



Vassar Temple

Where You Belong

Congregation Brethren of Israel, Founded 1848—Bulletin Volume 174 No. 6 ~ January 2026

Civic Engagement at Vassar Temple

Vassar Temple will offer a Meet Your Government Officials program beginning in January 2026. Invited speakers will include elected officials of the various branches of local, state and federal government.



The first program will feature Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi on Sunday, January 11 at 3pm. The program will be a Town Hall meeting format with the presenter making preliminary remarks followed by open questions from the community. This is an opportunity to understand the roles and responsibilities of our government officials at all levels. It is also an opportunity for these officials to get to know Vassar Temple and the Jewish community. We

anticipate offering monthly programs with elected officials that will be open to Vassar Temple members, community friends and family.

Save the date for these upcoming programs:



Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers and Poughkeepsie Town Supervisor Rebecca Edwards on Sunday, February 22 from 3-5pm.



Dutchess Family Court Judge the Honorable Jeffrey C. Martin on Sunday, March 8 from 3-5pm.



From the Rabbi's Desk: *Happy New Year, Vassar Temple!*



As we welcome 2026, I want to begin with a bit of learning that has stayed with me since a December Torah study—*shameless plug: we meet most Saturday mornings from 9–10am, hybrid in the sanctuary.*

That session opened something for me about how our tradition gives us a map for being in deep relationship with God and with humanity—both of which our tradition names in many different ways in order to articulate something greater than ourselves, even if we struggle with belief altogether. And it's precisely that struggle—and what emerges from it—that I want to return to this month.

We looked at the moment Jacob wrestles—whether with an angel, a mysterious "ish," maybe a river spirit, or simply with himself—and receives a new name: Israel.

The text tells us:

"Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel, for you have wrestled with beings divine and human and have prevailed." (Gen. 32:29) — אֱלֹהִים עִם-יַעֲקֹב ki sarita im Elohim — "because you have struggled with God."

Jacob struggles through the night. But notice: he doesn't struggle *against* God—he struggles *with* God. The struggle itself is a form of intimacy and relationship. And from that wrestling comes not defeat or loss, but a new name, a new identity, a blessing.

During Torah study, someone pointed out a powerful wordplay that links this moment to the very first chapter of Genesis. Humanity is created:

— בְּצֶלֶם אֱלֹהִים *b'tzelem Elohim* — "in the **image** of God."

B'tzelem Elohim and *im Elohim*. The Bible's earliest description of being human connects directly to the moment we become Israel.

From *b'tzelem Elohim* we learn that every single human being carries a divine spark—no matter who you are, where you come from, what you have or don't have, which "side of the tracks" you were born on, or where in the world you might be. Every person is worthy of dignity because every person is holy.

Then from *im Elohim* we learn that the nature of what it is to be Israel is not just about *struggling* with God, but about having a with-ness with the divine element—a relationship that requires us to show up whole, living in awareness of every part of who we are in order to step forward on the path of our lives, even if it's with a limp—like Jacob, who carries both his wound and his blessing forward. Healing is also part of the journey.

As we begin this new year, I want to invite you to follow this ancient map:

First, acknowledge the Divine image within you. Honor that spark of sacredness that is uniquely yours.

And second, examine your with-ness. Where—and how—do you experience or feel that with-ness? What practices, relationships, communities, or questions help you feel connected? Where might you want to deepen that connection in 2026?

This moment in Torah is not only a story about Jacob—it's an origin story for *us*. Every new year, every transition, every turning of the calendar invites us to become Israel again, to live with deeper awareness of who we are and who we yearn to become.

And as a teaser—we are also starting to read another great origin story: the opening chapters of Exodus, the beginnings of our liberation narrative that will eventually lead us to Passover this spring. Another season of beginnings.

Wishing you a year of clarity, courage, and gentle with-ness.

Happy New Year, and I look forward to seeing you at Vassar Temple—and maybe even at Torah study.

Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh

President's Message: *Happy Second New Year!*



It is interesting having a Jewish New Year and a secular New Year, but I'll take it. Two celebrations sound fine. While January brings meetings and the usual services and activities, we can look forward to the Soup and Chili Tisch Shabbat on January 23. Everything takes place in the social hall, bringing special warmth and spirituality to a very cold time of year. Thank you to Sisterhood for this Tisch shabbat!

I also wanted to talk more about the security initiatives Vassar Temple is involved with, covering several areas. We are progressing with our Homeland Security grant process, forming our security committee, and working with the Federation and a community-wide security committee coordinated by them. This is focused on physical security in large part.

I recently spoke with the URJ representative for small congregations regarding online security and specifically social media. This is a very difficult and at times very complicated problem. Social media can be a great way to connect with others and for Vassar Temple to reach many in our community far and wide. But let's face it, social media can put you in a spotlight you may not want to be in due to how it works and how people can share things. We are a synagogue, congregation, a group, and we care about our fellow congregants. We do not want to hurt anyone in this congregation by posting something; we want to support each other. With the turbulent times we are living in, sometimes a post takes on a life of its own in online discussion. Whether by phone, email or social media, Vassar Temple can draw attention. On a local level, this can be manageable. But if the attention is on some social media platforms, that is no longer manageable and can reach a wide number of viewers. This may include people we don't know and don't know us; people who just don't care or have an agenda. With that in mind, freedom of speech is an absolute as members of this congregation and as citizens of this nation. However, in online discussion be aware that your board wants to keep our congregation safe and away from rampant antisemitism. We would want to have everyone consider possible consequences before they post.

Other steps have been taken regarding use of generalized RSVP emails, and information on our website is limited to what we need to include. Emails to the Rabbi, office, and board are reviewed for spam emails/texts. Please contact the office if you get an email/text from anyone that may be "phishing" for donations and you are suspicious. These issues are new and complicated and a bit scary, but we'll do our best as we have done pretty successfully so far!



Though we are heading into the thick of winter, stay warm inside or enjoy the cold weather sports. And I wish you another Happy New Year and a year of peace and tolerance. May all the rest of the hostages come home to their families and may the ceasefire become permanent.

Roni Stein

Soup and Chili Tisch Shabbat ~ Friday, January 23 at 6pm

On Friday, January 23 at 6pm, we will gather at Vassar Temple for a soup and chili dinner as part of a warm and wonderful in-person Tisch Shabbat. As we sit around tables in the social hall, Rabbi Stombaugh and Cantor Goldmann will lead a service modeled on the "Rebbe's Tisch," using Visual Tefillah (slides of the prayers projected on a screen, instead of prayer books), featuring lots of singing and stories. Sisterhood will provide a festive meal of homemade soups, vegetarian chili, challah, cornbread, and salad to be enjoyed during the service. There will be an Oneg to follow.

Everyone is very welcome; while reservations are not required, having an idea of the anticipated attendance in advance certainly makes the planning so much easier!

Donations for the dinner are appreciated; checks should be payable to Vassar Temple Sisterhood. If you'd like to make soup* or chili let us know. Other ways to help with this event include contributing to the Oneg offerings or helping with the set up. We look forward to hearing from you. For additional questions, please send a message to:

TischShabbat@vassartemple.org.

Please RSVP by January 16 to let us know if you are coming; you can get in touch either at TischShabbat@vassartemple.org or by calling the temple at 845-454-2570.

*Soup ideas could include those containing vegetables (beans, squash, etc.), cheese or pasta.



