



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel, Founded 1848—Bulletin Volume 174 No. 3~ October 2025

2025/5786 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.

Memorial Service: Sunday, September 28th at 2pm at VT Cemetery on LaGrange Avenue

Kol Nidrei: Wednesday, October 1st at 7pm

Yom Kippur: Thursday, October 2nd

10:00am – Morning Service

1:00pm – Family Service in the Sanctuary

Special Yom Kippur Programming

2:00pm – Study Session led by Sam Finnerman: “Chesed”

3:00pm – Meditation in the sanctuary led by Linda Cantor

4:00pm – Afternoon Service—during this service, Rabbi Stombaugh will lead an interactive discussion on “Jonah”

5:30pm – Yizkor (Memorial) Service

6:00pm – Ne'ilah (Concluding) Service followed by Havdalah
and Ritual Break the Fast meal for those registered will follow Havdalah

Erev Sukkot: Monday, October 6th

5:45pm – BYO dinner in the sukkah, indoors in case of inclement weather

7:00pm – Service

Simchat Torah: Monday, October 13th

5:45pm – Dinner, outdoors weather permitting

7:00pm – Erev Simchat Torah Service with Klezmer

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah Yizkor Service: Tuesday, October 14th at 10am

Rabbi Stombaugh will lead this Festival morning worship in an informal setting in the East Chapel. A significant component of the liturgy is *Yizkor* (the memorial service). We take time to remember our loved ones at such seasons of joy and celebration. Yizkor is a time to connect with the souls of our loved ones on a deeper level; tradition has it that during Yizkor the souls of the departed descend from heaven and are joined with those who are close to them. Many find it of comfort to participate in this service among their Temple family. We will also say Kaddish for the victims of the attack in Israel that took place on Simchat Torah in 2023.

From the Rabbi's Desk: A Fragile House, A New Path



One of the questions I'm often asked is: *Why did you become a rabbi?*

The short version? I crashed.

I was a sophomore in college, majoring in music education—living my childhood dream. I had my sharp pencils, staff paper, music theory books, and a piano in front of me. It was everything I thought I wanted. But instead of joy, I felt frustration. The process felt hard in the wrong ways—more draining than life-giving. I did the math: if I kept going, I might come to resent the very thing I loved most. I couldn't risk that.

So I pivoted.

The rabbinate wasn't an obvious choice. I didn't know what kind of rabbi I wanted to be. But I had this feeling that this path would give me space to bring together the things I loved—teaching, community, performance, music, philosophy, ritual, relationship—and Judaism, which had always been part of me.

As we enter October, we find ourselves at the end of a different path, yet equally fragile—a journey that began in the sorrow of Tisha B'Av, wound through the introspection of Elul, and rose through the intense, communal experiences of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The shofar has sounded. We've fasted and break-fasted, sung *Avinu Malkeinu*, and engaged—each in our own way—in the work of *teshuvah*.

But it's not over yet.

The High Holiday season does not conclude in a grand sanctuary, but in a fragile, makeshift hut: the *sukkah*. This is profound. After all the intensity of inner work and communal gathering, we're invited to sit in impermanence, rather than perfection. Not behind solid walls, but under the stars, starting the next path forward with fragile steps, like the shelter we inhabit.

Now, years later, I sometimes catch myself at 1:00am—books open, scribbling notes, preparing a teaching, writing a drash—and feeling a kind of joy I didn't know how to reach back in college. It took time to learn how to walk the walk—and the truth is I am still learning, but always choosing again and again to build something new.

And that's what *Sukkot* invites us into.

We've done the work of reflection and repair. Now we ask: What comes next? What path will I take forward? What is fragile enough in me that I can no longer risk ignoring? What cracks in my foundation are actually invitations to grow?

The *sukkah* is a sacred pause between who we've been and who we're becoming.

If you're not sure how to step into that next chapter, you might find a helpful reminder in your spiritual pledge card—the one included in the High Holiday mailer. (Don't worry—if you lost yours, there's a copy in this bulletin on the last page) Some of you filled it out. Some of you might've returned it. But whether you've engaged with it or not, it's one tool among many to help you articulate where you want to go from here.

