

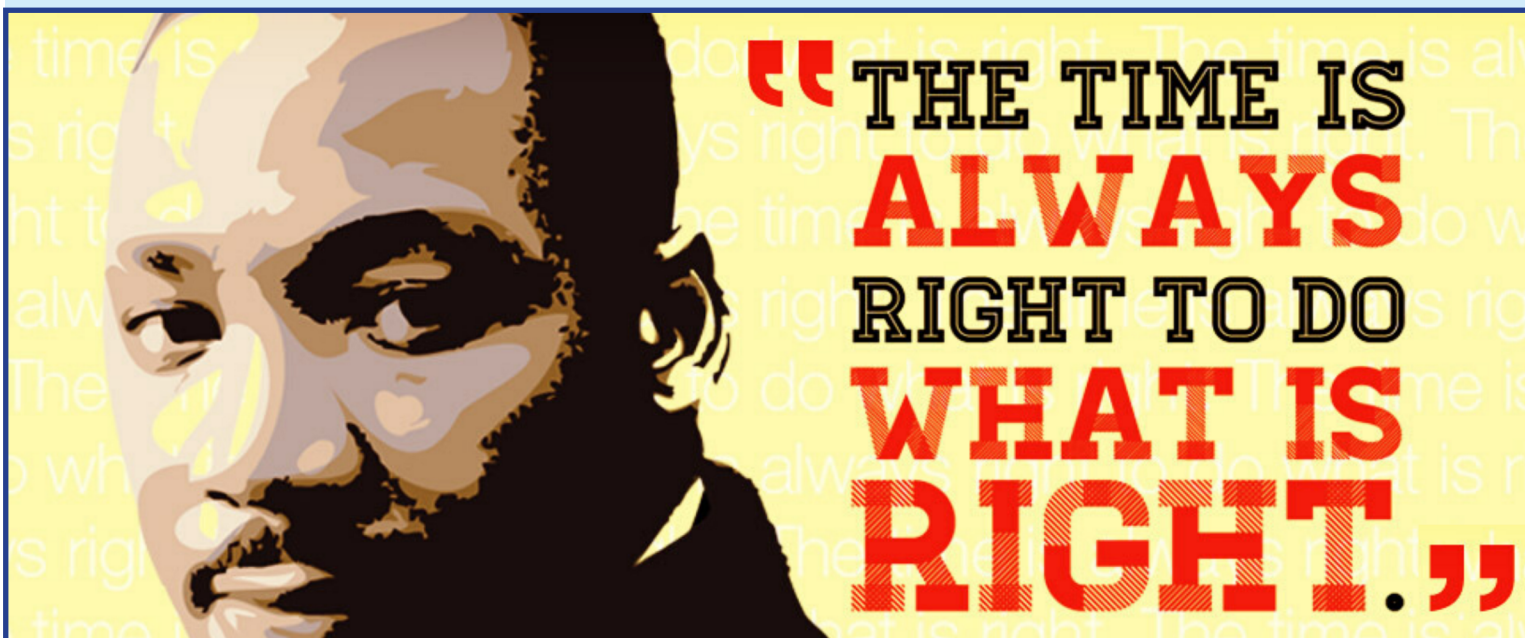


MLRT Matters

MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE

January 2020

Be Inspired. Be Connected. Belong.



HONOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR ALL WEEKEND WITH MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE SHABBAT OF INTERFAITH HARMONY ANNUAL DAY OF SERVICE



MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE PRESENTS

MAIN LINE SPEAKER SERIES 2019-2020

AN AFTERNOON WITH

TERRY GROSS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT [MLRT.ORG/SPEAKERSERIES20](https://mlrt.org/speakerseries20)

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Final Message from Esther Herst

David E. Straus
Senior Rabbi

Geri Newburge
Rabbi

Faryn Rudnick
Cantor

Esther Herst
Interim Executive Director

Rabbi Kevin Kleinman
Director of Education, Assoc. Rabbi

Ross M. Levy
Director of Youth Engagement

Shari Morelli
Interim Director, Early Childhood Education

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



Esther Herst,
Interim Executive Director

I have been privileged to serve as your Interim Executive Director since last May. I'll be heading home to Seattle in mid-January and before I go I would like to share a few thoughts and hopes for MLRT.

First – our members are very reflective of Reform Jewish synagogue-goers across the country. MLRT brings together a diverse range of ages, past Judaic experiences, family structures, and personal involvement. As I've said before, synagogues today face different challenges than those of 10 or more years ago – thanks in part to the increasing time demands of school, work, and extra-curricular activities. Participation in temple life ebbs and flows; recruiting volunteers becomes difficult;

cultivating leaders is harder than ever.

As we look for individuals to undertake volunteer tasks, to make personal connections with fellow members, to serve on our Board or task forces, we all too often go to the same congregants who have helped in the past. With 900+ households at MLRT, we are blessed with a wealth of talent and skills, if only we were better able to engage with it. This is where you each come in! What you gain from synagogue life is very much mirrored by what you give – your personal involvement makes your temple membership dramatically more meaningful and widens your own circle of connections accordingly. Yes, synagogue activities take time and thought, but the value of the memories you create is inestimable.

Second – our congregation is in the midst of major changes. We are in the process of hiring two new senior staff members: an Executive Director and a Director of our ECE program. They will bring new gifts and insights and over time, in partnership with clergy and lay leaders, they'll refashion MLRT's administration and early childhood education to match their own perspectives. You will see differences which could be exactly what you've always hoped for, or, conversely, which might be disconcerting to you. I encourage you each to offer a kind welcome and patience as they navigate their way through the systems and *minhagim* that have grown over decades here at Main Line Reform Temple.

Finally – I urge you to see the long-term significance of your investment in MLRT membership. Synagogues are the only entities that "create Jews". We don't have work-out rooms or swimming pools like JCCs. We don't support and educate only children like preschools or Jewish day schools. Instead, we are here for anyone who is Jewish or who wants to connect to Judaism – in their own way, recognizing their own needs. Age or background doesn't matter. MLRT exists to bring meaning and inspiration to each of our congregants and to thereby strengthen our entire Jewish community from generation to generation.

