



MLRT Matters

MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE

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March 2019



NOAH ARONSON

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TICKETS ON SALE NOW! ARTIST IN RESIDENCE WEEKEND

MARCH 8-10

FRIDAY, MARCH 8 | 6:30 PM
SHABBAT SERVICE FOLLOWED BY DINNER
\$18 PER PERSON

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 | 9:00 AM
SHABBAT MORNING CHAPEL SERVICE FOLLOWED BY
BRUNCH & LEARN

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 | 7:30 PM
COFFEEHOUSE CONCERT SPONSORED BY SAVONA RESTAURANT
BEER PROVIDED BY MANAYUNK BREWING COMPANY
\$36 PER PERSON

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 | 10:00 AM
CONCERT FOR MLRT MEMBERS & GUESTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 | 11:15 AM
ANNUAL MEETING WITH SPECIAL SONG BY NOAH

WWW.MLRT.ORG/NA19

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 10
See page 2 for details

Purim Celebrations!

Starting Wednesday, March 20
See page 10 for details

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Noah Aronson & Annual Meeting

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
Vice Presidents

R. Victor Haas
Treasurer

Brett Cohen
Financial Secretary

Beth Allen
Recording Secretary



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



Main Line Reform Temple has a rich tradition of hosting some of the greatest Jewish musicians of the day. We have been blessed to host locally and nationally known artists, who inspire us with their music and their teachings. This March 8-10, when we host musician, composer, and teacher, **Noah Aronson**, will be another link in the musical chain of tradition in our community.

Noah Aronson is one of the most prolific, spiritual, energizing, and special musicians of our generation. Much like Debbie Friedman, of blessed memory, Noah's music has impacted people of all ages across the globe. Whether working with children or adults, Noah has a special way of connecting with each person and a special way of sharing his greatest gift, his music.

Please join us as we welcome Noah and his band the weekend of March 8-10. Noah will join us for services on Friday, beginning at 6:30 PM, followed by dinner, where Noah and our MLRT choirs will share his music, and uplift us prayerfully and spiritually with his words and music. Noah will lead the chapel service on Saturday, beginning at 9:00 AM, followed by a Brunch and Learn session with Noah. Saturday night, please RSVP for an intimate concert with Noah, and his bandmates, Tali and Noam. And finally, plan to be with us Sunday morning at 10:00 AM for a high energy and riveting concert with Noah and his entire band. Noah will also lead us in our opening song at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Whether you can join us for 1 event or all 4, you won't want to miss a moment of our Artist in Residence visit with Noah Aronson. **RSVP at mlrt.org/na19**. It will be an outstanding weekend of music, learning, fun, and community.

Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting & Bagel Brunch Sunday, March 10 | 11:15 AM

In accordance with the MLRT Bylaws, please join us on Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 11:15 AM for MLRT's Annual Congregational Meeting and bagel brunch. Our President, Joel H. Ginsparg, our Executive Director, Melissa Johnson, and our Senior Rabbi, Rabbi David Straus, will update us on the general welfare and future plans for MLRT. Our Treasurer, Vic Haas, will present a report on MLRT's financial standing. Nominating Committee Chairs, Lori Ehrich and Steven Handleman, will present the report of the Nominating Committee, including the nominations of Officers and Trustees who will serve in the coming year. Attendees may nominate additional candidates by petition. The election of Officers and Trustees will be conducted.

NOMINEES

President:	Joel H. Ginsparg
Vice Presidents:	David Heppen Rachel Lester David Rawdin
Treasurer:	R. Victor Haas
Financial Secretary:	Brett Cohen
Recording Secretary:	Beth Allen

Nomination to the Board of Trustees (Three Year Terms):

Scott Berger	Margie Bildersee
Ken Brier	Brad Frank
Mary Kamplain	Jeff Love
Jennie Nemroff	Susan Plick Rubin

Special Guest: We will welcome our Artist in Residence, Noah Aronson!

Filling Our Cups



Rabbi Straus

The Jewish calendar is a very complicated thing and extraordinarily accurate as far as calendars go. (You can read a lengthy article about the accuracy of our calendar in the Jewish Encyclopedia, which goes into the accuracy of the calendar with complicated math formulas—way above my understanding.) Our calendar is a lunar calendar with a solar correction—which results in all of our holidays falling in the “right” season (despite the joke about their always being either early or late.)

This is a leap year in the Hebrew calendar. We add an entire extra month to the calendar, a second month of Adar. Purim is celebrated in the second Adar -- this year, Wednesday evening, March 20 - March 21. A month later, we celebrate Passover -- just about as late as Passover can ever fall in the calendar. (And yes, this year as a result the High Holy Days will be “late” as well.) Easter, too, will be late this year, on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring equinox. Late, but on time.

