Schedule of Shabbat Services

May 2016

Friday, May 6th
First Friday
5:30pm Pre-neg by Grade 4
6pm Shabbat Services
Followed by Potluck dinner
A-M Pasta/Chicken N-Z Salad
Please bring enough for 12-14

Saturday, May 7th
10am Bat Mitzvah of Brooke Bosnac

Friday, May 13th
7pm Shabbat Services
Teacher Appreciation Shabbat

Friday, May 20th
7pm Shabbat Services
Seeds of Spirituality

Saturday, May 21st
10am Bar Mitzvah of Myles Anderson

Friday, May 27th
7pm Shabbat Services

Every Saturday morning Torah Talk and Services in the Library
9am Saturday (Shabbat morning) Torah Talk
followed by Shabbat morning service

Our entire MRT community is invited to celebrate with our Bnai Mitzvah and their families at services. Please join us!

Mitzvah Day at Monmouth Reform Temple
Sunday, May 22, 2016

MitzvahDay
make your mark

Social action has always been a strong part of the foundation of Monmouth Reform Temple (MRT). For more than 50 years, MRT has served the community in a myriad of ways to strengthen our Jewish promise of "Tikkum Olam," repairing the world. Mitzvah Day reflects what we do in a single day of community caring and giving back.

A day of community service and service projects by the community of Monmouth Reform Temple.

Projects include (partial list):
- Gan Mazon community garden
- Monmouth County Park System trail maintenance
- Habitat for Humanity
- The Center in Asbury Park
- Visiting community assisted-living centers
- Crafts for a cause
- Fleece blanket project
- Blood drive

Our live streaming link can be found on our home page at www.monmouthreformtemple.org

MRT Annual Meeting:
Sunday, May 15th at 4:30pm
Monmouth Reform Temple Shabbat Kallah

Saturday, May 7, 2016
3 pm to 8 pm

Join us to
Celebrate a Day
of Shabbat Engagement

Rabbi Uri Regev

Distinguished, world renowned Israeli scholar and Progressive Leader, Rabbi Regev will present three separate sessions on topics currently at the forefront of Israeli societal conversations:

“Who is a Jew?”
“Can Israel be both Jewish and democratic?”
“Liberal Judaism and the religion/state clash in Israel”

“Any discussion about religious freedom in Israel has to include Rabbi Uri Regev. A lifelong advocate for religious liberty in the Jewish state, this Jerusalem attorney and prominent activist has devoted more time, more successfully, to securing rights for the non-Orthodox in Israel than just about anyone.”—Sue Fishkoff, Jweekly.com

Buffet dinner will be served – Havdalah will be celebrated
The event is free and the entire community is welcome.
(Donations are welcome and appreciated)
Please call or email by May 4 to let us know you will attend.

Monmouth Reform Temple•332 Hance Ave, Tinton Falls, NJ•732-747-9365
www.monmouthreformtemple.org • info@monmouthreformtemple.org
MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, May 8th
8:30am-11:30am
MRT Social Hall
Adults $10, Children $4

FOOD & FUN PROVIDED BY MEN’S CLUB
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT MRT SOCIAL EVENTS

Kids
Doors open at 8:30am so you can spend time with Mom
before school
(Kids under 13 who treat their Moms eat free)

Parents
Join us before Religious School and stay and relax while
your child(ren) are in class

All you can eat!
Eggs, Gourmet Home Fries,
Blueberry & Regular Pancakes,
Bagels, Fruit, Juice, Coffee
Mitzvah Day at Monmouth Reform Temple
Sunday, May 22, 2016

Mitzvah Day
make your mark

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- Blood drive
Social Action at Monmouth Reform Temple

Engaging in acts of Tikkun Olam—"repairing the world"

