Richard Cantor

Herman D. Chertock

Hilary and Lewis Wrobel

The Friedman Family

Sandra Mamis

Shelia & Edward Schneider

Tom & Gloria Mayer

The Ciminello Family

Kathy & Kent Mardon

MEMORIAL PLAQUE FUND

In Memory of: Stanley Israel

Maurice Rice & Sara G. Rice

Lawrence M. Soifer & Evelyn Soifer

MUSIC FUND

In Honor of: Cantor Goldmann

THE WINDOWS PROJECT

VASSAR TEMPLE ENDOWMENT FUND

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of: Allen Fink & Irving Fink

HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Judith Harkavy

Irma Jacobs

Steven Soifer

Judith & Paul Stoddard Family Fund

Ruth Goldfarb

Jane LaLone

Steven Reifler

Ellen Zelig

Laura & Thomas Brundage

Carol & Arthur Menken

Susan & David Hecht

Charlene & Loren Rosenthal

Fredrica & Jack Goodman

Susan Budson Fink

Ilene & Bob Friedman

Ilene & Bob Friedman

Joan & Charles Blanksteen



thank
you

Next time you make a donation, consider donating to the **Eternal Torah Fund:**

This fund is used for ongoing maintenance of our precious Torah scrolls, associated ritual objects, and the ark where they are stored

SISTERHOOD RECIPE OF THE MONTH:

Ribollita Soup from Maddy D'Angelo:

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup olive oil, plus more for drizzling
- 1/2 leek, white and light green parts only, thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 4 medium carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 rib celery, thinly sliced
- 1 3/4 ounces (50 grams) green cabbage, cut into 1-inch pieces
- Kosher salt, to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon chili flakes, plus more to taste
- 1 medium russet potato, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 8 1/2 ounces (250 grams) whole peeled tomatoes
- 1 bunch (90 grams) Russian kale, leaves cut into 1-inch pieces, stems thinly sliced
- 4 cups (1 liter) vegetable stock—you will need to add more stock later on
- 1 bay leaf
- 6-1/4 ounces (180 grams) cooked cannellini beans (1 can)
- 1 lemon
- Fresh parmesan, for grating
- Thick, rustic bread



Directions

1. Heat 1/2 cup olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat.
2. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute.
3. Add the leeks and cook until translucent, 2 to 3 minutes.
4. Add the carrots and celery and cook until soft, 5 to 6 minutes more.
5. Season with salt and chili flakes.
6. Stir in the cabbage and the potatoes and cook for 5 minutes.
7. Add the kale and cook until wilted, 2 minutes.
8. Add the tomatoes and cook, breaking up with a wooden spoon, until slightly soft, about 2 minutes.
9. Add the vegetable stock and the bay leaf.
10. Bring to a simmer, then stir in the beans.
11. Cover and cook 25 to 30 minutes, and the soup has thickened.
12. Remove from the heat and stir in the zest of half a lemon and the remaining 1/4 cup olive oil. Juice the entire lemon into the soup, then season with the salt and chili flakes.
13. Add a piece of thick rustic bread cut up into pieces to the bottom of each soup bowl.
14. Spoon ribollita soup between four bowls and drizzle with olive oil. Grate fresh parmesan over the top and serve.

Notes: The vegetables absorb a lot of liquid. You will have to add additional vegetable stock to the soup. Additional chicken stock is also good. This recipe makes four 24-ounce canning jars of soup.



Sisterhood Chai Noon Luncheon ~ Monday, March 18

Vassar Temple Sisterhood's Chai Noon Luncheon, which meets on the 18th of the month (when the date does not conflict with holidays or weekends) will have its next meeting on Monday, March 18. Specific details about the March restaurant will be mailed to you in Vassar Temple's weekly newsletter a few days prior to the meeting. Members are asked to RSVP to the link in the newsletter 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.

Sisterhood Suggestions:

1. We love RSVP's! It helps us plan to have enough food for dinners and other events.
2. If you shared something yummy at a temple dinner, don't forget to retrieve your container. We like to return them to their rightful owners.
3. Have you tried a recipe from the monthly bulletin? There are more to come!

Vassar Temple Sisterhood: PAID UP Membership Luncheon
Sunday, February 25, 1-2pm in the Social Hall

Thank you for being
COMMIT-MINT



INVEST-MINT



ENCOURAGE-MINT



INVOLVE-MINT

LIFESAVERS®

No cost to PAID UP
Sisterhood Members

or \$45 at the door to join
Sisterhood and enjoy
having many friends/sisters!

