



MAIN LINE REFORM TEMPLE-BETH ELOHIM

MLRT *Matters*

Be Inspired. Be Connected. Belong.



HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786

ROSH HASHANAH

SEPTEMBER 22-24

YOM KIPPUR

OCTOBER 1-2

September-October 2025

Main Office 610.649.7800
ECE 610.642.0304 RS 484.413.2060
mlrt.org

THE THREE LEGS

Rabbi Geri Newburge gnewburge@mlrt.org Lynne Balaban lbababan@mlrt.org Mary Kamplain president@mlrt.org

In any thriving congregation, the strength of the community rests on many individuals - and the diverse interests at play are frequently represented by the Board President, Executive Director, and the Rabbi. These three positions form what many have come to call the "three-legged stool" of synagogue leadership. Like the legs of a stool, each one is essential to creating support and balance. Remove one, and the entire structure becomes unstable.

Each leader brings unique perspectives, skill sets, and responsibilities, and together they ensure that the congregation runs smoothly, remains rooted in tradition, and continues to grow in purpose and spirit.

In Jewish tradition, leadership is rarely solitary. From Moses, Aaron and Miriam to the Men of the Great Assembly, we have long understood that leadership must be shared, accountable, and collaborative. The three-legged stool of synagogue leadership honors this ancient wisdom while responding to the modern demands of congregational life.

As a volunteer, the President leading the Board of Trustees, represents the interests and needs of the congregation. Our new President, Mary Kamplain, often navigates the space between professional staff and members, helping to articulate long-term vision while also ensuring accountability. From chairing board meetings to building consensus among committees, the President is both diplomat and doer, setting the tone for lay leaders' involvement and partnership.

Beyond structure and policy, the President models dedication and involvement. The time, energy, and passion given to the congregation are gifts that ripple through every part of synagogue life, from High Holy Day logistics to moments of pastoral care.

The Executive Director brings purpose and power to the three-legged stool. Undoubtedly, Lynne Balaban works with a dedicated team to ensure that the day-to-day operations of the congregation run smoothly - finances, facilities, human resources, security, scheduling, technology, and (much!) more. It is Lynne who keeps the behind-the-scenes machinery working so that sacred moments, community gatherings, and lifecycle events can unfold without distraction.

Equally important, the Executive Director is often the steady hand in times of crisis or transition, helping the congregation weather challenges and look to the future with calm and competence. While this role is often the least visible, its impact is enormous.

The Rabbi represents our clergy and together, they serve as the community's teachers, pastors, and spiritual guides. In times of joy and sorrow, Rabbi Newburge, in partnership with Rabbi Mollo, Cantor Rudnick, and Rabbi Kleinman, help individuals and families find meaning and connection. In times of challenge, the clergy give voice to Jewish values, ethics, and resilience.

The Rabbi is often the most publicly recognized face of the synagogue, but the work is deeply relational, collaborative, and communal. No rabbi leads alone—nor should they.

The synergy with the clergy team, lay leadership, and operational partners enables the rabbi's role to flourish.

The three-legged stool is not foolproof, but it works best when we recognize and appreciate the essential roles, contributions, and support that we each bring to the endeavor. Your MLRT stool meets, emails, texts, and collaborates regularly, and your outreach to any one of us frequently requires us to come together to listen, to brainstorm, to problem-solve, and to be responsive. We aspire to support MLRT but we are so fortunate to be able to sustain each other as well.

We feel honored to share in the sacred work of strengthening and building up the Temple, and are excited to welcome in the new year 5786 and its many possibilities.



CREATING A LIFE OF MEANING

Rabbi Eric Mollo emollo@mlrt.org

The ten days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the *Yamim Noraim* (The Days of Awe), are like our annual tune-up for the mind, body, and spirit as we seek to realign the way we live our lives with our most sacred Jewish ideals. Not being ones to linger in solemnity, just four days after Yom Kippur, we celebrate Sukkot to remind ourselves that joy and gratitude, even in unsettled physical and mental spaces, are crucial to a life of meaning. The High Holy Days are not only set moments for prayer, but opportunities to add greater purpose to our lives through learning and action. As we embark on the New Year of 5786, I invite you to take part in the many lifelong learning, social action, and social justice opportunities coming this fall. They will expand your mind, strengthen your heart, feed your soul, and lift up your community.

Ongoing and Upcoming Lifelong Learning Opportunities:

- MLRT's Adult Confirmation Class every Thursday begins on October 9 at 12:00 pm
- Torah Study (weekly Torah portion) every Shabbat Morning
- Women's Torah Commentary Class with Cantor Rudnick every Wednesday returns on September 3
- Antisemitism and Israel for Interfaith Couples with Rabbi Mollo begins on Sunday, September 14, 2025
- Jewish Book Council speakers, demos, and events throughout the year for children and adults.

Ongoing/Upcoming Tikkun Olam Network Opportunities:

- ◇ Volunteer at the Mitzvah Circle Foundation - September 11 and October 9 from 9:30 am-12:00 pm

- ◇ Donate non-perishable food to our annual High Holy Day Food Drive - September 22 - October 2 for the Ardmore Food Pantry.
- ◇ Suk"coat" Drive - Donate gently used and new winter coats through Thanksgiving for Lower Merion Cares and The Mitzvah Circle Foundation.
- ◇ RAC-PA House Meetings in October - attend, share, and help create positive and lasting change for Greater Philadelphia.

May our High Holy Days and the programs and actions they inspire help each of us to find our rhythm for the new year: a rhythm that gives us greater empathy, a hunger for learning, and a passion for doing, belonging, and building.

L'SHANA TOVA TIKATEIVU! May you and your loved ones be inscribed for a year of blessing!



