

# THE MRT BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 2018  
HIGH HOLY DAYS

VOLUME LX ISSUE II

ELUL 5778 –  
TISHREI 5779

## SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, August 31st  
6:00 pm Shabbat Services

Friday, September 7th  
6:00 pm Shabbat Services  
*Guest Speaker: Vin Gopal*

Friday, September 14th  
7:00 pm Shabbat Services

Friday, September 21st  
7:00 pm Shabbat Services

Friday, September 28th  
7:00 pm Shabbat Services

Friday, October 5th  
**FIRST FRIDAY**  
6:00 pm Shabbat Services  
followed by a Pot Luck Dinner  
A-G & R-Z Pasta or Chicken  
H-P Salad  
Please bring enough for 10-12 people  
Thanks!

## Special Guest Speaker

Friday, September 7th State Senator Vin Gopal will be coming to speak at MRT to welcome in the High Holy Day season. He will talk about New Jersey's commitment to diversity. In addition he will show his appreciation to MRT for our ongoing Homelessness project.

## Want to be a High Holy Day Greeter?

As we prepare to celebrate the new year 5779, the Ritual Committee is seeking outside greeters and lobby / sanctuary ushers to welcome congregants and guests attending our High Holy Day services. Contact Harry Hillson if you would like to be a greeter at [harryh95@aol.com](mailto:harryh95@aol.com) or cell 845-216-4863



## Open Doors, Open Minds

## THE RABBI AND CANTOR TALK ABOUT THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

*SEE PAGE 2 FOR THE ARTICLE*



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.

## WHY DO WE BLOW THE SHOFAR ON ROSH HASHANA?

**RABBI KLINE** – We spend all year working hard to make ends meet. We stay overprogrammed and often, overwhelmed. The coming of the New Year gives us an opportunity to renew and recharge. It is a watershed moment in time that stops the merry-go-round that seems to never stop spinning. We get stuck in our routines. We get stuck in our grind. Even while some of us are able to see and celebrate the blessings that fill our lives, we need a push into something new. The blast of the shofar is the call to pay attention, anew. While we feature it during the month preceding the High Holy days, during Rosh Hashanah and at the end of Yom Kippur, it is the call to action throughout the year. Biblically, Joshua downed the walls of Jericho with the blast of the Shofar. Rabbi Eliezer's students asked him when they needed to atone. He responded that they needed to atone one day before they died. They asked, "When will that be?" He told them that no one knew so they needed to do it every day. The blast of the shofar is the call to the act of teshuvah (atoning and returning).

**CANTOR CLISSOLD** – Here are two really good scholarly and historical articles on this question: <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/the-origins-of-the-shofar/> and <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/shofar-history-and-tradition/>. In addition, I would add that sounds and music truly evoke an emotional response. The entire Holy Days is meant to be experiential on many levels. The music is intentionally evocative to help us begin the process of celebration of the New Year, and one's personal introspection and self scrutiny that is called for leading up to, and on, Yom Kippur. People feel VERY strongly about High Holy Day music. Jewish worship is always musical, but on the Holy Days, music is on an entirely different level. Not only are there special melodies just for the High Holy Days, along with the Shofar service, the clergy wear white clothes on the bima and we eat special foods.

## WHY DO WE FAST ON YOM KIPPUR?

**CANTOR CLISSOLD** – Before I explain why we fast on Yom Kippur, let me take this opportunity to say that certain people SHOULD NEVER FAST. Anyone who is sick, on medications that require you to eat, pregnant, lactating...DON'T FAST. If you are in good health and allowed to fast, then you may fast. Most religions have scheduled fasts. The fast is meant to help you go through the process of Cheshbon HaNefesh – checklist of your soul – self scrutiny towards t'shuvah. T'shuvah means turning, turning back to the person God wants us to be. I always wish people "a meaningful fast." This day is meant to having intense meaning and lead us towards repentance. Now, let me also say that if you can fast it begins starting after age 13. It is difficult-but in this day in age when we and our children have so much-it is good to take one day to truly look inside our own soul. Fasting takes your focus away from doing for yourself and hopefully reminds you to help others.

**RABBI KLINE** – Many believe that fasting is an act of affliction, an attempt to somehow punish one's self for his/her transgressions. I understand that this sentiment has a voice in our tradition, but I challenge it. Fasting is a cleansing, not an affliction. One clarifies the body (and the mind) by fasting. Traditionally, there is a fast on a wedding day. I would hate to think that weddings were times to afflict one's self. After eating large meals, we get lethargic. If "Fast Days" are supposed to be spiritually cleansing and renewing, then we need to have clarity of mind and thought as we pray. Further, if one is of ill health, he/she is not allowed to fast – may not afflict himself/herself. When I served as Chaplain at a Jewish Nursing home while in Seminary, I would tell my residents (most all of whom required medications every day) that they were not allowed to fast. They did not have to eat dessert, but they needed food to moderate their medications.

## WHY DO WE CHANGE THE TORAH MANTELS TO WHITE ON SLICHOT?

**RABBI KLINE** – Symbolically, as we look to create a “clean slate” for our spirit during the Holy Days, we create the visual reminders of our journey’s goal. We change our “klei kodesh” (ritual ware) into white to symbolize this ongoing commitment.

