



MLRT

MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE

Matters

Be Inspired. Be Connected. Belong.

January 2019

Everybody
Can Be Great
Because
Everybody
Can Serve.

- Martin Luther King Jr.



CELEBRATE MLK ALL WEEKEND WITH MLRT

**SHABBAT OF
INTERFAITH HARMONY**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 | 7:30 PM
BETH AM ISRAEL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20 | 10:30 AM
ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

DAY OF SERVICE

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES!

**SEE PAGES 12 & 13
FOR ALL THE DETAILS**

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MLRT's Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend

Celebrate the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Shabbat of Interfaith Harmony

Friday, January 18 | 7:30 PM at Beth Am Israel, Penn Valley

Sunday, January 20 | 10:30 AM at Zion Baptist Church, Ardmore

Join members of Zion Baptist Church and Beth Am Israel for our annual Shabbat of Interfaith Harmony. Spirited music by the Unity Choir at both services.



JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY
Sunday, January 20, 2019

Location: 10980 Dutton Road,
Philadelphia

Box making: 8:30-10:00 AM

Food box packing: 10:00-11:30 AM

Food delivery: 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Contact Rabbi Kevin Kleinman for more
information at kkleinman@mlrt.org

In-house Activities



SALAD MAKING

MLRT Upstairs kitchen

*Appropriate for adults and families with
children age 10 +*

Participants MUST sign up via the MLRT

website www.mlrt.org/mlk

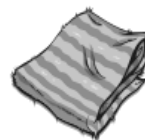
Food insecure families need healthy food options. Join fellow congregants in preparing salads for the Narberth Community Food Bank and the Ardmore Food Pantry. For questions contact Liz Stoller at ljstoller@gmail.com

Monday January 21, 2019

In order to make this day a spectacular success, we are collecting the following items which will support some of our projects:

- Unopened trial sized toiletries
- Gently used children's clothing sizes baby - 16
- New kids pajamas
- New kids underwear
- New kids socks
- New or used books in excellent condition for K-8
- Plastic grocery bags

Look for bins in the MLRT vestibule



NO-SEW BLANKETS

MLRT Circular Lounge

*Open to children and adults - you only need to
know how to tie a knot!* Please bring a good
pair of scissors or fabric scissors. These soft

and cuddly fleece blankets will be donated to the needy children and families served by the Mitzvah Circle Foundation. For questions contact Betsy Zeitlin at

BetsyZ@remax.net



TOILETRY SORTING & PACKAGING

MLRT Hausen Auditorium

Open to children and adults

Sort all the wonderful trial sized toiletries collected from our congregation, make a

cheerful note to go along with the goods and then put them all together in an attractive package! To benefit the shelter Women of Change - a safe haven residence in Philadelphia. For questions contact Kerry Heppen at HeppenK@mlhs.org

MLRT's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service



CRADLES TO CRAYONS MOBILE WAREHOUSE CLOTHING SORT

MLRT Hausen Auditorium

Appropriate for teens and adults

Inspect and sort clothing donated by our congregation to benefit needy children and families served by Cradles to Crayons.

For questions contact Vanessa Coke Cohen at vcokecohen@gmail.com



ECE TOILETRY GIFT BAG ASSEMBLY & ECE UPCYCLED MARINE ANIMAL MAKING - TAKE THE OCEAN CHALLENGE!

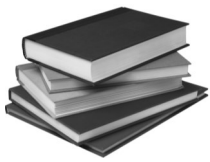
MLRT Orleans Auditorium

Appropriate for ECE children

Bags will be distributed by Mitzvah Circle Foundation to families who need these personal care items.

Make an ocean creature out of recyclables. The art projects are sent in to an organization called Students Rebuild and a foundation will donate \$2 for every creature created. The money will go to ocean conservation. The art creatures are then compiled into a special exhibit. <https://www.studentsrebuild.org/ocean> for cool video about the project!

For questions contact Missy Horrow at mhorrow@mlrt.org. Afterward, children who are old enough can join the no-sew blanket making activity.



WePAC BARRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY SUPPORT at MLRT

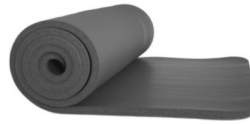
MLRT ALC 1 & ALC 2

Appropriate for teens and adults

We need new and gently used children's books for the library at the Barry School, a K5 school in nearby West Philadelphia whose library will be opened and operated by WePAC (West Philadelphia Alliance for Children) in January 2019. We need YOUR HELP labeling and cataloging them so we can get them to the kids! Please join us with your laptop or iPad and we will work together until every book is cataloged.

