



# THE MRT BULLETIN

February 2017

Volume LVIII Issue VII

Sh'vat/Adar 5777

Monmouth Reform Temple  
The More Torah, The More Life  
מרבח תורה, מרבח חיים

Shabbat Services  
February 2017

**Friday, February 3rd**  
**2/3 Shabbat Services**

5:30pm Pre-neg sponsored by 2nd and 3rd grade  
6pm Shabbat Services followed by Pot Luck Dinner  
A-P Pasta Chicken R-Z Salad  
Please bring enough for 10-12

**Saturday, February 4th**

10am Isabella Tobias Bat Mitzvah

**Friday, February 10th**

7pm Shabbat Services  
5th Grade Service

**Saturday, February 11th**

10am Aidan Mann Bar Mitzvah

**Friday, February 17th**

7pm Shabbat Services

**Saturday, February 18th**

10am Jacob Cohen Bar Mitzvah

**Friday, February 24th**

7pm Shabbat Services  
Social Action Shabbat  
Speaker: Rabbi Danny Siegel

**Saturday, February 25th**

10am 6th Grade Service  
Speaker: Rabbi Danny Siegel  
3pm Torah Study with Rabbi Danny Siegel

Every Saturday morning  
in the Library:

9am-9:30am Shabbat Services  
9:30am-10:30am Torah Talks Study Session

Our live streaming link can be found  
on our home page at  
[www.monmouthreformtemple.org](http://www.monmouthreformtemple.org)

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

MONMOUTH REFORM TEMPLE  
Social Action Committee presents:

## Rabbi Danny Siegel The "Pied Piper of Tzedakah"

**As part of Monmouth Reform Temple's ongoing commitment to Social Action Rabbi Siegel will spend the weekend educating and inspiring us!**

Friday night, Feb 24th at 7pm  
**Social Action Shabbat**

**SOCIAL ACTION  
CALL TO SERVICE**

Saturday morning, Feb. 25th at 10am  
**6th Grade Service** (all are invited)

**BAR/BAT MITZVAH  
POWER**

Saturday afternoon, February 25th at 3pm  
**Torah Study**

**SO YOU FELL ASLEEP DURING SERVICES  
DO YOU STILL COUNT FOR A MINYAN?**

Sunday, February 26th at 10am  
**Speaking to our Confirmation Class**  
(all are invited)

**THERE IS NO SUCH THING  
AS A  
SMALL MITZVAH**



Rabbi Danny Siegel is a well-known author, lecturer, and poet who has spoken in more than 300 Israeli and North American Jewish communities on Tzedakah and Jewish values, besides reading from his own poetry. He is the author of 28 1/2 books on such topics as Mitzvah heroes and practical and personalized Tzedakah, and has produced an anthology of 500 selections of Talmudic quotes about living the Jewish life well called "Where Heaven and Earth Touch."

For more on Danny Siegel see his website: <http://dannysiegel.com/>



**MRT Purim planning is gearing up...watch your inboxes and the March Bulletin**  
**Sisterhood Sh'lach Manot**  
**Adult Shpiel and Party on March 11th**  
**Purim Carnival sponsored by SMarTY on March 12th**

Get Some **LOVE** at the  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual MRT Tennis Social**

*All Levels, Non-players and Non MRT Members WELCOME!*

**Saturday, February 25th, 7-11 PM**  
**at Colts Neck Racquet Club**



**Cost: \$25 per player (no charge for spectators)**

The evening will be a Round Robin format with 35-40 minute timed matches and breaks for socializing. Couples will not always be playing together. Players will be matched according to ability.

Bring your favorite snack and beverage to share.



PLEASE RSVP by February 6<sup>th</sup> to  
[sisterhood@monmouthreformtemple.org](mailto:sisterhood@monmouthreformtemple.org)  
with the Names of Players and Ability Level  
(Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced) & non-players

Please send in your payment to the Temple or pay via paypal  
on the Temple Website under "Commitees", "Sisterhood"

**Questions?** Contact Jill Austin ([jilltennis@aol.com](mailto:jilltennis@aol.com)) or Gena Lande ([gregandgena@gmail.com](mailto:gregandgena@gmail.com))

**Don't Play Tennis? No Problem! We will have socializing,  
Games, great tennis to watch and lots of food & drink.**

***Greetings from the High Holy Days Appeal Committee!***

*We are glad to publish this report acknowledging gifts to the Appeal by 116 temple families who generously supported our synagogue with a total of \$30,205 dollars. Those names of those who gave to the Appeal this year are presented below and to all of them we shout out our thanks and gratitude. Your support means so much to us and entire temple leadership. The High Holy Days Appeal is very important because it significantly improves MRT's financial footing while also demonstrating the spirit of generosity that pervades our temple membership. We are encouraged by the consistent participation in the Appeal of so many of our members year after year and gladly welcome those who gave for the first time this year. We are optimistic about a future in which 50%, 60%, 80% or more of our families proudly join with those listed below to celebrate MRT through the High Holy Days Appeal.*