I feel blessed to have met so many of you. I thank you for your warmth, good humor, and dedication to our Temple family. I offer special gratitude to our staff and our lay leadership who have taught me so much. I wish MLRT and each of you nothing but joy and goodness in the future. May you go from strength to strength.



Main Office 610.649.7800
School Office 610.642.0304
www.mlrt.org

Love is Stronger than Hate



Rabbi David Straus

Dear Friends,

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. taught us, "Love is stronger than hate." I have the honor of chairing the National Council of Synagogues (NCS). Composed of delegates from the Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructing Judaism movements (both synagogue and rabbinic), the NCS meets regularly for learning and dialogue, primarily on pastoral and theological matters, with the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Council of Churches, and other such bodies. I also represent the NCS at a yearly dialogue with national evangelical leaders. Our member Leslie Brier is the representative for the URJ and WRJ, and a regular participant in our dialogues.

In November, we met with the National Council of Churches in Pittsburgh. We were there to observe with the NCC the one year anniversary of the October 27 shootings at the Tree of Life Synagogue. 11 members of the three worshipping communities at Tree of Life were murdered that Shabbat morning. It is the worst incident of anti-Semitic violence in the history of American Jewry. We met with leadership of the Pittsburgh Jewish community and the interfaith community. We learned how the community came together, both on that day, and in the weeks and months that have followed. They were able to do this because they were not strangers; they knew one another; their phone numbers were on their contact lists; they had been together for numerous programs and events for years before October 27. What was re-enforced for us is that relationships matter.

We also learned that the trauma of that day does not go away quickly. Healing takes time. One of the most powerful experiences we shared was going to Tree of Life Synagogue with their Rabbi, Rabbi Jeffrey Meyers. The community has not yet decided what to do with the building. For weeks, it was an active crime scene. More than 300 rounds were exchanged that morning; the physical damage to the building, which is closed, is extensive. A security fence surrounds the building. In recent months, the synagogue invited young people from all over the world to contribute art work that now surrounds the building. Some of that art work is pictured below, and you can view more at tools.org/heartstogether

We cannot eliminate hate, racism, or anti-Semitism. We must all be ever vigilant to such behavior, and call out all such speech, language, and acts, no matter who says them. No one ever gets a pass on such language, behavior, or acts. But love is stronger than hate. And we do not stand alone.



One of the highlights for me of our yearly programming is our annual MLK weekend that we share with Zion Baptist Church and Beth Am Israel. Relationships matter. Friendships matter. None of us stand alone. "The arc of history may bend slowly, but it does bend toward justice," Dr. King taught us. But it does not bend on its own. It needs us! For more information about our MLK Weekend activities, please see pages 12 and 13.

This Spring, Rev. Pollard and I will be leading a civil rights mission. We'll start in Atlanta, travel to Selma, Montgomery, and end in Birmingham. We will spend time at the National Human and Civil Rights Museum and King Center; worship at the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church; visit the Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum & Lynching Memorial and more. Details are on page 5. I hope you will consider joining us. And I look forward to seeing you at our MLK Unity Services and Day of Service the weekend of January 17.

Kavod: Respect The Opinions Of Others!



Unfortunately, despite our best intentions, the divisive nature of today's American politics has begun to have an impact on MLRT. On several occasions during the past year, members of our congregation have spoken with our clergy, other lay leaders or me to express their concerns about comments made to them by other congregants or about the content of a program. Several congregants have questioned whether there is still a place in MLRT for people who share their political beliefs. This situation deeply concerns me. One of our core Jewish values is kavod or respect for the opinions of others.

During the weekend of January 17-20, we will celebrate and remember Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In his "Advice for Living," published in May 1958, he said, "People fail to get along with each other because they fear each other. They fear each other because they don't know each other. They don't know each other because they have not properly communicated with each other."

Jews value thinking. Ours is a tradition of people who think, question and explore. We train ourselves to have open, flexible minds that truly listen to and learn from opinions other than our own. Open dialogue is among our best tools for truthful, good decision making. It allows us to challenge our own assumptions and to learn from the perspective of others.

Jews also disagree a lot! The Talmud was developed by rabbis who witnessed how internal dissent could undo a civilization. They had their conflicting sides, communities of opinion which were often diametrically opposed to each other. Every page of the Talmud is filled with rabbinic opinions which are challenged and critiqued by other rabbis. The Talmud records a plethora of dissenting voices, conversations and practices. Yet the foundation of these disagreements is mutual respect. This is because the rabbis understood there was a value to respectful discourse and exchange of ideas. In today's climate, however, we often confuse disagreements with intolerance. We live in an era where, most of the time, we speak only within our echo chambers of shared backgrounds and perspectives. We intentionally do not encounter those with whom we passionately disagree. We have lost the capability to directly engage with each other and instead voice our opinions, often using antagonistic language, on Twitter and Facebook where the human being is removed from the conversation.

When some congregants openly express antipathy towards the opinions of other congregants, it raises concerns about our ability to continue to provide a welcoming environment for all of our congregants. When some congregants question the content of a program or a guest speaker, it raises concerns about our ability to continue to sponsor programming offering a wide range of ideas. Open discussion is an important part of our religious culture. We are encouraged to question. The alternatives to open discussion and truth-seeking are fundamentalism, totalitarianism, and mechanical obedience to dogma. Certainty and overconfidence about anything produce bad results.

Aristotle, in The Politics, posits that we human beings are by nature "political animals." By this he means that human nature requires us to discover and communicate to our fellow citizens what we think is good for our community. Needless to say, such discovery and communication cannot take place absent the freedom to speak and debate. Such absence weakens society and the individual alike.

My alma mater, the University of Chicago, released in 2015 its "Report on Free Expression," which has come to be called the "The Chicago Statement." This statement of free expression has since been adopted by over seventy colleges and universities. It states, our "fundamental commitment is to the principle that debate or deliberation may not be suppressed because the ideas put forth are thought by some or even by most members of the ... community to be offensive, unwise, immoral, or wrong-headed."

