



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel, Founded 1848—Bulletin Volume 172 No. 10 ~ May 2024

175th Anniversary Celebration Gala ~ Sunday, April 14, 2024



Everyone had a great time!

*Photography by
Rachel Mamis*

From the Rabbi's Desk:



“From the second night of Pesach, Jews begin to count the days in a period of time called *Sefirat HaOmer* (“counting of the Omer”). The practice dates back to a commandment in Leviticus to make a daily elevation offering of an *omer* (measure) of barley for each of the 50 days between Pesach, the barley harvest, and the harvest of the new grain, wheat, which eventually came to be called Shavuot.

Following the destruction of the temple, this period became a time of semi-mourning to honor the memory of 24,000 students of Rabbi Akiba who died. Jewish tradition attributes their death to a plague; more likely, they died in an unsuccessful revolt against the Romans.

More contemporary interpretations of this period of counting understand it to be a watchful time, given anxiety about the success of the coming harvest. Others interpret the counting as a time for serious personal preparation and reflection as we move from the celebration of redemption at Pesach to the moment of revelation of Torah celebrated on Shavuot.

This year, sadly, we are in a different kind of counting, one of even greater anxiety. As I write this column on April 1, we are in Day 178 of the war in Gaza; almost six months since October 7. While our fervent prayers are that this counting will soon stop, given the impasses in ceasefire negotiations and the ongoing plans to bring the war to Rafah, it is hard to imagine that by the time we begin *Sephirat HaOmer* on April 23 we will no longer be counting days of the war.

During *Sephirat HaOmer* we will commemorate important historical dates: *Yom Hashoah*, Holocaust Memorial Day on 28 Nisan/May 6th; *Yom HaZikaron*, Remembering Fallen Israeli Soldiers on 5 Iyar/May 13, which leads immediately into *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*, Israeli Independence Day. How will these dates resonate for the Jewish people this year? With rising

antisemitism here and around the world, with Israeli soldiers still dying for their country—memorial dates are hardly needed. The shift in the mood on the night of Remembrance Day from somber memorial to the ecstatic joy of Israel's birth is among my favorite memories of living in Israel. But this is no normal year. There will be no dancing in the streets—not as long as war still rages; not as long as hostages remain in captivity; not as long as civilians in Gaza suffer; not as long as Israel continues to lose its moral standing in the world, even as it battles an immoral enemy.



In 1973, during the Yom Kippur war, the beloved Israeli composer Naomi Shemer composed a song of hope for peace similar in theme to the Beatles' hit, *Let It Be*. *Lu Y'hi (May It Be)* caught on like wildfire and, since October 8,

has had a resurgence. Its plaintive chorus is our plea for an end to the war, our hope for peace:

May it be, May it be,

Please, may it be,

All that we seek – may it be

And the final stanza

Then grant tranquility and also grant strength

To all those we love

All that we seek, may it be.

We pray for an end to this counting—*Lu Y'hi*.

Rabbi Renni Altman

President's Message: *We tend to think that overwhelming issues happen to others, until they hit*



close to home. One of our Temple families needs our help. They are hoping to educate and spread the word of an organization that may be helpful to their ailing family member. While there is clearly no obligation to participate, simply being educated and spreading the word is also helpful. Thank you, Linda and Richard, for sharing. Our prayers are with you all.

Lisa-Sue Quackenbush

Our son-in-law Mark, our daughter Laura's husband, is in urgent need of a kidney transplant. Mark has been waiting for a kidney transplant for almost six years, but thus far a new kidney has not been made available to him. He has been on dialysis three times a week for six years because his kidneys do not function. Dialysis has been keeping him alive, but also has seriously impacted his quality of life. The average life expectancy for those like Mark on full dialysis is seven years. Only 25% of patients survive the five-year point with that number dropping to a 10% survival rate by year 10.

Mark and Laura are parents of Aaron, a wonderful eight-year-old boy.

Aaron has never known his father as a healthy man who can play ball, ride bikes, swim, or ski with his son.

Recently Mark, and by extension Richard and I, have connected with a Jewish organization in Brooklyn that helps find living donors for kidney transplants. It is an act of chesed, or loving kindness to save a life in the Jewish tradition. Kidneys from living donors generally work better and last longer than those from a deceased person.

