

LARCHMONT TEMPLE NEWS

May/June 2019

Yom Hashoah Commemoration
Wednesday, May 1, 7 p.m.



Please join us for Yom Hashoah Services as we remember and bear witness to the Holocaust. Our special guest speaker is Sybil Ehrlich. For more information and to read the incredible journey of survivor families, beginning on page 3.



FAMILY FUN! CELEBRATING
ISRAEL'S 71ST YEAR
SHABBAT YISRAEL
FRIDAY, MAY 10TH

We'll celebrate with Music, Dance and Israeli-Style Nosh.
6:15 p.m. The festivities begin!
7 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Yisrael/Yom Ha'atzmaut with our
2019 Israel 2nd Timers. See page 6 for pictures and
reflections from their trip!

COVENANT MEANS LT
CARES BECAUSE EVERY
MEMBER MATTERS NO
MATTER HOW LONG YOU
BELONG OR HOW YOUNG
OR OLD YOU ARE WE
CELEBRATE EVERY STORY
AS A REFLECTION OF THIS
SACRED CONNECTION
THAT MAKES
USA

CONGREGATION

FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Thank you for submitting by the 1st of each month to cynthiaw@larchmonttemple.org
Cynthia Weissman, Editor/Designer
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It's hard to believe this is the last newsletter of the year. Where did all the time go - even as we endeavored to live in Jewish time? How did we spend this year at LT and what changes lie ahead?

The best way to learn all this and more is by coming to our festive Congregational Annual Meeting/Minyan of Mensches celebration on Monday evening, June 17. Come celebrate our congregation and our honorees who have gone above and beyond in their selfless dedication to maintaining, building and innovating our beloved synagogue to give you more. Come and voice your views. And come for a light dinner at 6:30 p.m. with wine, cheese and a celebratory cake after the meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. If the weather is good, we will be in the garden to start, if not, the Garden Room. We have worked tirelessly on our budgeting and programming for the year ahead. Hear for yourself all that we have accomplished and how much more will be available next year and join us.

Looking toward next year, I am pleased to inform you of a renewed focus on adult formal educational opportunities being led by a fantastic adult education committee of seasoned and new leaders to help us rebalance our programming to offer both informal living room learning experiences and more formalized opportunities for personal growth and education.

But before we all plan ahead for a hopefully restful and reinvigorating summer and next year, there is much going on at LT in May and June. In honor of Yom Hashoah on May 1, inside this newsletter you will read the stories of our second generation members whose families suffered in the Holocaust and let their personal experiences help us appreciate what we have and how important it is to learn from these personal narratives and share l'dor va dor with our children and others.

Come celebrate our own LT artists' creations at the Art Show on Saturday, May 4th. In commemorating Israel's 71st birthday at Shabbat Yisrael on May 10th, see inside this newsletter the quotes and pictures from our members who experienced the transformative second timers LT trip to Israel in February.

Consider joining our group attending the Consultation on Conscience May 19. Come celebrate our graduating seniors at 12th Grade Blessing & Dinner, and kvell in the Sinai statements of our confirmands in the celebration of Shavuot June 8 and 9. And last, but certainly not least, come to the first shabbat in June to thank Rabbi Miller for her lasting contribution to LT before she starts her next adventure.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer. Hope to see you at our lay lead Shabbat services and chevrah Torah study over the summer.

With sweetness for a joyful spring and summer,

Stacey Chervin Sigda
President

Yom Hashoah Commemoration

Wednesday, May 1, 7 p.m.

"For the survivor who chooses to testify, it is clear: his duty is to bear witness for the dead and for the living. He has no right to deprive future generations of a past that belongs to our collective memory."

Elie Wiesel



Guest Speaker: Sybil Ehrlich

Please join us for Yom Hashoah Services as we remember and bear witness to the Holocaust. Our special guest speaker is Sybil Ehrlich, now 94. Her family fled Germany in 1933, at about the same time the Nazis rose to power. When the Nazi's occupied Holland and started deporting Jews to "work camps" they went into hiding in the Netherlands (in The Hague) for 3 years with her older sister, her mother and father but were miraculously not discovered by the Nazis unlike Anne Frank. They were aided by many righteous gentiles in Holland who helped them survive. Sybil Ehrlich will share her family's story of survival, her father's courage to venture out of their hiding place, an apartment without electricity, in search of food and supplies.

2nd Generation Share their Family Histories....

Sandy Soule & Diane Wolf



Rosel Wolf

Her father, Joseph Fruchter, served (unwillingly) in the German army during World War I. He shared quarters with a Christian man from his town. That army buddy died before the Nazis took power, and his son became a Nazi. Rosel's brother-in-law, Julius, was targeted for arrest as were most young Jewish men. The Nazi group came to

arrest Julius during a family dinner and they were led by the son of Joseph's army buddy. Joseph stood up and confronted the Nazis; telling the leader that his father would have been ashamed of him. Rosel thought the family might all be killed, but the Nazi son turned his group around and left. Julius fled and eventually the whole family joined him in Providence, Rhode Island.

Arthur Wolf

Arthur, as an Austrian, had more freedom of travel throughout Europe in the late 1930s. He continued on business trips for the family business and saw how terrible things had become for German Jews. Arthur and his friends formed a small band of smugglers, taking gold out of Germany and setting up accounts at Swiss banks. This enabled German Jews (who were limited to taking about

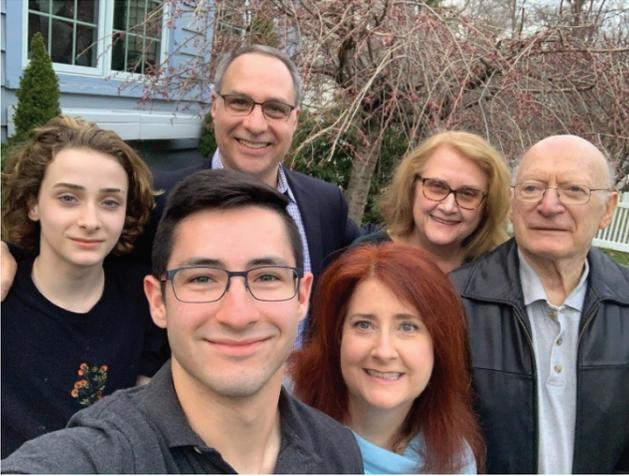
\$4.00 out of Germany) to leave and seek asylum. Later they smuggled Kosher salami into Germany where Kosher meat was not available. It is not known how many Jews were saved, but it is known that Arthur and his friends would have been killed if discovered.



