



Celebrate Shavuot *virtually with* *Main Line Reform Temple*

Thursday, May 28 : Tikkun Leil Shavuot
study sessions on unique Jewish leaders, thinkers and rabbis

Friday, May 29 : Shavuot & Yizkor Service



SOCIAL DISTANCING DOESN'T HAVE TO MEAN BEING DISTANT

Stay connected with classes, services, programs, and lectures online!
See page 15 and mlrt.org/zoom for more information

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A New Beginning at MLRT

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Janet Lee,
Executive Director

Starting a new position during a world crisis certainly has its ups and downs. I can't even count the number of emails I received that started with some version of "This wasn't exactly how you thought your new job would start." And that is certainly true. I did not anticipate a global pandemic, forced closures, school cancellations and the need to build a virtual synagogue in a week. It was all new, and yet, that community presence, the warm welcome that followed in each email, the repetitive underlying tone of "We're all in this together, alone together," was familiar. That is synagogue life and the reason I love what I do, even during the most unusual of circumstances.

I look forward to a time when the building is once again filled with people, children arriving for school, programs being planned and a sense of chaotic normalcy. But for now, I can honestly say that I could not be prouder to be part of this new community. I have seen the dedication of our staff to overcome many obstacles, determined to stay connected. I have been overwhelmed by the outreach of our congregation to support each other and help those in need. Each day I try to look for the silver linings because there are so many and it's important that we stay positive and grateful. This is not an easy time for anyone, but I am grateful for the wonderful MLRT staff and congregation that have made me feel a part of this new community.

This May bulletin is a testament to everyone who is looking forward. Our building may be temporarily shut down, but MLRT is hard at work. In addition to our weekly Zoom offerings, budgets are being planned for next fiscal year, staff is meeting regularly, and calls to our congregants are being made daily. There will be a world after COVID-19, and MLRT is focusing on being prepared for when it will be safe to gather again for learning, prayer and celebration. Now is the time to practice social distancing and be safe, but please know that MLRT will be here when this is behind us and we can all begin again.



Davida Chornock,
Director of Marketing &
Communications

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Every month, I collate the wise words and exciting events from our stupendous staff and legendary lay leadership into the MLRTMatters Bulletin. It is a job made difficult by the wide range of programming, services, and classes MLRT hosts on a regular basis.

The global COVID-19 crisis has enabled us to take a hard look at what is working, where costs can be cut, and what we need to improve as we continue to bring you the quality programs and classes you have come to expect from us, albeit in a very different format!

Communication is always key but particularly now. We want to ensure the best possible delivery of information for our members and are requesting your help to discover what that is as we plan MLRT's future. Please help guide us by responding to the options below, either electronically at mlrt.org/bulletin or by calling 610-649-7800 and leaving a message with our answering service with your contact information and response.

We want to know which best describes your communication preference:

- ◇ It is extremely important for me to receive a printed copy of MLRTMatters every month
- ◇ I would prefer to NOT receive a printed copy of MLRTMatters every month as I receive my information about MLRT events, classes, and services electronically (digital MLRTMatters, MLRT website, weekly emails, and social media)
- ◇ I utilize both digital resources and the printed copy of MLRTMatters every month

If you have any questions, I am always available by email at dchornock@mlrt.org. I appreciate your time and look forward to seeing you all again very soon!

Changing Through Crisis, Together



Rabbi David Straus

I write this as we are now five weeks into “sheltering at home.” Some are calling this the “new normal,” but I think you agree there is nothing normal about these new times. While we all pray for a quick end to the extraordinary place we find ourselves, it seems evident that we will need to continue to social distant for a while longer. Even when we begin to return to work and school, and the Temple building reopens, we are told it will be in stages, and it will be a while until we are able to go back and resume all our regular activities, and life returns “to the way it was.”

And yet, we have learned how to be alone-together. We have learned that social distancing does not mean we need to be spiritually distancing from one another; we have learned that being alone does not necessarily mean we must be lonely (though for sure there are moments of loneliness); and that there are many new ways we can continue to be with one another, connect with each other, and form new kinds of virtual online community. We are learning how to be alone-together.

