



MLRT

MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE

Matters

Be Inspired. Be Connected. Belong.

April 2019



Celebrate

Passover

with MLRT!

Second Night Seder

Saturday, April 20 | 5:00 PM

Details on Page 4

Passover Morning Service

Saturday, April 20 | 10:00 AM

Seventh Day of Passover Service

Friday, April 26

Yizkor Service | 10:30 AM



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Important News!

David E. Straus
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Geri Newburge
Rabbi

Faryn Rudnick
Cantor

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The MLRT Listening Campaign – We Want to Hear from You!

As our President Joel Ginsparg announced in the January bulletin, we are very excited to be launching a Listening Campaign this year.

What is a Listening Campaign?

It is MLRT's way of forming deeper connections with you, the members of our congregational family. We want to hear about your passions and needs, and understand what we can do to make MLRT feel more like home to you.

You will continue to hear about the Listening Campaign in the coming weeks and months. Every member will be invited to participate in a Shema Circle, a small group of individuals. A facilitator will pose questions to the participants, and we will capture your feedback.

At the end of the campaign, we will summarize what we learned (and what we plan to do about it) and share it with all of you, in what we fondly refer to as The Big Reveal.

Your participation in the Listening Campaign will provide the information that will make this endeavor a success. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to sign up for a Shema Circle.

Please contact any of us with any questions you may have.

The Listening Campaign Leadership Team

Dave Heppen, Vice-President, dheppen@gmail.com, 610-247-8019

Gil Marder, Member Engagement & Program Manager, gmarder@mlrt.org, 610-649-7800

Andy Shamberg, Trustee, ashamberg@bbofpa.com, 610-316-1779

Elliott Schulman, Trustee, esmdha@gmail.com, 610-613-7326

DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN

Wednesday, May 8 | 7:00 PM

The next outstanding presentation in our Main Line Speaker Series will be "Presidential Leadership Lessons: Conversations with Doris Kearns Goodwin". Doris Kearns Goodwin is a world-renowned presidential historian, public speaker and Pulitzer Prize-winning, New York Times #1 best-selling author.

You do not want to miss it! General admission tickets available; buy yours at mlrt.org/speakerseries.

BROTHERHOOD 4th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Wednesday, May 15 | 8:00 AM

MLRT Brotherhood's Golf Outing has contributed over \$40,000 to various charities in the past three years, including HIAS PA, URJ Camp Harlam, the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, and so many more.

Join us for a day of golf, fun, and the opportunity to help others at Green Valley Country Club. Register at mlrt.org/golf

Fostering Participation this Passover



The old joke is that the real Four Questions are:

Can we eat yet?
Can we eat yet?
Can we eat yet?
Can we eat yet?

Rabbi Newburge

Many of us have endured Passover Seders that failed to engage us or our children. But the Seder is supposed to be just the opposite of that! The Seder is designed to involve everyone around the table. This idea goes back centuries. According to an account in the Talmud, Rabbi Akiva would distribute roasted grains and nuts to children on Passover eve, so they would not sleep and so they would ask questions. Another teaching offers the practice of Rabbi Eliezer who said: One grabs the matzot on the nights of Passover. One should eat them very quickly on account of the children, so that, due to the hasty consumption of the meal, they will not sleep and they will inquire into the meaning of this unusual practice.

Our ancestors orchestrated a festive holiday celebration to entice participation. While we no longer pass out foods to play with or eat matzah speedily, we still see participation in so many of the familiar elements, from the four questions and the discussion of the four types of children to the telling of the Exodus and the search for the afikomen. Of course, it's not just about keeping our youngest eaters entertained. Seder means order, and there are 15 steps to the Seder that must be covered in sequence. Within each of these steps we can exercise creativity and personalize the story. For example, consider adding an account of 10 modern plagues to the 10 plagues, or find a skit for the telling of the Exodus and give out parts.

While a Seder is typically celebrated at home, there is something special about sharing one with your community. Many years ago Main Line Reform Temple hosted a Second Night Seder. We are excited to renew to this wonderful tradition, led by Cantor Rudnick and myself. Please consider joining with your family and friends for an engaging and enthusiastic Seder catered by Savona Restaurant on Saturday, April 20 beginning at 5 PM. Reservations are \$39/adult (13+) and \$15 (under 13).

You can sign up online at www.mlrt.org/2nd-night-passover-seder-reservations.html or call the office to RSVP with Tobin Moskowitz at tmoskowitz@mlrt.org by Tuesday, April 9.

May your Passover observance be joyous and meaningful- chag sameach!

Jewish learning is a lifelong adventure!

One of our most celebrated and loved services of the year is the Confirmation service. Every year, our 10th grade students follow a course of study that culminates in a unique and deeply personal service led entirely by the students.

This worship experience affirms the students' commitment and involvement in Jewish life, as they share special moments that brought them to the sacred moment of Confirmation.

Please mark your calendars for **Friday, May 31** at 8 PM to join us in celebration of our Confirmation students and their families.

An Extraordinary Jewish Journey to Morocco with Rabbi David Straus

October 23 – November 3

Visit the souks of Fes, the famed gardens of Marrakech, the Kasbah of Rabat, the mausoleums of great sultans and kings, the graves of saintly rabbis, the dunes of the Sahara, the Todra Gorge, the Atlas mountains, and so much more!

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Rabbi Straus at dstraus@mlrt.org

Look for information about a family trip to Israel in December 2019 coming soon!

