When attending services, and 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.

SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, March 30th - NOTE SPECIAL TIME
5:00 pm Shabbat Services - First Seder Night

Friday, April 6th - No First Friday
6:00 pm Shabbat Services
6:00 pm Festival Yizkor

Friday, April 13th
7:00 pm Shabbat Services
Men’s Club & Sisterhood Shabbat

Saturday, April 14th
10:00 am Samantha Kelner Bat Mitzvah

Friday, April 20th
7:00 pm Shabbat Services
Yom Haatzmaut Celebration

Saturday, April 21st
10:00 am Jake & Ava Schwartz B’nai Mitzvahs

Friday, April 27th
7:00 pm Shabbat Services – with choir

Saturday, April 28th
10:00 am Kyle Arend Bar Mitzvah

Friday, May 4th
5:30 pm Pre-neg
Teacher Appreciation Shabbat
6:00 pm First Friday followed by Pot Luck
A-M Salad // N-Z Pasta or Chicken
Please bring enough for 10-12 people

Friday, May 11th
7:00 pm Shabbat Services

Saturday, May 12th
10:00 am Alexa Tuller Bat Mitzvah

Friday, May 18th
7:00 pm Shabbat Services
Social Action Shabbat

Sunday, May 20th
10:00 am Confirmation

Friday, May 25th
7:00 pm Shabbat Services

*See the next page for the continued list of upcoming services*
The Rabbi and Cantor Talk About Shabbat Services

What is the format for the service?

Rabbi: The Jewish worship experience is communal, in every sense of the word. Part of it gets lead from the pulpit (bimah) and part from the congregation. The liturgy follows a set pattern beginning with the act of praising the source of all blessings: God. We have to first be able to take a step back and appreciate these blessings before we can even think about how to enhance them or experiment in evolving them (prayer).

The second piece of the service moves us into prayer. Prayer is best defined as introspection. Prayer must begin with a commitment to engage the spirit in a meaningful way. One has not prayed because all of the pages got read or the songs got sung. Prayer happens when, as Rabbi Heschel taught us, we hold man and God in one hand and our soul’s commitment to peace and righteousness in the other ... and both at the same time. Prayer is not passive; it is active, or one has not prayed. One must emerge from prayer somehow changed, somehow more aware, and somehow more committed to making real the goals for which he/she prayed.

Our worship experience revolves around giving thanks. Appreciation and thanksgiving are not quite the same. One can appreciate some amazing event, work of art, or act of kindness, even if it did not impact his/her personal space or being. One should give thanks when something he/she appreciates has personal impact. While we appreciate the miracles of life, we are thankful for the lives with whom we engage.

The final piece of this service culminates in this sense of memorial, for however much we are thankful, it is because we have people with whom to share these blessings that life has value. In general, the service should help people engage tradition and each other as we celebrate being. Especially for Shabbat and the holidays, we need to take a step back and let go of the real world; reboot our spirit. Sharing this time with a community in worship does wonders to help us renew and restore. Even more, it helps us to grow.

Cantor: Very generally speaking...Shabbat services have three parts to them: Shabbat prayers, a Torah reading and a sermon. Most of the prayers are sung and I try very hard to have a good balance of mostly participatory music. When a prayer melody is new I always try and teach it to the congregation and then sing it for a few weeks in a row.

The Torah is usually read by me, Rabbi Kline or a volunteer Torah reader. At every Shabbat service we include a prayer for healing and if you are ever interested in reading Torah I would love to work with you to prepare you to do so on a Friday night of your choosing.

Services are about 75 to 90 minutes long starting at 7 pm three times a month once a month and in July and August services are all at 6 pm. These services are about 60 minutes. I truly believe that regular Shabbat worship attendance is really important and fulfilling. I suggest every single member of our temple try to
come 1-2 times a month for a year and see if it changes your life in a positive way. I always love to see you at services and hear your musical requests and ideas to make things more beautiful. Most of the music is accompanied by our very gifted Dr. Barbara Thomson and sometimes by our volunteer choir and band as well! Being together as a holy community-a kehillah kedosha is so beneficial. It is also really healthy for our temple to have good attendance at Shabbat worship on a regular basis-it nurtures everyone.

It is like going to the gym...you know you need to go, you find any excuse to avoid it but when you finally do go-you end up so glad you came! Think of the synagogue as a spiritual workout for your soul! But a few times a year doesn’t really benefit you–you have to come often and regularly.

What is a First Friday service like?

_Cantor_: First Friday is our monthly family service during the school year starting at 6pm. We have a special prayerbook and I am usually accompanied by our volunteer temple band Shir Chadash. Services are designed to be shorter and “family friendly”. It is generally a very popular and well-attended service. Sometimes we hand out musical percussion instruments and stuffed Torahs to be carried by the children. Immediately following services is a pot luck dinner. Kids have a great time hanging out with their friends from religious school and adults enjoy talking over dinner. People usually bring homemade dish or pasta or chicken or a salad. Everyone is welcome to attend!

_Rabbi_: During the school year, we dedicate the first Friday of every month to a more informal worship experience. While normally our worship service lasts for about 75 minutes, First Friday is usually about 45-50 minutes (followed by a pot luck dinner). Our band plays, and the children usually play a large role in the worship experience. Services are family fun.

How can someone who has never come before learn to participate?

_Rabbi_: The best answer to this question is in the practice and experience. Cantor Clissold and I are always available to help walk someone through the worship service. Usually, people present also always welcome the engagement and offer to help people follow along.

_Cantor_: Come regularly--If you come on a regular basis you can really quickly understand and absorb a shabbat service. The prayerbook has all prayers transliterated and translated to enable participation and understanding. Rabbi Kline and I both try to explain things throughout the service to enable people to take away deeper meaning. You can also study with me outside of worship services--just call or email me and we can meet privately to study anything you wish!

