

LARCHMONT TEMPLE NEWS

January/February 2019

LT & Strait Gate Celebrating 25 Years Together

Join us in

Prayer & Song

as we celebrate the legacy of

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

the vision of a dream we strive to make real.

Services will take place at Larchmont Temple.

Friday, January 18

Celebrating the spirit we share

7:00 p.m. Shabbat Worship with

LT & Strait Gate Choirs

8:30 p.m. Festive Oneg

Sunday, January 20

Affirming the beloved community we create

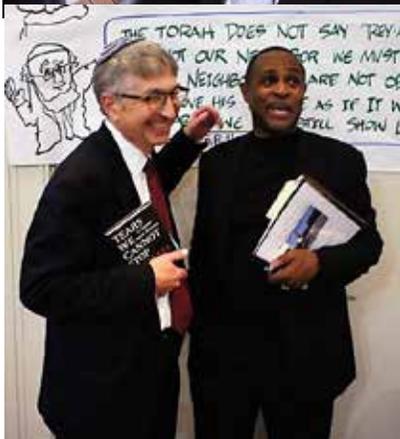
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

11:30 a.m. Refreshments following



“For 25 years we have been developing a relationship with each other and with God, each year getting closer to Him, and so, to one another...Upholding God’s two greatest commandments, and experiencing God’s greatest gift: LOVE!”

Bishop Wayne Powell



“The gift of these past 25 years is realizing, with all the differences that set us apart, there is so much more that brings us together. The commitment to community we share is what we all feel whenever we get together—extending hands and smiles and heart—celebrating a love that is not alone sincere, but sacred.”

Rabbi Jeffrey Sirkman

Larchmont Temple
75 Larchmont Avenue,
Larchmont, NY 10538
914-834-6120; FAX: 914-834-6503
www.Larchmonttemple.org

a member of the Union for Reform Judaism

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Rabbi

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Thank you for submitting by the 1st of each month to cynthiaw@larchmonttemple.org
Cynthia Weissman, Editor/Designer
Linda Price, Proofreader

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What Does It Mean to Belong to A Covenant Community?



This was the main topic of the Board of Trustees off-site retreat in November. With the help of facilitator extraordinaire, Suzanne Tillman, the trustees together and in smaller groups explored the meaning of covenant and belonging to Larchmont Temple in a way that being a "member" just does not adequately express. First, we needed to make sure we really understood what "covenant" means. We discussed how covenant is a bond; it's mutual; there's a power in being part of something bigger than ourselves. It is a mutual pact. Next, we explored the great meaning in the words of our Covenant of Membership as adopted over 20 years ago by our key lay leaders of that time including Emily Grotta and Carolyn Kamlet.

Moving into our vision of what it means to belong in 2018-19, we thought about what a "Covenant of Belonging" might look like. We shared in break out groups the things we thought mattered most: (1) *joining together* (affirmation, connection, support); (2) *reaching in* (inspiration, love, values, learning, connecting to ourselves); (3) *reaching out* (service, tikkun olam, responsibility, engagement, connect to others); and (4) *reaching up* (innovation, vision, inclusion, connect to our spirituality). Together we recognized that every congregant comes to LT with his or her own needs and expectations. We acknowledged that there are multiple paths toward realizing a shared vision that was more than Judaism in and of itself. We agreed that the environment was critical to achieving these goals. LT needs to be a warm, welcoming and non-judgmental place both in its premises and in its values.

We left feeling reinvigorated with a better understanding of where our vision for the future lies. Trustees Jon Birger, Stewart Ross and Carol Scheffler agreed to form a task force to frame a Covenant of Belonging to help us point the way to better connect, engage, relate, and ultimately progress to the next level of meaningfulness in belonging to LT.

Continuing to look through this prism, we are looking forward to our MLK celebration with Strait Gate, embracing the Jewish holidays through our learning theme including TuBshvat and Purim, finding joy each time we meet each other whether at LT or in the neighborhood, and the many other events and programs in the months ahead that you can read about in this newsletter.

As always, please let me know what you are thinking, needing, enjoying at president@larchmonttemple.org

L'Shalom,
Stacey Chervin Sigda, President

The Strength of our Community



Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

300+ people joined together in prayer and song, thankful for our blessings and hopeful for our world



Gathering of Memory & Hope following the Tree of Life Tragedy in Pittsburgh

600+ members of our community joined in solidarity. Broken-hearted, we mourned, shared words of comfort, songs of healing and hopes for peace.



Sharing Heart

Opening Minds

FROM RABBI JEFFREY SIRKMAN

"We each have blind spots, just as every candle casts its own shadow. Only when you place a second candle next to the first do the shadows disappear, illumined by the other's light. The beginning of dialogue is the knowledge that we can do this for one another."

Prof. Elie Wiesel

"It really all boils down to this: All life is interrelated. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny...And whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly...I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. And you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be...This is the way the world is made."

Rev Dr. M.L.King, Jr.

"The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even in one term, but America, I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there...To those who have wondered if America's beacon still burns bright: tonight we have proved that the true strength of our nation comes not from the might of our arms or the scale of our wealth, but from the enduring power of our ideals—democracy, liberty...and unyielding hope."

Pres. Barack Obama

Brotherhood Breakfast Sunday, January 13, 10:00 a.m. Joachim Prinz: "I Shall Not Be Silent"



Prinz spoke out for justice in Germany under the Nazi regime, then in the U.S. prior to and during the civil rights era. Dialogue with filmmaker Rachel Green and Rabbi Sirkman. For more details on the breakfast, see page 8.



Just before the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke at the March on Washington, August 28, 1963, delivering to the awaiting quarter million people "I Have a Dream," the metaphor that would endure to this day as our collective hope for the "Beloved Community"—the tolerant & just country, we can yet be, a rabbi from New Jersey delivered the remembrance of a nightmare; an equally prophetic proclamation of the task to which we are called...