President's Message: Teach Them Faithfully To Your Children



Joel Ginsparg

The V'ahavta is the prayer immediately following the Sh'ma. In Deuteronomy 6:7, it tells us to "teach them faithfully to your children". Just as the Sh'ma is the call to all Jews to listen and understand that Adonai is our God, the V'ahavta is a reminder that we all are responsible for teaching this to our children. In doing so, we are transmitting our faith to future generations.

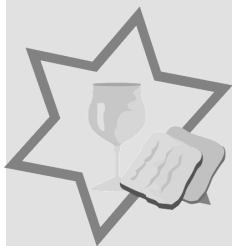
Many of us attended religious school at the synagogues in which we grew up. Some of us have fond memories of that experience and some of us do not. The experiences were varied but most of them followed a model of attendance for a couple of hours two or three days a week. We studied the Jewish holidays and learned Hebrew and the basic prayers. Ultimately, we celebrated becoming B'nai Mitzvah. Some of us continued our studies and were confirmed.

In many synagogues today, religious education still follows this basic structure. While the content being taught has been updated and in many cases contains experiential programs, the basics are much the same. However, our society has evolved somewhat dramatically. Our children have many more opportunities in their daily lives that compete for their time. Pedagogical developments in their secular education have increased their expectations about educational programs. For Jewish educational programs to survive in today's society, they need to change and become more innovative.

We have established a Religious Education Task Force to investigate the issues facing the religious education programs at MLRT, to create a vision for the future of religious education at MLRT, and to define an action plan to implement the vision. The scope of the task force covers religious education offered in the Early Childhood Education (ECE), Religious School, and Tribe programs. There are over fifteen people on the task force including members of the Board of Trustees, clergy, and congregants.

The task force is studying structures and content of religious education programs and is thinking about how to improve the connections between the various religious education programs at MLRT. They are researching innovative religious education models, programs, and curriculum throughout synagogues across the country. The task force is planning to conduct focus groups of current and past students and parents to better understand their needs and interests. If you would like to contribute your feedback and suggestions, please let us know.

Ultimately, our goal is to innovate and improve our religious education programs. We want to be responsive to the educational needs of all of the children in our congregation. We want to continue to teach Torah to our children. L'Dor Va'Dor. From generation to generation. The future of our faith is at stake.



PESACH SECOND NIGHT SEDER

Saturday, April 20 | 5:00 PM

Do you know the four questions? Which of the four sons/children are you? Join your MLRT family for a meaningful Second Night Seder on Saturday, April 20 as we retell the story of our people's liberation from slavery and celebration of freedom at MLRT.

Our beautiful Seder experience will be led by Rabbi Geri Newburge and Cantor Faryn Rudnick and catered by Savona Restaurant. The cost includes a full Seder, including appetizers, buffet dinner, grape juice, matzah and everything you need for Seder!

BYOB & Dessert. Adults are \$39 each, children under 13 are \$15 each.

RSVP by April 9 at mlrt.org/Passover

Questions? Contact Tobin Moskowitz at tmoskowitz@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

Creating Community

KRAV MAGA AT MLRT

Saturdays, April 6, 13, 27 | 4:00 PM

Krav Maga is a military self-defense and fighting system developed for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and Israeli security forces and emphasizes simple and practical techniques, real life scenarios, and intense training. Learn how to defend yourself, your friends, or your family, while getting in great shape! You will walk away from each self-contained class with a new set of skills. \$10 per class (\$15 for non-members) & your first one is FREE! Adults and children 12 years old and up.

For questions and to RSVP, email Scott Ginesin at sginesin@americangovernor.com.



HIKE WITH RABBI NEWBURGE

Saturday, April 6 | 8:30 AM

Let's explore the natural world around us for a serene Shabbat

morning hike led by Peter Grove, from Bridlewild Trails, and we will visit the areas of Palace Mission and Woodmont. Meet in the MLRT parking lot to carpool/caravan. Don't miss this unique experience! For questions, please contact Rabbi Newburge at gnewburge@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

PRIME TIME PRESENTS: Rick Spector

Monday, April 8 | 11:30 AM

Ride a magic time machine back to January 28, 1956. Watch News and Reviews, an "on air" magazine, built around a hilarious Honeymooners episode of the same date. Relive highlights from the worlds of news, music, movies, television, sports and more! Fast forward through time and learn more about our stars following that amazing year of 1956!

You can do all that and more with the help of Rick Spector and Moviehouse Productions, our Prime Time Program for Monday, April 8, at 11:30 AM.

Rick's amazing program will be preceded by a delicious deli lunch for just \$12. Your check is your reservation. Don't be left out! Be sure to reserve by Thursday, April 4. See you there!

Questions? Contact Tobin Moskowitz at tmoskowitz@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

EMPTY NESTERS AT CASABLANCA

Sunday, April 14 | 5:00 PM



Join the Empty Nesters for a delectable gastronomic tour to Morocco! Come dine with us at Casablanca, the newly opened Main Line outpost of the famous Philadelphia institution, Marrakesh.

We will enjoy a seven-course tasting menu for only \$35 per person, including tax and gratuity. Due to space constraints, there is a limit of 25 people. RSVP by Thursday, April 11 with your payment to hold your spot.

Questions? Contact Co-chairs, Jennie Nemroff at jennienem@gmail.com or Janet Handleman at ziggy130@comcast.net.

CINEMA CLUB

Sunday, April 28 | 5:00 PM

Our lively monthly movie discussions will continue at the home of Cindy & Jeff Ruben. If you are interested in attending, please email Cindy at cdruben@verizon.net.