**CANTOR CLISSOLD** – In our tradition white represents purity. The entire month of Elul leading up to, and through, Yom Kippur is meant to be a time of deep reflection and soul cleaning. As the music changes, so do our colors. White reminds us to be a pure and holy person as God wants all of us to be. The tangible shift of the Torah coverings to white, like the musical shift, like the sound of the shofar is meant to be part of the movement towards t’shuvah, returning to a pure and holy state.

## WHY IS THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN SEPTEMBER?

**CANTOR CLISSOLD** – This is a really complicated question because there have been four different new years’ in the history of our people. When a religion is thousands of years old, there are going to be some changes. <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/how-many-jewish-new-years/>. I think we shifted to this Rosh Hashana as the central new year in the last two thousand years, but I can’t seem to find a straight answer on that. The reason it is not on January 1st is because this actually came from the Roman Empire’s calendar and we follow the Jewish calendar. Here is a great article explaining why the Roman empire made January 1st a new year <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/new-years-day>.

**RABBI KLINE** – According to Torah, creation of humanity happened on the first day of the 7th month (Tishri). The world (according to tradition) saw its birth on the 25th of Elul (five days prior). Immediately following the High Holy Days, we celebrate the fall harvest. Thus, creation took place in the fall. The Jewish calendar is a lunar/solar calendar. While we use the lunar cycle for marking the passage of time, we know that we do not want to celebrate the fall harvest in the summer or winter. Since the solar cycle does not match the lunar cycle, keeping strictly to a lunar cycle (as the Muslim tradition does) would cause our holidays to travel through the seasons. Seven of every nineteen years contains an extra month (a second Adar) to correct the calendar and keep our holidays somewhat in seasonal place.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT THE HIGH HOLY DAYS?

**RABBI KLINE** – While I know that this question’s most popular answer amongst clergy is, “The end,” I really enjoy the whole community coming together. For a host of reasons, the Holy Days are the one time that people feel the need to be with each other and the energy in our congregational home becomes electrifying. Yes, we hope that people will find reasons to come back more often, but we know that our tradition requires us to show up, not just show up at temple. All year, people do things to support and share blessings with our congregation and the wider community. On these days, we get to check in with each other and celebrate our relationships.

**CANTOR CLISSOLD** – **YOU!** YOU are my favorite part of the High Holy Days. This seems to be when everyone comes to temple, whole families-children, relatives...people I have now known for 17 years. It is so exciting to be with all of you on these special days. I can’t wait to see you soon, but remember, its nice to see you on any Shabbat. I hope to see you on the High Holy Days and throughout the year! May this new year be a special and holy time for you and everyone you love!

# FROM PRESIDENT JAY FEIGUS

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A quick google of “homelessness” brought me to the following from Wikipedia:

“Homelessness is the circumstance when people are without a permanent dwelling, such as a house or apartment. People who are homeless are most often unable to acquire and maintain regular, safe, secure and adequate housing. The legal definition of homeless varies from country to country, or among different jurisdictions in the same country or region.[2] The term homeless may also include people whose primary night-time residence is in a homeless shelter, a domestic violence shelter, long-term residence in a motel, a vehicle, squatting, cardboard boxes, a tent city, tarpaulins, shanty town structures made of discarded building materials or other ad hoc housing situations. United States government homeless enumeration studies also include people who sleep in a public or private place not designed for use as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. There are a

number of organizations who provide help for the homeless.”

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has its own definition, as does the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Merriam-Webster sums it up as follows:

Definition of homeless (n.): having no home or permanent place of residence.

Within our Jewish tradition, caring for our fellow human beings is shown as one of our most important obligations. With this in mind, and considering the statistics right here in our state, 8,532 homeless men, women and children across the state of NJ in January 2017, we thought that this would be a meaningful way to bring our congregation together to work towards a common goal of helping those that need it most.

Over the next few months you will be receiving more information on exactly what homelessness is, some of the major causes, what is being done to combat it now and what we can do as a Congregation to make the most meaningful difference going forward.

The Board has researched and gathered information as well as a list of organizations that we can partner with on this path. Those organizations may include, but are not limited to:

- Family Promise
- Interfaith Neighbors
- JBJ Soul Kitchen
- The Center in Asbury Park
- Lunch Break

And select initiatives through Monmouth County Social Services

In addition, there will be events here at MRT that you can get involved with. For example, Mitzvah Day, Religious School Projects and events with Men’s Club, Sisterhood and Social Action.

Please keep your eyes open for more information on this endeavor and take some time to think about how you might be able to be a part of MRT’s efforts to help the homeless.



# FROM PRINCIPAL MAGDA REYES



Starting any new job can be an unnerving experience but starting at Monmouth Reform Temple as Director of Education has been anything but that. I am so grateful to everyone here for my warm welcome, support and much encouragement. And thanks to the guidance and the support of the whole staff at the temple, my transition has been relatively painless. Thank you all for welcoming me to MRT. I am thrilled to be working with you as we guide our students on their Jewish Journeys.