Due to space and instructional constraints, participants must arrive by the start of the activity in order to participate.

For questions contact Lynne Breslau at straus@comcast.net



MAKING SLEEPING MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

MLRT Circular Lounge

Appropriate for ages 8+

This is a monumental task and we will try to tackle as much as possible! Help by folding and cutting collected plastic grocery bags. The bags will need to be trimmed and cut in half. Then they are knotted together in lengths to create the "plarn." This is then balled into skeins of "plarn" that will be crocheted to make the mats.

Knowing how to crochet is a bonus but it is not necessary in order to participate. For questions please contact Laura Banchemo at lkbffleur@comcast.net

Off-site Activities



HELP OUT AT THE NARBERTH COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Meet at the NCFB at 10 am - 201 Sabine Ave, Narberth, PA 19072. Project is TBD Limited to 10-12 people - please email Liz Stoller at ljstoller@gmail.com if you would like to participate.



SINGING AT SAUNDERS HOUSE

Appropriate for all ages

Please contact Cantor Faryn Rudnick at frudnick@mlrt.org if you would like to participate.

Please sign up for an activity so that we can prepare adequately.

All signups can be accessed via the MLRT homepage or go to www.mlrt.org/mlk

All programs begin at 10 AM unless otherwise noted.

Community, Connection, Gratitude

David E. Straus
Senior Rabbi

Geri Newburge
Rabbi

Faryn Rudnick
Cantor

Melissa S. Johnson
Executive Director

Rabbi Kevin Kleinman
Director of Education, Assoc. Rabbi

Missy Horrow
Director of Early Childhood Education

Ross M. Levy
Director of Youth Engagement

Max Hausen
Rabbi Emeritus

Marshall A. Portnoy
Cantor Emeritus

Joel H. Ginsparg
President

David Heppen
Rachel Lester
David Rawdin
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Brett Cohen
Financial Secretary

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Main Office 610-649-7800
School Office 610-642-0304
www.mlrt.org



Rabbi Newburge

Life can be viewed as a series of sliding door moments. Each moment is an opportunity when the decisions we make change the course of our lives. While not every choice leads to a pivotal moment, some resolutions will lead to new identities, new lifestyles, new beliefs. Throughout life we make a series of key decisions which shape and alter our reality.

In the new year I find myself reflecting on the past year, and most especially on the last month, when my son, Jay, became a Bar Mitzvah. What would this simcha have been like had I not been welcomed at Main Line Reform Temple? It is impossible to imagine!

Jay's bar mitzvah afforded me the opportunity to look at the community through new eyes. I have a new appreciation for what this journey to Bar/Bat Mitzvah means to parents, as well as the commitment each family makes to shepherding their child to this beautiful milestone. The gratification of watching one's child participate in Jewish life is truly rewarding, and is made more so by the realization that this is done in community. It takes the help of the B'nai Mitzvah tutors, clergy, administration and maintenance staff to make the sacred day come to fruition.

Rabbi Hillel said, "Do not separate yourself from the community." The community- our community- provides us with a network of resources, know how, and wisdom. How blessed we are to be a part of such a caring, supportive congregation.

I'm eternally grateful for the extraordinary partnership with our President, Joel Ginsparg, and the lay leadership, as well as the tremendous support of the senior staff and administrative team. I extend my deep gratitude for Mary Kamplain and Sisterhood for their assistance, and to the innumerable congregants who offered guidance and good wishes.

As we begin 2019 together, I hope we can continue to find ways, through any sliding doors, to connect and celebrate as a community. Best wishes to you and yours for a healthy, happy, meaningful and peaceful year.

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 **dstraus@mlrt.org** or (610) 649-7800.

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

Stand & Work Together



Rabbi Straus

"I speak to you as an American Jew.

As Americans we share the profound concern of millions of people about the shame and disgrace of inequality and injustice which make a mockery of the great American idea.

As Jews we bring to this great demonstration, in which thousands of us proudly participate, a two-fold experience -- one of the spirit and one of our history.

In the realm of the spirit, our fathers taught us thousands of years ago that when God created man, he created him as everybody's neighbor. Neighbor is not a geographic term. It is a moral concept. It means our collective responsibility for the preservation of man's dignity and integrity.