Packing for Box Lunch & A Book

**MLRT'S ADULT
CONFIRMATION CLASS!**

**EMBARK ON A YEAR-LONG JOURNEY THROUGH
JEWISH THEOLOGY, ETHICS, LITURGY, AND TRADITION
WITH RABBI GERI NEWBURGE, CANTOR FARYN RUDNICK,
RABBI ERIC MOLLO, AND RABBI KEVIN KLEINMAN**

CLASSES ALSO
AVAILABLE VIA
 ZOOM

ASK THE BIG QUESTIONS
 STUDY SACRED TEXTS
 CO-LEAD A CONFIRMATION SERVICE
 LEGACY PICTURE ON THE WALL
 FINALLY LEARN HOW MANY CIRCLES THERE ARE
ON THE SANCTUARY CEILING

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER

**THE CLIMB BEGINS OCTOBER 9, 2025
@ 12:00PM**

Both Welcome | Be Inspired | Be Connected | Doing Good

IN THESE PAGES

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TRAILBLAZERS AND MUSIC MAKERS

Cantor Faryn Rudnick frudnick@mlrt.org

It has officially been 50 years since the inclusion of women in the Cantorate. In 1970, a young but strong future cantor, Barbara Ostfeld, entered the School of Sacred Music at HUC-JIR, where she faced challenge after challenge as the only female in the Cantorial program. During her five years of study, leading to her historic and ground-breaking ordination in 1975, Ostfeld was ostracized, told not to sing – not because of her voice, which is gorgeous, but because a women's voice had no place among the men's – faced sexism, institutional discomfort, and inequality as the lone female in the centuries' long male-dominated field.



Barbara Ostfeld's historic ordination in 1975 as America's first female cantor.

She survived, and went on to have an illustrious career, pave the path for myself and my classmates, and inspire countless generations of both female and male future cantors.

If we charted the trends of those enrolling in Cantorial School at Hebrew Union College beginning in 1970, we would find incredible peaks of the number of females enrolling and being ordained. Since Cantor Ostfeld's ordination in 1975, the majority of Cantorial classes at HUC-JIR have been female dominated.

Throughout 2025, the American Conference of Cantors has celebrated this incredible milestone. There has been a publication of music from prolific female composers, a concert that celebrated the first generation of female Cantors, and finally, a publication from UCLA's Stories of Music specifically celebrating 50 years of women in the Cantorate and the impact of females on the Cantorate. I have had the great privilege of working with the team at UCLA for the past year as we worked on this publication. And I

promise we will use this as an adult education program – it's too good to not utilize.

So why is this milestone so important? It might be easy for us at MLRT to take for granted the hard work that went into females having a place at the proverbial table. We here are blessed to have strong and competent females in leadership and we don't question it. But 50 years ago, 40 years ago, 30 years ago, and even in recent history, people have questioned it. We as a Jewish community need to celebrate the trailblazers that have impacted our community, those who have quietly pushed the goal post a little farther to make room for all those who have been marginalized.



Cantor Rudnick being installed as Secretary on the Executive Board of the American Conference of Cantors this June.

With the High Holy Days upon us, and soon the end of the secular year of 2025, my hope and prayer for each of you is that you find something to celebrate and something important to fight for. May you all find your purpose, as Cantor Ostfeld did those years ago, and may you always find the strength to fight for your place at the table. *Shana tova u'metukah*. Jack, Hannah, George, and I wish you all a beautiful holiday season, and a happy and healthy 5786.

MLRT'S YOUTH CHOIR FOR K-5

Junior Jammers

Junior Jammers meet to bring music to our MLRT community, the Lower Merion community, and, most importantly, to have fun while learning new music and musical skills.

REHEARSALS AT MLRT | 8:30 AM ON SUNDAYS

Form Friendships | Musical Events throughout the Year | Shabbat Appearances | Make a Music Video

EMAIL CANTOR RUDNICK TO JOIN!
FRUDNICK@MLRT.ORG



To learn more about Cantor Ostfeld's journey, read her book, Catbird: The Story of Barbi Prim.



For Stories of Music, please visit tinyurl.com/somHU25

MEANWHILE, AT MLRT...



MLRT Beer and Wine Social Club

Raise your glasses - we're back!

September 14- Whole Foods, Wynnewood

October 19- Tired Hand's Fermentaria

November 2- Rabbi Newburge's House

Questions about these 7:00 pm fall dates?

Contact Rabbi Newburge at gnewburge@mlrt.org

PEANUTS x American Red Cross

Be a friend
Give blood.



You'll do a happy dance for this: The Red Cross & PEANUTS® are joining forces again!

Come give blood, platelets, or plasma and get an exclusive Red Cross x PEANUTS mystery bag with 1 of 4 special tee designs, while they last.

1:00 - 6:00 pm on September 4

Book an appointment for the drive at MLRT now: rcblood.org/donate



A STORY OF SURVIVAL



The unforgettable story of Rachel Zelmanowicz-Olewski time in Auschwitz, presented by MLRT, Adath Israel, and Or Zarua


RACHEL'S MANDOLIN

As a young woman, Rachel played the mandolin in the Auschwitz women's orchestra under the famous violinist and conductor Alma Rose. Rachel's story is of a heroic survival in Auschwitz through the power of her mandolin music. She was liberated in Bergen-Belsen and later raised a family in Israel until she passed away in 1987. This concert is about her personally and about the untold story of the mandolin during the Holocaust.

Rachel's Mandolin will be played by Duo Mantar: two virtuosos, American classical guitarist, Adam Levin, and Israeli Mandolinist, Jacob Reuven.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

410 MONTGOMERY AVE, WYNNEWOOD

 \$10/person. Register AT MLRT.ORGDUO25

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786

As we begin the Jewish New Year 5786, we cannot ignore the unprecedented year we just experienced and witnessed. The challenges the Jewish world faced (and still faces) are unlike anything we have known. Now, gathering as a community, we pause to reflect on these communal challenges as well as our personal conduct and struggles to focus on what lies ahead, our hopes and determination for a better future for ourselves and all humankind.

One of the new security measures we have put in place this year is to ask each of our attendees to wear name tags while at High Holy Day services. These name tags will serve as your High Holy Day tickets.



The wearing of name tags ensures that our security team is able to easily identify who should be in the building at all times. It also enables us to create a more welcoming environment by being able to address each other personally by name. At a time when the world can seem unsettled, wearing a name tag may allow us to connect with each other in a more meaningful way.