Our parents' experiences influenced us in many ways. Some that stand out may seem contradictory but are logical for us. They taught us not to get attached to things; important attachments are to family, friends, community and education.

They wanted us to recognize warning signs that might lead to fleeing the country, as they had to do. They also taught us to enjoy every day. They wanted us to celebrate all the good in our lives and to do that together whenever possible.

Julie Zilberberg



My Father's Side: When the Jews of Koziénice, Poland were forced into a ghetto, my paternal grandparents decided that they would flee and hide in the forest. My grandfather Sidney owned a lumberyard, and knew the forest, and knew many non-Jewish Poles. My dad, Charlie, was two years old at the time, and his baby brother, just months old.

My grandpa Sidney led around 100 Jews into the forest, insisting that everyone would make it, regardless of age or health. My father, Charlie, remembers not having shoes on his feet for the very long walk. Pine needles and branches hurt his little feet. With his parents carrying everything they could, and carrying his baby brother, no one could carry him, a 2 year old. With little food, winter in the forest was harsh and difficult. Sadly, my dad's baby brother did not survive at 5 months old.

Sometime after this, my dad and his parents were captured by the Nazis and sent to a labor camp. There, they experienced many years of starvation, and the horrors of a concentration camp. My dad was about 7 years old when they were finally liberated. Emaciated and sick, they walked and took the occasional train, managing to get to Cremona, Italy where they remained for two years. My dad was in a hospital run by Catholic nuns so he could regain his health, but he experienced a lot of anti-Semitism there. Once well enough, they went to a displaced persons camp in Trani, Italy. My dad already spoke Yiddish, and understood Polish and German, had learned Italian, and was then learning Hebrew, because they fully expected to go to Israel. No other country would take them. They eventually found a relative in New York and came to the United States in early 1950. My dad was then 11, and spent the rest of his childhood and teen years on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx. He became a chemist. My grandparents discovered that 3 of my grandma Ruth's younger brothers had survived Auschwitz and Buchenwald. The brothers had settled in Paris. To this day, we continue to be close with their descendants, our French family.

My Mother's Side: My mother's parents, Izzy and Sophie, were together when bombs started falling all around them in Dvinsk, Latvia. They began running with just the clothes on their backs, leaving behind parents, siblings, as well as my grandfather's abundant wealth. They ran through Europe, Iran, the Middle East, ending up in Nairobi, Kenya. They survived many hardships and harrowing situations, avoiding capture. They ended up in a displaced persons camp in Nairobi where my mother, Barbara, was born. Later, they lived in Tanganyika. While in town one day, my grandma Sophie happened to notice an American newspaper featuring a doctor from New York who had won a special award. She recognized him as a relative of my grandfather, solely on the basis of having seen a photo back in Dvinsk years before. They wrote to him and asked if he could sponsor them to come to the U.S.



They had to wait many years before being allowed into the U.S. There were quotas for Jews of Eastern European descent and they were full. They eventually came in 1950 when my mother was 7 years old. My mother spoke Russian, understood Polish, and spoke English. She grew up in Richmond Hill, Queens, and later became a school psychologist. My parents met on a blind date and married soon after.

What are the lessons taken from these experiences? Life is a blessing. With the love and backing of our family, not only is it possible to persevere, but to flourish, even under the most harrowing and dire circumstances. Luck, the gifts of intuition, and a bit of ingenuity all help, too. It's important to become educated; it's something that can never be taken away. Take care on a daily basis of our health and strength, so we're able to withstand issues that may come up in life. Be thankful for the freedoms, privileges and blessings we enjoy. Remain vigilant and guard against anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination and prejudice. Support Israel and its ability to accept Jews. And be part of a loving and supportive community, beginning with family, that allows us all to grow, live on and bloom.

Wendy Sandler



I am the daughter of a Holocaust survivor...My mother's story is so very different from the many stories that people hear so often. While she recalls the horrors of the Holocaust including losing her family home, never finding her father, constantly lacking food and being on the run, she does not remember the horrors and utter devastation suffered by so many. She was never detained in a camp but instead lived her life during the war as a Hidden Child under false identification.

My mother, Rita Lowenstein was born in Warsaw, Poland in December 1932. She experienced a childhood of privilege and loneliness as she was mostly raised by her governess. When the Nazis invaded Poland in September 1939, my mother's family was forced to move to the small Ghetto. My mother was now surrounded by family and cousins. She loved being part of a larger family and saw it as a time of adventure and excitement. There were constantly people to socialize with so she was no longer lonely and the residents of the ghetto still had plenty of food to eat. Was it her optimism that allowed her to focus on what was good in life instead of the utter devastation that others saw? Eventually, my mother and grandmother had to evacuate the small Ghetto and make their way to the countryside of Poland, moving around constantly, they were literally on the run from Klimantov to Lvov to Breslau, back to Lvov and finally Lodz.



It was during this time as they moved under the cover of darkness, dressed as peasants, that my mother and grandmother were able to obtain false identities. They became two Polish Catholic peasants. It was also at this time that they lost touch with my mother's father, never to be found again. My mother and grandmother ended up living in a Catholic Convent. My grandmother worked in the kitchen of the Parish house and my mother went to school in the convent. My mother was the perfect little Catholic school girl. She carried the cross, took communion and recited all of the prayers. The Priest affiliated with the Parish recognized that something was amiss with my grandmother and mother and

he guessed that they were Jews. This righteous priest falsified Baptismal papers for my Mom and grandmother to lend credibility to their fake documents, stating they were Catholic Polish citizens. It wasn't till after the Holocaust ended that my mother actually learned she was Jewish.