I believe that Jewish learning is not about transmitting content, but about exploring how Judaism can be the means to answering the big questions in life. Who Am

I? How Can I Lead a More Fulfilling Life? How Can I Make the World A Better Place? According to David Bryfman, our job as educators is to help translate our Jewish tradition “to issues that really matter in people’s lives.” As we prepare for the new school year, we will make sure that our curriculum meets students’ needs, makes meaning out of current day issues and is relevant in today’s culture. B’kol Echad – as one voice, together, we will meet today’s challenges through Jewish eyes.

I look forward to meeting everyone soon. Please feel free to come in and visit at anytime – my door is always open.

My family joins me in wishing you a sweet, healthy and peaceful New Year. See you all on the first day of Religious School on Sunday, September 16th.

L'Shanah Tovah,  
Magda

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CALENDAR

### September 2018

Sunday, September 16 –  
First Day of Religious School

Wednesday, September 19 –  
Religious School closed for Yom Kippur

Sunday, September 23 –  
Religious School, Bagels & Blocks, Keshet Kids

Wednesday, September 26 –  
Religious School

Sunday, September 30 –  
Religious School, Sukkah visits, Jr. Youth Group, Simchat Torah, Consecration

## JOIN US FOR BAGELS BLOCKS OR KESHER KIDS! REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.



A program for children under 4 and their parents. Children will discover new PJ

Library books, play, sing, and be introduced to Jewish values, holiadys, and traditions.

A transitional program for Pre-K children and their parents. The first 30 minutes are each combined with Bagels & Blocks. Then children will head into their own classroom with a teacher for our play-based Jewish program.



## KESHER KIDS

# HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE

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## S'lichot

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**Saturday, September 1, 2018**

7:00 PM Study session & refreshments

8:00 PM Evening Service with choir

## ROSH HASHANA

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**Sunday, September 9, 2018**

7:45 PM Evening Service with choir  
*sermon by Rabbi Sally J. Priesand*

**Monday, September 10, 2018**

10:00 AM Morning Service

3:00 PM Family Service

4:00 PM Walk to Tashlich

## YOM KIPPUR

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**Tuesday, September 18, 2018**

7:45 PM Kol Nidre with choir

**Wednesday, September 19, 2018**

10:00 AM Morning Service

2:00 PM Family Service

3:00 PM Afternoon Study & Workshops

4:45 PM Yizkor Service

5:30 PM Closing Service / N'ilah

## SUKKOT SCHEDULE

**Sukkot Festival Sunrise Service**

*Monday, September 24th at 6:30 AM*

Bagels & coffee to follow

**Men's Club Dinner in the Sukkah**

*Monday, September 24th at 6:30 PM*

**Sisterhood Dinner in the Sukkah**

*Tuesday, September 25th at 6:30 PM*

**BYO Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah**

*Friday, September 28th*

Join us at 6:00 pm for a BYO dinner followed  
by a Shabbat service at 7:00 pm  
Festival Yizkor will be recited

**Sukkot Open House**

*Saturday, September 29th at 5:00 PM*

Join Rabbi Marc Kline and Lori Bernard at their  
home with a Havdallah service at 5:30 pm

## SIMCHAT TORAH SCHEDULE

**Simchat Torah Yizkor**

*Friday, September 28th at 7:00 pm*

**Simchat Torah Celebration**

*Sunday, September 30th at 11:00 am*

Join us to celebrate Simchat Torah and  
Consecration in the Social Hall

# YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON STUDY GROUPS / WORKSHOPS

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Wednesday, September 19th from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

## OPTION 1

The Psychology of Prayer

*Facilitator: Dr. Elliot Familant (MRT Member)*

A facilitated discussion & workshop for skeptics, atheists, and people who just want to know more. Prayer is not necessarily about God, but it is about the one who prays.

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## OPTION 2

Restore, Reflect, Renew:

A Service of Healing

*Facilitator: Doreen Laperdon-Addison  
(MRT Teacher & Past Ritual Chair)*

The body in movement is an act of prayer. Come experience the prayer of spirit & meditation, with the most important piece of Teshuvah (atonement), the healing of the spirit.

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## OPTION 3

You are Living in My House

*Facilitator: Rabbi Marc Kline & guests*

A panel discussion on holiness and homelessness.