Ongoing Programs at MRT include (partial list):
- Support for The Center in Asbury Park
  - High Holy Days food drive, preparing and serving meals for residents
- Support for Lunch Break in Red Bank
- Gan Mazon (Garden of Plenty)
  - Organic vegetable garden at MRT, with food donated to Lunch Break
- Habitat for Humanity
  - Labor and support to renovate affordable housing
- Save the Jersey Shore—One Town at a Time (completed)
  - Gift card donations and distribution to victims of Sandy
- Family Promise of Monmouth County
  - Member of support network of faith-based congregations providing temporary housing for homeless families
- Central Jersey Blood Bank—several annual blood drives
- Monmouth County Park System
  - Trail maintenance for Henry Hudson Trail and other parks
- Shine-a-Light
  - Initiated partnership with St. Anthony’s to provide and ensure bicycles in Red Bank have lights
- Mitzvah Day (annual MRT social action day—see other side)
- Advocacy work
  - Includes L’Taken Seminar for HS students at Religious Action Center
- Monthly Tzedakah (charity/"justice") collections for various projects
- B’nai Mitzvah social action projects
- Shabbat services conducted at assisted living centers
- Shiva calls, visiting the sick at home and hospitals
“Moshe kibel Torah m’Sinai.” Pirke Avot begins with this phrase, “Moses received the Torah at Sinai.” For two thousand years since this text, we have debated, discussed, evolved, and reinvented all the possible ways in which one receives Torah. Certainly, the most literal statement is that God handed a Torah scroll to a guy named Moses on top of a mountain. I do not believe that anyone in the normative Jewish world believes that this is quite how it went. We can most all rally around the idea that the transmission of Torah is not uniquely a physical act, but is the act of teaching and sharing the ethics and morals of our tradition from generation to generation. Where we diverge, however, is in the definition of how we interpret and apply those morals and ethics.

Our tradition thrives because we do not always see eye to eye on any given topic in our tradition. In fact, we cherish the diverse conversations because they make us think in ways we had not previously considered. All of it, though, is Torah from Sinai. The Talmud teaches us “Aelu v’aelu divrae Elohim chayim – These words and these words are both the words of the living God.” The goal of Jewish education is to foster these types of conversations, and if effectively done, everyone grows from everyone else’s point of view.

So, we make a big deal over our youth standing in the shoes of Moses. Each ascends through adolescence into adulthood garnering experiences and relationships along the way. In our religious school, we watch our youth grab hold of tradition as they expand their Jewish vocabulary and tool box. As they matriculate from Bar/Bat Mitzvah through Confirmation we celebrate the completion of their youth studies and welcome them into the scary world of becoming a Jewish adult. Along the way, through continued study, we help them understand how Judaism impacts every stage of life. There’s a Jewish way to look at driving a car, going on a date, working a job, studying in school, playing a sport, and caring for family and friends. At each stage, our children stand in Moses’ shoes and receive Torah from Sinai.

This is our tradition; these are our celebrations. When we celebrate a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, it is our celebration of Torah, of Shabbat, of our new budding adult, and of the family who supported their child through his/her study. It is not the family’s celebration. We do not need invitations to attend any service in our sanctuary; we invite families to hold celebrations in our sanctuary. We deny ourselves the privilege of welcoming the next generation of leaders into our family, and deprive them of any sense that we support them in earnest if we stay away. Our tradition has not lasted because people experience life cycle moments in private. We continue to grow and thrive because we create for each other a vibrant community. We join with each other to create and grow the conversations from each of our Torahs, and from the discussion, we come away with keener insights on how to heal the world. Join us for Confirmation. Join us each Saturday that we call a next leader to Torah for his/her b’nae mitzvah aliyah. Join us in celebrating the evolution of thousands of years of tradition into its next iteration. Join in the fun and excitement.
As we wind down the school year and enjoy the spring weather I am reminded of a famous line from the Mishna attributed to Rabbi Ben Bag Bag, "Turn it, and turn it, for everything is in it. Reflect on it and grow old and gray with it. Don't turn from it, for nothing is better than it."

