



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel, Founded 1848—Bulletin Volume 174 No. 5 ~ December 2025

Hanukkah Potluck Dinner and Service Friday, December 19 at 6pm at Vassar Temple

- Bring a dairy or vegetable dish for 12. (no meat or peanuts)
- Sisterhood will provide latkes, applesauce, challah, salad, and beverages
- The cost for the dinner is \$18 per family or \$6 per individual
- Email HanukkahDinner@vassartemple.org or call the temple office at 845.454.2570 by December 16 to let us know you are coming!
- Please send your check to Vassar Temple Sisterhood
140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(write Hanukkah Dinner on the memo line)

The dinner will be followed at 7:30pm by our traditional, exciting, and beautiful family-friendly Hanukkah Menorah-Lighting Shabbat service, to which everyone is welcome (hybrid). If you have not yet experienced this service, and even if you have, you are in for a real treat!

Don't forget your menorah and candles.



From the Rabbi's Desk: *Growing Up with Both ~ My Interfaith Story*



When I think about this time of year, I'm reminded how many layers there are in December. The season carries so much meaning for us all, symbolized by light and darkness, joy and pressure, ritual and rest. For me, it always comes back to one memory from childhood that captures what this season is all about.

When I was in fourth or fifth grade, Hanukkah and Christmas overlapped. I grew up in an interfaith home, and as the holidays approached that year, I asked my parents if it might be okay to skip the Christmas tree. It wasn't a rebellion, just my sense that something could be different. Turns out, my question sparked a remarkable conversation about what really mattered most to each of us.

For my dad, it was the smell of pine in the house—the scent that meant Christmas had arrived. For my mom, it was the gingerbread house she built every year. For my sister and me, it was our stockings and the few ornaments that we loved the most. None of these things, we realized, required a tree to exist. So that year we adapted: a garland of real pine hung over the fireplace filled the room with that beloved scent. We chose a handful of our favorite ornaments to dangle from it. My mom still built her gingerbread masterpiece, and my dad baked his famous cinnamon rolls for Christmas morning. We lit the *menorah* and the room glowed with both of our holidays sharing the same space and a similar footprint.

This was not a compromise; it was a creation story. We didn't lose anything by blending like this; we really made every element of our family connection to our tradition stronger—and to this day this story teaches a lesson of the resilience of Judaism, and the power of listening, having no end in mind, being creative, and building something together.

Every year since, I've thought about that story and what it represents—not just for interfaith families, but for all of us trying to hold the complexities of our own identities against the complexity of the world with love and nuance. December invites us to see that there isn't only one way to belong. There are many ways to be Jewish, many ways to find holiness, and many ways to express the joy and light of this holiday season.

At Vassar Temple, I know many of us carry overlapping traditions. Some light Hanukkah candles beside a Christmas tree. Others visit family on Christmas Day but find their spiritual home here on Shabbat. Still others celebrate only Hanukkah, cherishing the chance to lean into the difference of what it is to be an American Jewish family and shine Jewish light in the heart of winter. However we come to this season, I hope you do so with pride, compassion, and curiosity.

The beauty of Judaism is that it doesn't ask us to erase our stories; it invites us to bring them forward, to weave them into a tapestry that honors both where we come from and who we are becoming.

So this year, whether your home smells of pine or latkes—or both—may you feel surrounded by warmth. May the light of your *menorah* be reflected in the lights of those you love. And may our community be a place where all stories are welcomed, honored, and celebrated.

Chag urim sameach — may your season be filled with light, laughter, and love.

Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh

President's Message:



It's December! Soon Hanukkah will be here and that means don't forget your menorah and candles for the service on Friday, December 19 at 7:30pm. If you can join us earlier, please come to the annual potluck dinner. All information on what to bring and RSVP's is in the bulletin and weekly Temple emails. If you are running short of candles or gelt or socks (yes socks!), don't forget to stop by the Sisterhood Hanukkah pop-up shop and stock up. Say hello to Polly Lewis and her helpers, too!

Vassar Temple is again hosting the community Hanukkah party for families on December 14 at 11am. Area synagogues, the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County, and PJ library will be here to be part of the celebration and entertainment, activities and food. It is always a fun time!