I hope you'll take time to pause inside the fragile house we build together—and ask yourself what it means to risk joy, purpose, and connection in the year ahead.

Let's step forward into 5786—side by side—ready to imagine and co-create something beautiful.

Chag Sameach,

Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh

President's Message:



The High Holidays continue into October, and we all look forward to a good and peaceful year. Along with scheduled services and activities, the Vassar Temple congregation has established a new tradition. The Sisterhood and Brotherhood are again hosting a Chai Noon lunch in our Sukkah on October 8. Normally the lunch is on the 18th of the month, but we look forward to a lovely time in our Sukkah. RSVP and join us! As always, thanks to Brotherhood for assembling and taking down the Sukkah every year. For Simchat Torah, we again will have the Klezmer band as part of our service and celebration on the 13th. It is a fun and spiritual evening. Committees are working hard to continue to make these holidays more meaningful and interactive to all of us. Ritual and High Holy Day committees, Sisterhood and Brotherhood, and others have done a terrific job. I know I am more connected to Sukkot and Simchat Torah due to their efforts.

Vassar Temple is putting together a whiffle ball team for the Holiday Hits Tournament on October 12th sponsored by the Federation and hosted by Congregation Schomre Israel. Families are encouraged to take part. If you're not a player of whiffle ball, then come cheer for the team!



Vassar Temple and congregants are also involved in community events this month including CROP Walk on the 19th and the Dutchess County Interfaith Council's Love Forward dinner on the 20th. These events are ones that Vassar Temple has been part of for many years. May the community that has been fostered continue to be enriched through the organizations involved. In a world that sometimes seems so polarized, the DCIC, in particular, is an essential part of the faith communities in the Hudson Valley. Vassar Temple continues to be a proud member.

Along with tradition and change at Temple, some physical changes to our building continue to occur. We now have a changing table available outside of the women's restroom so that it is available to all. This is a welcome addition to our building, and we owe Sisterhood a big thanks! More is to come as our House committee is hard at work on indoor and outdoor projects.

Unfortunately, this October represents the two-year anniversary of October 7th. It remains difficult to remain hopeful to get the hostages home and for the war to stop, but we must hope and work for it until both happen. Everyone deserves peace in the new year!

Happy New Year! *L'Shanah Tovah!*

Roni Stein

Bimah Flowers for our Services October 2025

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 \$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.

October 2025 Bimah Flowers Sponsors:

- October 3 & Yom Kippur: Ralph & Marian Schwartz in memory of Max H. & Shirley P. Richter and Albert E. & Gloria Schwartz
- October 10: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- October 17: Carla & David Steckman in honor of their daughter Audrey's Bat Mitzvah and Nadine & Joel Zaritsky in memory of Seth Zaritsky
- October 24: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- October 31: Micah Modell & Misun Modell in honor of their son Maverick's Bar Mitzvah



Religious School Update ~ *A Guided Meditation to Help Us Forgive*

Let me suggest a forgiveness exercise from Glenda Rosenberg:

Picture yourself in very safe, loving setting, in your favorite place. It is a very happy occasion.

Surrounding you are those you love the most, your closest family or friends.

Now picture the circle getting wider. Welcome in more extended family, or more casual friends. All of them are here to celebrate you, to rejoice in your happiest occasion. Your heart is so full that you welcome everyone today. You are safe, loved, and secure.

Now imagine welcoming in others to the party—people you don't know as well but have no reason to dislike.

Now you are totally comfortable in this wonderful scene with all of your loved ones there. Can you welcome in just one additional person to your celebration, one person for whom you feel an old grudge? Yes, they have offended you. But can you remember one good thing they ever did for you? Can you think of one "*nekudat hatov*," one good point about that person, one godly spark? Can you welcome them into the circle?

Try to take that energy and get to the stage of *mechilah*, or letting go. If you can work hard within yourself this Yom Kippur and get to forgiveness Level One, to *mechilah*, and give that person a sincere "Shanah Tovah" at the break-the-fast, you have done good spiritual work. Then you can keep going from there.

