

# Wrtimes

2022-23 WINTER



Westchester Reform Temple

**WESTCHESTER REFORM TEMPLE**  
Phone: 914-723-7727 / Fax: 914-723-5946  
receptionist@wrtemple.org

**JEWISH LEARNING LAB (JLL)**  
Phone: 914-723-5224  
jlladmin@wrtemple.org

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)**  
Phone: 914-723-5493  
ecc@wrtemple.org

255 Mamaroneck Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583

## Contents

- 3** Rabbi's Message
- 4** Worship and Spirituality
- 5** Services and Events
- 6-7** Talmud Torah: Adult Education
- 8** President's Message
- 9** Music of WRT
- 10** Men of Reform Judaism
- 11** Women of Reform Judaism
- 11** Community
- 12** FreeBirds
- 13** Social Impact and Community Engagement Director's Message
- 14-15** Were You There?
- 16-17** Early Childhood Center (ECC)
- 18** Jewish Learning Lab (JLL)
- 19** Mazal Tov!
- 20** Condolences
- 21-23** Contributions

### CLERGY

**Jonathan E. Blake, Senior Rabbi**  
Rabbi.Blake@wrtemple.org

**Amanda Kleinman, Senior Cantor**  
Cantor.Kleinman@wrtemple.org

**Leah Citrin, Associate Rabbi & Jewish Learning Lab Director**  
Rabbi.Citrin@wrtemple.org

**Danielle Rodnizki, Assistant Cantor**  
Cantor.Rodnizki@wrtemple.org

**Sasha Baken, Assistant Rabbi**  
Rabbi.Baken@wrtemple.org

**Mia Fram Davidson, Adjunct Cantor**  
Cantor.Davidson@wrtemple.org

**Isaac Sonett-Assor, Cantorial Intern**  
Isaac.SonettAssor@wrtemple.org

**Richard J. Jacobs, Rabbi Emeritus**

### PROFESSIONAL / ADMIN. STAFF

**Danielle Feigenbaum, Director of Communications**  
Danielle.Feigenbaum@wrtemple.org

**Hillary Fontana, Communications & Information**  
468-0523 / Hillary.Fontana@wrtemple.org

**Lee Furman, Receptionist**  
723-7727 / Lee.Furman@wrtemple.org

**Eli Kornreich, Executive Director**  
Eli.Kornreich@wrtemple.org

**Roberto Medina, Accounting and Payroll Manager**  
468-0521 / Roberto.Medina@wrtemple.org

**Nattalie Rodriguez, Receptionist**  
723-7727 / Nattalie.Rodriguez@wrtemple.org

**Amy Rossberg, Exec. Assistant to Rabbi Blake and Pastoral Care Coordinator**  
468-0522 / Amy.Rossberg@wrtemple.org

**Suzanne Saperstein, Exec. Assistant to Clergy and B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator**  
468-0524 / Suzanne.Saperstein@wrtemple.org

**Sharon Stiefel, Director of Social Impact and Community Engagement**  
Sharon.Stiefel@wrtemple.org

**Lisa Vega, Receptionist**  
723-7727 / Lisa.Vega@wrtemple.org

**Timothy Wagner, Facilities Director**  
Tim.Wagner@wrtemple.org

**Linda Zarra, Bookkeeper**  
723-2391 / Linda.Zarra@wrtemple.org

### JLL STAFF 914-723-5224

**Leah Citrin, Associate Rabbi & Jewish Learning Lab Director**  
Rabbi.Citrin@wrtemple.org

**Jaime Gluska, JLL Database/Financial Administrator**  
Jaime.Gluska@wrtemple.org

**Nancy Abraham, Lead Hebrew Educator and Learning Differences Specialist/ Nancy.Abraham@wrtemple.org**

**Patty Neiman, JLL Administrative Assistant**  
Patty.Neiman@wrtemple.org

### ECC STAFF 914-723-5493

**Susan Tolchin, Director of ECC**  
Sue.Tolchin@wrtemple.org

**Rebecca Roseman, Associate Director of ECC**  
Rebecca.Roseman@wrtemple.org

**Ellen Rosenberg, ECC Administrative Assistant**  
Ellen.Rosenberg@wrtemple.org

**Westchester Reform Temple** is committed to the value of inclusion, and strives to make worship and programming fully accessible. Our building and bima are wheelchair accessible, and the sanctuary is equipped with assistive listening devices and large-print prayer books. ASL interpretation is available for any worship service upon request, and remote viewing of most services is available via webcasting from our website. If you need any additional accommodations to participate in a temple program, please contact Cantor Amanda Kleinman.

**WJCS [Westchester Jewish Community Services]:** Through the *Partners in Caring Program*, WRT is able to offer the support of an onsite Social Worker from WJCS, as well as offer social services to congregants in need.

**UJA-Federation of NY:** We are grateful for a special grant to enable and empower WRT to be the most inclusive congregation we can be. UJA-Federation also facilitates our partnership with the Jewish Deaf Resource Center, to provide ASL interpretation on demand at services and WRT programs.

**URJ [Union for Reform Judaism]:** Our Reform Movement's synagogue arm; WRT is a proud member of the URJ and celebrates the leadership of URJ President, WRT Rabbi Emeritus Rick Jacobs.

**HUC-JIR [Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion]:** WRT supports the HUC-JIR, the official training ground for Reform Jewish professionals.



## Rabbi Blake's Message

Dear friends,

*I am sharing here an excerpt of my remarks from Rosh Ha-Shanah morning, part of a sermon called "The Child Sacrifice We Still Practice." In it, I identify three attributes of Judaism that provide us with hope in desperate times, long-range ethical vision to counterbalance human shortsightedness, and the courage to choose good instead of evil.*

*We are all looking forward to continuing to connect, reconnect, and carry forward the joy and vitality with which we began the Jewish new year into Chanukah and the start of 2023.*

### Sacrifice for the Sake of Others

What shall we teach our children about Judaism, and why it matters? Let us remind them that our tradition insists that we sacrifice of ourselves for the sake of others.

The Book of Esther that we read on Purim teaches this value. Upon learning the news of Haman's impending genocide, Esther, who has up until this point hidden her Jewish identity from the king, initially demurs. "I don't even have an audience with the king," she tells her uncle Mordechai, adding that to appear before the throne without an invitation was an offense punishable by death.

"Do not think that you will escape with

your life just because you're in the king's palace," Mordechai warns, adding: "If you remain silent, someone else may come along to save the Jews, but you and your family line will perish. Perhaps it is for this very reason that you have attained your position of authority." So Esther steels her nerve and declares: "I shall go to the king, even though it's against the law; and if I am to be lost, then I will be lost."<sup>1</sup>

This is the true spirit of our heritage, this, the true meaning of Jewish sacrifice: the willingness to do the right thing even at great personal risk, the courage to make painful choices right here and now, not for ourselves, but for the future of our people and our world.

Judaism does not demand that we become martyrs or lawbreakers for our faith. But it does ask us to put our reputations on the line, our popularity or public standing, to do what is right: to stand up for the vulnerable, to raise a voice in protest at injustice and cruelty, at falsehood and the abuse of power. It asks us to do the hard thing instead of the convenient thing, the counter-cultural thing instead of the fashionable thing, the charitable thing instead of the selfish thing, the holy thing instead of the ordinary thing.