I received a letter in the mail about a “Yahrtzeit.” Can you explain what happens if I come to services?

_Cantor_: Yahrtzeit is the yearly anniversary of a loved ones date of passing. When you attend worship services for a Yahrtzeit at the very end of the service we read a list of our loved ones names and say the Kaddish prayer in honor of our loved ones and an affirmation and recognition of life. We would be honored to share this moment with you and hope you will attend services when you have a Yahrtzeit.

_Rabbi_: Certainly we want you to experience the celebration of our community as part of our worship. At the end of the service, as we show appreciation for the lives, who, though finished on earth, continue in our spiritual DNA and storytelling, we will mention your loved one’s name. We never want people to be forgotten. On the
anniversary of their transition from life, we make sure to call them to memory. We do this five times a year. In addition to the annual yahrtzeit, Yizkor (Memorial services) attach to three of the main festivals (Sukkot, Pesach, and Shavuot) and Yom Kippur.

I see on the calendar there are sometimes Bar or Bat Mitzvah services on Saturday morning at 10am. What are they like? Can I attend?

_Rabbi:_ Saturday services exist for everyone. A Bar/Bat Mitzvah service is never a private event, and as a member of our MRT community, it belongs to each of us ... together. Some people feel uncomfortable because they don’t know the family celebrating their child’s new status. It is precisely at this time that we should be showing up, getting to know them, celebrating them, and helping them appreciate the MRT family to which they belong.

_Cantor:_ Please come! This is a regular Shabbat service partially led by our amazing B’nai Mitzvah students! The service is also led by Rabbi Kline and me. There is a Torah reading and a Haftarah reading, there is also always a prayer of healing. There is a D’var Torah given by the B’nai Mitzvah. Services are about two hours long and we do everything we can to encourage participation. It is actually AWESOME to have congregants in attendance at these services because it helps the flow of prayer to have your added participation. Most of the attendees are guests and therefore very unfamiliar with our service. I truly hope you consider attending any of our Saturday am worship opportunities! For my own son’s I invited the entire synagogue and it was really exciting to have so many people praying together!

I’m coming alone for the first time. Who will seat me?

_Cantor:_ Sit anywhere! My only suggestion is to avoid the front row—it hurts your neck! And then come say hello to me!

_Rabbi:_ We always have people milling around, but do not have formal ushers. I hope you will always experience a welcome here, but it never hurts to be gregarious and introduce yourself (even when you have been a member longer than the people you see there). You will be welcomed with open arms!

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**March/April 2018 Lobby Tzedakah Box Benefits:**

The Brady Campaign

to prevent Gun Violence

Co-Sponsor Eleanor Rubin

*The mission of the Brady Organization and its Million Mom March is to create a safer America by cutting gun deaths in half by 2025*

**May/June 2018 Lobby Tzedakah Box Benefits:**

Shine-A-Light Foundation

Co-Sponsors Dean & Sharyn Ross

*The program, which last year helped to save countless lives by installing lights on hundreds of bicycles free of charge*
2018 Yom Hashoah Commemoration (2 events)

Thursday, April 12th
Service at 1pm followed by the Film
*Here’s the Story: Witnesses*
By Steve Rogers

The documentary tells the story of three New Jersey women who endured distinctly different childhood experiences during World War II in Europe.

*This program was underwritten by generous donations from members and friends of Monmouth Reform Temple

Ernest Mathias with the film: *The Last Refuge*
Sunday, April 15th at 2pm at MRT

A refugee who emigrated from Germany to China with his parents and maternal grandparents and lived them until 1947. The presentation consists of a gripping one hour professional video entitled “The Last Refuge,” with original footing depicting the harsh living conditions and struggles Jews had to endure in Shanghai.

On Kristallnacht, November 9, 1938, German Jewry was subjected to pogroms, Jewish businesses were looted and some Jews were sent to concentration camps. In the aftermath, many Jews attempted to flee the Nazis but found that emigration was difficult as various countries closed their doors. One of the exceptions was Shanghai, China, specifically the section ruled by Japan, which did not require immigrants to have entry visas. Thus, from 1938-1942 about 18,000 Jews successfully emigrated there. Along with their Chinese neighbors, the Jewish refugees suffered the hardships of wartime Shanghai, survived the Japanese ghetto and ultimately were liberated. The film includes first-hand survivor accounts, archival photographs and film footage, scholarly analysis and dramatic recreations.
It’s Israel’s 70th Anniversary!

Yom Haatzmaut celebration will take place at Shabbat Services
Friday, April 20th at 7:00 pm
Please join us for an Aliyah if you are 7, 70, or have a 7 anywhere in your age or birthday!
Special oneg to follow

Being Jewish 101

2nd in a Series of programs designed to get to know our neighbors better and bring our community closer together.

Sunday, April 22nd
2pm-4:30pm

Co-Sponsored by the
Monmouth County Democratic Women’s Caucus
as part of Women in Unity and
Monmouth Reform Temple Sisterhood

Presenter: Rabbi Sally J. Priesand

Rabbi Priesand will discuss Jewish values from the standpoint of symbols in the sanctuary. A discussion and Q & A will follow while enjoying ethnic Jewish desserts prepared by Sisterhood.
“We added a reel to his life, but it’s a reel of blank tape”

A Good Death: Preparing Ourselves For the Inevitable

Monmouth Reform Temple Discussion Group
332 Hance Ave, Tinton Falls
April 22nd
6:00 - 7:30 PM in the Temple Library

My business partner, a prominent local nephrologist likes to tell me that none of us get out of here alive. And of course, these stark works are a true statement about our common mortal fate. What we do have some control over is how we die. Our modern medical system frequently presents us with an agonizing set of choices at the end of life. But thinking through the kinds of efforts we are willing to endure and the aspects of our life that make it truly worth living can make these decisions easier when the time comes. Will we be involved in a prolonged medical drama filled with heroic measures and expensive procedures? Will we and our family members be ready to let go when the time is right?