Rabbi Shoshana Hantman

Religious School Director

October Scriptural Readings

October 4

Haazinu

Deuteronomy 32:1-52; II Samuel 22:1-51

October 11

Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot

Exodus 33:12-34:26; Ezekiel 38:18-39:7;
The Book of Ecclesiastes is read

October 18

B'reishit

Genesis 1:1-6:8; Isaiah 42:5-43:10

October 25

Noach

Genesis 6:9-11:32; Isaiah 54:1-55:5

Vassar Temple Study Groups

Torah Study with Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh meets at 9am on Saturday mornings (no class October 18). 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 on Zoom with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb. For dates, study sheets, and to be placed on the Talmud Study email list, contact him at pjgolomb@verizon.net.

*All welcome
No prior knowledge required
No charge to attend*

New Paths

This month we'll gather for a New Paths Sabbath morning service at 10:15am Saturday, October 4 (hybrid). 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, spiritually-oriented Shabbat morning experience. A brief informal kiddush follows. Contact office@vassartemple.org or 845-454-2570 to be put on the New Paths e-mail list, if you need the Zoom link, or to borrow our special prayer book if participating on Zoom.

Tiny Temple and PJ Library

Celebrate Sukkot

Young children up through age six and their families: Come celebrate the harvest festival of Sukkot with Tiny Temple and PJ Library, at Vassar Temple on Sunday, October 5 at 11am. Join us for a holiday story, songs, fun activities and learning, and weather permitting, we'll snack in the outdoor succah. Tiny Temple is always free and open to the whole community. Vassar Temple is an inclusive Reform congregation located at 140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY. For questions and to RSVP, contact office@vassartemple.org.



Mazel tov to:

Rabbi Paul & Debbie Golomb on the birth of their grandson.

Raphael Brenner Golomb was born on August 21st. Mother, Rivka, and son are doing well. The middle name comes from Rafe's great grandmother, Betty Brenner Golomb, Rivka's beloved grandmother.



Join Us on Erev Sukkot!

Monday, October 6, Dinner 5:45pm ~ Service 7pm

Sukkot is both a harvest festival (the model for the American Thanksgiving), and a commemoration of God protecting us in temporary shelters as we crossed the desert with Moses. Join your Vassar Temple family for a Bring-Your-Own dinner at 5:45pm. And bring a folding lawn chair if you'd like to eat in our outdoor succah. Indoor seating will also be available in the social hall. A family-friendly service for Sukkot will start at 7pm. Shake the lulav! Inhale the fragrance of the esrog! In short, celebrate Sukkot at Vassar Temple!



Join Us for Erev Simchat Torah Dinner and Service—with Klezmer!

Monday, October 13, Dinner 5:45pm ~ Service 7pm

The Living Shtetl, the amazing Klezmer group from NYC led by clarinetist Alex Parke, and which performs the world over, is returning to play at Vassar Temple's Erev Simchat Torah celebration and service Monday, October 13 at 7pm. Everyone in the community is warmly invited to this joyous performance and to come dance with the Torah! The festival service will also include our ritual tradition of unrolling the scroll all around the room.

Prior to the service, at 5:45pm, there will be a dinner, and you can opt to dine outside in the succah or indoors in the social hall. For menu information, to RSVP for the dinner, and to let us know if you need a gluten-free or vegan option, please email ritual@vassartemple.org. If you'd like to eat outdoors in the sukkah, weather permitting, please bring a lawn chair. Donations to Vassar Temple to help cover our expenses for the performance and dinner are appreciated, and donors will receive recognition. If you choose to make your contribution with a credit card, please call our office 845-454-2570.



Vassar Temple Presents CREATING COMMUNITY

A series of evenings to gather and make something beautiful happen,
led by Temple member Eve Gendron

Snack, sip, and center your creative energies.

OCTOBER brings AUTUMN LEAF PRINTING!

Learn a simple technique using nature's handiwork to create your own art,
and make a set of beautiful notecards to take home.

Monday, October 27 ~ 7pm – 8:30pm
(snow date 10/28)



This is a fun(d)raiser for Vassar Temple. \$36 includes all supplies plus wine/soda and snacks. Payment in advance or at the door (check payable to Vassar Temple or cash). Contact the temple office in advance to use a credit card.