A true story. There I was, toward the end of my winter sabbatical, at a Talmud seminar for rabbis in the city, when a call came in from our UJA-Federation asking me to join a delegation of rabbis heading to Poland to meet Ukrainian refugees, three weeks into the Russian onslaught. Honestly, at first, I felt conflicted. On the fence. I came back to the study hall and our teacher handed out this passage from the Book of Esther. Sometimes a text cries out *darsheini*, "explain me!"; sometimes a text speaks for itself. Esther spoke to me with uncommon lucidity and directness, reminding me that Jews do not remain silent in the

face of suffering. An hour later, I booked my flight to Warsaw.

### Change is Possible

What else shall we teach our children about Judaism, and why it matters? Let us remind them that our tradition insists that change is always possible. In a world where so many of us feel stuck, helpless, powerless to make the changes that this moment demands, to address its perils and evils, let us yet declare that change is possible.

Throughout these High Holidays, our prayers will feature litanies of confession. We will admit our faults and beat our breasts. Amid all this public self-flagellation we may miss the point, which is not simply "repentance." I bristle at the word "repentance," which comes from the Old French *repentir*, meaning, "to feel regret for sins or crimes." The point is exactly not to paralyze ourselves in regret or shame or self-pity. The point is to begin *teshuvah*, a word meaning "to turn around." To affirm that we can change. And that, beginning with ourselves, we can change the world.

Read any story in Torah; the lesson is always this. Take Jacob, who was an incorrigible schemer until he earned redemption through his love of his family. He discovered the meaning of giving of oneself, in love, to others. Greed gave way to generosity. After wrestling with a mysterious messenger in the dead of night, Jacob emerged injured but blessed. His transformation was complete. He became *Yisrael*, Israel: the one who strives with God and humanity and prevails. The limp was a small sacrifice for what he gained in insight and integrity. It was also a reminder that change is always possible, and often painful.

Judaism does not expect us to be Jacob or Esther or anyone other than

Continue *Rabbi's Message* on page 4

<sup>1</sup>Esther 4:12-14.

# Avodah: Worship and Spirituality

*Rabbi's Message*, continued from page 3

ourselves, but, the most fully developed, vital selves we can be. It does not expect us to change overnight—not ourselves, and not the world. It does tell us that we can change, little by little, *mitzvah by mitzvah*, and leave the world a little better than we found it.

## We Must Choose

What, finally, must we teach our children about Judaism, and why it matters? Let us remind them, above all, that our tradition empowers us to *choose*: to choose joy in the face of suffering, life in the face of death, hope in the face of despair, goodness in the face of apathy and immorality.

*How* we choose to live this tradition matters. It sends a message to the next generation. We can choose to live our Judaism joyfully and vigorously or we can languish in complacency.

An essay published 36 years ago by historian Simon Rawidowicz famously described Jews, consumed by constant anxiety over antisemitism and extinction, as “the ever-dying people.” Why would the next generation embrace a tradition defined this way? Why light Shabbat candles, or join a synagogue, or observe *Pesach*, or give *tzedakah* to support the Jewish community, or raise children Jewishly, if we convey only that Judaism demands the observance of empty rituals, the rote recitation of hollow prayers, the defensive instincts of a perpetually traumatized people?

Let us instead teach that Judaism is—at all times and in every generation—about courageously choosing joy, choosing hope, choosing life, and choosing goodness. For ourselves and our posterity.

Is there any greater gift we can give our children?

## Kabbalat Shabbat

### Fridays at 6:15 pm

Our Friday evening Shabbat service features the rituals, melodies and warmth of our congregation. The service includes a sermon or presentation by one of our rabbis, cantors or special guests.

Participate alongside fellow congregants in-person, or join us on any of our live-streaming platforms:

WRT Livestream - [www.wrtemple.org/live-stream/](http://www.wrtemple.org/live-stream/)

WRT Facebook - [www.facebook.com/WestchesterReformTemple/](http://www.facebook.com/WestchesterReformTemple/)

WRT YouTube - [www.youtube.com/user/WRTempleNY](http://www.youtube.com/user/WRTempleNY)

Please check the calendar, our weekly email updates and website for any changes due to special programming or holiday weekends.

## Tot Shabbat

### Fridays, December 9 and February 10, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Experience the joy of Shabbat with children, parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends. Designed for families with children of preschool age and younger, Tot Shabbat starts with songs and stories led by our clergy, followed by a family-friendly dinner. Children must be accompanied by an adult for this service (no drop-offs).

## Torah Study

### Saturdays, 9:00 - 11:00 am

Each Shabbat morning we gather informally to read and discuss the week's Torah portion. The morning begins with a brief Shabbat service at which mourners who wish to say Kaddish are warmly welcomed. The group is led by volunteers, with clergy participation. No prior experience with Torah is necessary.

## Sharing Shabbat

### Saturdays, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, during the JLL year\*

Our engaging, musical Shabbat service for children in Grades K-6 and their families is open to the congregation and community. This weekly service is led by our clergy, and followed by engaging learning and conversation organized by cohort – a special JLL curricular experience for the children, and time for the adults to concurrently study, share stories, and ask questions together with a member of the clergy team. All are welcome! (September - May)\*

# Services and Events

## **Rabbi-in-Residence Shabbat Weekend with guest speaker Rabbi Alona Nir Keren**

**Shabbat Service - Friday, December 16 at 6:15 pm**

**Sharing Shabbat - Saturday, December 17 at 9:00 am**

WRT is thrilled to welcome back Rabbi Alona Nir Keren from one of our Israeli "sister congregations," Kehilat Mevasseret Zion ([kamatz.org](http://kamatz.org)), in the Mevasseret Zion suburb of Jerusalem. A frequent WRT guest, teacher, and speaker, this will be the first time we've been able to reconnect in person since before the pandemic.

Alona Nir Keren was ordained in Israel in 2016 by Hebrew Union College. For the first two years of her work, she served as a Rabbi for another WRT sister congregation, Kehillat Yozma in Modiin. Over the past twenty years, she has been involved in Jewish education of young Israeli and Diaspora youth. Alona holds a BA degree in international relations and a MA degree in Conflict Research, Resolution and Management, both from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She lives in Mevasseret Zion with her partner Yael, their daughter Ori and son Itamar.



## **Community Chanukah Candle Lighting & Celebration**

**Wednesday, December 21, 5:15 pm**

Join the clergy and our WRT families as we light our 10-foot tall outdoor menorah, sing songs and enjoy some treats. Performances by the youth and adult choir will make the evening festive.

## **Chanukah Shabbat**

**Friday, December 23, 6:15 pm**

Bring your Chanukah (Chanukah Menorah) to WRT for a festive, family-friendly celebration of lights during our Friday Kabbalat Shabbat service. Music, storytelling, and Chanukah refreshments will all be on the menu.



# Talmud Torah: Adult Education

## **The One Jewish Book That Will Change Your Life A Deep Reading of Pirkei Avot, “The Wisdom of the Ancestors”**

Led by Rabbi Jonathan Blake

**Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15 at 10:15 am (Zoom)**

On Thursday mornings, we meet online (Zoom) from 10:15 to 11:45 AM to learn with and from Rabbi Blake who will guide us in interpreting one of the most important texts in Jewish life, Pirkei Avot, which is part of the Mishna and which continues to provide invaluable wisdom for leading a life of righteousness, purpose, and Jewish joy. All are welcome. No Hebrew or Jewish text experience is required. Register for the Zoom link at <https://bit.ly/3Q16Sus>.