From our Jewish historic experience of three and a half thousand years we say:

Our ancient history began with slavery and the yearning for freedom. During the Middle Ages my people lived for a thousand years in the ghettos of Europe. Our modern history begins with a proclamation of emancipation.

It is for these reasons that it is not merely sympathy and compassion for the black people of America that motivates us. It is above all and beyond all such sympathies and emotions a sense of complete identification and solidarity born of our own painful historic experience.

When I was the rabbi of the Jewish community in Berlin under the Hitler regime, I learned many things. The most important thing that I learned under those tragic circumstances was that bigotry and hatred are not the most urgent problem. The most urgent, the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence.

A great people which had created a great civilization had become a nation of silent onlookers. They remained silent in the face of hate, in the face of brutality and in the face of mass murder.

America must not become a nation of onlookers. America must not remain silent. Not merely black America, but all of America. It must speak up and act, from the President down to the humblest of us, and not for the sake of the Negro, not for the sake of the black community but for the sake of the image, the idea and the aspiration of America itself.

Our children, yours and mine in every school across the land, each morning pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States and to the republic for which it stands. They, the children, speak fervently and innocently of this land as the land of "liberty and justice for all."

The time, I believe, has come to work together — for it is not enough to hope together, and it is not enough to pray together — to work together that this children's oath, pronounced every morning from Maine to California, from North to South, may become a glorious, unshakeable reality in a morally renewed and united America."

With these stirring words, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, then the rabbi of Temple B'nai Abraham in Newark, NJ (where my family belonged) and President of the American Jewish Congress introduced Dr. Martin Luther King at the 1963 March in Washington, DC. Dr. King went on to deliver his now famous "I have a dream" speech. Both speeches are as relevant today as they were when first delivered 55 years ago. Yes, we have made much progress. But as Charleston, Charlotte and now Pittsburgh remind us, the cry for racial justice, an end to bigotry and hatred and anti-Semitism still need to be confronted, as the Passover Seder reminds us, "bchol dor va'dor, each generation must engage anew in these battles."

One of the highlights of our year is our annual MLK weekend of prayer, song and action, January 18-21. This year, we are hosting WINSTY — over 150 high schoolers — our own and from throughout the state will join in a weekend of prayer, song, celebration, fun and social justice work. And our own Tikkun Olam Network has planned activities for us — both on Sunday when we will join with JRA packing and delivering meals for those in our community who are food insecure, and on Monday here at the Temple. Details are on pages 12 & 13 of our bulletin.

The worst sin, Rabbi Prinz taught, is the sin of indifference. Together, let us stand and work together to help bring our world one moment closer to redemption.

Shema: Listen!



Joel Ginsparg

Shema is one of the most important words in Judaism. Moses told the Israelites, “Shema”: listen, heed, pay attention. “Hear what I am saying.” “Hear what God is saying.” “Listen to what God wants from us.” Listening is a deeply spiritual act. The second part of the Shema says “shamo’a tish’m’u” “it shall be if you surely listen” (Deuteronomy 11:13). To listen to God is to be open to God.

There is a distinction between hearing and listening. Hearing is simply the act of perceiving sound by the ear. If you are not hearing-impaired, hearing simply happens. It is passive behavior, just a by-product of having ears and all their working parts. Listening, however, is active; it requires conscious choice. Listening is how we attach meaning to sounds, leading us to learning. Listening is also how we show others that we care. It shows kindness and respect to listen to others and not just hear them.

Many of us have been blessed with the ability to hear, but few of us have taken time to refine the art of listening. We are "hard of listening" rather than "hard of hearing." Often, as soon as someone else begins to speak, we begin preparing a response. We are not listening to understand, just to reply. Hardly ten words escape their mouths and our rebuttal is on our minds, if not already on our lips. Sometimes we are preoccupied with other ideas or worries and are unable to set them aside to pay full attention with our ears and our minds. Other times we hold preconceived notions about the speaker or the subject and tune out, hearing the words without listening to the message. And sometimes, we are simply self-centered, focused only on what we want to say, rather than what there is to be heard. We hear what we want to hear, instead of what is intended.

There is an old saying that God created us with one mouth and two ears so that we might spend twice as much time listening as talking. Perhaps the two ears are there to hear and to listen, to gather sounds and glean meaning. It takes practice to learn to listen and not just to hear; it takes effort to pay attention, understand, and take what we hear to heart.