In a 90 minute discussion, we will explore this topic through a series of case studies. We will consider the inevitable tradeoffs between prolonging life and degradation of quality of life, between trying to do what’s best for the patient, and respecting the patient’s autonomy. Practical measures that can be taken now to make this process easier will also be reviewed. The session will be lead by Elliott Familant who has been leading discussions at MRT for several years. Also participating will be Rabbi Kline, Helaine Rothman, a temple member and a former hospice nurse, and Doctor Jessica Israel, a Geriatrician and Palliative Care Physician who is the Corporate Chair of Geriatrics for the RWJ Barnabas Health Care System.

Refreshments will be served!

For more information, please contact Elliott Familant at 908-510-5136 or efamilant@gmail.com.
MRT Shabbat on the Beach at Seven President’s Oceanfront Park
221 Ocean Avenue North, Long Branch
**Friday, June 22nd & Friday, August 10th**
6:00 pm: Bring your own Picnic Dinner at the Shelter
7:00 pm Service (Bring a beach chair!)
Invite a friend to join us! (Rain call at 2:30pm via email)
Dillies Pilevsky
Professor of History & Literature
At Brookdale Community College
Sunday, April 29th
2-3:30pm

What It Means to be Jewish:
Loss and Renewal
A discussion of Philip Roth novels
(Joint Program of Adult Ed & Sisterhood)

3:30pm-4pm
Desserts & Shmooze

Followed by
MRT Annual Meeting
Sunday, April 29th
4pm
Paint & Sip Party
Presented by The Men’s Club & Sisterhood

May 5th at 7:00 pm
Monmouth Reform Temple
332 Hance Ave. Tinton Falls
All painting supplies provided
$40.00 per person
A BYOB event

DIAPER DRIVE

Social Action will be hosting our Second Annual Diaper Drive from March 9th through May 1st! As we all know, diapers are totally necessary but quite expensive! They are not covered by traditional sources for food, and are a big challenge for the needy families in our community. As we did last year, we will bring them to the Jersey Shore Dream Center Baby Pantry in Neptune and to Epiphany House (mothers recovering from addiction and their babies - in Asbury Park). A cute pack n’ play will be set up in back of the MRT coat room for the diapers and wipes. We have a lot of events coming up - from the Parent program on March 11th, through the Women’s and 2nd night Seders and the congregational meeting. Please consider dropping off diapers, any size, when you come! Last year we were very successful and we hope to increase our donations this year!!

Any questions - please email Cheryl Gaudette at cbgaudette@gmail.com
Sunday, May 20th at 10:00 am

Rabbi Marc Kline  
Cantor Gabrielle Clissold

Rabbi Sally J. Priesand, Emerita  
Stephanie Fields, MAJE, Educator

The Class:

Levi Baum  Amy Leifman
Lev Brewer  Jordyn Osofsky
Sydney Hand  Jacqueline Shell
Zack Sussman

A light kiddush will follow the service sponsored by the families. Please RSVP to the office if you will be attending. The Confirmation Class will be hosting a carnival for all Religious School students who come after the kiddush.
What Will Your Legacy Be?

“Educating our children is the lifeblood of maintaining our Jewish heritage and values. MRT provided an educational foundation for our two sons. That is why we wanted to make a legacy contribution to a Religious School Endowment at MRT.” Sheila and Zach Gilstein.

Our Life and Legacy program, launched last year under the auspices of Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey and the Grinspoon Foundation, succeeded with a commitment from 18 of our congregants, who are now Charter members of the Legacy Giving Circle.

Now in our second year, we are thrilled to report that folks are coming forward to express their desire to assist MRT and the Jewish community to thrive and grow into the future. So far, we have 9 additional Charter members, halfway to our goal this year.

“The synagogue is the storehouse of the Jewish spirit. No other institution makes Jews Jewish, while strengthening our sense of community and thereby contributing to the survival of Judaism and the Jewish people. A Legacy pledge ensures that there will always be a Reform Jewish presence in our community.” Rabbi Sally J. Priesand, Emerita

Just as we today enjoy and appreciate the opportunity to attend joyous Shabbat and holiday services, educate our children and grandchildren, engross ourselves in lifelong Jewish learning, build lasting friendships, grow a love and appreciation for Israel and fulfill our mission of Tikun Olam, we can be the foundation upon which future generations will find a welcoming and flourishing kehilla k’dosha, a holy community, at Monmouth Reform Temple.

Our Life and Legacy Committee members are reaching out to our congregants to explain the program and to offer various ways in which one can join this forward looking program. Feel free to call on any member of our Life and Legacy Committee or speak to one of our donors to understand more about the satisfaction that you can achieve by joining in this mitzvah.

MRT L&L Committee members:

Jay Feigus  Zach Gilstein  Rabbi Marc Kline  Bob St. Lifer  Joel Morgovsky  Eleanor Rubin

We gratefully acknowledge the commitment of our first 27 Charter members of the Legacy Giving Circle.


Here’s hoping the nor’easters are behind us and we have landed in what should be a time of warmer days, blooming buds and the promise of sunshine ahead. MRT had a busy winter and looks forward to continuing those efforts into this new season. If you spent some of your time hunkered down in the cold months, possibly missing some of our events or activities, please use this Spring awakening as a time to come out and join your community and see what we have in store for our MRT family.