—Joel Morgovsky and Mark Gruensfelder

**HHDA Donors as of 1/14/17**

Addison, Alonzo & Laperdon-	Fox, Howard & Barbara	Kennedy, Stephen & Dari	Rubin, Eleanor
Addison, Doreen	Gabel, Robert & Roosels,	Klatsky, Alan & Maxine	Sachs, Richard & Sheila
Aho, Amy	Marianne	Klein, Ronald & Bonnie	Salomon, Elizabeth
Appio, James & Idanna	Gaudette, Stephen & Cheryl	Kline, Rabbi Marc & Bernard,	Schaad, Joseph & Stacey
Aptaker, Randy & Elise	Gelber, Roy & Susan	Lori	Schmidt, Alec & Frekhtman-Schmidt, Sofia
Auerbach, Philip & Cynthia	Gilstein, Zach & Sheila	Kohn, Jack & Norma	Seckular, Corey & Anna
Baker, Peggy	Goldberg, Jay & Ellen	Kosberg, Edward & Sherry	Seligman, Peter & Karen
Baskin, Nancy	Goldsmith, Stephen & Trudy	Krachman, Evan & Kerry	Shapiro, Lynn
Bates, Elizabeth & Aubry, Madna	Goldstein, Barbara	Leifman, Faith L.	Sills, Charles & Caryl
Berman, Alice	Goodman, Eleanor	Levin, Sheila	Singer, Frank
Bleetstein, Gary	Goodman, Samuel & Anne	Levinsky, David & Karen	Spector, Anita
Brandwene, Martha &	Gordon, Lawrence & Shelley	Levy, Alan R. & Nance	St. Lifer, Robert & Susan
McWilliams, Rita	Gorstein, Rosanne Farber &	Levy, Paul & Cindy	Stein, Joseph & Karin
Brawer, Arthur & Carol	Kroen, Mark	Loebel, Arthur & Nancy	Sussman, Robert & Lisa
Brewer, James & Schneider-	Graver, Jane	Lowenstein, Laurence & Laurie	Teitelbaum, Leonard & Dorothy
Brewer, Monica	Greenberg, Roslyn	Lubin, Marc & Mary Ellen	Tuchband, Stuart & Cora
Brutman, Neil	Gruensfelder, Mark & Beverly	Martin, Susan	Tuller, Brenda
Burns, Linda & Crump, John	Guenzburger, Ernest & Rubin-	Melnick, Andrew	Vicenzi, Eugene & Nadine
Butler, Harmon & Jill	stein, Ellen	Meyer, Maurice & Irma	Weyser, Perry
Byck, Donald & Ellen	Hallard, Wayne & Deborah	Miller, Barbara	Whyman, Susan
Calderwood, David & Lisa	Hampel, Daniel & Rose	Morgovsky, Joel & Marilyn	Wiesenfeld, Jay & Kay
Chalnick, David & Kim	Haratz, David & Rosalyn	Neuhauser, Brett & Maxine	Wigdortz, Judith
Clissold, John & Cantor Gabrielle	Harran, James	Newman, James & Gail	Wold, Robert & Marjorie
Cohen, Leonard & Lindner,	Hayet, Bob & Mary Beth	Nisenson, Emilie	Zaslowsky, Peter & Nancy
Corey	Heidema, John & Karl, Karen	Placitella, Christopher & Rachel	Alderucci, Cara
Cohen, William & Elizabeth	Hillson, Harry & Dori	Raybon, Greg & Judy	Atlas, Alla
Colicchio, Alan & Heather	Ibex, Ted & Shelley	Reisner, Gerald & Rosalind	Berlin, Beverly
Coyne, Kevin & Kaye, Jane	Johnson, Marty & Nancy	Rivkin, David & Judith	Kaplan, Nancy
Familant, Elliott & Lynne	Kahn, Karen	Rosenberg, Robert & Phyllis	McIntyre, Gail
Feigus, Jay & Monica	Kaplan, Deanna	Ross, Dean & Sharyn	Rubinstein, Rachel
Ferencz, Mark & Agnes	Katz, David	Rothman, Donald & Helaine	
Forman, Brian & Susan			

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

I am pleased to report that at a special congregational meeting held on Sunday, January 29, the congregation overwhelmingly approved moving forward with a 5-year contract with Rabbi Kline that will commence this July after the end of his current contract. I reported in December that the Board of Trustees had strongly approved moving ahead with the contract, which was subject to approval by the whole congregation. We look forward to moving ahead with Rabbi Kline in strength.

At the January Board meeting, the Board voted to support the Stand Up for the Other Pledge, which Dr. Ali Chaudry had described at the Justice Weekend Shabbat service and was brought to the Board by Rabbi Kline.

The Pledge states:

"While interacting with members of my own faith, ethnic or gender community, or with others, if I hear hateful comments from anyone about members of any other community, I pledge to stand up for the Other and challenge bigotry in any form."

Acting in accordance with this Pledge is what each of us as Jews is commanded to do. I encourage every member of the Temple to take the Pledge and do your best to fulfill it. You can do so online at <http://www.standupfortheother.org/client/index.php?cidlp=5> or ask Rabbi Kline for a paper form. This pledge was recently brought to the NJ State Legislature where a resolution was passed to support it, and every member of the Assembly signed it.

The Member Role Policy Task Force brought a set of recommendations forward to the Board. These recommendations identify a significant number of policy changes to enable us to more fully execute and live our Mission and Value of Inclusion - "We are an inclusive community where creativity and openness to new ideas harmonize with the traditions of Reform Judaism." and "We welcome all who choose to embrace Judaism in their lives and homes, regardless of background."

We will be having some meetings in the coming months to socialize these recommendations and solicit feedback. We expect to formalize these changes with amendments to our Constitution and Bylaws at this year's Annual Meeting. Huge thanks to Rabbi Kline and the Ritual Committee for creating a truly inspiring Justice Weekend Service where multiple faith groups worshiped with us. Kudos to the Arts and Deco committee and Rabbi Priesand for a great First Friday Service that introduced us to the many treasures all around us at MRT and to Rabbi Kline for honoring the scouts and gathering such a strong sense of support to our bima. Thanks to Eleanor Rubin and the Adult Education Committee for the illuminating program on Gustav Klimt.