Rabbi Jonathan Blake

## **Adult Learning: Introduction to Talmud**

Led by Rabbi Jonathan Blake

**Thursdays, January 12, 19, 26, and February 2, 9 at 10:15 am (Zoom)**

Join Rabbi Blake and fellow learners for a weekly deep dive into the spiritually nourishing and intellectually challenging world of the Babylonian Talmud. For this midwinter learning series, we will explore signature Talmudic passages that shed light on Jewish philosophy, ethics, observance, and law, with a focus on the content and form of rabbinic thought and debate.

No prior text/Hebrew experience is required.

All are welcome. Class meets weekly for 90 minutes over Zoom, from 10:15 - 11:45 am.

## **December Tzedek Circle**

**Sunday, December 11 at 8:00 pm (Zoom)**

Tzedek Circle co-hosts Dena Robinson and Darin Lim Yankowitz welcome special guests Kira Simon of the Anti-Defamation League and Cantor Danielle Rodnizki of Westchester Reform Temple for an hour of music, provocative conversation and action in service of the Jewish call for justice. This month, we will be exploring the question: *How do we approach the needs of Jewish communities in relation to other needs?* Zoom link available in weekly eblast and website.



## Everything You Wish You Learned in Religious School: Foundations of Jewish Literacy

Led by Cantor Amanda Kleinman

**Sundays, December 18, January 29 and February 12 at 9:15 am**

Brush up on the basics with this ongoing monthly course designed to increase your Jewish literacy and help you enrich your life with Jewish values and traditions. Each session will provide an overview of a core Jewish topic, from the calendar and Jewish holidays, to the life cycle, to foundational Jewish texts and Jewish history. Open to the entire congregation, this class is especially designed to allow JLL parents an opportunity to share in their children's journey of Jewish learning during JLL hours. Each month's topic will be shared in advance via the eblast and JLL communications. Feel free to join us each month, or to drop in for a topic that interests you, and bring all of the Jewish questions you've never had a chance to ask!



Cantor Amanda Kleinman

## Rosh Chodesh 5783

Led by Cantor Amanda Kleinman and Cantor Danielle Rodnizki

**Tuesdays, January 17 and February 14 at 11:30 am**

Join our cantors and a diverse group of women for a monthly, midday infusion of study and sharing as we mark each new month on the Hebrew calendar. We will come together as a community to celebrate happy occasions, and to hold space for one another in times of challenge or healing.



Cantor Danielle Rodnizki

## Mussar - Measuring What Matters

Led by Rabbi Sasha Baken

**Thursdays, January 12 and February 9 at 6:45 pm (Zoom)**

Between the 11th and 18th centuries, individual Jewish scholars developed the study and practice of Mussar as a field of Jewish thought and spiritual growth. Many of these authors were unaware they were contributing to a burgeoning canon of Mussar literature. Mussar emerged as a movement and a pedagogy in the 19th century when Rabbi Israel Lipkin of Salant codified Mussar literature and popularized the study and practice of Mussar. In the modern era, Mussar is recognized as a spiritual practice that utilizes tools such as text study, journaling, and meditating in effort to understand various character traits (middot, literally "measures") that each of us embodies such as generosity, anger, humility and trust. Together we will employ these tools and focus on texts from sages like Rabbi Bahya Ibn Paquda, The Ramban, Rabbi Moshe Chayim Luzatto and Rav Shlomo Wolbe, so that each of us can explore our individual paths toward internal spiritual balance.



Rabbi Sasha Baken

## Advanced Hebrew Bible Class: A Study Of Tanach

Led by Jane Roberts

**Wednesdays, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am**

Students must have knowledge of Torah, Hebrew roots and basic Hebrew vocabulary, and a familiarity with the Siddur. For more information about sign-up and fees, please contact Jane Roberts at [janerteach@aol.com](mailto:janerteach@aol.com).



# President's Message

## Warren Haber

As the days get shorter and darker, it's difficult not to think about the adversity which our people have experienced. Fortunately, our religious traditions offer us ways to grapple with these feelings. We are all familiar with Hanukkah's history commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem during the second century BCE. There are countless stories which reference the tenacity of our forebears—one of which is the story of the Brill Family.

According to *BBC Sport News* (10/16/22), Ben Brill was born in 1912 in Amsterdam and became passionate about boxing. He grew up in one of the poorest parts of the city and was the second youngest of seven children. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, Brill became a serial champion, winning eight Dutch titles and achieving national fame. In 1932, Brill was blacklisted by anti-Semites on the Dutch national boxing committee, precluding him from competing on the Olympic team.

Nevertheless, Brill traveled to the second Maccabiah Games in 1935 and returned home with the gold medal prompting him to don the Jewish Star on his boxing shorts thereafter (*see photo from Wikipedia*). In July 1942, Jewish intolerance reached an apex and Brill with his family were ousted from hiding by Sam Olij, a teammate on the 1928 Olympic boxing squad. His family was deported to and incarcerated in a Nazi concentration camp at Vaught where Brill relayed the following story in his own words:

"A boy had attempted to escape [but] they caught him," said Brill. "They placed him on a rack, and he was to get 25 lashes of a whip. Suddenly the commander called out: 'Boxer - step forward!' 'I had to carry out the punishment, but I refused. The commander said that if I didn't I would get 50 lashes, so I took the whip but when I hit him, I aimed to strike too high. The commander got mad: 'Not so!' he cried. He grabbed the whip and started beating like mad. I walked back to my line."

Why Brill suffered no consequences for his refusal to carry out the order is unknown, but one witness recounted that "[Ben Brill was] the only man I saw during two and a half years in concentration camps - or heard of - who risked refusing to carry out a formal order of the SS". It was, noted a Jewish historian, "a very courageous act."

This year Hanukkah begins on December 18, only three days before the darkest day of the year - the solstice on the 21st. As we light the *chanukiah* candles marking winter's transition through its nadir to longer days, let us recall our ancestors who, similar to Ben Brill, faced adversity with extraordinary courage. It is our hope that the miracle of Hanukkah shines brightly with you and your loved ones!

### OFFICERS

Warren Haber  
President

Jodi Barrow  
Lori Gertzog  
Michael Gorelick  
Dara Gruenberg  
Andrew Levine  
Vice Presidents