Robert J. Zimmer, President of the University of Chicago, wrote "Productive and informed questioning involves challenging assumptions, arguments and conclusions. It calls for multiple and diverse perspectives and listening to the views of others. It requires understanding the power and limitations of arguments. More fundamentally, the process of questioning demands an ability to rethink one's own assumptions, often the most difficult task of all. Essential to this process is an environment that promotes free expression and the open exchange of ideas, ensuring that difficult questions are asked and that diverse and challenging perspectives are considered. Free expression and the unfettered exchange of ideas do not always come naturally. Many people value the right to express their own ideas but are less committed to granting that right to others."

As a broad Jewish community, we have a multiplicity of opinions and perspectives. The clergy and lay leaders of MLRT will continue to work hard to foster an environment of inclusion, supporting dialogue and the open exchange of conflicting ideas and thoughts in our congregation. If, like the rabbis whose opinions fill the Talmud, we can maintain respect for one another, we can celebrate the diversity of our opinions.

Please send any feedback or suggestions for MLRT to me at president@mlrt.org.

Creating Community

RESET & RENEW CONTEMPORARY SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, January 10

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

Come in from the cold, just as you are, and share in the warmth of Shabbat with your clergy and Ross M. Levy and the Levites. Even more importantly, if you know someone who might be inspired by this experience, bring them along! We know you will leave feeling uplifted.



CINEMA CLUB

Sunday, January 12 | 6:00 pm

Join us at the home of Ken and Leslie Brier for MLRT Cinema Club and discuss our movie selection, *The Marriage Story*, which you see on your own. It is always a lively discussion! RSVP to contribute to the potluck to Leslie at lcbrier@gmail.com.

BEER CLUB

Sunday, January 12 | 7:00 pm

L'chaim! Join your MLRT family for a beer or two at Whole Foods, Wynnewood. It's a relaxed gathering to explore your love of beer and try something new. Beer Club is open to all MLRT members who enjoy trying and sharing beer. Questions? Contact Lauren and Matt Baldys at laurenmbaldys@gmail.com.



SHABBAT MORNING HIKE

Saturday, January 11

8:30 am MLRT parking lot to carpool

9:00 am East side of Bells Mill Trail at Wissahickon

Enjoy your Shabbat morning surrounded by nature. We will join in prayer and fellowship; no previous experience needed.

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



JOIN RABBI STRAUS & REVEREND POLLARD

Civil Rights Journey

MAY 31-JUNE 2, 2020

Become empowered and inspired to make a difference!

Visit the Equal Justice Initiative Legacy Museum, Rosa Parks Museum, Memorial to Justice and Peace, the King Center, Birmingham Civil Rights Museum, and more in this once in a lifetime trip with MLRT & Zion Baptist Church

\$250 deposit due by January 15

Trip cost \$915* per person includes hotel, admissions, food, and busing.

***double occupancy pricing. Does not include airfare**

Questions? Contact Rabbi Straus at dstraus@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800



Israel trip December 2020!

Looking to visit and experience the beauty of our homeland?

Rabbi Geri Newburge is planning a trip to Israel for December 2020 that is open to first timers and return visitors.

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

Lifelong Learning



Sally Brown,
Librarian

Many remarkable authors visited MLRT this fall and I am thrilled to announce Ronald Balson's visit for the Sisterhood Book Brunch on February 18. His recent novel, *The Girl from Berlin*, won a National Jewish Book award. He is a well-sought out speaker at the Jewish Book Council, known for *Karolina's Twins* and *Once We Were Brothers*. He lives in Chicago and belonged to the same congregation where Cantor Faryn Rudnick served as a cantor!

Our short story for January 9 will be "The Widow," a moving story by Ruth Praver Jhabvala from her collection, *Out of India*. Last year we enjoyed her story "A Star and Two Girls". Her work represents her life in India and the essence of her Indian experience with all of its contradictions. She is perhaps best known for having written 23 screenplays of the movies produced by Merchant-Ivory. See you on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 12:15 pm.

For those of you who are members of book clubs, many of the books that you may currently be reading can be found in our Temple library, such as *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro, *The World that We Knew* by Alice Hoffman, *How to Fight Anti-Semitism* by Bari Weiss and *The Guest Book* by Sarah Blake.

Next time you are in the building, come in and take a look. You can also email me special requests or stop in on a Thursday when I am in the library.



HASSEL ADULT EDUCATION LECTURE Curb Your Consumerism: Cultivating a Bal Taschit (do not waste) Ethic for Today

Sunday, January 5 | 9:30 am Bagels & Coffee
10:00 am Lecture with Rabbi Kevin Kleinman

Rabbi Kleinman is a leader in the Jewish environmental movement. His teaching on Jewish responses and actions to the climate crises is inspired by using Judaism's ancient environmental wisdom to guide our modern thinking. Do not miss this inspirational program from our own Rabbi Kleinman; all are welcome!

Save the date: February 2: Addiction with Gary Hendler.



LUNCH & LEARN WITH RABBI DAVID STRAUS

You bring the lunch and Rabbi Straus will serve up interesting conversation!

Center City

Tuesday, January 7 | 12:00 pm

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



NEW LOCATION!

Suburban

Thursday, January 16 | 12:15 pm

Hosted by Marilee Wolf at Berkshire Hathaway,
763 W. Lancaster Ave, Suite 200 (2nd floor), Bryn Mawr.
Office located between Super Cuts and ATT
RSVP to Marilee at marilee.wolf@foxroach.com.



LEARN & LUNCH WITH RABBI GERI NEWBURGE

Friday, January 10 | 11:30 am

It's a mitzvah! Come learn about some of Judaism's important but lesser known commandments and the role they play in Jewish lives today. Hosted at the home of Mary & Trey

Kamplain, who will provide the main entrée, please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. RSVP to Cynthia Marshall at 610-649-7800 or cmarshall@mlrt.org.

FORWARD THINKING: LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday, January 14 | 12:15 pm

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

TORAH STUDY

Saturdays | 9:00 - 10:00 am

Each week our Rabbis lead us in lively discussion as we read from the Parsha, or weekly portion, and learn about its context and history. Anyone is welcome to join us.