**MRT 2016-2017 Executive Board**

President, Zach Gilstein	zachmate2@gmail.com
Exec VP, Jay Feigus	feigus1@aol.com
2nd VP, Margie Wold	woldiem@aol.com
3rd VP, Harry Hillson	harryh95@aol.com
4th VP, Monica Schneider-Brewer	monicasbrewer@gmail.com
Treasurer, Stu Tuchband	stuchband@comcast.net
Financial Secretary, Bob St. Lifer	bobstl50@hotmail.com
Mark Gruensfelder, Rec. Sec'y	mgruensfelder@aol.com
Imm. Past Pres., Jay Wiesenfeld	jmweisenfeld@yahoo.com

**MRT 2016-2017 Board**

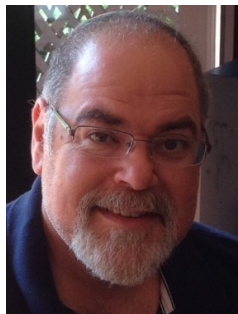
Linda Burns, Membership	lsburns@att.net
Stephen Gaudette, House	scgaudette@verizon.net
Sam Goodman, Ritual	wannabecoder@gmail.com
Kerry Krachman, Social Action	kerrykrachman1956@gmail.com
Faith Leifman, Finance	faith.leifman@gmail.com
Eleanor Rubin, Adult Ed	Eleanor.rubin781@gmail.com
Karen Seligman, Religious Ed	kcf76@hotmail.com
Lynn Shapiro, Ways & Means	lsshapiro2@gmail.com

**MRT 2016-2017 Auxiliaries**

Karen Kahn Sisterhood Pres.	kkahn1@verizon.net
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## From Rabbi Marc Kline



The Kabbalists teach that the holiest holiday on our calendar is not Yom Kippur or even Shabbat. They teach us that Tu B'Shvat is holier than all because the others make us take a break from our own hectic lives and command us to regroup and restore. Tu B'Shvat (the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shvat) demands that we work for the world's respite. We plant trees, appreciate nature and its bounty and study ways in which we can better appreciate the blessings that our natural world provides to each of us. Yom Kippur and Shabbat call on us to become more insular, while this holiday screams for us to engage the world and acknowledge that without the blessings that nature provides, no moment of rest or act of atonement would matter.

Tu B'shvat is an often looked over holiday, but should not be. Go to our Temple Web page and look for our holiday book. Read about ways in which our tradition helps us thank God for the Earth and celebrate its blessings. Do something different this year ... add this amazing holiday into your celebration cycle!

## From Sam Goodman, Ritual Chair

What would a ritually-engaged MRT look like? At the Ritual Committee's January meeting, we wrestled with this question, which will inform changes to our ritual programming in the coming months and years. We believe that a ritually-engaged congregation:

- Helps members become familiar with Jewish rituals. Previous discussions on this front resulted in Brenda Tuller and Bevi Gruensfelder compiling the Holiday Handbook, which is available on MRT's website. My hope is continue addressing the need for ritual-focused education with a Ritual Committee developed- and led- service, geared towards members unfamiliar with Hebrew and/or the structure of Shabbat evening services. Look for more information on this in the coming months.
- Encourages members to participate in and lead Jewish ritual activities. To choose one recent example, on Friday, January 20th, Cantor Clissold was on vacation. Julia Feigus and Lev Brewer, two members of our youth group SMARTY, helped lead services in her absence. It's not uncommon for lay congregation members to rise to the occasion and help lead our services when our clergy members are traveling, a trait that is to our congregation's credit, and that I hope to continue to foster.
- Provides a wide variety of opportunities for ritual engagement to its members. One aspect of this includes hosting a multitude of unique services (e.g. Seeds of Spirituality, or the service we had at dawn in the Sukkah in October). Another allows for expanded use of rituals and ritual items, like encouraging the wearing of kippot (skullcaps), and tallitot (fringed prayer shawls) during morning worship and Kol Nidrei services.
- Embraces its members during Jewish lifecycle events. It's important that we show support for members of our community as they experience major events, from brit milah (circumcision) and baby naming, to b'nai mitzvah, all the way through mourning ceremonies. I've noticed much higher community participation at the recent shiva minyanim (prayer groups supporting a house of mourning) that I've recently attended, and would like to continue this trend to cover other lifecycle events as well.
- Seamlessly incorporates ritual activities at all events. This could be as simple as starting a meal hosted at the synagogue with the motzi.
- Experiences strong attendance at all ritual functions.

Reframing our work on the Ritual Committee has been very insightful, helping illumine perceived gaps in our existing programming, and highlighting opportunities for growth. If you want to help us continue on this path, our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 8th, at 6:30PM in the library.

## MRT Fundraising can Be Fun!

By Lynn Shapiro, Ways & Means Chair, [Lsshapiro2@gmail.com](mailto:Lsshapiro2@gmail.com)

Mark your calendar for the next exciting Ways and Means Event “**MRT ROCKS THE RUNWAY**” on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. Watch for details but you can be sure that our Temple youth from toddlers to teens will provide a fashion show like no other!! You will be hearing from me soon to see if you would like to advertise your business in the program, have items to donate to the auction or help us sell 50/50 tickets for the fashion show.

Calling all Mah Jongg mavens – Ways and Means will be hosting a Mah Jongg tournament on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> – watch for details.

Please remember that you can buy a **brick** for \$100 to be inscribed and placed in our walkway to commemorate a bar/bat mitzvah, anniversary, any special occasion or to memorialize a loved one. We can provide you with a gift certificate you can use if you are purchasing it for a gift for someone.

