



**From the President, Zach Gilstein Email: zachmate2@gmail.com**



As I write this, Yom Kippur has just ended and I have broken fast with my wife Sheila, and older son Jeremy. The holidays were an enriching period of praying, experiencing thought and action provoking words from Rabbi Kline, listening to beautiful music from Cantor Clissold and the choir, and sharing greetings with so many friends at the Temple.

I want to thank all who made this season meaningful.

Last month I spoke of the great potential we have to build deeper and broader connections in our community from Ritual, Religious School, Adult Jewish Learning, Tikkun Olam, to Socialization. I won't reiterate all of these things, but you heard a fairly good accounting if you heard my speech on Rosh Hashanah morning. If not, you can read it at the end of this document.

I would like to speak of one of the key requirements to our success. We are all stewards of MRT's financial resources states one of our mission statements. We have just begun our High Holy Day Appeal, the largest fund raiser we have after our Annual Giving Pledge.

Exclusive of Religious School, it costs a little over \$2200 per family to sustain our MRT Mission. Annual Giving Pledges average around \$1700 per family leaving us with a sizable gap to close with our High Holy Day Appeal, income from our endowments, and other fund raisers.

We are a Fair Share Temple, in which ask each member to give according to their means. It is one of the core principles of our existence and one of the principles I most appreciate about our approach to sustaining our mission.

At this time of High Holy Day Appeal, I ask that, if it is within your means, you make a contribution to reach the \$2200 Sustaining Level of giving, or more, or join one of our Giving Circles.

If not, please give something. All contributions are appreciated.

Sustaining our Mission is important to enabling us to flourish and fully realize our MRT Vision of Nurturing Meaning in Our Lives.

I am looking forward to a year of building connections with more of you and enabling more and deeper connections among our community members.

**Blessing the Animals**  
**Sunday, October 18th at 11:30am**  
**All Animals (even a picture!)**  
**are welcome at our ceremony!**





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You must bring this flyer for your donation to be counted. If ordering To Go, please mention this fundraiser.



## From Rabbi Marc Kline



WOW!!! We are now past the New Year! Whether you spent it with us, with another community, or even home with family, I pray that the year brings us only blessings! On Rosh Hashanah, I preached about the need to repair the world. This work begins with a sense that we must first appreciate ourselves before we can do the work of appreciating others. It is hard to know where people fit into our lives, if we cannot define who we are and who we want to be. On Yom Kippur, we spoke about facing adversity, and determining that we controlled our destiny ... it does not control us. We share moments of healing, and conversation about our respective responsibilities in life. For me, one of the most powerful moments over the holiday season came at Tashlich. In a ceremony that happened at the creek just around the corner from temple, 60 plus of us gathered to literally throw away our transgressions. We laughed, we threw our bread as we listed transgressions which need to leave this world, we spoke and we sang the words of prayers of joy and healing. Older members and youngest children ... we had a blast. Our main services are beautiful. Cantor Gaby and our choir provide the most moving and spiritual of musical settings for prayer. Still, though, our children and our adults do not equally share in these moments.

At Tashlich, we were all in this together. This is my prayer for this coming year: May we find ourselves together in traditional and non-traditional settings. May our young and our old join in prayer and in celebration. May we expand our "traditional circles" to cross all demographics, establishing in joy one congregation with one heart, with myriads of different experiences and faces.

A few things I want to point out:

1. Karen Levinsky has put together a group who will be contacting each member of our congregation to fill in our membership files with information that we should have to best serve you, but which we unfortunately do not yet have. During these conversations, we will ask a few questions about how we can be more valuable in your world view and experience. Take the opportunity to create your own conversations with the folks who are calling, as well.
2. Mindy will be contacting each of you, as we seek to honor you on our bimah over the course of the year. Each member deserves the kavod (honor) of sharing our bimah and the leadership of our worship. DON'T PANIC, whatever we ask you to help lead will be in ENGLISH (unless you request otherwise). I want everyone here to know that each of us matters.
3. Beginning October 15, I am offering a multi-week "Introduction to Judaism" course. Cantor Gabrielle Clissold and Rabbi Bill Kurry will be assisting in this program. I have geared the curriculum to introduce non-Jews to a "Taste" of our Jewish heritage and also to help Jews better understand (and question) our tradition.
4. We have some people who work tirelessly for our MRT family. Please do a random act of kindness and let Helene Messer, Mindy Gorowitz, Lenny Gross, Stephanie Fields, and Jon Santiago know how much we appreciate all that they do for us. I speak for Cantor in saying that we could not do the amazing things that we do were it not for their efforts!

Blessings only this day forward, and please remember in every instance where we confront challenges with others ... give them heaven!

### Introduction to Judaism Course offered beginning October 15th at 7pm

Starting on Thursday, October 15th Introduction to Judaism course with Rabbi Kline will be offered for anyone interested in exploring Judaism - singles, interfaith couples, those considering conversion and Jews looking for adult-level basics. This class introduces the fundamentals of Jewish thought and practice in 10 weeks. Topics include Jewish holidays and life cycle events, theology and prayer, Israel, history and Hebrew. This course is open on to the community and there is no charge.





## From Cantor Gabrielle Clissold



How we speak to each other in the form of greeting is a treasured aspect of Jewish life. The month of Elul is a time of repentance in preparation for the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. Tradition teaches that the month of Elul is a time for repentance. This mood of repentance builds through the month of Elul to the period of Selichot, to Rosh Hashanah, and finally to Yom Kippur. I know of no specific greeting for this period of reflection.

The name of the month (אֶלּוּל spelled Aleph-Lamed-Vav-Lamed) is said to be an acronym based upon "Ani l'dodi v'dodi li which means-I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine," this is a quote from Song of Songs 6:3, where the Beloved is "God" and the "I" is the Jewish people. In Aramaic the word "Elul" אֶלּוּל means "search," because this is a time of year when we search our hearts. A lot of this information is taken from the website Judaism 101 which is an excellent resource for questions <http://www.jewfaq.org/index.shtml>

As we move into the Jewish new year we greet each other with the phrase L'shana Tova, which literally means "to a good year". Following Rosh Hashana during the days in-between we move to the greeting, "Gamar Tov" or as my professor Shaul Feinberg taught us, "Gamar Chatima Tova".

Entering the period of Sukkot and Simchat Torah we use another greeting. I find this very interesting because often Jews of Ashkenazi descent say a Yiddish phrase which can also be used on many holidays, "Gut Yom Tov" which sounds like "Good Yontif". This literally means "good day" but colloquially means Happy Holidays.

During Sukkot Jews of Sephardi origin prefer the Hebrew word of biblical origin for festival "Chag". Sephardi Jews spoke their own language called Ladino or Judeo-Espanol. Interestingly there are several Ladino variations and dialects relating to Italian, Moroccan and French. In Israel and amongst Sephardim the phrase "Chag Same-ach" is used. One can get really very fancy and say, "Mo-adim l'simcha" (*trans. It's the seasons of time and joy!*) to which a person responds, "Chagim uz'manim l'sason" (*trans. Holidays and seasons for rejoicing!*). I hope this gives you more insight into our holiday greetings. I am happy to say all of them to you when I see you in the future!

It is very important to thank all the people who make the Holy Days so meaningful. The MRT volunteer choir has met since July with our volunteer conductor Alice Berman. I cannot praise them enough! Please consider joining our choir for Thanksgiving. They lead our music so elegantly on Selichot, Erev Rosh Hashana and Kol Nidre. My deep thanks to our accompanist Dr Barbara Thomson, she is our right hand we could not do it without her! In addition we so revel in the music of our cellist Tomacz Rezcieski on Kol Nidre. He will be performing in Princeton soon and I will let you know the details as soon as possible. I commend Dr. Ellen Rubinstein and Lauren Vicenzi who so artistically enhanced our music on Selichot and Yom Kippur. I am indebted to our choir and all of our musicians!