Andrew Frankle  
Treasurer

Jon Mark  
Secretary

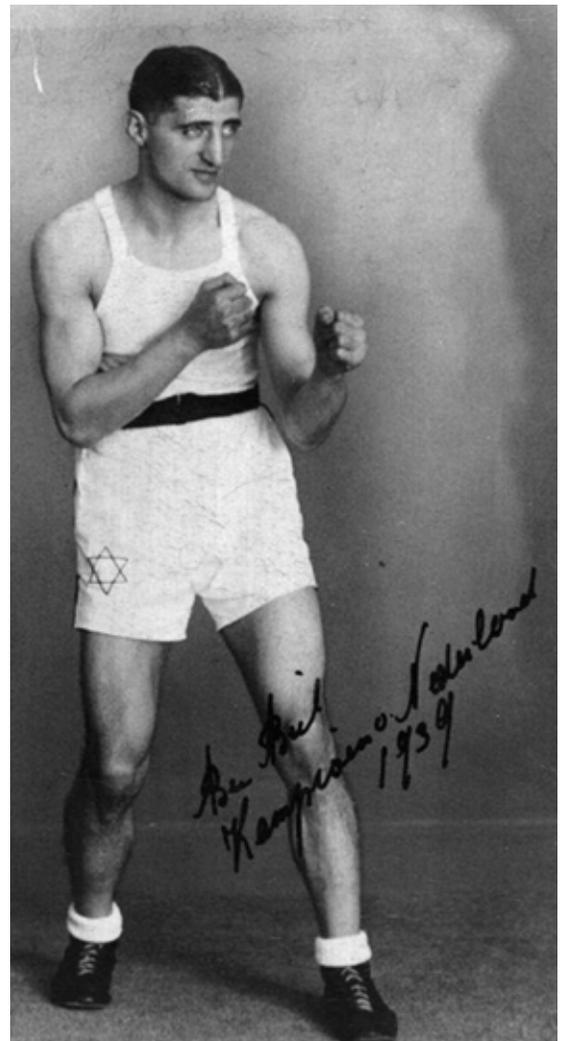
Lauren Bender  
Josh Block  
Mallorie Corcoran  
Erica Crisses  
Howard Elman  
Allison Friedland  
Francine Frydman  
Jeff Gelles  
Adam Hellegers  
Noah Kroloff  
Matt Levine  
Steven Masket  
Jay Musoff  
Samantha Reemer  
Jonathan Siegel  
Sheryl Spivack-Braun  
Mara Steiner  
Brooke Vaupen  
Mauri Zemachson  
Trustees

Amy Bauman  
Board Liaison

Fran Scheffler Siegel  
WRJ Liaison

Eugene Weissman  
MRJ Liaison

Mallorie Corcoran  
ECC Liaison



# Music of WRT

We know that music has immense power to connect us, lift us up, and inspire us. What better way to be in community than to experience the beauty of music with fellow congregants and leading Jewish artists, cantors, and composers!

To discover our wonderful artists in this series, please visit the website, <https://bit.ly/3MSTYfV>



## **Cantors' Coffee House with Guest Artist Elana Arian** **Sunday, December 4 at 5:30 pm**

Cozy up with coffee or a cocktail for an evening of song with Cantor Kleinman, Cantor Rodnizki, and visiting artist, Elana Arian. A leading voice and composer in the contemporary Jewish world, Elana's musical gifts extend beyond the bima, from the folk world all the way to Broadway. The musical selections for the evening will reflect that range of styles, incorporating familiar classics with new melodies. This event is open to everyone and hosted by the Freebirds. Bring a toy for the Holiday Toy Drive.



## **Shabbat Shirah** **with Artist-in-Residence Chava Mirel** **Friday, February 3 at 6:15 pm** **Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 am**

Celebrate the Shabbat of Song, named for the joyous song the Israelites sang as they crossed the sea from slavery into freedom. This musical Shabbat experience will feature guest artist, singer-songwriter, Chava Mirel. With influences ranging from jazz to Brazilian music and beyond, Chava's soulful voice and melodies (a number of which have been featured at WRT) will lift our spirits, just as Miriam with her timbrel.



## **Save the date!** **Sunday, April 30** **New Music for Timeless Hebrew Poetry** **Isaac Sonett-Assor Cantorial School Senior Recital**

# Men of Reform Judaism

## *Intellect, Vision, Spirit, Jewish Heritage & Values*

The Men of Reform Judaism at WRT (formally the Men's Club) is a fellowship of men who aspire to *Tikkun Hanefesh* (Self Improvement) and *Tikkun Olam* (Repair of the World). MRJ at WRT is a group who provide intellect, vision and develop spirit. Our members recognize their obligation to our Jewish heritage and values.

We welcome all community members interested in developing new friendships and participating in activities which will enhance comradeship and provide meaningful service to the Temple and the community.

Our events range from fun outings to meaningful speakers/discussions to impactful community services. There is something for everyone and if not, let us know and we will do it!

### **Blood Drive**

**Sunday, December 11, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
at Congregation Kol Ami**

WRT and Kol Ami are partnering to provide you with the opportunity to save a life in your own back yard. Watch the weekly eblast for signup information. Walk-ins are welcomed, if space permits.

### **Jewish American History Series**

**Thursdays, 7:30 - 9:00 pm (Zoom)**

**January 19**

1492-1654: The Origins of the American Jewish Community

**January 29**

Colonial Jewish Life and the American Revolution

**February 2**

American Jews and the Civil War

Dr. Joellyn Zollman will discuss seminal developments in American life, such as the Jewish contributions to American culture, American literature, and the Civil War through the lens of Jews straddling their status as both insiders and outsiders.

Dr. Zollman holds a Ph.D. in Jewish history from Brandeis University. She has worked with the Jewish material culture collections at the Smithsonian Institution, Skirball Museum, and American Jewish Historical Society, and has taught classes on Jewish history, American religion, and religious art and architecture at San Diego State University, UCSD, and the San Diego Center for Jewish Culture.

To register for this series, please go to <https://bit.ly/3UKOCbd>. For any questions, contact [MenRJ@wrtemple.org](mailto:MenRJ@wrtemple.org).

### **OFFICERS**

Co-President	Eugene Weissman
Co-President	Mark Lewis
Vice President	Robert Meyerson
Vice President	Joeseeph Levine
Vice President	Alan Broadwin
Treasurer	Lee Goldsmith
Secretary	Michael Grant

### **TRUSTEES**

Jordan Black  
Douglas Birns  
Gilbert Fishman  
Gerald Friedman  
James Glucksman  
Jeffrey Levin  
Roy Polayes  
Robert Rosenbaum  
Jeff Simon  
Jeffrey Underweiser



# Women of Reform Judaism

## **WRJ Winter Lunch “Tu B’shvat Celebration: Shehecheyanu”**

*Together we will plant the seeds*

**Tuesday, January 31, Noon to 2:00 pm**

On Tu B’shvat we celebrate the birthday of the trees. It is an ancient Jewish holiday. Here in New York, it comes at the “dead” of winter. We see trees with lifeless branches: the “life” is happening inside and below the surface. We will take time to visualize and appreciate all the things invisible to the eye. We will share a “Shehecheyanu” for having reached this time and this season.

The program will include a “hands-on” activity: we will plant seeds of parsley in small pots for our WRJ Women’s Seder and our own Seders.

This will embody the year’s theme begun at our Sukkot Harvest Celebration, quoting the Psalmist, “sow in tears, reap in joy.” The lunch celebration will include delicious dates from Israel and other tasty treats.



## Community



Jane Slevin



Cantor Laura Stein

### **Bereavement Group**

**Wednesday, December 14 at 11:30 am (Zoom)**

This Support Group meets to create community for those in mourning over the loss of a loved one, and to help find comfort and process feelings of loss through caring discussion and in sacred Jewish context.

This program is led by Jane Slevin, LMFT (Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist from Westchester Jewish Community Services), and Cantor Laura Stein, LMSW, a social worker who specializes in spiritual care.

Please RSVP to [Suzanne.Saperstein@wrtemple.org](mailto:Suzanne.Saperstein@wrtemple.org) to join this group.

### **Evening Book Group**

**Tuesdays, December 20, January 17, and February 21 at 7:30 pm**

Interested in joining the evening book group? Once a month (usually Tuesdays) the group meets via Zoom for review and discussion on the month’s selected title. For more information, please contact Lenore Rosenbaum at [papobeads@optonline.net](mailto:papobeads@optonline.net).