If you are food shopping anyway, and who isn't, why not buy **scrip** from the Temple and a portion of the purchase comes back to MRT. Pretty effortless, no?

Calling all Amazon users and I know there are many of you out there – if you to go **AmazonSmiles.com** when you make your Amazon purchases you can designate that a portion of your purchase comes back to MRT. Talk about effortless. While the percentage may seem small – if every member did this every time they used Amazon, it would certainly add up.

If you have any questions about any of the information above, or have suggestions for additional fund raising ideas, please feel free to contact me.

*Lynn Shapiro*

[Lsshapiro2@gmail.com](mailto:Lsshapiro2@gmail.com)



Eleanor Rubin, Adult Ed Chair with Maurice Mahler, Art Historian and speaker at the MRT Adult Ed event on January 22nd, 2017

Seeking actors/singers, etc....MRT's Purim Shpiel



# Shmaltz

Audition-read through February 7 at 7:30 pm (Tuesday)

### Rehearsals

2/15 at 7 pm (Wednesday),  
2/22 at 7 pm (Wednesday),  
3/1 at 7 pm (Wednesday),  
3/7 7:30 pm (Tuesday)  
Performance 3/11 at 7 pm

## Summary of the January 25th Board of Trustees meeting: Mark Gruensfelder, Recording Secretary



As usual, Board Members put themselves in a positive frame of mind by sharing good happenings of the past month. Among these were the great December Chanukah party where it seemed like the entire congregation filled the Social Hall, the outstanding January First Friday service where Rabbi Priesand raised our awareness and appreciations for all the “treasures” MRT has, and the wonderful Justice Weekend Shabbat Service which included participation from multiple diverse groups. We learned that we now have 16 families participating in the Life and Legacy program; if we reach our goal of 18 by the end of March, the program itself will donate \$7,500 to our chosen endowment. During this period our new library furniture was put in place and formally dedicated in honor of the late Frank Whyman, may he rest in peace.

Much of the meeting was focused on Board members reviewing and providing feedback on the recently provided recommendations of the Member Role Policy Task Force. The purpose of this task force was to provide recommendations for improving member involvement and to clarify the role of the non-Jew in temple participation, while allowing our Mission to be our framework for the future. The recommendations were grouped into the categories of Ritual, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Services, Religious School Policies, Building Usage, and Membership and Governance.

In general, the Board was pleased with the task force’s recommendations, quite a feat given the diverse opinions this subject tends to attract. The Board thanked the Task Force for achieving its goal of arriving at a set of well-balanced recommendations.

Temple President Zach Gilstein indicated that he intends to hold congregation-wide focus group discussions of these recommendations in order to provide further feedback and as a mechanism to better communicate the recommendations to the Congregation. Some of the recommendations would require changes to MRT’s existing Bylaws; Zach’s goal is to have these changes proposed in time for adoption at this year’s Annual Meeting.

The Board Meeting concluded with the following reports and actions:

Religious School Principal Stephanie Fields presented a very positive “mid-year report” on the Religious School progress.

The MRT Board resolved that it pursue a full-time Religious School educator for next fiscal year (July, 2017 – June 2018) and that it renew Principal Stephanie Fields’ contract accordingly.

The MRT Board resolved that it adopt the Pledge to Stand Up for the Other, as presented by Rabbi Kline, and that the Board encourage all MRT congregants to sign the pledge.

Faith Leifman, Finance Committee Chair, reported that she has requested input for next fiscal year’s budget from each committee chair. The Finance Committee will soon begin its FY2018 budget deliberations.

Stu Tuchband, MRT Treasurer, reported that 25% of plots new Beth Miriam cemetery site have now been purchased.

Kerry Krachman, Social Action Chair, announced that the Mitzvah Day planning effort has been kicked off. Mitzvah Day 2017 is scheduled for Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Spotlight on our Board

### Sam Goodman, Ritual Chair by Cantor Gabrielle Clissold



Sam is from a suburb of Philadelphia called Hatboro, PA. His family moved there from Harleysville, PA when he was very young. Sam attended University of Illinois at Champagne-Urbana and majored in Engineering and Physics with a focus in Computer Science and a minor in Math. Sam graduated college in 3.5 years. Sam works at West-Ward Pharmaceuticals in Eatontown, NJ which brought him to MRT. "My job is the marketing manager...I like it. We are a generic pharmaceutical manufacturer, all has to do with price. I build financial models to ensure we are making money."

My loves are my son and wife, Jack is almost one and Anne is my wife of 2 years but have been together 5 years. "When I have time I make beer, I am a brewer by hobby. My favorite beer depends on the season and what I am eating." As we were speaking he was enjoying an IPA from Tuscon, AZ. "I joined our temple to create for myself a sense of community, our temple is a great way to meet people, to study and learn. In our free moments, we go to breweries. Anne even works at Little Dog Brewery in Neptune City and volunteers for our temple sisterhood. She is an incredible mother to Jack. She is also a regular blog contributor on Interfaith Family.com."

Sam also loves to play poker, because he enjoys the statistics behind it. He enjoys learning poker theory and uses statistics to plan his moves. His choice in music may surprise some people, he does enjoy classic rock, and acoustic music but he really loves Metal. Sam likes to listen to 89.5 which is the Seton Hall Radio station. His current favorite bands are Clutch, Alice in Chains, Soundgarden and Sleep. He also loves the better known Deep Purple, Black Sabbath, Billy Joel, Elton John and Led Zeppelin. Sam just inherited his parents piano and also plays guitar, bass and ukelele. (In the 6 years I have known him he has never told me this for some reason) He went to Israel on Birthright 10 years ago. He had a transcendent experience at the Kotel, "When I went to pray at the wall-I felt a heat-like an energy-from the wall, even though it was January." It had a profound effect upon him.