Most of all, in this age of polarization and alienation, we have found out that many of us have discovered a deep need for community and spiritual connection, nurturing and growth. I think many of us have always known these yearnings; and I think one of the lasting impacts of our social distancing and sheltering at home will be to tap into these deep-seated longings and find new ways to sustain these connections and yearnings. We want to drink from the wells of our Jewish spiritual teachings and rituals and discover anew their profound teachings.

I am proud of the work my colleagues are doing to try and continue to connect with our MLRT community. With the help of many of you, we have tried to call each of you to check in and see how you are doing and how we might help at this extraordinarily difficult and stress filled time. Many of you have volunteered to help shop or deliver prescriptions to member of our community who cannot easily do this on their own. I am proud to be part of and help lead this caring community we call our spiritual home.

We have been able to continue most of our services, teachings and learnings through Zoom, and hopefully will be able to reschedule the programs that do not lend themselves to a virtual format. No, it is not a perfect platform, but it has allowed us all to see one another, and continue to join in the sacred work we are called to do. Our Religious School and ECE program continue to meet and learn online, often with multiple opportunities a day. And we have even begun some new, more informal online connecting: A weekly MLRT Happy Hour; Coffee with the Clergy; Recipes with the Rabbi, and Keeping it Reel.

No one yet knows what the economic disruption will be like, nor how long it will last. MLRT will not be immune to what happens around us. For those who are able, we will need your support now more than ever. You have been so generous in the past, and I know you will help us through this challenge as well. There will be no Judaism in America if the synagogue does not thrive.

When the Temple was destroyed by the Romans, and Jews lost autonomy, and began to live in diaspora communities, something amazing happened. Jews lived in different lands and countries, began speaking different languages, developing their own customs, habits, rituals, ways of dress, food they ate—the list goes on—and yet the rabbis managed to created an enduring sense of Jewish peoplehood, and Jewish life centered on the synagogue.

None of us know what life will be like in the weeks and months ahead. But I am certain we will create new ways for MLRT and the Jewish community to thrive, as we continue to live Jewish lives, and do the sacred work we are called to do to help bring our world one moment closer to redemption.



Cantor Faryn Rudnick

During this time of isolation and uncertainty, one thing we can all agree on is the need to remain connected to one another. We are, thankfully, able to use technology to check in and connect in a variety of different ways - classes, Religious School, ECE, and worship.

But even with all these pathways to being a part of the MLRT online community, we might still find additional ways to connect with people. Sometimes, it is not just the ability to click on a link, but also the language that we speak. I hope you will join me in learning not just a new language, but a new way to pray and a new way to connect with people. Please visit mlrt.org/media to learn how to pray the Shema, the proclamation of our faith, in American Sign Language.

Save the Date for our Virtual Charity Bingo Night on Tuesday, March 5.

Our local community Food Banks are in dire need of support right now. Take part in a fun night of Bingo and give back to the organizations supporting our community during the COVID-19 crisis.

We're All In This Together



Joel Ginsparg
President

This is a very scary time. Our world is at war with COVID-19, an invisible enemy, and I, like many of us, am feeling very anxious about our collective future. However, there have been some really exceptionally good things happening. There are many people who are putting their lives at risk fighting on the frontlines of COVID-19 including doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, sanitation workers, workers in our supermarkets and pharmacies, and many others. People throughout the world have been reaching out to the lonely, to the vulnerable, and to the people who need help. There are a lot of heroes out there and they deserve our thanks.

This is an extraordinary moment for the world. Most of the time, we hear the news about a disaster that is happening to someone else somewhere else. It's happening over there, somewhere in our country or halfway around the world. But this pandemic is happening everywhere. When we all suffer the same fears, worrying, and social distancing, every little animosity becomes minor and trivial in comparison,

and all of the differences between us suddenly seem inconsequential. I hope we will come out of this crisis realizing that there are more important things than those that have divided us so badly in recent years, whether individually or collectively, whether in our country or in the world.

Many times, terrible events like this COVID-19 pandemic bring out the best in us. Right now, in communities across the country, there are groups of people calling elderly and vulnerable people saying, "Can I help?" Young people are delivering medicine to those in need and are reading books to the elderly through windows of nursing homes. Food trucks and food pantries are feeding the homeless. Manufacturers are retooling to produce personal protection equipment for our health workers. Similar to what happened during World War II and after 9-11, we are experiencing a renewal of the "we" in our country.