Now could be a time to dust off those volunteer skills and get involved. We can always use help in the garden! Take a look at the calendar, see if there is something that peeks your interest. Whether you come and help make an event possible, or bring your friends and attend and be a part of its successful completion. Who knows, you may just make a new friend or broaden those relationships you have already formed within our MRT community.

Before you know it, Summer will be upon us and our lives will get busy with vacations and family. So, take some time now to shake off the dust, take a deep breath and come on in and reacquaint yourself with your Jewish family.
Amidst confusing travel warning messages from the American government I led a group of 12 participants on a humanitarian mission to Cuba carrying suitcases full of medical supplies, educational materials, cosmetics, eye glasses, tooth brushes and a walker. Money was generously distributed to every community visited. The trip was organized around helping five Jewish communities and learning the history of Cuba, organic farming techniques, and experiencing contemporary and classical Cuban music, dance and art.

We first visited the Orthodox Jewish center Adath Israel in Havana. Their representative Jacob serves as the mashgiach (one who makes sure things are kosher in the kitchen), shochet (kosher butcher), mohel (does circumcisions) and shaliach tzibbur (the cantor!!). It is a very small partially underground structure of a sanctuary and common room. They serve daily kosher meals to anyone who needs a meal. He stated that they had almost no visitors, very little support from the international Jewish community and was overjoyed to receive our gifts.

The second community visited was the Centro Hebreo Sefaradi founded by predominantly Turkish Jews. This synagogue supports the Holocaust museum, a gym, a small social hall, daily meals for seniors, a dance theater and sanctuary. This progressive egalitarian synagogue hosted our group for Shabbat services and dinner and they invited me to lead part of the worship. We were the first group to visit them since October according to Maida their community leader.

The third community visited was the Patronado, the progressive Ashkenazic Jewish center in Havana. They host a vibrant religious school, pre-school, large sanctuary, free pharmacy and daily meals for seniors. They serve and support all the Jews of Cuba. Their leader is Adela Dworin who unfortunately could not meet because her sister had just passed away.

Outside of Havana is the Jewish cemetery which is in complete disrepair. It is terribly sad to see overturned stones, shattered marble, grave erosion with weeds and grass everywhere. It is in desperate need of repair.

Deeper into the center of Cuba is Communidad Tikkun Olam the Santa Clara Jewish community. David Tacher showed off their beautiful small sanctuary, kitchen and artistic roof top communal space for celebrations. It is a small progressive Jewish center providing meals, weekly worship and holiday celebrations.

Driving through Cuba on the way to Cienfuegos we passed an Israeli and Cuban citrus factory called Jaguay Grande. It is a very successful partnership for Israel and Cuba. In Cienfuegos our group met in the small apartment of their tiny community leader Rebecca Langus. This tiny synagogue supports fifteen remaining Jews. Most of them have immigrated to Israel and the US. They have worship services and support the remaining Jewish families of the area. When asked why she stayed Rebecca explained that keeping the small community alive is her personal mission.

Our group also visited numerous sites including an organic farm, the estate of Ernest Hemingway, the Cuban Art Museum, the museum of the revolution, old Havana, a small city called Trinidad, the mosaics of Fuster along with many other fascinating and inspiring people and places. Everyone walked away changed and moved by the incredible spirit of the remaining 1200 Jews of Cuba along with the warmth, beauty and welcoming arms shown by all of the Cubans they met.

We truly hope their visit inspires others to know it is safe and easy to travel to Cuba and support the small remaining communities who were so grateful for the gifts and visit!

L’shalom...until our next voyage!
Cantor Gabrielle Clissold
Dear Sistahs,

March was so busy! Between the Purim Shpiel, the Tennis Social, Book Club at Margie’s, The Afternoon movie and the Women’s Seder, there was barely a free weekend for non Sisterhood-related events! I love it! :-)

If you haven’t paid your dues yet for this year (July-July), please send in your checks. Also, if you wish to donate to the scholarship fund for our seniors, contributions are always appreciated! We will be sending out email to graduating high school seniors soon so that they can apply for the Sisterhood scholarship.

Some upcoming events:

April 13th - Men’s club/Sisterhood Shabbat - If you would like to participate in the service, and/or donate a dessert for the oneg, let us know!

April 29th with Adult Ed - Philip Roth expert, Dillies Pilevsky, will be speaking at 3pm. Please read any Roth book to help enhance participation - And, if you would like to donate a baked good for the event, please let us know!!

May 5th - Please also join us for a Men’s club/Sisterhood event - A Sip and paint CINCO DE MAYO party! $40 per person. It should be a blast. Please remember to BYOB!

Volunteers are needed to present the sisterhood gift at B’nai Mitzvah - Please contact Ellen Goldberg if you can do this great Mitzvah!

Keep your eyes open for emails from Linda Murray about upcoming sisterhood events. We’d love to have you there!!

Best wishes,
Karen Kahn
Through the efforts of a small group of dedicated men, the Men’s Club has hosted multiple social activities and events, and more are being planned. Once again, I would like to thank the “small core group” (you know who you are) of Men’s Club members for their dedication and ongoing support - - imagine what we can do if Men’s Club had a larger active group!!

The Purim Spiel / Dinner / He-Brew was a fun event and enjoyed by all.

Our new series; Jewish Heritage discussions with Rabbi Kline is becoming popular and we will continue these discussions. Our initial session was “Bourbon and Bible” our second was “Scotch and Scripture” (notice a theme??) Stay tuned for our next session (perhaps “Rum and Rashi” or “Tequila and Torah” or ”Beer and Biblical Stories” or ???)