PARENTING BOOK CLUB

Monday, February 24 | 7:00 pm

Teach Your Children Well by Madeline Levine, with Rabbi Geri Newburge & Lisa David, Director of Camp Harlam. Gather with other parents to discuss the ups and downs of parenthood with a focus on learning to parent based on our core values. For more information, please contact Rabbi Newburge at gnewburge@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800. RSVP to Beth Lloyd at blloyd@mlrt.org.

BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Our rabbis lead an ongoing discussion of the Tanakh over the year. Join anytime, whether you are an avid Torah student or have never looked at the Torah before.

Get excited! Cantor Rudnick will be teaching a five-part class on Jewish Music on Wednesdays, starting April 22. More information coming soon!

Brotherhood

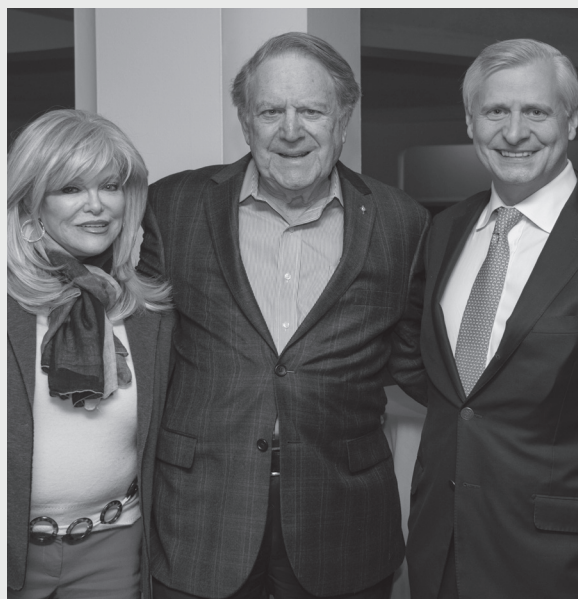
There is precious little Brotherhood news for the month of January, which has us in its wintry thrall. As well, we are abiding by the request to "keep it short" by telling you that on January 22, Brotherhood will be wassailing at the Grog, beginning at 7:00 pm for our monthly restaurant tour.

But, let me share with you a poem by my favorite American poet, Wallace Stevens, aptly titled "The Snow Man" to gladden your spirits. "One must have a mind of winter/To regard the frost and the boughs/Of the pine-trees crusted with snow;/And have been cold a long time/To behold the junipers shagged with ice,/The spruces rough in the distant glitter/Of the January sun; and not to think/Of any misery in the sound of the wind,/In the sound of a few leaves,/Which is the sound of the land/Full of the same wind/That is blowing in the same bare place/For the listener, who listens in the snow,/And, nothing himself, beholds/Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is."

Most kindly,

Gary Brock, VP MLRT Brotherhood

We kicked off the Main Line Speaker Series 2019-20 with Jon Meacham on November 18. Over 700 people filled the Morganroth Sanctuary & Hausen Auditorium to hear the renowned presidential historian and Pulitzer-Prize winner.



Join us for Terry Gross, the next outstanding program in our Speaker Series, on February 23. Tickets are on sale now at mlrt.org/speakerseries20

The Main Line Speaker Series is underwritten by a generous grant from Gail & Joel Morganroth.

Thank you to our presenting sponsors The Daniel B. and Florence E. Green Foundation and Firsttrust Bank, and contributing sponsors AMC Photography Studios, John Gallagher of Morgan Stanley, Arlene & Stanley Ginsburg, and Marcy & Tom Wiener.

The Main Line Speaker Series 2019-20 is supported by The Erlbaum Family Foundation, Keystone Motors, and Susan & Paul Lichtman.

Thank you to our Speaker Series Committee Chairs, Vic Haas and Lori Ehrich, and our Speaker Series committee members Rabbi David Straus, Esther Herst, Davida Chornock, and Gil Marder, as well as MLRT staff and our volunteers Elliott Schulman, Bonnie Schulman, Ann Gelfond, Michelle Cohen, Susan Golboro, Chuck Forer, Nancy Lenz, Jane Siegal, Mitchell Spector, Andy Shamberg, Steve Handleman, and Mark Komen for helping to ensure the success of this event.

Sisterhood



Ami Lonner & Elizabeth Stoller,
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Happy 2020!

We hope that you had a nice Chanukah and New Year's Eve with family and friends. With the New Year comes more ways to get involved with Sisterhood and we are starting the month off with the MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 20. Our Sisterhood partners with the Tikkun Olam Network to provide baked goods for the annual Bake Sale. The funds raised help support two neighborhood food pantries. If you love to bake, or even want to bring something store bought on Monday, January 20, please contact Jill Altshuler at jillandmarc2@gmail.com. All donations are appreciated.

The cold, dark days of winter are a great time to get cozy and start a new book. Please join us in February for our Book Brunch and Author Talk. Author Ronald Balson will discuss his latest book, The Girl From Berlin, on February 18 at 10:00 am. A potluck brunch will be served. Keep an eye out for a sign-up to bring food for the event.

A great time was had by all at our annual Paid Up Member Event in December. This year's theme was Dreidels and Drinks and members enjoyed lite bites and fun cocktails while getting to catch up with friends. They also enjoyed shopping with several vendors who were on hand.



Please mark your calendars for a very important program on March 1 at Temple Shalom in Broomall. We will be presenting a panel of speakers to discuss the current state of affairs on reproductive rights and women's health in our country with neighboring synagogues.

NEVER A DULL TIME AT THE RUMMAGE SALE:



Teach Our Children: ECE



Shari Morelli,
Interim Director

The days are so incredibly full here at MLRT ECE that it seems as if December came upon us in a flash. The winter coats, mittens, and scarves were the best indicator that fall was past.

It was so terrific to see all of you at parent-teacher conferences where you got to see and hear what your learners have been up to in their classrooms. It is such a joy for me to listen to their minds at work while doing experiments, mixing colors, pretending to be a doctor, or making connections with numbers and letters. They are such capable observers, connectors of ideas, and story-tellers. The best part of my day is spent with these learners in their classrooms.