What is this "it" of which Rabbi Ben Bag Bag speaks - the Torah. If you ask me, I really think that he is talking about the relevancy of Jewish education in every age in every generation in every place. No matter how old one grows, there is so much to learn that we can never stop learning from our tradition. A tradition that is so rich and deep, continually being turned and reflected upon to ensure relevancy in our lives, adding what we did not even know we needed.

As I gear up to turn and turn and reflect upon our learning from this past year to create another new and exciting year I ask myself, what is it that this turning and turning and reflecting will teach me and how will I be a better person because of it? I invite you to do the same.

Teacher Appreciation Shabbat
Friday, May 13th at 7pm

Join us as we honor our amazing MRT Religious School Staff

Featuring the MRT Choir conducted by Alice Berman
I want to begin my acknowledging the generous support of 45 families that responded to my appeal to make a contribution to MRT above what had previously been pledged. Through the generous extra donations from these families, we have closed nearly $39,000 of the $55,000 gap that we had between our total pledges and our budget for pledge contributions. These contributions have a significant impact on enabling us to sustain our mission of spirituality, lifelong Jewish learning, social action, and social engagement.

It would certainly be testament to the hearts of our community if the remaining 270 MRT families could close the remaining $16,000 gap.

I also had several calls about why we are not doing more to address the cost side of balancing our budget, as well as why we are paying our clergy so much. In fact, we have done a good job at containing costs, which have essentially been flat over the last 5 years. For 2017, we have cut costs by roughly $20,000, including eliminating the bookkeeper position and moving that function to the office staff. In fact, we have made more cuts in many areas to accommodate an increased budget for the Religious School, which remains a top priority of our mission.

Our clergy costs may seem high, but it is important to understand that the total numbers include salary, social security, pension, health care, as well as conference attendance or other professional development costs. Please come to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 15 to hear a complete review of the 2017 budget plan.

I want to offer my thanks to Jay Wiesenfeld and all who made the MRT booth at the Red Bank street fair so vibrant. Huge thanks to Eleanor Rubin and the Adult Ed committee for the session on The Nazi Account, to Kari Hershey and Arts & Deco on organizing A Night at the Museum, and to Lynn Shapiro for organizing the Community Seder, which I know will be terrific this weekend.

May is an exciting month. Please be sure to join us for Rabbi Uri Regev and the Shabbat Kallah on May 7 and sign up for Mitzvah Day on May 22. Both will inspire us to live a richer Jewish life.

Yom Hashoah Service
Thursday, May 5th
at 7pm
In the MRT Sanctuary
ANGELS NEEDED ON MITZVAH DAY

Many angels are mentioned in the Torah. An angel delivers the message to Abraham and Sarah that they will have a child in their old age. An angel stops Abraham when he is about to sacrifice that child. One appears to Moses out of the burning bush. The idea of an angel is comforting whether the angel is understood as a messenger from God or useful as a literary device to move a story’s plot.

In fundraising, an angel is a person who makes an especially generous donation. A friend, family member or even a stranger who performs an unexpected good deed for someone is often referred to as an angel.

Angels make themselves known in wonderful, surprising ways. Recently, I arrived at Gan Mazon to discover that an energetic and generous temple member has taken it upon himself to install a new garden fence. Our current two individual 1,000 sq. ft. gardens will now be enclosed to form one garden, providing a more efficient space in which to grow vegetables for needy families.

As much as I appreciate the new fence, gardens need gardeners/workers to plant, harvest, pick off insects, organically spray, spread compost and woodchips, and deliver to local pantries. Fortunately for Gan Mazon, we have several angels without whom our Garden of Plenty would just be a large patch of weeds. Christine Gold and her son Nicholas, a high school junior, perform these tasks, as well as visit the garden several times a week to make sure that we are on schedule for the start of our summer season.