Renewal, a Brooklyn based non-profit organization, works to educate patients and the public about kidney disease and transplants. The organization provides patients with tools to help find a living donor. They work with and support both the patient and the donor through every stage of this journey, providing both emotional and financial support. There are no out-of-pocket expenses for donors.

Renewal provides swabbing tests. Swabbing is an easy test to determine donor eligibility. It does not obligate you to be a donor. Out of every twenty people swabbed, two might agree to be donors. We can all live with one kidney. I (Linda) found out about 15 years ago that I have only had one functioning kidney for most—and possibly all—of my life.

The Talmud teaches, "Whoever saves a single life is considered to have saved the world." If you are interested in taking the simple, painless swabbing test or being a kidney donor please contact Renewal at 718-431-9831 or email info@renewal.org.

Please assist us in helping keep Mark alive so that Aaron can grow up with a father and Laura doesn't lose her husband.

In Friendship and Gratitude,
Richard and Linda Cantor

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.

May 2024 Bimah Flowers Sponsors:

- May 3: Martin Noble in memory of Samuel Blaine and Francine Kaplan in memory of David Kaplan
- May 10: Susan Budson Fink in memory of her parents Rose and Daniel Budson and the Quackenbush family in memory of Gayle Margolin
- May 17: Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flowers Fund (silk flowers)
- May 24: Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flowers Fund (silk flowers)
- May 31: Vassar Temple Sisterhood Bimah Flowers Fund (silk flowers)



Healing Service ~ Saturday, May 11 at 10:15am

A Healing Service, led by Rabbi Altman and Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann of Vassar Temple, will be held on Saturday, May 11 at 10:15am. This beautiful service is designed for anyone praying for healing of the body, soul or spirit for themselves or others, for caregivers, and for anyone, for any reason, in need of spiritual strength. The service will include prayers, reflections, and songs that focus on healing for ourselves and for our world. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend the service, which will be hybrid (both in person and on Zoom).

Pride Shabbat ~ Friday, May 31 at 7:30pm

Gender fluid? Cisgender? They/her/him? The lexicon of language around gender diversity can be daunting. Join us for our second Pride Shabbat service when we will explore the various labels of gender identity in an interactive program led by Rabbi Altman and Lisa-Sue Quackenbush.

New Paths ~ May

Everyone is invited to join us at Vassar Temple for a New Paths Sabbath morning service Saturdays May 4 and 18 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. Service is hybrid (both in person and on Zoom). Contact office@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570 to be put on the New Paths e-mail list, if you need a Zoom link, or to borrow our special prayer book if participating on Zoom.

Scriptural Readings ~ May

May 4

Acharei Mot:

Leviticus 16:1-18:30; Ezekiel 22:1-19

May 11

K'doshim:

Leviticus 19:1-20:27; Amos 9:7-15

May 18

Emor:

Leviticus 21:1-24:33; Ezekiel 44:15-31

May 25

B'har:

Leviticus 25:1-26:2; Jeremiah 32:6-27

Study Groups at Vassar Temple

Torah Study with Rabbi Renni Altman, DD, 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 e-mail list.

Talmud Study with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb will meet on Zoom from noon to 1:30pm select Mondays. For details, study sheets, and to be placed on the Talmud Study e-mail list, contact him at pjgolomb@verizon.net.

All Welcome
No prior knowledge necessary
No charge to attend

Religious School Update ~ May

May brings us to the end of the Religious School and Hebrew School year, with three special events—if you include Mother's Day on May 12, when we have no classes.

May 3 is Teacher Appreciation Shabbat. Please come to applaud our devoted educators at this Friday service!

May 5 is Jewish Dutchess' Mitzvah Day. It's a long and honorable tradition when kids and adults from the various synagogue and temple communities gather to serve the community in fellowship. Since so many of the area's Jewish citizens—including children—are geographically removed from each other, Mitzvah Day serves more than one purpose. See the article in this month's Bulletin, and register for one of the many opportunities.

May 19 is an all-school trip to the Tenement Museum on the lower east side of Manhattan. Students, teachers, and any interested parents will experience living-history interpretation of the great immigration of 1883-1920. Details will follow.