December also brought Chanukah Happenings, a favorite among our group. Thanks to our wonderful parent organizers, Dorothy Elstone, Amanda Schwartz, and Jessie Levin, and all of the parents who volunteered their time to be with us that day. It was a success. We had dreidel cookies frosted by our children, scratch off Menorahs, and wooden dreidels which were jeweled and decorated. We ate

gelt, played dreidel games and sang songs of Chanukah.

To me, it is these children who are miraculous and I feel grateful for them every day. I look forward to January when we see all of their bright, ready and eager faces back in the hallways and classrooms where they belong.



Staff Spotlight: Davida Chornock **Director of Marketing & Communications**

Contact: dchornock@mlrt.org or 610-649-7800

Davida joined the MLRT family in August of 2018 and quickly made her mark. Beginning with revitalizing our social media pages, revamping the MLRTMatters Bulletin, and redesigning our website, Davida says she is just getting started!

Davida has a lot of experience in synagogue life, having spent 3.5 years at Congregation Beth El. She started there as the Educational Opportunities Administrator while also teaching in the Beth El Religious School and eventually became the Marketing, Communications, and Programming

Specialist. Prior to her time at Beth El, Davida worked as a Social Media Manager, Visual Merchandising Manager, Operations Manager, and professional clown. She graduated from the honors program at Drexel University with a degree in Business, Communications, English, and Marketing.

Davida loves that her position at MLRT utilizes every aspect of her educational and professional background and allows her to be creative. When Davida isn't working late creating flyers and catchy posts, she is working part-time as a visual merchandiser, which feeds her shopping habit. Davida spent eight years working retail, which is reflected in a closet that rivals Imelda Marcos, and continues to do it now because she enjoys the work (and the employee discount!) If she's not at work, she is hanging out with her beloved dog, Gibbs. Davida is thrilled to be a part of our MLRT family and looks forward to getting to know you all!



VOTE REFORM **#VoteReformWZC**

**DO YOU BELIEVE THE REFORM MOVEMENT
SHOULD HAVE A STRONGER PRESENCE IN ISRAEL?**

**IF SO, WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO GET INVOLVED IN THE
WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTION!**

The World Zionist Congress Elections are coming soon, and your vote is critical to maintaining a large Reform presence in Israel and the United States! Your vote is the only democratic opportunity you have to influence Israeli society as we continue our efforts towards equality, pluralism and tolerance.

Voting takes place online starting January 21, 2020 to March 11, 2020 and will take less than 90 seconds to participate. If you're 18+ and identify as Jewish, we hope we can count on you to vote Reform. Intrigued? Visit the ARZA website to learn more: ARZA.org

Join our team! Contact our MLRT Congregational Captains for #VoteReformWZC:
Ken Brier at ken.brier1@gmail.com or Sherrill Neff at sherrill.neff@gmail.com.

Teach Our Children: Religious School



Rabbi Kevin
Kleinman

I am very excited to welcome our families back to Religious School after our winter break.

2020 is going to be another fantastic year of Jewish learning and living at MLRT.

Our month begins with a Family Shabbat service led by our 5th Grade and includes Kindergarten and 1st Grade Challah for Hunger bake. We have mitzvah projects on the Sunday and Monday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend to put our Jewish values into action. Finally, mark your calendars for a parent's night of cookie decorating to support "For Goodness Cakes," a non-profit organization that provides kids in foster care with a birthday cake.

Please note there is no Religious School on the following dates: January 1, 2, and 19

Special Religious School Programs

JANUARY 9 – PARENTS ONLY COOKIE DECORATING MITZVAH PROJECT

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Mitzvah project to support "For Goodness Cakes"

JANUARY 12 – KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE CHALLAH FOR HUNGER

9:00 - 11:00 am

Parents will join us for a morning of making and selling challah. Proceeds support the Ardmore Food Pantry.

JANUARY 12 - SHIR APPEAL – JEWISH A CAPELLA CONCERT

10:30 - 11:00 am (during Assembly)

Shir Appeal is an award-winning mixed-gender Jewish a cappella group from Tufts University.

JANUARY 19 - VOLUNTEERING AT THE JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY (JRA)

Located at 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, PA

10:00 am - 11:30 am – Food Box Packing

11:00 am - 12:30 pm – Food Box Delivery

JANUARY 26 - 6TH GRADE PLAY

9:45 am - 12:00 pm

Families meet at Adath Israel on the Main Line to see "Lida Stein and the Righteous Gentile"

FEBRUARY 2 - 3RD GRADE PACT PROGRAM – CELEBRATE SHABBAT!

Early Session: 9:00 - 11:00 am

Late Session: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Parents will join us for a morning of learning all about Shabbat.

January 3 – Shiru Shir Chadash Family Service Hosted by 5th Grade

6:00 pm – Snack and Schmooze | 6:30 pm – Family Service featuring 5th Grade students

7:30 pm – Shabbat Dinner and Gaga Tournament

Reservations for dinner can be made at mlrt.org/reservations

Teach Our Children: TheTribe and Tribe jr.



On Sunday, January 12, when it is too cold to function, join us at MLRT for the first ever Tribe Israeli Food Tasting! Hang with your friends while you prepare Israeli food classics and then dig in! Sign up now at MLRT.org/TheTribe



February is right around the corner and on Groundhog Day we will enter into a fierce competition of Where's Waldo IRL! Join the your friends and play the ultimate game of WW! Event is Sunday, February 2 at the KOP Mall! Sign up now at MLRT.org/tribejr

L'Taken starts January 24!

This annual Confirmation trip takes place at the Religious Action Center of the Union for Reform Judaism in Washington, DC. The Confirmation students will learn about Jewish tradition and Reform perspectives on compelling topics like reproductive rights, LGBTQ rights, climate change, Israel, health care, and more. They will meet other students from around the country, explore Washington, and travel to Capitol Hill to meet with our elected officials in order to advocate for the issues they care about.