# FreeBirds



## Cantors' Coffee House with Guest Artist Elana Arian Sunday, December 4 at 5:30 pm

Join the Cantors and Elana Arian to sing along with popular songs, have some drinks and light bites. Bring a friend, meet new friends. Bring a toy for the holiday toy drive.

## Chanukah Happy Hour and Candle Lighting

Sunday, December 18 at 5:00 pm

Join the clergy for an outdoor candle lighting, hot spiked cider, latkes and jelly donuts.

## FreeBirds Winter Film Series & Discussion with Rabbi Blake The Jewish-American Experience on the Big Screen

Sunday, January 8, 2:00 - 5:00 pm:

The Immigrant Years: *Hester Street* (1975)

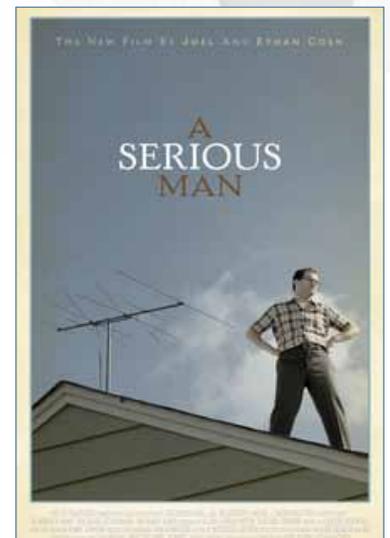
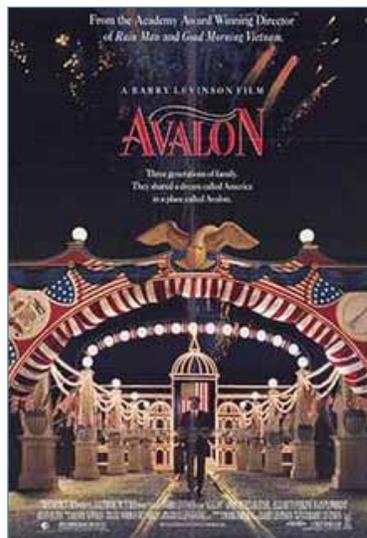
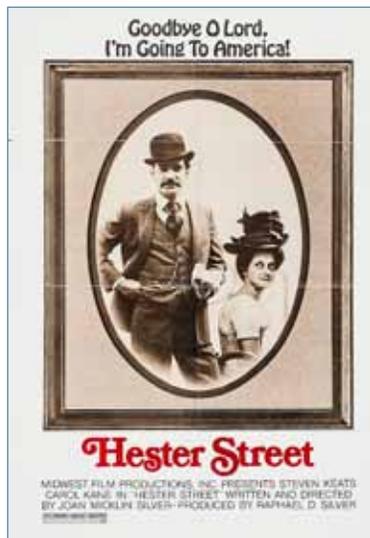
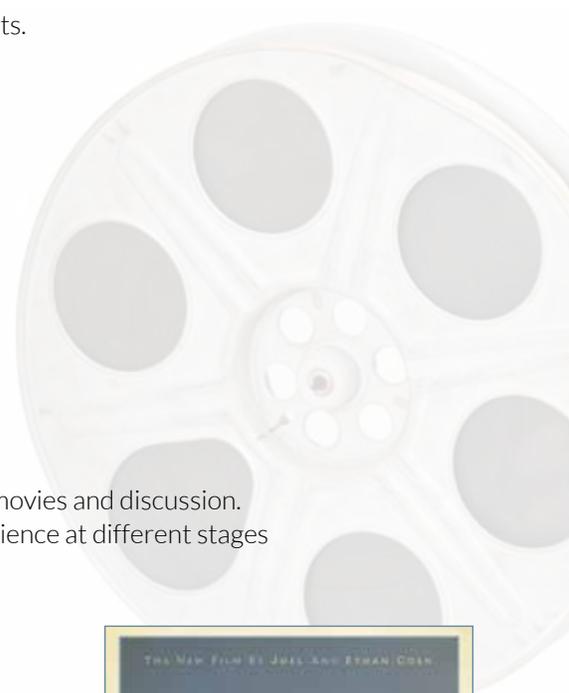
Sunday, January 29, 2:00 - 5:00 pm:

From Generation to Generation: *Avalon* (1990)

Sunday, February 12, 2:00 - 5:00 pm:

The Quest for Meaning: *A Serious Man* (2009)

Please join our FreeBirds and the wider congregation for three Sunday afternoon movies and discussion. Each film comments meaningfully and provocatively on the Jewish-American experience at different stages in the story of our people.





# Tzedek, Tzedek, tirdof - Justice, justice, we shall pursue!

**Sharon Stiefel**

*Director of Social Impact and Community Engagement*

Why do you pursue justice? This is not an easy question to answer, and the answer would likely not be a stagnant one. For many, acts of justice or righteousness are responses to needs in the world. For others, it is a way to share one's own good fortune or a way to inspire the next generation. I am sure if I spent time polling our community, I would gather many responses - some that overlap, some that are very personal, and some that have evolved and shifted over time. What I suspect would be a common denominator for all is that doing acts of righteous deeds feels like the Jewish thing to do.

Each of you received a *tzedek* box for your household and a video of myself and Rabbi Sasha Baken talking about the many ways to interact with the *tzedek* box. I hope that each of you has displayed the box in a location in your home that serves as a physical reminder to make an impact.

Here, I want to discuss the act of reflection of what you have done, rather than the doing. I invite each of you, after engaging in an act of *tzedek*, *chesed*, or *tzedakah* to ask yourselves the following questions: **What did you do? Who did you meet? How did you feel? What did you think? What was your impact? What is left to do?** By asking yourselves these questions, I hope that you will not only be guided in your reflection that you place in your *tzedek* box, but that you will be guided to your next act.

Finally, as we think of internal reflection, let us not forget group reflection. This past fall, our WRT community has

continued its communal work toward *tikkum olam*. We mailed approximately 500 postcards to underrepresented areas in the United States, informing residents of their right to vote. Our JLL and Cooking4HOPE volunteers made over 1,000 sandwiches and meals for participants of HOPE Community Services. As a community we donated over 5,000 pounds of non-perishable food to Feeding Westchester as part of our Yom Kippur Food Drive and we made a splash against hunger through your donations to dunk some of our clergy members at the Sukkot Block Party, raising both funds for Feeding Westchester and awareness about food insecurity. The Free Birds donated t-shirts to a local men's shelter that is in need of specifically large sizes - homeless men oftentimes being an overlooked population when people consider opportunities to give. And, finally, our youngest WRT members

showed us that no matter how small or young you are, you can always give back. The ECC donated new pajamas and books to the Pajama Program, because every child deserves a comforting bedtime routine.

### What will your next act be?

As we enter the holiday season, WRT will have many ways to engage in acts of *tikkun olam*.