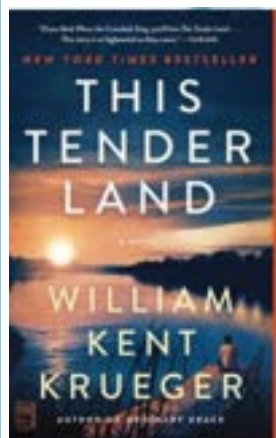
***Registration is required. ***

RSVP to: create@vassartemple.org

Limit 24 participants. (A waitlist will be maintained.) This month's program is for ages 16+.

Save the date for additional sessions:
November 17 (snow date 11/18),
December 8 (snow date 12/9)
– projects to be announced.

VTS Book Club to Read *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger



The story of four orphans who travel the Mississippi River on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression begins in the summer of 1932 when Odie O'Banion, an orphan confined to the Lincoln Indian Training School in Minnesota, is forced to flee after committing a terrible crime. He and his brother, Albert, their best friend, Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own. Over the course of one summer, these four orphans journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. (paraphrased from Amazon)

Discussion of this book will be on Thursday, October 16, 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.

Dutchess Interfaith CROP Walk Against Hunger

Sunday, October 19



This major annual fundraising event is our compassionate local interfaith community's response to hunger, displacement, and disaster, at home and abroad. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised in our CROP walk comes back to agencies who fight hunger throughout Dutchess County. We follow a safe six-mile route in Poughkeepsie, beginning and ending at Temple Beth El, 118 S. Grand Avenue, with pit stops at houses of worship along the way. Walk as much of the route as you wish. And everyone is invited to patronize the bake sale at Headquarters!

Please support this life-sustaining effort as a walker or donor!

Walkers: Walk on your own; start between 10am-2pm,* or walk with family, friends, or a temple group. Can't make the time/date/location? Plan your own walk! Prefer to bike or otherwise "do your own thing?" Terrific! To participate, sign up for the Vassar Temple team at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/vassar-temple>. Click on the blue "Join the Team" button and follow the directions. Ask friends, family, associates, and contacts on social media to sign up online to sponsor you, and you won't even have to go around collecting any money. *Please note, this year HQ & rest stops will close at 3pm.

Donors: Donations in ANY amount are gratefully accepted, and are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. To sponsor the team as a whole, go to the above link, scroll down to "Support Vassar Temple and CWS," and click on "Make a Donation." To sponsor any individual team member, including Rabbi Jeff, scroll down to the list of "Team Members" and click on the "Donate" tab next to the individual walker's name. To hand in a check (made out to "CWS Crop"), please contact Ron (see below).

For more information, to donate by check, or to arrange to walk a Temple group, please contact Ron Rosen, our Temple's team captain, at Cropwalk@vassartemple.org. To donate baked goods (especially needed: cupcakes, individually wrapped servings of cookies or brownies) contact socialaction@vassartemple.org.

Vassar Temple Sisterhood & Brotherhood

Paid up Membership Luncheon

Sunday, November 2, 2025 ~ 12:30pm

RSVP by Monday, October 27, 2025

paidup@vassartemple.org

Non-members can join at the luncheon \$50



Thank You from the Social Action Committee

Special thanks to all who supported our two summertime projects, Protein Plenty drive and Hannukah in August. You truly proved that Vassar Temple cares about hunger, and did so much to meaningfully support the most vulnerable children in our Temple's hometown school system.

Marian Schwartz,
Social Action Chair



Audrey Steckman will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on October 18 at Vassar Temple. She loves dance, softball and theater. For her Mitzvah Project, Audrey collected donations of nonperishable foods for Dutchess Outreach.

Giant Lessons: Learning About Elephant Intelligence on Parashat Noach Friday, October 24 at 6pm



We've all watched our pets and wondered, "Are they thinking what I'm thinking?" Dr. Joshua Plotnik, a comparative psychologist at Hunter College in New York, has spent 20 years studying animal cognition, or how animals think—with a special focus on elephants.

On this Parashat Noach, join Josh as he shares stories from his research on elephant intelligence and conservation in Thailand. He will talk about how elephants recognize themselves in mirrors (and why that matters), how their cooperation parallels our own, and their extraordinary sense of smell. Together, we'll explore how his research on elephant minds is being applied to conservation efforts that promote coexistence between humans and wildlife.