I am very proud of all of our teens who read Haftarah and Torah on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. On Rosh Hashana we heard: Rachel Kline, Asher Clissold, and Julia Feigus. On Yom Kippur we heard: Zak Dasaro, Lauren Vicenzi and Emily Heath. In addition there were the six volunteer Torah readers at the afternoon service on Yom Kippur. They read from our Holocaust Torah. Those readers were: Zack Sussman, Jacqueline Shell, Cody Hershey, Devyn Kennedy, Evan Leifman and Max Miller. This Torah has not been used formally to read from since we acquired it from the Memorial Scrolls Trust. It was a significant and meaningful moment for all present.

The office works diligently to make sure things run smoothly. I am deeply grateful to Mindy and Helene in our front office. Our ritual committee has many volunteers who work to prepare and support the Rabbi and I on the High Holy Days. I am always indebted to them and their support. All of our ushers, greeters, readers and volunteers on the High Holy Days make MRT a special place. In deep gratitude I thank my family for all they tolerate on the High Holy Days. I am deeply grateful to Rabbi Marc Kline for all his meaningful work and camaraderie on and off the bima. Our committees and staff have crafted a year ahead replete with numerous opportunities to engage in Jewish life. Please check your temple bulletin, weekly emails and our website to experience all the opportunities we are working hard to bring to MRT.

Mo-adim l'sim-cha!

**Summary of September 15th Board of Trustees meeting: from Jim Halpern, MRT Recording Sec'y**

The Board of Trustees met on the evening of September 15, 2015 and would like to acknowledge positive happenings within our congregation.

This month our Religious School began another year under the guidance of our new Principal, Stephanie Fields. Sisterhood held a book club meeting and discussed Anthony Doerr's, "All the Light We Cannot See". The Adult Ed Committee has announced some of its programs for the upcoming year. A new program for MRT will be "Memoir Writing" sessions to be held on October 15 and 22 conducted by poet and writer Sylvia Kramer. The Social Action Committee has launched its annual HHD food drive and it is off to a good start. Please fill your HHD bags and return to MRT on Yom Kippur. The food drive will be collecting food until after Sukkot. Our garden has produced over 1000 pounds of food this year. Our High Holy Day Services started with an excellent service on Slichot which was accompanied by a play that was very thought provoking. Rosh Hashanah services were very well attended. Yom Kippur is also expected to be well attended and we are again welcoming guests who are joining us this year. The redecoration of our library is almost completed. Thank you to the Men's Club for assistance with the moving of all the books in and out of the library during the work. MRT dedicated the most recent Seeds of Spirituality Shabbat Service to commemorating 9/11 and the effects on our community and the world.

The Board is considering a "live streaming" broadcast from our sanctuary so that those who cannot attend services can participate. Many congregations are currently streaming their services and the Board is reviewing the procedures to do this to ensure we are able to provide this service successfully.

Our new principal, with the support of the Religious Ed committee has begun to update the curriculum that is being taught in our school. Working together, along with our teachers, they are creating a learning experience they feel will be more effective and enjoyable for our children.

Committee Reports were presented to the Board. The Board has asked the chairs of these committees to prepare an update from their committees for this newsletter to help keep congregants up to date.

The Board reviewed the financial report for the month ending August 31, 2015.

The Board reviewed a report by the Capital Projects Task Force for the repairs and renovations needed to maintain our facility. Recommendations have been made to stage these repairs over time and a sub-committee has been formed to look at how these projects could be prioritized.

The Membership Committee asked the Board to approve membership for 10 new families to our congregation. The Board also accepted the resignation of 3 families bringing our total membership to 330 families.

High Holy Day Greeting calls are being completed by Board Members to wish each family in our congregation a Happy and Healthy New Year.

MRT's High Holy Day Campaign is underway. Please consider a generous donation from your family to MRT. These donations are very important and help us to sustain our mission and goals as a congregation.

Save the Date and Help Wanted!

## **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service—Here at MRT!**

With the Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury  
Bakers and Volunteers needed to help set up that afternoon.  
The service is: Wednesday, November 25th at 8pm

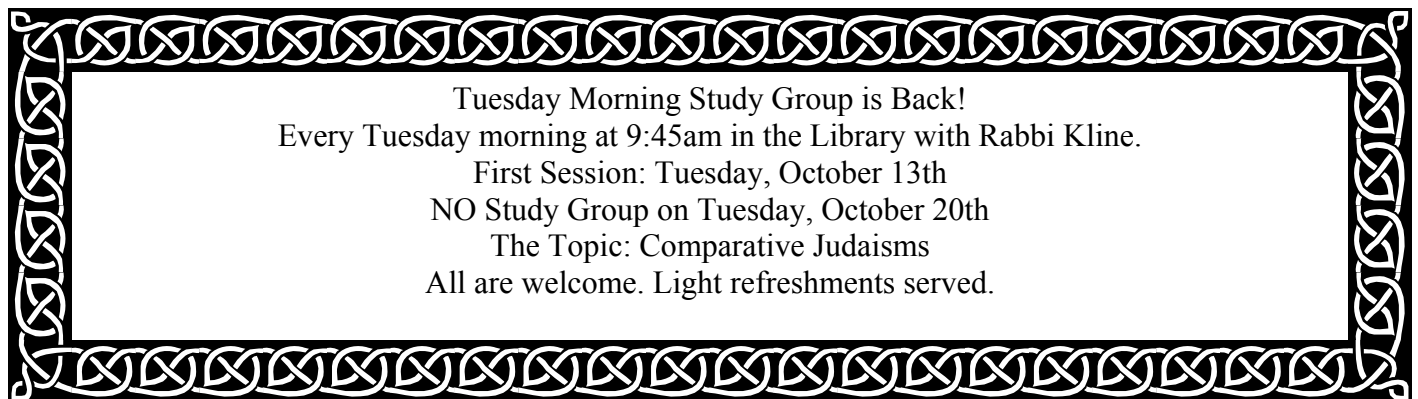
## Everybody's Doing It! Are you?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if EVERYBODY made a gift to the High Holy Days Appeal? The giving has begun. The generosity toward MRT is beginning to show as 25 temple families have already contributed or pledged. Even a non-member family has given as well others who are no longer members, perhaps a result of our open doors policy for HHD services. Our hopes are high that, for the first time ever, every single member of the synagogue will show the love and make a gift to this year's HHDA. We don't care about the amount! Anything is welcome and will be sincerely appreciated. Let's break the record for participation and join together to show an outpouring of love for MRT- our Jewish home.

As of September 25th, these members have gotten the ball rolling:

Aho, Amy	Goodman, Eleanor	Ross, Dean & Sharyn
Avrin, Lawrence & Lois	Heidema, John & Karl, Karen	Rothman, Donald & Helaine
Baker, Gerald & Peggy,	Hershey, Adam & Kari	Sachs, Richard & Sheila
Bates, Elizabeth & Aubry, Madna	Ibex, Ted & Shelley	Schlisserman, David & Michele
Borges, Donald & Barbara	Kahn, Karen	Singer, Frank
Burns, Linda	Kohn, Jack & Norma	St. Lifer, Robert & Susan
Cohen, William and Elizabeth	Loebel, Arthur & Nancy	Sussman, Robert & Lisa
Feigus, Jay & Monica	Meyer, Maurice & Irma	Tuchband, Stu & Cora
Fishman, Enid	Morgovsky, Joel & Marilyn	Vicenzi, Eugene and Nadine
Gilstein, Zach & Sheila	Placitella, Christopher & Rachel	Wiesenfeld, Jay and Kay
Goldsmith, Stephen & Trudy	Rivkin, David & Judith	Wold, Robert & Marjorie

Mark Gruensfelder, Joel Morgovsky, HHDA Co-Chairs



It's not too early to think about this!  
 MRT Trip Israel Led by Rabbi Marc Kline  
 More information forthcoming  
 July 3rd –14th, 2016  
 Please contact Rabbi Kline if you are interested.