These name tags will be available for pickup during business hours in the MLRT office between September 8 and September 19. If you are unable to pick them up during those two weeks, we will have them available at will call immediately before services begin on September 22, September 23, October 1, and October 2.

The High Holy Days offer us the opportunity to consider the sacredness of our traditions and our purpose in the world. As we come together to consecrate the new year, continuing the heritage and values established by our ancestors, the High Holy Days remind us to reach a little deeper in the new year as we gather for comfort, inspiration and fellowship found with friends and community.

May the sounds of the shofar, the prayers of our hearts, and the wisdom of tradition lift our hearts and minds in 5786. May you and your loved ones be inscribed for a year of good health, friendship, and love.

All services will be streamed live online except for Tashlich. Study Sessions will be on Zoom at their scheduled times and available to watch after the holiday. Service passwords will be emailed to members prior to Erev Rosh Hashanah.

NAME TAGS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL SERVICES, EXCEPT SELICHOT AND TASHLICH.

Email Lynne Balaban, Executive Director, at lbababan@mlrt.org with any security questions or concerns.

All services will be led by our clergy team and Dr. Ari Sussman, with the addition of Ross M. Levy & The Levites for the Contemporary & Family Services and Mihaela Schwartz for the Family Services



Rabbi Geri Newburge



Rabbi Eric Mollo



Cantor Faryn Rudnick



Rabbi Kevin Kleinman



Dr. Ari Sussman
Music Director



Ross M. Levy
Youth Director



Mihaela Schwartz
ECE Director

COMMUNITY SELICHOT SERVICE & PROGRAM

Saturday, September 13 at 7:45 pm at Beth David (1130 Vaughan Ln, Gladwyne)

This late-night learning and prayer experience brings together the Jewish community from across the Main Line virtually or in person at Beth David for a meaningful prelude to the High Holy Days. We will begin with Havdalah and offer teaching sessions with the rabbis and cantors from our local congregations (including our very own!) This evening will conclude with a communal Selichot service to set the tone for the upcoming holy days.

Visit mlrt.org/hhd5786 to join in from home

NAME TAG TICKETS
NOT REQUIRED!

SECURITY

We are following enhanced security recommendations from Secure Community Network and the Department of Homeland Security. Please wear your name tag at all times while in the building to ensure security is easily able to identify you as belonging in our services. Children under the age of 13 will not need name tags.

Police and security guards will patrol inside and outside our services. Please remember to wear your name tag to all services, except Selichot and Tashlich.

GUEST & RECIPROCAL TICKETS

We offer guest tickets for parents, siblings, or immediate family members who reside more than 50 miles from MLRT for \$118 each. Please contact the Temple Office at 610-649-7800 for more information and to purchase guest tickets.

If you wish to worship at another Reform congregation, please contact Laurie Silverman at lsilverman@mlrt.org with the name and address of the temple you wish to attend - she will send proof of your membership. Please be sure to contact the temple you wish to attend directly before requesting reciprocal tickets from MLRT.

INCLUSION

We strive for inclusion and participation of all people in our religious, spiritual, and communal life. MLRT and LMHS are both fully wheelchair accessible and our ushers are happy to help you find seating. Our Morganroth Sanctuary is equipped with a T-coil hearing loop for those with hearing difficulties. Outside the Sanctuary is a Courtesy Cart, filled with fidget toys, magnifiers, hearing protection earmuffs, a weighted blanket, and more.

Help us be a truly welcoming community by understanding that prayer comes in many forms. Please be appreciative that noise may be a method of communication and not a disruption.

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Monday, September 22 7:30 pm Welcome the High Holy Days at a sundown service.

*Unless otherwise noted, all services will take place at MLRT and require name tags.

ROSH HASHANAH - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

9:00 AM

Traditional Service

Our Traditional Service will focus on the prayers and melodies handed down generations ago.

11:15 AM AT LMHS

Contemporary Service

Welcome the High Holy Days with innovative and highly participatory visual prayer and music.

3:15 PM

Family Service & Activity

Designed for our youngest children and their families to pray together with themes of the High Holy days highlighted through stories and songs. Activities led by ECE & Religious School staff will take place immediately following services. Adults must be present at all times.

TASHLICH AT SHORTRIDGE PARK

(Shortridge Drive between Remington Road & E. Wynnewood Road in Wynnewood)

This is a family-friendly custom, so bring everyone - even the dog - to Shortridge Park for this in person-only service! Bring some bread to cast away your "sins" from the year.

4:30 PM ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:30 AM AT RHP

Family Program

Explore the magical world around us with Rabbis Newburge and Kleinman as we focus the theme of creation, an inherent part of our Rosh Hashanah observance. Off-site at Rolling Hill Park (1301 Rose Glen Rd, Gladwyne)

10:00 AM

Study Session

Our Yearly Wake Up Call: The Shofar Service Explored with Rabbi Mollo & Cantor Rudnick.

In person and online.

EREV YOM KIPPUR - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:00 pm Kol Nidre in the Sanctuary

On Erev Yom Kippur, the prayer Kol Nidre, meaning "All Vows," is chanted at the start of the service. It sets the tone for the holiest day of our year, Yom Kippur.

YOM KIPPUR - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00 am

Traditional Service & Brief Yizkor

Our Traditional Service focuses on introspection, repentance, and community with specific prayers, a brief Yizkor Service, Torah readings, and unique rituals. It is designed to help individuals reflect on the past year, seek forgiveness, and strive for personal and spiritual growth.

11:30 am at LMHS

Contemporary Service & Brief Yizkor

Our Contemporary Service offers a modern take on High Holy Day observances, incorporating innovative visual prayer, music, participatory elements, and a brief Yizkor (Remembrance) service.

2:30 pm

Study Session

Spend Yom Kippur afternoon in thoughtful study with Rabbi Richard Steinbrink as he leads this year's study session: **Jewish Principles Which Trump The Present National Standards.**

No ticket required

3:15 pm

Family Service & Activity

Our Family Services are interactive, uplifting, and engaging. The music, Torah reading, and story time are accessible, participatory, and inspirational - all aimed at the children's level. Adults will find them meaningful too (and must be present at all times!)

