



THE MRT BULLETIN

Volume LVI Issue XI

June/July 2015

Sivan/Tammuz/Av
5775

The More Torah, The More Life
מרבה תורה, מרבה חיים

OPEN DOORS
OPEN MINDS

Schedule of Services June/July 2015

Friday, June 19th

7pm Shabbat Services
Leadership Development Training
Celebration

Friday, June 26th

Shabbat at 7 President's Park
6pm Dinner at the Shelter
7pm Service on the Beach
Bring Your Own Beach Chair
(inclement weather call via email by
2:30pm)

Friday, July 3rd

6pm Shabbat Services
Musical Accompaniment by
Mark Gruensfelder &
Sam Goodman

Friday, July 10th

6pm Shabbat Services
Sermon by Rabbi Sally J. Priesand

Friday, July 17th

6pm Shabbat Services
Sermon by Rabbi Sally J. Priesand

Friday, July 24th

6pm Shabbat Services
Musical Accompaniment by
The Hayet Family

Friday, July 31st

6pm Shabbat Services

Minyan and Torah Study at 9am
every Saturday morning in the MRT
Library.

Thank you....

When attending services and all other
events at MRT remember that people
around you are sensitive to sound, scent,
and distraction. Please always enjoy
being here in ways that help others
enjoy being here, too.

**Monmouth Reform Temple invites you to
share Shabbat with us at Seven Presidents
Oceanfront Park**

**221 Ocean Ave North
Long Branch, NJ
On Friday June 26th**

**BYO Picnic Dinner @ 6 pm at
The Shelter**

**Service @ 7 pm on the Beach
Bring Your Beach Chair**

*Join Rabbi Marc Kline, Cantor Gabrielle Clissold, and
our congregation for a unique Reform Jewish experience.*

**Please call the Temple Office
for more information**

**Monmouth Reform Temple
332 Hance Avenue * Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
(732) 747-9365 * www.monmouthreformtemple.org**



Monmouth Reform Temple
Tinton Falls, NJ



**Invite a friend to join us at
the Beach on June 26th!**
(Rain call at 2:30pm via email)

From the President, Jay Wiesenfeld Email: wiesenfeld@ieee.org



I am completing my term as President of MRT this month. I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve as President and for the confidence that you have placed in me. Before I share some reflections, let me praise the recently completed Mitzvah Day, and what it says about our congregation.

Rabbi Kline, who has a passion for social action, was immediately interested in reviving Mitzvah Day when he settled in at MRT. Marc and I spoke with Dean Ross, who is also passionate about social action, in October. Dean unhesitatingly agreed to chair Mitzvah Day. With the collaboration of Margie Wold, VP over Social Action, he formed the Mitzvah Day Committee, which included David Levinsky, Steve Gaudette, Cheryl Gaudette, Zach Gilstein, Bobbie Goldstein, Helaine Rothman, Lynn Shapiro, Barry Miller, Lloyd Fitzsimmons, Bonnie Klein, Gena Lande, Kerry Krachman, Maddy Kalb, and Sheila Levin. Over the course of six months this committee re-established Mitzvah Day, engaged our congregation and community, and created enthusiasm and good works, as described in a separate article in this bulletin.

All aspects of our congregation, and families from all age groups—with over 200 participants—came together. It is wonderful to see our congregation gather together, to do the good work of tikkun olam, and to strengthen our bonds of community. We continue to be a congregation that engages ourselves and the community with a presence that is remarkable for our size. I have heard the relevant quote that we are a “mighty small congregation.” I know that the work begun by Mitzvah Day is going to continue throughout the year and into a Mitzvah Day next year. I am proud to be associated with Mitzvah Day and a congregation that can do this. Thank you Dean, Margie, the Mitzvah Day committee, and MRT!

There is much change in our Jewish world right now, and we at MRT have experienced that in our own ways. During this time, we have maintained our strength and remarkable community as a congregation. Over the course of the past several years, we have proactively engaged with change, often using various task forces, beginning with the Atid Task Force. Via the task forces, we have been looking at the strengths of our congregational culture, at our financial and capital needs, reviewing from many perspectives the distinctions in our customs and constitution between Jewish and non-Jewish members in areas such as ritual practice and leadership, and considering the new uses of our library in a more digital age. With the engagement and leadership of Rabbi Kline, the Board is discussing how the mission of MRT will be refined and implemented in the years ahead. Rabbi Kline has completed an excellent, energetic first year, with passion and new insights. In partnership, our clergy, leadership, and membership are well poised to make us even more the caring, active, significant congregation that we know we are.

What has it been like to be President of MRT? It has been engaging, exhilarating, and satisfying. I have been able to know many more congregants than I did before my term, create new and strengthen old friendships, and hope that I have been able to lead in a beneficial way. The sense of family and community, and the earnest goodwill that has been the response of those with whom I have worked has been uplifting.

We are blessed with caring, insightful clergy, Rabbi Kline in partnership with Cantor Clissold, and a dedicated office staff, Helene and Mindy. I gratefully thank them all; they have supported me and together we have engaged in all aspects of our congregation's life. MRT is also blessed with an active, committed leadership, both on the Board and in our committees. The Board is absolutely dedicated to the well-being and future of our congregation and works diligently. Our lay leadership is a strength of MRT and I am honored to have served with this Board.

Zach Gilstein is ready to become President on July 1 and I know that MRT is in good hands. He will provide dynamic, forward-looking, steady, and wise leadership. Thank you Zach for saying “hineni.” I know you will have the support of our community as you move forward.

I lovingly thank my wife Kay, for supporting me while I have served as President. I have spent many more hours than I had expected and I am blessed to have her support and help.

I looked back at the first column I wrote for the bulletin, two years ago. In that column I said I would never be able to say thank you often enough and to enough people, and that is still true. So let me finish by saying THANK YOU to our wonderful congregation.

Summary of May 19th Board of Trustees meeting: from Jim Halpern, MRT Recording Sec'y

The Board of Trustees met on the evening of May 19, 2015 and would like to acknowledge positive happenings within our congregation.