HATHA YOGA

Mondays | 9:15 AM

Women come together in this weekly, open to the community yoga class to practice balance, muscle strength and stillness through yoga. All ages, health levels and experience are represented. The class is \$5 for the hour, with no prior reservation needed.

GUITAR BAND

We are looking for guitar players to form an MLRT guitar band! Join your Cantor and other congregants in music and song. Guitar experience preferred; young adults and older welcome! Contact Cantor Faryn Rudnick at frudnick@mlrt.org if interested.

ADL WALK AGAINST HATE

Sunday, May 19 | 9:00 AM

Please join the MLRT team for the ADL's Annual Walk Against Hate. Sign up at walkagainsthate.org and join the Main Line Reform Team. Questions, contact Rabbi Newburge at gnewburge@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

Lifelong Learning



Sally Brown

Our short story class for Thursday, April 11 will be from a highly regarded collection by Ayelet Tsabari. Her fiction debut, The Best Place on Earth, has stories about Israel's Mizrahi Jews, who hail from Israel to Canada to India, and touches on a facet of Jewish experience that may not be familiar to many of us.

This remarkable collection won the prestigious Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish literature. Join us as we read "Brit Milah". Copies are available in the office.



YIDDISH CLASSES

Mondays, starting April 1

Beginners 1:00 PM | Intermediate 2:00 PM

Learn Yiddish from the extraordinary Rita Ratson! Beginners Yiddish is for those who want to refresh or begin to develop basic vocabulary and beginning competency in speaking, reading and writing Yiddish. Intermediate Yiddish is for those who are able to read and write and want to become even more fluent.

For further information, contact Cantor Portnoy at mportnoy@mlrt.org.

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Tuesday, April 30 | 7:30 PM

PA Department of Transportation Secretary Leslie S. Richards, joined by Sarah Robinson and Jamie Pizzi, fellows at the Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Institute at Villanova University, will discuss ways to identify, prevent and address human trafficking across the commonwealth and across the country.

PennDOT is one of the first transportation agencies in the nation to prioritize ending human trafficking on its transportation network. Over the past three years, PennDOT has formed partnerships with a variety of stakeholders in government, law enforcement, and academia to make Pennsylvania a safer place by bringing those who exploit human lives to justice. Transportation agencies across the country are now looking to PennDOT for assistance in creating their own anti-human trafficking programs.

This program is open to all. RSVP requested to Liz Stoller at Ljstoller@gmail.com.

Forward

FORWARD THINKING: LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday, April 9 | 12:15 PM

Join Rabbi Straus each month for a thought-provoking lunchtime discussion of selected articles from The Jewish Daily Forward. Bring your own lunch; beverages will be provided.

LUNCH & LEARN WITH OUR RABBIS

Lunch with Rabbi Straus—you bring the lunch and Rabbi Straus will serve up interesting conversation!



Rabbi Straus

Suburban

Tuesday, April 2 | 12:15 PM

Hosted by Steven Handleman at Parkview Towers, 1150 First Avenue, Suite 450 (4th floor), King of Prussia, PA. (this is the building adjacent to, and to the right of the Valley Forge Radisson and Casino). RSVP to Steven at shandleman@comcast.net.

Center City

Tuesday, April 16 | 12:00 PM

Hosted by Sid Steinberg at Post & Schell, P.C., Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Philadelphia. RSVP to Sid at ssteinberg@postschell.com.

Learn & Lunch with Rabbi Newburge

Friday, April 12 | 11:30 AM

Come explore the history and significance of Jewish customs and rituals. Sandwiches/wraps provided; please bring a salad, side, fruit salad, or dessert. Please RSVP to Cynthia at cmarschall@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.



Rabbi Newburge

BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays | 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Our Rabbis lead a discussion of the Tanakh, or Jewish Bible. This is an ongoing process, beginning with Genesis and proceeding over the course of the year. Anyone is welcome to join in at any point, whether you are a longtime student of Torah or if you have never looked at the Torah before.

Lifelong Learning

RABBI SHRAGA SHERMAN: HQ Chabad-Lubavitch: A Conversation **Monday, April 1 | 7:30 PM**

On April 15, MLRT on the Move will spend the day in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, home to the Chabad Lubavitch Movement. What is Chabad? How did it end up in Crown Heights? Who lives there today, and why?

Join us as Rabbi Shraga Sherman, Rabbi of Chabad-Lubavitch of the Main Line, introduces us to the world of Chabad. We will touch upon some of the basics of Chassidic Philosophy and how that is put into real life practice in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, the HQ of Chabad Lubavitch. Please bring your questions. All are welcome, even if you are unable to join us on April 15.



About our Speaker

Rabbi Shraga Sherman grew up in Sioux City, Iowa and was raised in a Conservative Jewish home. He attended the Wharton School as an undergrad and went on to a course of Yeshiva study and received

Rabbinic Ordination from the Central Lubavitch Yeshiva of Israel. Shraga returned to Philadelphia in July 1991 to work with Lubavitch House in Center City, and eight years later moved to Merion to establish Chabad Lubavitch of the Main Line.

MLRT ON THE MOVE: A DAY IN CROWN HEIGHTS, NEW YORK **Monday, April 15 | 8:30 AM**

Join us for a fun guided walking tour of the Jewish Crown Heights neighborhood, including a scribe, mikvah, matza factory, the historic 770 Synagogue, and lunch at a deli. We will leave MLRT promptly at 8:30 AM and return at approximately 7:00 PM. \$92 members; \$100 guests.