In this country right now, we are going through some hard times, and I'd like to thank the members of Vassar Temple for stepping up to help, as we seem to always do. We have knitted scarves and hats, collected gently-used coats, collected toiletries, and the Can Jam box keeps filling up. Those who are in need will be very pleased and relieved to have these items. If you can, be part of keeping the Can Jam box full! A reminder though, all non-perishable food items must be within the date stamped on the item.

Also, members of Vassar Temple, do ask when making an extra end of the calendar year financial donation to Temple, what program needs funding, where is the need? First, I would say thank you! The most obvious answer is the Sustaining Fund as this supports the Temple's operations. But there are more specific funds for specific uses that do need to be replenished after money is used. I'll highlight some of the funds that are cited to be replenished. The Capital Fund is used to cover expenses for the care of our building. The Cemetery Fund covers upkeep of the cemeteries on an ongoing basis. The Endowment Fund is near its goal and donations to reach that goal will keep Vassar Temple in a good financial position for the future. These year-end donations are most appreciated. Our Simchat Torah service and dinner were extra special due to just this type of extra help!

There are other funds that we will highlight from time to time covering Adult Education, Music, Torahs, Religious School, Technology, and so on. Please feel free to ask a board member or contact the office and we will get information for you.

I would be remiss if I didn't say that a donation of your time is also so appreciated, and often necessary, for Temple activities. What would Religious School be without the assistance of our parents? And thank you to our weekly Friday night Oneg hosts! Our congregation would not be what it is without the many people who donate their time in smaller and larger ways. Thank you all!

*As I write this column, the ceasefire for Israel and Gaza holds. Many countries and organizations are aiding in the process of making this permanent, may it only get better. Peace is a fragile thing and no one I know wants to go back to war and violence. I, like you, also want those who would use the war to foment antisemitism to stop. In a season of holidays and talk of peace, let peace and tolerance be our number one priority!

Roni Stein

A Note from the Treasurer

As I reported frequently during the past year or so, Fiscal Year 2025, which ended June 30, 2025, was a challenging year for Vasser Temple. We started the FY with a budget anticipating expenses of \$496,000 and revenues of \$500,000. The assumptions about revenues included some aspirational goals for fundraising, and the assumptions about expenses included a straightforward set of operating activities. A budget, however, is a guide for managing, and the real world always includes a few surprises.

All in all, we dealt with the surprises of FY 2025 and are ready to face the surprises that FY 2026 will bring.

We ended the FY with expenses of \$625,359 and revenues of \$494,857. Our expense overrun was attributable to several unanticipated projects that needed to be done, the largest of which was the sanctuary cooling system. Revenues were close to the budgeted number; we did not achieve our fundraising goals for the year, but earnings on our investments exceeded expectations and supported operations.

We are now through the first quarter of FY 2026. Revenues through September were \$262,813, about 48% of the total anticipated for the year. This is attributed to the great response from our membership in sending in membership dues, and in early support for High Holidays fundraising. Expenses were \$117,790, 22% of the full year's budget. The summer months are slightly lower than remaining quarters, as school is not in session and fewer temple activities are programmed. So far in the fiscal year, no surprises!

In the final quarter of the calendar year, temple activities are in high gear. A Development Committee has been established and charged with planning a strategy for fundraising and outreach. Much work is being done on building improvements, to update and enhance our facilities, and maintain systems. School is in session and very well attended. The Board continues to focus on security. For those members who are looking to support the temple with additional donations as the calendar year ends, you are encouraged to consider the special funds, such as the capital fund, or the sustaining fund that supports ongoing operations, among others. The list of all special funds is on the website for you to consider supporting.

The Finance and Investment Committees will be revisiting our investment strategies as well. We have done well to date with the Investment and Endowment accounts. We want to continue to monitor our performance in the context of a changing and volatile economy and stay strong.

~Maxine Finkelstein



YEAR-END
GIVING

December Scriptural Readings

December 6

Vayishlach:

Genesis 32:4-36:43; Hosea 11:7-12:12

December 13

Vayeishev:

Genesis 37:1-40:23; Amos 2:6-3:8

December 20

Mikeitz:

Genesis 41:1-44:17; Zechariah 4:1-7

December 27

Vayigash:

Genesis 44:18-47:27; Ezekiel 37:15-28

Vassar Temple Study Groups

Torah Study with Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh meets hybrid at 9am on Saturday mornings . 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, is on hiatus and will resume in January.