And after all this, have a wonderful summer!



Rabbi Shoshana Hantman

Religious School Director

A Note from the Treasurer

It is budget season. The Temple is required by our by-laws to produce an annual budget and submit it to the congregation for approval in June, prior to the commencement of our fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30.

The word *budget* often causes a nervous reaction or trepidation. A budget may be viewed as a means of controlling expenses and restricting activities, or sometimes creating hoops to jump through in order to spend money on activities. I have a different take on the budget, and the budget process.

The budget, in my view, is a plan for the management of the organization, a road map for implementing the various programs and activities essential to accomplishing our mission. The budget discussion should focus on how we achieve the resources needed to implement our plan, and how we manage those resources efficiently, effectively and without surprising bumps in the road.

For Fiscal Year 2025, Vassar Temple is looking forward to growth in a number of areas, and new programs for members. But we are also facing challenges in maintaining the physical plant as it ages, and security concerns.

I am looking for maximum participation from Vassar Temple members and decision makers, so the FY 2025 budget that is submitted for a vote will enable the Temple to accomplish all necessary programs and activities. It is also important for all decisionmakers and members to understand how we generate and manage our resources and, where necessary, set priorities among programs when resources are limited.

Maxine Finkelstein,
Treasurer

Update on the Windows Project

The windows have arrived and are being installed!!

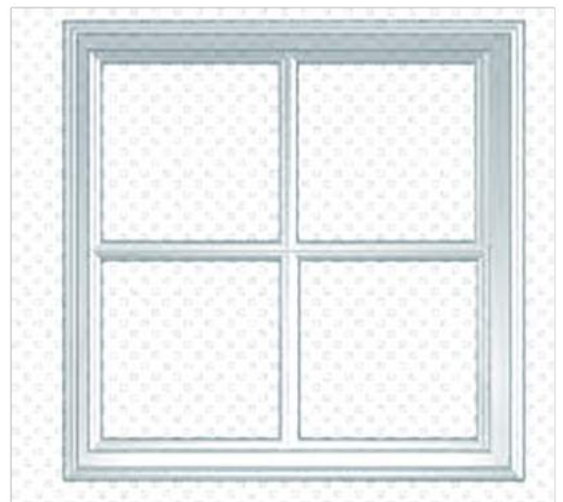
In late March, the installation of the balcony and the East Chapel windows was started. By the time this Bulletin arrives it is possible that all of the windows (including the large north-facing windows in the Sanctuary) will have been installed.

Minor actions are still to be completed:

- Window sills need to be designed and installed.
- Naming plates need to be prepared and attached.

We are extremely grateful to all of the donors who have allowed us to reach our initial budgeted amount of \$82,000.

There are still opportunities for congregants to have a window named. For information, please email windows@vassartemple.org.



Dutchess County Mitzvah Day ~ Sunday, May 5

Breakfast and registration, 8:30am

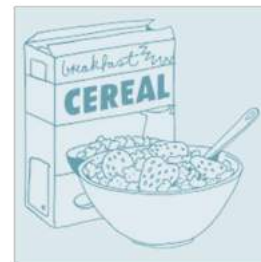
Congregation Schomre Israel, 18 Park Ave., Poughkeepsie

There's still time to sign up for projects at <http://www.jewishdutchess.org/events>.

There will be community service projects for all ages (tots to seniors), both on site and off! Participate yourself or with friends and family.

Bring boxed cereal for Cereal Counts for local food pantries

Bring items for Liberty Station Veterans' Shelter: plastic wrap, aluminum foil, snacks, canned goods: chili, spaghetti & meatballs, ravioli, stew, mac & cheese, tuna



Social Action

Heritage Highlights

Vassar Temple has been a leader in social action in our area for decades. Thanks to every one of you for your overwhelming response to the Purim Plus pasta and hygiene drive!

Did you know that Vassar Temple began the idea of the Purim pasta drive in our community, and now all the synagogues in our area are following suit!

And Cereal Counts was started as a Vassar Temple Social Action project, as an evolution of our Super Summer Cereal Collection, the inspiration of our Social Action Committee member Nancy Samson. Then, with the help of Nancy's sons Adam and Max, Cereal Counts expanded community-wide, and is currently part of Dutchess County Mitzvah Day.