January Scriptural Readings

January 3

Vayechi:

Genesis 47:28-50:26; I Kings 2:1-12

January 10

Sh'mot:

Exodus 1:1-6:1; Isaiah 27:6-28; 29:22-23

January 17

Va-eira:

Exodus 6:2-9:35; Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

January 24

Bo:

Exodus 10:1-13:16; Jeremiah 46:13-28

January 31

B'shalach:

Exodus 13:17-17:16; Judges 4:4-5:31

Vassar Temple Study Groups

Torah Study with Temple Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh 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 on Zoom select Mondays, from noon to 1:30pm (generally twice a month). Next class January 5. For further information, to be placed on the Talmud Study email list, and receive the schedule and study sheets, contact Rabbi Golomb at pjgolomb@verizon.net.

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, January 3 and 17 (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

Bimah Flowers for our Services January 2026

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.

January 2026 Bimah Flowers Sponsors:

- January 2: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- January 9: Randi, Pam and Al Scope in memory of Charles Scope;
Marilyn McGaulley Lampell in memory of Nancy McGaulley;
Martin Noble in memory of Greta Blaine
- January 16: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- January 23: Sisterhood (dried arrangement)
- January 30: Benjamin and Ellie Krevolin in memory of Lewis Krevolin



Shabbat Yeladim (Children's Shabbat) ~ Saturday, January 17 at 10:15am



All young children from tots to first grade are invited to Vassar Temple to welcome the Sabbath on Saturday, January 17 at 10:15am. We'll also learn about Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees, and celebrate with a round of rollicking songs by Rabbi Jeff. Tell your friends and neighbors—this event is free and open to the whole community. Vassar Temple is a welcoming, inclusive Reform congregation. For more information and to RSVP, contact office@vassartemple.org or call the Temple 845-454-2570.

Can Jam at Vassar Temple

Food pantries are reporting as much as a 200% increase in visitors. Vassar Temple makes it easy for you to help! For your convenience, you can drop off any of the following requested nonperishable food items in the Can Jam bin any time the Temple is open. Items should not be outdated and packages should be unopened. Containers should be a reasonable size, as most people have to carry bags of the food home.

And if you would like to help transport our Can Jam items from the Temple to any local food pantry on a weekday even just once a year, please contact Joel Kelson at canjam@vassartemple.org. He would love to hear from you!

The most requested food items for donations:

- Boxed breakfast cereal
- Oatmeal
- Boxed dry pasta
- Instant potatoes
- Canned fruit
- Jelly
- Canned soups and pastas
- Peanut Butter
- Canned meat (tuna, etc.)
- Rice
- Canned vegetables
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Baby Food
- Baby Formula (*i.e.* Enfamil)



A weekend with Alden Solovy at Vassar Temple



Acclaimed Jewish poet, **Alden Solovy** is a modern-day piytan, a traveling poet/preacher/teacher who uses Torah and verse to engage and inspire. Alden is also a rabbinical student. We hope you can join us here at Vassar Temple during his visit.

Friday, January 9, 2026 at 7:30 pm

Alden will be helping lead the Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh and sharing his poetry

Saturday, January 10, 2026

9:00 am: Alden will lead Torah Study

10:15 am: Alden will lead the Shabbat Morning Service along with Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh

Sponsors:

**Vassar Temple's Adult Education Committee
and Vassar Temple Sisterhood
with funding from The Fannie & Doris Berlin Fund**

**Vassar Temple ~ 140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
office@vassartemple.org ~ 845.454.2570**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL UPDATE

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz wrote about how the New Year for Trees, Tu B'Shvat, evolved over the centuries. It began as an Israelite tax deadline—and then Jews were exiled. Jews made a deliberate effort to connect with the land of Israel, and the holiday grew into a minor festival.

Today, Tu B'Shvat connects us with our planet. Rabbi Steinsaltz writes “that all living creatures—plants included—have a connection with the human spirit, a common bond of life.”