Please save the following dates:

#### **WRT Makes Thanksgiving:**

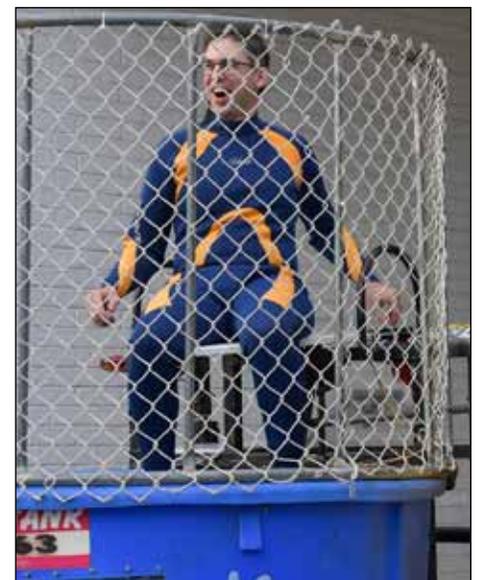
November 20 - November 24, 2022

#### **WRT Toy Drive:**

November 28 - December 9, 2022

**Cooking4HOPE:** The last Monday of every month, bake, cook, shop, or deliver food for HOPE Community Services.

For more information about our Social Impact work, please contact me at Sharon.Stiefel@wrtemple.org or 914-723-7727.



# WERE YOU



Photos (Clockwise from top left):  
ECC Opening Day, Caring Community Luncheon, Pajama Day at the ECC,  
Sukkot Block Party, Opening Day at the ECC

# THERE?



Photos (Clockwise from top left):  
Alex Edelman Comedy Night, Simchat Torah Celebration, WRJ Art Show Luncheon, Simchat Torah, Alex Edelman Comedy Night, Rabbi Citrin Installation Dinner

# Early Childhood Center (ECC)



Susan Tolchin  
Director of ECC

In addition to our **STEAM** approach to learning, our ECC teachers are trained in teaching the practice of **Mindfulness**. **Mindfulness** is paying attention to life here and now with kindness and curiosity. Our goal is to help children feel centered in a sometimes-chaotic world. Children are introduced to simple breathing activities in circle time. Teachers have fun with a “Hoberman Sphere”, a multicolored ball that can be manipulated to expand and contract and encourages children to breathe in and out. These practices are beneficial to young children as well as adults to help with self-regulation.

We have also found that there are many benefits to small group activities in the classroom, for both children and educators. Here are some of the most common reasons Early Childhood Educators incorporate small group time into their curriculum:

## • Developmental Growth

Since preschoolers are in the process of developing their cognitive and social skills, they often function best when in small group settings. These activities are a great opportunity for children to further develop their social skills through structured interaction, using language to express their thoughts and needs with peers.

## • Cooperation

Cooperation is also taught through small group activities. By working with just a few of their peers towards a common goal, children will further develop their cooperation skills, conversation skills and discover how to share and be fair. Through small group play, children learn that they won't always get their way and sometimes have to compromise.

## • Encourage Interaction

By creating small groups amongst preschoolers, we are able to encourage friendships between children who do not normally play together. This can help create a more inclusive atmosphere within the classroom. We continue to switch up the makeup of the groups regularly to help new friendships form and to expose preschoolers to the concept of working with different types of people with different points of view.

## • Observation

Setting up small group opportunities in preschool classrooms also allows staff to watch children more closely and observe their behavior when working with a team. Observation and documentation is made easier when we see children interact while visiting activity stations and focusing on just a few playmates at a time.

## • Interest and Support

Small group activities also allow teachers to set up groups based on the interests and abilities of children. They can assign a transportation-related activity to a group of children who have developed a newfound interest in trains and railway, or pair other children in a particular developmental area with those who may have other interests.

Please note that registration for the 2023-2024 school year is on-going. For more information on scheduling a tour of our school, contact the ECC Director Sue Tolchin at [sue.tolchin@wrtemple.org](mailto:sue.tolchin@wrtemple.org), or the ECC Associate Director, Rebecca Roseman at [rebecca.roseman@wrtemple.org](mailto:rebecca.roseman@wrtemple.org) or call 914-723-5493.



Some events which take place at WRT during the year:

**Monthly Tot Shabbats:** Fridays, December 9 and February 10, 5:30 - 6:30 pm  
Experience the joy of Shabbat with children, parents, grandparents, siblings and friends. Designed for families with young children and led by WRT clergy.

**Chanukah Celebration - Milk and Cookies with the WRT Cantors**

Tuesday, December 20 at 4:00 pm

This festive event includes story time, cookies and Chanukah songs (loved one and children attend).

**ECC Family Field Day: (In the Fall)**

ECC families are invited to Aspen Park in Scarsdale to celebrate the start of the school year. There will be food, music, games, and crafts. It's a great way to start the year by seeing familiar faces and meeting new people. WRT clergy mingle with families to begin fostering relationships. (For ECC-enrolled families)

**Family Apple - Picking at Wilkens Fruit & Fir Farm: (In the Fall)**

Songs and storytelling followed by a snack and apple picking.

This program is led by WRT clergy.

**Sukkot Celebration: (In the Fall)**

Concert for ECC children, parents/loved one and clergy.

**Park Play Dates: (dates to be determined)**

Get together with old friends and make new ones at Aspen Park.

(For ECC-enrolled families) Organized by ECC parents.

**Mom's Night Out Event / Dad's Night Out Event: (In the spring)**

Two social evening gatherings off-site for ECC moms and dads. Organized by parents.

**Israel Virtual Trip: (In the spring)**

ECC classes partake in a virtual trip to Israel. Food, arts and crafts, and a "plane ride" are a great way to visit Israel. Led by clergy and ECC staff.

**ECC Cocktail Party: (In the spring)**

An evening event held at WRT for parents. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. This social gathering offers new families the opportunity to come and meet existing ECC families in a fun and festive setting.

**New Family Welcome: (in the spring)**

Families that are new to our school are invited to meet one another over pizza and dessert. A tour of the ECC is given and children get a first glimpse of their new school.

**Truck Day: (in the spring)**

All children in the ECC have an opportunity to view and explore trucks during a morning. A few examples of the vehicles involved are: fire engine, police car, garbage trucks, backhoes, ambulance, mail truck and the ever popular ice cream truck! (ECC children only)

ECC enrollment for school year 2023-2024 is ongoing.



# Jewish Learning Lab (JLL)



Rabbi Leah Citrin  
Associate Rabbi &  
Jewish Learning Lab  
Director

## Welcome to Westchester Reform Temple's Jewish Learning Lab: Kindling a Lifelong Love of Jewish Learning & Living

The Jewish Learning Lab is WRT's vision for Jewish education. Through the Jewish Learning Lab, WRT aspires:

- To support the development of a strong Jewish identity, strengthened with the Hebrew language, rooted in the Jewish tradition, nurtured by the study of Judaism, and guided by Jewish values.
- To create enduring and joyful Jewish memories, bringing Torah to life and inspiring Jewish dreams.
- To celebrate both the richness of our traditions and the limitless possibilities of innovation, preparing us to engage with the unique blessings and challenges of being Jewish in the 21st century.
- To foster the development of an inclusive and caring community, reflecting the diversity of Jewish life today.
- To empower our community to help repair the world.

The Jewish Learning Lab advances Westchester Reform Temple's mission: "to ensure the perpetuation of the Jewish people and to cultivate a love of our Jewish heritage: God, Torah and Israel."

