



Happy Chanukah!

FROM YOUR MLRT FAMILY

Join us for Shabbat Chanukah
on Friday, December 7

More details on page 10

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Main Line Speaker Series

The first presentation in our Main Line Speaker Series was an outstanding night with David Axelrod, attended by 600 people!

We hope you will join us for the next presentation on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 with Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Tickets are available now at mlrt.org/speakerseries.html

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Rabbi

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Chanukah—A Major Holiday?



Rabbi Straus

Chanukah, as we all know, is really a minor holiday that has become a major celebration. Along with fasting on Yom Kippur and gathering for the Passover Seder, the celebration of Chanukah along with the lighting of the Menorah are among the most universally observed rituals by Jews today.

The late Jewish sociologist, Marshall Sklare, once remarked that certain Jewish holidays were destined for American Jewish success. They had to be infrequently observed, child and family oriented, and translatable into an American context. Chanukah, with its focus on religious freedom, was going to be a winner.

In truth, the real story behind Chanukah is much more complex. It is as much a Jewish civil war, between those Jews who favored some kind of accommodation with the Hellenistic world battling the Hasmoneans and zealots of their time who wanted no such compromise, as it is a holiday of religious freedom. As for the miracle of the oil lasting 8 days—in truth that is as much about Sukkot as it is about miracles. But all this today may be beside the point.

A few years ago, Dr. Noam Zion of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, wrote an essay on “The Reinvention of Hanukkah in the 20th Century as A Jewish Cultural Civil War between Zionists, Liberal American Judaism and Chabad.” In this essay, Dr. Zion traces how Hanukkah has come to occupy for very different reasons an important place in the ideologies of Israel, American liberal Judaism and Chabad.

Before and after the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, the Maccabees served as a potent symbol for “Political Zionism,” for those laboring to create a modern Jewish state as a response to anti-Semitism and as a refuge for oppressed Jews the world over. The early Zionists rejected God’s role in bringing about the miracle of the Jewish victory during Hasmonean times. Rather, they emphasized that Jews themselves are the central actors in our people’s restoration of Jewish sovereignty on the ancient land, not God.

For 20th century liberal American Jews, Chanukah came to represent Judaism’s aspirations for religious freedom consistent with the First Amendment to the US Constitution. Even as Chanukah reflects universal aspirations, the Hanukiya remains a particular symbol of Jewish pride and identity for American Jews living in a dominant Christian culture. It helped secure our place as one of three and equal religions in America, in the title of Will Herberg’s famous book, Catholic, Protestant, Jew.

For Chabad, Chanukah embodies the essence of religious identity on one hand and the mission of Jews on the other. Each hassid is to be a streetlamp lighter, who ventures into the public square and kindles the nearly extinguished flame of individual Jewish souls, one soul at a time. This is why Chabad strives to place a Hanukiya in public places.

Is it any wonder that Chanukah, though defined by Jewish tradition as a “minor holiday” is in truth a major battleground for the heart and soul of Judaism and the Jewish people.

Hag Urim Sameah—Happy Chanukah!

Join Rabbi Straus, Rabbi Skorka (the Pope’s Rabbi) and the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations of Saint Joseph’s University for the trip of a lifetime to Israel, Jerusalem, and Rome:

“Finding Our Roots Together”

May 12-23, 2019

Details and pricing to follow.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Rabbi Straus at dstrauss@mlrt.org or (610) 649-7800.

Being Part of a Community



Joel Ginsparg

I am writing this message in the days after the tragedy at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. I have spoken with many of you at our services of healing and mourning. We are all concerned about this unprecedented act of violence against a group of Jews gathered to worship in peace. We are all worried about this overt act of anti-Semitism and what it means to be a Jew in America today.

While I was struggling with my own personal feelings and also thinking about how we at MLRT should respond to the challenges posed in the aftermath of the tragedy, I read an article about an incredible incident at the Invictus Games in Sydney, Australia. One of the competitors in a wheelchair doubles tennis match was a former mine specialist in the British Royal Navy who had suffered post-traumatic stress disorder. During his match, he heard the sound of a helicopter flying overhead. Traumatized and overcome by emotion by the sound, he froze and was unable to continue to play. His Dutch teammate rushed over to him, held him, and told him to sing the song *Let It Go*, from the movie *Frozen*. They started singing together and slowly he unfroze and literally let it go. They went on to win the match.