Modern Israel, where early pioneers tilled the land and fought off malaria in the swamps in the north, is an environmental champion:



- *Israel, having planted 240 million trees, was one of only two countries to enter the 21st century with more trees than it had entering the 20th century.*
- *Israel developed drip irrigation in the 1960s, which it brought to Africa to help people grow crops in desert conditions.*
- *Israel developed the first commercial wind farm in the Middle East in 1992.*
- *Israel developed the first permanent bike-sharing program in the Middle East in 2011.*
- *In 2012, Israel surpassed the European Union as the biggest recycler of plastic.*
- *Israel's SodaStream company has also helped the entire world reduce its consumption of plastic bottles.*
-

**On Sunday, February 1,
Vassar Temple will celebrate with a
Tu B'Shvat seder starting at 10:00am ~ and you're invited!**

*Rabbi Shoshana Hantman
Religious School Director*

SISTERHOOD RECIPE OF THE MONTH: Submitted by Susan Colodner

Creamy Roasted Cauliflower Soup

Ingredients

- 1 large head cauliflower (about 2 pounds), cut into bite-size pieces
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- Fine sea salt
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 cups vegetable broth
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice (can use less)
- Scant ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 425°
- Toss cauliflower with 2 tablespoons of the olive oil and a small amount of salt
- Arrange cauliflower on baking sheet in a single layer—bake until cauliflower is tender and caramelized on the edges, about 25 to 35 minutes, tossing halfway
- In Dutch Oven, warm remaining tablespoon of oil, add onion and cook until tender and translucent, 5 to 7 minutes
- Add garlic, stirring and cook about 30 seconds until fragrant
- Add broth and cauliflower—increase heat to bring mixture to a simmer, then reduce heat to a gentle simmer—cook about 20 minutes, giving flavors time to meld
- When soup is done, remove from heat and allow to cool for a few minutes
- Transfer to a blender in small batches or use an immersion blender
- Add butter and blend until smooth
- Add lemon juice and nutmeg and blend again, adding additional salt to taste. You can add more lemon if soup needs more zing.



Vassar Temple's Annual Souper Sale ~ January 1-31

During this chilly winter that is especially difficult for so many, we are asking for financial donations in any amount to help us purchase cases of canned deluxe chunky soups to aid our neighbors in need. Warm, comforting, filling and nutritious. Let's nurture the bodies and souls of those in need of all ages, from tots to senior citizens. To help, just send a check in any amount made out to Vassar Temple with "Souper Sale" on the subject line, or donate on our website to Vassar Temple's Community Tzedakah Fund, and note it's for Souper Sale. All money collected for this project will be exchanged for temple scrip, which will be used to buy the soup. A win/win deal!

At Vassar Temple, helping to feed those in need is possible when we all join together. Thank you!

Vassar Temple Social Action Committee

Welcome to our new members: Jordan & Kira Breslauer

CREATING COMMUNITY

a series of gatherings to make something beautiful happen
Snack, sip, and center your creative energies.

January: **REVERSE COLORING** - *and breakfast!*

Sunday, January 25 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Shake off winter stress and relax with this wonderful meditative activity. We'll put on some music and a fresh pot of coffee, enjoy some breakfast, and allow our pens to wander and surprise us. (Friends are welcome!)

**** absolutely NO artistic skills required! ****



RSVP to: create@vassartemple.org

Led by Eve Gendron

Advance registration is greatly appreciated, but walk-ins are welcome.

This is a fun(d)raiser for Vassar Temple. \$18 includes all supplies and breakfast.

Payment in advance or at the door. Contact the office in advance to pay by credit card.

Social Action Happenings

Thanks to all who supported the fall social action projects in any way—Sisterhood winter wear knitting project, Dutchess Outreach October Coat Drive, Bright Nights (which brought 350 new coats to Sojourner Truth Elementary School alone), Pack-a-Purse which yielded three car loads of pocketbooks filled with hygiene products for Grace Smith House residents, and our Temple Thanksgiving project, Holiday Bags for Vets (Castle Point was thrilled!). The Community Tzedakah Fund also presented Reunite Migrant Families with supermarket gift cards. And our gratitude goes to everyone who assisted in any way with our ongoing Lunch Box and Shelter Meal projects. Watch for our Annual Souper Sale, coming up this month!