Gan Mazon needs more MRT angels to step up. Mitzvah Day on May 22, is an opportunity to see if this is an activity that suits you. No gardening experience is necessary. No commitment beyond Mitzvah Day is expected. Please sign-up on the temple’s website and/or contact me if you have any questions or concerns by email or by telephone at 732-536-1813. Adults are welcome with and without children. I will gladly accept children bar/bat mitzvah age and above, although the website limits student participation to teens.

So far, lettuce, broccoli, turnips, and rhubarb have been planted. Many angels will be needed on Mitzvah Day to harvest lettuce and broccoli and then prepare the planting beds for tomatoes and other vegetables. Gardening novices will receive hands on instruction and questions are encouraged. Frankly, we need Mitzvah Day volunteers to get Gan Mazon off to another record harvest year. Perhaps, 2016 will exceed the 1,056 lbs. delivered last season.

From the Marketing Committee—It doesn’t hurt to ask….

Are you a good photographer? Are you artistic? Do you have a background in writing, art, marketing? Come help us publicize the great things we do at MRT!

Contact Marketing Chair Jay Wiesenfeld, jwiesenfeld@yahoo.com or Margie Wold, woldiem@aol.com.
SEEDS OF SPIRITUALITY

Graffiti

Friday, 20 May 2016

7p

monmouth reform temple 332 hance ave tinton falls nj

haring favim

SEEDS OF SPIRITUALITY
SAVE THE DATE!
Bring your friends and family!

An Afternoon at
Monmouth Park

Sunday, June 5th
starting at 11:45am

Cost: $50 per person
includes
Buffet Lunch
Silent Auction Gift Baskets

Sponsored by
MRT Ways & Means
Among the many activities involving MRT on Sunday, April 10, a team of more than 20 MRT volunteers, with representatives from several committees, set up and staffed the Monmouth Reform Temple booth at the Red Bank Street Fair. The purpose of the booth was to increase our presence in the community, develop new contacts, and attract potential new members. We certainly engaged the community, distributing all of our Passover food samples—5 pounds of matzah crunch and 6 pounds of charoset. We had a raffle prize of a Passover gift basket and tickets to our congregational seder. The winner was excited and looks forward to joining us at the seder.

The booth was conceived, created, and staffed by an excellent group, with help and representation from the Publicity Committee, Men's Club, Sisterhood, the Religious Education Committee and our Principal, the Youth Group, Adult Education Committee, Social Action Committee, Membership Committee, our Clergy, Federation and Big Tent Judaism, and others. Our office staff helped with many of the handouts and logistics. Dean Ross, our energizer, provided his help, his tent and tables, transportation of booth materials, his store as a base of operations, and bagels too! Members of SMaRTY and the confirmation class were wonderful assets to our booth and with their energy brought fair attendees in for tastings and conversation. Our adult booth staffers were no less successful in engaging attendees.

We will have a booth at the Red Bank Street Fair in September, where we can again engage the community before Rosh Hashanah. Contact Jay Wiesenfeld if you are interested in planning for that booth.
Mitzvah Academy

Car Wash

At Monmouth Reform Temple

May 8, 2016

9:30 - 12:00

Run by MRT 7th, 8th, & 9th Graders

Suggested Donation: $10
Please lend a hand and support

You can save lives!

BLOOD DONATION

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

BLOOD DRIVE

Mitzvah Day
Monmouth Reform Temple
322 Hance Ave, Tinton Falls

Sunday, May 22, 2016
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For the best customer service experience, please contact Sharon Ross at 908-433-4624 / dmshoppe@aol.com for your donation appointment. Appointments will be honored and walk-ins booked in open time slots.

Thank you for being a life saver!

Don’t Forget:
• DONORS must present signature ID.
• PLEASE drink water & eat before donating.
• DONORS must be healthy, 16 yrs of age with parental consent (forms provided by CJBC)
Or older & weigh at least 120lbs.
Spotlight on our Board

Faith Leifman, Finance Chair

Faith is the Chair of our Finance Committee. She makes her home in Red Bank with her husband Brian and their two children, Evan and Amy. Faith is an Information Technology Project Manager working primarily on governmental systems.