Living in Lower Merion, I’ve learned another way to know when the holidays are to be celebrated—by watching the super market shelves. Soon, I’ll find hamantaschen in the back of the Giant, and earlier and earlier it seems, the shelves are filled with Passover items.

But our tradition connects Purim and Passover in more ways than just the supermarket shelves. The story of Passover literally and repeatedly reveals the active presence of God in our world. The revelation of God in Egypt was public—God calls Moses and Aaron, up close and personal. God’s presence is experienced in the ten plagues, in the splitting of the Sea of Reeds, and in the revelation at Sinai.

In contrast, nowhere in the Megillah (whose setting is entirely outside the land of Israel) do we find even the name of God. God’s actions are behind the scenes, and need to be read into the story. It is Esther and Mordecai who act to save our people. And it is their experience that seems to be much more similar to ours.

As we prepare to celebrate these two festivals, where do we find the presence and experience of God in our lives today? It might be we need the messages of both festivals to help guide us to experience the presence of the sacred in our lives.



DRINKING FROM THE CUPS OF WISDOM **Monday, March 11 & 18** **7:00 PM Wine & Nosh | 7:30 PM Lecture with** **Monsignor Gregory Fairbanks**

Join Monsignor Fairbanks and your MLRT family for a fascinating discussion on Catholic Mass and roots in Jewish Seder (including Catholic teaching about respecting the integrity of the Seder) and Catholic teaching and practice on marriage and family; especially interfaith marriage.

Monsignor Fairbanks has a masters degree in Theology from St. Charles Seminary and a doctorate in Church History from the Gregorian University, Rome. Msgr. Fairbanks serves on the faculty of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, where he is a Professor of Church History. He was ordained in 1990 and was named a Chaplain to His Holiness, the Pope, with honorary title of “Monsignor” in 2014.

RSVP appreciated to Cynthia Marshall at cmarshall@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

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 dstrauss@mlrt.org

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

President's Message: To Lead is To Serve



Joel Ginsparg

Later this year, around Labor Day, we will read parshat Shoftim. In this parsha, Moses tells the Israelites to appoint judges and officials to lead their tribes. This theme of democracy, that the people should choose their leaders, is a tenet of Judaism that repeats itself throughout Jewish history. On March 10, we will be holding our Annual Congregational Meeting. After several reports on the state of our congregation are presented, you will have the responsibility of electing the officers and trustees to lead our congregation for the next year.

Fundamental to Judaism is the idea of servant leadership. We can appreciate the radical nature of this transformative idea by comparing the great architectural symbols of the world's first empires with one of Judaism's great symbols. The Mesopotamians built ziggurats and the Egyptians built pyramids. Both were monumental statements in stone of a hierarchical society, broad at the base and narrow at the top. They physically represented the idea that people were there to support their leaders. Our menorah inverts the triangle. It is broad at the top and narrow at the base. It represents the idea that leaders are here to support the people.

It has been my pleasure and honor to work for the past year with an outstanding team of officers. They are Vice Presidents Dave Heppen, Rachel Lester, and David Rawdin, Treasurer Vic Haas, Financial Secretary Brett Cohen, and Recording Secretary Beth Allen. In addition to their involvement in many different committees and projects, they are each leading major initiatives to enhance and transform MLRT.

Dave Heppen is leading an initiative on member engagement. One key project is our listening campaign. As I wrote in my January remarks, we will be inviting all of you to participate in a Shema Circle with a small group of members, at which we want to listen to you tell us about your interests and your thoughts about MLRT. Your ideas will guide the future of MLRT. Rachel Lester is leading an initiative to implement a Culture of Philanthropy. We want to transform everyone's relationship with MLRT from being transactional to being a sacred partnership. David Rawdin, in addition to leading our Religious Practices committee, is leading an initiative to enhance worship experiences in our sanctuary. We are planning to change the furniture on the bimah to enable greater participation by members of our congregation including the disabled and to install permanent screens for the visual T'filah that has become increasingly popular at many of our worship services including the High Holy Day services at Lower Merion High School.

Vic Haas, in addition to overseeing the finances of MLRT and the investments of our endowment and operating funds, is co-leading the new Main Line Speaker Series. The speech by David Axelrod this past November was extremely well received and we are looking forward to the speech by Doris Kearns Goodwin in May. Work is already underway planning next year's Speaker Series. Brett Cohen is leading the Religious Education task force. A large group of passionate and dedicated members of our congregation are working to understand the religious educational needs of our children and the constraints on their time that impact their participation. They are also investigating new alternative education models. The task force will be creating a plan to transform our religious education programs to better serve our children. Beth Allen co-leads our Tikkun Olam Network. Our many social action projects include programs to address food insecurity, illiteracy, women's shelters, aid to immigrants, and programs against gun violence.