All welcome
No prior knowledge required
No charge to attend

New Paths

This month we'll gather for New Paths Sabbath morning services at 10:15am Saturdays, December 6 and 20 (both 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.

Bimah Flowers for our Services December 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.

December 2025 Bimah Flowers Sponsors:

- December 5: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- December 12: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- December 19: Melissa Erlebacher in memory of Seth Erlebacher and Ken & Amy Horn Oclatis in honor of their grandchildren
- December 26: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)



Hanukkah Basket Raffle

Just in time for the December holidays, our Development Committee has put together an amazing basket, filled with an incredible array of gifts totaling over \$500 in value! Whether you want to gift them to someone special, or keep all of the goodies for yourself and your family, don't miss out on a chance to WIN!



Tickets on sale now! \$5 each / 3 for \$10

Cash or check made out to Vassar Temple
(we can accept credit card for purchases of at least \$50)

Purchase your tickets during office hours 10-2,
on Sundays 9-12 when Religious School is in session,
or at the Community Hanukkah Celebration on 12/14.

Or contact fundraising@vassartemple.org
and we'll set aside tickets for you.

Drawing will be held following the event on 12/14.

Foam & Wash \$200 in vouchers ~ Jersey Mike's \$25 gift card ~ American Eagle \$25 gift card
Texas Roadhouse \$50 gift card ~ Outback Steakhouse (Wappingers) \$50 gift card (off 2 entrees)
Saba \$25 gift card ~ Roosevelt Cinema in Hyde Park 4 tickets
Bottles of wine ~ Scrumptious chocolates from Alps Sweet Shop
Homemade challah (delivered at a time of your choosing) with exquisite silk cover
Hanukkah candles and assorted items from our Sisterhood Judaica Shop

Please thank and support our generous donors!



Sisterhood/Brotherhood Paid Up Luncheon

The annual Sisterhood/Brotherhood Paid-Up Luncheon was held on Sunday, November 2. Thirty members attended. Prizes were donated by Casa Valenta, Sabellico, Just Bundt Cakes, Ulster Savings Bank, Paula's Runway, and Texas Roadhouse.

Camp Scholarship recipients presented a great video on how camp was rewarding. Rabbi Stombaugh presented on ways to increase engagement at Vassar Temple.

We encourage all to become members of Vassar Temple Sisterhood or Brotherhood. We can always use oneg hosts and bimah flower sponsors.

In addition, Sisterhood is looking for a Secretary, Vice President, and email person for reservations.



CREATING COMMUNITY

a series of gatherings to make something beautiful happen

join us to pause, socialize,
and center your creative energies
with

BREAKFAST and BOOKENDS

SUNDAY, DEC 7 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

We will create whimsical
paired bookends by repurposing
everyday objects.

Great for gift-giving!

-NO art skills required!-

We will provide all materials.

If you have a theme in mind, or items
you want to use, tell us in advance –
we'll make it happen! Children's or
teens' rooms, kitchen, retro, sport or
hobby, tools/gadgets, travel, music ...
sentimental objects, old equipment, forgotten toys, unused mugs ...



\$36 donation includes all supplies plus breakfast!

Pre-registration is greatly appreciated, but walk-ins are welcome!

RSVP: create@vassartemple.org

This is a fun(d)raiser for Vassar Temple. Payment in advance or at the door (check payable to Vassar Temple or cash). Contact the office in advance to use a credit card. Please email create@vassartemple.org for a confidential financial accommodation. All are welcome!



L'dor V'dor ~ Evening Shabbat Service

Thank you to all who came out for our special service on November 7. The congregation celebrated the Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Rubin, welcomed our newest and honored our generations members. We also had a special guest in Rabbi Altman who spoke with warmth as we bid a fond farewell to Art and Marge Groten.

A special thank you to Ellie and Martin Charwat who spoke beautifully—with a lot of laughs too—about their connections to Poughkeepsie and especially Vassar Temple.

Thank you Rabbi Jeff for leading us all in a service that was both special and unusual along with Cantor Goldmann and Joe Bertolozzi.

New members who were unable to attend, please reach out to the office as we have a special welcome bag for you.