Mitzvah Day was a great success with over 200 participants. Members of our congregation got together and performed many community service activities. We are especially proud of our children who participated. We had a farewell service for Vera Galleid, our School Principal who will be leaving us this summer. We celebrated Teacher Appreciation Day to thank the teachers who have dedicated themselves to working with our children. Our Flower Sale netted over \$670. Our Men's Club hosted a Mother's Day Breakfast. The Leadership Development Training held its last session this month. We are advertising for our Shabbat

Beach Service which will be held on June 26th. Our Annual Meeting was held this month and we had a larger attendance than in the past few years.

This month, as part of his on-going education of Board Members, Rabbi Kline presented his views on "Moving Forward Strategically". This month's topic was "leadership through example", and the importance of our congregational leaders showing through their actions the messages that we want to communicate with our members.

Our Membership Committee welcomed a new family to MRT this month.

The Board approved the Principal Search Committee's recommendation and the contract for Stephanie Fields to become our new religious school principal this fall.

The Ritual Committee has entered into discussions with Temple Torat El to potentially obtain 125 burial sites, which would be available to interfaith families, at their cemetery in Neptune.

The Fundraising Task Force presented its recommendations to the Board to coordinate fundraising activities at MRT.

The Capital Projects Task Force is continuing to develop a list of projects to improve our facility so that we can discuss them in a coordinated manner.

In his report, Rabbi Kline reminded Board Members that Confirmation will be held at MRT on Sunday, May 24. The Rabbi also encourages everyone to vote in this year's World Zionist election.

In her report, Cantor Clissold announced that our next Visual T'fillahTM, which has been renamed SOS-Seeds of Spirituality, will be on June 12th at 7pm. This is the same service we had during a snow storm that few people could attend. We are also preparing and planning the schedule and music for the choir for our upcoming year. In addition to the High Holy Days and Thanksgiving, the choir will help enhance the music of our worship at more Shabbat services throughout the year.

In his President's report, Jay Wiesenfeld discussed some of the results of the Annual Meeting. Friday May 22nd is the deadline for the return of ballots to ratify the results of votes taken at the meeting. Jay announced that the Red Bank Y has requested an additional classroom in its new lease with MRT.

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MITZVAH DAY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

After years without a Mitzvah Day, MRT came back in a BIG way on May 17th with activities involving nearly 200 people throughout the day. Mitzvah Day Chair, Dean Ross, VP Margie Wold, and the Mitzvah Day committee have been working since the fall to engage our congregation and community with a plethora of projects. Congratulations to the committee and to MRT on the success of Mitzvah Day.

Religious school students met in their classrooms for the last time of the year and afterwards joined the adults in the sanctuary for a brief service and sing along with Rabbi Marc Kline and Cantor Gabrielle Clissold. A yummy bagel brunch provided by our own Dean Ross provided the energy to power through the day.

The Central Jersey Bloodmobile was stationed outside the building where 20 pints of blood were drawn. Additional donors contributed at the Blood Bank on later days, which added to the count. Near the Bloodmobile, a group of 4th graders led by Meryll Tuller ran Alex's Lemonade Stand to raise funds to fight childhood cancer.

Our local senior citizens were visited and entertained by 2 groups from MRT. The K-2 students led by Gena Ansell-Lande visited Kensington Court Assisted Living facility to perform songs with Cantor Clissold, Linda Ourach, Lori Bernard and Lori Schwartz. Residents were given flower pots painted by the children.

A group of 3rd grade parents and students led by Rory Batzar and Jill Ziobro painted items for the Jewish Home for the Aged, while Rebecca Schneider chaperoned the 5th graders who visited Chelsea Assisted Living doing crafts and games. Beth Layton supervised the 6th graders planting and harvesting in the Gan Mazon garden out back and performing various very much needed yardwork duties. The 7th grade, led by Amy Hand, cut out denim designs for shoes for children in Uganda.

And finally, Mitzvah Academy students and other teens helped the adults do the "dirty work" of cleaning out our very full basement in preparation for meetings and classes to be held there this fall. Piles and piles and more piles of "stuff" were placed in the large Dumpster out back generously donated by Jay Feigus. Elise Aptaker and Rebecca Gaudette helped Steve Gaudette and others to run the cleanup crew with much success. Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clissold (back from her singing duties at Kensington) helped as fellow "schleppers" to the Dumpster.

Habitat for Humanity made a special day for MRT members to help paint a house in Union Beach that was devastated by Hurricane Sandy. Zach Gilstein led a group to the house and spent most of the day there fixing it up. Jay Wiesenfeld and others cleaned a one-mile stretch of the Henry Hudson Trail in Atlantic Highlands.

Lynn Shapiro organized the Knitting Gallery table to make items for pediatric wards. Bobbie Goldstein, Rabbi Sally Priesand and Helaine Rothman worked the table addressing get-well and thinking-of-you cards for our congregants, as well as decorating lunch bags for Lunch Break. Gerald Reisner repaired prayer books in the sanctuary with Jackie and Amanda Wold.

Sheila Gilstein headed the "Save a Life" cotton swabbing table for bone marrow donations. Thirteen donations were made. Many people offered but are already in the registry bank.

Much thanks to Lonnie Addison for donating the grills, and to Lloyd Fitzsimmons and Dean Ross for cooking the burgers and hot dogs. Other foods were donated by congregants including salads, fruits and desserts. A big thank you to Cheryl Gaudette, Tami Gottfried and David Kahn for all of their help in the kitchen that day. Of course our Office Staff Mindy and Helene, as well as John our custodian, offered tremendous help to make the day a success.

New Social Action Chair Kerry Krachman is looking to move ahead with most of these activities throughout the year and hopes MRT folks will join her at upcoming meetings to discuss how we can repair the world throughout the year, not just on Mitzvah Day!