## Making Strides against Breast Cancer

The MRT "**Sisters**" will once again be walking in the **Making Strides against Breast Cancer** walk in Point Pleasant Beach. Our **DREAM TEAM** is not limited to just Sisters or temple members. ALL are invited to walk. Please join us as together we help to create more birthdays.



The event is **Sunday, October 18** at Point Pleasant Beach and is 3.2 miles (5k).

8:00 am	Registration begins – everyone must register at the tents
9:00 am	Opening Ceremony
9:40 am	Warm up
10:00 am	The Walk begins

For additional information please contact:

Margie Wold ( [woldiem@aol.com](mailto:woldiem@aol.com) )

Or

Nancy Zaslow ( [nzaslowe@weichert.com](mailto:nzaslowe@weichert.com) )

Sign up through the blog :

<http://mrtsisterhood.wordpress.com/making-strides-against-breast-cancer>

Or click on the link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/a6p9zu4> to reach the Sisterhood registration page.

Once you join the MRT Sisterhood team, you can have donations posted to the team or to your individual page. If you click on your name, the donation will post to your individual page.

**Join us as we help to create a world with more birthdays!**



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!****Anello, John & Steirman Harvey, Lisa**

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Mark Your Calendars!

**Flip-Flop First Friday**

Special Seeds of Spirituality Visual Service  
for Families and Kids

Friday night, November 13th at 6pm

No Pot Luck Dinner at this service



Guest Speakers from Camp Harlam! Bring your questions!

# ADULT ED

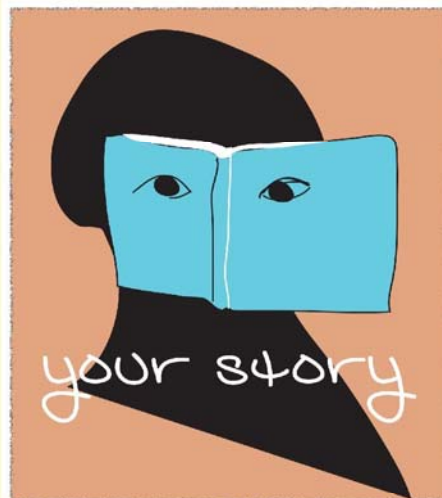
## 2015

be inspired

### MEMOIR

# WRITING

With Sylvia Kramer, poet and writer  
Thursday, October 15, 1-2.30PM  
Thursday, October 22, 1-2.30PM



**Sylvia Kramer** is a published author, poet, lecturer, and poetry therapist. For over 40 years she has conducted workshops and given lectures at colleges, high schools, nursery schools, nursing homes, retirement and rehab centers throughout NJ and has been frequent guest lecturer for the Poetry Therapy Association in New York City. She presently tutors private clients.

**Course Description:** Who among us has not regretted asking our parents or grand-parents about their early lives, their childhoods, their friends, their lovers? "How to ask, how to tell?" will be the basis of these sessions.

Memoir writing is a gift to your family. It's fun for you and a beautiful legacy for your children and grandchildren.

**Members \$15; Non-members \$20**

557 Hance Ave., Union Falls

*Please pay in advance to*

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**LIVE FROM NEW YORK!**

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**30 September @ 8.15 pm****Living Well, Aging Well**

Inspiring and uplifting discussion, with Harold Kushner, Rachel Cowan and Rabbi Peter Rubenstein, about what it means to live a good life. Join these great thinkers as they discuss faith, life lessons, wise aging and other significant issues we should all be thinking about.

**18 October @ 5.00 pm****Ralph Buultjens on World Politics Making Sense of the Middle East with Robin Wright**

Leading analyst of world affairs, Ralph Buultjens draws on his vast knowledge and understanding of how conflicts in one part of the world affect peace in another.

**8 November @ 8.00 pm****Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks in Conversation with Rabbi Peter Rubenstein**

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, one of the most admired religious leaders of our time, provides an answer to those who claim that religion is intrinsically a cause of violence, in his new book, *Not in God's Name*. There are many conflicts around the world at present that claim to be in the name of God in Iraq, in Syria, in Gaza and elsewhere. However, Rabbi Sacks argues that a true understanding of religion will enable and inspire us to bring peace, not war—that far from leaving religion on the sidelines, we must put it at the heart of our peacemaking efforts.

**TICKETING****\$18.00** for a single program

Purchase tickets in advance or at the door.

***Note: Check in at desk for each event*****NOTE:** Programs are live and start promptly at the indicated time.

### From Eleanor Rubin, Israel Affairs Chair

We are hoping that the rift between Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Obama will be healed and that the Iran deal will prove to be the right deal but until then there is ,  
in the New Year, some good and exciting news of happenings in Israel.

Aren't we proud to know that our neighbor, Jon Bon Jovi, the rock star and philanthropist who established Soul Kitchen in Red Bank, that some of us have visited, will be making his first trip to Israel for a performance with his band on October 3 in Yarkon Park, Tel Aviv. Bon Jovi is quoted in the local Israeli newspaper Yediot Aharonot, "I always heard what a wonderful place Israel is, the birthplace of all religions. I have been everywhere and Israel was a place I've always wanted to visit but it never worked out. This time I insisted that Israel must be on our list and it happened." He was asked about the BDS and has been urged by other singers to boycott Israel but replied that he was not interested in the boycott. Bon Jovi will visit with his wife and 4 children and tour Israel for several days after the concert. As a musician and follower of the arts, he will have much to experience.

Israel's art scene is blossoming. Since I've been to Masada a large amphitheater has been built where opera is performed. The recent Opera at Masada Festival held a performance of Puccini's "Tosca". There is a Jerusalem Light Festival during which neon lights in the shapes of musical instruments and other categories shine in the streets of the Old City for 8 days. What a glorious spectacle that must be. It is held several times during the year.

The magnificent Israel Museum in Jerusalem celebrating its 50th anniversary is showing a centerpiece exhibit called "A Brief History of Humankind". Artifacts and art work track 1.5 million years of the growth of civilization in Israel's vicinity.

This isn't exactly an artistic endeavor but it is definitely creative. On the Kibbutz Lotan in Israel's Arava Desert, in the Center for Creative Ecology, homes are being built that will survive earthquakes and fires. They are built out of straw bales, leftovers from hay harvest, and mud making them fireproof and earthquake proof. They are built over geodesic dome structures and can be manufactured quickly by people without building experience. The earthquake that devastated villages in Nepal could benefit by learning and using these types of structures.

In addition to the news about Israel we read in the daily press it is good to know what the rest of the country is about. If Bon Jovi and his family have a hard time getting around, they can call on La'Zooz, Israel's latest answer to Uber.

### **Amy Leifman will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 10th at 10am**



Amy Leifman will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on October 10TH. Amy is an 8TH grader at the Red Bank Charter School. If it were possible, she'd live at URJ Camp Harlam all year long with her camp friends. Instead, she lives in Red Bank with her cats, Saffron and Tecumseh, older brother, Evan, and parents, Faith and Brian. She loves photography and listening to music. Her favorite bands are Panic! At The Disco, Twenty One Pilots, My Chemical Romance, and Troye Sivan. You can also find her in the kitchen baking – and looking up interesting recipes online. She's been an active member in the Junior Youth Group and is looking forward to all the SMarTY events this year. Her whole family appreciates all the support she's received from both Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clissold as she's prepared for this important day.