Listening lies at the very heart of relationships. It means that we are open to the other person, that we respect him or her, and that their perceptions and feelings matter to us. Often the greatest gift we can give someone is to listen to them. It can often be difficult to truly listen what others are saying to us, especially when we are presented with new ideas or criticism. Truly listening takes not only an open ear, but an open mind and an open heart as well. This needs to be an intentional shift in the way we approach the conversation. We stand to benefit much more deeply if we open ourselves up to truly listen.

Main Line Reform Temple Beth Elohim is a community of about 1,000 families. We provide spiritual, intellectual, and cultural enrichment for and social action to our congregational family and the surrounding community. Many of these programs are provided to the community as a whole and other programs are provided to small groups within our community. The leadership and clergy of MLRT want to learn what you think about these programs. What are we doing well and what are we not doing well? What could we do differently? What new programs should we offer? What programs should we stop providing?

We are launching a project to meet with every member of the congregation. During the next twelve months, all of you will receive an invitation to join us at a Shema Circle, a group of approximately twenty members, to share your thoughts and ideas. We want to truly listen to you!

Creating Community is brought to you by the **3 to 5 Committee**. Our motto is BE INSPIRED, BE CONNECTED, BELONG!! Our mission is to create small interest groups where congregants can connect and spend quality time with new friends! Please consider putting one of these events on your calendar and give it a try!! You can share your passion over a common interest. If you have an activity/hobby or interest you want to share, we can help you start the group of your dreams. We are anxious to help you achieve this goal as we begin the new calendar year!! If there any ideas you'd like to share or questions, contact Cindy Ruben at cdruben@verizon.

Creating Community



**HIKE WITH RABBI
NEWBURGE**
Sunday, January 6
8:30 AM

Join Rabbi Newburge and your MLRT family for some exercise, conversation and community. After dropping your students at Religious School we will head to Cynwyd Heritage trail to walk and talk, and learn a little something about Judaism and the environment.

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

CINEMA CLUB

Sunday, January 6 | 6:00 PM

We will be discussing *The Green Book* at the home of Joy Effron.

This movie is about Tony Lip, a bouncer from an Italian-American neighborhood in the Bronx, who is hired to drive Dr. Don Shirley, a world-class black pianist, on a concert tour from Manhattan to the Deep South. They must rely on "The Green Book" to guide them to the few establishments that were then safe for African-Americans. RSVP to Joy at joygene@gmail.com



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.



RESET & RENEW: CONTEMPORARY SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, January 11 | 6:30 PM

Don't miss this special Shabbat service with Ross M. Levy and the Levites! Our Contemporary Shabbat service, modeled after our highly successful High Holy Day service at Lower Merion High School, continues our experiment to create meaningful space in your life for our Jewish community.

Come in out of the cold for a service filled with warmth, joy and song!

BROTHERHOOD BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, January 8 | 7:30 PM

All are welcome to attend this fascinating discussion on the Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann.

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD ANNUAL DINNER & WINE TASTING

Wednesday, February 13 | 7:00 PM

Don't miss this great event with the men and women of MLRT at Evviva Restaurant. See page 7 for more details.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PRESENTS:

Nina Simone: Four Women

Saturday, March 23 | 6:30 PM

at People's Light Theater



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 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.



EMPTY NESTERS

The Empty Nesters had a nice time at happy hour and the Jewish Film Festival movie. Stay tuned for information and the date of our dinner outing to The Rooster!

If you are not sure if you are on the Empty Nesters emails and would like to be included, please ask Davida Chornock to add you. If you have activities that you are interested in organizing for the Empty Nesters group, please let us know.

Jennie Nemroff jennienem@gmail.com
Linda Gordon lindandan@comcast.net
Janet Handleman ziggy130@comcast.net

Brotherhood



Gary Brock

The monthly restaurant tours continue. For the month of January, can you believe we are in a new secular new year, we will meet for laughs and business at Andy's favorite eatery: the Grog in Bryn Mawr. As usual, first call is at 6:30 pm, followed by dinner.

All Brotherhood members are invited to the annual MRJ mid-Winter meeting in Newark, New Jersey. You will find information for registration and hotel booking at the MRJ website. The dates are January 17-20. Confirmed speakers are: R. Rick Jacobs, President of URJ, R. Mary Zamore, Executive Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network speaking on the "Reform Pay Equity Initiative," and Senator Cory Booker. Saturday's dinner will be at the one-and-only Spanish Tavern in the Iron City. Since we will gather after Shabbat, many dishes not usually gracing our Shabbat dinner tables will be available, as well as vegan and vegetarian fare. Who can resist? If you have questions about this meeting, call me directly.