Starting out as the young rabbinic leader of the Jewish community in Berlin in the 1930's, fleeing the Nazi onslaught but never forgetting its inhumanity, Rabbi Joachim Prinz warned: "*...Under the Hitler regime, I learned many things. The most important thing that I learned in my life...is that bigotry and hatred are not the most urgent problems. The most urgent, the most disgraceful, the most shameful, and the most tragic problem is silence...*"

Noting that, in Germany, we had become "a nation of silent onlookers," Prinz pledged to stand up and speak out, for as he preached from his pulpit of Temple B'nai Abraham in Newark, 1954, he understood: "What we need...is the realization that we are all in the same boat, and that the forces of religion, morality and decency are faced with the very same dangers...If one of them loses, all of them do."

To be a Jew was to feel the misfortune of the oppressed—to recognize the humanity and heart we share with every religion and race...Thus the intersection of the African American struggle for freedom and the Jewish journey was woven by the forces of history, as it was by the faith in God's creation we all share.

Rising to become President of the American Jewish Congress, a prophetic leader in the fight for civil rights, Dr. Prinz joined forces with Dr. King, even inviting him to speak twice in his historic synagogue in Newark. And though Temple B'nai Abraham, set aflame in the heat of the battle in the late 1960's for siding with the struggle for Civil justice, thereafter, relocated to the suburbs of Livingston, King's call from Prinz's pulpit remained an eternal echo..."*Some people say that religion means that you wait on God to act. Well, I subscribe to a different kind of religion. A religion that says that God will act, but will only act when men act...*"

Rabbi Prinz summoned us to not remain silent—to stand up against indifference. The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. called us to create a Beloved Community through our defiant refusal to hate, and our commitment to unconditional love.

For 25 years LT & Strait Gate Church have affirmed the interconnectedness of the faith-journeys we share; a quarter century of mutual concern and care—a reflection of the vision of a more righteous world, transformed through the power of love.

Be part of the celebration of spirit—a Dream our devotion can yet make real...

Rabbi Jeffrey Sirkman

MARCH 29-31, 2019

we are offering the chance
for you to celebrate

SHABBAT

the way it was meant
to be celebrated...

TOGETHER

...with all of the laughing,
singing, learning, fresh
air and exercise, new
meaningful relationships,
good food, wine and excitement
that we can CRAM into

ONE WEEKEND!

Make your reservation

TODAY.

Our weekend together includes:

Two night's accommodations
All meals and activities
(except spa treatments)

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$398 pp
SINGLE OCCUPANCY \$542 pp

Registration due by
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Register on the LT website,
click the link in the weekly email,
or sign up in the LT office

NURTURE YOURSELF

in the way that is best for you...

Cozy up by the fire
over a glass of wine
or morning coffee

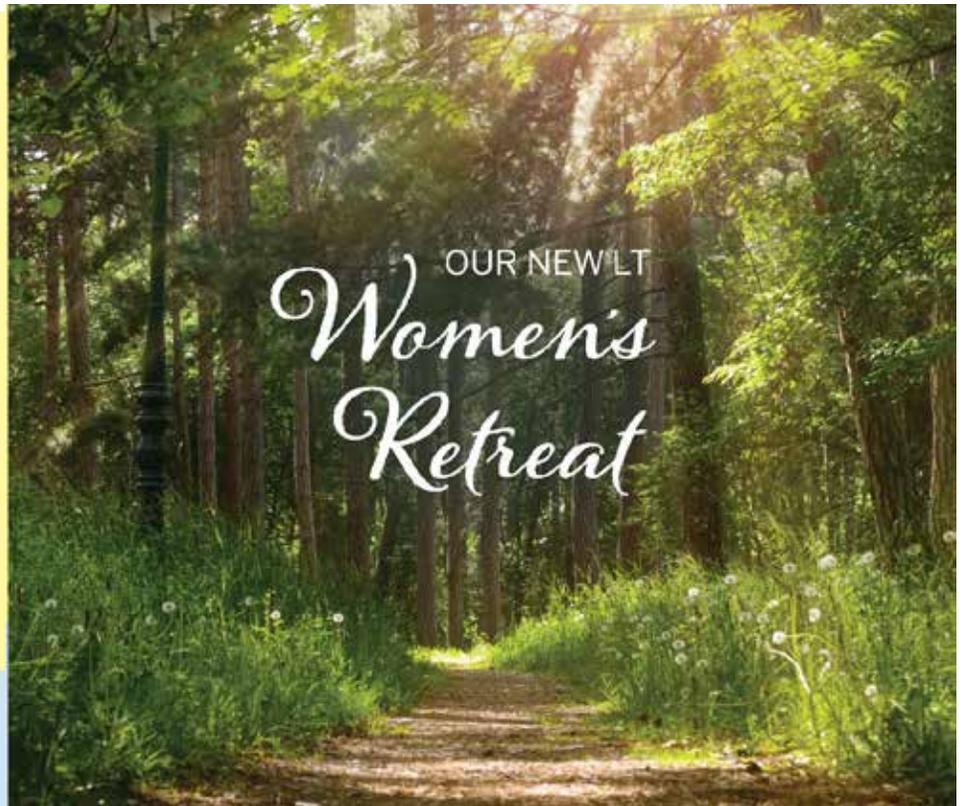
Spend time with old friends,
and make some new ones

Learn something new
or get a massage

Sleep late
or workout in the gym

There are so many options...

THIS IS YOUR WEEKEND!



GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF JEWISH TIME



The great spiritual Jewish poet, Ahad Ha-Am wrote: "More than the Jewish people has kept the Sabbath, the Sabbath has kept the Jewish people." What does this mean? One of the greatest gifts of Shabbat is the opportunity to spend quality time with family and community. On Shabbat, people have a unique opportunity to attend synagogue,

sing together, connect with each other, learn from one another and take a break from the hectic daily schedule that runs their lives. The Sabbath is truly a unifying force for Jews the world over.