## Spotlight on our Board

### Mark Kroen, Men's Club President



*Mark, tell me about your family.* Rosanne and I have a blended family of 5 children and are thrilled to be celebrating Adam's upcoming Bar Mitzvah with our family, friends and Temple family.

*Where were you born and where did you attend school?* I was born in Jersey City in Margaret Hague Hospital, grew up and attended public schools in North Bergen NJ and graduated from East Brunswick High School. I attended University of Dayton, Ohio and graduated with a dual major in Bio-engineering and Chemistry and received my MBA from Fordham University at Lincoln Center.

*What is your profession?* I started my company in February, 2015, called Office BIZ, which is a distributor of office products, print and promotional.

*That's a long way from bio-engineering and chemistry.* My professional career started as Sales Engineer selling chemical process equipment, and then selling high tech sterilization and depyrogenation equipment to the pharmaceutical, healthcare and medical research facilities. I moved on selling equipment to the power industry when Enron forced me to make a serious career change. That got me involved with office products.

*What's fun about being President of Men's Club?* I wouldn't call it fun yet, as I am still finding my way as to the real role of the Men's Club within MRT. I am associated with a terrific group of men who lend constant support so we can fulfill the needs and worthy causes in which MRT is involved. I do enjoy the challenge the Men's Club offers. Personally, I feel I have found an extended family, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the male bonding that has come from the experience so far, and just being associated with MRT has allowed Rosanne and me to make new friends.

*What books have you read lately?* I mostly read periodicals rather than books, such as National Geographic and Cooking magazines or anything that might grab my interest. I enjoy knowledge I gain from reading such material.

*Do you cook?* Yes. I do most of the cooking at home and like experimenting with food and introducing new tastes to my family. My favorite recipe is a French Leg of Lamb but nobody likes it so I haven't had the need to make it. One food I have introduced and was received quite well is Oxtail Stew. Almost everyone in the family seems to enjoy it. It is delicious!

*What was the most fun you had as a kid?* Playing outdoor sports with friends and just being outdoors. Kids don't do that anymore. Though we didn't belong to a Temple, I played on the Temple youth basketball team and was pretty good.

*What did you hate most about school?* I needed to transfer to East Brunswick High School in my Junior year and I was bullied the first few weeks until I stood up to the individuals. Gaining acceptance in a new environment was difficult and I was miserable. I buried myself in studies and did quite well. I really don't condone fighting. I find it unpleasant, but sometimes you have to stand your ground and fight for your rights. I tell the younger boys at home that they should let no one bully them and that it is often just a matter of standing up to the bully. My high school experience is one reason why we are members of MRT. Both Rosanne and I feel that MRT fosters an incredibly embracing and welcoming atmosphere where one can assimilate quite readily into a new community.

*Who was the greatest influence in your life?* My mother.

*If you could invite 3 famous people for dinner who would they be?* Moses, Jesus and Abraham Lincoln.

*What would you serve?* Kosher oxtail stew.

*Would you like to add anything else?* I love my wife and my blended family and my extended Jewish family.

Thank you, Mark! Interviewed by: Eleanor Rubin, MRT Trustee, Chair Adult Ed

## Spotlight on our Board

### Linda Burns, Membership Chair



Linda Burns is co-chair of the Membership Committee and a member of MRT's Board of Trustees. With her co-chair Gena Ansell-Lande, Linda is responsible for recruiting, orienting, and welcoming our new members, as well as connecting new members with established members. In her engagement with MRT, Linda has noted that "you can take on a volunteer job at MRT that is totally different than your 'day job', thus allowing you to experiment in expanding your skills". Linda's variety of experiences at MRT exemplifies that view.

Linda, a native of West Hempstead, Long Island, has lived in Monmouth County since 1988. Her professional career has been in the Human Resources area for tech and pharmaceutical companies. Currently, she is the Head of HR for the US office of Helsinn, a Swiss pharmaceutical company. She and her daughter Leah joined MRT in 1998, shortly after Linda's marriage ended in divorce. Linda was attracted to MRT by Rabbi Priesand's reputation as the first woman rabbi, and was comfortable with the large number of interfaith families at MRT. As Linda engaged with MRT, so did Leah, who served as President of our Senior Youth Group. (Leah has since become a practicing civil engineer.)

At MRT, Linda has jumped into several areas that are new and different from her professional life. She has been the head of the Outreach Committee (welcoming interfaith families), been the chair of the Religious Education Committee (and had a first stint on the Board), led a community outreach project in an early Mitzvah Day, and served in the leadership of the Arts Festival as chair of the Ad Journal. In each of these positions, Linda found a mentor at MRT who asked and encouraged her to become involved and taught her what she needed to succeed. Among those mentors were Roy Eisen, Bob Gabel, Arlene Berg, Gayle Horvath, Alice Berman, Rich Sachs, and Joel Morgovsky.

Beyond MRT, Linda serves on the Board of the Monmouth Symphony Orchestra, where she is the chair of the Program Journal.

Linda appreciates the ways that she had been given an opportunity at MRT to try new jobs and tasks, beyond her "real-world" career, and feels satisfaction in being able to make a contribution to the larger community in which she lives.

By Jay Wiesenfeld

### ***Jacqueline Finley will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 24th at 10am***



Jacqueline has been attending Monmouth Reform Temple since Kindergarten and has enjoyed being part of the MRT community. She is grateful to all of her teachers, the Cantor and the Rabbi for the guidance they have given her in preparing for her Bat Mitzvah. Just beginning her 8th grade year at Spring Lake Heights Elementary, Jacqueline enjoys school especially subjects like math and science. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has achieved high honor roll each year. She will soon begin attending open houses to determine which high school she will attend. Outside of the classroom, Jacqueline keeps busy with plenty of activities including the school and travel soccer teams and as part of the band playing the flute. This year she is taking up lyrical dance. In her spare time, Jacqueline likes going to the mall, doing her nails and eating Chipotle.

## Spotlight on our Board

### Jill Austin, Sisterhood Co-President

Jill may be the youngest oldest member of Monmouth Reform Temple. She joined MRT as a 5 year old in the mid 60's after her family, the Bakers (Jerry and Peg), relocated to Colts Neck from Boston. She was Bat Mitzvah'ed and Confirmed at MRT and rejoined in 2000 when her oldest son, Alex, was just 1.

Many people know Jill as a real estate agent, but her background is actually in Marketing and Management Information Systems in which she has a degree from Boston University. If you have or had a Timex watch with a Disney character displayed on the face (Remember those?), you are the beneficiary of a licensing agreement that Jill championed with Disney when she worked as a Product Manager for Timex. Working for Timex, Jill ventured regularly to Hong Kong, the Philippines, and the annual Watch Fair in Basel, Switzerland.

Jill competed on her Marlboro High School tennis team and continues to avidly play the game in a women's doubles league and with a group of senior men. She is also quite musical having played the flute and piano and dabbling in temple choir for the joint Thanksgiving celebration with the Presbyterian church.

While Jill is probably best loved for her fun loving, bubbly personality and her fondness for dancing and getting a little crazy, she actually feels she is an introvert who has anxiety in new situations. But regardless, Jill is up for just about anything.

Like most parents, Jill is most proud of her awesome children, Alex and Alyssa, who just get more amazing every day. And like most of our MRT Community, Jill loves the warmth of the MRT family, the many friendships she has developed here, and the comfort of just being able to be herself.

Reach out to Jill to experience her spirit and join in some of the social and service activities sponsored by the MRT Sisterhood.