4:00 pm

Mincha

The ark will be open for personal prayer during this afternoon service.

4:45 pm

Full Yizkor Service

In this prayer, we implore God to remember the souls of our relatives and friends that have passed on. When we recite Yizkor, we renew and strengthen the connection between us and our loved ones, bringing honor to the departed souls, elevating them in their celestial homes.

*Unless otherwise noted, all services will take place at MLRT and require name tags.

5:30 pm

Service of Healing

Our Healing Service offers contemporary poetry readings, inspirational music, and the opportunity to reflect on the challenges and difficulties of the past year. In our darkest moments, we reach inward, outward, and upward to seek divine intervention and comfort.

6:00 pm

Ne'ilah followed by Break-Fast

Ne'ilah means "closing the gate." We are sealed in the Book of Life, granting us a new year replete with goodness and happiness. The service ends with a long blast of the shofar.

Join us for a delicious break-fast immediately following the Ne'ilah Service. RSVP to Laurie Silverman before September 12 at 610-649-7800 or lsilverman@mlrt.org.



Parking space is very limited during the High Holy Days. Preference will be given to those with disability parking placards and/or who require special assistance. If you fall into those categories, please call the Temple Office at 610-649-7800 to reserve a spot.

You may drop off passengers at MLRT and then park at LMHS. Family members may save one seat for their driver. Local parking restrictions will be enforced. Please allow yourself enough time to park and find seats. Parking is also available at All Saints Church diagonally across Montgomery Avenue as space allows. Out of security concerns, there will be no MLRT signage at LMHS or the church.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE COOPERATE WITH OUR PARKING ATTENDANTS, POLICE, SECURITY GUARDS, STAFF, AND USHERS.



Borrowing Prayerbooks

MLRT members who plan to participate in services virtually may borrow a prayerbook. Please stop by the Temple Office or call 610-649-7800 to make arrangements for pickup.

Prayer books must be returned after the holidays.

Sukkot Festival Services

Tuesday, October 7
10:00 am Morning Service



Tuesday, October 14
10:00 am Sukkot/Simchat Torah
Festival Service with Yizkor
Kiddush to follow!



MLRT HIGH HOLY DAY FOOD DRIVE

September 22 - October 2

Help fill the Ardmore Food Pantry shelves
with non-perishable food donations.

Most requested items include:

- Coffee
- Canned Meat
- Canned Tuna
- Bread
- Peanut Butter
- Granola Bars
- Snacks
- Hearty Soup

Drop off donations at MLRT in the Hausen
Auditorium. Thank you!

TIKKUN OLAM NETWORK SUK"COAT" DRIVE

When you see the naked, clothe them - Isaiah 58:7

Between the first day of Sukkot (October 6) and Thanksgiving (November 27) please consider donating gently used and new winter coats for children and adults in need. Donated coats will be distributed through Lower Merion Cares and The Mitzvah Circle Foundation. Donations can be dropped off in the vestibule.

Questions about MLRT's Tikkun Olam Network and Social Justice initiatives? Email Rabbi Mollo at emollo@mlrt.org.



NO LULAV?
NO PROBLEM!

**SHAKE IT IN THE
MLRT SUKKAH!**

WELCOME TO MLRT - WE'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR YOU!

Come before services on Friday, October 10, at
5:45 pm and fulfill the mitzvah of Lulav & Etrog.

Stay after services for another opportunity to
shake at the New Member oneg.



L'Shana Tova!

Send MLRT Clergy &
Staff High Holy Days
5786 Greetings
Sisterhood makes it easy

**We hope you will join us by sending new
year greetings to our hard-working staff.**

For a minimum donation of \$18, we will add your name and good wishes to these much needed and much appreciated holiday greetings to the Clergy and Senior Staff. A \$36 donation will send greetings to all MLRT staff. Donations of at least \$50 send greetings to all MLRT Staff and help further support Women of Reform Judaism's YES Fund. Giving over \$100 does all the aforementioned AND makes you an MLRT and WRJ superstar!

This annual fundraiser for WRJ's YES Fund provides grants for Youth - Programs for high school and college students, Education - Rabbinic and Cantorial scholarships, and Special Projects - Local, national, and international Reform Judaism programs. Your participation shows our MLRT family how much you care AND makes a gift to the future of our Reform movement.



Please pay online at mlrt.org/sisterhood or send your (minimum \$18) check, payable to MLRT Sisterhood, to 410 Montgomery Ave., Wynnewood, PA 19096, c/o Cheryl Harper, no later than September 26.

Questions? Contact Cheryl Harper charperartist@gmail.com



PURSUE JUSTICE FOR OUR STUDENTS WITH RAC-PA THIS HIGH HOLY DAY SEASON

Throughout the High Holy Days, everyone is invited to sign on to letters urging our local school boards to adopt Welcoming Schools Policies that are meant to protect immigrant children and families so they feel safe, protected, and welcome in our schools.

By signing on, you will join our congregation in sending a message of compassion and commitment to our neighbors, ensuring that every child's right to education is respected.

Look out for the sign-on link in upcoming emails, in print materials, and on our website in the weeks ahead, and make your voice heard for our students! rac.org/wsp.

Contact Rabbi Mollo at emollo@mlrt.org to find out more and to get involved.



MLRT BROTHERHOOD'S ANNUAL

STEAKS IN THE SUKKAH

Wednesday, October 8

**Join your MLRT Brothers for
a delicious steak* dinner in
the Sukkah, complete with
drinks and great fun!**

REGISTER AT MLRT.ORG/BROTHERHOOD

Questions? Contact Gerry Robbins at
suppliesplus3@comcast.net

*Vegetarian option available

SAVE THE DATE!

SIMCHAT TORAH



DANCE PARTY



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

5:00 PM

COUPLES & CONVERSATION: ISRAEL AND ANTISEMITISM

This fall, MLRT is piloting an exciting new four-part series from 18Doors and the Anti-Defamation League, created especially for interfaith couples!

Over four Sunday mornings, September 14, September 21, October 5, and October 12, you'll join other couples in a warm, welcoming space to explore what antisemitism is, how it intersects with conversations about Israel, and how to support each other when antisemitism arises.