However, in our generation, the idea of Shabbat observance has become, for many, the exact opposite of what it is supposed to be. Rather than seeing Shabbat as a time to rest and rejuvenate and get back to what is truly important in life, we can't seem to stop the chaos that runs our lives. We are too busy with work or play and too anxious about powering down our lives. We are, as a result, relinquishing our precious connection to ourselves and to our community. We, as an LT community are offering you the opportunity to take back Shabbat and celebrate it the way it was meant to be! Join us for our Women's Retreat and share in an unforgettable experience.

"Experience the Power of Pause"

Friday, March 29 - Sunday, March 31, 2019

Social Justice Initiative (SJI)

Listening Campaign--What We Learned



During the month of October, we launched the new Social Justice Initiative with a Listening Campaign. This included 10 house meetings where congregants gathered in each other's living rooms to share stories about what keeps them up at night – stories that brought to life their concerns about the state of the world,

the issues most important to them and their loved ones, and the values about which they feel most strongly. We engaged about 125 people in conversation. Especially at this time in our country when civil discourse is increasingly difficult, these intentional, thoughtful discussions with old friends and new acquaintances were powerful and energizing.

A wide range of issues was discussed, including but not limited to voting rights, immigration, gun violence, civil rights, and criminal justice. While some listening campaigns reveal one or two issues that are shared broadly and meaningfully, our listening campaign revealed these predominant values and interests:

- Personal stories left strong impressions
- Strong feelings about what our country needs right now.
- High level of empathy and concern for others, especially for underprivileged and vulnerable populations.
- High level of interest in engaging as a Jewish community in political advocacy.
- Interest in working on many different issues, with priority on something impactful.
- Interest in working with a network of reform congregations is exciting –real power in numbers.

Join us for What's Next for the Social Justice Initiative

Wednesday, January 23, 7:30 p.m.

Other congregations across New York state have also been leading listening campaigns. The RAC-NY staff and leadership team have been meeting with policy experts, political officials, and coalition leaders already working on policy issues in Albany to learn what legislation is in the pipeline. We will gather all the information and choose an issue that meets these three criteria:

1. It's grounded in Jewish moral teachings;
2. It has broad and meaningful support across the Reform Jewish community in NY; and
3. It's legislation that we could meaningfully influence.

To join us, email bmiller@larchmonttemple.org.



We would love to have you join us as part of Larchmont Temple's Consultation delegation. The Consultation is dedicated to training and empowering Jewish leaders to make real, lasting change at the national, state, and local levels. We'll return home better prepared to lead our community in meaningful social justice work. For more information, contact our Delegation Leaders, Jennifer Mitchell, mitchelljennifer214@gmail.com, 917-731-7459 or Lynn Reichgott, lreich@att.net, 914-833-0774.

Discounts for early registration! Go to: <https://rac.org/consultation-conscience-2019>.

Why Should You Join Us at the Consultation on Conscience?

Lynn Reichgott: Having attended every other year since 1993, I return each time feeling newly invigorated by the experience: having a better appreciation of the important issues facing us as a nation; and being inspired by many of our Representatives, Senators and leaders of non-profit organizations; coming home to express my Judaism, and work with others on issues that reflect our Jewish values.

Lisa Chase: To be with 800 Reform Jews, wanting to engage in constructive, positive, constitutional work was incredible. I loved connecting with members of LT, some I hadn't known before. I felt educated and energized by the amazing speakers the RAC assembled. Looking forward to going again.

Jen Mitchell: Attending the consultation in 2017 was a transformative experience. I had no idea how active the Reform Movement was in the area of social justice and how many people were looking to engage and use their Jewish voice to impact the world. Everyone brought different perspectives and debate was encouraged. I was inspired by the possibility and potential of harnessing all that passion to create real change and organize in our own community.

Rabbi Bethie Miller: In a packed house, we heard from: Jackie Rosen who launched her 'political career' as president of her congregation in Nevada, charge us to be "bold and audacious." Sherrod Brown from Ohio encourage us to "make good, necessary trouble." Joe Kennedy from Massachusetts remind us "Politics is always about people. It's about asking more of one another, of our government, and of ourselves." Their words of hope, faith and conviction were unfiltered, and given their position on the frontlines, they were unexpectedly optimistic. They made our task crystal clear: keep showing up, speaking up, and sharing our Jewish voice with the world. It matters.



by Ari Perkins, Co-leaders: Adam Kaye & Leah Katznelson
Our group came about quite organically (no pun intended). Adam and I are Cornerstone alumni, and share a common interest around food and cooking. (Adam is a well-known Chef from Blue Hill Stone Barnes and I'm an ER doctor who likes to cook). When Rabbi Miller introduced the small groups idea, we came up with **Jews for Organic, Environmentally Sustainable Dinner Group*. We wanted to connect bal tashchit to food waste, eco-kosher, and tikkun olam to sustainable food choices, to name a few.

We've worked with two amazing groups of temple members learning a lot over great food. Leah Katznelson joined us as a co-leader, bringing her creativity, passion and cooking skill. When our groups first started, most of us did not know each other. Now it's great to see people from previous groups at the temple or just around Larchmont.



We meet monthly and rotate homes. Leaders provide the topic and readings as well as assign what to bring for dinner. We try to match food with the subject of discussion. For example, when discussing the importance of family

traditions - each member brings their favorite family recipe. We've done a Passover themed dinner discussing teachings surrounding the holiday.

We try to give back to our community and our temple-- providing healthy organic meals to HOPE kitchen or hosting a healthy carnival for the Coachman kids. Last year we invited renowned author, speaker and CEO of Hazon, Nigel Savage, to share its mission to combat food waste and unite Jewish institutions in a national effort to become more environmentally conscious.

We plan to continue the JOES tradition of curated dinners at group members' homes, while adding some fun new activities such as farmer's market visits, guests speakers, social action work and more! See the box below.