By Zach Gilstein



## From Stephanie Fields, MRT Religious School Principal



It has been such an exciting month this past month as we have gotten off the ground! It is such a beautiful thing to see the halls bustling with sounds of children learning and moving as well as the use of the marteiff. Our online Hebrew program will be in full swing by the end of the month and the High Holy Days will come to an end allowing us to gain some sense of normalcy. During October we can look forward to October 4th beginning Mitzvah Academy and Confirmation in addition to Sukkah visits and a real special day all around ending in our congregational celebration of Simchat Torah where we will officially welcome our newest students. All parents are invited to join us from 11:30-12:00 noon on Sunday, October 25th as we will welcome "The Lego Guy" for a special all school program building our own model of Jerusalem! Stay tuned as more details will be forthcoming in your email inbox!

Moadim l'simcha!

**Save the Date!**  
**Sunday, November 22nd**  
**Mid morning to afternoon**  
**More info coming soon...**  
**Adult Ed Film Series right here at MRT!**

## Spotlight on our Board

### Zach Gilstein, MRT President



Zach Gilstein is the newly-elected President of MRT as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, and is a member of MRT's Board of Trustees. Raised in a Conservative synagogue outside of Philly, Zach migrated to the Reform movement when he and his wife, Sheila, began attending High Holyday services at MRT (and at a few other Monmouth County temples) for ten years prior to officially joining in 1994, when the oldest of their two sons (Jeremy) entered Kindergarten. One of the key attractions of the Reform HHD service was that, "it was finite-it started and ended on time, as opposed to a Conservative service which lasted for six hours with a constant ebb and flow of people-the Reform service was much more engaging".

Zach is proud that his sons, Jeremy and Joshua, were both Bar Mitzvah'd and Confirmed and Sheila was Bat Mitzvah'd at MRT. By contrast, Zach moved to Maryland in December of his sophomore year in High School and never completed his Confirmation, and he believes that the post-Bar Mitzvah years are when our youth are mature enough to understand the foundations of Judaism and delve into the more real-world aspects of our faith.

Zach is an avid golfer and tennis player which he does regularly on the weekends and when he can get out of work early. He also loves to do puzzles of all sorts and particularly likes working the *The New York Times* Sunday crossword and the KenKen puzzles. He is a life member of the United States Chess Federation and during Grad School was almost an Expert player, but now mostly just plays on the computer.

One of the most important things about MRT to Zach is that we have always been a "fair-share temple-one of the founding principles back in 1959 was the kibbutz model, whereby people contributed what they could, and that no one was excluded".

What would success look like to Zach at the conclusion of his Presidency in July 2017? "That more people are connected to each other, have opportunities to get together and enjoy each other's company, and that each member finds his or her portal"

By Linda Burns

### Lev Brewer will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 17th at 10am

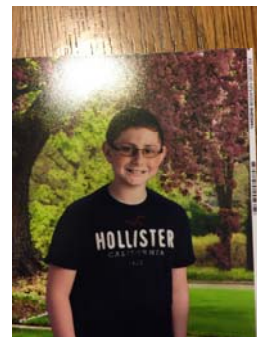
Lev Barak Brewer is an old soul with a big heart and An unusual sense of humor. love of musical theatre, Comedy, animals, big cities, small children,wild deep woods, rivers, Woods,Campfires, long "do-nothing" days on the Couch, Garage sales & flea markets...and his family...forms The nexus of his big wonderful life! He has enjoyed The musical challenge of perfecting the various Tropes of his torah and haftorah portions. L'Chaim.





### ***Adam Gorstein will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 3rd at 10am***

Adam Gorstein will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on October 3. He is in 8th grade and attends Millstone Middle School. His favorite subjects are math and science and thinks he would like to have a career in science when he grows up. He loves to play basketball and can't wait for the season to start. Adam would like to thank everyone at MRT especially Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clissold for helping him to get to this special day.



### ***Matt Berman will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 31st at 10am***



Matt is in the 7th grade at Monmouth Beach School. He enjoys playing both piano and clarinet. Matt is on the cross country team and loves to ski. He would like to thank Cantor Clissold and Rabbi Kline for all of their help and support. Matt would also like to thank all of his teachers, especially Mrs. Leavitt and Mrs. Kaplan for always believing in him. He is very excited to become a Bar Mitzvah and share this very special day with all of his family and friends.



**Looking for that unique gift? Look no further!**

**Order your inscribed brick (s) NOW for  
MRT's Garden Walkway  
\$100 for one Brick \$400 for five bricks**

**Bar or Bat Mitzvah, In Honor of, In Memory of, etc.**

Inscribed Brick Order Form (duplicate form if you wish)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription of your choice: Maximum of 3 lines, 18 characters/line incl. spaces:  
(Please print – use capitals or lower case as you wish inscribed)  
Send to MRT with check, payable MRT-Walkway

## Get Healthy This Year at MRT



Every day our bodies age. What we do each day to preserve our good health and strong mind is up to us. Join us at MRT for fun and inspiring programs to expand your spirit and mind, making our bodies healthier inside and out.

What is being called the new "Health Initiative" at MRT involves a commitment to change what we do to get healthier. Whether it is incorporating more healthy foods, taking a class in yoga or meditation, starting a weekly walking group or listening to a speaker on stress management, we can all benefit from a tweak in our daily routine.

An initial meeting at Margie Wold's house started the groundwork but to make this idea a real success, we need many many more people on board to help create, run and attend these initiatives. Much of the planning is still in the works but there is one big event being planned: A Day of Inspiration---Get Healthy at MRT. Our own congregants involved in the health field will offer sample classes and help guide

ourselves and others to a healthier lifestyle. This event will be Sunday, January 31, so mark your calendars. We want this initiative to be a community wide event.

Stay tuned for more details. Be a part of the process. Contact Margie Wold, [woldiem@aol.com](mailto:woldiem@aol.com), 732-241-9941.

## From Margie Wold, 2nd VP—Get Healthy This Year at MRT

You'll be hearing a lot in the coming weeks and months about a new health initiative at Monmouth Reform Temple. Get Healthy at MRT is our way of connecting with one another to try to get healthier not only in body, but in mind and spirit. I hope that as time passes we will be able to share our stories but I will start briefly with my own.

I find daily exercise important in my life to de-stress and take charge of my body. The first time I ever really exercised was after the birth of my first daughter, Lindsay, 23 years ago. After a steady diet of cheese and crackers and haagen-dazs ice cream, I gained 50 pounds and a good dose of poor self-esteem. I needed to get back to my "old self". Little did I realize that 3 years later I would be pregnant with twins and gain back that same 50 pounds. I worked with trainers over the years before joining the Atlantic Club in Red Bank, my home away from home. I share all of this because we all get fit in different ways. Some people love to swim, others love a good kickboxing class, while others enjoy the many health benefits of yoga and meditation.

I want us all to help each other get healthier. We have a great starter team of people ready to work at programs and ideas at MRT, but we need many more people to make this a success. Reach out to me and I can tell you more about our new health initiative. Together we can make a difference helping each other get fit. Happy New Year to all!-----Margie Wold, [woldiem@aol.com](mailto:woldiem@aol.com)

## Swami Comes to MRT for Spiritual Talk on Change Wednesday, October 14th at 7pm

Come learn how to embrace change and deal with daily stress with Chidananda Swamiji at MRT on Wednesday October 14th at 7 p.m. Chidananda Swamiji is the founder of Fowai Forum, a non-profit dedicated to "self-inquiry, spiritual wisdom and service to humanity." The talk, "How Can We Cope with Change?" will be followed by a question and answer period.

Chidananda Swamiji's main interests include human values like truth and self-awareness, management themes like leadership and communication and emotional intelligence. His writings blend teaching of texts with modern findings and outlooks.

Please come join us for an evening of inspiration.

## SISTERHOOD



We wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Sisterhood had an active summer starting with a potluck dinner and pool party at Elise Aptaker's home. Later in the summer twenty members of all ages met at the Shrewsbury Yacht Club and had a stimulating discussion of the Pulitzer Prize winner, Anthony Doerr's book "All the Light we Cannot See". We also shared an excellent German/French themed pot luck meal on the deck overlooking the Shrewsbury River!