Faith joined the Temple in 2005 and upon being asked to participate, became a key figure in composing and preparing the Ad Journal for our Arts Festival. She’s been building an ever widening circle of friends by being an active participant in our Temple life ever since. It great to see that Evan and Amy seem to be following in her footsteps. Faith joined the Board as co-Chair of the Religious Education committee in 2011 and became Finance Chair in 2014.

In addition to being a working mom, Faith grows some of her own veggies in her garden and admits to dabbling in the kitchen. Faith is an important part of our Shir Chadash musical ensemble where she plays guitar and sings. Look for her on the Bimah on First Fridays.

We are very proud of our recent Women's Seder! Our custom Haggadah and special service led by Cantor Clissold celebrated the roles of women in our Jewish history. But even more poignantly, each of our “sisters” celebrated our comradery, and spoke about the influence of important women in their lives. Some were women who have passed; others were women in our lives now. Many spoke of the warmth and support of our congregational sisters, even those seated around the table! It was a beautiful, moving experience filled with laughter and tears. We urge women of all ages to join us next year with their friends to experience this meaningful, loving celebration of women!

Our next "Out and About" is May 12th at the new Huddy's on Route 537 in Colts Neck. Bring your friends for a fun evening of conversation and camaraderie and enjoy a drink, appetizer or dinner.

Our book club meets next on May 16th at the home of Margie Wold to discuss "The Marriage of Opposites". Reviews of the book have been great!

Again, Sisterhood is providing scholarships to seniors who are active in our temple and the Jewish community. Look for information in the e-blast and on the website. The application deadline is June 1st.

On July 1st, Cheryl and Jill will be stepping down as co-presidents of Sisterhood and Karen Kahn will be taking over leadership. We would like another person to assist Karen at the helm. Many hands make this organization so successful! Please let us know if you are interested in working with Karen, or helping in other areas of Sisterhood, so we can provide a larger variety of terrific activities!

Happy Mother’s Day to all our “Sisters”!

Cheryl and Jill.
Mazel Tov to our May B’nai Mitzvahs!

Brooke Bosnac will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on May 7th. Mazel Tov to her and her family!

Myles Anderson will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, 2016. He is currently a seventh grade student at Forrestdale Middle School. He lives in Rumson with his parents, his sister Norah and his dog, Brady.

Myles enjoys playing hockey, skiing, reading science fiction and hanging with friends. He plays ice hockey for the Jersey Shore Wildcats travel team and skis across the country. His favorite subjects are science and social studies.

Myles has chosen to hold a series of fundraisers to benefit the Monmouth Day Care Center, a non-profit day care center in Red Bank, for his Mitzvah project. He, along with his friend Brooke, held a costume drive, food drives and is currently working on a revamping of the Center’s food pantry.

Myles would like to thank Cantor Clissold and Rabbi Kline for their help, support and patience throughout the process of preparing for this milestone.

Help Wanted!

Assisted Living Shabbat Services are facilitated twice a month at 3:45 p.m. at The Chelsea in Tinton Falls and twice a month at 2:15 p.m. at Brighton Gardens in Middletown.

Come join us to help bring the community in-house since the residents are unable to attend synagogue. Time on site is usually about an hour, involves a short, simple service that was created for this population, some wine, challah and friendly, often amusing conversation.

If interested in getting involved please contact Judy Raybon, jraybon22@verizon.net or the MRT Office, 732-747-9365.

Next Mitzvah Day Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 4th at 6:30pm in the Social Hall
Light Dinner Provided
Baby Steps Toward Mutual Understanding”

A recent report of the PEW Research Center has shown deep divisions in Israeli society among religious sub-groups that make up Israeli Jewry as well as between Israeli Jews and Arabs over political values and religion’s role in public life.