This year's JOES small group is exploring the possibility of starting a **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program** here at LT, which would mean weekly deliveries of local, organic produce. If you would be interested in investing in a share for the coming growing season, please let us know. We're trying to gauge general interest and feasibility. Please contact Leah Katznelson at leahkatznelson1@gmail.com.

SHABBAT DINNER GROUP

by Janet Weiss & Fran Lamster



We became part of the Shabbat Dinner Small Group by signing up online thinking our husbands would enjoy it, too. We knew group leaders Amy & Rob Rothman and Susan & Steve Lipton and all of the other women, and most of the men by sight.

As a result of these monthly dinners, we feel closer to everyone. Because of the nature of the discussion questions, we each reveal a part of ourselves that probably would not come to light in casual conversation.

There is something very familial about going to services and then joining the same group of people for a Shabbat meal. Everyone in the group is genuinely friendly and engaged in conversation, and the group is small enough that it is easy to talk to each person.

If you are thinking of starting a small group, continuity is important, so the best case scenario is if everyone attends each gathering, or at least shows up most of the time. It's also helpful to have insightful topics for discussion, good food, wine, lots of laughter, and somewhat of a routine for the evening.

Our group: Amy and Rob Rothman, Susan and Steve Lipton, Adrienne Weiss-Harrison and Andy Harrison, Vicki Erlich and Ken Hoffman, Roseanne and Richard Amoils, Janet and Leigh Weiss, and Fred and Fran Lamster.

Calendar of LT Happenings...January & February

Saturday, January 5, 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Yoga

Join this drop-in Shabbat morning experience! Shabbat Morning Yoga is an ideal time to pause from our often-hectic lives to rest, breathe, and re-center ourselves. To receive reminders and updates, please sign up for our email list by contacting Mia Shapiro at mshapiro@larchmonttemple.org.

Wednesday, January 16, 7:30 p.m.

Living Jewish Time...TuB'Shevat 101



Did you know Passover wasn't the only seder we could host? Join our Rabbinic Intern Erin Binder to celebrate the birthday of the trees, and learn all you need to know about this holiday. RSVP call or go to larchmonttemple.org/signmeup.

Friday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

The SHABBAT ZONE, Rabbi Myriam Klotz



An Embodied Approach to Prayer through Yoga as Spiritual Practice with Rabbi MYRIAM KLOTZ, Director of Yoga/Spiritual Practices for the Institute for Jewish Spirituality. Rabbi Klotz will lead us on a journey of spiritual attunement, opening our whole being to the movement & flow of prayer.

Saturday, January 26, 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Yoga with Rabbi Myriam Klotz

Join master teacher Rabbi Myriam Klotz for a spiritual renewal through the mind—body—soul connection of Yoga. This is a special session for all those in the regular LT Shabbat Yoga group, or other practitioners who'd like to share in the gift....

Remembering Civil Rights Pioneers

Sunday, January 13, 10:00 a.m.

"Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent"



Brotherhood welcomes Rachel Fisher, co-producer of *Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent*. The documentary chronicles the unconventional life of famed German rabbi and civil rights activist Joachim Prinz (1902 -1988). Prinz spoke out for justice in Germany under the Nazi

regime, then in the U.S. prior to and during the civil rights era. At the 1963 March on Washington, he proclaimed that "America must not become a nation of onlookers. America must not remain silent." Dr. Fisher will lead us in a discussion of the relevance of Prinz's message today.

Friday, January 18, 7:00 p.m.

25th Anniversary of LT/Strait Gate

Special anniversary service commemorating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with dessert reception.

Sunday, January 20, 10:00 a.m.

Strait Gate at LT, MLK Weekend

Affirming the beloved community we create. Refreshments following the service.

Rabbi Prinz was My Rabbi

My family were long time members of Temple B'nai Abraham, where Rabbi Prinz served as religious leader. He presided over notable family events, including my parents marriage and my bar mitzvah. Rabbi Prinz was our rabbi and did not speak about his stature or position in the greater Jewish community or his personal relationship with leaders from diverse groups.

The fact is, I was not aware, at the time, of the rabbi's renown and involvement with the civil rights movement and his relationship with Martin Luther King, Jr.

I knew he was a great and impactful speaker - who spoke frequently from his personal experience about the atrocities and treatment of the Jews in Europe. I remember him speaking about civil rights, discrimination, freedom, and race relations. As a kid, I did not realize what an opportunity I had to learn from a significant figure in the civil rights movement. I highly recommend everyone see the Brotherhood showing of *Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent* on Sunday, January 13 at 10 a.m.

—Marty Kanegiser

What's Next for Social Justice Initiative

Wednesday, January 23, 7:30 p.m.

We have the results of our "Listening Campaign" and will share next steps over refreshments. To join us, please email bmiller@larchmonttemple.org. More details on page 6.

Saturday, January 26, 6:30 p.m.

LT Cultural Arts: Wine & Supper Club



Join us for a festive adult pot-luck dinner and wine pairings, accompanied by a klezmer trio featuring our own Tony award-winning clarinetist, Sam Sadigursky. Bring a favorite dish to share! For details in planning a delicious menu, go to:

larchmonttemple.org/signmeup.

Sunday, January 27 at 4:00 p.m.

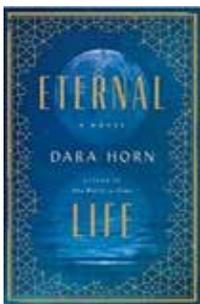
LT Film Festival: *The Last Suit* (Argentina 2018)



Despite a bum right leg nicknamed "tzuris" because of the aggravation it gives him, stubborn, 88-year-old retired tailor Abraham Bursztein still has plenty of fight and flair left in him. Unfortunately, his family refuses to recognize it. Bursztein, like some latter-day King Lear, has already foolishly divided his property among his daughters, when the two older ones decide to dispatch him to a nursing home. After all, they say, he will soon need more care when his leg may require amputation. Bursztein runs away to Poland intend on finding a friend who saved him from certain death at the end of World War II. "So many wonderful, well-crafted scenes--a multilayered masterpiece."--*Film Threat*; "Universal humor in a cranky old man's last quest!"--*Movie Nation*

Wednesday, January 30, 7:45 p.m.