Sam's favorite food is beer, but his favorite Jewish food is his grandmother's kasha and bow ties smothered in brisket gravy. His favorite Philadelphia food is big pretzel with mustard. He loves the Fliers (hockey) and the Eagles (football). Sam's Hebrew name is Shm'uel Lev ben Pinchas and his favorite Jewish holiday is Shabbes, "I like that it comes once a week, it is always nice to have a chance to rest and be with family and friends-to be able to appreciate those types of blessings. I enjoy serving the temple and look forward to doing so in the future." Come see Sam, Annie and Jack in their usual corner of our temple sanctuary on most Friday nights. Notice how he is able to tie intricate neck ties, and mastered the Trinity, Eldrege and Merovingian.

## February 2017 Lobby Tzedakah Box

### Family Promise

### Co-Sponsors Jay & Kay Wiesenfeld

Family Promise is a non-profit organization that assists local families who are homeless, assisting them during the transition period while seeking permanent housing. The Center provides support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers.



## From Stephanie Fields, Religious School Principal



Please enjoy the Religious School Mid-Year Update 2016-2017.

5777 got off to a great start! 75% of students registered before the first day - such great enthusiasm has not been seen in recent years. Our faculty and staff spent many hours over the summer preparing for your children's arrival on Sunday, September 11th.

To increase student morale and community spirit we initiated a rotating schedule on Wednesdays from 4:00-4:20 for community building, team building, avodat lev (prayer service), and special holiday programs. During community building we are taking the time to get to know each other as we all come from many different schools and communities. During team building our B'reiut (spirit) Coach (Amy Greenberg) is on hand to help us develop our pride in our kehilah kedoshah - holy community. During avodat lev the Rabbi and Cantor lead us in prayer, and on special holiday programs we learn different ways of observing the holidays. There is overlap, in that many of the activities serve multiple purposes. Last week, we played a game requiring students to pair Hebrew prayer words and phrases as they also got to know new things about each other. We had a lot of fun, and your children did a great job!

Our Judaics curriculum is continuing to form a well-rounded education for your children. Different grade years focus on relevant topics such as, holidays, Bible stories, Israel (history and modern state), Jewish history, and life cycle events. We have also begun to invest in art projects that will travel through the years with your children.

The Hebrew curriculum has seen the most upgrades to ensure that our children are developing their reading skills and connecting with the themes of each prayer. Over recent years the demands of the secular school day and other activities have challenged us to keep pace with our children's expectation of a responsive learning environment. To that end, our new curriculum focuses on teaching our students Hebrew through a variety of means, not merely memorization. We are continuing to adapt this program through feedback and constant review from children, parents, faculty and staff. We already can see the retention and comprehension rates increasing in our younger grades.

Our Madrichim program is holding monthly meetings to prepare our teens to be a "dugma ishit - a person of example." We are focusing on accountability and professionalism that will bring them success in whatever direction their life journey takes them.

From bagels and blocks to our high school seniors, and engaging our college students on break, we are approaching each child with care and respect doing our part in ensuring the continued growth of Jewish capacity l'dor v'dor- from generation to generation.

May we continue to go from strength to strength.  
Chazak, chazak, v'nitchazek.

Rabbi Marc Kline  
Stephanie C. Fields, Religious School Principal  
Monica Schneider-Brewer, Vice President, Religious Education  
Karen Seligman, Religious Education Chair

**From Eleanor Rubin, Israel Affairs Chair**

What's going on in Jerusalem?

This June will mark the 50th anniversary of the Six Day War of 1967 in which Israel was victorious over the armies of Egypt, Jordan and Syria. Until that time, since the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, Israelis were not permitted to visit the eastern part of the city of Jerusalem which was ruled by Jordan. The Western Wall and the Old City were out of bounds to Jews until the 1967 victory. It was an impossible victory and a joyous time for Israelis and the larger Jewish world.

In the past 50 years, Jerusalem has undergone tremendous growth and development. Though disputed among the nations, Jerusalem is the capital of Israel. For some years, that city was losing young people to the more exciting and productive areas in the north due to lack of jobs, quality of life, quality of education and affordable housing. The modern Jewish population was shrinking and the Arab and Haredi (ultra-orthodox) were growing.

As a result of changes in the city administration, and economic growth there is now a more even mix of all constituencies. According to Mayor Nir Barkat, "By design, Jerusalem is built to host and include all tribes — Jews and non-Jews alike. That was the role of Jerusalem 3000 years ago. It was the only place that was not given to any specific tribe. It belonged to all."

Improvements in the city have brought a more varied population which is attracted by the many business and cultural opportunities. High Tech firms have been established and a broader business district has increased economic activities. High speed railroad will connect to Tel Aviv bringing thousands of jobs and easy access to other cities. The school system has improved and finds more secular and national religious students enrolled which provides for a better balanced student population.

Housing is expanding, though often quite expensive. Nevertheless, young people are finding ways to live and work in the city within their budgets. The skyline is dotted with cranes, not the flying kind, but those used in building houses and office complexes in every direction. Improved quality of life has had a major impact on the city whose population is over 800,000 of which 62% is Jewish. Other groups are Muslim, Christian and some Druze.

Crowds enjoy the occasional light festival. Hundreds of small and large organizations engage in an annual marathon. There is a film festival and a music festival. The Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra, a first class symphony orchestra, founded in 1936, performs often in Jerusalem when the group is not on international tours. Conductors have included Leonard Bernstein, Zubin Mehta, Kurt Masur, and Leonard Botstein.