My grandmother and mother spent five years after the war in Paris, France awaiting their visas to permit emigration to the United States. They arrived and were settled with the help of HIAS. I am the child of a Holocaust survivor and an immigrant. One of my mother's biggest regrets is that she didn't nominate the Priest to be honored amongst the Righteous Gentiles at Yad Va Shem in Israel.



My mother taught us to always believe in the goodness of others, and to look at the glass half full. She is the eternal optimist. She is the poster child for being resilient and is definitely the most positive person I know. One of her favorite life lessons is: Remember that often it is the little acts of kindness that make the biggest difference. It is through my work as a gallery educator at the Museum of Jewish Heritage, A Living Memorial to the Holocaust that I am able to teach the lessons of the Holocaust and pay it forward. I am also proud to be a member of the Speakers Bureau at the Holocaust and Human Rights Center. Today it is vital that we continue to teach the lessons of anti-Semitism and to Never Forget. Be an Upstander.... L" Dor Va Dor.

Abigail Pogrebin...My Jewish Year

Yom Hashoah...In 1953 after two years of argument in the Knesset (Zionists who had been part of the Nazi resistance wanted Yom Hashoah to fall on the anniversary of the Warsaw uprising, April 19—so that Jews would honor strength, not just their execution) Ben Gurion found a middle ground: Yom Hashoah would fall on the 27th of Nisan, not too close to Passover and not on Tisha B'Av. In Israel, every year on Yom HaShoah at 10 a.m. the air raid sirens wail with chilling volume and everything stops—traffic, commerce, conversations. It's an arresting portrait: the world halts for two minutes of frozen tribute. It's breathtaking to watch a nation stop for memory.

Yom HaZikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, was created in 1963 for fallen soldiers and victims of terror. It is for those who died for a country that became every Jew's automatic, international refuge. It is for Israel's fighters, whether they chose to wear a uniform or were accidental soldiers.

Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day. "More students are grappling with how to embrace Israel without triumphalism...I'm glad our students are reflective about how to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut sensitively...but I worry that it's become almost politically incorrect to celebrate Israel's founding at all. That we worry about how we're perceived, unsure whether to celebrate, I wouldn't say it's chilling, but I would say it's concerning," says Michael Simon, a Hillel Director.



I have been to Israel many times. This particular journey was special; it was intimate and personal and altogether inspiring. I love Israel. It is the only place in the world, and I have travelled a lot, where I can say I feel almost as at home as I feel at home in Larchmont. Each time I travel to Israel my feelings become stronger. Not only in favor of its existence but in favor of Israel as a whole. Of course being in Israel is eye opening. Israel is complicated. There will always be negative press and there will always be news that either isn't reported or reported in a skewed way. None of it deters me, in fact, just the opposite. I feel more motivated to learn, to understand perspectives and to keep digging.

--Amy Lieberman



Israel has always been to me the land of heroes. I was thirteen on my first visit to Israel, learning about the Holocaust and how the State of Israel was born. Sealed by Entebbe, I thought Israelis were the smartest and bravest of all people. In recent years with the current Israeli government, worsening issues with the Palestinians, and anti-Semitism burgeoning, Israel has been getting a great deal of negative press. I had last been to Israel with my husband, twenty years ago—right before the 2nd intifada. It was hard to visualize the fighting and killing and it was very painful to think of even one Israeli injured or worse.

This February trip with Rabbi Sirkman was rejuvenating and renewing. We met great people and groups and saw, firsthand, the work being done to bring Israelis and Arabs together as human beings. We had a wonderful dinner in the home of an Orthodox rabbi and his family and learned how much more we have in common than apart. And so I now, once again, see Israel as the land of Hope (Hatikva) where with incredibly hard work and good feelings, people can come together in friendship. I want to go back with my daughter so she too can experience the wonder and joy of our Homeland.
--Carole Sears



My fourth journey to Israel did not disappoint. I continue to feel a sense of ease, happiness and pride, whenever I'm there. I look at all the beautiful faces of the people around me, and feel like I am being welcomed home. This is a rare experience in today's world. This journey was even more special, because of the closeness of our group, and unforgettable experiences we shared. When you're able to see everyday life up close, you feel less a tourist, and more like you belong.
--Vicki Hauben



Library Corner by Ze'ev Aviezer

We are nearing the end of the "Temple Year" and the library purchased books that you may want to read over the summer, or even sooner.

Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity & Love

by Dani Shapiro. New York Times Editors' Choice, A Washington Post, Vulture, Bustle, Real Simple, PopSugar, and LitHub Most Anticipated Book of 2019. "Profound...The true drama of Inheritance is not Shapiro's discovery of her father's identity but the meaning she makes of it...Shapiro's account is beautifully written and deeply moving.—Ruth Franklin, The New York Times Book Review

The Female Persuasion: A Novel by Meg Wolitzer...

"Wolitzer's ultra-readable latest illuminates the oceanic complexity of growing up female and ambitious—and reveals the author's substantial insight into the tangles of gender and power."—*Vogue*

"Uncannily timely, a prescient marriage of subject and moment that addresses a great question of the day: how feminism passes down, or not, from one generation to the next."—*The New York Times*

Paul Simon – A Life by Marc Eliot...**The definitive biography of legendary singer-songwriter Paul Simon.**

One of the country's most popular musicians and a dynamic creative force for more than half a century. Eliot draws on extensive research and original interviews to trace the incredible life and career of Simon, his early struggles, the ups and downs of his decades-long collaboration with Art Garfunkel, his at-times obsessive admiration and competitive drive with Bob Dylan, his triumphs and failures.

The Abu Dhabi Bar Mitzvah: Fear and Love in the Modern Middle East by Adam Valen Levinson...

Armed only with college Arabic and restless curiosity, the author sets out to "learn about the world 9/11 made us fear." From a base in globalized and sterilized Abu Dhabi, he sets out to lunch in Taliban territory, travels under the watchful eye of Syria's secret police, risks shipwreck en route to Somalia, investigates Yazidi beliefs in a sacred cave, cliff dives in Oman, celebrates New Year's Eve in Tahrir Square, and, at every turn, discovers a place that matches not at all with its reputation. Levinson crosses borders with wisecracking humor, erudition, and humanity, seeking common ground with "bros" everywhere, and finding that people who pray differently often laugh the same. He slowly learns how childish it is to live by decisions and distinctions born of fear.