During this crisis, Rabbi Straus, Rabbi Newburge, Cantor Rudnick, and many volunteers have been calling all of you, our members, to find out how you are, do you have access to food and medicine, and do you need transportation or any other help? The calls identified many members who needed assistance. Additional volunteers shopped for groceries, picked up medicine, and provided transportation. I want to commend our clergy for their leadership of this initiative and thank them and all of the volunteers for their hard work to help those in need. However, our work is not done. If you or anyone you know needs our help, please let us know. We are all in this together and we want to help!

These are challenging times for many people in our community. If you are able, please give to organizations that are helping those in need. Please consider a contribution to MLRT to help us continue our work supporting the community. Now more than ever is the time when your support is needed and is much appreciated!

There is hope that in the next few weeks, the numbers of people infected by COVID-19 will peak, hospital admissions will start to drop, and the public health experts will determine that we have "flattened the curve." The government will then start to reopen our community. However, the risk of infection from COVID-19 will still be present and we will all need to continue to take the necessary precautions including social distancing and wearing masks. Once we have guidance from the governor, we will develop a reopening plan for MLRT and will communicate it to you.

Taking care of ourselves is extremely important. However, we must keep our community strong. We are all in this pandemic together and we will get through it by helping each other.

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

These are challenging times, and our community has come together to help each other in a variety of way - all inspiring, all meaningful. Whether calling each other to check in or going shopping for food and other essentials, we are sincerely thankful to those who have volunteered and grateful to be part of such a warm, caring community. Please contact Gil Marder at gmarder@mlrt.org if you would like to get involved in calling congregants or helping shop for those who need our assistance.

Mazal Tov!

Andrea & Nim Drechsler on the birth of their son, Rahm Yehuda Drecshler
Mark & Marie Golboro on the birth of their granddaughter, Zoey Isabella Stenzler
Erika & Ben Graupen on the birth of their son, Chase Parker Graupen
Devin & Douglas Richmond on the birth of their son, Ryan Hunter Richmond

Lifelong Learning



Sally Brown,
Librarian

What are you reading now? With everyone home due to the coronavirus, we are given a chance to read something we've been wanting to read. Here are some of my suggestions for all ages and all genres.

📖 Children: Goldie Takes a Stand : Golda Meir's First Crusade by Barbara Krasner. Tells of the early life of Golda Meir who was always a leader.

📖 Mystery: Conviction by Julia Dahl. The riots that exploded between Jewish and Black neighbors in New York City's Crown Heights in the 1990's form the background to this exciting thriller.

📖 Fiction: The One Man by Andrew Gross is a clever thriller with a fast moving plot taking place during World War II with a plan to take a distinguished physicist out of Auschwitz. Nemesis by Philip Roth will give you an idea of what it was like to live through the polio epidemic during the 1940's and 50's. His novel gives the reader a frightening and serious look at what we are dealing with now.

📖 Short story: A new collection by one of our favorites, Israeli writer Etgar Keret. His new book titled, "Fly Away", is already garnering awards.

📖 Bari Weiss, a contributor to the New York Times and a native of Pittsburgh wrote, "How to Fight Anti-Semitism", which won a National Book Award. She spoke in Philadelphia about her reflections of Pittsburgh shootings.

📖 Holocaust: Rescue Board: The Untold Story of America's Effort to Save the Jews of Europe by Rebecca Erbelding. The author is an archivist and historian at the United States Holocaust Museum and we were lucky to hear her message during our Yom HaShoah Commemoration on April 20.

📖 Memoir: Words of My Father: Love and Pain in Palestine by Yousef Bashir. Congregants enjoyed his talk at our Temple on February 28 and his remarkable memoir tells of forgiveness in troubled times.

Book discussion groups are still going on by way of Zoom. For our May 14 Short Story Discussion, we will read "Defender of the Faith" by Philip Roth. We've read other stories by one of the most eminent Jewish authors of the twentieth century, but according to my records, not this one. If you want to join us as a first timer, please email me at sbrown@mlrt.org and I can mail a copy of the story to you.

I hope these selections will give you suggestions on what to read next while staying safe and well!