Space is limited. RSVP with check to Tobin Moskowitz at tmoskowitz@mlrt.org.

Transportation Provided to MLRT

If you are in need of a ride to Shabbat or holiday services at MLRT, or to attend one of our programs, we can provide transportation via Uber. Please call the office so we can help make the necessary arrangements, 610-649-7800.

CONVERSATIONS (ON CURRENT EVENTS) **Tuesday, April 2 | 7:30 PM**

CONVERSATIONS is an honest dialogue on the critical issues of the day. We ask participants to come prepared for an open and honest exchange of views—political correctness is not a requirement, but respectful dialogue is an expectation.

We will be welcoming Rabbi Earl Bowen of Congregation Beth El in West Oak Lane. Beth El is a primarily black congregation with a very interesting history in Philadelphia. In addition to talking about the synagogue's history, we would like to begin discussing issues around black Jewish relations which are becoming increasingly problematic on the national political stage.

If you are interested, please email Gordon Fink at gbf@comcast.net or David Edman at davideedman@gmail.com so that background materials may be sent to you in advance. Everyone in the MLRT adult community is welcome.

REGAINING OUR BALANCE: A Service of Healing, Hope and Renewal **Monday, April 8 | 7:00 PM**

Healing, peace, wholeness, shleimut are not the absence of difficulties, but the handling of difficulties without losing our sense of balance.

We look for healing in many parts of our lives, and after many different experiences: healing after illness; healing from loss; healing from disappointments; healing from the end of a relationship, and more. Healing can be physical and emotional and spiritual. It can be of body, mind, or spirit.

We each find healing in our own way. Some want to do this on their own; some find being in the presence of others to be of great comfort and strength.

We invite you to join our clergy for a Service of Healing on **Monday, April 8** in the Green Family Chapel. We'll gather together for prayer and song; for a time of quiet meditation, and a few words about the journey of healing from our tradition. The service will be approximately 30 minutes long.

Passover

The Season of Our Freedom First Seder, Friday, April 19, 2019

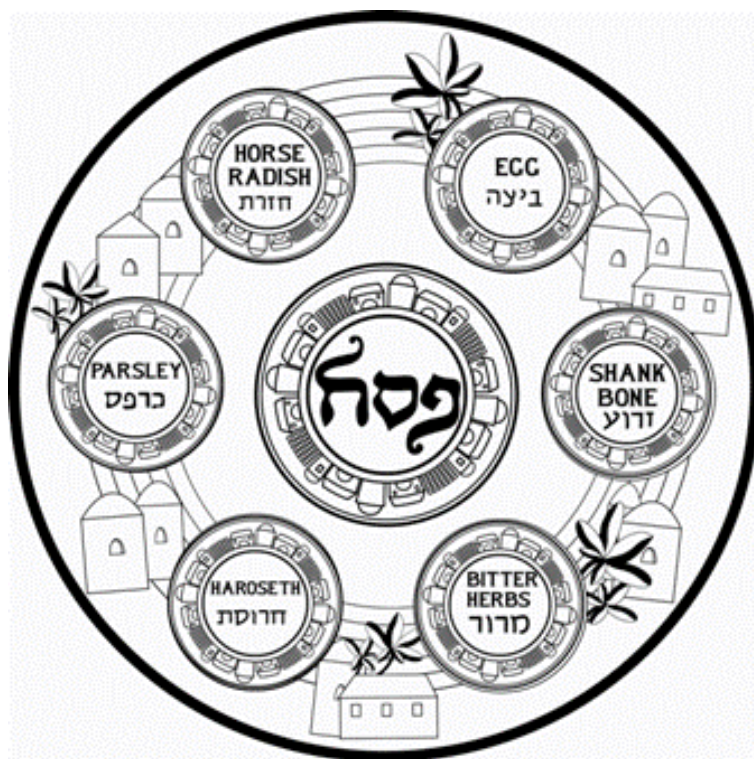
As the sun sets on Friday, April 19, Jews throughout the world will begin the celebration of Passover. They will gather at the Seder table and retell the story of Passover, the Jewish struggle for freedom from oppression. Passover is one of the most important opportunities we have for rededicating ourselves as Jews to the ageless tradition of freedom and for reaffirming to ourselves and our children the continuing vitality of our heritage.

The following symbolic foods should be placed near the leader of the Seder. During the course of the Seder, they are pointed out and explained.

On the Seder plate (use either a special one for this purpose or a regular dinner plate), include:

- Shank bone-*zaro'ah*, symbolizes the lamb that was sacrificed in ancient days
- Roasted egg-*beitzah*, represents the Passover offering of ancient days as well as the wholeness and continuing cycle of life
- Bitter herbs-*maror* (horseradish or romaine lettuce), reminds us of the bitter lives of the Hebrew slaves
- *Charoset* (the mixture of apples, nuts, sweet wine, cinnamon and sugar in the Ashkenazic fashion or dates, nuts and sweet wine in the Sephardic tradition), reminds us of the bricks and mortar made by the Hebrew slaves
- Greens-*karpas*, symbolizes the springtime of the year when Passover takes place

Traditionally, Judaism views the Seder as both a meal and as teaching opportunity. While the Haggadah teaches us the story of Passover, we each have stories to share with each other. And, it is the most memorable of holidays for our children as we gather round the beautiful holiday table to retell the story of Exodus, enjoy these special foods, search for the afikomen, welcome Elijah and join together in the singing of ancient melodies.



Elijah's Cup – A special cup filled with wine. According to legend, Elijah visits every Seder in every home on Passover and drinks from his cup.