Thank You, Vassar Temple Sisterhood

A grand thank you to our Sisterhood who recognized the needs of parents and grandparents and has provided the Temple with a diaper changing station and two toddler chairs for the social hall. Now you can come with your little ones to services and events without worry.

The changing station is open for all, just outside the women's room. We have provided disposal bags for diapers and wipes and sanitizing wipes to keep the area clean. Let's all do our part!

Please thank Sisterhood members, give them your ideas to improve our Temple and support their events. Three cheers!



SUSTAINING FUND

In Memory of:

Mildred Shapiro
Ida Goldberg
Linda Claire Cantor, Henry Cantor, Ellen Bernard and
Solomon Charles Cantor
Lucilla Albinder
Lisa Heidelberger, Louis Heidelberger & Evelyn Heidelberger
Jeffrey Renner
Walter Posner
William Laufer & Iris Turk
Hildegard Tuchmann

In Honor of:

Ed Garber's Special Birthday
Susan Fink upon her Bat Mitzvah ~ Mazel Tov!

LUNCH BOX FUND

In Memory of:

Lara Katie Goetzl

COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

MUSIC FUND

In Honor of Cantor Goldmann ~ "Let's keep her singing"

DONATION FOR SIMCHAT TORAH

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of:

Toby & Samuel Cederbaum, and Leah & Dr. Howard Cohen

In Honor of:

The Cemetery Committee

ENDOWMENT FUND

RABBI RENNI ALTMAN TORAH FUND

In Honor of: Rabbi Altman and family

RABBI PAUL GOLOMB ADULT ED FUND

In Honor of:

The birth of Rabbi Paul & Debbie Golomb's new grandson

MEMORIAL PLAQUE FUND

CONTRIBUTIONS

Francine Kaplan
Dr. Sara Jane Goldberg

Linda & Richard Cantor
Susan & Daniel Albinder
Marianne & Bob Abrams
Irma Jacobs
Roni & Charles Stein
Stella & Jed Turk
Doi Cohen

Marge & Art Groten
Herschel Lessin
Susan Fink

Marion I. Lipshutz & Edgar A. Goetzl
Lydia Brown
Barbara Aronson
Ellen Zelig
Arlene & Gil Seligman
Marge & Art Groten
Marian & Ralph Schwartz
Susan Fink
Ruth Goldfarb
Susan Fink
Judy & Eric Rosenfeld
Candace & Lou Lewis
Wm G. Miller & Son Funeral Home
Charles P. Stein, CPA, PC
Shelley & Steven Turk
Muriel Lampell
Susan Fink

Elaine & Morton Cederbaum

Polly Lewis
Susan & Daniel Albinder
Vivian & Ed Garber
Kimberly Harris
David Robinowitz

Linda & Richard Cantor
Roni & Charles Stein



Dutchess Outreach Coat Drive

Help keep our community warm this winter. We are collecting new and gently used coats of all sizes. Drop off box is located in the Temple lobby. Thank you.

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...?"

(Isaiah 58)



Grocery bags and food list available in the Temple.



Please bring it back full of non-perishable foods by Yom Kippur, October 2 – we'll stuff the truck!



When shopping, please select any foods listed here, unopened and not out of date: peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, coffee, tea, cereal, mayo, ketchup, baby formula, and these canned goods: tuna, soup, fruit, vegetables, ravioli, stew



Email: socialaction@vassartemple.org

SISTERHOOD RECIPE OF THE MONTH: Submitted by Susan Colodner

Orange Brownies

Ingredients for Brownies

- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups granulated white sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, at room temperature
- 4 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons pure orange extract or orange oil (I add an extra teaspoon)
- 1 teaspoon grated orange zest, (I add another teaspoon of zest)

Ingredients for Glaze

- 1 cup powdered sugar (measure, then sift)
- 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed orange juice
- 1 teaspoon finely grated orange zest; (again, I add an extra teaspoon)



Prepare the Brownies

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 13x9-inch pan with nonstick spray.
- In a mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar and salt.
- Add the butter, eggs, orange extract and orange zest and beat with hand mixer until well-blended.
- Pour the batter into the prepared pan and bake for 30 minutes, or until light golden brown and set.
- Remove from oven and pierce the top of entire cake with a skewer or a fork.