A few upcoming events – (some planned along with Sisterhood) include:
Paint and Sip - - May 5th
Brewery Crawl
A day at the Lakewood Blue Claws
Murder Mystery

As a reminder, Men’s Club meets every other month - -check the calendar and emails

To continue hosting various social events, Men’s Club needs additional energy, ideas, enthusiasm and financial support. We welcome men of all ages to share their many talents and ideas for the benefit of the community. If you are interested in becoming more fully connected with MRT and our congregants, taking on a leadership role with Men’s Club is a great way to get involved and know the MRT family.

Come to one of our meetings or events and be a part of what’s happening.

Thank you
Scott Schneider
MRT Men’s Club President
srsroup25@gmail.com
732-500-3848
Imagine you are the parent of a high school graduate, in an observant family, in Vancouver, British Columbia who decides to spend a year on a kibbutz in Israel and then returns home to enroll for studies at the University of B.C. earning a degree in Liberal Arts. The daughter has been a member of the Dror Movement since a teenager and decides to go to Israel to work within that movement. She travels with several friends, also with the Dror connection and settles in Haifa. After several months, the group decides that Haifa does not offer opportunities that satisfy and they then move to Sderot. How will our young lady tell her parents that she is now living on the “periphery”, in the town of Sderot which is located a stone’s throw from Gaza. More than occasionally, “Red Alert” siren sounds in Sderot sending all to bomb shelters within 15 seconds as rockets from Gaza are being launched. Israelis use the word “periphery” to describe small towns that are on the margin, on the outer edge, on the border, usually immediately next to neighboring countries with whom they do not have friendly relations. Our young lady, her name is Carmi, when asked why she wanted to live and work in Sderot said, “I want to be involved in something bigger than myself”.

According to their official statement, “Dror is a pioneering educational movement whose mission is to effect meaningful, long-term educational and social change in Israeli society in order to promote solidarity, social activism, democracy and equality. We aim to form the grassroots nucleus of an exemplary society in Israel based on the vision of the prophets of Israel and the founders of Zionism.”

I recently spent a week in the Negev with a philanthropic group and visited several towns and kibbutzim on the periphery. We spent time in a place called Nitzana Vista which is close to the border of Egypt. The folks who have settled there chose it for its peaceful atmosphere, the quiet, the beauty of the surroundings and to be a presence protecting the border. They are hoping to develop a tourism hub that will bring people there to experience special features of the landscape. They may occasionally hear the sound of bombs from ISIS on the Egyptian side.

In Nachal Oz, a kibbutz of 430 people, ages new-born to 88, the fence that divides them from Gaza is right along the main road. If they were good neighbors, they could occasionally exchange a cup of sugar across the fence. Gaza is that close to Israel in that sparsely populated area.

We traveled to an outpost near Eilat, bordering Jordan and Egypt, and were greeted, upon arrival, by a performance of actors of the Elad Theatre. The theatre is named after Elad, a young member of their troupe who was killed in an incident. Five young men and women dressed in ancient garb played violin, flute, and drums as we emerged from our bus and then we were seated around a stone wall while the group performed a story, narrated in Hebrew. The actors danced, pranced and rushed about acting out the story. It had something to do with a beloved horse and some friendly animals who played together. The performers are a group of actors, writers, dancers who have come to the area to provide music and art and culture to the community. Many of their performances are for children.

These idealistic young people, some Israeli born, though many are immigrants from other countries have chosen to live their lives in a purposeful, humanitarian way. They have chosen to help protect the most vulnerable areas of the land of Israel and to bring beauty and joy to their surroundings. These are not the techies or the remarkable “start-ups” that we read about who are inventing and developing products and methods that benefit much of the world. But Israel, as it celebrates its 70th year, attracts remarkable young men and women who are there to nourish the spirit and health of its people through music and drama, dance and song and art in public places.

Maybe that’s why Israel rates high on surveys rating the happiness quotient of its citizens. There is a purpose and sense of mission to living and working in that country.
Social action has always been integral to MRT’s mission. Gan Mazon’s expansion demonstrates our temple’s continuing commitment to providing nutritious produce to Monmouth County’s needy families. The expansion is a physical testament that “tikun olam” cannot “repair the world” with only words: It must be actionable. The new garden configuration invites every MRT member to “repair the world” by participating in Gan Mazon one or two hours weekly or bi-weekly.

Added space promotes larger harvests and crop rotation. Allowing planting rows to lie fallow for a season or two to rejuvenate and extra planting rows for experimentation with unfamiliar varieties are other advantages. Gone too will be deer and groundhog intrusion.

On the other hand, 3,000 sq. ft. means that Gan Mazon can no longer be the personal project of a few dedicated volunteers. There are too many jobs to do in a garden capable of growing 2,000 lbs. seasonally. Volunteers are needed to work on their own, according to their personal schedules. More importantly, too many families depend on Gan Mazon’s contribution to local food pantries for us to leave the garden’s future leadership to chance. MRT faced crises in the past when committee chairs could not be found for critical temple roles. Also, we are at the point where Gan Mazon should have a governing board to create formal policies and procedures.

While the wet snow falling outside as I complete my article is foreboding, it will quickly melt. Soon, I will send out requests for help to prepare Gan Mazon for the 2018 season. Last year, volunteers responded to my call and pitched in on two spring Sunday mornings. More importantly, many of those same volunteers joined the garden pool to work during the season. The advantage of a large volunteer pool is that people do not have to commit to any set schedule or number of hours; hopefully, enough volunteers will be available on the days that we work in the garden.