Main Line Speaker Series: Terry Gross

MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE PRESENTS

MAIN
LINE **SPEAKER SERIES** 2019-
2020



AN AFTERNOON WITH **TERRY GROSS**

Sunday, February 23
3:00 PM

Host of Fresh Air since 1975, and unafraid to ask tough questions, Terry Gross has received a number of awards, including the prestigious Peabody Award in 1994 for her “probing questions, revelatory interviews and unusual insight.”

Tickets on sale NOW!
mlrt.org/speakerseries20

Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact Vic Haas at vic.haas@gmail.com

The Main Line Speaker Series
is underwritten by a
generous grant from
Gail and Joel Morganroth

Presenting Sponsors

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John Gallagher of
MorganStanley
Arlene & Stanley Ginsburg
Marcy & Tom Wiener



BRET STEPHENS **Monday, May 4, 2020**



Main Line Reform Temple
Beth Elohim | Be Inspired. Be Connected. Belong.

410 Montgomery Avenue | Wynnewood, PA 19096
610-649-7800 mlrt.org

MLRT's Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend



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

Shabbat of Interfaith Harmony

Friday, January 17 | 7:30 pm at MLRT

Sunday, January 19 | 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.

Jump start your
Day of Service!

JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY

Sunday, January 19 at 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia

Food box packing: 10:00-11:30 am and Food delivery: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

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

MLRT's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Monday, January 20, 2020

All programs begin at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted

Please sign up for an activity so that we can prepare adequately at mlrt.org/mlk

SALAD MAKING

MLRT Upstairs Kitchen

Appropriate for adults and families with children age 10+
Participants MUST sign up at 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. Questions? Contact Liz Stoller at ljstoller@gmail.com.

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. 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 Women of Change - a safe haven residence in Philadelphia. Questions? Contact Kerry Heppen at HeppenK@mlhs.org.

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. Questions? Contact Vanessa Coke Cohen at vcokecohen@gmail.com.

MLRT's Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend

ECE TOILETRY BAG ASSEMBLY

MLRT Orleans Auditorium

Appropriate for ECE children

We are packing full size toiletries - shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and more - for families and individuals in poverty and crisis. There are no government programs established to help offset the costs of these basic essentials. We want to ensure our neighbors don't have to choose between soap for their family and shoes for their kids, and that they have the basic tools necessary for family and community engagement, and employment. If you are able, please consider purchasing some of the needed items from our Target Registry at tgt.gifts/toiletryproject.

Questions? Contact Shari Morelli at smorelli@mlrt.org.

WEPAC LAMBERTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY SUPPORT AT MLRT

ALC 1 & ALC 2

Appropriate for teens and adults

We need new and gently used children's books for the library at the Lamberton School, a K-4 school in nearby West Philadelphia whose library will be opened and operated by WePAC (West Philadelphia Alliance for Children) in January 2020. 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. Questions? Contact Lynne Breslau at straus@comcast.net.

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. Questions? Contact Laura Banchero at lkbflour@comcast.net.

CHALLAH COVER MAKING

Sponsored by URJ Camp Harlam and jkidphilly
Room 206

Appropriate for all ages

Join URJ Camp Harlam and jkidphilly families make challah covers for families that will be distributed to Jewish families in our community. Questions? Contact Rabbi Kevin Kleinman at kkleinman@mlrt.org.

Offsite Activity

SINGING AT SAUNDERS HOUSE

Appropriate for all ages

If you would like to participate, please contact Chana Rothman at chanarothman@gmail.com.

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 Boys' clothes are especially needed!
- * New kids pjs
- * New kids underwear
- * New kids socks
- * New books for Lamberton Elementary School

Photographers and photos needed!



Do you have a passion for photography?



Are people constantly complimenting your pictures or asking you to take theirs?



Do you want to go to MLRT events and programs for FREE?

We need your help! If you are able to donate some time and would like to be added to our list of in-house photographers, or you have great photos of your family and friends at past events, please email Davida Chornock, Director of Marketing & Communications, at dchornock@mlrt.org.

Contributions in Memory

(As of December 10)

Anne Simon Adult Education Fund

Nancy & Larry Abrams Ellen Berkowitz's Mother

Annual Fund

Mary & Louis Bernstein Shelly Cutler
Rowland Escritor & Carrie Bernie Kleinman
Kleinman
Jeanne Levy Leonard Levy
Beth Lloyd Arthur Gold
Ivan Krohn

Camp Harlam Scholarship

Mary Sue & Richard Hyman Ehrenberg
Ehrenberg

Cantor Rudnick Discretionary Fund

Linda & Larry Kates Ruby Schrimmer

Community Action Fund

Cindy & Jeffrey Ruben Arthur Gold

Early Childhood Education Fund

Irene & John Krause Robert Berenholz
Sonia & Morris Satton

L'Dor Va'Dor Endowment Fund

Jill & Edward Caine Shelly Cutler
Lori & Bill Ehrich Ivan Krohn
Ann & Gordon Gelfond Shelly Cutler
Arthur Gold
Mary & Trey Kamplain Shelly Cutler
Susan Kleinman Bernie Kleinman
Lee Rosenbloom Sandy Rosenbloom

Maxine Jaffee Music Fund

Judy & Barry Fireman Shelly Cutler

Odell Diamond Library Fund

Marsha & David Bolden Valerie Fassler
Helene & Marc Cohen Shelly Cutler

Prime Time Seniors Fund

Lee Rosenbloom Ellen Berkowitz's Mother

Rabbi Newburge Discretionary Fund

Janis & David Glusman 13th Yahrzeit of Al Finkel
Norma & Sherman Hillelson Bernard Evans

Rabbi Straus Discretionary Fund

Heidi & Michael Bershad Ronald Bershad
Caren Dubnoff John Goretsky
Essie & Steve King Samuel King
Donna & Jay Warshaw David Warshaw
Merle Zucker Marvin Zucker

Religious School Fund

Marjorie Paul Reba Lazaroff

Rick Carocci Torah Study Fund

Barbara V. Carocci Dr. Stanley Bogan
Lewis Rosenblatt Marilyn Levin

Schnyder Floral Fund

Joan & Jared Frost Yahrzeit of Ken Frost

Sisterhood Fund

Helene & Glenn Fischer Ivan Krohn
Fonda Hartman Shelly Cutler
Lori & Raymond Levin Ivan Krohn

Ella C. Wolf Endowed Lecture Fund

Sallie & Michael Blesman Yahrzeits of Adele & Frank
Rakoff
Yahrzeits of Roz & Morris
Blesman

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 blloyd@mlrt.org.