LT Book Group: *Eternal Life* by Dara Horn



Rabbi Sirkman mentioned this book at High Holy Day Services. Rachel is a woman who can't die. Her recent troubles—widowhood, a failing business, an unemployed middle-aged son—are only the latest. In the 2,000 years since she made a spiritual bargain to save her first son in Roman-occupied Jerusalem, she's tried everything to free

herself, and only one other person in the world understands: a man she once loved passionately, stalking her through the centuries, convinced they belong together forever. Gripping, hilarious, and profoundly moving, it celebrates the bonds between generations, the power of faith, the purpose of death, and the reasons for being alive. All are welcome, meet in the library. No RSVPs necessary. Questions or suggestions, please call Nancy at 914 833-9234 or email nancygoodman@msn.com.

Saturday, February 2, 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Yoga

Join this drop-in Shabbat morning experience! To receive reminders and updates, please sign up for our email list by contacting Mia Shapiro at mshapiro@larchmonttemple.org.

Sunday, February 10, 10:00 a.m.

Chavie Weisberger, *Leaving Ultra Orthodoxy*



The granddaughter of a well-known Hasidic rabbi, Chavie Weisberger shares the challenges she faced after coming out as a lesbian and fighting for custody of her three children—a court fight waged not only with her ultra-Orthodox ex but also with the community she had once been part

of. Her story has been reported in the *New York Times* and *Haaretz*, and it now inspires her work as director of community engagement for Footsteps. Featured in the 2017 HBO documentary *One of Us*, Footsteps offers support to those leaving the ultra-Orthodox community. Brotherhood breakfasts are free with annual Brotherhood membership, otherwise, \$15.

Saturday, March 2

LT'S GOT TALENT III—Open Mic Night

Do you have talent? Then show us what you've got! Sign up while slots are available. Include name, talent, piece you want to perform and email Frank Grant, fgrant1@verizon.net. See our ad on page 15.

Sunday, March 24, 10:00 a.m.

Brother Blood Drive

We hope you will join us in this life-saving drive. Our fall drive collected 41 pints! Thanks to all who make these drives a success.

TIKKUN OLAM

REPAIRING OUR WORLD

NEIGHBORS FOR REFUGEES

Members of Larchmont Temple, along with neighboring churches and synagogues, responded to a call for help by HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) to become co-sponsors of community-based resettlement in Westchester.

Two years later, Neighbors for Refugees (NFR) now has more than 100 volunteers, and has successfully filled the broad mandate of its mission, to “welcome, protect and advocate for refugees in our community and abroad.” Here are some of the things we’ve done:

- Resettled a young man from Pakistan who learned English and is now employed and financially independent
- Resettled a family of 6 from Afghanistan (whose father was a translator for the U.S. military) assisting them financially and with education and acculturation
- Provided financial assistance to Syrian family as they worked towards greater independence.
- Through the Y2 program, provided support for major medical situations or employment assistance after resettlement aid runs out
- Collected clothing and supplies for aid agencies in the Middle East
- Work with GreaterNYCFamiliesforSyria, a Facebook group helping Syrian refugees here and abroad.

If you would like to be part of this effort as a volunteer and/or through financial contributions please go to the NFR website: <https://neighborsforrefugees.com> or Michael.Reichgott@einstein.yu.edu.



ZERO WASTE INITIATIVE

In our effort to support global sustainability, we provide the infrastructure and education to the temple and religious school to reduce waste in our landfills by using compostable consumable products. Compostable cups, plates and cutlery are now used at weekly pre-onegs and other events, and we ask that all events in the temple obtain and use sustainable products. Bins are located outside the sanctuary and around the temple for **Compostables** including food waste, cutlery, plates and cups; **Recyclables** such as recyclable glass, cans and plastic; **Paper**; and **Trash**--with the goal of having as little trash as possible end up in landfills. When attending events, please stop to check materials you are throwing out and match to the signs on the bins.

We encourage everyone to consider composting and recycling at home. Larchmont and Mamaroneck residents visit <https://lmsanitation.org/residential-services> for up to date info. To help or if you have questions please contact: Paul Katzenstein, pkatzenste@aol.com Marlene Kolbert, gmkolbert@gmail.com Bonnie Weinbach bonnieweinbach@yahoo.com Jordana Brennan jordana@confidentbuildings.com

The Community Resource Center

January 6. A holiday celebration. We will distribute gifts to the children and learn about each other's religions and cultures through stories and activities of both Three Kings Day and Chanukah. Contact: sariwinter@gmail.com.

Midnight Run, January 12

We meet at 4 pm at Larchmont Avenue Church to sort and return to the church at 8:30 pm for the run into the city. All ages can help sort and make lunches. Contact: Linda.riefberg@gmail.com.

SOCIAL ACTION

The Social Action Committee was very busy over the holiday season! We are so grateful for the incredible support the LT community has offered to holiday initiatives for local persons and families in need. Thank you for supporting many hundreds of gifts and programs with the following organizations:

- Coachman Family Center, Community Resource Center
- Midnight Run
- My Sister's Place
- HOPE Soup Kitchen
- Pleasantville Cottages
- DOROT
- CAP Center's Headstart Program
- Winter coat drive for local children and families in need
- Holiday gift giving to children in need from local public elementary schools

We are always excited to learn about new volunteer opportunities in our area, please join us for any of our upcoming meetings in the LT Library at 10 am 1/27, 3/3, 4/7, 5/19. Contact any of us if you have questions sariwinter@gmail.com drvickiehrlich@aol.com, linda.riefberg@gmail.com

HOPE Soup Kitchen January 27

HOPE is the largest emergency food pantry and soup kitchen in the region. HOPE also assists people in need with necessary clothing, language skills, immigration services and much more. Please join us to cook a delicious meal for people in need. Contact: jill@thesarkozis.net or elissatauber@gmail.com

Pleasantville Cottages, February 10

Help run a fun activity at this residential center for troubled kids. We will meet at LT at 1:30 p.m. to caravan to Pleasantville for a 2 p.m. arrival. Contact linda.riefberg@gmail.com.