So now that you know Cereal Counts is part of your Vassar Temple heritage, donate your boxed cereal proudly to Cereal Counts 2024!

Thank you

Shabbat Y'ladim (Children's Sabbath)

All young children up to first grade are invited to bring their parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles and/or friends to Vassar Temple on Sat. May 18 at 10:30am. Rabbi Altman and her stuffed bear friends *Kachol v'Lavan* will be there to help us greet the Sabbath and to learn about the State of Israel. Tell your friends and neighbors--this short service, specially designed for young children, is free and open to the whole community.

For questions and to RSVP, please contact office@vassartemple.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Membership Meeting

Tuesday, June 4 at 7pm

Formal notice to follow in accordance with our bylaws

Civic Engagement: Meet our Local Elected Officials

Vassar Temple's Civic Engagement Series continued in April. We were delighted to welcome both County Executive Sue Serino and Congressman Pat Ryan to meet our community and learn more about Vassar Temple. This series will pause now and may begin again early next year. We thank our elected officials for taking the time to meet with us and learn more about the local Jewish Community.

Pictured right: Rabbi Altman, Lisa-Sue Quackenbush, County Executive Sue Serino and Andi Ciminello



175th Anniversary Celebration Gala ~ Sunday, April 14, 2024 continued...



Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Tuesday, May 7 at 6:30pm ~ Dutchess Community College

Each year the Jewish community joins together to observe Holocaust Remembrance Day in partnership with Dutchess Community College. The memorial program includes appropriate readings and songs with a special candle lighting ceremony led by children of survivors. This year's speaker will be David Reckess, Executive Director of 3GNY, an educational non-profit organization founded by grandchildren of Holocaust survivors. As a living link, 3GNY seeks to preserve the legacies and the lessons of the Holocaust. Its mission is to educate diverse communities about the perils of intolerance and to provide a supportive forum for the descendants of survivors. David is a Poughkeepsie native, son of Azzy and Paula Reckess. See the e-newsletter for more details about the location.



Mazel Tov!

David Steinberg was presented with the Dutchess County Bar Association's Gartland Award for Community Service at their Annual Luncheon and Meeting on May 2nd.

Bob and Marianne Abrams are celebrating the birth of their grandson, Liam, along with his mother, Jen Abrams



JWV Memorial Day Ceremony ~ Monday, May 27 at 1pm

Schomre Hadath Cemetery, 67 Lagrange Ave., Poughkeepsie 12603
(Next to Vassar Temple Cemetery)

Presented by Jewish War Veterans Post 625
Poughkeepsie H.S. JROTC Color Guard
Shaded seating & water will be available

Honor Our Fallen Veterans



*thank
you*

SUSTAINING FUND

In Memory of:

Luchnezia Sgro
Ethel Graves & Delbert LaLone
Phyllis Cohen
Ruth Rabinowitz Browner
Selma Goldsmith
Pauline Abrams
Isaac Goldbrenner
Eva Revitz
Eugene Jacobs, Bernard Rheingold & Maurice Rice
Josephine Kahn & Samuel Lampell
Martin Frankel
Clarie Moselle

In Gratitude to: Rabbi Steven Arnold

COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

In Memory of:

David F. Kaplan & Seymour Shapiro
Sarah Chernack

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

In Memory of: Mary Ann Robinowitz

LIBRARY FUND

In Memory of: Eva Bley

MUSIC FUND

In Honor of:

Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann

THE WINDOWS PROJECT

VASSAR TEMPLE ENDOWMENT FUND

RABBI PAUL GOLOMB ADULT ED FUND

In Memory of: Darryl Jones

James Robinowitz
Jane LaLone
Arnold Cohen
Miriam Browner Lacher
Madelyn D'Angelo
Marianne & Bob Abrams
Thomas M. Cervone
Marilyn & Martin Revitz
Irma Jacobs
Muriel Lampell
Fern & Dave Wolf
Jonathan Moselle
Jane LaLone
Jane LaLone

Francine Kaplan
The Chernack Family

James Robinowitz

Barbara Payne & Andrew Chernack

Ruth Goldfarb

Jane LaLone
James Robinowitz

Eleanor & Martin Charwat
James Gellert
Georgene Dreishpoon
Catherine & Gabe Bokor

Marian Schwartz

Thank You, Vassar Temple!