Spotlight on Dean Ross

Getting to Know our MRT Members

If there's ever a need at Monmouth Reform Temple, the comment is usually "Ask Dean". Dean Ross, MRT member since 1986 with his wife Sharyn, is our temple's "go to guy" for everything from a bagel breakfast to a community volunteer opportunity.

Most recently Dean chaired the newly revamped Mitzvah Day and from the day he was asked to chair the committee, Dean worked tirelessly to make it a success. Working tirelessly is Dean's only speed. In the past, Dean served on the Board of Trustees for nine years serving as House Chair, Ways and Means Chair and Vice President. He also chaired the Monmouth Festival of the Arts bringing with it his own brand of can do attitude. We can't count how many delicious lunches and dinners he's catered at MRT.

Dean owns two bagel stores----Hole in One in Neptune and The Bagel Oven in Red Bank----plus the shoe store The Doc Shoppe, also in Red Bank. But giving back is where he shines. When Dean sees a need, he fills it. Two recent examples are: he distributed free shoes from his store to children who needed shoes at the beginning of the school year, and last month, organized the "Shine a Light" program with St. Anthony's Church to give out free bike lights and helmets to people who couldn't afford them.

MRT is lucky to have a man like Dean who embodies the spirit of Tikkum Olam, repairing the world.

Leadership Development Training Program Graduates its Inaugural Class!

On Friday evening, June 19, the first class to take MRT's Leadership Development Training Program will be recognized at Shabbat Services. The Program was developed and coordinated by the MRT Leadership Development Task Force, chaired by Mark Gruensfelder with members Larry Avrin, Alice Berman, Stephanie Fitzsimmons, Joel Morgovsky, Gerald Reisner, Lisa Sussman, Stu Tuchband, and Rabbi Kline. The Task Force had as its primary objective to "develop and institutionalize a 'leadership training' mechanism, a process for identifying and enrolling congregants into this training, and a leadership progression pathway." MRT President Jay Wiesenfeld created this task force based on one of the major recommendations from the 2013 ATID initiative.

This concept was developed into a series of seven training sessions, covering topics of interest to emerging leaders. The program ran monthly from October 2014 through May 2015, and facilitators included Karen Sirota and Gila Hadani Ward from the URJ's "Strengthening Congregations" area of focus, Rabbi Kline, Rabbi Priesand, and congregants Stu Tuchband and Joel Morgovsky. Session topics ranged from MRT and Reform Judaism history to synagogue governance, leadership principles, communication, management, finance, programming and vision. Twenty eight participants attended one or more sessions, with several completing all the sessions offered.

The class included: Gena Ansell-Lande, Jill Austin, Mitch Baum, James Brewer, Johan Brewer, Leonard Cohen, Brook Coppola, Abby Eisenberg, Monica Feigus, Cheryl Gaudette, Dan Greico, Beverly Gruensfelder, Amy Hand, Joseph Hand, Mary Beth Hayet, Mark Kroen, Faith Leifman, Evan Leifman, Ellen Nash, Talbot Pratt, Rachel Rennert, Scott Schneider, Rebecca Schneider, Monica Schneider-Brewer, Lori Schwartz, Julie Shell, and Lisa Sussman.

Most of the participants felt that the program was worthwhile. They gained insights into the "inner workings" of MRT, learned about the traits of strong leadership and creative thinking, and had the opportunity to effectively interact with other members of our congregation community.

Congratulations and thanks to all the participants, who will be invited to several follow-up "reunion" sessions and, of course, will have plenty of opportunities to put their new-found skills to good use at MRT!

From Rabbi Marc Kline



"Summertime, and the livin' is easy!" What a great line, and how wonderful it is to experience the blessing of summer so close to the ocean (remember, it is still new to me!). I hope that this bulletin finds you enjoying the blessings of our natural surroundings, the blessings of family and friends, and the blessing of being. You know we take each of these blessings for granted ... and especially the last one.

We enjoy our friends and look forward to being with our families (most of the time). We love being at the beach or appreciating the shade trees or the smell of fresh cut grass. How often do you wake up in the morning and say "Thank you" because you are; just because you "are?"

I want to give you a summer homework assignment: Take a little time (even five minutes) in the morning and before going to bed (yes, both times) and celebrate breathing. I know that this sounds strange ... even quirky. I get it; this sounds childish or immature. Why does it sound silly? Why are we uncomfortable being thankful in this way? Why are we perfectly at ease saying "wow!" about nature and about our friends, but incapable of finding a "Wow!" with ourselves?

Within the next few months, we are going to be gathering as a community to celebrate the New Year. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur give us an opportunity to get to meet each other all over again. We get to spend some time thinking about who we are and who we want to be. How do we want to relate to each other? What part of us is our best foot forward ... what should be our best foot forward? What is sacred in each of our own hearts that we want to share with others?

As we move through the summer and prepare for the holidays, I want to help us on this path toward fulfillment. Over the course of the next few months, you will be receiving calls from members of the congregation seeking information. Yes, I said information, not dollars ... not yet :-). We need to fill in the gaps in our membership files, and while we love that you are part of our family, we lack a lot of information about your family. We are looking to make sure that we have your family's important dates. We want to make sure that we have know how to reach you and what your favorite recreations are, what things about MRT can excite you and which need work.

Our goal is to help you find entry points into a deeper relationship with this community and for us to share in a deeper relationship with you. Let's have a great summer and spend time getting in touch with the people we hold sacred ... and let's make sure that we are on our own lists. Let's prepare to dive in and get to know each other better in a more sacred way as we learn more about what each other seeks/needs as members of this congregational family.

Tuesday morning Summer Study Group
will meet at 9:45am in the Library

Tuesday, July 21st
Tuesday, August 4th
Tuesday, August 11th

BYO Coffee and snack!