The Poughkeepsie City School district is reorganizing, and the local Jewish Social Action Coalition, of which we are members, is continuing to help families in need at Sojourner Truth (formerly Morse) and Clinton Schools (Pre-K thru grade 5). Currently there is a monthly food distribution program providing quality fresh food to 60 families, holiday gift cards were distributed in November and December, and plans are underway for educational enrichment programming, such as multicultural storytellers and puppeteers. Most of the funding for all this comes from grants we obtain, but private donations are always welcome. We hope to be working with the new school administrators soon to create volunteer opportunities for reading with and tutoring the children and helping in the library, as we did pre-Covid. The members of the coalition are Vassar Temple, Congregation Shir Chadash, Congregation Schomre Israel, Temple Beth-El, and the Harding Club. If anyone from Vassar Temple would like to join me in serving on the JSAC, please contact me!

Marian Schwartz

Social Action Chair

socialaction@vassartemple.org



Shabbat Yeladim Hanukkah Service
~ December 13, 2025

SUSTAINING FUND

In Memory of:

Dotty Sternberg
Israel Beer
Judy Golub
Jeff Renner & Florie Weber
Anna Cairo
Lillian Friedman
Shirley Jane LaLone, Forrest Graves, Brian Matson,
& Kathy LaLone Austin
George Meltzer & Alan S. Rubenstein
Greta Blaine
John Ciminello, Vito Ciminello & Chris Brown
Sandra Chertock
Ted Garber
Ida Scope

LUNCH BOX FUND

CAPITAL FUND

In Honor of: Marcia & Glenn Tanzman

MUSIC FUND

In Honor of:

Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann
~ Let's keep the cantor singing
Margery & Arthur Groten

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of:

Murray Solomon

YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION

COMMUNITY TZEDAKAH FUND

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Harry & Frances Lewis

Marilyn & Edward Rosenberg
Marlene Straus
Mrs. Laura Chasin

Gloria Mayer
Henia Grodenchik
Ed Gordon
Marian & Ralph Schwartz
Marilyn & Martin Revitz
The Friedman Family

Jane LaLone
Lisa Rubenstein & Richard DuVall
Martin Noble
The Ciminello Family
Herman D. Chertock
Vivian & Ed Garber
Alfred Scope

Jane LaLone

Dr. Jack & Fredrica Goodman
David Feinstein

Ruth L. Goldfarb
Susan Fink

Judith & Alan Mitzner

Anonymous

Muriel Horowitz

Susan and David Hecht

Lou Lewis



CONTRIBUTIONS



Thank you to “anonymous” for sponsoring the cost of pizza for the hungry Hebrew School students each Wednesday afternoon this fall, and a big thank you to Kim Karitis for being the *special delivery* person each week.

January 2, 2026

Ruth Stein
 Yetta Horn
 Joan Plotsky
 Norman Blaustein
 Frances Rosen
 Morris Effron
 Meyer Miller
 Faye Seif
 Rose Brond
 Jean Citron
 Harry Fogle
 Keith Warner Landau
 DeWitt Fischman
 Donald DeWitt
 Dotty Sternberg
 Harris Harold Groten
 Alma Barbash
 Dr. Bertram Katz
 Daniel Krevolin

January 9, 2026

Clara Dorn
 George Kanter
 Greta Blaine
 Betty Israel
 Dorothy Dlugacz
 John Ciminello
 Monte Tate Brown
 Ethel Haber
 Rae Lipman
 Beatrice Salit Horn
 Gabrielle Soroka
 Dr. Charles Scope
 Leon Krauss
 Wendy Ellen Wolstencroft
 Nancy McGaulley
 Pauline Wolfson

January 16, 2026

Leo Dorn
 Samuel Grand
 Carl Tobias
 Dorothy Vogel
 George Meltzer
 Gloria Menken