Shalom-

Laura Brundage and Susan Colodner



Chai Noon Sisterhood Luncheon

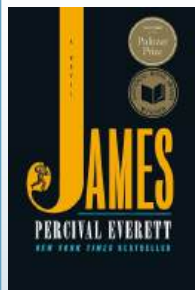
Join us for our next Chai Noon Luncheon:

Thursday, December 18, 2025
La Catrina Mexican Restaurant
4076 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538.

- Separate checks as usual
- Please RSVP to chai@vassartemple.org



VTS Book Club to Read *James* by Percival Everett



When Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he runs away until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck has faked his own death to escape his violent father. As all readers/listeners of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond. (Amazon)

Discussion of this book will be on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 2pm, in person at the Collegeview Tower meeting room, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie.

All are welcome. For questions, please contact bookclub@vassartemple.org.

SISTERHOOD RECIPE OF THE MONTH: Submitted by Kimberly Karitis

Lemon Ricotta Fritters for Hanukkah

Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons freshly grated lemon zest
- 4 eggs
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2 cups whole milk
- 2 cups whole milk ricotta cheese
- 2 ½ teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 4-6 cups canola oil, for frying
- ½ cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup jam or jelly (I love pomegranate, peach and blackberry, but use whatever jam you like)

Kimberly writes: This is a recipe my family has been making for years.

Instructions

- Heat oil in large pot on medium heat, until it reaches 365°F.
- In the meantime, in a large bowl combine eggs, ricotta, milk, granulated sugar and vanilla. Whisk thoroughly to combine.
- In medium bowl, combine the flour, salt, baking powder and lemon zest. Whisk to thoroughly combine.
- Pour dry ingredients into wet and stir with spoon until batter just comes together and there are no lumps of flour.
- When the oil has come up to temperature, use a #40 cookie scoop (2 tablespoons) to carefully scoop batter into hot oil without crowding the pan. NOTE: if you don't have a candy thermometer, you can check oil temperature by placing a wooden spoon in the hot oil. If small bubbles form around the spoon immediately, the oil is hot enough.
- Cook for 2-3 minutes per side, until deep golden brown. Check first fritter for doneness on the inside.
- Use a slotted spoon or metal spider to remove the fritters and any excess oil, then transfer to paper towels to drain.
- Dust with powdered sugar.
- In a small pan, heat the jam or jelly until it becomes liquid, then transfer to a serving bowl. Serve immediately for best results.





WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL



Jewish
Federation
of Dutchess County

COMMUNITY HANUKKAH *Party!*



Sunday, December 14th | 11:00 AM – 12:45 PM

Vassar Temple

140 Hooker Ave Poughkeepsie

We invite you to share love and light together this Hanukkah!



- Entertainment by Nutty Scientists
- Balloon artistry by Darryl Bielski
- PJ Library Donut Bar
- Songs with Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh
- Hanukkah Crafts
- Menorah Lighting



*Suggested donation \$8 per person/\$18 per family.
Please consider making a donation so we may continue
to bring Jewish culture & experiences to our local
community through enriching programming and events.*

*Registration is encouraged
for planning purposes.*

**To register, and/or make a donation,
scan the QR code or visit
JewishDutchess.org/Events**



Temple Beth-El
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK



**Security provided by the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County
through the JFNA 2025 Emergency Security Fund
in partnership with The Tepper Foundation.**

VT members found a new way to connect in our Creating Community sessions, which provided a respite and opportunity to try something new, as well as to get to know each other better. Friends and non-members are welcome to join us for the December session.

Thank you to Eve Gendron for bringing this wonderful program to the community!



SUSTAINING FUND

In Memory of:

Sadie Breit, Sandra Lipschitz, Dr. Charles Scope & Dorothy Vogel
Gaily Joyce Harrington
Aaron Slote, Goldie Bleich, Salma Kahn & Joseph L. Kahn
Max Goldstein
Joe Friedman
Marion Himmelstein
Len Garber
Florie Weber

Ruth Stein
Evelyn Tanzman
Gerald Mamis
Mark Rosenthal
Gabrielle Creedon Soroka & Virginia Newman Livingston
David Teich
Thelma Fival & Irving Wrobel
Flora Silverman
Sidney Friedman & Henry Goldstein

In Honor of:

Lisa-Sue Quackenbush receiving the Arnold Award

Ed Garber's special birthday

LUNCH BOX FUND

In Honor of:

Audrey Steckman's Bat Mitzvah

COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of: Enid Gohra

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Honor of: Rabbi Renni Altman