In addition to these officers, there are many other dedicated lay leaders of our congregation including members of the Board of Trustees, chairpersons and members of various committees, leaders and members of Brotherhood and Sisterhood, and volunteers for our many programs, projects, and events. There is not enough space here for me to list everyone. However, I want to thank all of them for their service to MLRT. It is because of all that they do and the sacrifices they make that MLRT is a very special community.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as President of MLRT for the past year. I have enjoyed seeing and speaking with many of you at worship services and many other events. On behalf of the Officers and the Board of Trustees, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve this congregation. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Congregational Meeting so that I can thank you in person.

Creating Community



KRAV MAGA AT MLRT

Saturdays | 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.

PRIME TIME: STU WEITZ

Monday, March 11 | 11:30 AM

Please join us as the great Stu Weitz comes yet again for another delightful afternoon with Prime Time! As usual, the program will be preceded by a delicious deli lunch, and all this is brought to you for just \$11!

Back in the mid-'70s, Stu Weitz thought he might record an album. Today, Weitz is bringing down the house at senior facilities, still singing Sinatra and still singing Irving Berlin compositions (he takes pride in performing songs by Jewish composers). He's been leading Shabbat services at Sunrise Senior Living Community near Temple Sinai for 13 years, in addition to regular gigs in support of Variety, a charity for children with disabilities. He's also performed for groups of people who are all turning 100, which, along with the senior living centers, are some of his favorites.

Please join us for this extraordinary entertainer and extraordinary gentleman. RSVP to Cynthia Marshall at cmarshall@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.



HIKE WITH RABBI NEWBURGE

Saturday, March 23 | 8:30 AM

Explore the flora, fauna and history of Valley Forge National Historical Park. Please meet in the parking lot of MLRT at 8:30 AM to carpool/caravan.

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

ADULT TROPE CLASS

Wednesdays, starting March 20 | 12:00 PM

Have you ever wanted to learn how to chant Torah? Join Cantor Rudnick for a crash course in Torah cantillation. Together we will learn the basics of Torah trope and practice reading some passages from the Torah. The class will run for 8 weeks and meet on Wednesdays from 12-1, beginning March 20.

Please contact Cantor Rudnick at frudnick@mlrt.org for more information or to join the class.

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.

Reserved seats are \$40 each, which includes a private dramaturges presentation before the play. RSVP to Amanda Becker at mamsbecker@gmail.com. Checks should be received by March 14 made out to Main Line Reform Temple.

SHESH BESH CONCERT

Sunday, March 31 | 3:00 PM

The award winning Arab & Jewish Ensemble, SheshBesh, under the auspices of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, will be performing at MLRT in celebration and support of ARTolerance led initiatives in pursuit of shared society in the USA and in the Middle East.

Suggested donation of \$20. Contact Cantor Rudnick at frudnick@mlrt.org for more information and to RSVP.



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.

Lifelong Learning



Sally Brown

The short story for Thursday, March 14 will be "The Quietest Man" by Molly Antopol from her collection, *The UnAmericans*. She is a chronicler of Old and New World Jews as they navigate history. Copies of the story are available in the front office and in the library.

March promises to be a month full of exciting opportunities for serious thinking and enjoyable diversions!



HASSEL ADULT EDUCATION

LECTURE: Modern Loss

Sunday, March 3

9:30 AM Coffee & Bagels

10:00 AM Lecture with Rebecca Soffer

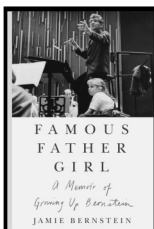


Inspired by their website, modernloss.com, hailed by the New York Times as "redefining mourning," authors Gabrielle Birkner and Rebecca Soffer's book is a fresh and irreverent examination into navigating grief and resilience in the age of social media.

Join Rebecca Soffer and Rabbi Straus in a candid conversation about grief. This program is for those dealing with loss themselves or those who support and comfort people in their grief.

In addition to *Modern Loss: Candid Conversation about Grief* by our visiting author, here are some additional titles found in our library:

- *A Grief Like No Other Surviving the Violent Death of Someone You Love.*
- *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*
- *The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning*
- *To Begin Again: the Journey toward Comfort, Strength, and Faith In Difficult Times*



ELLA C. WOLF LECTURE:

Jamie Bernstein

Friday, March 29 | 8:00 PM during services

We are thrilled to welcome Jamie Bernstein, author of *Famous Father Girl: a Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein*, a beautifully written and heartfelt memoir about her father, Leonard Bernstein. She will speak at an endowed lecture named for Ella C. Wolf, a congregant who loved books and learning. A musical program will accompany the author's talk.



FORWARD THINKING: LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday, March 12 | 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

Center City

Tuesday, March 19 | 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.

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.

Learn & Lunch with Rabbi Newburge

Friday, March 22 | 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.