Miriam's Cup – A cup filled with water to honor the role of Miriam the Prophetess in the Exodus and to highlight the contributions of women to Jewish culture, past and present.

Haggadah – The book containing the order of the Seder Service.

Candles – Passover is one of the three Pilgrimage Festivals when candles are lit and blessed just as they are on Shabbat.

Matzah – The unleavened bread of affliction that our ancestors ate as they left Egypt.

Salt Water - Symbolic of the tears our ancestors shed in Egypt.

For more information on Passover, visit www.uri.org/holidays/pesach, www.pjlibrary.org, and www.uri.org/life/family

Passover

PASSOVER SERVICES

Passover Morning Service

Saturday, April 20 at 10:00 AM

Seventh Day of Passover Service

Friday, April 26

Yizkor Service | 10:30 AM



MAZON'S FIFTH QUESTION

Why do we tolerate
leaders who seem more
intent on demeaning
poor people than trying
to fix the problem
of hunger?

Each year at the Seder, we ask the traditional four questions. And each year, MAZON asks a Fifth Question to raise awareness about a particular hunger-related issue and spark important conversations around the Seder table: Why do we tolerate leaders who seem more intent on demeaning poor people than trying to fix the problem of hunger?

How You Can Help

Incorporate The Fifth Question into your Passover Seder: After the youngest person reads the four questions from the Haggadah, ask The Fifth Question and reflect as a group upon the crisis of hunger, why it persists and what you individually and collectively could do to end it.

Organize a campaign in your community to raise awareness about hunger in America. Share your blessings: Donate to MAZON. Give as much as you can or what you would have spent feeding one person at your Seder table.

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
PO Box 96119, Washington, DC 20090
www.mazon.org | 1-800-813-0557

What is Passover?

Passover is Many Things

It is a Festival of Freedom, when we recall how God released our ancestors from slavery in Egypt and assisted in bringing a free people into existence.

Passover is an Agricultural Festival, which in ancient times marked the beginning of the grain harvest. In those days, our ancestors were farmers tilling the soil for a livelihood. The story of Passover reminds us of the Land of Israel.

Passover is a Pilgrimage Festival. Three times during the year, the Israelites, according to the laws of the Torah, went in joyous procession to Jerusalem. There they celebrated the three festivals that occur during the year: Passover, Shavuot, and Sukkot.

Passover is all of these things, but it is especially a holiday for children—a tradition to pass on from generation to generation - L'dor V'dor... Our ancestors were instructed: "You shall tell it to your (son) child." Today, Jews around the world still follow the tradition of retelling the story of Passover. We recount the story of the Jews in the land of Egypt and the trials and tribulations that our ancestors endured. We teach our children to value freedom, never taking it for granted and fighting for those who are still not free.

The Seder Service, the reading of the Haggadah, the Four Questions, the "stealing of the afikomen" - all these are meant for boys and girls, to teach them the importance of this great holiday in the history of Jewish people.



Chametz Food Drive

Donate all of your unopened chametz!

Bring sealed packages/boxes to MLRT and we will donate it to the Ardmore Food Pantry and the Narberth Community Food Bank.

Look for a collection box in the vestibule.
Your neighbors thank you!

Yom HaShoah

Yom HaShoah – A Day of Remembrance Wednesday, May 1 | 7:00 PM

MLRT will be joined by members of Adath Israel, Beth Am Israel, Beth David Reform Congregation, and Har Zion Temple for our annual communal observance of Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. Featuring the lighting of the six-branched candelabrum in memory of the six million Jews who were murdered in the Holocaust by our Holocaust survivors and their families, our service will include a presentation by Rabbi Abraham Skorka, **Yom HaShoah: Day of Remembrance and Commitment in this Turbulent Present of Hate and Confusion.**

Service

Memorial Candle Lighting for the Six Million



Liturgy led by clergy from MLRT and Kehillah of Lower Merion Synagogues.

Musical performances by the combined choirs of our area congregations.

If you wish to be included in the ceremony, please contact Rabbi Straus at dstrauss@mlrt.org or Cantor Rudnick at frudnick@mlrt.org.

We Remember!

This is a sacred and sanctified observance. It is our one opportunity to bear witness to history, and to give testimony that we will never forget that Holocaust, and those that may threaten yet again. Please be with us in solidarity and in community. The entire community, both Jewish and non-Jewish, is invited to join us and school-aged children are encouraged to attend.

We are grateful to Suzanne and Norman Cohn and their families for their annual support of this most important commemoration.

Program



Rabbi Abraham Skorka was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, earned a PhD in Chemistry from the Universidad de Buenos Aires and earned his rabbinical degree from the Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano. He was the Rector of the Seminario for 20 years and Rabbi of the Benei Tikva Congregation for 42 years.

Known as “the Pope’s Rabbi,” he developed an intensive activity in the interfaith dialogue, especially with the current Pope Francis, with whom he wrote a book of dialogues and recorded 31 television programs at the time that Bergoglio was the Archbishop of Buenos Aires. He was an official member of the Vatican delegation in Pope France’s visit to the Holy Land. He has received honorary doctorates from the Universidad Catolica Argentina, Jewish Theological Seminary, Sacred Heart University and was honored with the Jan Karsky Eagle Award in 2017.

Rabbi Skorka is currently a visiting University Professor in the Institute for Jewish-Catholic relations at Saint Joseph’s University.