# SPECIAL DISCUSSION GROUPS

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## PROGRAM CHANGE: SELICHOT

### **Waiting for “I’m Sorry”: When You Can’t Forgive And What To Do About It**

*Facilitator: Elliott Familant*

Saturday, September 1st and 7pm

Followed by Selichot Service with the MRT Choir at 8pm

The High Holy Days are a time when we ask God for forgiveness, wiping the slate clean, if you will, as if the transgression never occurred. What a beautiful concept, a kind of spiritual Etch-A-Sketch that allows each year to be a fresh start. But there are certain preconditions that need to be in place before this can occur. There needs to be a reconciliation between the transgressor and the transgressed. But what if you are the victim? There is no obligation to forgive, in fact you cannot forgive, until the person who has harmed you has asked for forgiveness in a very prescribed way. They must: offer a sincere apology, show remorse for the transgression, and credibly convince you that they will never do the misdeed again. But how often does this happen? I can probably count on my fingers the times in my life when I have experienced something close to this ideal and I suspect I am not alone. This kind of apology is very hard to do and I suspect most people deal with the hurts in their life by simply living with them, because the transgressions are not that big a deal, or because the relationship is too important, or because the transgression themselves are simply too severe. The question then becomes, how we live with the hurt that persists. We can pretend the transgression never happened; we can quietly seethe, stewing in our own emotional juices; we can sink into despair; or we can transcend the hurt, moving beyond it to something bigger than our narrow feelings. This is what the students at Parkland High School did after experiencing the terrible shooting there, or the parents at Sandy Hook Elementary school. This self-transcendence does not have to be something as big as starting a national movement, it can be something small like attending a support group, or taking the long view on your life, or praying. What is important, is to actively do something to recast your negative feelings into something more positive. In this time of renewal, self-transcendence allows you to retake control of your life even in the absence of forgiveness.



# SPECIAL DISCUSSION GROUPS

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## **The Psychology of Prayer: A Discussion and Meditation Workshop for Skeptics, Atheists, and People Who Just Want To Know More**

### ***A Discussion Group for Yom Kippur***

*Facilitated by Elliott Familant*

Wednesday, September 19th at 3pm

Option One of Afternoon Study

We may think about prayer as a formal, traditional recitation that we do in temple, specifically directed to God. Yet you are probably engaged in prayer-like behavior all the time and may not even realize it. It occurs every time you wish someone good luck, or hope for the best, or tell someone to have a safe journey. Prayer is an integral part of the way we think and an essential technique that we use to navigate in a world that could fill us with anxiety and dread.

In the first part of this session, we will discuss how prayer can be viewed as a psychological process, a product of our biology. In this view, the traditional object of prayer, God, can be thought of as a psychological construct that is useful in prayer, regardless of whether we believe in God or not. We will discuss the essential relational nature of prayer and show how it relates to Martin Buber's notion of I and Thou. We will discuss how the purity of this relationship gives it power to transform us.

In the second part of this session, we will demonstrate and practice three prayer meditation techniques: A breathing technique called Chedvah breathing or breathing joy; a dialogue technique called Hitbodedut, and a mantra technique called The Long Shema. These techniques are all designed to clear and focus the mind, and bring us closer to God. We will show how Jewish meditation while sharing much with traditional meditation techniques has its own unique characteristics that make them true to our traditions.

# UPCOMING TZEDAKAH BOXES

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## August & October *Co-sponsored by Susan Whyman*

Awaken Community of Red Bank is a volunteer, youth-led organization that serves local immigrant families. They have helped with free Deferred Action Renewal Clinics (DACA), volunteered during Mexican Consulate visits, and sponsored Power of Attorney (POA) workshops for families. Your tzedakah will ease the plight of the stranger and allow young leaders to give back to the community they cherish through local and national service programs.

## September *Co-sponsored by Lexi Ziobro*

Give Kids The World Village is an 84-acre, nonprofit resort in Central Florida that provides weeklong, cost-free vacations to children with critical illnesses and their families. The Village and its community partners provide children and their families accommodations in fully-furnished villas, transportation, tickets to theme parks, meals, daily entertainment and much more.

# THANK YOU FROM DEAN ROSS

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To MRT congregants,

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Tzedakah Box for “Shine A Light” during May and June. MRT started this project over three years ago in conjunction with St. Anthony’s Church in Red Bank. We have installed over 600 free front and rear lights on bicycles of all sizes and shapes. We will continue this project throughout the fall. Saving one life at a time!

Yours truly,  
Dean Ross



# HAVE A YOUNG CHILD? SIGN UP FOR ONE OF OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN



## JEWISH PROGRAMMING for all ages

SPONSORED BY:



### Bagels & Blocks

A program for children under 4 & their parents. At each session, your little one will discover a new PJ Library book, play, sing + be introduced to Jewish values, holidays, or traditions. No RSVP is required.



### KESHER KIDS

A transitional program for Pre-K children and their parents. The first 30 minutes of each session is combined with Bagels & Blocks. Then your child will head to their own classroom to spend an hour with a teacher following our play-based Jewish program. Registration is required.

**THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR BAGELS & BLOCKS**

+ open to anyone raising a Jewish child

### JOIN US ON

9/23	1/13
10/21	2/10
11/18	3/10
12/9	4/14

Both programs have a

**9:30 AM**

**11:30AM**

meeting time

**\$100** registration fee  
for Keshet Kids

### MONMOUTH REFORM TEMPLE

332 Hance Avenue, Tinton Falls, NJ  
[www.monmouthreformtemple.org](http://www.monmouthreformtemple.org)  
 732-747-9365

# FROM THE SISTERHOOD

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This is our first official bulletin article as Sisterhood Co-presidents. We are very excited to be involved with this amazing group of women! There are so many things we would like to do during our time as presidents. One area we are currently working on is the kitchen at the temple. It has already been organized to some extent and many things have been put into storage that is not used very often. If you would like to help out in any way, contact [nancyzaslowe@gmail.com](mailto:nancyzaslowe@gmail.com)

We had a wonderful time in July at the annual Sisterhood pool party. Thank you once again to Elise Aptaker for hosting it at her home in Lincroft. Although nobody went in the pool this year, we had delightful things to eat and drink. We had a lovely time chatting with each other and sitting outside in the backyard.