I close with a deeply felt thank you to Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clissold for honoring our Gan Mazon volunteers at the March 2 Family Shabbat Service.
Finally, roles for gardeners and non-gardeners are plentiful. Teaching about gardening is probably what my co-director, Gloria Gross, and I do best.

Wishing Your Families, a Joyous Passover
David Levinsky
davidlevinsky@optonline.net
SAMMY KELNER will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, April 14, 2018. She attends Forrestdale Middle School in Rumson, New Jersey and has a younger brother, Max, who is 10. Sammy is a member of the National Junior Honor Society and is a Student Government representative at her school. She enjoys singing, swimming and spending time with friends and family. Sammy loves to travel with her family and always makes them laugh with her amazing sense of humor. Sammy participates in numerous community service activities, including her Mitzvah project, a fundraiser for Foster Care to Success, an organization that supports foster kids who need financial and emotional assistance to attend college (fostercare2success.org). Mazel tov to Sammy and her family!

AVA SCHWARTZ will celebrate her B’nai Mitzvah with her twin brother Jake on April 21st, at 10 AM. Ava is an honor roll student in the 7th grade, at Ocean Intermediate School. She enjoys gymnastics, art and soccer. In her free time she likes going to the beach with her friends and hanging out with our dog Tootsie. For her Mitzvah project, she volunteers with Jake at Atria Senior Assisted Living. They help assist with activities and gave the residents a Chanukah Party. Ava would like to thank Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clissold for helping prepare her for this day.

JAKE SCHWARTZ will celebrate his B’nai Mitzvah with his twin sister Ava on April 21st, at 10 AM. Jake is a high honor roll student, in 7th grade at Ocean Intermediate School. He is an avid soccer player and was also on the school wrestling team. He loves all sports. In his free time he likes to go to Yankee games with his dad, and the beach with his family. He also likes to play with our dog Tootsie. For his Mitzvah project, he volunteers with Ava at Atria Senior Assisted Living. They help assist with activities and gave the residents a Chanukah Party. Jake would like to thank Rabbi Kline and Cantor Clissold for helping prepare him for this day.
Kyle Rennert Arend will become a Bar Mitzvah on April 28th. Kyle is currently in the 7th grade at Markham Place School. He lives in Little Silver with his Mom, Dad, big sister, Brooke, and two cats. Kyle has a lot of interests including running on the cross country team at school, playing saxophone in the jazz band and participating in the school musical.

For his mitzvah project, Kyle is working with the Pajama Program, an organization that provides new books and pajamas to children living in homeless shelters. He would like to thank everyone who has donated so far! He would also like to thank the Rabbi, the Cantor and all of his teachers in religious school for working with him to help him reach this milestone.

Alexa Tuller will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday May 12, 2018. Alexa lives in Lincroft with her parents and younger brother Zachary. Alexa is a seventh grade student at Thompson Middle School in Middletown. She is on the competitive rock climbing team at the Gravity Vault in Middletown and loves the outdoors, hanging out with her friends and going to the beach. For Alexa’s Bat Mitzvah project, she has teamed up with JAR of Hope, an organization dedicated to finding a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. She will be hosting a push up challenge at the temple on March 25th to raise money and awareness about DMD. Alexa has been working hard to the goal of her Bat Mitzvah and is looking forward to celebrating with all of you!

Norah Anderson will be celebrating her Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, June 2, 2018. She is currently a seventh grade student at Forrestdale Middle School. She lives in Rumson with her parents, her brother Myles and her dogs, Brady and Baxter. Norah enjoys gymnastics, skiing, ice skating, field hockey and hanging with friends. Her favorite subjects are English language arts and gym. Norah has chosen to hold a series of fundraisers to benefit the Monmouth SPCA for her Mitzvah project. She is collecting pet food and supplies for animals in need. Norah would like to thank Cantor Clissold and Rabbi Kline for their help, support and patience throughout the process of preparing for this milestone.
Mia Dasaro is a 7th grader at the William R Satz School in Holmdel. She loves gymnastics and her little dog Buddha. For her Mitzvah Project, Mia is knitting “Keppe Caps” for newborn babies at the hospital. Mia and her family are looking forward to her Bat Mitzvah on June 16 at 10:00 am.

And Mazel Tov to Reese Bosonac and her family. Reese will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 9th at 10:00 am.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

**Burstein, Larry & Linda**
39 Pegasus Drive  
Tinton Falls NJ 07724  
Home: 651 983-6137  
Larry Burstein  
larryburstein@gmail.com  
Linda Burstein  
lindaburstein@aol.com  
Jacob Burstein  
Nathan Burstein  

**Ciarciello, Richard & Tankel, Jesslyn**
20 Tower Hill Drive  
Red Bank NJ 07701  
Home: 571 340-2931  
Richard Ciarciello  
richciarciello@gmail.com  
Jesslyn Tankel  
jtankel@me.com  

**Katz, Michelle**
85 Players Circle  
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michellekatz.us@gmail.com  

**Rosen, Steven & Heather**
20 Pemberton Avenue  
Oceanport NJ 07757  
Home: 743 996-1504  
Steven Rosen  
steve_rosen@yahoo.com  
Heather Rosen  
frayoch@gmail.com  

**Nathanson, Eric**
661 Morford Avenue  
Long Branch NJ 07740  
Home: 908 433-4120  
eenthanson@hotmail.com  
Alice Mae  
Lila Jane  

**Nathanson, Michelle**
629 Gerard Avenue  
Long Branch NJ 07740  
Home: 732 232-1474  
mnathans@hotmail.com  

**Glassberg, Phyllis**
32 Eastport Court  
Red Bank NJ 07701  
Home: 516 456-2893  
phylllywear@yahoo.com  

**Greenberg, Amy**
121 Birch Avenue  
Little Silver NJ 07739  
Home: 732 539-4301  
amyseashore@gmail.com
THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO

Kay and Jay Wiesenfeld on the loss of her mother, Ruth Granstrom
Martha Brandwene, Rita McWilliams, and Lois Giovacchini on the loss of their father, Bernard (Bernie) Brandwene*
Mary Beth and Bob Hayet on the loss of her father, Raymond Misch
Addie Bogdonoff on the loss of her husband, Morris Bogdonoff*
Beverly and Mark Gruensfelder on the loss of her father, Donald Golden
*The Congregation mourns the loss of these MRT Members

YAHRTZEITS (read date based on when they occur)

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 or Cantor just prior to services.

NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH SERVICES AT 6PM


NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, APRIL 13TH SERVICES AT 7PM


NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH SERVICES AT 7PM


NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, APRIL 27TH SERVICES AT 7PM


NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, MAY 4TH SERVICES AT 6PM

**Names to Be Read on Friday, May 11th Services at 7PM**


**Names to Be Read on Friday, May 18th Services at 7PM**


**Names to Be Read on Friday, May 25th Services at 7PM**


**Names to Be Read on Friday, June 1st Services at 6PM**


**Names to Be Read on Friday, June 8th Services at 7PM**


**Names to Be Read on Friday, June 15th Services at 7PM**


**Names to Be Read on Friday, June 22nd Services on the Beach at 7PM**


*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.
Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund:
In Memory Of:
Gary Douglas Brown—Richard and Sandra Brown
Florence Ulanet—Linda and Ira Friedman
Julius Fox—Barbara Fox
Phillip Kalb, Seymour Grauer—Michael and Madelyn Kalb
Henry Schwartzman—Paula and Larry Metz
Bernie Brandwene—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette, Nancy and Arthur Loebel
Rose Friedman—Linda and Ira Friedman
Sadie Metz and Martin Metz—Paula and Larry Metz
Jill Butler—Ellen and Donald Byck
Donald Golden—Ellen and Donald Byck

Adult Education Fund:
Eleanor Goodman
In Memory of:
Myrtle Berry—Eleanor Rubin
Sanford Rems, Solomon Rems—Brenda Tuller
Bernie Brandwene—Barbara Miller, Sheila and Zach Gilstein
Michele Cooper—Judith Wigdortz
Donald Golden—MaryBeth and Bob Hayet

In Honor Of:
Stu Tuchband’s Special Birthday—Karen and David Levinsky

Baldwin Davidson Memorial Scholarship Fund:
In Memory Of:
Ruth Granstrom—Susan and Bob St. Lifer
Bernie Brandwene—Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky
Donald Golden—Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky

Brick Walkway Fund:
In Memory of:
Alex Czolczynski (Colin)—The Schlisserman and Falana Families
Addie and Howard Gabel—The Seven Gabels

Building Fund:
In Memory Of:
Bernie Brandwene—Barbara Goldstein, Marjorie and Robert Wold, Phoebe and Bernard Shagan, Dianna Giovacchini, Sheila and Richard Sachs, Lillian A. Weber, Peg Baker, Cousins Sandy and Ken Cantor, Outreach of Greenbriar Woodlands, Natalie Schriger, Susan and Bob St. Lifer
Raymond Misch—Susan and Bob St. Lifer
Donald Golden—Susan and Bob St. Lifer

Cantor’s Fund:
Thanks from Nancy Baskin
In Memory Of:
Roslyn Lissner—Jill (z’l) and Harmon Butler
Beatrice Silverman—Paula and Larry Metz
Jean Jochnowitz—Carol and Jo Jochnowitz
Jill Butler—Harmon Butler
Bertha Greenberg—Roslyn Greenberg
Gaetano Labombarda—Anna and Corey Seckular
Raymond Misch—Dari and Stephen Kennedy, Donald and Helaine Rothman, Ellen and Jay Goldberg, Phoebe and Bernard Shagan, Sheila and Jim Leavitt, Sheila Bodner
Morris Bogdonoff—Eleanor Goodman, Stephen and Elaine Levine, Barbara Katinsky, Sheila and Jim Leavitt, Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky, Sheila Bodner, Donald and Arlene Gill
Elaine Rennert—Rachael Rennert and Mark Arend
Donald Golden—Phoebe and Bernard Shagan, Sheila and Jim Leavitt
Jill Butler—Ellen and Donald Byck
Elaine Rennert—Leslie Rennert and Family
Bernie Brandwene—Sheila Bodner
Anita Palmer—Dee Kaplan

In Honor Of:
Cantor Clissold and the powerful and spiritual trip she led to Cuba. She exemplifies the meaning of MENSCH—Lois Hammer
Cantor Clissold’s wonderful Cuba trip—Eleanor Goodman
Stu Tuchband (Get Well)—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette, Barbara and Richard Gitlin
Stu Tuchband (Special Birthday)—Barbara and Richard Gitlin
Dori Hillson (Get Well)—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette
Caring Network Fund:
In Memory Of:
Iris Ourach—Karen and David Levinsky
Ruth Granstrom—Karen and David Levinsky
Sam Taksel—Susan and Bob St. Lifer
Daisy—Karim and Joe Stein
Jill Butler—Helaine and Donald Rothman
Bernie Brandwene—Helaine and Donald Rothman,
Sheila and Zach Gilstein
Morris Bogdonoff—Karen and David Levinsky

In Honor Of:
Max Bodner receiving Eagle Scout award—Sheila Bodner
David Levinsky for his assistance—Sheila Bodner