## JLL Calendar Dates:

**Sunday, December 18, 10:30 - 11:00 am**  
K-5 Family T'filah

**Wednesday, December 21, 5:15 - 6:15 pm**  
Community Candle Lighting

**Friday, December 23 - Monday, January 2**  
Winter Break (No Classes)

**Wednesday, January 4, 5:45 - 6:45 pm**  
6th/7th Grade Parent Session

**January 14 - 16**  
MLK weekend (No Classes)

**January 20 - 23**  
10th Grade Trip to DC

**January, 27 - 28**  
6th Grade Shabbaton

**Saturday, January 28**  
Sharing Shabbat Chesed Day *offsite*

**Sunday, January 29, 10:30 - 11:00 am**  
K-5 Family T'filah

**Sunday, February 12, 10:30 - 11:00 am**  
K-5 Family T'filah

**Wednesday, February 15, 5:45 - 6:45 pm**  
6/7th Grade Parent Session

**February 18 - 26**  
February Break (No Classes)

**February 19 - March 1**  
12th Grade trip to Israel



# Mazal Tov!

August 1 - November 8, 2022

## Births

### Rebecca and Aaron Levy

on the birth of their son Meyer Joseph Levy

### Linda (Temple Bookkeeper) and Vito Zarra

on the birth of their grandson Luca Marcelo Aspesi and to the parents Jackie and Giancarlo Aspesi

### Suzanne (Exec. Asst.to Clergy/ B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator) and Larry Saperstein

on the birth of their granddaughter Harper Sloane Silverberg and to the parents Brianna and Evan Silverberg

### Louise and David Shulman

on the birth of their great granddaughter Jasmine Stolzenberg and to the parents Xindi and Austin Stolzenberg

### Iris and Fred Green

on the birth of their granddaughter Mila Goldie Jenis and to the parents Arielle Green Jenis and Zack Jenis

### Lenore and Bob Rosenbaum

on the birth of their great granddaughter Gianna Violet Rosenbaum and to the parents Erica and Andrew Rosenbaum and their great granddaughter Chloe Rose Canter and to the parents Katie and Alex Canter

### Phylicia and Eric Tolchin

### Sue and Les Tolchin

on the birth of their daughter/their granddaughter Paige Olivia Tolchin

### Al (WRT Housekeeping Manager) and Janet Betancourt

on the birth of their grandson Lucas and to the parents Nicole and Michael Randle

### Blaire and David Meckler

on the birth of their son Liam Matthew Meckler

### Beth Ehrich Berkeley and Alan Berkeley

on the birth of their granddaughter Jay Parker Hoopes and to the parents Lisa Kourakos and John Hoopes

### Kim Reichig and Michael Ziegelbaum

on the birth of their granddaughters Madeline Parker Ziegelbaum O'Neill and Danielle Tatum Reichig O'Neill and to the parents Brooke Ziegelbaum and Conor O'Neill and their granddaughter Lyra Blake Reichig Bernardi and to the parents Chelsea Ziegelbaum and Larkin Barnardi

## Engagements

### Lika Levi

on the engagement of her son Jonathan Yenni to Ruby Kaufman

### Emily and Mitchell Spector

on the engagement of their daughter Olivia to Josh Goldman

### Susan and Jeffrey Landsberg

on the engagement of their daughter Harley to Eric Belmont

### Amy and Ray Cooper

on the engagement of their daughter Jordana to David Silfen

### Kim Reichig and Michael Ziegelbaum

on the engagement of their daughter Dylan to Ryan Saxe

### Rebecca and Martin Eisenberg

on the engagement of their son Jack to Maya Katalan

## Marriages

### Cynthia and Marc Samwick

on the marriage of their son Jason to Sammy Friedwald

### Nancy Spiro

on the marriage of her daughter Rachel to Mark Pulaski

### Carol Tetenbaum and Barry Meiselman

on the marriage of their daughter Kimberly Meiselman to Joshua Azoff

### Gail and Laurence Dobosh

on the marriage of their son Eric to Mary Heath Manning

### Iris and Fred Green

on the marriage of her daughter Victoria to David Berk

## B'nei Mitzvah

December, January, and February

### Elana and David Glatt

on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Serena

### Toni and Todd Finger

on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Alexandra

### Naomi and Ian Arons

on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Devin

### Tara and Andrew Grasheim

on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Devon

### Leslie and Jeremy Perelman

on the B'nei Mitzvah of their sons Archer and Gunner

### Elinor and Alexander Etkes

on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Liam

### Lisa Nelson and Ed Ludwig

on the B'nei Mitzvah of their children Rebecca and Zachary

### Marcie and Jordan Wechsler

on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Zoe

### Stephanie and Josh Weismer

on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Gavin

### Courtney and Jeff Allen

on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Skylar

### Jessica and Jed Weintrob

on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Liam



# Condolences

**Roberta Stone**

in memory of her husband James Stone

**Gary Haber**

**Anne Marie and Jeff Haber**

in memory of his wife/their sister-in-law Regina "Ginny" Haber

**Joy Henshel**

in memory of her brother Samuel Altman

**Eve Steinberg**

in memory of her husband Bruce M. Steinberg

**Cheryl Bernstein and Pam Rubin**

in memory of their father Jack Silver

**Charlotte Bassett**

in memory of her husband Lawrence C. Bassett

**Patti Lubin**

in memory of her mother Anne Stuckler

**Faye and Stanley Portnow**

in memory of their grandson Dylan James Newman

**Kenneth Sklar**

in memory of his father Stephen Sklar

**Matt Goldman**

in memory of his grandfather Stanley Selzer

**Laura Thierer**

in memory of her father Raul Thierer

**Catherine Manin and Andrew Rein**

in memory of their mother Valerie Rein

**Abby Sroka**

in memory of her mother Linda Spiegel Hess

**Lisa Feiner**

in memory of her father Harold Gelb

**David Bunzel**

in memory of his mother Elaine Nevin

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member  
**James Stone**  
and extends sympathy to his bereaved family.

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member  
**Regina "Ginny" Haber**  
and extends sympathy to her bereaved family.

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member  
**Bruce M. Steinberg**  
and extends sympathy to his bereaved family.

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member  
**Valerie Rein**  
and extends sympathy to her bereaved family.

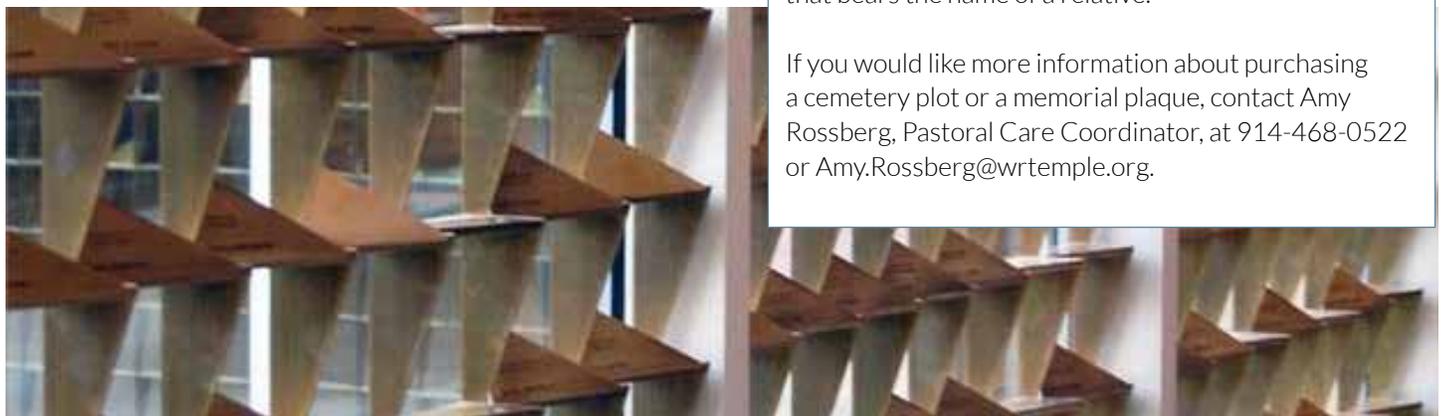
## WRT Cemetery Plots

WRT has plots available at Mt. Eden Cemetery in Hawthorne, N.Y., for members of the congregation and their relatives. The cost of our plots is considerably less than those available commercially in our area.