Through your generous donations to the Community Tzedakah Fund, our Can Jam bin and our special food and hygiene drives, we were able to assist many local agencies in fighting food insecurity in recent months, as well as providing our neighbors in need with such basic household necessities as soap and toilet paper. Morse School Food Pantry, Liberty Station veterans' shelter, Meals on Wheels, and The Community Fridge were four of the beneficiaries. Some responses received from other recipients:

From Dutchess Outreach: "Your gift will make such a difference in our community. The hardship our community is now faced with has left many with no other option... None of this important work could happen without you."

From Grannies Respond: "...we are united in our mission to ensure the dignity, care and safety of asylum seekers! We thank you for your support from the bottom of our hearts!"

From Community Action Partnership: "Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County is continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors like you who answer the call to give again and again. Thank you for all you do for Community Action!" If any of you would like to assist the Vassar Temple Social Action Committee with one or more of these activities, just contact socialaction@vassartemple.org for further information or to suggest a new project. We'd love to hear from you!

Vassar Temple's Endowment Fund:

Temple member, Georgene Dreishpoon, who now lives in Florida, wrote this beautiful note to accompany her contribution to the Vassar Temple Endowment Fund. We can think of no better way to thank Georgene for her generosity than to reprint her words here.

*Martin Charwat & Lou Lewis,
Co-Chairs of the Vassar Temple Endowment Fund*

April 2024

To My Friends at Vassar Temple,

Enclosed is a payment on my promised pledge to the investment fund now in place for our beloved Temple. It is my good fortune that I am feeling so very blessed that at age 94 I am part of a six-generation family celebrating over 100 years of membership with our temple. It started with my father, Dr. Max Michael Simon, a practicing physician and past president. As the years gathered, the rest of our family joined. The Dr. Jack Erdreich family, Grandma Lehman and her son, Dr. Morton Lehman and his family, my sister Fritzzy and husband Dr. Jack Goodman and their family.

We have celebrated special events, added children, and now I see my two great grandchildren, Gavin and Caden Irving Weiss as young members. Their parents, Garrett and Brittney Weiss are my grandchildren with my daughter Lisa Dreishpoon Weiss and Gordon Weiss. Brittney and Garrett engaged with our wonderful Rabbi Renni Altman and joined our temple. Now their sons love their Sunday School, their new friends, and learning about their Dad's religion. I have been told that 40 percent of our congregation are now interfaith marriages. In my view, joining this generational shift will bring the survival of modern-day religion as I see this happening worldwide.

Wishing all my temple members continued happiness shared in our beautiful temple.

Georgene Simon Dreishpoon

SISTERHOOD RECIPE OF THE MONTH:

Dill Bread ~ (a favorite of Helen Klein's) from Doi Cohen

Ingredients (makes 1 loaf)

- 1 package active dry yeast
- 1/4 cup warm water
- 1 cup small curd cottage cheese
- 1-2 tablespoons onion, minced
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 teaspoons dill seed
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 egg
- 2 1/4 cups flour



Directions:

- Dissolve yeast in warm water. In large bowl (not metal) heat cottage cheese and butter to lukewarm (in microwave). Add the sugar, onion, dill seed, baking soda, salt, and egg to the cottage cheese. Stir in the yeast mixture with a non-metal spoon. Stir in the flour until it forms a stiff dough.
- Cover the bowl with wax paper and let rise for about an hour in a warm place. (I pre-heat the oven for just a minute, turn off the heat, and keep the dough in there.) Stir down the dough and put it into a **well-greased** loaf pan. Return the pan to the re-warmed oven for 40 minutes.
- Remove the pan from the oven and pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees. Then bake the bread for 30 minutes at 350 and for 20 minutes more at 325 degrees.
- You can remove the bread from the pan when it is warm or cold, using a stiff plastic spatula if necessary to loosen the bread from the sides of the pan. Cool thoroughly before putting it in a plastic bag. If you plan to freeze it, double-bag it.)
- This bread is scrumptious when lightly toasted and spread with butter.