From Cantor Gabrielle Clissold



Last summer some of you may remember an article I wrote called High Ropes and Zip Lining: A challenge I never knew I needed to overcome. Here is an abridged version with a new twist from last summer:

"Extra help was needed at Adventure. At Camp Harlam, Adventure is what some would describe as "extreme" outdoor sports: Rock Wall Climbing, Mountain Biking, Swing, High Ropes, Zip Lining, climbing the Tower. Cantor Rebecca Robins and I volunteered. We headed over to the High Ropes Zip Lines...

At the adventure site was my son Asher who has been the most FEARLESS person his whole life. When we go hiking John and the boys jump off high cliffs into water...not me. I am best described as funny, but not a FUN daring thrill seeker up for any challenge.

At the Adventure site one of the girls whom I have known for years said, "Cantor Gaby, are you going to climb?" This means I get in harness, climb up the net that looks like ship rigging, walk across a high tight rope and then come back down. I said, "SURE!" Asher and his friends looked thrilled and amazed as he lent me his sneakers and into the harness I went.

I could not fathom why they were so impressed...I began my climb up the netting with screaming CIT's, crowds of awed cheering children, a shocked son and CR snapping a picture. It was like the launch of the Titanic, this huge send off party with me an ignorant vessel completely ignorant of the challenges ahead.

Halfway up the netting, it became really physically hard....great advice was given "stay on the little side...have a foot in both sides". I persevered, felt fatigued but just kept on. Once you get to the top you have to then throw your foot and leg over this tiny little shelf. It looks like a small circus tower when the cartoon character jumps into a small glass of water. Then you have to clip two carabeeners and hoist yourself up on this shelf...this was very hard. Somehow, I did it and I was exhausted. You then stand up and realize how very far up you are and that the tight rope isn't so tight, nor are the side ropes that you use to balance. Three steps into the rope I turned and wanted to go back...this was not fun, I was not enjoying this and it was scary.

At the same moment I saw below all the kids, counselors cheering me on. I saw Asher amazed by his mom who "doesn't do this sort of thing" was walking between pencil thin high swaying trees. I could not let him down in front of all his friends...so bravely I finished the tightrope and said, "I am ready come down."

"Cantor Gaby-you can't come down, there is no way down, you have to finish".

I continued (practically crying) onto a "mini zip line" which is far from mini. I was scared and was losing it. This line requires jumping off another second small tiny platform out of a tree. In case you were wondering I can assure you it does not feel natural to jump out of high trees!

I was really afraid but I didn't have a choice. Asher and CR stood below as guardian and encourager. CR said, "Gaby just sit back, lift your legs and go." And so I did...right onto the first of three zip lines. I wasn't finished because now I had to walk across another tightrope. At each juncture you are moving your clips and slider barely standing on this tiny third platform. This next tightrope was in the shape of an X with ropes on the side which hung far apart like vines in a Tarzan movie. You have to walk across and lean into each side to grasp each rope-vine. I was better with tightropes then zip lining. I made it across the X and there was my nemesis...another mini zipline, like the other-not so mini. I stood there feeling as scared as before, this zipline was still really daunting. Even though I just did the other zipline, I was back at square one but somehow with CR and Asher below...I did it again. I just raised up my feet, lay backward and left the high platform into thin air hanging onto my thread right into the last pedestal.

Ahead of us was the huge zipline that runs across the back of the camp. It starts up VERY high in extremely tall fragile trees and there is no where to go. You can't turn back and let everyone down. You are a role model to these kids. I said to myself, "I will probably never do this again. I know I am safe. I am afraid but I might as well try and enjoy this." And so I did it....landing safely at the end of the field. This was a "stand still" moment in my life. Everyone needs to know they are so much stronger then their fears. I learned so much about myself and owe it to the incredible people who helped me achieve something I never even set out to do. Everyone below helped me my conquer fear and enabled me to achieve something I never even dreamed I could ever do.

(Continued on page 9)

Stephanie Fields, the new MRT Religious School Principal



Monmouth Reform Temple is pleased to announce the hiring of Stephanie Fields as the Religious School Principal.

Stephanie Fields, a native of New Jersey, began working in Jewish education in her senior year of high school. The catalyst for her passion began on NFTY-EIE High School in Israel which led to her Jewish professional involvement in New Jersey, Israel, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Iowa, and most recently as the Education Coordinator at The Temple in Atlanta, Georgia. Growing up Stephanie had the fortune to be an intern for the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC) and Hadassah's Washington Action Office as well as intern for the Jewish Federation of Connecticut (JFACT). She also made her way into the business world working as a manager of a coffee shop and storage facility before realizing that Jewish education was her calling.

Stephanie earned her BA from the University of Hartford in West Hartford, CT and is currently pursuing her masters in Educational Leadership with a focus in Synagogues and Communal Settings from the joint program at the Jewish Theological Seminary and Columbia University. She believes that Jewish education is lifelong and is meant to be enjoyed.

From The Religious School Office

Shalom l'kulam! Ms. Fields and Sara are so excited for this upcoming school year and we have been very busy getting everything in order for what we hope to be our best year yet!

We want to share with you that the hard work many of you put in on Mitzvah Day will see great benefits for our teens in the upcoming school year! In September we will begin to see the newest development in our teen program where the 7th, 8th, 9th, and Confirmation classes will be meeting in the martef (formerly known as the lower level)!



This will give the teens a greater sense of community and space to create those bonds to include all that have taken the next steps onto Confirmation. With all of this in mind we hope that you will continue to hand in your registration for 2015-2016 so that we can adequately prepare for your children's first day of school on September 13th!

Enjoy the rest of your summer and please contact us if you have any questions! Ms. Fields can be reached at principalfields@monmouthreformtemple.org and Sara can be reached at sara@monmouthreformtemple.org. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Enjoy Your Summer!

Religious School Opening Day—Sunday, September 13th

Jewish Belief & The Meaning of Life: What is the Meaning of Your Life?