The New Year started with the sale of Apple Cake and Babka paired with honey to sweeten everyone's holiday. This year's outstanding Apple Cake was homemade by a "secret baker."

### We have great events scheduled:

**Sisterhood Dinner in the Sukkah**—October 1st at 6:30pm. This is one of the highlights of our year. We have a wonderful, catered dinner with the opportunity to welcome our new members, gather and celebrate the year to come and meet and mingle with the diverse and interesting female members of our Temple family.

**Book Club**—This is a great way to meet individuals of all ages and discuss challenging books. We meet in members homes. Please consider joining us and we are always looking for suggestions of books to read and ladies to host ! Currently on the list are:

- Oct 5th "The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing" by Mira Jacob
- Nov 16th "Orphan Train" by Christina Baker Kline

**Out and About:**—October 27th Sisterhood will hold our first Out and About at a to be determined location. These casual get togethers offer women an opportunity to go out to eat and drink and have tantalizing conversation. Community Projects

**Family Promise**—Sisterhood members are some of the most reliable volunteers supporting Family Promise. This month Sisterhood along with Social Action and Men's Club procured and delivered a whole house of furniture and household items to a family that lost everything in Hurricane Sandy.

**School Supply Drive**—Sisterhood joined the youth groups in collecting school supplies to donate to children in Family Promise and 180 Turning Lives Around.

**Making Strides against Breast Cancer**—October 18th Please walk with us and support us in this very important fund raising event in the fight against breast cancer

**Judaica Shop**—We have a large selection of gifts and holiday items for sale. Some samples are displayed in the hallway cabinet. The items include Shabbat candlesticks, Kiddush cups, Menorahs, mezzuzoths and yad. These can be purchased in the Temple office.

**Membership**— If you have joined the Temple since January 2015 you are automatically a member of Sisterhood for the 2015-16 year. All others can join by mailing or dropping a check off at the Temple or go to: [www.monthreformtemple.org](http://www.monthreformtemple.org) and click on "Committees" then "Sisterhood". There are four levels of supporting membership starting at just \$36.00 a year.

**Welcome Baskets**— Sisterhood delivers Shabbat Welcome baskets to new members of the Temple community Please consider joining our warm and welcoming group. You can participate in any of the projects or programs and can be as active as your schedule allows. Being a part of our group will enhance your feeling of belonging to our Temple family.

If you have any questions, please call co-presidents, Jill Austin at 732 213-1063 or Cheryl Gaudette at 908 489-0055.

**MEN'S CLUB, Mark Kroen, President**

September very much followed August as another busy month for both new members and activities. I would like to begin by recognizing the newest members to the MRT Men's Club:

Brian Forman Thomas Dura Tim Diehl Dr. Jeffrey Osofsky Joel Patterson John Anello

We look forward to meeting all of you at future Men's Club meeting and/or event, and welcome you and your families to Monmouth Reform Temple.

The following is a list of activities the Men's Club participated in the month of September:

1. We were asked to assist one more time in straightening out the books on the book shelves. I want to acknowledge and thank Jim Leavitt, James Sabo and his son Evan for their personal participation, and to Linda Murray for guiding us through the effort.

2. We had a strong showing of ushers and greeters at the High Holy Day Services. I wish to acknowledge Perry Weyser for once again taking the lead role in having ushers present at all services.

As for next year, I am reaching out early to have someone within the Men's Club to take over for Perry next year, who informed me he will not have the time due to personal obligations. Bob Gabel, after speaking at the Yom Kippur services, if you would like to take on the very important role, please let me know.

Perry, Mazel Tov on your announced engagement and future plan for an August marriage. I, along with the entire Men's Club, wish you and Lynn many years of joy and happiness together!

3. Men's Club was called upon to be the muscle for Family Promise, who was successful in finding a new home for a family who had been displaced since Sandy hit New Jersey.

A special thanks to the following people, who took the time from their Saturday to help out: Jay Wiesenfeld for taking the lead role and for handling all the logistics, Jay Feigus for providing one of his furniture trucks to transport all the furniture, Steve Gaudette for offering his driving skills, James, Jonah and Lev Brewer, and Jay Goldberg. An Honorable Mention to Steve Kennedy, who was trying hard to join us, but another obligation held him longer than expected. Steve, we know you would have joined us gladly and so we look for you involvement the next time.

4. The Men's Club convened on Sunday morning, September 27 to build the Sukkah, and hope everyone has had the time to walk in and enjoyed the surroundings.

5. The Men's Club and their families, along with members of the Hebrew National Softball Team and their families (maybe one and the same) enjoyed a BBQ Outing hosted by Dean and Sharyn Ross. Thank you Dean for the invite and being a gracious host!

6. We cleaned our adopted portion of the Henry Hudson Walkway – thanks to Jill Austin from Sisterhood, and Nancy and Peter Zaslowe for participating as well. It was a great showing and a great outing. The next clean-up is sometime late October, and we look forward to having mover people join us.

On a side note, Men's Club would like to announce that Sam Goodman stepped down after serving many years as the Men's Club Treasurer. Sam realized there was too much going on in his personal life between work, purchasing a new home and a baby on the way! Sam, the Men's Club recognizes the personal effort you put into the position of Treasurer, and expect to see you as time permits at future Men's Club meetings and events. The Men's Club extends a

*(Continued on page 21)*



**MEN'S CLUB, Mark Kroen, President**

*(Continued from page 20)*

hearty Mazel Tov to you and Anne on the purchase of your new home and the future addition to the Goodman family. The upcoming October events are as follows:

Our regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, October 5th at 7:30pm and poker is on October 8th at 7pm. In addition:

1. The Sukkah will be broken down on Sunday October 11. All Men's Club members are welcome to participate.
2. Sometime after Sukkot ends, the Men's Club will coordinate the transport of all the food collecting in the Temple lobby .
3. The Men's Club Annual Golf Outing is Sunday, October 18. Zach Gilstein is the host of this great event. If interested in playing in a foursome, please e-mail Zach at zachmate2@gmail.com
4. The Men's Club will be gathering for the Giant Spectacular Football Event on Monday evening, October 19th at 8:00 pm for the Giants vs. Eagles games. This should be a fun filled night with comradery, ill wishes from Giant fans to eagle fans and vice-versa, and yes there will be a little betting pool going on! Personally, I am a Dallas fan, but will be there to see which team moves further down the list for most losses!

As of now, we will gather at the Houlihan's on Route 35 with first round of beers and appetizers provided by the Men's Club. However, we are looking for a member of Men's Club to open their home and host the game, and Men's Club will provide the beer and appetizers. Do we have a volunteer?

Please come out and share the fun and comradery with your fellow MRT brother!

5. Our next clean-up of the Henry Hudson Trail, will be Sunday, October 25. We will meet at 8:30 am at the Temple, clean the trail and then try to meet for breakfast. For those who did not attend the last clean-up, it was a great day, with October 25 due to be a better weather day, and the comradery and conversation was great and all for a worthy social cause! Come be a part!

In closing, all male congregants are members of the Men's Club. We ask for a small gift/ contribution \$36. To date, the Men's Club wishes to recognize the following members for their thoughtful and gracious gifts as of September 24:

Gerry Baker Mitch Baum Arthur Brawer Harmon Butler John Christie Seth Eisenberg Lloyd Fitzsimmons  
Ira Friedman Zach Gilstein Jay Goldberg Steve Goldsmith Daniel Hampel John Heidema Stephen  
Kennedy Alan Klatsky Mark Kroen Rabbi William Kurry David Levinsky Maurice Meyer III Barry Miller  
David Miller Joel Morgovsky Gerald Reisner David Rivkin Dean Ross Donald Rothman, MD Charles  
Rubenstein James Sabo Richard Sachs Scott Schneider Bob St. Lifer Joseph Stein Robert Sussman  
Leonard Teitelbaum Stu Tuchband Perry Weyser Jay Wiesenfeld.