Save the Date

PESACH SECOND NIGHT SEDER

Saturday, April 20

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, 2019 as we retell the story of our people's liberation from slavery and celebration of freedom at MLRT. Our seder will be led by Rabbi Newburge and Cantor Rudnick with congregational participation in the reading of the Haggadah. Please RSVP to Tobin at tmoskowitz@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800.

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.

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". Tickets are selling quickly; 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

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.

There's still time to donate to the Annual Fund!

Visit mlrt.org/annual-fund

Thank you to all those who have recently contributed to our Annual Fund

Sarah & Rick Altman
Marcia Berg
Keri & Scott Berger
Vivian Braitman
Amy Wilen & Terry Buckman
Cindy & Alan Dannenbaum
Sydney Davidoff
Linda Mundy & Jeffrey Drebin
Freda & Itamar Drechsler
Caren & Jerry Dubnoff
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia
Judy & Barry Fireman
Marsha & Richard Gash
Lynda & Joel Ginsparg
Howard Grossman
Kathi & Ira Gubernick
R. Victor & Nancy Haas
Steven & Janet Handleman
Fonda Hartman
Adam Ketch
Rachel & Rich Lester
Brenda & Arnold Levin
Sydelle Levine
Beth Allen & Henry Levy
Adele & Sidney Margulies
Ellen & Herbert Markman
Lillian Miller
Jamie & Neil Mushlin
Steffanie Naiberg
Michele Cohen & Marc Prizer
Nina & Michael Rosenthal
Robin & Eric Settle
Jane & Stuart Siegal
Bonnie Tuft

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.

Brotherhood



Gary Brock

“What are you doing for us?” It’s a question often asked by Brotherhood members throughout the United States who wonder if they should affiliate with the national Men of Reform Judaism, of which Main Line Reform Temple Brotherhood is a long-time and supportive member. But it’s really a question of whether Brotherhoods, in general, are viable or even necessary. There are congregations that suggest “Brotherhood” is an outmoded notion, and one that ought not exist. We trust that the members of MLRT are not among them. If little else, our Brotherhood should be recognized, even for those with minimal expectations, for what we do year in and year out as we provide service to our Temple. But we are so much more. As an affiliate of the national Men of Reform Judaism we are supporting two incredibly important organizations: the Religious Action Center (RAC), and Reform on Campus (ROC). The RAC, headquartered in Washington, DC, advocates in myriad ways for Reform values on the world stage. Our Men of Reform Judaism has two seats on the Social Action Committee of the RAC. The Reform on Campus initiative has donated over \$600,000 since 1995, and \$20,000 alone in 2018 to our nation’s campuses that advance Reform programming, whether it’s money for a Shabbat dinner, or a symposium on Israeli/Palestinian co-existence. The point is: to the question of are Brotherhoods viable organizations with a future, we will answer, yes, both locally and beyond the curb.

March ushers in a thaw and the harbingers of Spring. Your Brotherhood presents the following events for your enjoyment:

- The monthly Men’s Night Out: March 6 at 6:30 PM at Lumbrada Cocina in Wayne.
- All are invited to attend the annual Brotherhood Shabbat Service on Friday, March 15 at 8:00 PM.
- Time for hot dog boiling for the Purim Carnival on March 24, co-chaired by Ed Blumenthal and Glenn Brooks.

Looking ahead to two special April events so that you can get these on your calendars:

Join us for the fifth annual MLRT Sports Dinner on April 15 when Brotherhood hosts the MLRT Basketball League for dinner and libations. This does not mean that non-players are not welcome: indeed, all are welcome to dinner and a fabulous speaker our own Rich Kupersmith has invited (if the name Dei Lynan has a ring to it, stay tuned.) Greater details are forthcoming throughout the month and leading up to the dinner.

My Million Dollar Mom, the award-winning documentary of local KI Brotherhood member Ross Shriftman will be shown on Sunday, April 28. It is a poignant saga of a man caring for his ailing mother. You don’t want to miss it.

The next Brotherhood Book Club is Tuesday, March 12 at 7:30 PM.

Join us for a discussion on The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig.

Get a jump on your April selection: The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead for Book Club on April 9.

March

12 Book Club 7:30 PM

15 Brotherhood Shabbat Service 8:00 PM

24 Purim Carnival

April

9 Book Club 7:30 PM

15 Sports Dinner 6:30 PM

28 My Million Dollar Mom

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*

March 6 Lumbrada Cocina

April 1 Lucky Dog

May 6 Founding Farmers

June 3 Clam Tavern

Sisterhood



Mary Kamplain

One of my favorite things about Sisterhood is matching people with mitzvot. Women often ask me, “How can I help?” and I am always grateful, but when their efforts satisfy a commandment, it really feels like a win-win. This is the case with Sisterhood’s Shalach Manot Fundraiser, which is wrapping up now (if you haven’t ordered, contact Beth Ginsberg at 856-313-7381 to see if there’s still time). Shalach Manot, or Mishloach Manot (the sending of food gifts to friends and family), is one of the four mitzvot of Purim. The best way to fulfill this mitzvah is to use a messenger, and we certainly do that when we enlist our members to deliver most of the Purim Bags in the surrounding areas of Main Line Reform Temple.