SHAVUOT

Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai and encourages us to embrace the Torah's teachings and be inspired by the wisdom Jewish tradition has to offer. Shavuot is Hebrew for "weeks," and the holiday occurs seven weeks after Passover. Unlike Passover, with Seder, or Sukkot, with the building of the Sukkah or waving of the lulav and etrog, there are few rituals, either synagogue-based or home-centered associated with Shavuot. In ancient times, Shavuot was a pilgrimage festival during which Israelites brought crop offerings to the Temple in Jerusalem. Today, it is a celebration of Torah, education, and the choice to participate actively in Jewish life.

TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT

Thursday, May 28 | 7:00 pm Candles & Kiddush followed by study sessions

Join Rabbis Straus, Newburge, Kleinman and Steinbrink and Cantor Rudnick for Tikkun Leil Shavuot beginning with the lighting of holiday candles and kiddush. Tikkun Leil Shavuot is traditionally an evening long study session held the night of Shavuot. The custom originated in the 16th century with the mystics of Tzfat. While the practice has evolved to stay up all night reading and studying a variety of sacred texts, we hope you will join us for a portion or all of our study sessions on unique Jewish leaders, thinkers and rabbis.

7:15 pm-Rabbi Newburge- *Rabbis of the 1st and 2nd century*

7:45 pm-Rabbi Steinbrink- *Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise*

8:15 pm-Rabbi Kleinman- *Maimonides*

8:45 pm-Cantor Rudnick - *The Cantors who Train Cantors:*

Jack Mendelson, Benjie Ellen Schiller, and Jonathan Comisar

9:15 pm-Rabbi Straus

SHAVUOT YIZKOR SERVICE

Friday, May 29 | 10:30 AM

Join our virtual Shavuot Service and Yizkor (Memorial Prayers) for those we have lost in the past year.

This year's Confirmation Service will take place in the fall. Date and details to follow.



Ami Lonner & Elizabeth Stoller,
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Sisterhood

Sisters, what a very strange spring it has been for all of us. We have gone from packing Shalach Manot bags and delivering Purim goodies and meeting with our sisters to discuss fun, uplifting events on our Spring calendar like Sisterhood Shabbat and our closing dinner, to holding Zoom Seders from home. A small group of our Executive Board members were planning to attend the Women of Reform Judaism's Fried Women's Conference in Phoenix in May to learn about new ways to engage with our sisters and programs that work. But, as we are all well aware, all of that has come to an abrupt halt! All we hear, see and think about is COVID-19. This is an unprecedented time in our country's history. We are not accustomed to staying home, not socializing or being able to move freely in our daily lives. All of our Sisterhood events for the spring have been canceled, and we are hoping that we can come back in the fall and provide you with the fun, engaging and meaningful programming that you are used to from us.

Once again, if anyone in our Sisterhood or Temple community is in need of help with anything, from grocery shopping to picking up medications, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us. We are happy to help in any way that we can. And if you are stressed about Coronavirus, as most of us are, you probably already know that helping others is a great way to relieve stress and improve your mental and physical health. Here are two things you can do right now:

1. Donate to the Narberth Community Food Bank or Ardmore Food Pantry. Our neighbors who normally work to stretch their food dollars will face even more challenges during this time of lost wages and reduced income. Please make any financial contributions you can via narberthcommunityfoodbank.org and stmarysardmore.org/ardmore-food-pantry. This is a very efficient way to help them get what they need. And if a financial contribution is not for you, see the list of most needed items on their websites.
2. Put together a bag (or several) of clothes and books for the Mitzvah Circle Foundation. Do some spring-cleaning and pull out all of those un-needed clothing items and children's books. They can also use high interest adult/young adult books in good condition. MCF serves families in crisis and demand will likely grow for their services in the weeks to come. They are in particular need of adult clothing in larger sizes and clothes for boys of every age. When the virus subsides we will collect the bags at the Temple and deliver them to MCF for you.

We are wishing you all a healthy and safe spring and we look forward to connecting with all of you in person again soon!