Evelyn Tanzman
 Albert Burrows
 Judy Golub
 Gerald Mamis
 E. Pat Newman
 Anna Kofman
 Stanley Israel
 Eleanor Katz
 Andrea Sue Rabin
 Bella Albert
 John Garlock
 Stanley Markum
 Hody I. Gellert
 Louis Satz
 Herbert L. Strauss
 Thelma Fival
 Herman D. Chertock
 Geraldine Geller
 Lois Grand
 Dr. Donald L. Goldfarb
 Betty Golomb
 Stephen Glasser
 Paul Wolf
 Stephen Bokor
 Morris S. Rosen
 Alvin Turk

January 23, 2026

Morris Kahn
 Joseph Solomon
 Daniel Russotto
 Sarah Sacharoff
 Doris Preis Rubinow
 Irving Jukofsky
 Belle Baum Fein
 Stanley Krell
 Miriam Rosenberg Oppenheimer
 Flora Silverman
 Helen Wagner
 Andrew H. Erdreich
 Joseph Effron
 Ruth Haber
 William Haber
 Sidney Friedman
 Herman Yelsky
 Henry Walter Seligman
 Judel Lampert
 Henry Goldstein

Roy Lieberman
 David Teich
 Joseph Levinson
 William Feinbloom, OD
 Joseph Baskin
 Ann J. Miller
 Elizabeth Satz
 Joan Golomb

January 30, 2026

Anne Richmond
 Jack Cooper
 Sylvia Mednick
 Abraham Ginsberg
 Israel Beer
 Jesse Colodner
 Joseph Marcus
 Walter L. Mock, Jr
 Melvin Lesser
 Shirley LaLone
 Mark C. Schwartz
 Naomi Goldberg
 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
 Davida Krevolin
 Stephen Berr



January
YAHREZEITS

Our condolences to the family of Murray Solomon, husband of Mary Solomon z"l


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
Richard DuVall & Lisa Rubenstein
Melissa Erlebacher
Susan Fink
Maxine Finkelstein
Howard & Rochelle Friedman
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
Ellen Zelig



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—January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 OFFICE CLOSED New Year's Day 	2 7:30pm Shabbat Service	3 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths Service
4 10:30am Lunch Box 	5 12pm Talmud Study 7pm Sisterhood Monthly Meeting	6	7 4:30pm Hebrew School	8 7pm Ritual CMTE 7:30pm Cemetery CMTE	9 7:30pm Shabbat Service ~ Alden Solovy will be visiting	10 9am Torah Study with Alden Solovy 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service with Alden Solovy
11 9am Religious School 3pm Civic Engagement Dutchess County District Attorney, Anthony Parisi 	12	13	14 12pm Wise Aging 4:30pm Hebrew School	15	16 7:30pm Shabbat Service	17 9am Torah Study 10:15am New Paths Service 10:15am Shabbat Yeladim Service 
18	19 OFFICE CLOSED MLK Day 	20	21 4:30pm Hebrew School 7pm Finance CMTE	22 6:30pm Shelter Meal 7pm VT Board	23 6pm Soup & Chili Tisch Shabbat Service 	24 9am Torah Study 10:15am Shabbat Morning Service
25 9am Religious School	26	27	28 4:30pm Hebrew School	29	30 7:30pm Shabbat Service	31 9am Torah Study

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



We are excited to announce that Sisterhood has purchased a new refrigerator for the temple kitchen to replace the 20-year old one. A huge thank you to Dan Arnoff and Arnoff Moving & Storage for making the delivery happen with last-minute notice.

Donations ~ large or small ~ to replenish our kitchen fund are greatly appreciated.

Rabbi: Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh
Cantor: Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann
Rabbi Emerita: Rabbi Reni Altman
Senior Scholar: Rabbi Paul Colomb
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 February Bulletin must be submitted by January 10 sent via email to publicity@vassartemple.org. The editors reserve the right to edit articles for style, accuracy and length.

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