If you are looking for ways to make Purim more meaningful, please consider joining us on March 14 at 10 AM at MLRT as we assemble over 650 bags. We also need messengers or drivers to deliver between March 14 and March 20. We will give you a route and instructions. This is a great mitzvah to do with a friend or with your kids, and a rewarding way to be a part of our MLRT family. Please email Beth Ginsberg at bethgreenblatt@aim.com if you can help us with packing and/or delivery.

Sisterhood would not be able to provide Shalach Manot without the invaluable help of Mark Komen, the MLRT staff, and our volunteers, and without the generous donation from Just Born Quality Confections. Many thanks to all who participated and helped to make this such a success!

I hope to see you at our next General Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 12 at 7 PM.

Wishing you all a joyous AND meaningful Purim!



SAVE THE DATE!

Refugees Share Their Stories of Exodus: A Women’s Interfaith Gathering

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

Join Sisterhood and women from varied area congregations as we hear from HIAS-PA clients and connect with our own stories of freedom and redemption. More information will follow. Contact Linda Finkelstein at ldfink999@gmail.com with questions.



Sisters who came together to make and serve Shabbat dinner to around 100 WINSTY attendees!



Sisterhood welcomed Susie Orman Schnall, author of The Subway Girls, during the annual Book Review & Brunch

Purim!



PURIM POPPINS ADULT PURIM CELEBRATION

Wednesday, March 20 | 7:00 PM

Come see your fellow MLRT players as they sing and dance in Purim Poppins, our Mary Poppins themed Purim Shpiel, hear the Megillah read, and join us for a fun celebration of Purim.

SHALACH MANOT!

Shalach Manot, or Mishloach Manot (the sending of food gifts to friends and family), is one of the four mitzvot of Purim. If you haven't ordered your MLRT Sisterhood Shalach Manot, contact Beth Ginsberg at 856-313-7381 to see if there's still time.

If you are looking for ways to make Purim more meaningful, please consider joining Sisterhood on March 14 at 10am at MLRT to assemble over 650 Shalach Manot packages. Volunteers are also needed as messengers or drivers to deliver between March 14 and March 20.

Please email Beth Ginsberg at bethgreenblatt@aim.com if you can help us with packing and/or delivery.

PURIM CARNIVAL RAFFLE BASKETS



Please donate a new unwrapped item or funds toward our themed raffle baskets. Families will have an opportunity to win the baskets at our Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 24.

Please bring all donations to the Religious School office no later than Sunday, March 17, 2019.

See page 11 for more details.



MLRT Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 24

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Early Admission for ECE Families - 9:30 AM

Carnival Games | Happy Hoppers | Duck Pond | Sucker Punch | Hi-Striker
Spin Art | Face Painting | Costume Contest | Raffle Baskets
Moon Bounces | Gaga | and so much more!

All are welcome!

All Day Play Wristband \$18 pre-order, \$20 at the door

Food & raffle tickets available for purchase; cash only

Pre-order your tickets at mlrt.org/purim

Teach Our Children—Religious School



Rabbi Kleinman

Dear Religious School Families,

Our rabbis teach, “Mi shenichnas Adar, marbin b’simcha – We enter the Hebrew month of Adar with great joy!” Why? Because the month of Adar is the month when we celebrate Purim, our most joyous Jewish holiday. This month we will spread the joy of Purim over two weeks, culminating in our MLRT Purim Carnival. This is not only an incredibly fun event for the whole family, but it’s our annual Religious School fundraiser. We use the funds to provide high-level experiential programs and better equip our classrooms with digital technology. I hope you will join us throughout Adar to add more joy to your family’s Jewish life.

Please visit www.mlrt.org/purim for sponsorship opportunities and to pre-order tickets.

Religious School Purim Celebrations

March 17 – 10:00-10:30 AM – Kindergarten through 2nd Grade Purim Shpiel

March 20 and 21 – 5:00-5:30 PM – 3rd through 6th Grade Purim Shpiel

March 24 – MLRT Purim Carnival (details on page 10)

9:30 AM: ECE Early Entry

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Purim Carnival

Visit www.mlrt.org/purim for all the details.

Purim Carnival Raffle Baskets

Please donate a new unwrapped item or funds toward our themed raffle baskets. Families will have an opportunity to win the baskets at our carnival. This year’s basket themes by grade are listed to the right.