Brotherhood

On February 11, 1884 the essayist and art critic John Ruskin delivered a pair of apocalyptic lectures on modern weather: "The Storm Cloud of the Nineteenth Century." The subject of "a series of cloud phenomena which . . . are peculiar to our own times" was skeptically received by the audience and the press. The text is a prescient environmental polemic and a dark hymn to preternatural weather. In 1884 Ruskin had first noticed a "dark and dirty cloud—or more accurately, a plague cloud." His diaries confirm, to his satisfaction, the region of dread affected by the storm-cloud stretched from the north of England as far south as Sicily. His claims are not merely metaphorical. Yes, the industrial age, specifically the coal dust from mining, contributed to the "plague." But the skepticism, the ridicule, and the disbelief that something was affecting the weather and what to do about it does not ring hollow in our perilous times.

Grant that the analog of Ruskin's "plague" and our coronavirus is imperfect; but the reaction to and mitigation of are eerily similar. The current virus is an event stemming from natural causes; Ruskin's "plague" is a mixture of natural and man-made causes. It is the wind that carried and is carrying the scourge. This is all by way of suggesting that our ability to prevent such phenomenon is nigh but impossible, but that skepticism, ridicule, and disbelief do not serve us well in these precarious times.

Brotherhood's events for May are nebulous, at best. Whatever was planned will be effected at a later time, and should not be considered canceled. We will, however, be holding our Men's Night Out on May 4. Grab your drink of choice, log in to Zoom, and have a virtual happy hour with your Brothers. The link for MNO can be found at mlrt.org/zoom.

Further, if any Brother is in need of assistance of any kind, he should contact President Ed Bleeden at brotherhood@mlrt.org. In this spirit of Tikkun Olam, Brotherhood has already made donations to three Lower Merion area food banks to assist, in some small way, those organizations' efforts in combating the scourge of food insufficiency.

Brotherhood insists that we all follow the established protocols that may save lives; we will then meet again for camaraderie and service to our Temple.

Gary Brock, Vice-President

Teach Our Children: Early Childhood Education



"Breathe, darling. This is just a chapter, not your whole story." This quote feels like a good way to kick off this article about our thoughts and feelings during this time. In this collaborative article you will find advice, thoughts on teaching via Zoom to our littlest population and other tidbits from your ECE teachers, all of whom have had to rethink the ways they teach.

Personal connections: Adapting to a new normal has its challenges but the best part of our day is zooming with our class. The children's smiles and enthusiasm remind us that we will all get through this and perhaps even see how strong we can all be when we need to be. Zoom time is a fun space where we can meet. This time for interaction is important and hearing their voices makes our day. We want them to know we are there for them. We are trying to make positive memories for our kids during the scary and uncertain time. We want life to feel as normal as possible. Zooming allows us to connect with our students face to face, to convey how much we miss and love them. We want them to feel safe, heard, loved and understood!

Being able to stay connected and keeping my teacher hat on keeps me motivated each day. Talking to and seeing other faces besides the ones we live with is refreshing and keeps our spirits up. We miss our classes.

When we left school for the last time on March 12, none of us thought that would be the last time we would be able to be together in person this year.

Technology and Adaptations: We are all learning new ways to communicate through the technology at hand. Zoom allows us the capability to see and hear each other, but it flies in the face of "best practices" when it comes to teaching in this age group. We've had to toss a lot of that aside just for the good of interaction. Many of us are grateful for what this technology affords us, but are being challenged to come out of our technology shells.

We have been challenged to adapt to a new normal. We live with a lack of physical presence, human touch, distractions at home on both sides of the screen. We think daily about how to deliver content in a way that meets the needs of our students and families. We hope we are succeeding as we adapt and adjust. If our Zoom isn't working, we adjust to meet the needs of our students. We use visuals to help children understand what is expected, like a picture of an ear for listening, a mouth for speaking, name cards for when it is their time to share. They love seeing what their friends are up to! We have divided our classrooms into manageable groupings so that children can feel seen and heard. We have offered 1:1 zooming and FaceTime calls!

Keeping some normalcy: To normalize this time, we create a routine for our virtual classroom that mirrors what we do in the classroom. We do circle time, art projects, and show and tell, read books, post pictures, celebrate birthdays, celebrate Shabbat royalty, and encourage all student participation. We want our kids to stay busy, stay active and stay connected to their teachers, family and friends. We want to stay connected and familiar.