This incident is a reminder that sometimes we need the help of others to heal our pain. Hillel the elder, who lived in Babylonia and Jerusalem during the first century BCE, wrote in *Ethics of Our Fathers* 2:5, "*Al tifrosh min hatzibur*" which means "Do not separate yourself from the community." To Hillel, a community is more than a group of people sharing a space, experience, or activity. A community should nurture a sense of belonging by helping each member feel seen, cared for, and supported.

Main Line Reform Temple is not a building to which we occasionally come for spiritual observance or the place we bring our children to become B'nai Mitzvah. It is a welcoming community of people who create deeper connections as we engage in spiritual, intellectual and cultural enrichment and as we support each other and our neighbors through Tikkun Olam.

We have all been profoundly impacted by the tragedy at the Tree of Life synagogue. It is in these times that we should reflect on our priorities and choose to engage with those around us who can provide us with comfort and support. We are all very busy and have lots of activities that compete for our time. I encourage you to explore the opportunities that the MLRT community offers. Together we can discuss ideas, explore new challenges, help those in need, and care and support each other.

Joel H. Ginsparg

President

Main Line Reform Temple – Beth Elohim

***To donate to the Tree of Life victims' families,
please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/cause/pittsburghshooting>***

The importance of MLRT's year end annual giving request cannot be underestimated. Fundraising is a vital financial element in supporting the wide range of activities that MLRT provides for all of us. The Main Line Lecture Series is one half of the fund raising component of our current budget while the Annual Fund appeal represents the second half. When you receive the Year in Review in December, take a moment to reflect on how much MLRT does to support and nourish us as Jews. Please give generously to allow us to continue to provide for our sacred community. As Treasurer of MLRT and on behalf of the professional staff and lay leadership, I thank you very much.

Vic Haas

Creating Community



Are you a guitar player? Bicyclist? Knitter? Wine expert? Music aficionado? Theatre goer? Hiker? Museum lover? Other??

Email Cindy Ruben at cdruben@verizon.net or Elliott Shulman at

esmdha@gmail.com and tell us your ideas. We are here to create a group for you! This is an opportunity to connect, meet, and create connections with Temple members.

Couples Club is back up and running with new chairs!

Contact Jason Pearlman for more information at jpearlman@pearlmanlawfirm.com



**HIKE WITH RABBI
NEWBURGE**
Saturday, December 1
8:30 AM

Join Rabbi Newburge and your MLRT family for an invigorating Shabbat morning walk through Valley Forge National Park while reconnecting to nature and reinforcing our sense of community. Please meet us in the MLRT parking lot at 8:30 AM and we will caravan/ carpool to Valley Forge.

For questions, please contact Rabbi Newburge at gnewburge@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, December 10 | 2:00 PM

Save a life this December by signing up to donate blood! Visit redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: main line reform Wynnewood to schedule your appointment.



CONVERSATIONS (ON CURRENT EVENTS...)

Monday, December 3 | 7:30 PM

JOIN THE DISCUSSION, 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.

If you are interested, or planning to attend for the first time, please send an email to 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!



INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS ON ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Monday, December 10 | 7:00 PM
at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Please come for a dynamic program co-sponsored by several houses of worship in the greater Lower Merion area, including our own Main Line Reform Temple. For historical, theological and political reasons, the subjects of the Land and State of Israel prompt intense and sometimes difficult conversations within and between our Jewish and Christian communities. We continue the series of conversations started this fall among members of our congregations that have helped build an appreciation for the complexity of the conflict. All are welcome.

RESET & RENEW: CONTEMPORARY SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, December 14 | 6:30 PM

Stressful week? Hit the reset button on your week—come in out of the cold and into the warmth of Shabbat. Lend your voice as you participate in this engaging and spiritual Shabbat experience. The service is upbeat and offers contemporary music led by Ross M. Levy and the Levites.

BEER CLUB

Sunday, January 6 | 6:30 PM

Join us at Town Tap (13 W. Benedict Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083) The Beer Club is open to all MLRT members who enjoy trying and sharing beer. Questions? Contact Lauren and Matt Baldys at laurenmbaldys@gmail.com.



Creating Community

PRIME TIME PRESENTS: Steve Wallach

Monday, December 10 | 11:30 AM

Entertainment That's Pure Magic awaits you as Steve Wallach takes the stage for December Prime Time!

Steve Wallach is a nationally renowned Magician and Mind Reader. He has amazed and mystified audiences with his incredible Magic and Mind Reading performances. Mr. Wallach headlined at his own Dinner Theater in Houston, Texas and was the House Magician and Mind Reader for Resorts Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Steve has entertained and astounded audiences with his amazing Magic and Mind Reading performances at private parties, cocktail parties, hospitality suites and corporate events throughout the United States, Europe, North Africa and the Islands.