FROM RABBI EVE RUDIN



We have a busy few months coming up!

LarFTY Hosts NFTY NAR Winter Kallah: January 4 – 6

Larchmont Temple and LarFTY are incredibly honored to host **NFTY NAR's Winter Kallah!** NFTY NAR is the New York Area Region for the

North American Federation of Temple Youth. Together with the NFTY NAR Regional Board, our LarFTY leaders have co-planned the event and many of our families will be hosting teens from throughout the region.

Grades 4 & 5 Annual Retreat at URJ Eisner Camp: January 11 - 13

We are incredibly excited to bring everyone together to celebrate Shabbat, sing, learn, and – most importantly – build community! Our theme this year is What's Jewish About Harry Potter. Joining our learners will be our madrichim, Emma Rehfeld, Shoshy Levine, Heather Temple, Student Rabbi Zach Pleasant and Rabbi Rudin.

Grade 6 Family Shabbaton: Saturday, February 9

Our Grade 6 Family Shabbaton will be held at the Edith Macy Conference Center in Pleasantville NY. A core part of the Grade 6 year, we will consider:

- WHO do I "become" when I become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah?
- What does it mean to teach Torah before my community?
- What does it mean to lead prayers before my community?
- What does it mean to do social action as part of the process of becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah?
- What will the journey look like, and how will we (as a family) handle it all?

Our program will include a learning Shabbat service with our clergy, programs on Becoming Teachers of Torah, Becoming Do-Ers of Good Deeds (choosing a Mitzvah Project), Q & A with Cantor Scher and a short Havdalah service (which separates Shabbat from the rest of the week). It will also be a wonderful opportunity for our 6th grade community to spend time with one another!

Coming Up Soon.....March Mitzvah Madness....be on the lookout for details in our LTRS Newsletter....

March 1 – 4, 2019

LT L'Taken Trip to D.C. for 10 – 12th Graders



Learn about Social Justice... Lobby Congress...Visit D.C. For more info email Shoshy at slevine@larchmonttemple.org. In the meantime, read one account from last year's visit...

"I couldn't wait, yet had no idea what I was in for. First, Shabbat services alongside so many other people, my age, from around the country, who knew the same tunes as I did! Next, walking on the reflecting pond, marching and chanting with thousands of other people of all ages, gender identifications, religions, ethnicities. Hours later, being lost within the flame of a candle between my hands, surrounded by Washington's breathtaking monuments, for Havdalah. L'Taken was an incredible experience. It raised an awareness within all of us of the issues dealt with every day, the complexities presented by each; and the possibilities we as individual citizens have to help or voice our opinion. Four days I'll never forget." Sacha Sergent

LT CARING COMMUNITY...

HOLDING UP & ONTO ONE ANOTHER

Our Temple-Community Network of Support



In moments of loss... illness... or facing life-challenges aging can bring, we share your concern, and extend hearts and helping hands.

Reach out, on a confidential basis, to let us know if you, or someone in the LT community, is in need. CALL our clergy:

Rabbi Sirkman, Cantor Scher, Rabbi Miller, 914-834-6120, or committee chairs: Carolyn Kamlet, 914-391-6923 and Juli Karson, 914-381-3007 or email

CaringCommunity@larchmonttemple.org. *If you are interested in volunteering to help in the work of LT Caring Community, call our committee chairs, Carolyn or Juli.*

Living Time Experiences

Tu B'Shevat

"It is easy to forget that the rhythms of nature and the rhythms of humankind coincide." –Babylonian Talmud

Rabbi Sirkman... Israel, February 14th, 1999

Digging deep into Israel's soil, I am suddenly Honi—famed rain-maker of Rabbinic times, sending roots deep, and at the same time reaching Skyward...

I am every religious school kid, collecting coins in that blue and white tin box, giving every Sunday so that Israel could someday blossom...

I am every Jewish grandparent from the Old Country, Every Bobba, putting Tzedakah in the pushke before Shabbes, to replenish a land that grows only in Jewish dreams...

Planting a tree, here on a gorgeous Sunday morning, feeling the sun of that Jerusalem Forest, connecting with the root system that runs through the generations, I am renewing the promise of Israel—our home...

Stacey Chervin Sigda

"As a giant metaphor for the interconnectedness of all things - people, nature, and time itself - Tu B'Shvat speaks to the world...However one chooses to plant this precious seed of Judaism-with love and care-will reap a lifetime of meaning and blessing, beyond one's lifetime, too. 'Because my parents planted trees for me,' the Talmud teaches...'likewise I am planting trees for them.' For the sake of our children and our world, keep planting." (Abigail Pogrebin quoting Rabbi Micah Greenstein).

As a religious school student at Larchmont Temple, we learned and celebrated Tu B'Shvat by participating in a program in which we donated money to Israel for trees to be planted in memory of beloved family members. Each year I filled out the beautiful card with a fully grown tree painted on it and asked for the tree to be planted for my Papa, my mother's father, who died when I was 9 years old.

In addition to this school tradition, I was fortunate to have travelled to Israel with my grandmother when I was 11 with ORT. It was an amazing adventure where we met Moishe Dayan, and I first encountered Israel as the home of the Jewish people. It was the first time I also planted a tree myself.