Counting UP...

How do we make time truly count?

Passover actually initiates a method for marking the days that is not so much a countdown as it is a 'counting-up.' How so?...

Starting the second day of Pesach, as Jews recall the elevation offering, the Omer of Barley brought to the Holy Temple, we follow the ancient custom, noting each day by numbering it ...WHY?...

Traditionally speaking...commanded to count every day for seven weeks straight culminating on Shavu'ot, the spring harvest Festival, we simultaneously celebrate the gift of receiving God's Torah on Day 50... But beyond a big build-up to Revelation, the count must mean more...

Indeed, there is a journey we undertake by Counting Up...

According to The RAV [Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, 20th century teacher/leader of Modern Orthodoxy] the practice of counting days aloud makes us aware of where we have been, and where we are going.

Just consider...

We've made it out of Egyptian slavery, but living that liberation is a process.

How can we learn to navigate the negative influences of our lives that would compromise our freedom?

How can we confront the inner forces that constrict our growth; that keep us from being our best/most sacred selves?

How will we live a life of greater [even Godly] purpose?

How can we use the gifts that are ours to make each day count?

The Kabbalists [Later Medieval Mystics, 16th century S'fat] understood the Counting of the Omer as equivalent to our climbing the ladder of spiritual refinement; each week focused on a key rung of Kabbalah's emanations—divine energies—that can lead to transforming our character. Each week brings a core quality, and a corresponding question for spiritual-life growth...



Watch for an email sign up for Counting the Omer.

WEEK 1= Chesed—LOVINGKINDNESS...

HOW do we make our heart's love real through the lives we live?

WEEK 2= Gevurah—DISCIPLINE...

HOW do we harness our inner fortitude to live-strong?

WEEK 3= Tiferet—BEAUTY...

HOW does our understanding of life's beauty inform the values we make real?

WEEK 4= Netzach—COMMITMENT...

HOW does our inner-fortitude drive us to be true to ourselves?

WEEK 5= Hod—SPLENDOR...

HOW do we reflect Life's goodness/glory through the relationships we share?

WEEK 6= Y'sod—FOUNDATION...

HOW do we balance power & presence to create life-equilibrium?

WEEK 7= Malchut—DIGNITY...HOW do our actions make the Nobility of the human Spirit shine?

Framing the cycle of weeks with a key question, one of seven different LT Voices will share insights, reflections and spiritual wisdom to move us forward on our journey towards Sinai. ...And how will we know if we are ready to receive God's Revelation when day 50 arrives? IF we get the sense that every day we are Counting Up to make real a ONE-ness beyond number; that like the spiritual growth we seek, our count of covenant living never ceases...Then we are indeed ready to make each day count...

JS

FROM CANTOR TRACEY SCHER



Women's Retreat Reflections

During the weekend of March 29-31, fifty-two women from our LT community gathered for a weekend together to share in the experience of living Shabbat. The weekend, entitled, *The Power of Pause*, gave us the space to join our voices, our hearts and our unique personalities in prayer, singing, learning and playing. New friends were made, old friends came together, and most importantly, we all gave ourselves the *gift of time*.



Learning Opportunities included: Sharing stories/recipes of Favorite Foods, Making your own Family Haggadah, Self-care for the body and mind, and Mah-Jong for all. Morning activities included: Meditation, Yoga, morning walks and Fitness training. Prayer experiences included: Shabbat evening and morning, Healing Circle and Havdallah.

And of course, we acted silly at Karaoke and on down-time.

Everyone had a chance to reflect on their experience – Here are just a few:
One of the most interesting aspects of the women's retreat was spending time with women who I had never spoken to before the weekend and we became fast friends. All of us came with a similar goal of connecting with others from the community in a meaningful way while receiving some energy and peace of mind along the way. And we all got that. It was a remarkable and rewarding journey to take time out for spiritual rejuvenation, spend time with dear friends and connect with new ones. (LR)

I had a weekend that exceeded my expectations! We had our fabulous clergy: Cantor Scher, Rabbi Rudin, Rabbi Miller and Emma to lead us in spiritual, comforting, restorative services as each person there was welcomed with open hearts. We had activities and laughs, cries and support, and meals and so much fun and we emerged from this Pause in our busy lives with an amazing feeling of connection. ALL WOMEN!!! And all Wonderful! (SL)

The weekend exceeded my expectations. Taking a "pause" and meeting so many women was what I needed. The spiritually, energy, and love were palpable. I didn't want the weekend to end and to leave "the circle". (TW)

I hope this Women's Retreat is the beginning of a Larchmont Temple tradition. It was heartening to have a shared experience with a diverse group of women, encompassing many different emotional realms, from Kiddush to Kaddish to karaoke - spirited in every sense of the word! (MFM)

The heart and soul of LT was alive and well at the Women's Retreat! We laughed, we learned, we relaxed... together...as sisters, spanning many generations. It was wonderful. (MK)

The LT Women's Retreat was a unifying, spiritual and uplifting experience. I got to spend the weekend with both long time LT friends and temple members I never knew. We shared services, meals and workshops, personal stories, emotions and laughter. We emerged as a whole, cohesive and supportive group and consider one another family. I look forward to not only seeing everyone again, but to the next LT Women's Retreat, which we all agreed, cannot come soon enough. (LC)

Summer Service Leading Opportunity! Leader Prep Session Thursday, May 23 6:30 p.m.

Have you ever thought about leading a Summer Shabbat Service? Are you interested in learning how to chant from the Torah, deliver a drash, teach an iyyun (an introductory perspective to liturgy or Torah), or lead part of the service? We can help you become the service leader that you always wanted to be! Please contact Cantor Scher at tscher@larchmonttemple.org if you would like more information. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

LT CONNECTS **small groups**



TWITTER

@ShelleyBMayer quoted your Tweet and said: Special honor to meet with my constituents who feel their moral duty to speak up for our immigrant neighbors! Thank you #RAC for your support of @GreenLightNYDT! twitter.com/jendawnmitchel...