Steve has appeared nearly every year at Main Line Reform Temple - he is that good! Get your check for \$12 to the synagogue office by Thursday, December 5, to guarantee your reservation. Hey, we almost forgot. A magical deli lunch is part of this wonderful day! See you **Monday, December 10, at 11:30 AM!**

AMBASSADORS NEEDED

This fall we welcomed many new members to the MLRT family. The most important job we have is to open our arms to these new families. Last year, a committee was formed; a small group of people to act as ambassadors to new congregants. The task of an ambassador is being a buddy or introducing new members to the myriad of possibilities that exist within our walls. This committee is one of the most important tools we have to reinforce our reputation as a spiritual, welcoming home.

This committee meets every 4 weeks, or so, to discuss progress and brainstorm new ideas. No requirements are necessary, just a smile and a welcoming hand. Returning and new committee members are welcome. Contact Fonda Hartman at yogamom23@comcast.net.

Tikkun Olam Network—TON

Please join us for a very important Tikkun Olam Network meeting on **Sunday, December 9 at 11:15 AM**. We will be finishing up plans for our annual Day of Service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Last year we had over 230 congregants come together to serve our community at MLRT. If you are interested in getting more involved this year, now is your chance! We are planning lots of meaningful projects once again, like support of our local WePAC libraries, Mitzvah Circle Foundation, and more.

For questions or more information, please contact Liz Stoller at ljstoller@gmail.com or Beth Allen at ballenlevy@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PRESENTS:

Nina Simone: Four Women

Saturday, March 23 | 6:30 PM at People's Light Theater

Join the Community Connections Committee of Main Line Reform Temple and Zion Baptist Church for a not to be missed musical production.

Framed by Nina Simone's song "Four Women", this play imagines a chance encounter between the legendary songstress and a trio of women at the site of Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in 1963, the event that shifted Simone's career from artist to activist.

Reserved seats on sale now for \$40 each, which includes a reserved seat and a private dramaturges presentation before the play. There are limited seats, and it will sell out, so RSVP today to Amanda Becker at mamsbecker@gmail.com or 610-964-9473. Checks should be made out to Main Line Reform Temple, 410 Montgomery Avenue, Wynnewood, PA 19096. Please note "Nina Simone" on the envelope and check.

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. Come make a difference to your breath, body and community. Feel free to email our MLRT member and teacher with any questions, Eileen Edman, at Eedman@comcast.net.

Brotherhood



Gary Brock

Well, we have now all survived a national election. Having been recently elevated to Vice-president by our esteemed President, Ed Bleeden, I will, as a matter of non-political prerogative, venture a guess that not all went well. But all is well with Main Line Reform Temple's Brotherhood. Here are highlights of December's events.

The monthly Men's Night Out will commence at 6:30 at the Town Tap in Havertown, PA. I am very much looking forward to a Caesar salad, topped off by fried Oreos. Can it get better than that?

Mark your calendars for an evening of celebration on December 16 when I, yes I, to my great surprise, along with many others, will be recognized for our collaborative work with the Men of Reform Judaism and the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, the Conservative movement's equivalent of our Brotherhood. We are being cited for our dedication to our respective missions of not saving the Synagogue, but saving Judaism. But this is more about our collaboration and the contributions made by Main Line Reform Temple and its Brothers to "involve Jewish men in Jewish Life" than about me. If you can't join me that evening, do one thing better: join our Brotherhood in all its activities, whether social in nature or socially active in our Temple and the community beyond our curb.

In the middle of dreary winter, we will host another Texas Hold'em Tournament. You know, this is where you come to enjoy some action playing the only real card game for a meager buy-in of \$30 and hope to parlay that into winning the tournament. Snacks are provided, but your enthusiasm for camaraderie is brought by your participation. Play begins at 7:00 PM on December 20 at Main Line Reform Temple. Questions can be directed to Andy Shamberg or President Bleeden.