Community Holocaust Memorial Ceremony Sunday, April 28 | 1:00 PM

16th Street & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Memorial to the Six Million Jewish Martyrs

Please join the Greater Philadelphia community in remembering the men, women, and children who perished in the Holocaust and honoring the strength of Holocaust Survivors.

For further information, contact Beth Razin at 215-832-0536 or brazin@jfgp.org.

NA THANK YOU and pics



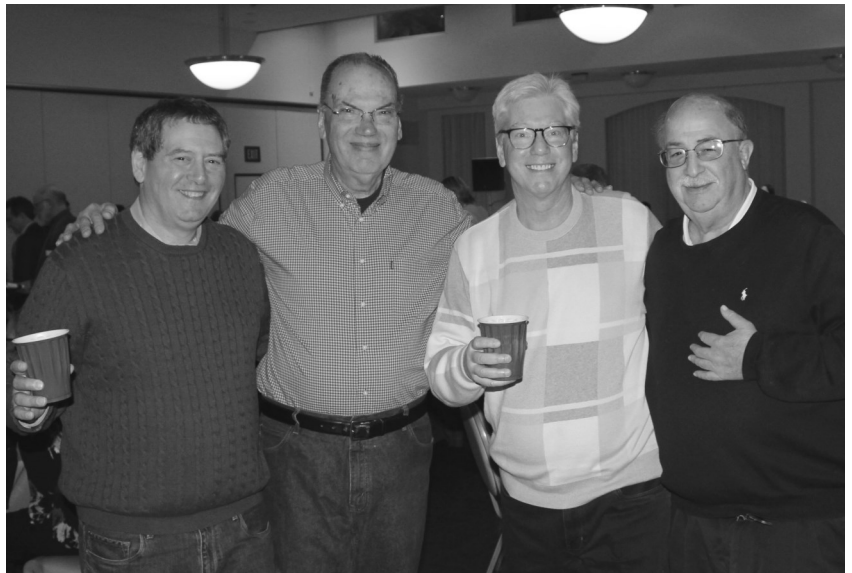
Cantor Rudnick

They say it takes a village to raise a child. I say it takes a village to execute an outstanding program, or in our case, a dedicated community to make a full weekend of music, learning, and fun happen successfully and beautifully.

On March 8, 9, and 10, the MLRT community hosted Noah Aronson and his band for a full weekend visit. This weekend could not have happened without the tireless efforts of the music committee and support of all the weekend sponsors. Please join me in thanking our music committee: Davida Chornock, Alicia Felton, Ann Gelfond, Stacey Gerwitz, Risa Glassman, Mignon Groch, Vic Haas, Andy Heller, Kerry Heppen, Missy Johnson, Gil Marder, Sherrill Neff, and Bruce Newman. They were an amazing team to work with and made every little detail happen.

Please join me in also thanking our sponsors, whose generous support made the weekend possible: Sherrill Neff and Alicia Felton, MLRT Brotherhood, MLRT Sisterhood, Cantor Faryn and Jack Rudnick, Rabbi David Straus and Lynne Breslau, Victor and Gail Barsky, Addison Feen Charitable Trust, Gordon and Ann Gelfond, Vic and Nancy Haas, Marc Rockford and Carrie Gish, Cindy and Jay Rothman, and the Cantor Marshall Portnoy Music Fund. Thank you to Helene Ehrlich-Cohen and Shellie Leshner for their delicious baked goods, and a special thank you to our corporate sponsors: Savona Restaurant, Manayunk Brewing Company, Guitar Center, and Scherer and Company Liquor.

Thank you all for coming and being with us.



Brotherhood



Gary Brock

In his "The Waste Land," T.S. Eliot laments that "April is the cruellest month." As so much with Eliot, he was wrong. He should have taken his cues from Geoffrey Chaucer who, in the Prologue to the "Canterbury Tales," tells us that April is a month of warmth and gentle breezes, and the time when people go on pilgrimages. We, too, will participate in a festival, a chag, as we celebrate Pesach. So, Brotherhood wishes for you and your families a sweet Pesach.

April will be bursting with Brotherhood activities, and here they are:

Wednesday, April 3 is our monthly Mens' Night Out. We'll meet at the Lucky Dog Gastropub in Conshohocken. As always, libations and appetizers begin at 6:30 PM.

Rich Kupersmith, our Special Events chairperson, extends this invitation to all MLRT Basketball League participants, all Brotherhood members, and all members of our congregation and their friends: The Annual Brotherhood Sports Dinner is **Monday, April 15, 2019** beginning at 6:30 PM in the Orleans Auditorium at MLRT. We have a fantastic program scheduled. Our special guest speaker is Philadelphia's own Dei Lynam. Dei is an Emmy- award winning journalist who has literally travelled the world covering sports. Dei was a sideline reporter for the 76ers for many years and then studio host of NBC Sports Philadelphia. Dei currently hosts a weekly radio show, Lifestyles with Dei Lynam, and is a color analyst for the Delaware Blue Coats. Dei is the daughter of former 76ers coach and GM, Jimmy Lynam. For more than 25 years Dei has been an NBA insider who has literally interviewed 1000's of NBA stars. Dei will share her thoughts on the 76ers, the NBA, and the sports world.

This event is open to all Brotherhood and Temple members. The cost is \$36, which includes a wonderful dinner and a happy half hour. If you played in this year's MLRT Basketball League there is no cost to you.

Please RSVP to Rich Kupersmith at richkupe@gmail.com no later than April 10 to reserve your spot. Checks can be brought to the MLRT office payable to MLRT Brotherhood. A PayPal link is also available for payment on the Brotherhood page at MLRT.org/brotherhood.