Prepare the Glaze

- Combine all of the glaze ingredients in a bowl, stirring until smooth.
- Add more juice, if needed to create a pouring consistency.
- Pour the glaze over the cake. Cool the cake and cut into 24 squares.

“Pack-a-Purse” for Grace Smith House

The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County and Temple Beth David of Amenia are collecting ladies' purses (new or in good condition) and filling them with hygiene items for victims of domestic violence staying at Grace Smith House. To help, please bring purses and hygiene items to the JFedDC office, 104 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie by October 27. Gift cards and baby diapers also appreciated.

Questions: 845-471-9811



Sisterhood welcomes new and returning members!

- ♦ Amy Horn Oclatis
- ♦ Mindy Teich
- ♦ Suzanne Turrissi

Thanks For Joining

October 3, 2025

Raphael Horn
Howard Cohen, MD
Jason Dlugacz
Dr. Ely Rosenthal
Sadie Gross
Robin Rayfield
Jessie Barker
Alfred J. Bogad
Mildred Shapiro
Daniel L. Cohen

October 10, 2025

Dorothy Wender
Mary Stolack
Jeanne Loth Rubin
Gertrude C. Clarfeld
Bessie Rabin
Linda Claire Cantor
Minnie Israel
Ira Greenberg
Aaron Parish
Margaret Ciminello
Lucilla Albinder
Sarah Pauline Benton
Joseph Sparks Sr
Susan Doppelt Pearlman
Lisa Heidelberger

October 17, 2025

Lisette Goldemberg
Norman Kramer
Jean W. Dampf
Keith Randall
Gertrude Hines Groten
Rose Hines
Jean Strauss
Harold Posner
Maia Scherrer
Marion Bennet Sawyer
Charles Finnerman
Evelyn Locke
Dr. Martin Rabin
Evelyn Gurst
Ida Goldberg
Morris Bronfeld
Abraham Swatlo
Shirley Hope Mann
Dr. Barry G. Jordan
Lisa Lemberger
Edna Cooper

October 24, 2025

Morris Fertig Ritter
Ruth Muraskin
Leo Klausner
Sophia S. Wolfson
Susan Salit Lowe
Henry Cantor
Samuel Scope
Murray Sigalow
Charlotte Konick
Toby Solomon
George Tofel
Joshua Russell Karp
Monroe Robbins
Lawrence Schaffel
Herman Katz
Sidney Locke
Bernard Himelstein
Leo Feinstein
George A. Rugar, Sr

October 31, 2025

William Rosenberg
J. Ralph Stein
Charles Wender
Jacob Haber
Lawrence Slate
Nathan Schmukler
Bessie Rothauser
Benjamin Michel
Adele Lerman Warshaw
Benjamin Genshaft
Edward S. Rubinow
Max H. Richter
Louis Heidelberger
Edward J. Kovacs
Samuel W. Gellert
Esther Mardon Bernstein
Samuel Garber
James Connelley
Henry Newman
Herbert Schenberg
Arthur Berlin
Bryan Matson
Bridget Molloy
Julius Ostrovsky

October YAHREZEITS

**Our condolences to:**

The family of Jeffrey M. Renner, Husband of Betty Renner
The family of Milton Charwat, father of Andrew Charwat

Join us for a special Sisterhood-Brotherhood gathering!

Lunch in the Sukkah

Wednesday, October 8 at noon

(in case of inclement weather, in the social hall)

Menu

* Choice of wrap:

- Caprese (mozzarella/basil/tomato) -

- Eggplant (breaded, roasted red peppers, mozzarella) -

- Tuna salad - Egg salad -

Potato and pasta salad, fruit salad, desserts, beverages

* Gluten-free wrap available – please specify when responding

RSVP to: SukkahChaiNoon@vassartemple.org

with your menu choice

Reservations are REQUIRED - DEADLINE OCTOBER 1

Donation: \$18 per person

(please make checks out to Vassar Temple Sisterhood with "Sukkah Luncheon"

on the memo line, send to the Temple office in advance or bring that day)



Friends and non-members welcome!