Kindly,

Gary Brock,

Brotherhood Vice President

**Save the Date for the annual Brotherhood/Sisterhood Wine Dinner, Wednesday, February 13 at 7:00 PM.
Details to be announced.**

December

20 Texas Hold'em 6:30 PM

February

13 Brotherhood/ Sisterhood Wine Dinner

21 Texas Hold'em 6:30 PM

March

24 Purim Carnival

29 Brotherhood Shabbat Service 8:00 PM

April

15 Sports Dinner 6:30 PM

29 Texas Hold'em 6:30 PM

May

22 Golf Tournament

July

4 Fourth of July - Narberth/Pizza

Men's Night Out

6:30 PM; first drink on Brotherhood

December 12 Town Tap

January 9 Grog

February 6 Iron Hill

March 6 Lumbrada Cocina

April 1 Lucky Dog

May 6 Founding Farmers

June 3 Clam Tavern

Sisterhood



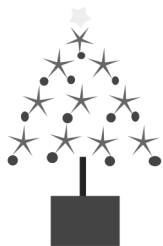
Mary Kamplain

My middle child will become a Bat Mitzvah this month, and the lessons I am learning from her and her peers are turning out to be rules to live by in our current world. First, they are working hard. The breadth of what they have to master can be daunting, but their commitment to becoming Jewish adults is steady. The effort and time that these kids put into this process should be an example for all of us facing new experiences. Second, they are (relatively) calm. They know their day will come and they will get through it one way or another, and they arm themselves with preparation and confidence and a sense that everything will be okay. And finally, they do good deeds. The mitzvah projects these kids complete are impressive and impactful, not because they are effecting widespread change or garnering national attention, but because they represent the difference that one kid or person can make.

My daughter's mitzvah project is making soup for the Ardmore Food Pantry, and along with friends and neighbors, she has already made and delivered 72 quarts of soup. She is learning how to plan and execute a large cooking project and how to allocate tasks so that all her helpers feel needed and helpful. And I am learning that this small act of doing something to address food insecurity and repair the world is exactly what I need to do whenever the world's larger problems seem overwhelming. Our last cooking session was scheduled for the Sunday after the tragedy at Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh. Most of our helpers were non-Jewish neighbors, and our coming together to provide food for strangers was so meaningful and empowering that we are considering an ongoing neighborhood cooking effort. One mitzvah leads to another.

At this time of spreading light and love, I hope you will join Sisterhood in our annual mitzvah of partnering with Calvary Baptist Church to prepare and serve their outreach Christmas Luncheon on December 15. The ECE also partners with us to collect and wrap presents for the children who attend. This is a wonderful way to support our neighbors, strengthen our communities, and make a difference.

Happy Chanukah!



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 15 | 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Calvary Baptist Church, 6122 Haverford Ave., Philadelphia

MLRT Sisterhood is excited to be continuing the tradition of volunteering at Calvary Baptist Church for their Annual Christmas Luncheon Outreach on Saturday, December 15. Set up and prep starts at 10:00 AM and helpers are needed to cook, decorate, set up, and serve. The luncheon ends between 1:00-2:00 PM when we will need help again for clean-up.

You can also get involved by joining Sisterhood and ECE to wrap presents collected by ECE on Wednesday, December 12 and Friday, December 14 at approximately 9:15 AM (after drop off).

Drivers will also be needed to transport the presents from MLRT on Friday, 12/14.

Sign up for any or all of these opportunities at <http://www.mlrt.org/sisterhood.html>.

Contact Liz Stoller at ljstoller@gmail.com or Lisa Greenblatt at greenblatt5@comcast.net with any questions.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

Tuesday, December 11, 10 AM

General Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 8, 7 PM

General Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 22, 10 AM

Book Review Brunch of Susie Orman Schnall's *Subway Girls: A Novel*

Lifelong Learning



Sally Brown

Looking ahead to our short story group on **December 13** we will read "The Twenty-Seventh Man" by Nathan Englander, whose short fiction and essays have appeared in The New Yorker, The New York Times, The Atlantic Monthly, and The Washington Post, as well as The O. Henry Prize Stories and numerous editions of The Best American Short Stories. "The Twenty-Seventh Man" tells the story of how a clerical error lands earnest, unpublished Pinchas Pelovits in prison with 26 other writers.

Please join us in our mission to enrich our MLRT community through the literary arts.



HASSEL ADULT EDUCATION LECTURE: Critical Issues in Israel Today: Challenges & Opportunities

Sunday, December 9

9:30 AM Coffee & Bagels |

**10:00 AM Lecture with Rabbi Dr.
Ron Kronish**



Ron Kronish

Join us as we welcome Ron Kronish from Israel, who will lead a fascinating discussion on the different challenges and opportunities in Israel today. Kronish is an independent lecturer, scholar, author, blogger and interreligious consultant and activist.



FORWARD THINKING: LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday, December 11 | 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.

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.



LUNCH & LEARN WITH OUR RABBIS

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

Center City

Tuesday, December 4 | 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.