Note: I usually make two loaves at the same time, in two separate bowls. That way you can use a whole container of cottage cheese and a whole small onion. It takes only a few minutes longer and you have twice as much tasty bread at the end. The bread freezes very well, in double plastic bags.



Sisterhood Chai Noon Luncheon ~ Tuesday, June 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 Tuesday, June 18 at noon. Specific details about the 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.

Climate Corner ~ an update from our Dayenu Circle



April is Earth Month!

Join us in postcarding 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. Our spring postcarding campaign will be to voters in Nevada to encourage them to vote in the June 11 State Primary. Cards must be mailed on May 22 (or can be returned to us for mailing if you cannot mail that day). Cards, addresses, and script are provided, and we ask that you donate stamps for the cards that you write. Write a few, or a lot! Please contact dayenudutchess@gmail.com to help with EVP postcarding for Nevada or later this year. We hope to sponsor a “postcarding party” this month; please watch Temple email for information.

Update on Cemetery Improvements



The Cemetery Committee continues to prioritize both regularly scheduled maintenance and selected projects that help us sustain respect for these crucially important properties.

A new maintenance contract was implemented, with vastly enhanced weekly and seasonal upkeep. We hope that those that visit regularly have noticed the improved mowing, trimming, edging, pruning and overall appearance.

New signage was installed at all locations (other than the Pershing Historic Cemetery). Old signs were in disrepair or non-existent. The signs are low-key and identical at all sites, making it easier for guests to find the right location.

Branches overhanging the Lagrange South (current) section were pruned. Sunlight was blocked, causing stones to mildew and preventing grass from growing in the back area. Grass will be reseeded. Dead trees along the back fence of that section were removed and the stumps ground to prepare for new plantings. The Committee is considering the most appropriate choice of native, low-maintenance shrubs for that area. The trees at the North section entrance were also pruned.

The cemeteries are part and parcel of Vassar Temple; their care is a sacred obligation. Many other improvements are needed. Looking ahead, we will have significant space available at the Route 44 location, but preparatory work will be required. The Committee is implementing an annual budget, which will—for the first time—be reflected in the synagogue budget. With the support of the Finance Committee, we are now investing the Cemetery Fund, retaining earnings for upkeep. These efforts improve our position, but the reality is that improvements, in addition to basic care, are extremely limited by finances. When making donations to the Temple, please consider the Cemetery Fund to help support this important obligation. Thank you.

Vassar Temple Sisterhood Service ~ Friday, May 10 at 7:30pm

Please join us for the annual Sisterhood service. The members of Sisterhood look forward to participating in the service, and the Brotherhood will be supplying a tasty Oneg afterwards. Our speaker this year will be Krista Jones, Executive Director and founder of Sparrow's Nest. This organization cooks and delivers homemade meals to families facing a cancer diagnosis. Come and join your Sisterhood and learn about some great community work.

May 3

Jaime Hecht
Julius Albert
Elaine F. Bloch
Dr. Wolfgang U. Weigert
David F. Kaplan
Jacob Ettenson
Gertrude Fink
Faye Prisansky Kaufman
Edward Moffit
Irving D. Kraut
Shirley Kornhauser
Stanley Shaprio
Naomi Berkowitz
Judith Schneider
Sarah Chernack
Nathan Lescher
Walter Kallman
Samuel Blaine
Toby U. Cederbaum
Ida Albinder
Phyllis Drucker Cassell
Seymour Shapiro

May 10

Philip Mardon, MD
Ted Hecht
Paul Plansky
Suzanne Hecht
Edna Gibell
Eva Revitz
Ruth Myer
Helen Danilin Klien
Louis Lipp
Eugene Jacobs
Mary Kovacs
Paul Reznikoff
Gayle Margolin
Martin Frankel
Samuel Cederbaum
David Lawrence Wolfson
Manuel Darwin
Charlotte Miller
Kurt Lemberger
Susan Patricia Messing