The sessions will be a mix of small group conversation, storytelling, and practical tools you can use in your everyday life. The program meets during Religious School hours, and space is limited to ensure meaningful dialogue.

For more information or to register, contact Rabbi Eric Mollo at emollo@mlrt.org.

Welcome to Religious School 2025-26!

Rabbi Kevin Kleinman kkleinman@mlrt.org

BRUCHIM HABAIM!

As the Director of Education, I am very excited for the year ahead. We have an amazing group of teachers and *madrachim* (teen assistants). Every grade level's curriculum has been updated - including field trips, *Mishpacha* (Family) Programs, and Shabbat Services.

Plus, there will be many times throughout the year for parents to get to know each other and our clergy. You will find the weekly Religious School schedule and important dates for the beginning of the year on this page. Please feel free to reach out to me directly if you have any questions.



PICTURE YOUR
FAMILY HERE ↓

Kindergarten-5th Grade Schedule - Sundays

8:45-9:00 am - Student Arrival

9:00-11:00 am - K-5th Grade Judaic Studies Class

11:00 am - K-2nd Grade Dismissal

11:00 am-12:00 pm - 3rd-5th Grade Hebrew Class

11:00 am-12:00 pm - K-2nd Grade After Care

12:00 pm - 3rd-5th Grade and After Care Dismissal

6th* and 7th Grade Schedule - Tuesdays

6:45-7:00 pm - Pizza Dinner

7:00-8:15 pm - Class

8:15 pm - Dismissal

*6th Grade will also attend on Sundays from 9:00 am-12:00 pm on these dates: 10/19, 11/9, 12/14, 2/1, 3/15, 4/26

JOIN US!

9/5 – Welcome Back ShaBBQ

9/7 – K-5th Grade Opening Day

9/9 – 6th and 7th Grade Opening Day

9/14 – K-2nd Grade Meet the Teachers

10/3 – 3rd Grade Family Shabbat

10/5 – 3rd-5th Grade Meet the Teachers

10/26 – 3rd Grade *Mishpacha* (Family) Program

Meridian Massage Therapy

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**Joint Trip to Israel with MLRT
& Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El**

Save the Dates: December 8-13, 2025

Contact Rabbi Newburge at gnewburge@mlrt.org with any questions about this exciting trip!

ART WITHIN A PURPOSE

Mihaela Schwartz mschwartz@mlrt.org

I have been following the ongoing discussion threads with great interest, where educators from various backgrounds and experiences passionately debate the differences between arts and crafts, particularly which should be emphasized for young children in the classroom. Many of my colleagues have expressed strong opinions in favor of including crafting activities. They argue that "Crafts provide an opportunity for all children to create equally," "Crafts help teach and practice fine motor skills," and "Families appreciate receiving special crafts during holidays like Christmas and Mother's Day."

It's essential to clarify the distinction between a craft and an art activity. A craft is typically a structured activity that follows a specific formula or recipe, resulting in a similar outcome for all participants. On the other hand, an art activity is more open-ended and allows for individual expression.

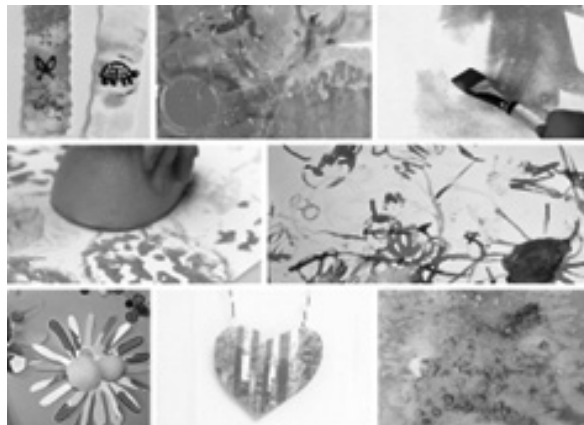
IT'S ABOUT THE PROCESS, NOT THE PRODUCT. IT'S ABOUT THE JOURNEY OF CREATION, NOT THE DESTINATION OF A FINISHED PIECE.

This distinction is crucial in understanding the value of open-ended art activities in early childhood education.



As I heard these supportive statements regarding the use of crafts in early years programs, I found myself on a mission to change the course of art activities and their purposes at MLRT ECE. For a few years, that mission felt too far from reality. But this year, that moment arrived and was made possible with the help of the MLRT Board of Trustees, colleagues, clergy, and admins, who understand the role of creating a niche for MLRT ECE aligned with meaningful art. This exciting shift, which we all eagerly anticipate, will take place in the brand-new art room. This space symbolizes the future of art education at MLRT ECE and is a testament to our collective efforts. I am grateful for your support and look forward to our continued collaboration in this transformative journey.


As a progressive early childhood educator, I have always encouraged my students to use the materials available in our classroom arts centers—such as music, drama, and visual arts—in ways that are uniquely their own. We rarely concentrate on the shape or form of the final product; instead, we celebrate the experiences of exploring and creating with the appropriate tools and materials. While we welcome appreciation from an audience for our classroom activities, our primary goal is to empower each child and nurture their individuality.



silkcounselinggroup.com

Proud member of the
MLRT community


Located in Haverford



LUNCH WITH THE RABBI

Fill your soul and your stomach during the monthly lunch & learn with Rabbi Newburge.

12:00 pm September 8 12:00 pm October 20



BERNIE KLEINMAN BOOK CLUB

The Little Liar by Mitch Albom

7:30 pm September 16

WEDNESDAYS

9:30 am - Adult Education: Women's Commentary

Join a group of curious minds to explore the Torah through the lens of the Women's Commentary with Cantor Rudnick in person or on Zoom.

SATURDAYS

9:00 am - Torah Study


Each week, our clergy lead us in lively discussion as we read from the Parsha, or weekly portion, and learn about its context and history. All are welcome to join us in person or on Zoom.



KEEPING IT REEL

Discuss a Netflix movie with Rabbi Newburge at 8:00 pm on Mondays every month on Zoom!