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Contributions in Honor

Annual Fund

Cara & Michael Herrmann
Ady Hershcovitch
Sandra & Frank Norman
Bette & Sheldon Steinberg

High Holy Day Services
Kaiden & Lucy Phillips
George Asher Rudnick & Family
Ken Brier's Birthday

Music Fund

Caren Dubnoff
Lori & William Ehrich
Judith Horowitz

The Bris of Baby Boy Rudnick
In appreciation of Andy Heller
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick

Brotherhood Fund

Cindy Ruben

Gratitude to Gerry Robbins for
support of Penn State Hillel

Rabbi Kleinman Discretionary Fund

Cantor Faryn & Jack Rudnick George Asher Rudnick's Bris

Camp Harlam Scholarship Fund

Melanie & Les Schwartzberg Birth of Cantor Rudnick's Baby Boy

Rabbi Newburge Discretionary Fund

Caren Dubnoff
Samantha & Derek Johnston
Martha Lindsay
Cantor Faryn & Jack Rudnick
Appreciation of Rabbi Newburge
Rabbi Newburge
Appreciation of Rabbi Newburge
George Asher Rudnick's Bris

Cantor Rudnick Discretionary Fund

Joan Bronstein
Patsy & Alan Gruenberg
Samantha & Derek Johnston
Tracie King
Maxine Koenig
Jeanne Levy
Cindy & Jeffrey Ruben
Laura & Richard Shur
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick
Rudnick Family Brit Milah
Daughters Bat Mitzvah
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick
George Asher Rudnick's Bris
George Asher Rudnick's Bris

Rabbi Straus Discretionary Fund

Caren Dubnoff
Gloria Friedberg
Janis & David Glusman
Cantor Faryn & Jack Rudnick
Appreciation of Rabbi Straus
Rabbi Straus
Rabbi Straus's leadership and
kindness on Morocco Trip
George Asher Rudnick's Bris

L'Dor Va'Dor Endowment Fund

Albert Bensoussan & Susan Haiman
Ann & Gordon Gelfond
Birth of Baby Boy Rudnick
Special Birthday of Nancy Gabel Broder

Sisterhood Fund

Sallie & Michael Blesman
Mary & Trey Kamplain
Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Stoddard
Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Stoddard

World Jewry Fund

Adam Ketch Happy Thanksgiving

In Memoriam

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

Arthur Gold

Father of Jill Caine
Grandfather of Ilyse Pratter
Great-Grandfather of Sophie and Nola Pratter

Ivan Yitzchack Krohn

Father of Mary Kamplain
Grandfather of Sophie, Livia, and Ellis Krohn

Mazal Tov!

Andrea and Paul de Botton on the marriage of their daughter, Alessandra, to Joe Pitkow and the engagement of their daughter, Claudia, to Andrew O'Leary

Joyce and Claude de Botton on the marriage of their granddaughter, Alessandra de Botton, to Joe Pitkow and the engagement of their granddaughter, Claudia de Botton, to Andrew O'Leary

Carole Ginsburg on the marriage of her son, Douglas, to Julianne Shenton

Arlene & Stanley Ginsburg on the marriage of their grandson, Douglas Ginsburg, to Julianne Shenton

Cantor Faryn & Jack Rudnick on the birth of their son, George Asher Rudnick

Main Line Reform Temple Sisterhood on their selection as a Silver 2020 Or Ami Award Winner for the excellent program, Refugees and Asylum Seekers Share Their Stories of Exodus: A Women's Interfaith Gathering

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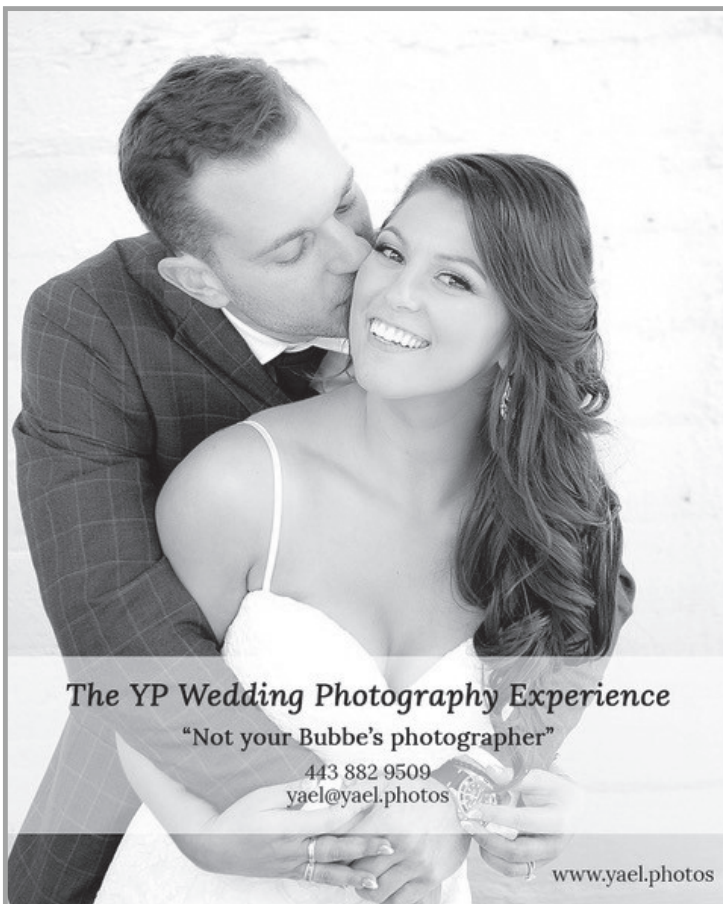
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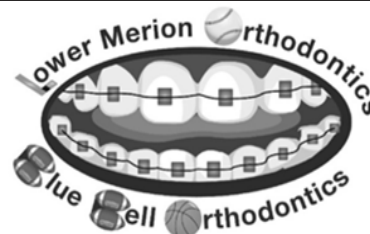
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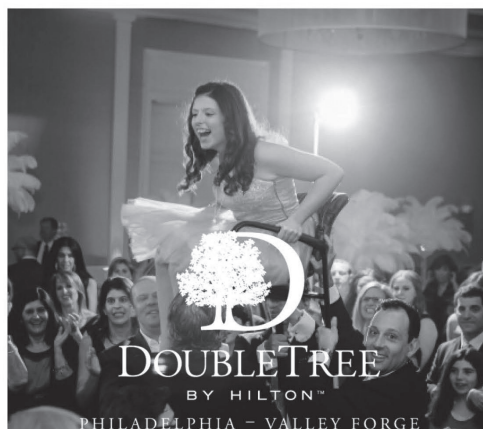
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Shabbat Services