ECE Community: The ECE as a whole has really come together for the greater good. We have deepened connections with our families, students, and each other. We provide lessons and resources and keep in close contact with our families. We hope that this shows that we are here for them and that we genuinely care about all of the children and families in our community. Behind the scenes, we are still creating lesson plans that help our students meet developmental milestones.

From a professional perspective, we love the connection between the teachers. We are able to support each other and coordinate our planning in meaningful ways. Our "teacher" community is a comfort. Knowing we can reach out to each other with ideas, questions, and share content is helpful.

Reality: Parents and children may get small glimpses in to our homes and lives. They see our children and spouses and realize that we have crazy moments and messy houses and crying kids just the same as they do. It makes us relatable!

Advice to parents: Enjoy this gift of time with your family. Once the world re-opens, we will miss the quality time we have spent with those closest to us. Do what's best for your family and for yourselves. Some of us are working, some are worried or concerned about loved ones. This is truly a "NO JUDGMENT" time. We are all just doing our very best.

Quote we love: "In 30 years when you ask your kids what they remember of the coronavirus pandemic they will respond by saying "I remember family dinners, family walks, family game night, playing outside in my yard, Zooming with my teachers and friends; these were the best times of my life."

Teach Our Children: Religious School



Rabbi Kevin Kleinman

Six weeks ago, our Religious School was meeting in person. We had just had a blast at our annual Purim Carnival. Our students were enjoying spending time with their friends and teachers in our synagogue building. Our school year was entering the final stretch and, while we were already celebrating many successes of the current year, we were deep in the planning to re-envision our Religious School to make it even better for the fall. Little did we know that within a matter of days we would have to pivot and move our entire K-12th grade program to Zoom to meet the changing realities we are now facing.

I am very proud of the work that we have done to keep our community learning together and socially connected over the last month and for the duration of our school year. Our Religious School has successfully moved all of our weekly classes to Zoom. Together with our wonderful teaching faculty, I learned how to not only produce content, but to do it in a way that engages our students and invites their participation. We use the chat box, breakout rooms, and screen sharing features on Zoom to make our learning relevant for this time. Highlights include a Seder Plate Scavenger Hunt, weekly music with Ross, and stories read by our teachers for our K-2nd graders, and Kahoot! games, check-in polls, Mad-Libs, weekly grade-level classes, individual Hebrew tutoring, and values-based learning for our 3rd-6th graders.

Our Religious School parents are very grateful for our leadership as well. Our weekly virtual classes provide continuity and rhythm to the week for students who are juggling their school work, life at home, and the challenges of not being able to see their friends in person. Here are a few of their many positive comments that I have received:

"Thank you for all the hard work you and your staff put in for this morning's Zoom classes. My children enjoyed being able to connect with everyone and learn at the same time."

"Thank you for your efforts to keep our community together."

"Thank you for putting together a great program this morning! I thought that you and your team did a great job with graphics, videos, and music!"

"I have been very impressed with everything you have set up so far. My kids have been really enjoying it."

"Thank you for your continued efforts to connect with the kids... It is greatly appreciated since they can't have play dates."

I want to thank all of our lay leaders, teachers, and parents for their continued support of our Religious School programming. This is truly a communal effort! I look forward to the time when we can all be together in person. In the meantime, check your weekly emails for class updates, activities and Hebrew lessons that can be done at home, and updates about the 2020-2021 Religious School year.

In Memoriam

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

Margaret Barbara Balaam

Aunt of Gabrielle Hill

Howard Barsky

*Brother of Marvin Barsky
Uncle of Susan Golboro*

Arnold King Brenman

*Father of Paul Brenman
Grandfather of Julian Brenman*

Joseph Mario Cataldi

*Father of Lisa Cataldi Kobak
Grandfather of Sydney & Alexandra Kobak*

Timothy Jay Ceska

Son of Gary Ceska

Stuart Harman

*Brother of Brett Harman
Uncle of Sydney & Saylor Harman*

Bernard Kauderer

*Stepfather of Mary Kamplain
Grandfather of Sophie, Livia &
Ellis Kamplain*

Marcine Cutter Komen

*Mother of Mark Komen
Grandmother of Madeline Komen
& Victoria Blisard
Great-Grandmother of Jeffrey, Bradley
& Samantha Blisard*