September 29 <u>Nonnas</u>	October 20 <u>Apocalypse in the Tropics</u>
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SHABBAT MORNING WALK

Soak up spirituality and nature during this monthly walk with Rabbi Newburge!

9:00 am October 4
Barmouth Trailhead at the Cynwyd Heritage Trail

Visit mlrt.org/calendar for the most up-to-date information, more details, and virtual program links. All programs subject to change.

SISTERHOOD

Amy Silverman sisterhood@mlrt.org

I am Amy Silverman and I have the privilege of serving as the new president of our Main Line Reform Temple Sisterhood. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Sue Rubin Plick, for her wonderful leadership and I would like to thank all the members of our board, those who have recently stepped off, those remaining and those who are new.

I believe we have an exceptional group of women in our Sisterhood and I am so looking forward to working with them and sharing in our many varied and enjoyable activities throughout this upcoming year. I would like to encourage you to make this the year to get involved with Sisterhood. There are activities for everyone.

We have opportunities to provide service to area non-profits, to help with our fundraisers for MLRT like our Shalach Manot and Bargain Boutique and to help with our annual staff lunch.

We have arts & crafts pop ups, exercise pop ups, luncheon get togethers at area restaurants, occasional Broadway trips, an engaging annual book review luncheon with the author, interesting speakers and an annual Sisterhood Shabbat.

We have opportunities to join in with our umbrella organization, WRJ, both regionally and nationally.

We have our always fun and entertaining opening, paid up membership and closing events. Speaking of opening events, this year's event is on October 16 at 6:30 pm and the theme is, "Back to Your Bat Mitzvah". Please join us. I look forward to meeting and greeting those who are old and new to Sisterhood and those who are curious about Sisterhood.

To my fellow sisters and to the Main Line Reform Temple community at large, *L'Shana Tova Tikatevu*.

Geri Newburge
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gnewburge@mlrt.org

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Rabbi
emollo@mlrt.org

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Cantor
frudnick@mlrt.org

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TWO PIECES OF GOOD NEWS TO REPORT FROM ISRAEL

Jacqueline Shulman
jzshul@gmail.com

1. Two former Israeli hostages, Sapir Cohen and Alexander (Sasha) Tourfarsov just got engaged. On October 7, 2023, Sapir was visiting her boyfriend, Sasha during the Simchat Torah holiday at their home in Kibbutz Nir Oz. Sasha had lived at the kibbutz since he was a child with his mother, Lena, his father Vitaly and his grandmother Irena Tati. On October 7, Sasha, Lena, Irena and Sapir were captured by Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad and taken to Gaza. Sadly, Vitaly was murdered that day. Sapir, Lena and Irena were held hostage for 55 days before being released as part of the first hostage deal in late November, 2023. Sasha was held for 16 months before being returned as part of the March, 2025 hostage deal. In the beginning of

July, the couple who were reunited against all odds, became engaged. It happened by the ocean in California while they were touring the United States and telling the story of their survival. A hearty mazal tov to Sapir and Sasha on their wonderful news!

2. For everyone considering travel to Israel, last fall, Air Haifa became Israel's first new commercial airline in thirty years. It is also the first airline based in Northern Israel, although it couldn't operate out of Haifa initially due to the conflict with Lebanon. Rather than miss the winter holiday travel season, Air Haifa began its flights in and out of Israel's main airport, Ben-Gurion near Tel Aviv until the January, 2025 ceasefire enabled the reopening of Haifa's airport. Today, Air Haifa is a low cost carrier that offers one-way fares and flies its three twin-engine turboprops from Haifa to Athens, Eilat and two Cypriot cities (Larnaca and Paphos), all popular tourist spots for Israelis. It hopes to add a fourth aircraft to its fleet this summer. Yasher Koach to the folks at Air Haifa for finding a way to make good things happen during a very challenging time.

BROTHERHOOD

David Krupnick brotherhood@mlrt.org

I am very proud to once again author the MLRT Brotherhood Bulletin submission, as we begin the new season of 5786. The High Holy Days have always evoked a spirit of renewal in myself and family. I have fond childhood memories of walking to shul with my brothers and parents. It was great to reconnect with friends in Junior Congregation in the synagogue's lower level, while the grown-ups prayed in the sanctuary upstairs. I vividly recall leaving Yom Kippur services in the early afternoon of October 6, 1973. Israel was attacked by Egypt and Syria on its holiest day, on what would become known as the Yom Kippur War. Over 2,600 Israeli soldiers died over the approximately three-week war.

The congregants lingered around the building and sanctuary. Many families, like mine, had close relatives in Israel. The Rabbi shared what limited information he had. We were all in a state of shock and disbelief. Over the next few days, we returned to the synagogue. Community leaders gave impassioned speeches asking for financial and moral support. Though it took a tragic attack for it to happen, it was the first time I felt real sense of community and belonging. To this day, I still find that feeling as relevant as ever.

I thought of those events in reflecting on today's uncertain times. Having a sense of community, whatever it may mean to you, seems even more important than ever. Please consider active participation in Brotherhood or other MLRT groups as part of your community and belonging. We are also open to exploring new experiences and ideas as an organization and seek your valuable input.

Over the summer, Brotherhood once again sold pizza and drinks at the annual Narberth July 4 Celebration, with proceeds being donated to charity. A special thanks to Brotherhood's Gerry Robbins, Mark Komen, Glenn Brooks and Michael Scheinfeld for running the pizza concession throughout the hot day.



Upcoming events include a Men's Night Out Dinner (MNO) and Meeting on Monday, September 8 at 6:00 pm at Sang Kee in Wynnewood, followed by a Texas Hold Em card night at MLRT at 6:30 pm on Thursday, September 18. Please join us on Sunday, October 5 at 9:00 am, as we erect the MLRT Sukkah (lox and bagel breakfast included), followed by the always delicious Steaks in the Sukkah dinner at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, October 8. We'll take down the Sukkah at 9:00 am on Sunday, October 19 (lox and bagel breakfast included) and have another Men's Night Out at 6:00 pm on Thursday, November 13 at Gulifty's Restaurant in Rosemont.