LT goes to Albany to lobby with RAC-NY for NYS Driver's Licenses for all!

Join Larchmont Temple's Delegation!



Come with Larchmont Temple to Washington, D.C. from **May 19-21** for the Religious Action Center's Consultation on Conscience! The Consultation is dedicated to training and empowering Jewish leaders like us 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. We would love to have you be part of Larchmont Temple's delegation, 14 of us and counting! You can register at <https://rac.org/consultation-conscience-2019>. For more information, contact Jennifer Mitchell, mitchelljennifer214@gmail.com, 917-731-7459 or Lynn Reichgott, lreich@att.net, 914-833-0774.

Small Group Mussar, Chair: Ilona Shinkar

Our group has been on the journey of learning and practicing Mussar for the last three years. We started the year when Larchmont Temple adopted Mussar as a theme of the year and have been exploring it ever since. Mussar, in simple terms, is a practical set of teachings by Mussar masters, originated in 19th Century Lithuania which helps cultivate personal growth and find one's own spiritual curriculum. It sounds very new age-y, but in reality, it's a clear set of practices that help us better ourselves.

There are 10 of us in the group, some people joined this year and others have been continuing since the inception of the group. I personally have been reading about Mussar for a while before starting the group. After attending a Cornerstone Leadership program I wanted to find a way to be more involved at the temple, and utilize my skills and interests. They all aligned through Mussar practice. We meet once a month on a Thursday evening and talk about a chapter or two from the book "Everyday Holiness" by Alan Morinis. We see each other as Mussar practitioners, so on a given week we might be talking about the soul-trait of Humility or Generosity and how it shows up in our everyday lives. We talk about what soul traits constitute our personal spiritual curriculum and how we can strengthen them. The most satisfying for me is to witness a few a-ha moments during our time together.

As Rabbi Bethie very eloquently said in her opening prayer for small groups, "our time together is *kadosh*" - we look at that hour as holy and any personal discoveries that come after become holy as well. I knew a few of my fellow groupies, but not all, we certainly created new relationships and connections through our Mussar practice.

Small Group J.O.E.'S Introduces Community Supported Agriculture



In an effort to bring the spirit of our LT Small Group J.O.E.S to the wider community, we are thrilled to introduce a new model of a community supported agriculture

or CSA available for home delivery to members of our community interested in getting access to fresh, local and sustainably raised food! We need a minimum of 15 families to sign-up and delivery would begin in June and run through the whole year!

You can expect food that is incredibly fresh, grown and harvested with great care, and produced without pesticides, without synthetic fertilizers, without genetically modified organisms, and with the highest degree of animal welfare and environmental stewardship.

Please let us know if you are interested in signing up for this exciting program. Here is the link for more information about the CSA, how they work and what you can expect from this wonderful company: <https://goodfoodfarmers.com/>

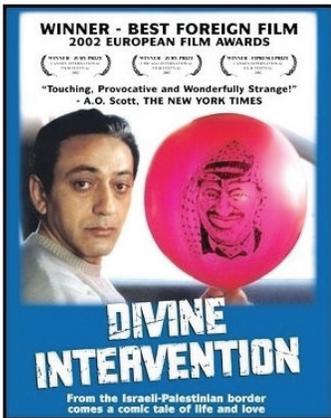
If you have questions regarding J.O.E.'s, please contact Leah Katznelson, leahkatznelson1@gmail.com.

Calendar of LT Happenings...May & June

Sunday April 28 at 4 p.m.

Larchmont Temple Film Festival

Divine Intervention



At the center of the Middle East conflict, hearts beat in tragic comedy and deadpan irony: a sexy young Palestinian woman struts through a check-point as if it were the catwalk of a fashion show, Santa Claus is chased up the sun-drenched hills of Nazareth by a gang of knife-wielding school kids, a Palestinian collaborator extinguishes his firebombed house on a daily basis. Just a

few of the provocative images in this film.

Wednesday, May 1, 7 p.m.

Yom Hashoah Commemoration



Join us as we remember and honor those who perished in the Holocaust. Our guest speaker is Sybil Ehrlich. See page 3 for more details.

Saturday, May 4, & June 1 at 9 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

Saturday, May 4 - Friday, May 24

4th Annual Temple Members Art Show

Opening reception: Saturday, May 4, 6 p.m.

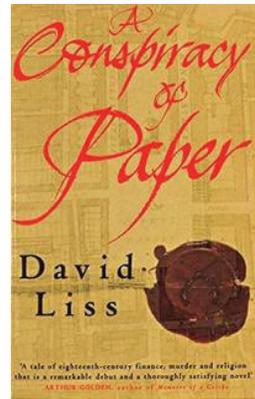


We have a very talented community of artists and sculptors among our members. Please stop by and enjoy the scope of their talent! We'll have wine & cheese at the opening reception.

Wednesday, May 8, 7:45 p.m.

LT Book Group

A Conspiracy of Paper by Michael Liss



Benjamin Weaver, a Jew and an ex-boxer, is an outsider in eighteenth-century London, tracking down debtors and felons for aristocratic clients. The son of a wealthy stock trader, he lives estranged from his family—until he is asked to investigate his father's sudden death. Thus Weaver descends into the deceptive world of the English stock jobbers, gliding between coffee houses and gaming houses, drawing rooms and bordellos. The

more Weaver uncovers, the darker the truth becomes, until he realizes that he is following too closely in his father's footsteps—and they just might lead him to his own grave. An enthralling historical thriller, *A Conspiracy of Paper* will leave readers wondering just how much has changed in the stock market in the last three hundred years. . . .Join us in the library. Amy Goldman will lead this book group. Questions? Contact contact Amy at amyjjig@aol.com. All are welcome, no RSVP's are necessary.

Thursday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.