But on a human level, the picture is often very different. Tehila Nachalon, Director of Kolot’s Center for Jewish Leadership, and a fellow in a think tank offering a new social covenant in Israel promoting pluralism and democracy, has written a blog for The Times of Israel called “Baby Steps toward Mutual Understanding”.

In it she says “I’ve given birth 5 times. Five times I’ve shared a room in the maternity ward. And sometimes that situation, that exhausting, aching, very intimate, slightly fragile situation sparks conversations with your roommate. Sometimes just chats about nothing but sometimes meaningful conversations that couldn’t have happened in any other context.”

Nachalon mentions sharing a room with an Ultra-Orthodox woman who had just given birth to her tenth child and said it gets easier after the fifth. She speaks of her hippy American ohla room-mate who shares her difficulty in navigating the cultural gap being a new Israeli. Another experience in the semi-private maternity ward was with an Arab woman who spoke no Hebrew but needed help with her computer. With gestures and pointing, Nachalon was able to help her.

And so on certain special occasions Israelis may experience deep similarities with “the other”. But stark differences remain as groups of like minded people live in homogeneous neighborhoods and attend separate educational systems. “Though we don’t meet each other socially and don’t live together, we imagine each other through images of extremist versions as depicted in the media” and carried out through societal norms as new neighborhoods are built and segregation is perpetuated.

Nachalon yearns for more opportunities to get to know each other, especially in places where we are all the same, as women, mothers, wives, at the zoo, in the park, and not always in situations of conflict and confrontation.

She says we read the newspapers only of our own preference and listen to the radio stations with which we agree thereby not hearing another voice. Back in America, I think we have much the same habit. Perhaps we can each learn by listening and hearing “the other”. 
May Yahrtzeits (read date based on when they occur)

Names to be Read on Friday, May 20th (Services at 7pm)

Names to be Read on Friday, May 13th (Services at 7pm)

Names to be Read on Friday, May 27th (Services at 7pm)

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

*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. Space is available on both walls. Cost per plaque is $400.

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.

The Congregation Acknowledges with Thanks the Following Contributions:

**Caring Network Fund**
In Memory Of: Charles Loebel
Nancy and Arthur Loebel

**Arts and Decorations Fund**
Repairing the Ark Curtain: In Honor of Anna Chalnick
Thank you to Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clisoold
Kim and David Chalnick

**Adult Ed Fund**
Sandra Blackman

**Homeless Fund**
In Memory Of: Jane Medalie, M.E. Medalie
Phyllis and Robert Rosenberg
Carolyn B. Meyer
Irma and Pete Meyer
In Honor Of: Rabbi Sally J. Priesand
Marion and Alan Suekoff

**General Fund**
In Memory Of: Alice Mandel
Ruth Roa-Mandel and Irwin Mandel
Fannie Copley
June and Morton Seligman
Sam Deutsch, Anita Palmer
Dee Kaplan

**Youth Group Fund**
In Memory Of: Alice Mandel
Ruth Roa-Mandel and Irwin Mandel

**The Bulletin**
### May 2016

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

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<td>3:45pm Shabbat @ Chelsea First Friday</td>
<td>9am Torah Talk</td>
<td>8:30am Mother's Day Breakfast</td>
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<td>RS Registration</td>
<td>9:30am Bag &amp; Blocks at playground</td>
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<td>7:15pm Sis Book Club offsite</td>
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<td>Last Day of Rel School Mitzvah Day!!</td>
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<td>9:45am Study Group</td>
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When attending services and all other events at MRT please remember:

- People around you are sensitive to scent, sound, and distraction.
- Always enjoy being here in ways that help others enjoy being here, too.

Thank you!
MRT STAFF

Rabbi Marc A. Kline
rabbimarc@monmouthreformtemple.org

Cantor Gabrielle Clissold
cantorclissold@monmouthreformtemple.org

Rabbi Emerita Sally J. Priesand
rsjp@optonline.net

Religious School Principal
Stephanie Fields
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