Our final event of 2025 will be a Texas Hold Em card night at MLRT at 6:30 pm on Monday, December 8. In addition, the previously postponed Annual Brotherhood Charity Golf Outing is tentatively scheduled for June, 2026 at a local country club.

Wishing you all a Chag Sameach and G'Mar Chatima Tova (a good final sealing in the Book of Life) and Joyous 5786!

MLRT Sisterhood invites you to travel

Back to Your Bat Mitzvah!

Our Opening Event will take place on Thursday,
September 16. Be there to celebrate!

Look for more information in your inbox and on mlrt.org/sisterhood

SUMMER PROJECTS UPDATE AT MLRT

As summer begins to wind down, we're excited to share the progress being made on several important projects around MLRT. These updates will not only refresh our spaces but also enhance the ways our community can gather, learn, and connect.

ALC1

The work in ALC1 is now complete! The bookcases once located in the library have been carefully reinstalled where the closets and display cases used to be. LED lights have been installed in the ceiling replacing the older, dim fluorescent lights. The walls are now painted in a soft light gray with crisp trim, window sills, and bookcases in a complementary off-white shade. The result is a bright, clean, and welcoming space ready for meetings, education events, and so much more.

LIBRARY CONVERSION

One of the largest projects has been the transformation of the library into two new classrooms. Considerable progress has been made: walls painted, drop ceilings installed, fire sprinklers adjusted, and brand-new lighting fixtures put in place. Before school begins, final touches will be completed—including new tile flooring, cove base, cabinets, a sink, and window blinds. We look forward to using these new classrooms during the new school year ahead.

HAUSEN & ALCOVE

Both the Hausen and the adjoining Alcove have also received a fresh coat of paint, creating a consistent and refreshed look. In addition, new lighting fixtures have arrived—six pendant lights, eight flush mounts, and three wall sconces. Installation includes new dimmer switches to set just the right mood for all types of gatherings.

THE BIMAH, CLASSROOM FLOORS, AND DOORS OH MY!

The bimah hardwood floors, as well as all the classroom tile floors, have all been waxed and polished.

Several new exterior doors in the preschool wing have been replaced.

Closets and storage areas have been cleaned and organized, and after donating what we could to other causes, a large dumpster was filled with items that were no longer usable or in good working order. New LED lights were installed in the hallway outside the office and ALC 1.

It is clear to see from all of these projects, that it is never quiet in the summertime at MLRT.



MAZALTOV

TO OUR MAY - AUGUST B'NAI MITZVAH

LEILA Daughter of Heather & Brett Stecker	MAX Son of Amanda & Paul Charney	SHANE Son of Tobi & Alex Epstein	ELIANA Daughter of Rebecca & Asaf Peleg
JORDYN Daughter of Kristin & Scott Rubens	DAHLIA Daughter of Andrea & Nim Drechsler	JONAH Son of Laurie & Andrew Finger	GAVIN Son of Marci & Jason Luty

UPCOMING B'NAI MITZVAH... CELEBRATE WITH US!

9/6	Penelope Peedin	10/4	Reuben Bobrow-Thirumurthy
9/13	Natalie Gittens	10/11	Zachary Simon & Mitchell Barg (pm)
9/20	Nathaniel Lamm	10/18	Lila Richter & Jamie Pesin (pm)
9/27	Mikayla Avera-Breslin	10/25	Leah Shusterman & Zachary Wertman Morgan and Heath Sirover (pm)

Shabbat BBQ

Main Line Reform Temple-Beth Elohim

Friday, September 5

5:15 pm • BBQ food, fun & music from the Chaperones
 6:30 pm • Service followed by dessert & more live music

\$10 per person. Register by September 2 at mlrt.org/shabbq25

MAZAL TOV!

A SIMCHA SHARED IS A SIMCHA DOUBLED.

We want to be a part of your life!
Please email Davida Chornock,
Director of Marketing & Communications,
at dchornock@mlrt.org so we can share your
news, good and bad, with our MLRT Family.

Corrine Chernich & Daniel Ward on their recent marriage

Carole Ginsburg & Richard Cutler on their recent marriage

Marc (Tracy) Ginsburg on the marriage of his sister, Carole Ginsburg

Marcy Hoffman on the birth of her great-grandchild, Anna Claire Settle

Sarah Hoffman on her engagement to Charles Butler

Renee Margulies on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Sloane Ivy Kennedy

Ellen & Herb Markman on the engagement of their granddaughter, Hope Markman, to Ryan Suder

Kate & Tony Schweiger on the birth of their first grandchild, Rhea Winn Schweiger

Eric & Robin Settle on the birth of their first grandchild, Anna Claire Settle

NEW MEMBER SHABBAT

at Main Line Reform Temple

Friday, October 10

**5:45 pm Welcome snacks
in the sukkah***

**6:30 pm Services, followed
by a special oneg!**

Please email Renee Strausberg, Director of Member
Engagement, at rstrausberg@mlrt.org with questions.

*weather permitting



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For the young people entering the world as adults

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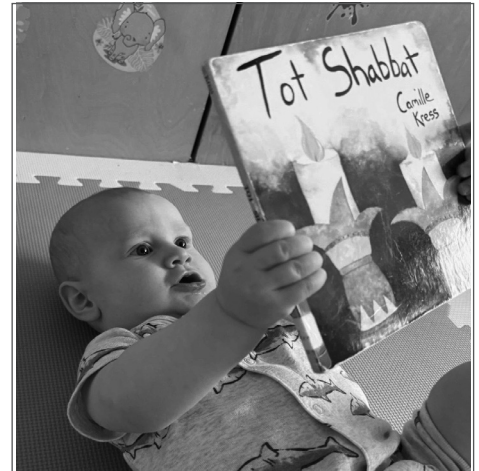
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Your donations help ensure the future of
Judaism is bright and strong!