Please bring all donations to the school office no later than **Sunday, March 17, 2019**.

Raffle Baskets

Arts & Crafts Basket (KG & 1st Grade)

Paints, crayons, sketch books, brushes, canvases, etc.

Family Games Basket (2nd Grade)

Board games, puzzles, iTunes gift cards, etc.

Legos/Building Basket (3rd Grade)

Legos, Engineering toys, science kits, building blocks, etc.

Summer & Camp Basket (4th Grade)

Camp items, towels, beach toys, pool items, etc.

Sports Basket (5th Grade)

Balls, equipment, team gear, sportswear, etc.

Gardening Basket (5th Grade)

Tools, Sitting pads, pots, seeds, books, etc.

Cooking & Wine Basket (6th Grade)

Cookbooks, wine, stemware, cooking utensils, etc.

A night out Basket (7th grade)

Gift cards for dining, movies; mixers, poker, wine bags, etc.

IMPORTANT MARCH DATES:

Kindergarten PACT (Parents and Children Together) Program

Sunday, March 3

Theme: Creating Jewish Bedtime Rituals

9:00-11:00 AM – Early Session

*All ECE Kindergarten families are invited to attend

2nd Grade PACT (Parents and Children Together) Program

Sunday, March 17

Theme: The Masks We Wear – A Purim Celebration!

9:00-11:00 AM – Early Session

5th Grade Challah for Hunger – Social Change Challah Bakery

Sunday, March 3

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

Sunday, March 24

In lieu of Religious School, join us for the PURIM CARNIVAL

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Shiru Shir Chadash – Shabbat Family Service

March 1 – Hosted by 4th 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

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

Teach Our Children—The Tribe

There is nothing like **L'Taken!** We attend this amazing program, sponsored by the Religious Action Center in Washington, DC, with our Confirmation students every year at the end of January. Our teens learn about public policy issues, Jewish values, and advocacy skills. The program culminates with a day of advocacy in the offices of our elected officials of Congress on Capitol Hill. Our students spoke with passion, thoughtfulness, and compassion on issues of gun violence prevention, economic and criminal justice, and disability rights. We are so proud of their accomplishments!



TheTribe Retreat! **March 15-16**

Escape on our annual end of the year mystery trip! Adventure awaits you and your friends with Ross M. Levy and Rabbi Newburge.

We leave Friday, March 15 at 3:30pm and return Saturday, March 16 at 6pm.

Sign up at mlrt.org/EOY

ANGST: A DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION **Tuesday, March 19 | 7:00 PM**

Parents of children of all ages are invited to this program, co-sponsored by Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church and the Middleton Center.

Angst is an IndieFlix Original documentary designed to raise awareness around anxiety. We will have facilitators from Minding Your Mind, an educational organization that brings messages of hope and inspiration concerning issues of mental health.

Teach Our Children—ECE

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Saturday, March 30
7 PM

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-Helen Keller*

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	Jean & Sidney Klein
	Anna & Bill Weinberg
	Benson Zion
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Art Fund

Julie & Henry Berkowitz	Yahrzeit of Claire Berkowitz
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Cantor Faryn Rudnick Discretionary Fund

Ilyse & Jonathan Shapiro	Paul Soltoff
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Early Childhood Education Fund

Ricki & Joe Rosenberg	Eric Straus
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L'Dor Va'Dor Endowment Fund

Ann & Gordon Gelfond	Myrna Rawdin
Gail Gutman & Family	Yahrzeit of Sara Price
Barbara & Dennis Hoffman	Bruce Dicair
Bea & Jerry Lazaroff	Eric Straus
Harriet & Joel Samitz	Stanley Goldenberg

Music Fund

Julie & Henry Berkowitz	Yahrzeit of Claire Berkowitz
Barbara Bianchi	Jerry Weinerman
David Bunin	Yahrzeit of Ilene Bunin

Odell/Diamond Library Fund

Nancy & Larry Abrams	Mimi Dash
Gloria & Marvin Barsky	Linda Caswell
Jane Brown	Yahrzeit of Steven G. Brown

Prime Time Fund

Rosalyn & Paul Grand	Joel Sanders
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Rabbi Kevin Kleinman Discretionary Fund

Heppen Family	Zona Amper
Sharon Snyder	Zona Amper

Rabbi Geri Newburge Discretionary Fund

Sarah & Rick Altman	Norma Myers
Baskin Family	Yahrzeit of Joey Baskin
Janis & David Glusman	Yahrzeit of Larry Simon
Sharon, Aaron & Dr. David Kanze	Nate Ostroff
Fay & Ted Mushlin	Daniel Frankel