Morrie Kricun

Uncle of Ashley Summer

Shelley Levin

*Mother of Andrew Levin
Grandmother of Brayden & Parker Levin*

Patricia Axilbund Mayro

Mother of Pam Mayro Cohen

Evelyn "Evie" Perloff

Laurence Schwartz

*Father of Nina Rosenthal
Grandfather of Nathalie &
Jonathan Rosenthal*

Bernard L. Spekter

Husband of Ruth Spekter

Sidney Staunton

Uncle of Howard Johnson

Richard H. Tuft

*Husband of Bonnie Baumholtz Tuft
Brother-in-Law of Ricky & Skip Seidelman*

Contributions

(As of April 12)

In Memory

Annual Fund

Judy & Steve Bleyer
Ellen & Bob Davis
Lori & William Ehrich

Richard Tuft
Louis Trachtman
Yahrzeit for Etta & Charles
Steinberg
Bernard Kauderer
Molly Silverstein
Richard Tuft

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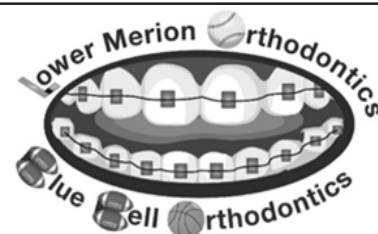
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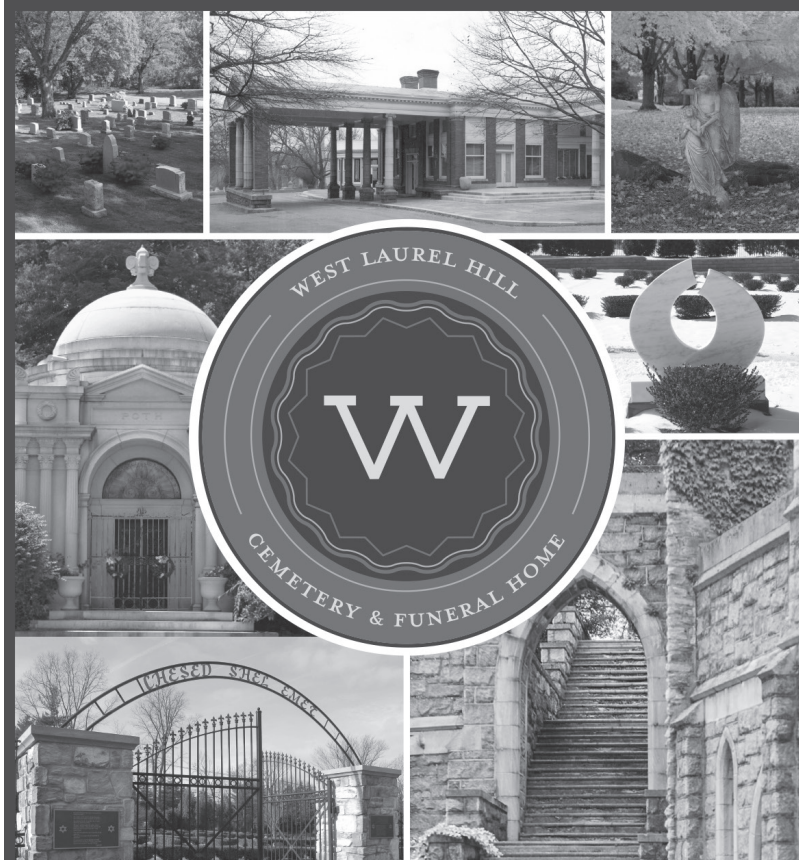
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The following Zoom programs and services can be found at mlrt.org/zoom. We are constantly adding new programs. Check out website often for the most up-to-date information.



MONDAYS, MAY 4, 11 & 18 AT 8:00 PM

Get your popcorn ready for Keeping it Reel, a weekly movie discussion with Rabbi Geri Newburge!