Your Career: The Next Step

Downsized? An early retired professional? Starting over? Changing fields? Learn the ABC's of a successful job search in today's on-line climate. The workshop includes how to access websites, decode job descriptions, compose an effective cover letter, write a winning resume, generate helpful personal and professional contacts, optimize your experience and strengths, and get the job/position of your choice. Temple member Nada Beth Glick, Ed.D. has 20+ years of experience administering college counseling, and/or job and career departments at Sarah Lawrence College, Westchester Community College/SUNY, and Yeshiva College, working with adults all ages and occupations. In private practice, her special interests are career development and adult learning.

Tuesday, May 14, 12 noon

Let's Do Lunch: Rabbi Sirkman & Cantor Scher

Rabbi and Cantor have led several trips to Israel over the past few years and are scheduled to lead another in February 2020. They'll share some of their most memorable experiences and why Israel means so much to them.

Friday, May 17

**12th Grade Celebration Dinner & Dessert
for Graduating Seniors & Their Families**

6 p.m. Dinner (reservations required) & Dessert

7 p.m. Shabbat Service & 12th Grade Blessing

If you have a senior and would like to give them a great send-off as they begin the next chapter in their lives, please join us at temple for Shabbat Services & a Special Blessing on Friday May 17. If you'd like to volunteer to make a favorite dessert, or help set tables, please contact cynthiaw@larchmonttemple.org.

Thursday, May 23, 6:30 p.m.

Summer Service Leader Prep Session

Have you ever thought about leading a Summer Shabbat Service? We can help you become the service leader that you always wanted to be! Please contact Cantor Scher at tscher@larchmonttemple.org. See page 9 for more details.

Friday, June 7th
Service of Tribute
In Gratitude for
RABBI BETHIE MILLER'S
FIVE YEARS OF SACRED SERVICE
TO LARCHMONT TEMPLE
6:30pm Festive Pre-Oneg
7:00pm Shabbat Worship

Abigail Pogrebin...My Jewish Year...

Lag B'Omer In the 2nd century, 24,000 students who studied with the famed Rabbi Akiva were killed by a vicious plague. What sin made Akiva's students deserve such a wipeout? "They did not treat each other with respect." That's the sole explanation in the Talmud. Rabbi Jill Jacobs explains, "The punishment for Rabbi Akiva's students is a bit of a warning...what God doesn't want from us. That we're so deep in what we think is our own truth that we can't engage with each other. There have to be relationships. It can't just be, 'I know my truth and therefore I'm not going to engage. Akiva's students didn't behave respectfully to one another, and it was actually destroying the world.'"

Shavuot This Torah giving moment marks the beginning of Judaism. The Israelites were in a precarious state after decades of slavery in Egypt. They survived the desert with little food and water. They came to the foot of Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments. We signed on accepting the law and agreeing to live by it. This is when we became Jews, when we graduated from an enslaved people to an autonomous one. We were at the mercy of others; finally we governed ourselves. Shavuot brings us back to our contract with God and each other.



Saturday, June 8

7:30 p.m. Erev Shavuot Services

Receiving Torah Anew...Join in festival service as we celebrate Torah's renewal and bless our 10th Grade Confirmands. (Sanctuary)

9 p.m. Tikun Layl Shavuot

Share in the Kabbalistic Tradition of 'Late-Night Torah' through a Text Exploration involving multiple Learning Circles with our Confirmands sharing their God-discoveries. Enjoy our ice-cream sundae extravaganza and special Dairy-Dessert for Shavuot. (Garden Room)

Sunday, June 9, 10:30 a.m.

**Shavuot Festival Worship/
Kabbalat Torah & Yizkor**

Join as our 10th Graders lead us in Torah/Haftarah sharing snippets from their Sinai Statements as the running commentary of Worship. Celebrating their Confirmation, receiving & teaching us Torah.

2019/5779 Confirmation Class

- Sela Breen*
- Anna Daum*
- Josh Dunford*
- Adam Friedman*
- Nathan Friedman*
- Matthew Gensburg*
- Owen Karpeles*
- Alexander Levin-Santalone*
- Maya Lewis*
- Kate Metzendorf*
- Nathaniel Reynoso*
- Courtney Ross*
- Thomas Seward*
- Nora Shefferman*
- Ethan Zenker and*
- Amanda Zerbib*

YIZKOR—Our Service of Remembrance will be part of the festival AM worship. Reception immediately follows services.

Brotherhood Year in Review



There was a period in the Summer of 2017, as I stepped into my role as President of Brotherhood, that I was concerned for the future of our organization. We were facing an existential question: Was a men's group still relevant in the 21st century? Two years later, as I enter the final months of my term, I am proud to say the Brotherhood is vital, re-energized and fully committed to its mission of educating, entertaining, informing and inspiring the LT community.

Below is a top-line recap of our the 2018-19 year. I hope that you will continue to support us with your presence and your membership dues, which are vital to fulfilling our mission.

Lox & Bagel Breakfasts - Brotherhood hosted 8 amazing breakfasts with the largest cumulative attendance in decades!

- Ted Rosenthal, world-renown jazz pianist (thanks Jill Sarkozi)
- Amotz Eyal, Founder of independent Israeli news organization, Tazpit (thanks to Darren Levine)
- Martin Tankleff, sued Suffolk County for wrongful imprisonment (thanks Adam Deutsch)
- George Latimer, County Executive for Westchester County (thanks to Ian Spier)
- Rachel Fisher, Producer, "I Shall Not Be Silent" Rabbi, Joachim Prinz (thanks Marty Kanengiser)
- Chavie Weisberger, Director of Community Engagement, Footsteps (thanks Jon Birger)
- Oren Segal, Director of the ADL's Center on Extremism
- Spring Scholar-in-Residence, Rabbi Larry Hoffman

Fall Blood Drive with the American Red Cross - For those of you who donated blood this past Fall, thank you! We had a very successful Fall drive (41 units collected, impacting 123 lives!) and in fact had 60 online registrations for the Spring drive before it was cancelled by the ARC.

22nd Annual Yom HaShoah candle mailing - Once again the Brotherhood gathered to order, assemble and distribute Yom HaShoah candles at no charge to every member of LT.