CAPITAL FUND

RABBI RENNI ALTMAN TORAH FUND

DONATION FOR SIMCHAT TORAH

Alfred Scope
Michael Harrington
Muriel Lampell
Roz & Stan Cooper
Sue & Hal Lesser
Howard Himmelstein
Vivian & Ed Garber
Holt Brothers Foundation
Sandra Mamis
Roni & Charles Stein
Marcia & Glenn Tanzman
Sandra Mamis
Charlene & Loren Rosenthal
Judy & Bob Creedon
Mindy & Martin Teich
Lewis & Hilary Wrobel
Helen & Brian Silverman
Friedman Family

Doi Cohen
Melissa Erlebacher
Marty & Grete Finkelstein

Linda & Richard Cantor
Richard Partridge
Anonymous
Francine Kaplan

Andi & Paul Ciminello

Francine Kaplan
Michael Sperling

Joseph Gohra

Anne Lescher
Roni & Charles Stein
Kingsberg Foundation, Sally Keller

Anne Lescher
Steven Reifler

The Pierantozzi Family
Francine Kaplan

Polly Lewis

*thank
you*

CONTRIBUTIONS December 2025

December 5, 2025

Louis Dubler
 Fay Greenberg
 May Kaufman Ettenson
 Ida Finnerman
 Edward Roth
 Solomon Berger
 Bea Russotto
 Marion Himmelstein
 Susan Baker
 Sydell Alpers Pannor
 Rabbi Martin Rozenberg
 Larry Adler
 Miriam Feitelson
 Sadie Breit
 Sandra Lipschitz
 Martin Markowitz
 Julius Klein
 Leo Loeb
 Carl Gross
 Minnie Shapiro
 Ruth Bagun
 Elsa Cohen
 Wilford Wittenberg
 Thomas Nolan
 Daniel Arnold
 Ava Bayne

December 12, 2025

Kate Hecht
 Seth A. Erlebacher
 Lillian Lox
 Richard Saul Fein
 Herbert Jacobson
 Philip D'Angelo
 Clara Lewin
 Allan E. Dampf
 Jordon M. Taylor
 Lillian Friedman
 Helen Wrobel
 Gladys Steinberg
 Esther Yelsky
 Abe Barnett
 Anna Cairo
 Erna Konheim
 Eileen Dermody
 Albert Bayne

December 19, 2025

Alvin Greenberg
 Leah Michel
 Maurice Troeger
 Michael Goldfinger
 Aaron Slote
 Harry Migdal
 Ruth Seegal Cohen
 Marilyn Sirkus
 Ruth Joy Orner
 Charles Kovacs, DDS
 Ilse B. Dreyfuss
 Anne Kesselman
 Beatrice Snyder
 Nathaniel Rubin
 Belle G. Adler
 Evelyn Lesser
 Joseph Weber
 Evelyn Luttinger
 William Robinowitz
 Stella W. Renick
 Goldie Bleich
 Dr. Doris Berlin-Acker

December 26, 2025

Rabbi Sigmund Israel
 Ida Krevolin
 Herman R. Gross
 Lawrence M. Soifer
 Selma Kahn
 Leah W. Cohen
 Deborah H. Jacobs
 Celia Kraut
 Joseph L. Kahn
 Bernie Rader
 Reine Reinhart
 Dr. Joseph R. Levy
 Joseph Fa'gut
 Henry Solomonson
 Len Garber
 Barnet B. Shelton
 Jean Ciminello
 Marcia Kurz



December Yahrzeits

Our condolences to the family of Florie Weber—
 mother of Patti Weiner, grandmother of Stephanie Belsky &
 great-grandmother of Leo Stombaugh

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to this year's High Holy Day Appeal.