Rabbi Straus

Suburban

Tuesday, December 18 | 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**.

Learn & Lunch with Rabbi Newburge

Friday, January 11 | 11:30 AM

Please join us for a year of thought provoking and informative sessions about "Did You Know?...Where Jewish Practice Comes From." This month we explore why we can violate certain commandments to save a life. Please plan to bring a side dish, salad or dessert. Sandwiches or wraps provided. Hosted by Cindy & Jeff Ruben. Please RSVP to Cynthia at **cmarshall@mlrt.org** or 610-649-7800.



Rabbi Newburge



+



NFTY =

WINSTY

WINSTY Weekend of Social Action is a time for volunteering, learning, meeting teens from across the region, and welcoming people into our congregation. All high schoolers, 8-12 grade, are encouraged to sign up for this event, whether or not they have participated in TheTribe programs before.



For more information contact Ross M. Levy at rlevy@mlrt.org

Teach Our Children—Rabbi Kevin Kleinman



Rabbi Kleinman

December is another incredible month in our Religious School. Our students are busy preparing for Chanukah. This year we will be running several simultaneous programs on December 2 to get us in the spirit to light the first candle later that night. Speaking of the Chanukah spirit, this year we will once again be building our Mitzvah Menorah and collecting the items below to support the work of our Tikkun Olam Network. Plus, there's a 6th Grade PACT program and a Kindergarten Challah Making program in December as well. I hope you will join us throughout the month to learn about and celebrate the Festival of Lights!

Mitzvah Menorah – Not just a Religious School collection!

Between December 2 and 9, we will be collecting the following items to build a "Mitzvah Menorah." Please bring the items into the lobby and place them into the appropriate bin:

- New and unwrapped toys for the Calvary Baptist Church
- Gift cards to Bed, Bath, and Beyond for refugees resettled by HIAS PA
- Gift cards to Five Below for the Box Lunch & A Book program
- Cereal, canned chicken, canned fruit, apple sauce, peanut butter and jelly for the Ardmore Food Pantry
- Shampoo, toothpaste, body wash, mouthwash, and washcloths for the Families Forward Philadelphia Homeless Shelter
- Children's Books for WePAC libraries
- Kosher canned tuna, canned chicken, sardines, beans, peanut butter, pasta, rice, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, and soup for the Mitzvah Food project

5th Grade Night at the Museum – December 15-16, 2018

Join 5th graders from area congregations for a sleep-over at the National Museum of American Jewish History. This event is sponsored by the Kehillah of Lower Merion. Please contact Rabbi Kleinman for more information.

6th grade PACT program – Sunday, December 16, 2018

Becoming B'nai Mitzvah- 9:00-11:00am (early session), 10:30-12:30pm (late session)

Following up on the success of our 6th grade retreat, this PACT program will delve into both the existential and practical components of our B'nai Mitzvah process. Plus, we will do a hands-on mitzvah project assembling patient care carts for Lankenau Medical Center.

Kindergarten Challah for Hunger – Sunday, December 9, 2018

Social Change Challah Bakery – 9:00-11:00am

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

No Religious School on the following dates:

December 23, 25, 26, 27, and 30; January 1, 2019

December 7 Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Chanukah Family Service

3rd Grade Hosting
6:00 pm: Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm: Service
7:30 pm: Shabbat Dinner
RSVP by December 5

January 4 Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Family Service

6:00 pm: Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm: Service
7:30 pm: Shabbat Dinner
RSVP by January 2

RSVP for either dinner www.mlrt.org/reservations or 610-642-0304

Teach Our Children—Missy Horrow

MLRT SCHOOL FOR ECE

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now open for
registration

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20 MONTHS & UP

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & FRIDAYS

JAN. 14TH - JUNE 5TH

9:00AM-12:00PM

MEMBERS: \$2,833

NON-MEMBERS: \$3,533

TODDLER & ME

12 MONTHS & UP
TUESDAYS

JAN. 15TH-MAY 28TH

9:15AM-10:45AM

MEMBERS: \$378

NON-MEMBERS: \$504

BABY & ME

0 MONTHS TO 12 MONTHS
TUESDAYS

JAN. 15TH-MAY 28TH

11:00AM-12:00PM

MEMBERS: \$306

NON-MEMBERS: \$396



CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO
(610)642-0304

L'DOR VA'DOR ENDOWMENT PROGRAM



Charles F. Forer

Several years ago, we started our L'dor Va'dor Legacy Society program for simple reasons: to ensure that we always will be there for our children and grandchildren, and that we always will provide the services, support, and programs that make us an extraordinary community.