Chairs available...feel free to bring your own lawn chair.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE SUKKAH!



At Selichot, the Arnold Award for enhancing religious life at the Temple was presented to Lisa-Sue Quackenbush by last year's recipient, Martin Charwat.

Calendar of Events—October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm Kol Nidrei	2 YK—office closed 10am YK AM Service 1pm YK Family Service 2pm Study Session 3pm Meditation/Sanctuary 4pm YK PM Service, Yizkor, Ne'ilah & Break the Fast	3 7:30pm Shabbat Service	4 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths
5 9am Religious School 10:30am Lunch Box  11am Tiny Temple 4pm Adult Ed, This is Real	6 Sukkot Eve 5:45pm Erev Sukkot Dinner in the Sukkah 7pm Erev Sukkot Service	7 Sukkot Day 1— office closed	8 Sukkot Day 2 12pm Sukkah Lunch 12pm Wise Aging 4:30pm Hebrew School— 1st class	9 Sukkot Day 3 7pm Ritual CMTE	10 Sukkot Day 4 7:30pm Shabbat Service	11 Sukkot Day 5 9am Torah Study
12 Sukkot Day 6 12:30pm Community Holiday Hits by the Hut - Congregation Schomre Israel	13 Sukkot Day 7— office closed Sh'mini Atzeret & Erev Simchat Torah 5:45pm Erev Simchat Torah Dinner in the Sukkah 7pm Erev Simchat Torah Service	14 Sh'mini Atzeret & Simchat Torah— office closed 10am Sh'mini Atzeret & Simchat Torah AM Service	15 4:30pm Hebrew School 7pm Finance CMTE	16 2pm VTS Book Club 7:30pm Cemetery CMTE	17 7:30pm Shabbat Service	18 10am Audrey Steckman Bat Mitzvah
19 9am Religious School 9am Brotherhood— Sukkah Takedown	20 Love Forward DCIC Gala	21 7pm Adult Ed, This is Real	22 4:30pm Hebrew School	23 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm VT Board	24 6pm Shabbat Noach Service 	25 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
26 9am Religious School 10am Cemetery Volunteer Day	27 7:00pm Creating Community	28	29 4:30pm Hebrew School	30	31 7:30pm Shabbat Service	

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

היום הרת עולם | Today, everything is possible.

On the Jewish calendar, the High Holidays are the *birthday of the world* — the Big Bang of existence.

This is the moment the Jewish tradition asks us to notice how we've changed, and imagine how we might grow closer to our best selves — together.

Because today, everything is possible.

On the back of this insert, you'll find a special pledge card from me — an invitation to help bring more light and connection into our community in the year ahead. Feel free to bring it with you to services this year so we can step into 5786 side by side.

Let's dream big, sing loud, and welcome in the new year with joy.



~ Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh

SPIRITUAL PLEDGE CARD

In 5786, I, _____ pledge to bring more...

- ★ Tikkun Olam / Repairing the World
- ★ Time doing Jewish with other families
- ★ Relationships with other interfaith couples / families
- ★ Self-Care
- ★ Shabbat
- ★ Jewish cooking or baking
- ★ Meditation
- ★ Leadership opportunities
- ★ Hospitality
- ★ Nature time and environmental care
- ★ _____

...into my life

Rabbi: Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh
Cantor: Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann
Rabbi Emerita: Rabbi Renni Altman
Senior Scholar: Rabbi Paul Golomb
Rabbi Emeritus: Rabbi Stephen A. Arnold
Religious School Director: Rabbi Shoshana Hantman
Temple Musician: Joseph Bertolozzi
President: Roni Stein
1st Vice President: Seth Lederer
2nd Vice President: Gail D'Alessio
Secretary: Marcia Tanzman
Treasurer: Maxine Finkelstein
Sisterhood President: Polly Lewis
Brotherhood Co-Presidents:
 Paul Ciminello
 Kurt Quackenbush &
 Daniel Scherrer
Immediate Past President: Lisa-Sue Quackenbush
Bulletin Editor: Jo Schaffel



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