The Art Scene has grown to include the newly renovated Israel Museum with an amazing collection of antiquities and modern art. Several years ago Anish Kapoor created a chrome-plated sculpture called "Turning the World Upside Down" which is placed at the entrance to the museum. It is reminiscent of the bean-shaped sculpture in a Chicago park by the same artist.

In Machane Yehuda murals have been painted by a consortium of French and Israeli artists that depict visions of life in the shuk. Anna Ticho's house is now a museum filled with her glorious paintings of local flora and the Judean hills.

Street life in Jerusalem is full of diversity. There are many outdoor cafes where coffee is a specialty. This is the only location where Starbucks could not survive due to the indigenous competition. On Ben Yehuda Street, no cars, you may be serenaded by a cellist or violinist or guitarist hoping to pick up a few shekels. The new downtown Mall is a place for shopping and people watching. Young and old men and women, soldiers, male and female carrying their guns, ultra-orthodox men with black hats and women with long skirts, teen-agers in mini-skirts, Muslim women with heads covered. It is a colorful, ancient, modern city where diversity reigns.

That's what's going on in Jerusalem.

## Mazel Tov to our February/early March B'nai Mitzvahs!

**Isabella Tobias** will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, February 4th at 10am. Mazel Tov to Isabella and her family!

**Jacob Cohen**, born on January 21, 2004 will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on February 18th, 2017 at 10am. Mazel Tov!

Jacob is an honor roll student at the Red Bank Charter School in Red Bank NJ. Jacob enjoys skiing, baseball, soccer, basketball, swimming & frog catching. He lives with his Dad: Adam Cohen, Mom: Ellen Cohen. Sister: Brooke Cohen: Brother: Ari Cohen & cat: Tiger. He spends a lot of time with his family who are very proud of him.



**Aidan Mann** will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, February 11th at 10am. Mazel tov to Aidan and his family!

**Ty Feiler** is a 7th grader at Rumson Country Day School. He lives on a farm in Colts Neck and enjoys working on the farm, especially tending to his flock of sheep that now totals 31.

Ty enjoys playing football, basketball and lacrosse. He loves to spend time in Montana with his family. In addition to his parents, Aaron and Kerri, Ty has an older sister, Morgan, and a younger brother, Cameron.

Ty will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 4th at 10am.

Mazel Tov to Ty and his family!



## From Kerry Krachman, Social Action Chair

Please help our neighbors and members of our community by donating hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant and toilet paper for MRT's Hygiene Drive. These donations will benefit Family Promise and The Center in Asbury Park. Family Promise is a non-profit organization that assists local families who are homeless, assisting them during the transition period while seeking permanent housing. The Center provides support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers.

The Hygiene Drive is in conjunction with our Social Action Shabbat on Friday, February 24th, where there will be a special presentation by Danny Siegel, fondly referred to as the Mitzvah Maniac. We will be collecting hygiene items through the month of February. Please deposit your donations in the box inside the coat room.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Please join us for our very first *Women's Rosh Chodesh* service led by Cantor Clissold!



Rosh Chodesh  
Women's Group  
NEW MOON, NEW MONTH, RENEWED YOU

We will meet for schmoozing, snacking, some learning

and a service for the new month!



Please bring a snack or dessert to share

Date: February 26<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5 PM

Host: Kay Wiesenfeld

Where: 15 Oak Street Lincroft, NJ – 732-747-5992

Please...

RSVP to [sisterhood@monmouthreformtemple.org](mailto:sisterhood@monmouthreformtemple.org)





Diapers generously donated from MRT members were delivered to the Jersey Shore Dream Center for families in need. Pictured: Jill Austin, Alana Gaudette and Cheryl Gaudette

## SISTERHOOD, Karen Kahn, President



Sistahs,

We had a great game night at Anne's for our January "in and about" - We will try to schedule another one soon, a it was really fun!

The Tennis Social is Saturday, February 25th, 7-11 PM at Colts Neck Racquet Club. Please RSVP ASAP if you haven't done so already. Also, We will be having our first Women's Rosh Chodesh event at Kay's house, lead by Cantor Clissold. This should be a wonderful event of learning and socializing.

Please join us at 5pm on Sunday February 26th!!

Looking forward into March, we are going to be sending out the Shl'ach Manot flyer soon for our annual Purim fundraiser, so keep an eye out for it, especially as we will need volunteers to prepare the goodie bags

Please remember to renew your sisterhood membership for the 16-17 year, if you haven't done so already. We are trying to keep our records current and correct. We start our accounting year in September, but realize that some of you prefer to wait until January, so please send in your dues. Thanks!!

Lastly, I'm so very proud of all the "sistahs" and their families and friends who participated, around the country and the world, in the Women's March on the 21st!

Shalom,  
Karen Kahn

## Baldwin Davidson Memorial Scholarship Fund

### A Message from Sisterhood & Men's Club

This fund supports the Jewish education and experiences of our children through trips to Israel, summer camp, youth group events, leadership training to promote a passionate love of Jewish learning.

We invite all interested families to apply to this scholarship fund and help to make multi-faceted and life-long Jewish learning a reality in your home.

There is a committee of five who makes the awards determination and who will collectively consider every applicant who wishes to avail themselves of the Jewish learning opportunities that exist outside of our temple community.

The application deadline is February 15, 2016

### BALDWIN DAVIDSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Deadline: February 16, 2016 ■ Notification: March 10, 2016

Supporting the Jewish education and experiences of our children through trips to Israel, summer camp, youth group events, and leadership training to promote a passionate love of Jewish learning.