If your name doesn't appear above, I look forward to including it in the November newsletter.

Wishing you all and your loved ones good health, prosperity and peace!

Shalom!  
Mark Kroen

**THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:**

- Frances Steiner, on the death of her son, Robert
- Stacy Ross on the death of her uncle, Stephen Morris



*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.

## October Yahrtzeits (date based on when they occur)

Names to be Read on Friday, October 2nd (Services at 6pm)

William Berk, Geri Bernard, Arnold Burns, \*Charles Cooper, Lynn DiMatteo, \*Stanley Familant, Babette Kaltenbacher Flaum, \*Roslyn Falk Garin, \*Frances Gettelson, \*Herbert Ginzburg, Abraham Hirsh Goldenberg, Murray Horowitz, \*Ludwig L. Jacobi, Solomon Kahn. Linh Katz, Renee Kaye, \*Henry Kipnis, Edward Leimberg, Alex Messinger, Faye Morer, Stanley Pearlman, Elaine Roffman, Janet Ruston, Jacob Saperstein, Shelley Stern, \*Martha Weinberg, Michael Weiss, \*Max David Weissman, Audrey Wertheim

Names to be Read on Friday, October 9th (Services at 7pm)

Irene Baderman, \*Leo Bernstein, \*Louis Feinman, Charles Michael Ferraro, Ruth Goldenberg, Manley Gutterman, Betty Henken, Rose Hoffman, Richard Kaye, \*Suzanne Kretzmer, \*Miriam Kridel, Lynn Lowenstein, Frances McNew, Paul Rapisardi, Norman Schlosberg, Bernice Spiegelman, Ezra Ure

Names to be Read on Friday, October 16th (Services at 7pm)

\*Harry Braunstein, \*Ruth Brenner, Maxine Byck, Karen Lynn Ciorciari, Bernard Cohen, Jim Cook, Luise Davidson, \*Adam Diller, Theodore Ferencz, Sadie Finkelstein, Frederick Jones, Arthur Mrozek, Renee Schoen, \*Gerald G. Silverman, David Weiner, \*Murray Weiss, Murray Wenig

Names to be Read on Friday, October 23rd (Services at 7pm)

\*Philip Alter, \*Sandy Brandwene, \*Samuel George Coppersmith, Eric Davis, John Clifford Devine, Irving Greenberg, Alexander Grieco, Lawrence Hoffman, \*Henry Jacobi, William I. Klatsky, Samuel Kramer, \*Joan Lansky, Sylvia Leimberg, Mildred Melnick, Clara Miller, Sheila C. Newell, Madlyn Rickard, \*Frieda Sapozhnikova, Carolyn Schindler, Ruth Teitelbaum Failer, \*Tess Weiss, Frank Welton

Names to be Read on Friday, October 30th (Services at 7pm)

Lola Baum, \*Bertha Bregman, \*Jess Cohen, Sally T. Frankel, \*Harry Fryman, \*Frances Litthauer Goldstein, Ruth Greenwald, Lenny Horowitz, \*Becky Jaffe, Dr. Bertram Kaswiner, \*Maurice Meyer, Sidney Moskovitz, \*Fanny Obstgarten, Bernard Peskoe, Polina Plaksina, Charles Schleifer, Elaine Sherman, Fanny Silverman, Ida Steinberger, \*George Weinberg

## The Congregation Acknowledges with Thanks the Following Contributions:

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

#### In Memory Of:

Sue, mother of Gloria Kaplan  
Linda and Ira Friedman

#### In Honor Of:

Rabbi Kline  
Nancy Baskin  
High Holy Day Services  
Jane Kaye and Kevin Coyne

### Adam Greenfield Religious School Fund

#### In Honor Of:

The Gorstein Family on Adam's Bar Mitzvah  
Susan and Bob St. Lifer  
The Brewer Family  
The Leifman Family on Amy's Bat Mitzvah  
The Brewer Family  
The Nifoussi Family on Cameron's Bat Mitzvah  
The Brewer Family  
The Berman Family on Matt's Bar Mitzvah  
The Brewer Family  
The Pitzer Family on Jacqueline Finley's Bat Mitzvah  
The Brewer Family

### Men's Club

#### In Honor Of:

The Gorstein Family on Adam's Bar Mitzvah  
Joel & Marilyn Morgovsky

### Cantor's Fund

Elizabeth Bates & Madna Aubry

#### In Memory Of:

Bella Gruensfelder, Doris Boxman  
Bev and Mark Gruensfelder

#### In Honor Of:

Phoebe and Bernard Shagan on the marriage of their son Adam to Karolyn  
Lois and Larry Avrin  
Cantor Clissold  
Nancy Baskin  
The MRT Choir  
Alice Berman  
The MRT Choir  
High Holy Day Services  
Jane Kaye and Kevin Coyne

### RSJP Endowment Fund

#### In Memory Of:

Frank Whyman  
Dexter Dodge, Phyllis and Stanley Getzler

#### In Honor Of:

Rose Priesand's 100th Birthday  
Karen and David Levinsky

### Mazon Fund

#### In Honor Of:

Rose Priesand celebrating her special birthday  
Barbara and Richard Gitlin

### Oneg Fund

#### In Memory Of:

Benjamin Lissner, Jr.  
Jill and Harmon Butler  
William Palmer  
Dee Kaplan  
Anna Harran  
Susan and James Harran  
Jessie Miller  
Helene and David Miller  
Ann Bregman, Stanley Familant  
Lynne and Elliott Familant  
Alice Loebel  
Nancy and Arthur Loebel  
In Honor Of:  
Rich Sachs  
Nancy Baskin

### General Fund

#### In Memory Of:

Elaine Weisbrot  
Caryl and Charles Sills

### Adult Ed Fund

#### In Honor Of:

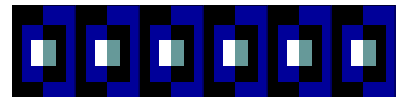
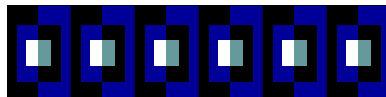
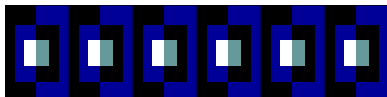
Rabbi Kline  
Eleanor Rubin