Contributions to life and celebrations at LT -

We support the national Men of Reform Judaism; donate funding for b'nai mitzvah books; greet at Shabbat morning services; fund the LT softball team.

If you have any thoughts on breakfast speakers or thoughts for the Brotherhood, I hope you will share them with me (kahnventures@gmail.com). And don't forget to join our Facebook page!

Warmest regards for a healthy and enjoyable Summer,
David Kahn

FROM RABBI EVE RUDIN



We have big news to share about LT's Educational Mission and Program next year! First, be on the lookout for a new look and logo and more importantly.... our new name: **KESHER**

Learn. Explore. Connect.

Why a new name? Religious School nomenclature such as "school," "classes," "teachers" and "classrooms" no longer convey the culture of engaging, joyful and experiential education we seek to create at LT. *Kesher* means connection and our new name and tagline will better convey our Jewish community and engagement goals for our learners and families. Second, there will be two pathways to choose from next year for our K – 6 Families:

Family Discovery Programs: Based upon the success of our current family discovery programs, we are pleased to offer a full menu of programs for the entire K – 6 population. Families come together for learning and Shabbat/Holiday celebrations. Older learners will come to the Temple once a week for Hebrew. More information will follow in May through email and on the Temple's website.

KESHER K – 6 Learner-Only Programs:

Camp LT: Grades K – 3 Based upon the success of our current Grade 2 Camp LT Day Camp Model, campers experience community building and engaging Jewish learning activities. Family Education takes place 1-2 times per year.

Sundays 10 am – 12 pm

LT Explores: Grades 4 – 6 Learners will choose a Jewish lens to learn and explore Judaism such as Visual Arts, Sci-Tech, Theater Arts, Music, Literary Book Group or Mitzvah Corps.

Grades 4 & 5 Sundays (10 am – 12 pm) OR Mondays (3:30 – 5:30 pm) AND Wednesdays (3:30 – 5:30 pm)

Grade 6 Tuesdays (3:30 – 5:30 pm) and Wednesdays (3:30 – 5:30 pm) *A Wednesday 4:15 – 6:15 pm option is also available.*

Be sure to be on the lookout for more details through emails and the Temple website in May. **Registration for next year will begin at the end of May.** Need to talk through your decision? Please be in touch with Rabbi Rudin, Director of Education, Youth and Families at ERudin@larchmonttemple.org.

Zero Waste Update: Over the past year, Larchmont Temple has taken steps to support global sustainability through energy management and waste reduction. Working with Con Edison we've upgraded lighting to reduce energy consumption, zoning of the Temple's heating, and installed new air conditioning units for the Sanctuary and social hall. The Temple has also been using compostable plates, cups and cutlery for Temple events. There are signs above all waste bins to help identify how to dispose of waste materials. The Temple has arranged for pick-up of the compost waste which is brought to a composting facility and converted for gardening use. We are also working with other local houses of worship who are implementing similar programs, and hope to arrange more efficient compost pick up in the future. Much progress has been made, please continue to help the Temple community in this effort. Zero Waste Task Force contacts: Paul Katzenstein, pkatzenste@aol.com or Marlene Kolbert, gmkolbert@msn.com.

Our deepest sympathies to the family of

Arline Fine, mother of Judy and Jeff, grandmother of Ali, Sam, Alex, Gwen & Susie
 Mark Litt, father of Steven & Helen
 David Schwartzman, father of Michael Schwartzman
 Harry Gordon, stepfather of Sheri Danehy
 Doris J.W. Escher, mother of Dara Gordon
 Elke Pasternack, mother of Fiona Blanco
 Melinda Bond, sister of Dan Karson
 Robert Geber, father of Jackie Eisenband
 Morris Scheffler, father of Michael Scheffler
 Ethel Nanes, mother of Marilyn Orfinger



THANK YOU

RABBI SIRKMAN'S MITZVAH FUND

In gratitude and in honor of our son, Noah, becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Daniel & Sarah Sodickson**
 In gratitude for officiating at the naming ceremony for our granddaughter Zelda Jane Yagoda by **Skip & Debra Stuart**
 In gratitude for creating a L'Dor VaDor moment at naming of our granddaughter Sylvie by **Yvette & Mark Goorevitch**
 In gratitude for the naming ceremony of Gary's granddaughter, Zoe Babbitt by **Gary Rones & Nancy Moskowitz**
 In gratitude for officiating at the wedding of Sam Kahler & Leigh Rome by **Judy & Tim Kahler**
 In gratitude for officiating at the wedding of Zachary Berger & Randi Bushell by **Carolyn Berger and Daniel Berger**
 In gratitude & in honor of Maria's conversion by **Maria & Jason Drattell**
 In gratitude for officiating at the funeral of Judy's mother, Arline Fine by **Judy & Tim Kahler**
 In gratitude for the beautiful memorial service for Patti's mother, Louise Garin by **Patti & Danny Abelson**
 In gratitude for the memorial service for my husband, Monroe Adlman by **Donna Crespin**
 In gratitude for officiating at the funeral service for Elisabeth's mother, Alyce Kluger by **Rick Haber & Elisabeth Kluger**
 In gratitude for officiating at the funeral of Charlie's mother, Harriet Rabinowitz by **Wendy Weiner & Rabbi Charles Rabinowitz**
 In memory of Miriam's parents Mollie & Abe Lauterstein by **Miriam & Michael Leo**
 In memory of Bobbi Altersohn by **Marie Wolf**
 by **Saraine Corn**
 In gratitude for your support during the passing of Bobbi Altersohn by **Frank, Amy & Andrew Altersohn & Family**

In memory of my mother-in-law Mary Liebowitz by **Sheila Liebowitz**
 In memory of Karen's mother Jacqueline Cromer by **Karen & Paul Isaac**
 In memory of Karen's father, Holloway Cromer by **Karen & Paul Isaac**