.Sessions 6
June 28th 7:00-8:30
In the Temple Library

The question, “What is the meaning of life?” has become something of a joke in our hip and cynical culture. Even my smart phone has an answer (at one point the answer was “chocolate”, but now it talks about “being nice to people”). Still, there are those who claim that it is our ability to contemplate this kind of question and to care about the answer that distinguishes us from other animals. Instead of trying to answer this question in some kind of universal way, we will follow the lead of the 20th century psychiatrist and concentration camp survivor, Viktor Frankl, who suggested that the meaning of life can only be discovered within the context of each of our individual lives. Each of our lives has a meaning and that meaning can only be understood within the individual experiences that we have had. To get at this, we will take turns telling each other our life stories. When you think about who you are, what has shaped you? Who have been those people or what events have made you who you are today? How have you made your life meaningful? What has shaped your Jewish identity? What struggles did you have to overcome to get to where you are? What do you want your legacy to be and how have you worked toward making that legacy a reality? How and what you present of your personal biography is up to you. Although I will have questions prepared as well if you would like to be interviewed. Each of us has a fascinating story that we rarely get to share. This session and the next will be an opportunity to share a bit of ourselves and enrich all of us in the process.

This discussion group is open to the public. For more information, please contact Elliott Familant at 908-510-5136 or efamilant@gmail.com

From Cantor Clissold con't

That is what being at URJ Camp Harlam is about.

This week I got the following letter:

We are very excited that you will be working together in for the summer of 2015. The Leadership Team and Faculty members for Adventure and Ropes are:

Unit or Department Head	Val Cohen
Faculty Weeks 1/2	Brad Cohen
Faculty Weeks 3/4	Rabbi Josh Leighton
Faculty Weeks 5/6	Cantor Gaby Clissold
Faculty Weeks 7/8	Rabbi Michael Holzman

It has come to the attention of the leadership team at Camp Harlam that because of your “transformational” experience you are the perfect clergy person to be assigned as faculty to Adventure, Ropes and Zip Lines at Camp Harlam.

Everyday for 2 weeks at Camp Harlam I am going to be one of those people down below helping people get through the Adventure and Ropes course at Harlam. That is what camp is about.

If you are thinking of sending your children to a URJ camp you have 3 opportunities to visit one of us in action. This summer Rabbi Kline will be working at Camp Kutz, Principal Stephanie Shore will be working at Camp Eisner and I will be embarking on my sixth year as faculty at Camp Harlam. I will be at MRT most of July and part of August. I hope to be able to personally grow from this new experience, which is a privilege. Have a wonderful, warm and safe summer!

From Eleanor Rubin, Israel Affairs Chair

SKETCHES OF ISRAEL

In the early days of the establishment of the nation of Israel the hope was that Israel would one day become a “normal” country like others in the world. There would be Jewish policemen and teachers and sanitation workers and road builders. And the country would operate in the modern world as a Jewish state, encouraging Jews from around the globe to make their homes in the new Israel.

In that regard, a secret airlift known as Operation Solomon, in 1991, brought 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel, fleeing starvation and a chaotic government. They arrived at Ben Gurion Airport with only the clothes that they wore and a few pots and pans to begin a new life. Previous airlifts brought smaller numbers of Jewish Ethiopians from Sudan and the current population numbers approximately 136,000. Today, members of the Ethiopian community serve in the Israel Defense Forces, teach in universities and become lawyers, doctors and other professionals. But perhaps those success stories are the exceptions. Recent news has reported a sense of discrimination, isolation and poor integration into Israeli society by vast numbers of Ethiopian Israelis. The second generation is speaking out against deep poverty, poor education, lack of jobs and police brutality that they have experienced. During the first week in May, thousands of Ethiopian Israelis staged a protest on the streets of Tel Aviv against police harassment which soon became violent with hurling of rocks and stones. We in the United States were shocked and are grieved by what has occurred in Ferguson, and in Baltimore and now we, as Jews are deeply dismayed by the racism that has emerged in Israel. Yes, Israel is a “normal” country with all the tensions that racial differences bring. Researchers at Ben Gurion University have been studying relations between the police and different segments of society. They find that Ethiopian Israelis perceive themselves much like blacks in this country subject to overpolicing and racial profiling.

P.M. Netanyahu has called for calm in the streets and has promised to look into accusations of brutal force used by the police. This brings to mind a recent article in the FORWARD in which J.J. Goldberg poses the question, “Is it possible to ‘Love’ but not ‘Like’ Israel?” As parents we love our children but sometimes we do not like what they do. Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, our long standing ally needs our love, our support especially when there is trouble in the land. Maybe when we at home figure out how to correct some of the evils of racism in our society we can offer advice to Israel.

ASSOCIATION OF REFORM ZIONISTS OF AMERICA (ARZA)

Thanks to congregational response at MRT and throughout the broad Jewish community, ARZA was the big winner in the World Zionist Congress elections gaining 56 out of 145 seats, 40% of the U.S. delegation. The victory enables ARZA to affect influence in Israel’s national institutions such as World Zionist Organization (WZO), Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and Jewish National Fund (JNF) among others.

Beit Shemesh, a pre-Biblical town 19 miles west of Jerusalem, was settled as a modern city in 1952, with the influx of new immigrants to Israel from Iran, Iraq, Romania, Morocco, and Kurdistan. They were followed in 1990 by newcomers from Russia, Ethiopia, North America, England, South Africa and Australia. The current population is 80,500. Much of the community tends to be middle income, both Orthodox and secular.

The remarkable mix of ethnicities includes a group of Ultra-Orthodox whose leaders have been causing dissent and trouble during the past several years insisting in a variety of ways that residents of Beit Shemesh adhere to the Ultra-Orthodox dress code. Especially focussing on women and children, they have posted public “modesty signs” in the neighborhoods and have harassed those who do not obey the signs by spitting, throwing stones, eggs, etc. Three years ago the Reform Movement in Israel, the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC) represented by Anat Hoffman, began a fight to remove the “modesty signs”. Two years ago the Attorney General of Israel ruled that the signs are a violation of civic liberty and ordered their removal. Beit Shemesh argued that removal of the signs would offend the Haredi community.