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

Total Cost of Activity: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for requested funds (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your involvement at MRT: (e.g., religious school, youth group, volunteer roles, etc.)

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Describe what the scholarship funds will be used for and how you will benefit: (NFTY, summer camp, Israel, etc.)

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Feel free to attach additional information.

Please send application to:

Baldwin Davidson Scholarship Monmouth Reform Temple 332 Hance Avenue Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

**THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:**

- David on Lisa Calderwood on the loss of her godson Samuel Aaron Janney,
- Sandra and Richard Brown on the loss of their son Gary Douglas Brown
- Phyllis Rosenberg on the loss of her husband, Robert



At MRT, loved ones are memorialized with Kaddish at the Shabbat service on or following their Yahrzeit. 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 yahrzeit 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.

The Congregation mourns the loss of Robert Rosenberg



May his memory be a blessing

**February Yahrzeits** (read date based on when they occur)Names to be Read on Friday, February 3rd (Services at 6pm)

\*James Abis, Morris Bernstein, Stanley Brittman, Irving Burdas, William Calderwood, \*Julius Fox, Louis J. Fox, Benjamin Frankel, \*Al Goldstein, \*Louis Hershey, Bernice Horowitz, Raymond Johnson, Morris Kosberg, Sarah Laperdon, Dr. Paul B. Lerner, Marvin Levine, Clara Lipsky, Jack Lipsky, Roslyn Lissner, \*Carole Littenberg, \*Max Mausner, Henry Miller, Sylvia Moss, \*Simie Nusbaum, \*Harry Obstgarten, \*Clara Offenhenden, Sanford Rems, Leonore Rosen, Max Rosen, Freda Schneider, Norma Shechet, Marjorie Sternberg, Steven Weyser

Names to be Read on Friday, February 10th (Services at 7pm)

\*Isadore Abramowitz, \*Sara Brightman, \*Lynn Sternberg Donlan, Abraham Josephson, Ida Klein, David Allen Kline, Eva Rotman Lite, \*Rose Littman, Robert Misch, \*Milton Morris, Felice Nifoussi, Solomon Rems, Benjamin Roffman, \*Bob Rosin, \*Robert Salomon, \*Rose Samo, Samuel D. Shagan, Ruth Stone, \*Samuel Taksel, Matilda Tell, Rose Tiplitz  
\*Charles Wallerstein, Shirley Weyser

Names to be Read on Friday, February 17th (Services at 7pm)

Phyllis Brodsky, Tom Dorf, Jack Feinberg, Charles Feldman, Joseph Friend, Pauline Gershon, Phyllis Gordon, Sylvia Gordon, Florence Grieco, Alfred Jampol, Theo Jennings, \*Marvin L. Kahn, Sadie Kosberg, \*Florence Kridel, Joan Litwin, Joseph Michalowitz, \*Philip Miller, Ellinor G. Newman, \*Sharon Renee Offenhenden, \*Samuel Prusoff, Lester Reiss, Jack Rosen, Morris Rosenberg, \*Rosalind Sadwith, \*Henry Schwartzman, Dorothy Sikora, Florence Snyder, Frances Sporn, Jean Stark, John Stern, Howard Tannenbaum, \*Lillian Trubin, Florence Ulanet, \*Rebecca Wagner

Names to be Read on Friday, February 24th (Services at 7pm)

Edythe Albert, Rae Barshack, \*Lillian Bernstein, \*Abraham Bialy, Casper Boyer, Jose Colmenares, Jean Fiegelman, Marjorie Fishman, Seymour Grauer, Philip Kalb, \*Celia Karlman, Freida Kirschner, Andrea Malek, Anne Marriner, Beverly Maurer, Rita Mercedes McWilliams, \*Maurice Meyer Jr., Jean Morse, George Moss, Jr., Lillian Portman, \*Harry Rubinstein, Rose Schiller, Ida Schlisserman, Louis Schneider, \*Beatrice Silverman, \*Max Walsky, Louise Zarin

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

Edward Klein  
     Caryl and Charles Sills  
 Barbara N. Wien  
     The Murray Family  
 Seymour Grauer  
     Maddy and Michael Kalb  
 Gary Douglas Brown  
     Sandra and Richard Brown  
 Robert Rosenberg  
     Stephen and Trudy Goldsmith

**Adult Ed Fund**

MRT Tuesday Morning Study Group

In Memory Of:

Frank Singer  
     Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky  
 Eleanor Krachman  
     Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky  
 Emanuel Marks  
     Ellie Goodman

In Honor Of:

John Heidema's Special Birthday  
     Susan and Bob St. Lifer

**Arts and Decorations Fund**

Brook and Vince Coppola

**Baldwin Davidson Scholarship Fund**In Memory Of:

Richard Gaudette  
     Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette  
 Dorothy Grauer  
     Maddy and Michael Kalb

**Youth Group Fund**In Memory Of:

Abe Kipnis  
     Cori and Joel Patterson

**Cantor's Fund**In Memory Of:

Barbara N. Wien  
     The Murray Family  
 Harold Grauer  
     Maddy and Michael Kalb

In Honor Of:

Trudy and Steve Goldsmith's 50th Wedding anniversary  
     The Kennedys  
 Cantor and John's 25th Wedding anniversary  
     Margie and Robert Wold

**Gan Mazon**In Memory Of:

Jessie Sklarin  
     Robin and Herman Sklarin

**General Fund**In Memory Of:

Mortimer Brandwene  
     Bernard Brandwene  
 Sol Mandel  
     Ruth Roa-Mandel and Irwin Mandel  
 Manuel Unterman  
     Amy and Michael Unterman  
 David Kline  
     Lois Kline