Robert & Marianne Abrams
Thomas & Laura Brundage
Paul & Andi Ciminello
Martin & Ellie Charwat
Doi Cohen
Miriam Cohen
Stan & Roz Cooper
Bob & Judy Creedon
Gail D'Alessio
Madelyn D'Angelo
Melissa Erlebacher
Susan Fink
Maxine Finkelstein
Sara Jane Goldberg
Henry & Henia Grodenchik
Art & Marge Groten
Kimberly Harris
David & Susan Hecht
Irma Jacobs
Francine Kaplan
Joel & Claudia Kelson
Maury & Miriam Lacher
Muriel Lampell
Anne Lescher
Polly Lewis
Jon Lieberman & Fern Lox
Sandra Mamis
Gloria Mayer
Jeremy & Danah Moore
Nir & Katherine Naaman
Kurt & Lisa-Sue Quackenbush
Betty Renner
Martin & Marilyn Revitz
Ron Rosen
Loren & Charlene Rosenthal
Gil & Arlene Seligman
Brian & Helen Silverman
Laura & Michael Sperling
Lally & Michael Steckman
Charles & Roni Stein
Herb & Suzi Stoller
Carol Strauss
Sue Sullivan
Howard & Shirl Susser
Marcia & Glenn Tanzman
Martin & Mindy Teich
Jed & Stella Turk
Shelley & Steven Turk



If you have yet to make a donation, please consider donating to the High Holy Day Appeal to help sustain Vassar Temple. Donations can be made by check or credit card.

Calendar of Events—December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7pm Sisterhood Monthly Meeting	2	3 12pm Arlington HS Student Tour 4:30pm Hebrew School	4 7pm Ritual CMTE	5 7:30pm Shabbat Service	6 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths Service
7 9am Religious School 10:30am Lunch Box 10:30am Creating Community  	8	9 7pm Creating Community (snow date)	10 12pm Wise Aging  2pm VTS Book Club 4:30pm Hebrew School	11	12 7:30pm Shabbat Service	13 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
14 Hanukkah Eve 1st Candle  9am Religious School 11am Community Hanukkah Party at Vassar Temple 	15 Hanukkah Day 1 2nd Candle 	16 Hanukkah Day 2 3rd Candle 	17 Hanukkah Day 3 4th Candle  4:30pm Hebrew School 7pm Finance CMTE	18 Hanukkah Day 4 5th Candle  12pm Chai Noon Luncheon 7pm VT Board	19 Hanukkah Day 5 6th Candle  6pm Hanukkah Potluck 7:30pm Shabbat Menorah-Lighting Service 	20 Hanukkah Day 6 7th Candle  9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths Service
21 Hanukkah Day 7 8th Candle  9am Religious School	22 Hanukkah Day 8	23	24	25 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30pm Shelter Meal	26 7:30pm Shabbat Service	27 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 			

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

Vassar Temple Season of Lights Scrip Gift Card Shopping Extravaganza

In addition to the Grocery Gift Cards that are always available at Temple (Adams, Hannaford, Price Chopper, ShopRite, Stop & Shop, and Tops), we have an abundance of wonderful gift cards for you to purchase during this Season of Lights!

We have gas cards for Exxon/Mobil, Shell, and Speedway. For your snacky and entertainment needs, we have cards from Dunkin, Panera, Starbucks, Regal Cinemas, and Uber/Uber Eats. For your home needs, we have Ace Hardware, Home Depot, and Lowe's. For your healthcare needs, we have CVS. For your holiday gift shopping needs, we have Amazon, American Eagle, Barnes & Noble, Bass Pro Shop, Gap/Athleta/Banana Republic/Old Navy, Target, and TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home Goods/Sierra Trading.

And we have recently added for your four-legged friend needs, Chewy, Petco, and PetSmart.. As a trial, we are also stocking a handful of Visa gift cards as well.

Please support Vassar Temple as you do your weekly grocery shopping, your house/home needs shopping, your pet needs, your holiday gift shopping and more. We have many smaller amount cards like \$10 & \$25 cards that are perfect for gifting your hairdresser/barber, your newspaper delivery person, teachers, dog walkers, etc. We have larger amount cards, like \$50 & \$100 cards for your larger purchases as well. We all need and buy stuff! Please think of buying Gift Cards that will benefit your temple! The Scrip/Raise Right Program is such an easy way to raise funds for Vassar Temple.

For more information, please email scrip@vassartemple.org or call the Temple Office 845-454-2570.



TJ-maxx

amazon



REGAL



Panera
BREAD

STARBUCKS

BARNES & NOBLE



DUNKIN'

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

Vassar Temple Bulletin is published monthly. Articles for the January Bulletin must be submitted by December 10 sent via email to

publicity@vassartemple.org. The editors reserve the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.

Vassar Temple
 140 Hooker Avenue
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
 845.454.2570
www.vassartemple.org