More recently, Beit Shemesh was sued in violation of women’s rights and fined 60,000 shekels. They paid the fine but did not remove the signs. Currently, there is a new law suit against the Mayor and Municipality to remove “modesty signs” which describe how a woman or child should be dressed. IRAC vows to keep fighting the harassment and discrimination that has taken place in Beit Shemesh by one group against all others. In gradual but important ways the influence of the Reform Movement in coalition with others has begun to affect positive change in Israel.

MEN'S CLUB, Mitch Baum, President

Hello,

The summer has finally arrived after a long and cold winter and I hope you are enjoying the weather with family and friends.

The Men's Club had a very successful Mother's Day Breakfast. There was a lot of laughter coming out of the kitchen as the men made breakfast for their loved ones. The entire family had a great time but I think the fathers had more fun making the breakfast. There was talk of doing a Men's Club breakfast on a Sunday just for the men next year. I want to thank the volunteers who cooked and served the breakfast and a special thanks to Jim Austin for his special recipe for home fries and Zach Gilstein who organized this year event.

The monthly meeting was held on June first and we accomplished quite a bit. The brochure and pledge letter was finalized. We started on planning on next year's events. As of now, we decided to keep the Men's Club open to all male MRT congregants without requiring dues but in the hopes of members contributing financially to the Men's Club.

As of July 1 my two year term as President will come to an end. It all started when my wife said I should go to a Brotherhood meeting because they play poker after the meeting. Eight month later I found myself President of the club.

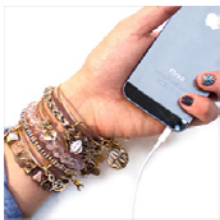
I found the experience very rewarding. I met great people during my term; people who have supported me both within the Men's Club and personally. I am eternally grateful that I took the position. Having just moved to New Jersey it enabled me to make lifelong friends.

Over my term we tried new events and re-established old ones. The success of the Men's Club is only as good as its members and I would like to thank all the volunteers and contributors who helped me during my term. I saw how great things can be accomplished when a band of men get together.

I would like to welcome Mark Kroen as our new Men's Club President. He brings new creative ideas and I hope you support him in his new endeavor.

Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,
Mitch Baum
President of the Men's Club



ALEX AND ANI (Charity by design)

Shop Support Shine

Monday, June 15th 6-9pm

12 Broad Street

Hosted by Cheryl Gaudette/Jill Austin

RSVP Sisterhood @monmouthreformtemple.org

Come sip refreshments, sip on small bites and shop with others who share your passion for giving back.

15% of all proceeds will be donated to support Monmouth Reform Temple

Gan Mazon (Garden of Plenty) MRT's Vegetable Garden, David Levinsky, Chair



Mitzvah Day was hugely productive thanks to our sixth grade students and their parents; Beth Layton, class parent, coordinated the class involvement. Instrumental in completing the ambitious agenda were Elmo Cohen and son, William, Harriet and Sandy Cook, Christina Gold and sons, Nicholas and Brandon, Jim Halpern, Marcia Horn, Brett Tuller, and Gene Vicenzi. Everyone pitched in, space limitations prevents me from describing each contribution in detail.

Sixth grade students harvested the garden's first crop of the season: 46 heads (50 lbs.) of romaine and Boston lettuce, grown from transplants – planted on April 6th. Delivered to the Open Door pantry in Freehold the next day, the lettuce was distributed to the pantry's clients within seconds of its arrival. During the lettuce harvest, Nicholas and Brandon were wheel barrowing composted manure from the parking lot onto the planting beds.



Brett (second photo, white shirt) tilled all seventeen planting beds. He was tasked with blending the compost and previously applied fertilizer and lime with the existing soil to form an aerated mixture. Christine, among other volunteers, is shown smoothing out the soil as Brett labors. Both 1,000 sq. ft. gardens were tilled and raked smooth. As shown in the third photo, Mitzvah Day planting was limited to the garden on the left—the one visible as members drive into the parking lot. (By now, the other garden is planted with added tomato varieties, cucumbers, and eggplant. Rows have been set aside for our squash crop.)



Sixth grade students planted several rows of tomato plants, two rows with eggplant and one with onions. The tomato cages were installed by Christine and the 6th grade parents. In trying to explain crop rotation, the children were instructed to plant the onion sets in one of

the rows from which the lettuce was just harvested. FYI: Extra tomatoes and eggplant were planted to replace plants that will inevitably die from disease or insect attack.

As a deterrent to deer jumping onto the beds, Gene Vicenzi increased the height of the garden fencing by attaching wood strips to the existing metal posts. He strung rope from wood post to wood post around the perimeter of each garden. Although, not a fail-safe method, deer usually do not cross when they perceive an enclosure.

Only a few MRT members care for the garden on a regular basis. Please contact me to for information on how to join the effort to grow healthy food for the clients of Monmouth County's food pantries. Additional volunteers translates to more fresh vegetables harvested.



David Levinsky
davidlevinsky@optonline.net

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:

- Brian and Janet Weiner on the death of his father, Henry Weiner
- Ellie Goodman on the death of her sister-in-law Joyce Marks
- Larry and Marianne Kligman on the death of his father Arthur Joseph Kligman

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS MAZEL TOV TO:

- Bob Gabel and Marianne Roosels on the birth of a grandson Adam Lester Gabel

**June/July Yahrtzeits (date based on when they occur)**Names to be Read on Friday, June 19th (Services at 7pm)

Victoria Bobb, *Samuel Brenner, Samuel Danzig, Rose Deutsch, Jack Finkelstein, Arthur A. Gilbert, Adam Greenfield, *Frances Herman, David J. Karl, *Morris Kogos, William Kravitz, Joseph Mayzel, *Naomi Moessinger, Theodore Rosenfeld, *Meyer Rothman, Gloria Sabin, Samuel Semer, *Irwin Wachtel, Pearl Weinstein, Abram Yellenberg

Names to be Read on Friday, June 26th (Services at 7pm—7 President's Park)