It is not surprising that so many generously have supported our Legacy Society program. With year-end rapidly approaching, we want to remind you that the revised tax laws support our L'dor Va'dor program in many ways, including the Charitable IRA Rollover. This rollover allows individuals, age 70½ and older, to make direct transfers of up to \$100,000 per year from their IRAs to MLRT without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes.

The thankfully short "rules":

- The donor must be age 70½ or older.
- An IRA plan administrator must make the distribution, of no more than \$100,000 per year, directly to a qualified charity. (Retirement assets in 401(k), 403(b), SEP, or SIMPLE plans do not qualify. But don't worry: you can roll these assets into a new or existing IRA, and then take advantage of a Charitable IRA Rollover.)
- Distributions can be made only to a tax exempt organization such as MLRT.

Charitable IRA Rollovers provide lots of tax benefits:

- Withdrawals from traditional IRAs (and certain Roth IRAs) customarily are taxed as income, even if the recipient immediately directs the withdrawal to a charity. Yes, the donor receives a tax deduction for the donation to the charity. But other federal, and sometimes state, tax rules can prevent the deduction from fully offsetting this taxable income. The Charitable IRA Rollover gets rid of this problem.
- You can exclude up to \$100,000 per IRA account owner from gross income. Reason: the Charitable IRA Rollovers donation counts toward your IRA minimum distribution.
- Charitable IRA Rollovers are not subject to percentage-of-adjusted-gross income limitations for charitable contributions.
- Charitable IRA Rollovers are not reportable as income for federal income tax or Social Security income purposes. And the amounts withdrawn are not subject to state income taxes in most states.
- Because the entire amount of the Charitable IRA Rollover is excluded from gross income, donors who do not itemize deductions enjoy a tax benefit similar to itemizing a charitable deduction.
- Amounts withdrawn from an IRA account are removed from the donor's taxable estate.

The Charitable IRA Rollover is a simple and highly tax efficient way to support our L'dor Va'dor Legacy Society program. But nothing is simple when it comes to taxes. Other charitable gifts may give you even more tax benefits. So consult your tax advisor for specific advice.

Thank you to all who have supported our L'dor Va'dor Legacy Society program. And best wishes to all for a happy and healthy Chanukah.

Best wishes,

Charles F. Forer, Co-Chair, L'Dor Va'dor cforer@foreradr.com

Your charitable support is essential and deeply appreciated.

For information about any of MLRT's many ways of giving, please contact Executive Director, Melissa Johnson, at mjohnson@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

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than 60 years



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610-668-0423 | Harlam.org



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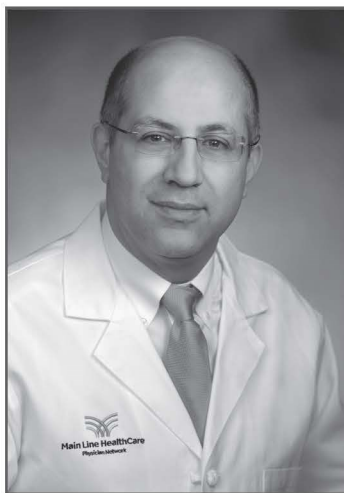
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So whatever your GI concerns, let's face them together.
Here at Main Line Health, Lankenau Medical Center.
Visit mainlinehealth.org/mlhcgi or call 484.476.8390.

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-Helen Keller*

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Lewis & Joan Rosenblatt	Nathan Goodman
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	Yahrzeit of Lenore Kleiner
Rabbi Richard	Yahrzeit of Stuart H.
& Diane Steinbrink	Steinbrink
	Dr. Paul Steinberg

Floral Fund

Joan Frost and Jared Frost	Yahrzeit of Ken Frost
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Gordon Israel Trip Scholarship Fund

Amy & Bob Silverman	Yahrzeit of Lisa Sassler Cohen
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Hassel Adult Education Fund

Gloria & Marvin Barsky	Irv Silverman
Helene Ehrlich-Cohen & Marc Cohen	Nona Chern
Gloria & Martin Goldberg	Anana Tinnhe
Sheila Ross	Yahrzeit of Yetta Barnett
Gail Simon	Anana Tinnhe

L'Dor Va'Dor Endowment Fund

Gail Gutman & Family	Yahrzeit of Michael Price
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Barbara Silver Levin Playground Fund

Brenda & Arnold Levin	Yahrzeit of Charles Schwab
	Yahrzeit of Barbara Levin
Diane & Albert Schwab	Yahrzeit of Charles Schwab