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Bracha & David Camron's 50 years of dedication
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MLRT Sisterhood



*Your donations made a summer at
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In honor of the marriage of Leigh Steinberg & Max Kanefield

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In memory of Doris Parker

Merle Zucker

In memory of Drusilla Greenblatt

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The following donations were made in honor of Bracha & David Camron: Marilyn & Ken Eisenberg, Gloria Goldberg, The Kelman Family, Fay & Ted Mushlin, Cindy & Jeffrey Ruben, Amy & Robert Silverman, Sharon Snyder, and Bette & Shel Steinberg

Anonymous

In memory of Maisie Hodes Wood

Jackie & Rich Shulman

David and Bracha 50 years of bringing light and education to MLRT's youth

Susan & Alan Silverberg

SECURITY FUND

David, Danielle and Brooke Krupnick
In honor of Rabbi Aaron and Dr. Helene Krupnick, on the birth of their grandson, Erez Fredric Krupnick

Susan & Alan Silverberg

SISTERHOOD FUND

Norma & Stephen Bolden

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Debbie Cohen & Howard Weinstock

In memory of Devorah Kendall

Sarah Coslov

In honor of Mary Kamplain becoming President of MLRT

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*In honor of the birth of Robin & Eric Settle's granddaughter, Anna
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SOCIAL ACTION FUND

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In memory of Michael Saperstein

SPEAKER SERIES FUND

Anonymous

In memory of Dr. Barry Sockel

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In memory of Benjamin Green

If you have any questions about your contribution or listing, please contact Davida Chornock at dchornock@mlrt.org



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For more information, please contact Mary Kamplain, our Temple President at president@mlrt.org, our Executive Director, Lynne Balaban, at lbaban@mlrt.org, or our Senior Rabbi, Rabbi Geri Newburge, at gnewburge@mlrt.org

WE EXTEND CONDOLENCES TO MEMBERS OF OUR

Claude de Botton

Husband of Joyce de Botton; Father of Paul (Andrea) de Botton, Yvette (Christopher) Pecoraro, and Nicole de Botton Robinson (Rob Langer); Grandfather of Alessandra (AJ) Pitkow, Ariel (Matt) Manning, Claudia (Andrew) O'Leary, Will Robinson, Michelle (Andrew) Wood, Maggie (Jake) Langer, Brooke Robinson, Alycia Pecoraro, Michael de Botton, Jack Robinson, and Danielle de Botton; Great-grandfather of five

Margaret "Peg" Facey Collins

Sister of Howard (Missy) Johnson and Lissa (Bill) Little; Aunt of Asher, Samara, and Toby Johnson; Wife of Richard Buck Collins; Mother of Matthew (Janelle) Facey

Deenah R. Ersner

Mother of Arthur (Rachel) Ersner and Robin (Seth) Ersner-Hershfield; Wife of the late Albert Ersner; Sister of the late Morrie Rosoff (Miriam; Grandmother of Lauren (Sal) Ersner, Hal (Jennifer) Hershfield, Jill (Daniel) Litwin, Emily (Daniel) Joseph, and Samantha DiFelicianantonio; Great-grandmother of Jonathan, William, Hayes, Smith, Alexander, Simon, Joshua, Mia, and Isla

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Brother of Richard Green, Arlin (Paula) Green, Alison (Mike) Imbergamo, Samuel (Annie Leiman) Green, Michael (Meriah Schoen) Green, Danielle (Andrew Duncan) Rodriguez, Brittany (Brandon Diez) Rodriguez, and Lisa Green; Uncle of Brittany (Ross) Daniels, Julia Green, and Jeffrey (Sabrina) Green; Husband of Barbara A. Canalley; Father of Charles S.A. Green; Great-uncle of eight nieces and nephews

Norman Lee Gutman

Husband of Gail Gutman (nee Price) and the late Phyllis Gutman (nee Glaser; Father of Jonathan Gutman (Amy), Thomas Gutman (Elaine), and the late Amy Ingber; Father in Law of Rick Ingber (Phyllis); Step-father of Brad Kauffman (Joan), Margie Sherr (Anthony), and Robert Kauffman (Stacy); Brother of William Gutman and Sylvia Jacobson; Grandfather and Great-grandfather to many

Mark Halpern

Son of Bobbie Halpern and the late Terry Halpern; Husband of Mindy Halpern; Father of Jessica (Justin) Meltzer, Emily (Brandon) Fox, and Eric Halpern; Grandfather of Aron, Noa, and Sadie; Brother of David (Joy) Halpern, Gary (Terri) Halpern, and Robin (James) Halpern

Martin Katzin

Father of Florence (Paul) Himmel; Grandfather of Jillian and Sofia Himmel; Husband of the late Jessica Katzin; Partner of Carole Krassner

Sally Sirkin Levine

Mother of Marci (Rick) Herman and Alan Levine (Mandy Steier); Wife of the late Robert Levine; Grandmother of Andrew (Laura) and Jessica (Max); Great-grandmother of Leo Herman

Joanne Lee Pachter

Wife of George Pachter; Mother of Thomas Pachter

Mark Howard Rawdin

Brother of David Rawdin; Partner of Andrea Martarano; Brother of Penny (Paul) Rawdin Anderson and Nancy (Nicholas) Rawdin D'Argenio; Uncle of Adam, Elliot, and Zach Anderson, and Hannah D'Argenio

George Reiss

Father of Susan (Ray) Allen

COMMUNITY ON THE LOSS OF THEIR LOVED ONES

Dr. Barry Sockel

*Husband of Margie Sockel; Father of Harris Sockel;
Uncle of Melissa Friedman*

Neil Stein

*Father of Joshua Stein, Steven Stein, Helene Stein, and
Elyse Meyerson*

Evelyn Rome Tabas

*Grandmother of Brittany (Benjamin) Hakimfar; Great-
grandmother of Liv, Leo, and Lex*

Aron Wahrman

*Husband of Peggy Wahrman; Father of Rebecca,
Allison, Abe, Louis, Kyra, and Hope; Grandfather of
Ezra*

Edith Witte

*Mother of Barbara (Douglas) Schumer and Claudia
(Dr. Joel) Loewenstein; Grandmother of Ariel Schumer,
Suzanne Schumer (Matt Moore), Jacob (Yael)
Loewenstein and Dr. Joanna (Leon) Skornicki; Great-
grandmother of six*

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Visit mlrt.org to make a donation in their names.



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