Rabbi David Straus Discretionary Fund

Nancy & Larry Bailine	Yahrzeit of Mimi Bailine
Elizabeth & E. Robert Blank	Eleanor S. Blank
Larry Cooper	Marilyn Cooper
Susan & Neil Cooper	Marilyn Cooper
Norman & Marla Fienman	Sonia Schwartz
Edgar Freudenberg	Yahrzeit of Helena Freudenberg
Lori Hockman & Family	Craig Yusem
Debra Klein	Yahrzeit of Herman Gallner
Elaine & Don Krasnick	Yahrzeit of Evelyn Krasnick
Hope Lefebber & Howard Kessler	Frieda Lefebber
Debbie & Howard Lucker	Harvey Bell
Ellen Rose	Michael Schorr
Aly & Adam Silverman	Marilyn Cooper
Marilyn & Herb Vichnin	Joan Lefkowitz
	Yahrzeit of Fanny Woolman
	Yahrzeit of Edmond Vichnin

The following contributions were made in memory of Eric Straus:

Keri & Scott Berger	Debbie & Howard Lucker
David Bunin	Mindi & Phil Schwartz
Nicole & Royal Bunin	Harvey & Naomi Spector
Judith Drasin & Robert Washburn	Nancy & Jeffrey Spector
Richard Green	Renee Zenker

Religious Practices Fund

Cindy & Jeffrey Ruben	Myrna Rawdin
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Gail Simon	Michael Schorr
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Weinberg Multimedia Library

Charlotte Weinberg	Yahrzeit of Zelda Cohen
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Contributions In Honor

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Sandra & Frank Norman MLRT Choir

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Janis & David Glusman Bat Mitzvah of Miriam Rose
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In appreciation of the Israel
trip
Mindi & Phil Schwartz B'nai Mitzvah of Jonathan
Schwartz & Evan Schwartz

The following contributions were made in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Jay Goldberg:

Stella & Gordon Fink Debbie & Howard Lucker
Janis & David Glusman Susanne & Lewis Slawe
Heppen Family Phyllis & Peter Snyder
Barbara & Dennis Hoffman

Rabbi David Straus Discretionary Fund

Essie & Steve King Birthday of Ethel Cooper

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Ellen & Bob Davis Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Kanze
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Weinberg Multimedia Library

Charlotte Weinberg Bar Mitzvah of Jay Goldberg
Speedy Recovery of Shirley
Demskey
Speedy Recovery of Irene
Frank
Ellen Rose

IN MEMORIAM

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

Harvey Bell

*Husband of Sue Ann Bell
Father of Joseph Bell
Grandfather of Isaac & Eli*

Eleanor Blank

Mother of E. Robert Blank

Marilyn Marks Cooper

Wife of Lawrence Cooper

Suzanne Diamond

*Mother of Thea Howey
Grandmother of Luke & Jacob*

Edward Kohn

Husband of Amy Kohn

Lawrence Pollack

Myrna Jacobson Rawdin

Mother of David Rawdin

Sonia Schwartz

*Mother of Philip Schwartz
Grandmother of Jonathan, Evan & Tyler*

MAZAL TOV!

Eric & Robin Settle

On the wedding of their son, Adam Harrison Settle,
and Jacquelyn Ann

Cantor Faryn Rudnick

On her inclusion on the performance recording, A
Shabbat Anthology of Music (9th Ed), published by
the American Conference of Cantors.
On serving as a guest speaker at a clergy meeting
sponsored by Jewish Learning Venture and JFCS
regarding disabilities and inclusion

March Shabbat Services

Friday, March 1

5:30 pm ECE Simchat Shabbat Service
 6:00 pm ECE Simchat Shabbat Dinner
 6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
 6:30 pm Family Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 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 *Zachary Root*
 Son of Carrie Sims & Michael Root
 5:00 pm Mincha Service
 Bar Mitzvah of *Jacob Kellerman*
 Son of Esther & Todd Kellerman

Friday, March 8

6:30 pm Shabbat Service with Noah Aronson
 7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, March 9

8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
 9:00 am Torah Study
 10:00 am Chapel Service with Noah Aronson
 10:15 am Brunch & Learn with Noah Aronson
 10:30 am Sanctuary Service
 Bat Mitzvah of *Sadie Liebo*
 Daughter of Jennifer & Tony Liebo
 Bar Mitzvah of *Ronan Jay Murphy*
 Son of Keri Fisher & Matt Murphy
 5:00 pm Mincha Service
 Bar Mitzvah of *Jacob DeMarco*
 Son of Lauren & Joe DeMarco

Friday, March 15

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

Saturday, March 16

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 *Luka M. Magder*
 Son of Sarah Arnold & Rick Magder
 5:00 pm Mincha Service
 Bat Mitzvah of *Ava Wilf*
 Daughter of Jessica & Adam Wilf