### Arts and Decorations Fund

Gail and Sam Tobias

#### In Honor Of:

Our son Jeremy's engagement to Lila Corby  
Sheila and Zach Gilstein



2015 MRT Youth at Cardboard Box City



2015 MRT Food Wall



# October 2015

For the most up-to-date information: [www.monmouthreformtemple.org/calendar](http://www.monmouthreformtemple.org/calendar)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 6:30pm Sis Supper in the Sukkah	<b>2</b> 3:45pm Shabbat @ Chelsea 6pm First Friday Shabbat Services BYO Dinner in the Sukkah follows	<b>3</b> 9am Minyan & Torah Study 10am Adam Gorstein Bar Mitzvah
<b>4</b> Grades 8-10 begin 9:30am Rel School 9:30am Bag & Blocks 10am Class Parents Mtg 11:30am Simchat Torah 6pm Fest Yizkor	<b>5</b> Office Closed 7:15pm Sis Book Club offsite 7:30pm Men's Club Bd	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 4pm Rel School 7pm Youth Committee	<b>8</b> 7pm Knitting 7pm Men's Club Poker 7:15pm Membership	<b>9</b> 2:15pm Shabbat @ Brighton 7pm Shabbat Services	<b>10</b> 9am Minyan & Torah Study 10am Amy Leifman Bat Mitzvah
<b>11</b> 8:30pm Sukkah Takedown NO Rel School Orchid Society in Social Hall all day	<b>12</b> Office Closed Columbus Day	<b>13</b> 9:45am Study Group 11am-9pm Applebee's Fundraiser 7pm Orchid Society 7:30pm Exec Board	<b>14</b> 4pm Rel School 7pm Swami: Coping Program	<b>15</b> 2pm Adult Ed Memoir Writing 7pm Intro to Judaism	<b>16</b> 7pm Shabbat Services	<b>17</b> 9am Minyan & Torah Study 10am Lev Brewer Bar Mitzvah
<b>18</b> Breast Cancer Walk Men's Club Golf Outing 9:30am Rel School 9:30am 7th grade PACT 11:30am Blessing the Animals 12pm RS Faculty Meeting 5pm 92Y Live: Making Sense	<b>19</b> 7pm Knitting 8pm Men's Club Football at Houlihans	<b>20</b> NO Study Group 7:15pm Board Meeting	<b>21</b> 4pm Rel School 6:30pm Ritual 7pm SMaRTY	<b>22</b> 2pm Adult Ed Memoir Writing 7pm Intro to Judaism 7:45pm Choir	<b>23</b> 2:15pm Brighton 3:45pm Chelsea 7pm Shabbat Services- Social Action	<b>24</b> 9am Minyan & Torah Study 10am Jacqueline Finley Bat Mitzvah
<b>25</b> Clean up Henry Hudson Walk 9:30am Religious School with Lego Guy	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:45am Study Group 7pm Sis Out and About	<b>28</b> 4pm Rel School 7pm Health Initiative Meeting	<b>29</b> 7pm Intro to Judaism 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> 7pm Shabbat Services	<b>31</b> 9am Minyan & Torah Study 10am Matt Berman Bar Mitzvah

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RN, CCM  
Principle



## President's Address Rosh Hashanah 5776

### L'Shanah Tovah

It is wonderful to see so many people here this morning. It is certainly a testament to the vibrancy of our community and the strength of our 4000 year old heritage.

I wanted to take a few minutes to review the state of our Temple and some of our future directions. My wife promised to drag me off with a hook if I went beyond 5 minutes, so I will do my best to keep this short.

At the head of the list I would have to put welcoming our new Rabbi Marc Kline and his family to our community. Rabbi Kline has certainly brought tremendous energy and intent to building our MRT Jewish community and strengthening our relationships with the outside community.

He blesses us with an interesting commentary on the Torah each week and, along with Cantor Clissold, leads engaging services. When he is able to join our Saturday morning Torah study sessions, he shares an understanding of multiple perspectives that greatly strengthens the depth of the conversation about the weekly reading. I know more good things are in store from Rabbi Kline this year, including an 8 week Introduction to Judaism course.

At the same time, I think the Temple has done well to integrate Rabbi Kline and his family into our community and help them settle effectively in the newness of New Jersey.

This last May we reinitiated Mitzvah Day, a day focused on Tikkun Olam, one of the cornerstones of our Mission. Under great leadership and an enthusiastic committee, we engaged more than 200 members of our Temple in social action projects such as students cutting patterns for shoes for kids in Uganda, working in our Gan Mazon, giving blood, painting a house being rebuilt after the ravages of Hurricane Sandy with Habitat for Humanity, cleaning up

the Henry Hudson Trail, or swabbing for bone marrow donations. It was truly a community engagement both for us as a Temple and with the broader community we live in. We are seeking to build on this momentum as we plan our Social Action projects for the coming year.

Our spirituality has grown in multiple ways. The First Friday gatherings have drawn crowds of over 100. It is heartening to see so many young people engaged in worship, eating, and socializing together. We have broadened our Seeds of Spirituality visual T'Filah services. These services bring a unique sense of closeness as we worship without books and let the imagery enhance the feeling of Shabbat peace. This year we have 5 Seeds of Spirituality services planned, each with a particular theme.

Religious School and Adult Jewish Learning are central to our Mission. Religious School graduated 8 Confirmants this past year. This was a good accomplishment. I hope we will do even better this year and in the future. The years after B'Nai Mitzvah are the time in our youth's lives where they have the maturity to learn much about the depth of our Jewish culture complex, to gain insight into the world in which we live, and the Jewish perspective on social justice, community service, Israel, and challenges they may face as they go on to college.

This year we are welcoming a new Religious School Principal, Stephanie Fields, who brings with her an understanding of the recent trends in Jewish learning, means of engaging our students, and an approach to preparing our students to live enriched Jewish lives. I know that our Rabbi, Cantor, and Stephanie are engaged in enhancing our Religious school curriculum and approach to ensure that we are doing the very best for our children.

Adult Education prospered this year with an excellent Shabbat Kallah with Rabbi Amy Scheinerman, the start of a Sunday evening discussion group focusing on the topic of Jewish Belief & The Meaning of Life: Why Am I Jewish? And continuing a program of 92<sup>nd</sup> St Y broadcasts. Lifelong Learning remains a key focus for connecting our community, and we will continue and expand on these programs.

On the Social side, Sisterhood and Men's Club offered many events that enabled folks to connect with others with similar interests. Whether it was the Sisterhood Book Club, baking Hamentashen, the Men's Club poker group having a friendly game every few weeks, or the Temple wide Purim Social or Beerfest, we had many opportunities to build friendships and connections. This year I look forward to more social engagements that will attract a broader set of our Temple community.

We also had many other successes. Just to mention a few –

- We initiated our MRT Leadership Training Program and graduated over 20 members.
- Our Gan Mazon has produced nearly 900 pounds of produce that has been contributed to local food banks.
- Our Library Task Force initiated an overhaul of our library that will create a more modern and functional learning and study space in our Temple.
- Our Rummage sale raised \$9000 and provided a valuable service to the community.

One area where we did not fare so well is the part of our Mission where we state that we are all stewards of MRT's financial resources. Unfortunately, we needed to borrow \$57,000 to cover our expenses last year.

Exclusive of Religious School, it costs a little over \$2200 per family to sustain our Mission. Giving Pledges average only around \$1700 per family leaving us with a sizable gap to close with fund raising activities such as the High Holy Day Campaign, income from our endowments, and other fund raisers.

We are a Fair Share Temple, where we ask each member family to give according to their means.

The High Holy Day Campaign is our biggest fund raising effort after the regular Annual Giving Pledge.

I hope that as you think about starting a great 5776, if it is within your means, you make a contribution that will enable you to reach the



Sustaining Level or beyond. If not, please give something. This is our Connected Jewish Community. We value everyone's contribution.

Sustaining our Mission is important to enabling us to flourish and fully realize our MRT Vision of Nurturing Meaning in Our Lives.

Now I would certainly be remiss, if I did not acknowledge the people who make all of these things and more happen here at Monmouth Reform Temple.

I would like to start by acknowledging our clergy- Rabbi Kline, Cantor Clissold, Rabbi Emerita Priesand, Our Religious School Principal Stephanie Fields, our Office Staff Helene Messer and Mindy Gorowitz, and the current and previous Board Of Trustees. Could you please stand and remain standing until all are recognized.

If you head another Temple committee, Task Force, or Teach a Class please stand.

Those who serve or served on a committee, participated in a Task Force, acted as a Class Parent, or worked on a special project please stand.

Those who participated in Mitzvah Day last May, please stand.

Those who attended a service sometime between last Rosh Hashanah up to today, please stand.

This is our community. I thank you all for making me feel part of something exceptional.

L'Shanah Tovah - May you have a happy, healthy, and meaningful New Year!

Congratulate and thank someone standing near you for the great year we've had!

Zach Gilstein September 14, 2015