General Fund:
In Memory Of:
Henrietta Barr—Benet and Sandra Zupan
Ruth Granstrom—Maxine and Alan Klatsky, Eleanor Rubin, Sam and Anne Goodman, Carol and Charles Wuth
Jack Rosen—Eileen Berger
Benjamin Frankel—Susan Frankel
Rose Tiplitz—Rita and David Sperling
Donald Hallard, Hannah Lowenstein—Deborah and Wayne Hallard
Samuel Deutsch—Dee Kaplan
Jill Butler—Anne and Sam Goodman
Sara Laperdon—Doreen Laperdon-Addison and Lonnie Addison
Bernard Brandwene—Barbara and Don Borges, Rita Rosenthal, Edward and Sherry Kosberg, Anne and Samuel Goodman
Seigmund Rath—Harmon Butler
Morris Bogdonoff—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette, Norma and Jack Kohn, Anne and Samuel Goodman
Mark Vickers—Deborah and John Patrouch
Raymond Misch—Anne and Samuel Goodman
Donald Golden—Harvey and Donna Goldschmidt
Alexander Kaplan—Lori and Richard Saybolt

In Honor Of:
Stephanie Fields’ receiving her Masters—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette

Donations

Gan Mazon Fund:
Michael Altschuler

In Memory Of:
Raymond Misch—Karen and David Levinsky, Ellen and Jay Goldberg

In Honor Of:
Max Bodner receiving Eagle Scout award—Sheila Bodner
David Levinsky for his assistance—Sheila Bodner

L’taken Trip Donation
Anonymous

Library Fund:
In Memory Of:
Henrietta Barr—Sam and Anne Goodman
Greta Singer—Barbara and Don Borges
Fannie Copley—June Seligman
Rita Levy—Nance and Alan Levy
Donald Golden—Anne and Samuel Goodman

Mazon Fund:
In Memory Of:
Donald Golden—Lynne and Elliott Familant, Joyce and John Christie
Bernie Brandwene—Lynne and Elliott Familant
Walter Parkinson—Nance and Alan Levy
Greta Singer—Martha Brandwene and Rita McWilliams
Neil Brandwene—Martha Brandwene and Rita McWilliams

MRT Men’s Club:
In Memory Of:
Bernard Brandwene—Karen and David Levinsky

Oneg Fund:
In Memory Of:
Leonore and Max Rosen—Nadine and Gene Vicenzi
Loretta Stein—Karim and Joe Stein

Adam Greenfield Religious School Fund:
In Memory Of:
Ruth Granstrom—Rachel and Christopher Placitella
Donald Golden—Eleanor Golden

In Honor of:
Stephanie Fields’ receiving her Masters—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette
RSJP Endowment Fund:
Good Health to Stu Tuchband—Arlene and Jim Berg

In Memory Of:
Bernie Brandwene—Arlene and Jim Berg

Scholar-in-Residence Fund:
In Memory Of:
Tom Dorf—Marjorie and Robert Wold
Florence Snyder—Marjorie and Robert Wold
Paul B. Snyder—Marjorie and Robert Wold

Sisterhood Scholarship Fund:
In Memory Of:
Ruth Granstrom—Marilyn and Joel Morgovsky
Michael R. Simon, MD—Maxine and Alan Klatsky

Social Action Fund:
In Memory Of:
Ruth Granstrom—Sharyn and Dean Ross
Donald Golden—Sharyn and Dean Ross

Youth Group Fund:
In Memory Of:
Henrietta Barr—Stephen and Cheryl Gaudette
Tillie Greenberg, Beverly Maurer—Ellen and Jay Goldberg
Ida Schlisserman—David and Michele Schlisserman
Bernard Brandwene—Dari and Stephen Kennedy
Raymond Misch—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette
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<td>Passover 2</td>
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<td>9am Torah Talks</td>
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<td>No Religious School</td>
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<td>7:15pm Membership</td>
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<td>8am Coffee &amp; Conversation offsite</td>
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<td>7:30pm Men's Club Poker</td>
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<td>8am Coffee &amp; Conversation offsite</td>
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<td>5:30pm Red Bank Spring Dance</td>
<td>12pm Office Closing</td>
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<td>RS Preregistration</td>
<td>9:30am Religious School</td>
<td>9:45am 4th Grade Service</td>
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<td>9:30am Religious School</td>
<td>9:45am Bagels &amp; Blocks</td>
<td>12:15pm Madrichim</td>
<td>2pm Adult Ed: Dillies Pilvesky about Philip Roth</td>
<td>9:30am Religious School</td>
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<td>2pm Yom Hashoah Program with Ernest Mathias: The Last Refuge</td>
<td>11am Religious Ed</td>
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<td>6pm The Conversation Project</td>
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# May 2018

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<td>8am Coffee and Conversation offsite</td>
<td>4pm Religious School</td>
<td>Red Bank Y Cinco de Mayo</td>
<td>12pm Office Closing</td>
<td>9am Torah Talks</td>
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<td>7pm Exec Comm</td>
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<td>7pm Orchid Society</td>
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<td>OUTSIDE HEALTH FAIR</td>
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**Notes:**
- **Preregistration:** May 1st and 2nd
- **Office Closed:** May 4th
- **Confirmation:** May 20th
## June 2018

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<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<td>9am Torah Talks Study 10am Norah Anderson Bat Mitzvah 4pm Smarty Elections at Hibachi PJ LIBRARY AT THE BEACH</td>
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<td>12pm Office Closing SHABBAT AT BEACH 7 Pres Long Branch 6pm Bring chair and Dinner 7pm Shabbat Services</td>
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332 HANCE AVENUE
TINTON FALLS, NJ 07724
732-747-9365
WWW.MONMOUTHREFORMTEMPLE.ORG

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