For a week's time back in November I was privileged to work with Joe Ferrannini of Grave Stone Matters in the restoration of the Gladwyne Jewish Memorial Cemetery. The cemetery, consecrated in 1890, contains almost 1,000 identified grave sites. It ceased operation in 1945, and has languished in disrepair until Beth David Congregation assumed oversight in the early 2000's. The picture of the unrestored sites is typical; the restored sites are nothing less than miraculous. Countless hours have been devoted to disassembling, cleaning, restoring, and reassembling the sites, one by one. It is painstaking and hard work; the results are in keeping with our Jewish values. General site cleaning is also part and parcel of ongoing volunteer efforts. Our own fifth graders helped clear a meadow area for future planting. The cemetery's website is replete with history, identified names of the buried, and volunteer service opportunities. I encourage you to visit the website; I encourage you to visit the actual site in Gladwyne.



January

8 Book Club: Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

February

13 Brotherhood/Sisterhood Wine Dinner. *See page 7 for details*

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

January 9 The Grog

February 6 Iron Hill

March 6 Lumbrada Cocina

April 1 Lucky Dog

May 6 Founding Farmers

June 3 Clam Tavern

Sisterhood



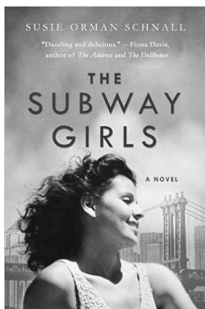
Mary Kamplain

An article in The Forward in late November asked, "Is The Temple Sisterhood Over? Or Reinventing Itself?" Author Ari Feldman posits that declining local Sisterhood membership (and synagogue affiliation) and difficulty attracting younger women mean Sisterhoods have to reexamine their goals so they don't "lose the political power and social influence they have wielded for generations." While national organizations like Women of Reform Judaism are attracting interest because of their non-partisan focus on issues affecting women, and because of the important impact that their resources and advocacy can make, local Sisterhoods struggle with image issues and competing causes and commitments.

We have seen this phenomenon in our own Sisterhood and it is not difficult to understand. We all have so many causes and organizations that are important to us and only so much time and effort to give. And trying to create programs that appeal to all the women in our congregation is always our challenge and our goal. But I believe Sisterhood serves a vital, empowering function for women that will ensure its survival: it allows us to build community and tackle the world's problems in a Jewish way, and when we join together to do that, we are so much stronger and effective than we are on our own. We see the difference we can make in the lives of HIAS clients, or West Philadelphia families, or even our own MLRT students and Jewish campers, and it is not insignificant. As one Judaic studies professor stated in the article, "It should be clear: you don't want to lose the potential of these [local] organizations."

One of the main purposes of our Sisterhood is to support our temple and our youth, and this month, we have the opportunity to do just that. As MLRT hosts WINSTY's Weekend of Social Action, January 18-20, Sisterhood will come together to provide Saturday night's dinner for the participants. If you would like to help plan, prepare and/or serve dinner for what promises to be an amazing weekend for our 8th-12th graders, I hope you will reach out to me at marykamplain@yahoo.com.

Warmest wishes for a happy, healthy & meaningful 2019!



SISTERHOOD BRUNCH & BOOK REVIEW WITH SUSIE ORMAN SCHNALL, AUTHOR OF THE SUBWAY GIRLS

Tuesday, January 22 | 10:00 AM

Welcome Susie to MLRT and enjoy a delicious brunch brought to you by Sisterhood!

The Subway Girls — a fast-paced and satisfying story of two strong and ambitious women — is rooted in the real and fascinating history of the NYC Miss Subways beauty contest. The novel follows two storylines: 1949's Charlotte competes in Miss Subways. And 2018's Olivia learns about Miss Subways while doing research for an advertising pitch. Their narratives intersect as both women pursue their dreams and follow their hearts professionally and personally.

There is no charge for this program, however to plan brunch, please RSVP to Ami Lonner at alonner@comcast.net (610-642-1698) or Sue Rubin Plick at rubin.plick@comcast.net (610-715-0484).