Friday, January 3

5:30 pm ECE Simchat Shabbat Service & Dinner
6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze
6:30 pm Family Shabbat Service (5th Grade Host)
7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, January 4

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

Friday, January 10

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

Saturday, January 11

8:30 am Shabbat Morning Hike with Rabbi Newburge
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 Sasha Groch
Daughter of Mignon & James Groch

Friday, January 17

7:30 pm MLK Shabbat Of Interfaith Harmony
Joint Service
8:30 pm Oneg Shabbat

Saturday, January 18

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

Friday, January 24

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

Saturday, January 25

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 Bailey Gwyneth Grossman
Daughter of Lisa Linder & Richard Grossman

Friday, January 31

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

Saturday, February 1

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 Elliot Sandor Douglass
Son of Petra & Richard Douglass
5:00 pm Mincha Service
Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Hebert
Son of Heather & John Hebert

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Kick off 2020 by participating in the Listening Campaign!

Now is the time when people write resolutions about things they want to change in the coming year. Help Main Line Reform Temple change for the better in 2020 by participating in our Listening Campaign!

This Listening Campaign – a series of small facilitator led groups – provides a safe setting to share what MLRT's community means to you. Your participation will be a fun, easy way to discover shared interests and make friends in an informal setting, discuss what matters to you, our community, Jewish traditions and values, and ways MLRT can make a difference.



SCAN ME

To participate, as a host, facilitator, participant, or note taker, scan the QR code or visit mlrt.org/listening.

Questions? Contact Gil Marder, Member Engagement & Program Manager, at gmarder@mlrt.org.

January 2020

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 MLRT OFFICE, ECE, AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 ECE Pajama Day 11:00 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Canasta 7:30 pm Friends of Bill W (AA)	3 5:30 pm ECE Simchat Shabbat Service & Dinner 6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze 6:30 pm Shabbat Family Service 7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner	4 8:30 am Morning Prayers 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Chapel Service
5 9:30 am Hassel Adult Ed. Lecture Rabbi Kleinman	6	7 10:00 am Sisterhood Board Meeting	8 9:15 am Adult Learning 10:30 am Sisterhood Choir 12:00 pm Bridge	9 11:00 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Short Story Discussion 12:30 pm Canasta 6:00 pm RS Parent Cookie Decorating 7:00 pm FTD Caregivers Meeting 7:30 pm Friends of Bill W (AA) 7:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting	10 11:30 am Learn & Lunch with RGN 6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze 6:30 pm Reset & Renew Contemporary Shabbat Service	11 8:30 am Morning Prayers 8:30 am Shabbat Morning Hike 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Chapel Service 5:00 pm Bat Mitzvah of Sasha Groch
12 11:00 am TheTribes Israeli Food Competition 2:00 pm Interfaith Center of Phila. Meeting 7:00 pm Beer Club at Whole Foods	13	14 12:15 pm Forward Thinking	15 9:15 am Adult Learning 10:30 am Sisterhood Choir 12:00 pm Bridge	16 11:00 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Suburban Lunch & Learn with RDS 12:30 pm Canasta 7:30 pm Friends of Bill W (AA)	17 ECE CLOSED 7:30 pm Shabbat of Interfaith Harmony Service 8:30 pm Oneg Shabbat	18 8:30 am Morning Prayers 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Chapel Service
19 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AT JRA 9:30 am JRA Food Packing 10:30 am MLK Service at Zion Baptist Church	20 ECE CLOSED FOR MLK DAY OF SERVICE MLK DAY OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES START AT 10:00 AM	21	22 9:15 am Adult Learning 10:30 am Sisterhood Choir 12:00 pm Bridge 7:00 pm Brotherhood MNO at the Grog	23 11:00 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Canasta 7:30 pm Friends of Bill W (AA)	24 8:00 pm Shabbat Service 9:00 pm Oneg Shabbat <i>L'Taken Seminar in Washington, DC through January 27</i>	25 8:30 am Morning Prayers 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Chapel Service 10:30 am Bat Mitzvah of Bailey Grossman
26	27	28	29 9:15 am Adult Learning 10:30 am Sisterhood Choir 12:00 pm Bridge	30 11:00 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Canasta 7:30 pm Friends of Bill W (AA)	31 8:00 pm Shabbat Service 9:00 pm Oneg Shabbat	February 1 8:30 am Morning Prayers 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Chapel Service 10:30 am Bar Mitzvah of Elliott Douglass 5:00 pm Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Hebert
February 2 9:30 am Hassel Adult Ed. Lecture Gary Hendler 12:30 pm tribejr. Where's Waldo?	February 3	February 4	February 5 9:15 am Adult Learning 10:30 am Sisterhood Choir 12:00 pm Bridge	February 6 11:00 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Canasta 7:30 pm Friends of Bill W (AA)	February 7 6:00 pm Snack & Schmooze 6:30 pm Shabbat & Tu B'Shevat Family Service 7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner	February 8 8:30 am Morning Prayers 8:30 am Shabbat Morning Hike 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Chapel Service 5:00 pm Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Pasternack

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For pricing and more information, contact Davida Chornock, Director of Marketing & Communication, at dchornock@mlrt.org.



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