RSVP: Sisterhood@VassarTemple.org

February 2

Aaron Estrin
 Alan S. Rubenstein
 Ray Fox
 Isadore Shefts
 Pauline Gross
 Leonard H. Arnold
 Virginia Newman Livingston
 Irving Wrobel
 Nancy Levinson
 Alan Pack Greller
 Russell B. Oppenheimer, DVM
 Ronah Gordon Posner
 Mark Rosenthal
 Lewis Krevolin
 Stephen Berr
 Susan Matlin
 Gertrude Rothstein
 Vernon Leslie Brundage
 Harriet Fein
 Paul M. Schwartz, MD
 Harold Devorsetz
 Jacqueline Sydney Colodner
 Alfred Schneider
 Jane Kramer

February 9

Stanley Soirefman
 Jeanette Bergman
 Blanche Migdal
 William Schultze
 Martha Held
 Dorothy Parish
 Dr. M. Alden Weingart
 Evelyn Slote Kahn
 Leo Livingston
 Efrem Dlugacz
 Hon. Henry Morgenthau, Jr
 Lillian Geber
 Morris "Moe" Gilbert
 Mary Hyman
 Evelyn Brown
 Samuel Warshaw
 Leon Alpers
 Reuben Wiseman
 Timothy Creedon
 Harold Robinowitz
 Theodore Garber
 Sandor Jay Margolin
 Armand H. Newman
 Owen J. Sacks
 Joseph Drobner
 Gary M. Zimmer
 Jon Franklin Katz
 Arlene Loshin
 Eleanor Buxbaum
 Leo Lederer

February 16

Harry Lashinsky
 Celia Frank
 Rose Kahn
 Morris Levine
 Cynthia Blumenthal
 Hinda Lessin
 Herman Kraut
 Lillian Feldman
 Evelyn Bersak
 Marjorie Rubin Brody
 Julia Tebordo
 Sondra Chertock
 William Hyman
 Jules H. Lippmann
 Lawrence Edell
 Sidney I. Love
 Jarrod Harrington
 Blanche Fertig
 Goldie Abraskin
 Jacob Greenberg
 Mary R. Scheer
 Frieda Reifler
 Rosanne Weber
 Allen Fink
 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
 Julie McGaulley
 Catherine Peluse
 Walter L. Mock
 Wendy E. Newman

February 23

Mildred Gould
 David Haber
 Mara Tartack
 Milton Rauh
 Robert Joseph
 Ida Baskin Schwartz
 David Stephen Satz
 Mary Solomon
 Irving Fink
 Stanton Lipschutz
 Theresa E. Ryan
 Peter Luttinger
 Stuart Alpers
 Esther Frances Goldberg
 Jack Frankel
 Paul S. Goldberg
 Irving M. Bloch
 Ruth Levitt
 Shirley Kaskowitz
 Harry Lewis
 Fannie Kagank
 Gloria Fischman
 Ida Klein
 Milton Kramer
 Michael Rothenberg
 Dr. Vito J. Ciminello



February Yahrzeits

Calendar of Events—February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm Ritual CMTE	2 7:30pm Shabbat Service	3 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths
4 9am Religious School 9:45am Judaism 101 10am Tu Bishevat Seder (snow date) 10:30am Lunch Box 	5 12pm Talmud Study	6 7pm Accessibility & Inclusivity CMTE 7pm Music CMTE	7 4:30pm Hebrew School 7:30pm Adult Ed Series— Part 3, Jeremiah and Ezekiel	8 7:30pm Cemetery CMTE	9 7:30pm Shabbat Service	10 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
11 9am Religious School 10:30am Tiny Temple	12 7pm Vassar Temple Sisterhood Meeting	13	14 4:30pm Hebrew School	15	16 7:30pm Shabbat Service	17 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths
18 No Religious School	19 Office Closed ~ President's Day 	20	21 2pm Sisterhood Book Club 4:30pm Hebrew School 7pm Finance CMTE	22 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm VT Board	23 6pm Simchat Shabbat Service followed by Soulful Shabbat Dinner	24 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
25 9am Religious School 9:45 Judaism 101 1pm PAID UP Sisterhood Lunch	26 12pm Talmud Study	27	28 4:30pm Hebrew School			

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: Banna Rubinow

Secretary: Marcia Tanzman

Treasurer: Maxine Finkelstein

Sisterhood President: Polly Lewis

Brotherhood President: Glenn Tanzman

Immediate Past President: Susan Karnes Hecht

Bulletin Editor: Jo Schaffel



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

Climate Corner ~ an update from our Dayenu Circle

It's early 2024, and we are in a crucial primary and election year. Join us in 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. This year EVP will offer mobilization opportunities in at least 19 states. We'll be participating in a variety of proven-effective postcard campaigns to these target districts.

EVP estimates that over 8 million environmentalists skipped voting in the 2020 election, and that over 13 million skipped the 2022 midterms. EVP now has a seven-year record of success in identifying and moving these important voters: almost 1,488,000 individuals who seldom or never voted who are now consistent participants in democracy.

Please contact dayenudutchess@gmail.com to be on our list for EVP postcarding. Even if you are already involved in our Civic Engagement Committee's voter engagement campaigns through the Center for Common Ground, we welcome you to postcard for EVP in addition to continuing that commitment. Even a small number of cards helps us pool our efforts on this front!