May 17

Shirley Ruth Karnes
Reuben Lewis
Bernard "Paul" Buchalter
Bernice D. Rabin
Maurice Rice
Steve Ganeles
Josephine Lion Kahn
Joseph Markoe
Marjorie F. Katz
Phyllis Cohen
Nathan Landau
Samuel Sigalow
Charlotte Cohen
Bernard Beaty
Charles Kagan
Henry Feder
Hyman Hoffman
Grace Selzer
Louis Diamond
David M. Horn
Selma Goldsmith

May 24

Claire Troeger Moselle
Dan L. Golomb
Bernard Lesk
Eloise Ross
Ruth Browner
Ellen Rosenfeld
Harold Jacobs
Mary B. Sparks
Martin Cohen
Ken Richter
Martin Gally
Iris Krause
Miriam Niesen
Joseph H. Goodman
Annie Givner
Goldie Simon
Therese Lehman
Stuart Chertock

May 31

Betty Fein
Jack Rubinstein
Harry L. Levitan
Dorothy Lewis
Leo Tauber
Alvin Kaskowitz
James Burns
Eugene Seigel
Bessie T. Mock
Samuel Lampell
Rachel Diamond
Daniel S. Schwartz
Susan Parish Barbash
Seymour Bersak
Margaret "Honey" Sylvester
Bernard Rheingold
Ann Feinstein Drobner
Catherine Creedon
Pauline Abrams
Irving Selzer
Dr. Arthur Lipschutz



May Yahrzeits

Calendar of Events—May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4:30pm Hebrew School	2 7pm Ritual CMTE	3 6pm Teacher Appreciation Shabbat Service	4 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths
5 8:30am Mitzvah Day Breakfast & Registration at Congregation Schomre Israel 10:30am Lunch Box 	6 Yom HaShoah 7pm Vassar Temple Sisterhood Meeting	7 6:30pm Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration at DCC	8 4:30pm Hebrew School	9 7:30pm Cemetery CMTE	10 7:30pm Sisterhood Shabbat Service	11 9am Torah Study 10:15am Healing Service
12 No Religious School	13	14 Israel's Independence Day 	15 4:30pm Hebrew School Last Day 7pm Finance CMTE	16	17 7:30pm	18 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths 10:30am Shabbat Yeladim 
19 Religious School Last Day ~ Trip to Lower East Side Museum 	20	21	22	23 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm VT Board	24 7:30pm Shabbat Service	25 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
26	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28	29 7pm Annual Calendar Meeting	30	31 7:30pm Pride Shabbat Service	

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

Vassar Temple Bulletin
140 Hooker Avenue
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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

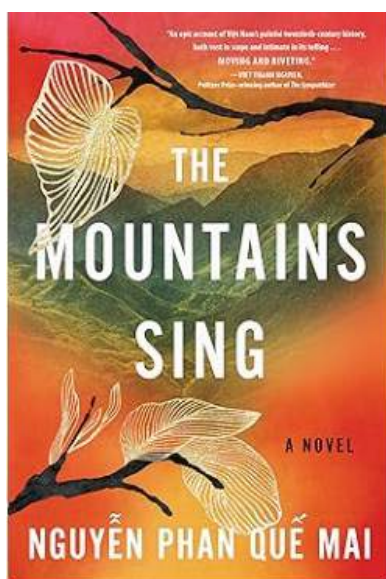
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VTS Book Club to Read *The Mountains Sing* by Nguyen Phan Que Mai June 19



The Mountains Sing is an enveloping, multigenerational tale of the Trần family, set against the backdrop of the Việt Nam War. Trần Diệu Lan, who was born in 1920, was forced to flee her family farm with her six children during the Land Reform as the Communist government rose in the North. Years later in Hà Nội, her young granddaughter, Hương, comes of age as her parents and uncles head off down the Hồ Chí Minh Trail to fight in a conflict that tore apart not just her beloved country, but also her family. Vivid, gripping, and steeped in the language and traditions of Việt Nam, *The Mountains Sing* brings to life the human costs of this conflict from the point of view of the Vietnamese people themselves, while showing us the true power of kindness and hope.

Discussion of this book will be on Wednesday, June 19, at 2:00pm, in-person at the Collegeview Tower meeting room, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie. All are welcome. For questions, please contact bookclub@vassartemple.org.