Music Fund

Elgart Aster	Betty Elgart Aster
Bobbi Parker & Bob Goss	Nathan Goodman

Odell/Diamond Library Fund

Ann & Gordon Gelfond	Nona Chern
Susan & Leonard Packel	Nathan Goodman

Prime Time Fund

Iris Braunstein	Yahrzeit of Clara Cupersmith
Barbara Miller	Nathan Goodman

Rabbi Geri Newburge Discretionary Fund

Charlotte & Marvin Garber	Sol Zeiger
	Ronald Bershad
Fonda Hartman & Ken Paull	Michael Jordan Waldman

Rabbi David Straus Discretionary Fund

Aileen Beckman	Don Beckman
Ellen & Brent Brodsky	Marvin Goldfield
Joan & Mark Kay	Nathan Goodman
Andrew Keiser & Ellen Milgrim	Yahrzeit of Ezra Hale Keiser
Essie & Steve King	Yahrzeit of Samuel King
Maxine Koenig	Yahrzeits of Sarah, Albert, and Adella Greenberg
	Nona Chern
Renee & Milton Margulies	Frieda Lefebber
	Yahrzeit of Irwin Yale Harris
Meryl & Howard Rosner	Yahrzeit of Marvin Schwartz
Mindi & Phil Schwartz	Yahrzeit of Henry Wahrman
Margaret & Aron Wahrman	Yahrzeit of Morris J. Zucker
Merle Zucker	Yahrzeit of Marvin A. Zucker

Rick Carocci Adult Education Fund

Barbara V. Carocci	Nathan Goodman
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IN MEMORIAM

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

Nona Chern

Martin Gubernick

*Husband of Elaine Gubernick
Father of Ira (Kathi) Gubernick
Grandfather of Jennifer & Ashley Gubernick*

Frieda Lefebber

MAZEL TOV!

Debbie and Jeff Adler on the marriage of their daughter, Alexa, to Charlie Morgan

Gary Brock on receiving the Hine Ma Tov Regional Recognition Award from the Middle Atlantic Region of Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs

Fonda Hartman on being named 2018 Woman of Valor by Women of Reform Judaism

Amy Wilen-Buckman on her induction into the Philadelphia Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame

Contributions in Honor

Annual Fund

Shirley Demskey	Speedy Recovery of Anita Beckett
Perrin Hamilton, Jr.	In Support
Laura & Richard Shur	Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Kanze

Cantor Faryn Rudnick Discretionary Fund

David & Kerry Heppen & Family	Installation of Cantor Rudnick
Jacqueline & Michael Kates	Installation of Cantor Rudnick
Susan & Bernie Kleinman	In Honor of Cantor Rudnick

L'Dor Va'Dor Endowment Fund

Ann & Gordon Gelfond	Speedy Recovery of Fonda Hartman
	Bar Mitzvah of Jake Stoller

Levin Playground Fund

Brenda & Arnold Levin	In honor of ECE
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Rabbi Newburge Discretionary Fund

Gloria & Marvin Barsky	In Gratitude
Susan & Bernie Kleinman	In Appreciation of Rabbi Newburge
Hope Lefebber & Howard Kessler	In honor of Rabbi Newburge
Jana & Matt Spiegler	Bar Mitzvah of Justin Spiegler

Rabbi David Straus Discretionary Fund

Paula & Stanton Remer	Speedy Recovery of Laura Shur
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Sisterhood Fund

Helene & Glenn Fischer	Speedy Recovery of Fonda Hartman
	Bar Mitzvah of Nathan Morelli
Linda, Todd, Sam, and Alex Hecht	
Bette & Sheldon Steinberg	Speedy Recovery of Fonda Hartman

**Please join Rabbis Geri Newburge & Eric Goldberg
as their son Jay B. Goldberg is called to the Torah
as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 15, 2018
at 10:30 AM.**

Kiddush immediately following services

My name is Jerry Lazaroff. I am the usher with a beard who stands out front opening car doors and lending an umbrella during our High Holiday services.

First, a quiz:

What do the following have in common?

- Venus Williams (Tennis player)
- Carl Lewis (Olympic athlete)
- Tom Brady & David Carter (NFL football players)
- Kyrie Irving (NBA basketball player)
- Scott Jurek (Ultramarathon runner)
- a gorilla, an elephant, a horse, and a giraffe?

Answer - they all follow a plant-based diet!