Fast forward to 2008, on the Larchmont Temple Israel trip with my parents, my sister and my children together, as 3 generations, we planted trees together. While there is much more to Tu B'Shvat, to me, it is always a celebration of l'dor va'dor because those planting ceremonies have brought so many generations together through different acts of treasuring the earth, Israel and family while merging the past, present and future.

Library Corner by Ze'ev Aviezer

To celebrate the New Year, we are offering two books by very familiar Jewish literary personas, Amos Oz and Leonard Cohen and two you may not be familiar with, Barbara Fradkin and Harri Nykanen. The main characters of the unknown authors are international Jewish detectives Michael Green, an Ottawa homicide detective and Ariel Kafka, the only Jew on the entire Helsinki police force. Enjoy!

Dear Zealots Letters from a Divided Land by Amos Oz

Three essays on a range of topics: the universal nature of fanaticism and its possible cures, the Jewish roots of humanism and the need for a secular pride in Israel, and the geopolitical standing of Israel in the wider Middle East and internationally. This is classic Amos Oz—fluid, rich, masterly, and perfectly timed for a world in which polarization and extremism are rising everywhere.

The Flame: Poems Notebooks Lyrics Drawings by Leonard Cohen

Named a Fall Read by Vogue, Esquire, The Washington Post, TIME, Vanity Fair and O, the Oprah Magazine. One of Daily Mail and Financial Times's Best Books of 2018, The Flame is the final work from Leonard Cohen, the revered poet and musician whose fans span generations and whose work is celebrated throughout the world.

Do or Die by Barbara Fradkin

The first of ten Inspector Green mysteries, introduces Ottawa homicide detective Michael Green. As the son of two Holocaust survivors, Green views himself as a "Nate's Delicatessen-type Jew," more concerned with what people think about the size of his nose than with getting home in time to light Shabbat candles with his wife. Green acknowledges that his job cost him his first marriage—and is likely to cost him his second. As a colleague, husband and parent, Green leaves much to be desired; but as a policeman, there is no one you would rather have on the case.

Nights of Awe an Ariel Kaplan Mystery by Harri Nykanen

Nykanen's twist on Nordic crime fiction may be the most inventive yet. Ariel Kafka, a middle-aged bachelor, is a detective in Helsinki and, as far as he knows, the only Jew on the entire Helsinki police force, which is why he's picked to head up the investigation of a series of murders that began with two Arabic-looking men who may have been shouting Jewish obscenities as they died. Set during the days leading up to Yom Kippur, this complex tale moves quickly, as Ari attempts to figure it all out. The clever combination of classic Jewish themes with the traditions of Nordic crime makes for a refreshing tale with wide appeal.

Our deepest sympathies to the family of

Roberta Lederman, mother of Mark Lederman
 Bernice Brooks, wife of Max Brooks, mother of Ellen Brooks
 George Feldman, father of Midge Baum
 Fran Vernick, mother of Jackie Shurslep & Amy DiVito
 Rebecca Arber, sister of William Feldman
 Barbara Chapin, mother of Stephen Chapin
 Claire Drattell, mother of Jason Drattell
 Avrom Remi Mintz, father of Naomi Lowenthal
 Ida Hyman, mother of Debbie Tucciarone
 Dmitri Stein, father of David, Daniel & Alex



THANK YOU

RABBI SIRKMAN'S MITZVAH FUND

In memory of my husband, Robert Sklarew by **Toby Sklarew**
 In memory of Bernice Brooks by **Matthew Kamens**
 In memory of Phyllis Rothman & Naomi's father by **Jeffrey & Wendy Kaufman**
 In honor of the engagement of my daughter Marcia to Alan Rosenberg by **Shirley Firestein**
 In memory of Phyllis Rothman by **Joel Weisman, Robert Anhouse & Family and Howard Weisman & Family**
 In gratitude for your support and officiating at the funeral of my husband Allen by **Barbara Falber**
 In gratitude for officiating at the funeral of Ellen's mother Bernice by **Ellen Brooks & Marshall Cohen**
 In memory of my mother Esther Brand by **Harvey Rubin**
 In gratitude for the shiva service for my father by **Naomi Lowenthal**
 In memory of Ellen Brooks' mother Bernice by **John & Judy Delehanty**
 In gratitude and in honor of our son Jake becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Pamela & Jeffrey Gill**
 In gratitude and in honor of our son Jason becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Jeremy & Betsy Parker**
 In honor of our creative and caring temple president, Stacey Chervin Sigda by **Sunny & Brad Goldberg**
 In gratitude for the naming ceremony for our son Rafael Sol by **Allyson & Isaac Hattem**

In appreciation for the High Holy day service by **Tom & Judy Landau**
 In honor of Jake Gill becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Jeffrey & Robin Perlman**

RABBI MILLER'S MITZVAH FUND

In memory of Roberta Lederman by **Mark & Silvia Lederman**
 In appreciation by **Carol Scharff**
 In appreciation of this year's High Holy Day services by **Ellen Brooks & Marshall Cohen**
 In appreciation of the High Holy Day services by **Tom & Judy Landau**
 In honor of our grandchildren Madeleine, Will and Sam by **Judith & Seth Stopek**
 In honor of Jake Gill's Bar Mitzvah by **Pamela & Jeffrey Gill**
 In gratitude and in honor of our son Jason becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Betsy & Jeremy Parker**

CANTOR SCHER'S MITZVAH FUND

In appreciation by **Florence Rothstein**
 In appreciation by **Mark & Silvia Lederman**
 In appreciation by **Steve Ozer**
 In gratitude for her officiating at the shiva minyan for Irwin Reiter by **Allen Reiter & Andrea Hirsch**
 In appreciation of the High Holy Day services by **Tom & Judy Landau**
 In gratitude and in honor of our son Jake becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Pamela & Jeffrey Gill**
 In gratitude and in honor of our son Jason becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Betsy & Jeremy Parker**

In gratitude for officiating at the funeral of Ellen's mother Bernice by **Ellen Brooks & Marshall Cohen**
 In memory of Ellen Brooks' mother Bernice by **John & Judy Delehanty**