At the time you are reading this, we will have already had our beach day in Long Branch and our Pot luck dinner and book swap at the Shrewsbury Yacht club. We will report on these in the next bulletin article.

We would like to thank some Sisterhood board members who are stepping down from the board for various reasons. We truly appreciate their time and energy that they have given to our group. Linda Murray, Maxine Klatsky, and Anne Goodman have been valuable members to our Sisterhood board. Thank you all so much for all that you've done!

Please look for the Sisterhood membership mailers that should arrive soon. We hope that every woman in our temple takes the opportunity to join the Sisterhood and come to some of our activities. If you have ideas for Social Action, fundraising, or just plain "fun" with other MRT Sistahs, we would love to hear from you. We are a very inclusive group and try to make everyone feel welcome. Mark the date September 25 at 6:30 for Sisterhood Paid up Membership in the Sukkah.

If you would like to RSVP now, the email is [mrtsister@gmail.com](mailto:mrtsister@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*REMEMBER If you are new to the temple, you get free membership to the Sisterhood for the current year! Come on out and join us. We would love to meet you!

Happy, healthy new year to you all,  
Ellen Goldberg and Nancy Zaslowe  
Co-presidents MRT Sisterhood



# FROM THE MEN'S CLUB

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Men's Club was busy last year working on a few crucial activities for MRT including organizing ushers for High Holy days, building our Sukkah, co-organizing our Chanukah party, participation in Mitzvah Day, co-organizing various MRT talks and external events. We also organized a few social activities ranging from baseball outings, movie nights, poker games, meeting at local sports bar establishments, and Jewish Heritage Discussions with Rabbi Kline.

Goals for the upcoming year include continued MRT support with various activities, (some organized with Sisterhood), such as:

High Holy Day Ushers / Greeters	Softball Team	Golf / Sailing Outings
Sukkah Set Up / Take Down	Charitable Events	Vendor Day
Beer Fest / Beer Run	Bowling Party	Poker Games
Bar / Bat Mitzvah Gift Presenters	Participation in Mitzvah Day	Social Gatherings
Attending Sports Events at Local Bars	Joining Sisterhood on Various Events	Guest Speakers
Dinner in the Sukkah	Supporting Our Religious School	Murder Mystery
Fund Raising Events	Supporting Our Youth Group	
Family Based Activities / Meet-Ups	Assist in the Red Bank Street Fair	

Our new series: Jewish Heritage discussions with Rabbi Kline is becoming popular, we already had many sessions, stay tuned for our next session topic and date.

If you have read some of my recent Men's Club articles – thank you, and once again, I am inviting you to become a member of our Men's Club.

In order for us to continue running various events and programs – and more, we need your support: a little of your time, your ideas and enthusiasm, and yes a little gelt.

Suggested annual donations are \$36.00. Your Men's Club donations can be:

*-Dropped off at the MRT office*

*-Mailed to MRT (made payable to Men's Club)*

*-Submitted via the MRT website*

*-Brought to a Men's club meeting*

Our next meeting will be held on:

**Thursday, September 6, at 7 PM in the MRT library**

Join us for Pizza - BYOB

Going forward, meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of odd months 7 – 8:30 PM

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

If you have an idea for an event, please let me know.

Thank you  
Scott Schneider  
MRT Men's Club President  
srsgroup25@gmail.com  
732-500-3848

## DATE CHANGE

**Men's Club has changed the date of their Sukkah dinner to  
Monday, September 24th at 6:30 pm.**



## FROM ISRAEL AFFAIRS CHAIR ELEANOR RUBIN

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I have always liked maps. Before the days of GPS, the map was a guidepost to get us where we wanted to go. Today, as world travelers, we need maps to tell us where in the world we are. I've recently been studying the map of Israel, that tiny sliver of a nation, not easy to find without looking hard, on maps of the Middle East.

Fact check: Israel is a nation of 8,630 square miles compared to New Jersey at 7,800 square miles. Israel is 270 miles from north to south, and 85 miles from east to west at certain points, and from Netanya to Tukarim, it is 9 miles wide. Why think about geography at this time? Perhaps to better understand Israel's position with regard to its nearest neighbors, Gaza on the south east, Lebanon on the northeast and Syria on the northwest, not to ignore the Palestinian territories scattered cheek by jowl with Israeli cities in the center of the country.