Friday, March 22

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

Saturday, March 23

8:30 am Early Prayers & Songs of Praise
 9:00 am Torah Study
 10:00 am Chapel Service
 5:00 pm Mincha Service
 Bat Mitzvah of *Zoe Margolies*
 Daughter of Jung-Rin Lee & Lucas Margolies

Friday, March 29

8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Ella C. Wolf Lecture
 9:00 pm Oneg Shabbat

Saturday, March 30

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 *Jaden Skop*
 Son of Neal Skop & Alison Snyder and
 Simona Rossi
 5:00 pm Mincha Service
 Bat Mitzvah of *Sadie Gorberg*
 Daughter of Stacy & David Gorberg

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March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5:30 PM ECE Simchat Shabbat Service 6 PM ECE Simchat Shabbat Dinner PM Snack & Schmooze 6:30 PM Family Shabbat Service	2 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Root 4 PM Krav Maga 5:30 PM Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Kellerman
3 9:30 AM Hassel Adult Education Program	4 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 7:30 PM Intro to Judaism	5 9 AM Running Club	6 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge 6:30 PM Brotherhood Men’s Night Out	7 11 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	8 NOAH ARONSON ARTIST IN RESIDENCE WEEKEND 6:30 PM Shabbat Service with Noah Aronson 7:30 PM Shabbat Dinner	9 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Chapel Service with Noah Aronson 10:15 AM Brunch & Learn with Noah 10:30 AM B’nai Mitzvah of Ronan Murphy & Sadie Liebo 4 PM Krav Maga 5 PM Bar Mitzvah of Jacob DeMarco 8 PM Coffeehouse Concert with Noah
10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS 10 AM Noah Aronson Concert 11:15 AM Annual Meeting	11 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 11:30 AM Prime Time 7 PM Monsignor Fairbanks Lecture	12 9 AM Running Club 12:15 PM Forward Thinking 7:30 PM Brotherhood Book Club	13 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	14 10 AM Shalach Manot Packing 11 AM Bible Study 12 PM Short Story Discussion 12:30 PM Canasta 7 PM FTD Caregivers Meeting 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	15 8 PM Brotherhood Shabbat Service 9 PM Oneg Shabbat	16 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah Luka Magder 4 PM Krav Maga 5 PM Bat Mitzvah of Ava Wilf
17 10:30 AM RS Purim Shpiel 1 PM Jewish Genealogy Society	18 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga 7 PM Monsignor Fairbanks Lecture	19 9 AM Running Club 12 PM Center City Lunch & Learn with RDS 7 PM Angst Documentary Presentation	20 EREV PURIM 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge 5 PM RS Purim Shpiel 7 PM Megillah Reading & Purim Shpiel	21 PURIM 11 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 5 PM RS Purim Shpiel 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	22 11:30 AM Learn & Lunch with RGN 8 PM Shabbat Service 9 PM Oneg Shabbat	23 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Hike 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 4 PM Krav Maga 5 PM Bat Mitzvah of Zoe Margolies 7:30 PM Nina Simone
24 10 AM Purim Carnival	25 9:15 AM Hatha Yoga	26 9 AM Running Club	27 10:30 AM Sisterhood Choir 12:30 PM Bridge	28 11 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Canasta 7:15 PM Religious Practices Committee Meeting 7:30 PM Friends of Bill W (AA Meeting)	29 8 PM Shabbat Service/ Ella C. Wolf Lecture 9 PM Oneg Shabbat	30 8:30 AM Morning Prayers 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Chapel Service 10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah Jaden Skop 4 PM Krav Maga 5 PM Bat Mitzvah of Sadie Gorberg 7 PM Mitzvah Madness
31 3 PM SheshBesh Concert						

For information regarding submissions and advertising in MLRT Matters, please contact Davida Chornock, Director of Marketing & Communications at dchornock@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800

We had a record 282 volunteers in the door at MLRT for our MLK Day of Service—not counting the many ECE staff that volunteered their time, or the support of our clergy and senior staff.

- 12 volunteers did “about a month’s worth of work” at Narberth Community Food Bank (NCFB), according to its very grateful director
- Cantor Rudnick led a small children’s choir in singing for residents of Saunders House
- We made about 120 salads and divided them between Ardmore Food Pantry and NCFB
- The Religious School / Sisterhood Concession Stand made \$162, which we will also divide between the two food pantries
- We packed 225 toiletry gift bags for the Women of Change Shelter
- We sorted a LOT of clothes for Cradles to Crayons
- The leader of the sleeping mat project, Anna Fleur, and her mom, Laura Banchemo, were incredibly thankful for all the “plarn” that our volunteers made—a plastic tote overflowing with skeins
- Last but not least, we made 17 cute and cozy blankets for clients of Mitzvah Circle Foundation

Thank you to everyone who participated in this inspiring day!