CANTOR MENDELSON'S MITZVAH FUND

In appreciation of the High Holy Day services by **Tom and Judy Landau**

GENERAL FUND

In honor of Vivienne & Georgia Loigman becoming B'not Mitzvah by **Richard & Jane Shapiro**

SUSAN SIRKMAN FUND

In memory of Bernice Brooks by **Lisa & Richard Witten**

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Ignatz Haas by **Phyllis Haas**
 In memory of Trudy Goldhirsch Schwartz by **Diane Wolf & Lewis Bennett**

SOCIAL ACTION/TZEDAKAH

In memory of Murray Haar by **Lynn & Michael Reichgott**
 In honor of Jake Gill becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Judith & Seth Stopek**

YOUTH PROGRAMS

In honor of Benjamin Kulish by **Renee Wolgin**

January

Friday, January 4

VA'ERA (Exod. 6:2-9:35)
 5:00 PM Young Family Shabbat NS
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, January 5

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 9:00 AM Shabbat Yoga
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, January 11

BO (Exod. 10:1-13:16)
 5:00 PM Young Family Shabbat K-3
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, January 12

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 10:30 AM Congregational Worship
 Bar Mitzvah of Cooper Berenblat
 Bar Mitzvah of Nate Siegel
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Martin Luther King, Jr. Church/Synagogue Exchange

Friday, January 18
 BESHALACH (Exod. 13:17-17:16)
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat with
 Strait Gate Church

Saturday, January 19

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Sunday, January 20

10:00 AM Strait Gate Church at LT

Friday, January 25

YITRO (Exod. 18:1-20:23)
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, January 26

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

February

Friday, February 1

MISHPATIM (Exod. 21:1-24:18)
 5:00 PM Young Family Shabbat NS
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, February 2

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 9:00 AM Shabbat Yoga
 10:30 AM Congregational Worship
 Bar Mitzvah of Adam Danberg
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, February 8

TERUMAH (Exod. 25:1-27:19)
 5:30 PM Young Family Shabbat K-3
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, February 9

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, February 15

TETZAVEH (Exod. 27:20-30:10)
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, February 16

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, February 22

KI TISSA (Exod. 30:11-34:35)
 6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
 7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, February 23

9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
 10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Security Update

One of our top priorities at Larchmont Temple is the safety and security of our children, staff, and families. As a result, we are always reevaluating our safety procedures and security protocols, taking into account the feedback of families and staff. Our security committee has been working to make improvements to our programs, consulting with a nationally recognized security expert. Some of the changes are visible, some are not. Here are some of the changes taking place:

- The temple now has a security guard at all hours of programming, and a 2nd security guard during all children's programming and Shabbat services. In addition we will hire a Larchmont Police Officer for large and special events.
- The building is locked when the security guard is not present.
- A new key card system has been installed for building access and cards have been distributed to staff and leadership. In addition we are implementing an ID system for families and visitors.
- In conjunction with the Larchmont Police Department we have revised our emergency and evacuation plan and our full time staff are all CPR-AED trained.

We hope these changes will make us all feel safer while at the Temple. Feel free to reach out to Jane Sable-Friedman with any questions, suggestions or concerns jsfriedman@larchmonttemple.org.

Chevrah Torah, Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.

Gather around the table to study the week's Torah portion, with commentary reflecting both contemporary and traditional biblical scholars.
 Led by Rabbi Sirkman or Rabbi Miller

Downstairs Minyan, Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

This casual, intimate, musical Shabbat morning observance meets weekly in the Axelrod Chapel. Remember a yahrtzeit, pray for the healing of a loved one, or simply come to tap into the peaceful energy of Shabbat.
 Led by Rabbi Miller or Erin Binder, Rabbinic Intern

Looking Ahead



**BACK BY
POPULAR
DEMAND!**

LT'S GOT TALENT III - Open Mic Night
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019 - 7:30 PM

Do you have Talent?

SIGN UP NOW
while limited performing slots are still available.

Send your email to FRANK GRANT
at fgrant1@verizon.net.

Include your name, your talent,
the name of the piece you want to perform,
and your contact information.



Jewkbox Purim

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 20, 2019

TEMPLE
Diner
EST. 1948

The Kings & Queens
of Rock, Pop, Jazz & Soul

IT'S A DATE!

SHPIEL AWAY AT THE LT DINER!
DRESS FROM YOUR FAVORITE
MUSICAL DECADE
SING ALONG!



New Members Havdallah & Happy Hour

Saturday, March 23, 3-5 p.m.

You will be receiving an invitation for the New Members Havdallah & Happy Hour at the home of Cantor Tracey Scher and her husband, Chris Lewis, where you will have the opportunity to meet with one another, as well as LT's leadership. We will conclude with a Havdallah service. For more information contact: Deborah Novick or Alyssa Goldberg at newmembers@larchmonttemple.org.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, April 6, 2018 - 7:00 PM

SHOWSTOPPERS: BIG SONGS FROM THE BEST OF BROADWAY

DON'T MISS this concert - **BIG** songs from **BIG** Broadway shows, sung by stellar New York cantors: Claire Franco, Mo Glazman, David Rosen, and our own Cantor Tracey Scher. Hear them sing as you never have heard before!



Larchmont Temple
75 Larchmont Avenue
Larchmont, NY 10538
914-834-6120

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LT Cultural Arts Presents

LARCHMONT
TEMPLE

Wine & Supper Club



SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019 at 6:30 PM

It's a Pot-Luck!

Bring a favorite dish to share
...wine will be provided!



Sam Sadigursky

Joshua Camp

Jim Whitney

Enjoy a great

Klezmer Trio

FREE!

To sign up go to larchmonttemple/signmeup or sign up in the office.
Once you are signed up, you will receive an email with details so that we can
coordinate a delicious menu. Presented by LT Cultural Arts.