



MONMOUTH REFORM TEMPLE

2016 Accomplishments and Challenges

SPIRITUALITY

New Services, New Resources, Many pathways



- Went Live with Live Streaming of Services!!
- Engaging High Holiday services
- Sukkot service at dawn
- Heart Healthy dose of Torah each week, Shabbat Haftorah Study
- Dedication of the Shoah Torah into our ark
- New service pamphlet for First Fridays, Justice Weekend, Men's Club/Sisterhood service
- Holiday Handbook
- Seeds of Spirituality
- 16 B'nai Mitzvahs

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

Significant Upgrades to Religious School



- Improved communication to parents with weekly emails from the Principal Fields; online presence for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter,
- Improved the Youth Learning section of the website
- Introduced a new program focused on developing Israel awareness and understanding
- Upgraded the Hebrew program including moving a high percentage of our Hebrew assessment to online learning
- Strengthened the Class Parent Group for better communication and more engaged community
- Initiated a review and assessment of the curriculum to revamp, re-energize and modernize the curriculum and administration over a 2-3 year period.
- Created a realistic budget that accounts for growth, enrichment, the layering in of technology, and security

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

Broad Program for Adult Enrichment

- Tuesday Morning Study Group
- Memoir Writing Session
- 2 Remarkable Holocaust Films of redemption
- Introduction to Judaism course
- Justice Weekend and Study Session
- Health Fair
- Shabbat Kallah – Rabbi Uri Regev
- Our Stories, Our Lives



SOCIAL ACTION

Multiple Initiatives to Fight Poverty in our Community

- Family Promise
- Gan Mazon
- The Center in Asbury Park
- Support for Lunch Break
- Shine a Light
- Mitzvah Day – coming next Sunday!!



SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

A Lively Year of Community Building



- First Friday services, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and sometimes 5th Fridays as well
- Sisterhood Book Club
- Havdalah at Rabbi and Lori's home
- Channukah party
- HeBrew Fest
- Sisterhood Out and Abouts
- Men's Club Monday night football, NCAA basketball, poker enthusiasts , golf gatherings
- Saturday morning Haftorah study

EVEN MORE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- Welcomed 15 new member families in 2016
- Active Marketing Committee provided significantly improved communication
- Increased use of Facebook and other social media
- Upgraded website in multiple areas
- Initiated Life and Legacy program to sustain and grow our mission

CHALLENGES

We Can Certainly Be Even Better



- Increased involvement of our MRT community
- Broader participation in Social Action programs
- Increased census of Mitzvah Academy and Confirmation Class
- Maintaining and Upgrading our building
- Financial contribution commensurate with our Fair Share foundation

THE COMMUNITY TO WHICH WE ASPIRE



- Engage our congregants so that each is fulfilled in her/his spiritual journey
- Be the go-to place for Judaic connection, experiences, and lifelong Jewish learning
- Have an accredited Religious School that effectively prepares our young people to lead meaningful, engaged, Jewish lives
- Provide more variety and innovation in our worship experiences
- Actively broaden our commitment to and demonstration of Tikun Olam
- Develop and nurture a meaningful relationship with Israel
- Successfully integrate our non-Jewish spouses so that all find an enriching experience at MRT