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD ANNUAL WINE TASTING & DINNER

Wednesday, February 13
7:00 PM

Don't miss this great event with the men and women of MLRT at Evviva Restaurant, 1236 Montgomery Ave. Sample 5 different wines led by Rob Peters, "Best of Philly" winner as wine buyer for the Ardmore Fine Wine & Good Spirits store, then enjoy a delicious dinner. Wine will be available for purchase.

More information and registration can be found at <http://www.mlrt.org/sisterhood.html> or <http://www.mlrt.org/brotherhood.html>

RSVP by February 6. Questions? Contact Steve Handleman at shandleman@comcast.net or Lori Levin at lorijlevin@gmail.com.



Lifelong Learning

Forward

FORWARD THINKING: LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday, January 8 | 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.

HASSEL ADULT EDUCATION LECTURE: Very Jewish!

Sunday, January 13

9:30 AM Coffee & Bagels | 10:00 AM

Lecture with Cantor Faryn Rudnick



Join us as we examine the musical and cultural sounds that make Jewish music, well...Jewish! We will examine our musical roots, and listen to a few iconic pieces of our communal repertoire that have that "Jewish" sound. We will also learn how new composers are using the "Jewish" sound in their music to bridge the gap between the traditional and the new.



INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS ON ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Monday, January 28 | 7:00 PM at

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

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.

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.



A YEAR OF CIVIL CONVERSATIONS

Thursday, January 17 | 7:00 PM at WHY

Join Rabbi David Straus as he participates in a conversation on race and faith, sponsored by NewCORE and Interfaith Philadelphia. Free and open to the public.

JEWISH ART & ARTISTS IN THE BARNES FOUNDATION WITH CANTOR PORTNOY

Mondays, starting January 28 | 6:00 PM

More than ten percent of the works in the Barnes Foundation are by Jewish artists. Learn what was it about their art that resonated with Albert Barnes. Register at <https://www.barnesfoundation.org/classes/>

LUNCH & LEARN WITH OUR RABBIS

Learn & Lunch with Rabbi Newburge

Friday, January 11 | 11:30 AM

Explore the roots of our Jewish traditions in this monthly gathering with your MLRT family. This month we dive into the origins of "the case of the pursuer".

Maimonides, says: "Every Jew is obligated to save a pursued person from his pursuer." Learn how this concept still applies in our lives today. Sandwiches/wraps provided; please bring a salad, side, fruit salad, or dessert. Please RSVP to Cynthia at cmarshall@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.



Rabbi Newburge

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

Suburban

Monday, January 14 | 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.



Rabbi Straus

Center City

Tuesday, January 15 | 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.

Save the Dates!



NOAH ARONSON

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AND PERFORMER**

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NOAHARONSON.COM

SAVE THE DATE

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE WEEKEND MARCH 8-10

FRIDAY, MARCH 8: SHABBAT SERVICE FOLLOWED BY DINNER
\$36 PER FAMILY

SATURDAY, MARCH 9: SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE IN THE
CHAPEL FOLLOWED BY BRUNCH & LEARN

SATURDAY, MARCH 9: INTIMATE CONCERT
\$36 PER PERSON

SUNDAY, MARCH 10: CONCERT FOR MLRT MEMBERS & GUESTS

WEEKEND SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE STARTING AT \$118

CONTACT CANTOR RUDNICK AT FRUDNICK@MLRT.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION



Save the Date!

MLRT Purim Festivities

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Purim Carnival 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Special Early Admission for ECE Families - 9:30 AM

Be a Carnival Sponsor!

For details, visit www.mlrt.org/purim

2nd Night Passover Seder

Saturday, April 20, 2019



Need a seder to go to?
Please consider joining Rabbi Newburge
& Cantor Rudnick along with other
members of the MLRT community for
this catered affair (price TBA).

Please email Cynthia at
cmarsall@mlrt.org if you interested in
attending and if you are able to help us
plan. We look forward to sharing the
holiday with you!

Teach Our Children—Rabbi Kevin Kleinman



Dear Religious School Families,

During our last Religious School Assembly of 2018 we taught the students about the ritual of Havdallah, the ceremonial separation between the end of Shabbat and the beginning of the new week. We celebrated all our accomplishments of the Fall of 2018. Now, we look forward to many wonderful days of learning and special programs as we enter 2019. This month we have many more mitzvah projects and a very special Scholar-in-Residence weekend with a baker and a Torah maker. Please see below for events you won't want to miss!