So what is happening in the neighboring areas to the north, south, east and west? The latest conflict between Gaza and Israel is the creative terror-inflicting use of balloons filled with incendiary missiles thrown from the Gaza border on the wings of kites to Israeli farmland, nature preserves and residences causing massive fires and destroying wheat fields, vegetable farms, and wildlife. In response, Israel has tried to intercept these lethal kites but are hampered by "plumes of smoke" caused on the other side by great swaths of burning tires. The black smoke blinds the areas of the incoming kites hampering the response of the IDF snipers trying to prevent Gazans from breaching the border into Israel. In addition, the smoke has caused terrible air pollution within the Gaza strip sickening their own people as well as Israelis living near the border. Israel has been roundly criticized by the nations of the world for using weaponry to try to stop these attacks.

In the northeast, on the border with Syria, Israel has, for years, provided medical care to Syrians who do not have sufficient facilities in their country. Syrians cross into Israel for health reasons, stay in hospitals or clinics while being cared for and then go back to their homes. As mentioned previously, there is a clinic within the land of Syria, financed by Israel, where Doctors Without Borders provide health care. Israelis are not permitted to enter Syria. All of this is funded by Israel. Now, a new situation has arisen. With the massive killings and resulting evacuations from within Syria, many Syrian refugees press against the border to Israel hoping to enter that country for relief and safety. Although Israel has a peace accord with Egypt and with Jordan, there is no peace agreement between Israel and Syria, thus, they are in a state of enmity. What to do about multitudes of Syrians fleeing the horrors taking place in their own country who seek refuge in Israel, an enemy nation? According to Prime Minister Netanyahu, "As Israelis, as Jews and as human beings, we have a moral obligation to help." Short of allowing an influx of Syrian refugees, Israel has been providing humanitarian aid in the form of some 300 tents for shelter, 13 tons of food, 15 tons of baby food, three pallets of medical equipment and medicines and 30 tons of clothing and footwear sent just over the border as reported by military affairs reporter Anna Ahronheim.

In the northwest, Lebanon is home to Hezbollah, an extremist group operating world wide whose goal is to establish an Islamic state from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. In the process, Israel will be destroyed. The only question is how and when the attack will come.

Israelis live in a dangerous neighborhood. The map tells the story. We can only wish the neighbors would beat their swords into plowshares and peace would reign throughout the land.

# FROM GAN MAZON – MRT'S GARDEN OF PLENTY

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If you haven't been to Gan Mazon recently, you should really stop by to see how beautiful and organized it is since we erected the new fence. Although Gan Mazon's fence was built to last for many years and the few volunteers that we have are dedicated, there is the realization that Gan Mazon is not guaranteed to always provide quality produce to needy families. I am concerned that I have no successor ready to take over when, in the future, I step down as garden director. This is a serious problem. Too many excellent temple programs have ended for the lack of new leadership. My hope is to have the opportunity to fully train (and nurture) my successor.

I recently read that of all the memorable books written by Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax* was his favorite. How could it not be? *The Lorax* is the classic warning against the exploitation of our planet's resources; extinction is not limited to animals. After discovering the commercial value of Truffula Trees, the book's villain, the Once-ler, sets out to efficiently cut down every one. In the process, animals depending upon the trees are dislocated, the air becomes polluted, and finally

the sound of the last Truffula tree fall is heard.

The book concludes optimistically with the Oncer-ler throwing the very last Truffula seed to a young boy. The repentant entrepreneur pleads with the child:

"You're in charge of the last of the Truffula seeds. And Truffula Trees are what everyone needs. Plant a new Truffula. Treat it with care. Give it clean water. And feed it fresh air. Grow a forest. Protect it from axes that hack. Then the Lorax and all his friends may come back."

While not as eloquent as Dr. Seuss, organic vegetable gardeners view their gardens with the same consideration for the environment as the Lorax. Our Gan Mazon plants are grown directly from seed and continue to be nurtured until ready for harvesting. In their role as care givers, Gan Mazon volunteers are as essential to our bountiful harvests as the seeds themselves. A pesticide and herbicide free garden require extra hands to keep disease and insects under control. Even more human help is required when Gan Mazon harvests range from 100 to 200 lbs.



Wishing everyone a joyous, healthy and prosperous Jewish New Year,  
David

## THE CONGREGATION MAZEL TOV TO

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Caryn Berman on her marriage to Brian Thomson in June 2018

Karen Kahn and David Kahn on the upcoming marriage of their son Danny to Ellie Kaplan

## THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO

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Randy and Elise Aptaker on the loss of his mother, Sheila Aptaker

Mary Baron-Walker and Rabbi Leslie Bergson on the loss of Mary's brother Tom Walker

Anne and Sam Goodman on the loss of their son, Evan Sanford Goodman

Helene and David Miller on the loss of her sister Celia Berlin

## YAHRTZEITS (read date based on when they occur)

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*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 or Cantor just prior to services.*

## NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 31ST SERVICES AT 6PM

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Rose Boyer, \*Natalie Riger Huber, \*Elaine Weisbrot, \*Clayton Fishman, August Knop, \*Lillian Kohn, Nicholas Mazarella, Morris Yellenberg, Penrose Berman, \*Isaac Blonder, \*Bernard Goldberg, Edward Keezer, Anita Uhrmacher, Samuel Haratz, \*Harold Mausner, \*Milton A. Mausner, Theodore Atlas, David Jones, \*Frieda Jung, Lillian Davis Kaswiner, \*Eve Leppel, Alan Lowenstein, Milton Stone, Louis Tiplitz

## NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH SERVICES AT 6PM

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\*Karen Kleinman, \*Leonard Kleinman, \*Oscar Kurry, Anna Harran, \*Morris Kalkstein, William Palmer, \*Michael Yagoda, Grace Arnold, Benjamin Lissner, Jr., Seth Tobias, \*Ann Bregman, Isadore Levin, \*Stella Bernstein, \*David Marks, \*Richard Salomon, Jason Appio, Doris Boxman, Edward Gold, Jessie Miller, Israel Ruby, Mildred Zaslowe, \*Blume R. Miller, \*Stanley Elliot Mitchell

## NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH SERVICES AT 7PM

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Herman Burns, \*Bella Gruensfelder, Meyer Heyman, \*Bob Woolf, \*Philip Falk, Todd Richman, \*Harriet Austin, \*Gerald Baker, Eva Fryman, Robert Maurer, \*Rosalie Rosin, Jeff Smith, Shepard Alexander, \*Cynthia G. Feigus, Martha Halpern, Cheryl Bergson Horowitz, \*Sid Komar, Sidney Melnick, Mary Alice Moss, Allan Sobelman, Lester Gutterman, Alice Loebel, John Potter, \*Gladys Pfeffer Simms, Robert Steiner, \*Irene Tuchband, Leah Epstein, \*Roberta Kirsch, Florence Chatin Schlenoff, Alice Walker

## NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST SERVICES AT 7PM

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Patricia Alexander, Mae Danzig, \*Donald L. Fink, Florence Ganz, Anna Jarvis, Sam Mink, Michael Schneider, Gilda Moss, David Spector, \*Sonya Brecker, Sheldon Chaplowitz, \*Lillian Lane, Jacqueline Friedman, Robert Rekedal, \*Anne Rogovin, Ellen Brichke, Brandon Dowler, Heinz Guenzburger, Esther Kornitzky, \*Gertrude L. Marx, Tom Patten, Susan Sachs, \*Morris Dworkin, Dorothy Merchasin, Elaine Miller, \*Ruth Rothman, Marion Spumberg

## NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH SERVICES AT 7PM

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Roslyn Berkowitz, \*Warren Feigus, Walter Peskoe, \*Daniel B. Salomon, \*Gilbert H. Salomon, Esther Hauser, \*George Welner, \*Charles Cooper, Barbara Hollander, \*Abram Kridel, \*Herman Solomon, Lynn DiMatteo, \*Roslyn Falk Garin, Solomon Kahn, Linh Katz, Alex Messinger, Renee Kaye, Geri Bernard, Darrin Glassberg, Janet Ruston, \*Martha Weinberg

## NAMES TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH SERVICES AT 6PM

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Babette Kaltenbacher Flaum, Abraham Hirsh Goldenberg, David Kornitzky, Edwin Levy, Mark S. Nathanson, \*Arnold Burns, \*Herbert Ginzburg, Murry Horowitz, \*Ludwig L. Jacobi, \*Michael Weiss, Frank Froelich, Edward Leimberg, Faye Morer, Elaine Roffman, Shelley Stern, Audrey Wertheim, \*Stanley Familant, \*Frances Gettelson, \*Henry Kipnis, Stanley Pearlman, \*Max David Weissman, Irene Baderman, Ruth Goldenberg, Manley Gutterman, \*Leo Bernstein, Irving Brichke  
Richard Kaye

*\*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:**

Thomas Leis

### In Memory Of:

Leslie Alan Marsh—Lois and Joseph Wilkes

Jack Fleischer—Adria Magnus

Max Ulanet—Linda and Ira Friedman

Louis Sills—Caryl and Charles Sills

William Palmer—Deanna Kaplan

### In Honor Of:

Rachel Kline's Graduation from High School—Cheryl  
and Stephen Gaudette

## **Adult Education Fund:**

### In Memory of:

Frank Russo—Deborah and Wayne Hallard

Jacob Gilstein—Sheila and Zach Gilstein

Evan Sanford Goodman—Judith Wigdortz

## **Baldwin Davidson Memorial Scholarship Fund:**

Katie Davidson

## **Cantor's Fund:**

Get Well Helaine Rothman—Barbara and Richard Gitlin, Ellen and  
Donald Byck

### In Memory Of:

Leslie Alan Marsh—Lois and Joseph Wilkes

Evan Herbert—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette

Ruth and Harold Kaplan—Judith Cooper

Mabel Cooper—Judith Cooper

Rabbi Bill Kurry—Dari and Stephen Kennedy

### In Honor Of:

Asher's graduation from High School—Cheryl and Stephen  
Gaudette

Get well to Jo Jochnowitz—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette

The Kahn/Kaplan Aufruf—Peg Baker

## **Caring Network Fund:**

Get Well to Helaine Rothman—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette

### In Memory Of:

Jeanette Mindel—Cynthia and Phil Auerbach

Janice Williams—Lois and Joseph Wilkes

Nancy Silver—Whitney and Matthew Benner

Robert D. Gelber, MD—Susan and Roy Gelber

Sheila Aptaker—Martha Brandwene and Rita McWilliams

Esther Brandwene—Martha Brandwene and Rita McWilliams

## **Gan Mazon Fund:**

### In Honor Of:

The marriage of Karen Cole's daughter—Judith Cooper

## **Homeless Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Sheila Aptaker—Nadine and Eugene Vicenzi

## **Library Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Mark Copley, George Seligman—June and Morton Seligman

## **Mazon Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Rabbi Bill Kurry—Susan and Bob St. Lifer

## **General Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Joshua Glassberg—Phyllis Glassberg

Helen Berg—Arlene and Jim Berg

Emma Heyman—Norma and Jack Kohn

Rabbi Bill Kurry—Jane, Roger, and David St. Lifer

David Goldberg—Margot and Stuart Goldberg

Evan Sanford Goodman—Kerry and Evan Krachman, Bob Gabel and

Marianne Roosels, Susan and Bob St. Lifer

Lillian Kohn—Norma and Jack Kohn

Meyer Heyman—Norma and Jack Kohn

### In Honor Of:

The Baby naming of Mitchell Rosen—Arlene and Jim Berg

## **Oneg Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Angelo Vicenzi—Nadine and Gene Vicenzi

Ethel Alpine Semer—Susan Martin

## **Prayer Book Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Rhea B. Rath—Harmon Butler

Evelyn Taksel—Susan and Bob St. Lifer

Evan Sanford Goodman—Marjorie and Robert Wold

## **Adam Greenfield Religious School Fund:**

### In Honor Of:

In Honor of Zach's Special Day—Susan and Bob St. Lifer

## **Sisterhood Helps Fund:**

### In Memory Of:

Edith Fleischer—Adria Magnus

## **Sisterhood Scholarship Fund:**

### In Honor Of:

Karen Kahn for being Sisterhood President—Cheryl and Stephen Gaudette

Nancy Zaslowe on her new position as Sisterhood Co-President—Cheryl  
and Stephen Gaudette

Ellen Goldberg on her new position as Sisterhood Co-President—Cheryl  
and Stephen Gaudette

## **Social Action Fund:**

### In Honor Of:

Jim Leavitt's special birthday—Sharyn and Dean Ross

Get Well Helaine Rothman—Sharyn and Dean Ross

## **Youth Group Fund:**

### In Honor Of:

Emily Heath's Graduation from High School—Cheryl and Stephen  
Gaudette

Jonah Brewer's Graduation from High School—Cheryl and  
Stephen Gaudette

Amy Greenberg for being a great Youth Group Leader—Cheryl  
and Stephen Gaudette

Birth of a grandchild to Kerry and Evan Krachman—Cheryl and  
Stephen Gaudette

Birth of a grandchild to Karen Karl and John Heidema—Cheryl  
and Stephen Gaudette

### In Memory Of:

Sheila Aptaker—Dari and Stephen Kennedy

Evan Sanford Goodman—Dari and Stephen Kennedy, Karin and  
Joe Stein

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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## TORAH TALKS WITH RABBI KLINE

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Join Rabbi Kline for Torah Talks on:

**August 25th**

**September 8th**

**September 29th**



# UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

## September 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 9am Torah Study 7pm Selichot Program 8pm Selichot Serv (See page 6)
2	3 Office Closed	4 8am Coffee & Conv @ Shapiros 7pm Orchid 7pm Exec Comm	5 7:30pm MCC 7:45pm Choir	6 5:30pm Teacher Orientation 7pm Men's Club	7 11:30am Office Closing 3:45pm Shabbat @ Chelsea 6pm Shabbat Serv with Vin Gopal speaker	8 9am Torah Study 6pm Smarty
9 7:45pm Erev Rosh Hashanah	10 ROSH HASHANAH 10am RH Morning 3pm RH Family 4pm Tashlich	11 8am Coffee & Conv @ Shapiros 9:45am Study Group	12 7pm Ritual 7:30pm MCC 7:45pm Choir	13	14 11:30am Office Closing 7pm Shabbat Services	15 9am Torah Study
16 9:30am First Day RS	17 Office Closed	18 8am Coffee & Conv @ Shapiros 7:45pm Kol Nidre	19 YOM KIPPUR 10am YK Morning 2pm YK Family 3pm YK Afternoon 4:45pm YK Yizkor 5:30pm YK Neilah	20	21 11:30am Office Closing 7pm Shabbat Services	22 9am Torah Study 8pm Smarty Bonfire
23 8:30am Mens Club Sukkah Building 9:30am Rel School 9:30am Bag & Blox/Kesher	24 Office Closed Sukkot 6:30AM Sunrise Service 6:30pm Men's Club Dinner	25 8am Coffee & Conv 6:30pm Sis in the Sukkah	26 4pm Rel School 7:30pm MCC	27	28 11:30am Office Closing 6pm BYO Dinner in Sukkah 7pm Festival Yizkor 7pm Shabbat Services	29 9am Torah Study 5pm Sukkah Open House Kline/Bernard home
30 9:30am Rel School 11am Simchat Torah & Consecration	1					

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