May 4: "Unorthodox" Netflix

May 11: "The Farewell" Amazon Prime

May 18: "The Master" Netflix



TUESDAYS, MAY 12 & 16 AT 11:00 AM

Salivate through your screen and cook along with Rabbi Newburge during Recipes with the Rabbi



WEDNESDAYS, MAY 6, 13 & 20 AT 12:15 PM

Explore the composers who inspire us and paved the path for the music we have today including Solomon Sulzer, Max Janowski, Debbie Friedman, and more during Jewish Music with Cantor Faryn Rudnick.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

10:00 am: The Spirituality of Imperfection

Each of us has our own journey. How have you traveled down life's path? "The spirituality of imperfection speaks to those who seek meaning in the absurd, peace within the chaos, light within the darkness, joy within the suffering without denying the reality and even the necessity of absurdity, chaos, darkness and suffering."

Join Rabbi Newburge for a reflection on our questions about the mysteries and challenges of life, based on the inspiring book The Spirituality of Imperfection by Ernest Kurtz and Katherine Ketcham. Each month we will read a chapter as the basis for our reflection on our spiritual journeys.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

10:00 am: Book Club Discussion: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

Discuss the fascinating life of Henrietta Lacks, whose cancer cells are the source of the HeLa cell line, the first immortalized human cell line and one of the most important cell lines in medical research, with Rabbi Newburge.



THURSDAYS, MAY 7, 14 & 21 AT 8:00 PM

Tune in each week for concert related to Wednesday's Music Class!

May 7: Andy Heller: the music of Max Janowski

May 21: Ross M. Levy: the music of modern day Reform

May 14: Cantor Rudnick: the music of Debbie Friedman Judaism

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

WEDNESDAYS

6:00 pm - MLRT Happy Hour

Join our clergy and staff with a drink of your choice and mix, mingle, and toast our community!

THURSDAYS

9:00 am - Coffee & Conversation with the Clergy

Social distancing doesn't have to mean total distance. Check in with the clergy while enjoying your morning coffee.

11:00 am - Bible Study

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.

FRIDAYS

12:00 pm - Nosh & Drash with Rabbi Newburge

It's a mitzvah! Learn about some of Judaism's important but lesser known commandments and the role they play today.

FRIDAYS

6:30 pm - Friday Night Service

We invite you to join us at 6:25 pm on Zoom as we say Shabbat Shalom to one another, light candles together and make Kiddush. At the end of services, we will unmute all for our Virtual Oneg Shabbat, when again we can talk to one another.

SATURDAYS

9:00 am - Torah Study

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, from wherever you are.

6:30 pm - Havdallah with Cantor Rudnick

Join with Cantor Rudnick and her family for songs and Havdallah, as we look with hope towards a new week, a week of peace, and a week of good health.

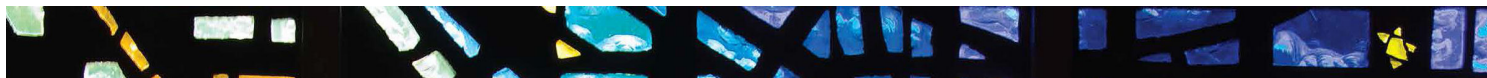
All programs are subject to change. Please visit mlrt.org to stay informed.



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



Shabbat & Holiday Services

Friday, May 1

6:30 pm Zoom Friday Night Shabbat Service

Saturday, May 2

9:00 am Zoom Torah Study
10:30 am Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Allen Swarbrick
Son of Amanda & Marc Swarbrick
5:00 pm Bat Mitzvah of Alexa Shurman
Daughter of Julie & Daniel Shurman

Friday, May 8

6:30 pm Zoom Friday Night Shabbat Service

Saturday, May 9

9:00 am Zoom Torah Study

Friday, May 15

6:30 pm Zoom Friday Night Shabbat Service

Saturday, May 16

9:00 am Zoom Torah Study

Friday, May 22

6:30 pm Zoom Friday Night Service

Saturday, May 23

9:00 am Zoom Torah Study

Thursday, May 28

7:00 pm Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Friday, May 29

10:30 am Shavuot & Yizkor Service

Saturday, May 30

9:00 am Zoom Torah Study
5:00 pm Bar Mitzvah of Chase Zelinger
Son of Jodi & Robert Zelinger

**All programs, including B'nai Mitzvah services, are subject to change.
Please visit mlrt.org for the most up-to-date information.
Virtual classes and services can be found at mlrt.org/zoom**