On **Sunday, April 28** all are invited to a special showing of the award-winning documentary "My Million Dollar Mom." This film depicts Ross Shriftman's years of caring for his mother after she contracted Alzheimer's disease. Ross has to decide whether to fulfill a promise to care for her or take his last chance for high political office, something she wanted so much for him. Following the film Ross will entertain a discussion, one, I am sure, will be edifying. Again, all are welcome, there is no charge, and bagels and coffee will be served. The program begins at 9:30 AM. You may get a preview of the film at mymilliondollarmon.com. Any questions can be directed to our president, Ed Bleeden, at mlrtbrotherhood@gmail.com.

The next Brotherhood Book Club is **Tuesday, April 9** at 7:30 PM.

Join us for a fascinating discussion of The Underground Railroad. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, the #1 New York Times bestseller from Colson Whitehead is a magnificent tour de force chronicling a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South.

April

9 Book Club 7:30 PM

15 Sports Dinner 6:30 PM

28 My Million Dollar Mom 9:30 AM

29 Texas Hold'Em 6:30 PM

May

15 Golf Tournament

July

4 Fourth of July - Narberth/Pizza

Men's Night Out- 6:30 PM; *first drink on Brotherhood*

April 3 Lucky Dog

May 6 Founding Farmers

June 3 Clam Tavern

Sisterhood



Mary Kamplain

What I love about Passover is revisiting our experiences of oppression and narrowness and looking forward to liberation and hopefulness. Purim has been celebrated, Spring is on its way, and we look for new ways to engage, to appreciate where we are now, and to work toward a better world. And Sisterhood has some exciting programs planned that share those aims. Join us on **April 7** for the 3rd year of our meaningful and impactful interfaith women's gathering. This year, we will join with women from varied local congregations to hear personal stories of exodus from HIAS-PA clients. We know how our own Passover story has defined and shaped us, and we look forward to exploring others' journeys to freedom.

On **April 11**, we will join with the women of Beth David Sisterhood to present **BIG Sonia**, an inspiring and entertaining film about an unforgettable survivor. Covering issues ranging from ageism to injustice to intergenerational communication, **BIG Sonia** is a testament to the influence and legacy that one person can have.

On **April 13**, we will again partner with Calvary Baptist Church to help prepare, set up, and serve their annual outreach Easter Lunch. This is a wonderful way to support our interfaith friends. If you can join us between 10:30 AM and 2:00 PM that day, please contact Liz Stoller at ljstoller@gmail.com.

All are invited to attend our General Board Meeting on **April 9** at 10:00 AM, and to join us for the return of Cook for a Friend on **April 30** at 9:30 AM. And please mark your calendars for Sisterhood Shabbat on **May 10** and our Closing Dinner on **May 21**.

I look forward to seeing you soon and wish you a happy, hopeful Passover!



REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS SHARE THEIR STORIES OF EXODUS: A WOMEN'S INTERFAITH GATHERING

Sunday, April 7 | 3:00-5:00 PM at MLRT

When we think of our Passover Exodus story, we think about moving from oppression to freedom. Please join us when we hear from three HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) PA clients about their personal journeys. We look forward to sharing conversations.

There is no charge for this event, but please consider donating some of the following: Paper Towels, Sponges, Dish Detergent, Toilet Paper, Facial Tissue, Deodorant, Can Openers, Razors (disposables are fine) HIAS PA has new clients arriving every month, so these items are always needed.

Contact Linda Finkelstein at ldfink999@gmail.com with questions.

MLRT Sisterhood and Beth David Sisterhood/WRJ invite you to a screening of the amazing film, **BIG Sonia**!

Thursday, April 11 | 7:00 PM at MLRT

In the last store in a defunct shopping mall, 91-year-old Sonia Warshawski—great-grandmother, businesswoman, and Holocaust survivor—runs the tailor shop she's owned for more than thirty years. But when she's served an eviction notice, the specter of retirement prompts Sonia to revisit her harrowing past as a refugee and witness to genocide. A poignant story of generational trauma and healing, **BIG Sonia** also offers a laugh-out-loud-funny portrait of the power of love to triumph over bigotry, and the power of truth-telling to heal us all.



There is no charge for this event but please consider bringing a kosher, non-perishable food item to donate to the Mitzvah Food Program. For questions or to RSVP, contact Mary Kamplain at marykamplain@yahoo.com or 215-680-4282.

Teach Our Children—Religious School



Rabbi Kleinman

Dear Religious School Families,

The Passover Seder begins with the line, “Let all who are hungry come and eat!” This symbolic gesture is designed to remind us that, just as we are beginning to sit down to a festive meal, there are those in our communities who lack sufficient resources to adequately feed their families. It is a call to action. While we do not physically open our doors and invite people in to our homes to join us for Passover dinner, it is customary to give tzedekah before Jewish holidays so that all members of the community can observe them. We regularly perform the mitzvah of feeding the hungry in our Religious School program as a way to live our Jewish values. This month our 3rd grade will lead our Challah For Hunger Social Change Bakery to raise money for the Ardmore Food Pantry. So far this year, our students have baked 200 challahs and raised over \$1,000 to combat food insecurity in our neighborhood! Additionally, we have packed 25,000 meals with Rise Against Hunger that are sent around the world to the most impoverished populations. #MLRTitsamitzvah