Rabbi Kleinman

5th Grade Challah for Hunger – Social Change Challah Bakery

Sunday, January 13, 2019

9:00-11:00am – Early Session

10:30-12:30pm – 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

7th-12th Grade Letters from Anne and Martin Play

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 @ 7:00pm

A gift from Suzanne and Norman Cohn and Family

6th Grade @ the JRA (Jewish Relief Agency)

Sunday, January 20, 2019

Located at 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, PA

10:00am-11:30am – Food Box Packing

11:00am-12:30pm – Food Box Delivery

Bread and Torah Havdallah (ritual ending Shabbat)

Saturday, January 26, 2019

5:00 pm: Dinner

5:30 pm: Havdallah

6:00 pm: Help make a real “page” of Torah!

6th Grade The Diary of Anne Frank Play

Sunday, January 27, 2019 @ 10am -12pm

Families meet at Adath Israel on the Main Line

No Religious School on the following dates: January 1 and 20, 2019

Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Family Service

January 4, 2019

Featuring the Junior Jammers

6:00 pm: Snack & Schmooze

6:30 pm: Service

7:30 pm: Potluck Shabbat Dinner*

Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Family Service

February 1, 2019

6th Grade Hosting

6:00 pm: Snack & Schmooze

6:30 pm: Service

7:30 pm: Shabbat Dinner*

7:30 pm: 6th Grade Movie Night

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

Teach Our Children—Ross M. Levy



This year we are honored to be hosting NFTY-PAR's WINSTY Weekend of Social Action over MLK Weekend, **January 18 - 20, 2019**, here at Main Line Reform Temple. Every year this event is hosted by a different congregation, and 2019 is our time to shine and welcome Jewish teens from across our region!

The WINSTY Weekend of Social Action is a time for volunteering, learning, and meeting teens from across the region, and welcoming people into our congregation. All students in **8 - 12 grades**, have been encouraged to participate in this event.

Bread and Torah Scholars-in-Residence Weekend January 25-27, 2019

MLRT is excited to host Rabbis Linda Motzkin and Jonathan Rubenstein, founders of the Bread and Torah Project for a weekend of creative and engaging learning for all members of our community. Rabbi Linda Motzkin and Rabbi Jonathan Rubenstein have served since 1986 as co-rabbis of Temple Sinai in Saratoga Springs, New York. In addition, Rabbi Jonathan is a bread maker and baking teacher, and Rabbi Linda is one of a handful of women in the world who is trained as a soferet—a Torah scribe, and the only one who makes her own parchment, out of deerskin hides donated from local hunters. In 2004 Rabbis Linda and Jonathan founded the Bread and Torah Project (www.BreadandTorah.org) through which they offer experiential learning in traditional scribal arts and bread making.

Schedule of Events:

Friday, January 25, 2019

2:30pm – 7 Species Challah Baking*

6:30-7:00pm – Shishi Israeli Shabbat Service

7:00pm – Shishi Israeli Shabbat Dinner

8:00-9:00pm – Shishi Israeli Shabbat Outside the Box, including lectures, activities, and experiences with Rabbi Motzkin and Rabbi Rubenstein

Saturday, January 26, 2019

9:00-10:00am – Torah Study

5:00-7:00pm – Dinner, Havdallah, and Torah Hide Stretching*

Sunday, January 27, 2019

9:00-12:30pm – Special Presentations in Religious School

*For more information and to RSVP, contact Rabbi Kleinman in the Religious School office

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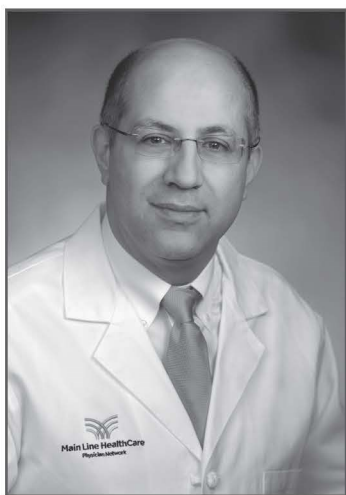
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-Helen Keller*

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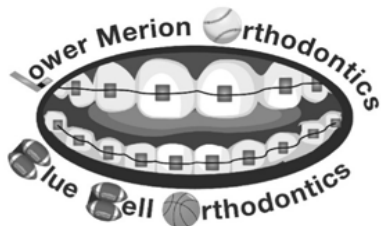
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Rabbi Geri Newburge Discretionary Fund

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Your clergy want to be there for you and your family both when there are joys to share and in times of illness and difficulty. But we need to hear from you. Unfortunately, the hospitals do not inform us when our members are admitted for care. We have no way of knowing when your families need us; please do not assume we know. Call the MLRT Office at 610-649-7800 or email eroberts@mlrt.org and let us know, so we can be there for you.