Sophia Vivian Brown, *Morris Cohen, Rhoda Dimson, Edward Friedman, Mollie Golden, Donald Leeds, *Adele Luftman, Rose Marks, *Esther Morgovsky, *Ryan Sadwith, *Phil Schneider, Beatrice K. Simon, Barbara White, Celia Whyman, Lawrence Wigdortz, William Wolf

Names to be Read on Friday, July 3rd (Services at 6pm)

*Leah Alexander, *Irene Barnett, Jack Barshack, Samuel Clyman, *Murray Collier, *Abraham Frankel, David Holzman, David Kane, Frances Kaufman, *Harry Marks, Martin Marx, Arlene Rosen, *George Rosin, Irving Schneider, Pearl Shagan, Gabriel Silverman, Jennifer Ruth Swift, Etta Unterman

Names to be Read on Friday, July 10th (Services at 6pm)

Lorraine Altholz, Tina Block, George Cook, Bentley Cooper, Mark Copley, Gay Fehrenbach, Richard Feinberg, Jack Fleischer, Jack Fleischer, Faith Ganz, *Col. Morton Grotenstein, Hugh Harran, Jules Herman, Estelle Horn, Ruth Kaplan, Leon Levin, *Milton I. Marx, Jeanette Mindel, Reba Pons, Bluma Rubin, *George Ruby, Moses Simon, *Seymour St. Lifer

Names to be Read on Friday, July 17th (Services at 6pm)

Florence Bernard, Mabel M. Cooper, *Frances Gordon, Leonore Herman, Emma Heyman, Edith Karl, *Jacob Kesselman, Joan Lang, Fannie Mayzel, *Dr. Sidney Neiderhoffer, Abraham Reiss, George Seligman, *Joseph Singer, *Martin Slater, *Glynn Stacey Waldman, Philip Yanowitz

Names to be Read on Friday, July 24th (Services at 6pm)

*Helen Berg, Frances Berk, *Jugo J. Braun, *Julius Brightman, Bruce Bronstein, *Dr. Abraham Collis, Benjamin Einhorn, Sarah Kligman, *Emily Lansky, Harold Meistrich, *Becky Rosenbaum, Herman Teitelbaum, Charles Wertheim, Janice Williams, *Henrietta Yagoda, Rose Yellenberg

Names to be Read on Friday, July 31st (Services at 6pm)

*Bradley Blonder, Rachel Bolotin, *Rose Brenner, Addie Gabel, *Jack Gardy, David Frank Goldberg, Celia Kahn, Annette Katz, *Frank Kipnis, *Rhoda Leisner, *Jessie Levine, Irving Mandelbaum, *Blanche Marx, *Samuel L. Miller, Ruth Moskovitz, *Samuel Offenhenden, *Reba Ostroff, *Annette Cohen Ravitz, *Irving Schulman, Nancy Silver, Eva Zelda Yanowitz

At MRT, loved ones are memorialized with Kaddish at the Shabbat service on or following their Yahrtzeit. If you would like someone's name read on a different Shabbat please contact the office or see the Rabbi just prior to services.

*Indicates that a Memorial Plaque is hanging in the MRT sanctuary ensuring that their yahrtzeit will be observed in perpetuity. Plaques can be purchased by contacting the MRT office. They are hung on the side walls of the sanctuary. Spaces are available on both walls. Cost per plaque is \$400.

THE BULLETIN

The Congregation Acknowledges with Thanks the Following Contributions:**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**In Memory Of:

Frank Whyman

Ellen and Donald Byck

In Honor Of:

The Confirmation Class of 2015

Robert Gabel and Marianne Roosels

Oneg FundIn Memory Of:

Anne Klein

Caryl and Charles Sills

Ruth Singer and Michael Ruggera

Barbara and Donald Borges

Frieda Singer

Frank Singer

Linda Kroll

Mark Kroll

Murray Zatt

Ellen Heffes

Ruth Kornbluth

Lila Singer

Frances Peskoe

Al Peskoe

Jacqueline Aronson

Howard Aronson

Herman Albert

Joyce and John Christie

William Kravitz

Shelley and Lawrence Gordon

Shabbat Kallah FundIn Memory Of:

Frank Whyman

Robert Gabel and Marianne Roosels

General FundIn Memory Of:

Gail Lazar

The Baum Family

In Honor Of:

Our son Levi's Bar Mitzvah

Stephanie and Mitch Baum &
Family**Cantor's Fund**In Memory Of:

Ruth Kornbluth

The MRT Choir

Frank Whyman

Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky

In Honor Of:

Cantor Clissold

Marilyn and Seymour Siegler

Homeless FundIn Memory Of:

Frank Whyman

Irma and Peter Meyer

Terry Powers

Heather and Alan Collichio

Leon Schor

Irma and Peter Meyer

Adam Greenfield Religious School FundIn Honor Of:

The Confirmation Class of 2015

Jay and Kay Wiesenfeld

Adult Ed FundIn Memory Of:

Frank Whyman

Sheila and Zach Gilstein

Jill and Harmon Butler

Phyllis and Bob Rosenberg

Youth Group FundIn Memory Of:

Gail Lazar

Cheryl and Steve Gaudette

In Honor Of:

Courtney Aptaker, Alex Austin and Evan

Leifman on becoming Confirmed

Nadine and Gene Vicenzi

Ways & Means FundIn Honor Of:

Bobbie Goldstein's special birthday

Adrienne and Pat Straus

Caring Network FundIn Memory Of:

Elizabeth Laderman

Marcia Horn

In Honor Of:

Helaine Rothman

Sheila and Zach Gilstein

RSJP Endowment FundIn Memory Of:

Frank Whyman

Harriet Paley, Marjorie and

Warren Busscher, Susan and Joe Frankel,

Elsie and Theodore Arno, Carolyn Okin,

Eileen Hershenov and Daniel Pool, Judi

and David Marrus, Jean Klerman, Nancy

and Marc Lobell, Mary and Chuck Debare,

Anna and Philip Balaban & Family,

Cynthia and Steve Sparer, Joan and Robert

Rechnitz & Family, Betty Gusdorf, Bet

Carden, Winifred and Joseph Rich

In Honor Of:

MRT

Lila Singer

Rabbi Priesand for naming our new
grandson

Shelley and Irving Askinazi

Baldwin Davidson Scholarship FundIn Memory Of:

Gail Lazar

Robert Gabel and Marianne Roosels

Frank Whyman

Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky

In Honor of Zach Gilstein becoming next MRT
President

Adrienne and Mitch Friedman

Mazon FundIn Memory Of:

Neil Brandwene

Martha Brandwene and Rita
McWilliams

Frank Whyman

Barbara and Richard Gitlin

Scholar-in-Residence FundIn Memory Of:

Cynella Abrams

Rabbi Sally J. Priesand

Frank Whyman

Kay and Jay Wiesenfeld

In Honor Of:

Sheila Gilstein

Barbara and Doug Gribin

Perry Weyser

Certified Public Accountant
Certified Financial Planner
* Advisory Representative



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References Aplenty

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We offer a large selection of event invitations, personal and business holiday cards and everyday greeting cards. Orders can be in quantities of 25 ~ 1,000+ and our ordering process is simple with quick and reliable production times.

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Lior and Jennie Azoulai,
Founders and Owners



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* MRT Fund payments will be tendered to the MRT office on a monthly basis for the 5% of greeting card sales orders completed on paperiebox.com and invitations.paperiebox.com only, excluding shipping fees.

MRT Vision, Mission, Values (approved at August 20, 2014 Board Meeting)***Vision***

OPEN DOORS -- OPEN MINDS

Monmouth Reform Temple – Our Spiritual Community-Where We Nurture Meaning in Our Lives

Mission

- ***We are an inclusive community where creativity and openness to new ideas harmonize with the traditions of Reform Judaism.*** For all ages we provide multiple pathways to spiritual growth and lifelong learning.
- ***We seek to be inspired and to inspire each other in a spiritual journey.*** We engage in joyful, participatory, musical and meaningful experiences.
- ***We build communities of enduring relationships that nourish commitment to each other and to Judaism.*** We are a source of strength to one another as we share the joys and challenges of our lives.
- ***By speaking out and taking action, we seek to improve the quality of human existence and help heal our world.*** As we work together we create a Jewish presence in the community.
- ***We create opportunities for individuals and families to study and learn together.*** We enable members to learn about and connect with the evolving relevance of Judaism in our lives.
- ***We affirm our continuing support of Israel.*** We understand that to be a Jew is to be a part of the extended Jewish family.
- ***Each of us is a steward of MRT's financial, physical and human resources.*** This includes our temple's good name.

Values

In all aspects of temple life - spiritual, educational and social – these values are our common bond and support our common effort:

Spirituality

We are guided by Torah as we strive to live ethical lives. In search of spiritual and intellectual nourishment, we become aware of a sense of wonder, amazement and being in God's presence. Our deeds reflect our gratitude for the gift of life and its blessings.

Respect

In all our relationships we treat each other in a way that preserves individual dignity and welcomes new ideas. Courtesy, directness, and openness to others will guide our interactions and demonstrate our trustworthiness.

Inclusiveness

We welcome all who choose to embrace Judaism in their lives and homes, regardless of background. As builders of community, we care about each other in all our diversity.

Lifelong Learning

MRT is a center of life-long learning, where we search for meaning, we study, we question, and we seek the sacred. Learning enables us all to progress from knowledge to commitment to action.

Engagement

In partnership with clergy and staff, we count on our members to contribute their talents, resources and energy to ensure the vitality of MRT's community. We depend on our members to be informed and participate in decision-making.

June/July 2015

For the most up-to-date information: www.monmouthreformtemple.org/calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JUNE 14	15 6pm Alex and Ani	16 9:45am Study Group 7pm Board Meeting	17	18 7:15pm Membership Meeting	19 3:45pm Chelsea Shabbat 7pm Shabbat Services honors LDT	20 9am Minyan & Torah Study
21	22	23 9:45am Study Group	24 12pm Knitting Group	25	26 2:15pm Brighton 3:45pm Chelsea Dinner @ Beach 6pm Beach Service @7pm 7 Pres Park, Long Branch	27 9am Minyan & Torah Study
28 2pm JYG to Silverball 7pm Jewish Belief Group	29 1pm Office Closing	30	JULY 1	2	3 Office Closed 6pm Shabbat Services	4 9am Minyan & Torah Study
5	6 1pm Office Closing 7:30pm Men's Club Board	7	8 6:30pm Ritual	9	10 1pm Office Closing 2:15pm Brighton 6pm Shabbat Services —Rabbi Priesand	11 9am Mlnyan & Torah Study
12	13 1pm Office Closing 7pm Knitting	14 7pm Orchid 7:30pm Exec Board	15	16 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	17 1pm Office Closing 6pm Shabbat Services —Rabbi Priesand	18 9am Mlnyan & Torah Study
19	20 1pm Office Closing 7:15pm Sis Book Club	21 9:45am Study Group 7pm Board	22	23	24 1pm Office Closing 2:15 Brighton 3:45pm Chelsea 6pm Shabbat Services	25 9am Mlnyan & Torah Study
26	27 1pm Office Closing	28	29	30	31 1pm Office Closing 6pm Shabbat Services	





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MONMOUTH REFORM TEMPLE
332 Hance Avenue
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732-747-9365
www.monmouthreformtemple.org

Summer Shabbat Services

Friday, July 3rd-Friday, September 4th

All services at 6pm

Followed by a light oneg

Summer office Hours:

Monday, June 29th-Friday, September 4th

Monday 9am—1pm

Tuesday-Thursday 9am-5pm

Friday 9am-1pm

Selichot

Saturday night, September 5th

Next Seeds of Spirituality

Friday, September 11th at 7pm

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