My wife Bea and I recently became vegans. We have learned that we do not have to eat meat or dairy products to be big, strong, and healthy. This may be a surprise to many due to the heavy advertising from the American Dairy Association and the meat industry. You'll recall their recent ads of "Got Milk?" and "Beef - Its What's for Dinner".

Consuming dairy and meat products may actually be harmful to our health. Some studies have shown that for some people dairy and meat consumption can increase the chance of developing cancer, diabetes, heart disease, or having a stroke. All of our nutrients, including protein, can be obtained from a plant-based diet.

To us, eating meat, poultry, or fish promotes animal cruelty. Many of you have seen film clips of factory farms in which animals are crammed by the thousands into filthy, windowless sheds, wire cages, gestation crates, or other confinement systems. Bea and I find great meaning in the multiple Torah verses that prohibit animal suffering and in God's gift of plant-based food in the very first conversation with human beings (Genesis 1:29). Adopting a plant-based diet is actually rooted in the basic tenets of Judaism.

In addition, by following a plant-based diet you will actually help our environment. Animal agriculture is the leading cause of greenhouse-gas emissions that contributes to global warming. It far exceeds the damage to our environment from all the cars, trucks, and planes in the world combined. This was one of the findings of the October 2018 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

I am excited to report that ML RT is now committed to having vegan options at all synagogue events involving food. If you have any comments or would like to learn more about adopting a plant-based diet, please contact me at jml1029@verizon.net.

December Shabbat Services

Friday, November 30

8:00 pm Shabbat Service
9:00 pm Oneg

Saturday, December 1

8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
8:30 am Shabbat Morning Hike
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Z. Snyder
Daughter of Anila Hyder & David Snyder

Friday, December 7

Chanukah
6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Family Shabbat Service
7:30 pm Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, December 8

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 Livia Jordan Kamplain
Daughter of Mary & Trey Kamplain

Friday, December 14

6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Reset & Renew Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 15

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 Jay B. Goldberg
Son of Rabbi Geri Newburge &
Rabbi Eric Goldberg

Friday, December 21

6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Chapel Service

Saturday, December 22

8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service

Friday, December 28

6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Chapel Service

Saturday, December 29

8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service

Friday, January 4

6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Family Shabbat Service
7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, January 5

8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Chapel Service

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.

COLLEGE STUDENT OUTREACH

MLRT works to maintain contact between the Temple and college students by sending letters and gifts at holiday and exam times. To have your child(ren) added to our mailing list, please forward their college address, along with your name and home address, to Beth Lloyd at the Temple Office, 610-649-7800 or blloyd@mlrt.org.

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Hike 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Snyder
2 CHANUKAH	3 CHANUKAH 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 1 PM Begin. Yiddish 2 PM Interm Yiddish 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism 7:30 PM Conversations	4 CHANUKAH 9 AM Running Club 12 PM Lunch & Learn: CC	5 CHANUKAH 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	6 CHANUKAH 11 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	7 CHANUKAH 10 AM Mussar 6 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Family Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Chanukah Shabbat Dinner	8 CHANUKAH 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bat Mitzvah of Livia Kamplain
9 CHANUKAH 9:30 AM Hassel Adult Education Program 11:15 AM Tikkun Olam Network Meeting	10 CHANUKAH 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 11:30 AM Prime Time 1 PM Begin. Yiddish 2 PM Interm Yiddish 2 PM Blood Drive 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism	11 9 AM Running Club 9:30 AM Sisterhood Board Meeting 12:15 PM Forward Thinking	12 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge 6:30 PM Brotherhood MNO	13 11 AM Bible Study 12 PM Short Story Discussion 12:30 PM Canasta 7 PM FTD Caregivers 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	14 10 AM Mussar 6 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Reset & Renew Shabbat Service	15 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Jay Goldberg
16	17 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 1 PM Begin. Yiddish 2 PM Interm. Yiddish 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism	18 9 AM Running Club 12:15 PM Lunch & Learn: KOP	19 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	20 11 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 6:30 PM Brotherhood Texas Hold'Em 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	21 10 AM Mussar 6 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Shabbat Service	22 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service
23 <i>Religious School Closed</i>	24 <i>ECE Closed</i> 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga	25 <i>ECE Closed</i> <i>Religious School Closed</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	26 <i>ECE Closed</i> <i>Religious School Closed</i> 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	27 <i>ECE Closed</i> <i>Religious School Closed</i> 11 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	28 <i>ECE Closed</i> 6 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Shabbat Service	29 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service
30 <i>Religious School Closed</i>	31 New Year's Eve <i>ECE Closed</i> 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga					



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