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The following contributions were made in memory of Eric Straus:

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IN MEMORIAM

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

Zona Amper

Grandmother of Rabbi Kevin Kleinman

(Chana Rothman)

Great-grandmother of Isadore, Yarden, and Misha Kleinman

Ann Marie Coffman-Manzano

Sister of Joan (Larry) Bergen

Ruth Kleeman

Mother of Michael (Jill) Kleeman

Reba Lazaroff

Mother of Jerry (Bea) Lazaroff

and Marjorie (Edward) Paul

Marcee Smith

Mother of Taryn (Eric) Ferst

Grandmother of Tyler and Haley Ferst

Eric Straus

Father of Rabbi David Straus (Lynne Breslau)

Grandfather of Max and Julia Straus

Craig Yusem

Brother of Lori (Frank) Hockman

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

January Shabbat Services

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

Friday, January 11

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

Saturday, January 12

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 <i>Allyson Altshuler</i>
	Daughter of Marc & Jill Altshuler

Friday, January 18

7:30 pm	Shabbat of Interfaith Harmony at Beth Am Israel
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Saturday, January 19

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

Friday, January 25

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

Saturday, January 26

8:30 am	Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
9:00 am	Torah Study
10:00 am	Chapel Service
5:00 pm	Mincha Service
	Bar Mitzvah of <i>Kai Sherman</i>
	Son of Ryan & Jennifer Sherman
5:30 pm	Bread & Torah Havdallah & Dinner

Friday, February 1

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

Saturday, February 2

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 <i>Jonah Labovitz</i>
	Son of Benjamin Labovitz & Jennifer Hitelman
5:00 pm	Mincha Service
	Bat Mitzvah of <i>Sasha Beck</i>
	Daughter of Adam & Jill Beck

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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.

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 NEW YEARS DAY <i>ECE Closed</i> <i>RS Closed</i> <i>MLRT Office Closed</i>	2 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	3 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	4 6:00 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Family Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Family Shabbat Dinner	5 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service
6 8:30 AM Hike with Rabbi Newburge 6:30 PM MLRT Beer Club 6:30 PM Cinema Club	7 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism	8 9:00 AM Running Club 12:15 PM Forward Thinking 7:00 PM Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:30 PM Brotherhood Book Club	9 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge 6:30 PM Brotherhood Men's Night Out	10 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM Short Story Discussion 12:30 PM Canasta 6:30 PM Softball Meeting 7:00 PM FTD Caregivers 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	11 11:30 AM Learn & Lunch w/ RGN 6:00 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Reset & Renew Shabbat Service	12 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bat Mitzvah of Allyson Altshuler
13 9:30 AM Hassel Adult Education Program	14 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 12:15 PM Suburban Lunch & Learn 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism	15 9:00 AM Running Club 12:00 PM Center City Lunch & Learn	16 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	17 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:00 PM A Year of Conversations at WHY 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	18 7:30 PM Shabbat of Interfaith Harmony at Beth Am Israel	19 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service
20 <i>MLRT Closed</i> <i>RS Closed</i> 8:30 AM Jewish Relief Agency Service Project 11:30 AM Service of Interfaith Harmony at Zion Baptist Church	21 TU B'SHEVAT <i>ECE Closed</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 10:00 AM MLK Day of Service	22 9:00 AM Running Club 10:00 AM Sisterhood Book Review & Brunch	23 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	24 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting) 7:30 PM Religious Practices Committee	25 <i>L'Taken</i> 6:00 PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Shishi Israeli Shabbat Service 7:00 PM Shishi Israeli Dinner	26 <i>L'Taken</i> 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:00 AM Chapel Service 5:00 PM Bar Mitzvah of Kai Sherman 5:30 PM Bread & Torah Havdallah & Dinner
27 <i>L'Taken</i> 10:00 AM 6th Grade Anne Frank Program at Adath Israel 1:00 PM Jewish Genealogy Society	28 <i>L'Taken</i> 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 7:00 PM Interfaith Conversations at Bryn Mawr Pres. 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism	29 9:00 AM Running Club	30 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	31 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)		



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