3rd Grade Challah for Hunger – Social Change Challah Bakery

April 7, 2019

9:00-11:00 AM – Early Session

10:30 AM -12:30 PM – Late Session

Parents will join us for the morning as we bake challah to sell at the end of Religious School. The profits will go to fight hunger at the Ardmore Food Pantry

4th Grade PACT (Parents and Children Together) Program

April 28, 2019

Theme: Creating Jewish Bedtime Rituals

9:00-11:00 AM – Early Session

10:30 AM -12:30p PM – Late Session

*All ECE Kindergarten families are invited to attend



Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Family Service

April 5 – Hosted by 5th Grade

Featuring the Junior Jammers

6:00 PM: Snack & Schmooze

6:30 PM: Service

7:30 PM: Oneg and Gaga Tournament

Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Family Service

May 3 – Teacher and Madrichim Appreciation

Featuring the Junior Jammers

6:00 PM: Snack & Schmooze

6:30 PM: Service

7:30 PM: Oneg and Gaga Tournament



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-Helen Keller*

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IN MEMORIAM

We extend condolences to members of our community on the loss of their loved ones.

Barbara Frank

*Mother of Brad Frank
Grandmother of Adeline & Carter*

Martha Furman

Mother of Barbara (Rabbi Richard) Hirsh

Rabbi Richard Laurence Klein

Cheryl Wilf

*Mother of Adam Wilf
Grandmother of Ava, Hannah & Max*

April Shabbat Services

Friday, April 5

6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Family Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 6

8:30 am Shabbat Morning Hike
8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of *Zachary N. Cohen*
Son of Nicole & Michael Cohen
5:00 pm Mincha Service
Bat Mitzvah of *Avery Morgan Ender*
Daughter of Jessica & Farrell Ender

Friday, April 12

8:00 pm Shabbat Service
9:00 pm Oneg Shabbat

Saturday, April 13

Bat Mitzvah of *Lila Rae Schwartzberg*
Daughter of Caryn & Louis Schwartzberg
Bar Mitzvah of *Cole Klein*
Son of Jodie & Daniel Klein
8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service

Friday, April 19

Erev Passover
ECE Closed
No Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 20

Passover
8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service
5:00 pm Second Seder

Friday, April 26

Seventh Day of Passover
ECE Closed
10:30 am Passover Yizkor Service
8:00 pm Board Installation Service
9:00 pm Oneg Shabbat

Saturday, April 27

Bar Mitzvah of *Jeremy "Remy"*
Adam Kagen
Son of Bethann & Laurence Kagen
8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of *Rebecca Muderick*
Daughter of Elizabeth & Aaron Muderick
Bar Mitzvah of *Noah Matunis*
Son of Jennifer & David Matunis

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April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 1:00 PM Yiddish Class Beginner 2:00 PM Yiddish Class Intermediate 7:30 PM Rabbi Shraga Sherman	2 12:15 PM Suburban Lunch & Learn with RDS 7:30 PM Conversations (on Current Events)	3 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge 6:30 PM Brotherhood Men's Night Out	4 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	5 6:00 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Family Shabbat Service	6 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Hike 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Cohen 4:00 PM Krav Maga 5:30 PM Bar Mitzvah of Avery Ender
7 11:15 AM Tikkun Olam Network Meeting 3:00 PM Women's Interfaith Gathering	8 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 11:30 AM Prime Time 1:00 PM Yiddish Class Beginner 2:00 PM Yiddish Class Intermediate 7:00 PM Healing Service	9 10:00 AM Sisterhood Board Meeting 12:15 PM Forward Thinking 7:30 PM Brotherhood Book Club	10 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:00 PM Adult Trope Class 12:30 PM Bridge	11 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM Short Story Discussion 12:30 PM Canasta 7:00 PM Big Sonia Sisterhood Program 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	12 11:30 AM Learn & Lunch with RGN 8:00 PM Shabbat Service 9:00 PM Oneg Shabbat	13 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Sisterhood Easter Lunch at Calvary Baptist Church 4:00 PM Krav Maga
14 No Religious School 5:00 PM Empty Nesters Dinner	15 ECE Closed 8:30 AM MLRT on the Move 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 1:00 PM Yiddish Class Beginner 2:00 PM Yiddish Class Intermediate 6:30 PM Brotherhood Sports Dinner	16 ECE Closed 12:00 PM Center City Lunch & Learn with RDS	17 ECE Closed No Religious School 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:00 PM Adult Trope Class 12:30 PM Bridge	18 ECE Closed 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	19 EREV PASSOVER ECE Closed Office closing at 1:00 PM <i>First Seder</i> <i>NO SHABBAT SERVICE</i>	20 PASSOVER 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service 5:00 PM Second Night Seder at MLRT
21 No Religious School	22 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 1:00 PM Yiddish Class Beginner 2:00 PM Yiddish Class Intermediate	23	24 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:00 PM Adult Trope Class 12:30 PM Bridge	25 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	26 ECE Closed Office Closed 10:30 AM Passover Yizkor Service 8:00 PM Board Installation Shabbat Service 9:00 PM Oneg Shabbat	27 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM B'nai Mitzvah of Rebecca Muderick and Noah Matunis 4:00 PM Krav Maga
28 9:30 AM My Million Dollar Mom Program 1:00 PM Community Holocaust Memorial Ceremony 5:00 PM Cinema Club	29 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 1:00 PM Yiddish Class Beginner 2:00 PM Yiddish Class Intermediate 6:30 PM Brotherhood Texas Hold'Em	30 9:30 AM Sisterhood Cook-for-a-Friend 7:30 PM Human Trafficking Program				



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