RABBI MILLER'S MITZVAH FUND
 In appreciation by **John & Judy Delehanty**

CANTOR SCHER'S MITZVAH FUND
 In gratitude for your participation in the funeral for Judy's mother, Arline Fine by **Tim & Judy Kahler**
 For your support and officiating at the funeral for Bobbi Altersohn by **Frank, Amy, Andrew Altersohn & Family**
 In gratitude for the shiva service for Charlie's mother, Harriet Rabinowitz by **Wendy Weiner & Rabbi Charles Rabinowitz**
 In gratitude and in honor of our son, Noah, becoming Bar Mitzvah by **Daniel & Sarah Sodickson**

GENERAL FUND
 In honor of Carol Scharff for all her help and support for the shiva for Bobbi Altersohn by **Frank, Amy & Andrew Altersohn & Family**
 In honor of the anniversary of my marriage to Yvonne Tropp by **Alan Epstein**
 In memory of Bobbi Altersohn by **Jill Schoenfeld**
 by **Steven & Beth Korotkin**
 by **Ilissa Herskowitz**
 by **Gail Cohen**
 by **Joan Beck**
 In honor of your special birthdays by **Susan Neider Acunto**

SUSAN SIRKMAN FUND
 In memory of Bobbi Altersohn by **Jane Turk**

MEMORIAL FUND
 In memory of Monroe Adlman by **Carol Spiegel**
 In memory of Ellen Silver's mother and Robin Golden's father by **Peter & Michele Sloane**
 In memory of beloved wife, mother and grandmother. Bobbi will be sorely missed by **Gerald & Joyce Hoch**
 In memory of Bobbi Altersohn by **Joyce & Melvin Meyerson**
 by **Bob & Marion Geller**
 by **Carolyn Davis Sterman**
 by **Christopher & Karen Albert**
 by **Andrew Hoch**
 by **Adele Berger**
 by **Lewis Hoch**
 by **Amy Passen & Family**
 by **Vicki & David Feldman Portman**
 In memory of Ellen Brooks' mom and Midge Baum's dad by **Carol & Matthew Scharff**
 In memory of Fred Hamburger by **Lawrence & Pauline Ungar**

SOCIAL ACTION/TZEDAKAH
 In honor of Joan & David Darling's 50th wedding anniversary by **Linda & Bob Price**
 In gratitude and thanks for Linda & Cynthia for 25 years of terrific service by **Ellen Brooks & Marshall Cohen**
 In memory of Bobbi Altersohn by **Amy Weiner**

CULTURAL ARTS ENDOWMENT
 In honor of the Sklarew family and in memory of Bob by **Arnold & Susan Charow**
 In appreciation of Andy Harrison for leading beautiful shiva service for Charlie's mother, Harriet by **Wendy Weiner & Rabbi Charles Rabinowitz**

May

Wednesday, May 1
7:00 PM Yom Hashoah

Friday, May 3
ACHAREI MOT (Lev. 16:1-18:30)
5:00 PM Young Family Shabbat NS
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM LarFTY Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, May 4
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
9:00 AM Shabbat Yoga
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, May 10
KEDOSHIM (Lev. 19:1-20:27)
5:30 PM Young Family Shabbat K-3
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Shabbat Yisrael

Saturday, May 11
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
10:30 AM Congregational Worship
Bat Mitzvah of Maya Huppert
Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Lipman
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, May 17
EMOR (Lev. 21:1-24:23)
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat
High School Seniors Blessing
3rd Grade Moving Up Ceremony

Saturday, May 18
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
10:30 AM Congregational Worship
Bar Mitzvah of Jonah Kaye
Bat Mitzvah of Julia Metzendorf
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, May 24
BEHAR (Lev. 25:1-26:2)
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, May 25
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, May 31
BECHUKOTAI (Lev. 26:3-27:34)
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

June

Saturday, June 1
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
9:00 AM Shabbat Yoga
10:30 AM Congregational Worship
Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Golub
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, June 7
BEMIDBAR (Num. 1:1-4:20)
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat in thanks
and celebration of Rabbi Bethie Miller

EREV SHAVUOT
Saturday, June 8
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
10:30 AM Congregational Worship
Bat Mitzvah of Abigail Greenblatt
Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Jones
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan
**7:30 PM Erev Shavuot/Yizkor
Consecration Service**
9:15 PM Tikun Layl

SHAVUOT
Sunday, June 9
**10:30 AM Confirmation Service/
Kabbalat Torah**

Friday, June 14
NASO I (Num. 4:21-7:89)
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 15
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, June 21
BEHA'ALOTECHA (Num. 8:1-12:16)
6:30 PM Pre-Oneg
7:00 PM Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 22
9:00 AM Chevrah Torah
10:30 AM Congregational Worship
Bar Mitzvah of Ben Silverberg
10:30 AM Downstairs Minyan

Friday, June 28
SHELACH-LECHA (Num. 13:1-15:41)
7:00 PM **Summer Services begin**



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.

TIKKUN OLAM—REPAIRING THE WORLD

Social Action Opportunities to do good...

April 28, 12 noon – Cooking for Hope... Join us at 12:30 p.m. to cook a delicious meal for people in need. Contact: jill@thesarkozis.net, elissatauber@gmail.com or claytarica@gmail.com.

May 5 - Coachman Family Shelter at Saxon Woods, 1- 3 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer to help with this event email Vicki Ehrlich at drvickiehrlich@aol.com.

May 11 - Midnight Run Help sort clothes, make bagged lunches or go on a run into NYC. Contact: Linda.riefberg@gmail.com.

May 11 - Neighbors for Refugees hosts first annual tag sale at St. John's Episcopal Church. The sale will help refugees who are in need of assistance. Donated items are being accepted on May 10. For more information, visit www.neighborsforrefugees.com.

May 18 – Sarah Neuman Visit 3- 5 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer to help with this event, email Sari Winter, Sariwinter@gmail.com.

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

Larchmont Temple
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Larchmont, NY 10538
914-834-6120

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LT End of Year Celebration!
Monday, June 17th
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Schmooze
7:30 p.m. Annual Meeting
(including election & installation of the Board &
Recognition of our Minyan of Mensches)
Before we set off on Summer adventures,
let's gather and celebrate the culmination of the year.
Watch the Friday email for more details.