In Honor Of:

Anne Goodman for all her hard work for our Chanukah party  
     Wayne and Deborah Hallard

**Oneg Fund**In Memory Of:

Philip Kalb  
     Maddy and Michael Kalb  
 Michael Sporn, Frances Sporn  
     Susan and Roy Gelber

**Scholar-in-Residence Fund**In Memory Of:

Florence Snyder  
     Margie and Robert Wold

**Mazon Fund**In Memory Of:

Al Goldstein  
     Bobbie Goldstein

**Prayerbook Fund**In Memory Of:

Raymond Klein  
     Nancy and Marty Johnson

**Social Action Fund**In Memory Of:

Delores Abramowitz  
     Sharyn and Dean Ross

In Honor Of:

John Heidema's special birthday  
     Karen and David Levinsky

**Homeless Fund**In Memory Of:

Jeanie Rosenweig  
     Jim Haran  
 Delores Abramowitz  
     Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky  
 Frank Singer  
     Bernard Brandwene, Martha Brandwene and Rita McWilliams  
 Fred Straus  
     Bobbie Goldstein  
 Adelaide Meyer  
     Irma and Pete Meyer  
 Edythe Albert, Sophie Wald  
     Joyce and John Christie  
 Max Rosenwieg  
     James Haran

**Have you purchased a Brick on our Walkway yet?**

**In HONOR of:**

Graduations, Weddings, Anniversaries Confirmations, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Special Birthdays, etc.

**In MEMORY Of:**

Those you love. Or other wording you desire.

Then you and others will enjoy seeing them while walking the path when at Temple.

Purchases by individuals or groups are welcome \$100/brick, 5 bricks for \$400.

**Please contact the MRT office for more information!**





**February 2017**  
**For the most up-to-date info**  
**[www.monmouthreformtemple.org/calendar](http://www.monmouthreformtemple.org/calendar)**

*Sun**Mon**Tue**Wed**Thu**Fri**Sat***1****2****3****4**

11am Rel Ed  
 4pm Religious  
 School  
 4pm 4th Grade  
 Siddur Ceremony  
 5pm Hazamir  
 7pm SMaRTY  
 7:15 Membership

1pm Office closed  
 3:45pm Shabbat @  
 Chelsea  
 2/3 Shabbat  
 5:30pm Preneg by 2/3  
 6pm First Friday  
 Shabbat Services

9am Shabbat Service  
 9:30am Torah Talks  
 10am Isabella Tobias  
 Bat Mitzvah

**5****6****7****8****9****10****11**

9:30am Rel School  
 Family Ed  
 12:15pm  
 Madrichim meeting

1pm Office Closing  
 7:30pm Men's  
 Club Board

NO Study Group  
 7:30pm Shpiel  
 Audition/Read  
 Through

12pm 92Y lunch  
 program  
**TU B'shevat**  
**Seders**  
 4pm Religious  
 School  
 5pm Hazamir  
 6:30pm Ritual

7:30pm Men's  
 Club Poker

1pm Office closing  
 3:45pm Shabbat @  
 Chelsea  
 7pm Shabbat  
 Services with 5th  
 Grade

9am Shabbat  
 Service  
 9:30am Torah  
 Talks Study  
 Session  
 10am Aidan Mann  
 Bar Mitzvah

**12****13****14****15****16****17****18**

TU B'shevat  
 Seders  
 9:30am Rel School  
 9:30am 5th Grade  
 Family Ed  
 9:30am Bagels and  
 Blocks

1pm Office Closing

9:45am Study  
 Group  
 7pm Orchid  
 7pm Exec Comm

4pm Rel School  
 5pm Hazamir  
 7pm Shpiel Rehearsal  
 7:30pm Health  
 Initiative Meeting in  
 Library

1pm Office Closing  
 7pm Shabbat  
 Services

9am Shabbat  
 Service  
 9:30am Torah  
 Talks Study  
 Session  
 10am Jacob Cohen  
 Bar Mitzvah

**19****20****21****22****23****24****25**

NO Religious  
 School

Office Closed  
 President's Day

9:45am Study  
 Group  
 7pm Board  
 Meeting

4pm Rel School  
 5pm Hazamir  
 Rehearsal  
 7pm Shpiel  
 Rehearsal

Red Bank Y in  
 Social Hall All Day

1pm Office Closing  
 7pm Shabbat  
 Services  
 Social Action  
 Shabbat with Rabbi  
 Danny Siegel

9am Shabbat  
 Service  
 9:30am Torah  
 Talks Study  
 Session  
 10am 6th Grade  
 Service with Rabbi  
 Danny Siegel  
 3pm Torah Study  
 with Rabbi Danny  
 Siegel

**26****27****28****March 1****2****3****4**

9:30am Rel School  
 10am Mitzvah  
 Academy/Confirmati  
 on with Rabbi Danny  
 Siegel  
 11am Religious Ed  
 Meeting  
 12:15pm Teacher  
 meeting  
 5pm Sisterhood  
 Rosh Chodesh

1pm Office Closing

NO Study Group

4pm Rel School  
 5pm Hazamir  
 Rehearsal  
 7pm Shpiel  
 Rehearsal

1pm Office closed  
 3:45pm Shabbat @  
 Chelsea  
 K/1 Shabbat  
 5:30pm Preneg by 1/2  
 6pm First Friday  
 Shabbat Services

9am Shabbat  
 Service  
 9:30am Torah  
 Talks Study  
 Session  
 10am Ty Feiler Bar  
 Mitzvah



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References Aplenty

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