## Memorial Wall Plaques

Jewish tradition provides many meaningful ways to perpetuate the memory of our dear ones: lighting yahrzeit candles, reciting Kaddish, and giving charity. Among those traditions at WRT is the placing of a stone on a memorial wall near the plaque that bears the name of a relative.

If you would like more information about purchasing a cemetery plot or a memorial plaque, contact Amy Rossberg, Pastoral Care Coordinator, at 914-468-0522 or Amy.Rossberg@wrtemple.org.



# Contributions

*The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:*

## SUPPORTING ALL THE PILLARS OF OUR COMMUNITY

### General Fund

**Barbara Richman Elliot**  
in memory of Evelyn and Albert Richman,  
grandparents of Sarah and Stewart Kagan

**Valerie and Steven Abrahams**  
**Andrea and John Brandt**  
**Elena and Raif Ezratty**  
**Ann and John Kaufman**  
**Debora Solomon**  
**Carol and Lawrence Wolfe**

### Fund for the Generations

**Ellen and Bill Blumstein**  
**Braun/Aiello Family**  
**Sara Ryba Matty**  
**Sandra and Jed Shivers**  
**Joey and Scott Silberfein**  
in memory of Marcia Bernstein,  
mother of Dan Bernstein

**Cheryl and Dan Bernstein**  
in memory of his mother Marcia Bernstein

**The Sacher Family**  
in honor of the wedding of Marcia Helbling  
and Richard Tannenbaum

### Rabbi Richard J. Jacobs and Susan K. Freedman Fund for Innovation in Jewish Life

**Susan Freedman and Rabbi Rick Jacobs**  
in honor of the inspiring clergy and staff of WRT

### Inspired Giving Annual Fund

**Arlene and Robert Alin**  
**Roy Appel**  
**Janet and Larry Bell**  
**Rosalyn and Ron Binday**  
**Marilyn Bloomberg**  
**Melissa and Jeffrey Fastov**  
**Edward Feinberg**  
**Jill and Howard Fife**  
**Freddie and Marty Finkelstein**  
**Stephanie and Alan Finkelstein**  
**Joan and Andrew Frankle**  
**John Freiberg**  
**Kristin and Gary Friedman**  
**Bonnie and Peter Gatof**  
**Michael Gelb**  
**Beth and Jeff Gelles**  
**Lori and Gary Gertzog**  
**Susan Epps-Ginsberg and Daniel Ginsberg**  
**Arlene and Lee Goldsmith**  
**Samuel Greenstein**  
**Dara and Jon Gruenberg**  
**Darlene and Warren Haber**  
**Carmelina and Martin Jajan**  
**Meg and David Lazarus**  
**Gail and Michael Long**

**B.K. Munguia and Jon Mark**  
**Lynda and William Ortner**  
**Cortney and David Peretz**  
**Ayelet and Jason Pollack**  
**Debbie and Steve Prince**  
**Susan Reed**  
**Barbara and Len Rich**  
**Jane and Charles Roberts**  
**Elaine and Ira Rosenstein**  
**Kitt and Robert Rosenthal**  
**Barbara and Marc Rowin**  
**Robert Scheibe**  
**Nancie and Steven Schnur**  
**Siliva Schnur**  
**Sandy and Paul Schiffman**  
**Toby and Judah Schulman**  
**Suellen and Howard Singer**  
**Terry and Paul Singer**  
**Florence and Warren Sinsheimer**  
**Joan and Larry Sorkin**  
**Lia and Michael Tchorni**  
**Carol and Ken Weiser**

**Hollis Bortek**  
in honor of Stacie Dattner's birthday

**Amy and Ray Cooper**  
in honor of the engagement of their daughter  
Jordana to David Silfen

**Sabrina Zook and Mark Brotman**  
in honor of Ivie Rader's milestone birthday

**Penny Goldsmith**  
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Erica Moreira and Gregg Brody**  
in honor of the naming of their daughter  
Gabriella Brody

**Joanne and Duane Fiedler**  
in honor of the marriage of their son Brad  
to Tessa Rubach  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Paula and Ira Resnick**  
in memory of Marcia Bernstein,  
mother of Danny Bernstein  
and in memory of Jack Silver,  
father of Cheryl Bernstein

**Claudia Green and Noah Kroloff**  
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah  
of their daughter Ella

**Jackie Cutler**  
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

### AVODAH - SPIRITUALITY

### Rabbis' Discretionary Fund

**Ruth Brofsky**  
**Lucy Lehman**  
**Joyce and Michael Maron**  
**Loretta Stamler**  
in memory of Marcia Bernstein,  
mother of Danny Bernstein

**Leslie and Sandy Dubner**  
in honor of the marriage of their son Adam  
to Lucie Kessler  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Karl Ackerman and Theona Deutsch**  
**Marion and Bob Geller**  
**Cindy and Tod Johnson**  
**Faye Kimerling**  
**Arlene Leicht**  
**Jacqueline and Nelson Leicht**  
**Susie Newman**  
**David Smerling**  
in memory of Arthur Goldstein,  
husband of Gloria Goldstein

**Joey and Scott Silberfein**  
in memory of Muriel Broxmeyer,  
grandmother of Dara Gruenberg

**Michelle Smith and Benjamin Gendel**  
in honor of the engagement of  
Rabbi Sasha Baken to Roie Rennert

**Margie Miller**  
in memory of her husband Morgan Miller  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Malcolm Lazarus**  
in memory of his wife Pat Lazarus  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Baken

**The Gruenberg Family**  
**Dana and Michael Broxmeyer**  
in memory of Muriel Broxmeyer  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Ellen and Bob Sunness**  
in honor of the naming of their granddaughter  
Elyc Monroe  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Nancy Tarlin and Tom Ferber**  
in honor of the marriage of their son Evan  
to Brittney Veeck  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Lindsay and Howard Sturman**  
in honor of the marriage of their daughter  
Leslie to Tim Winegar  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Ruth and Andrew Suzman**  
in memory of Muriel Broxmeyer,  
grandmother of Dara Gruenberg

**Diane and Lloyd Loft**  
in honor of the marriage of their daughter  
Jordana to Jonathan Elias  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**The Gecel, Sabba and Naim Families**  
in memory of Sally Gecel  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Tracy and Larry Kohn**

in honor of the baby naming of their granddaughter Caroline Cohen and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Cheryl and Dan Bernstein**

in memory of his mother Marcia Bernstein

**Karen and Barry Wolf**

in honor of the marriage of their daughter Jenna to Steven Grill and in appreciation of WRT Clergy and Staff, including Rabbi Reiser

**Andrea and Robert Tucker**

in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Louise and David Shulman**

in honor of the birth of their great-granddaughter Jasmine Stolzenberg

**Lee Kern**

in memory of her father Irving Klein

**Mark Edelman**

in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Carol Tetenbaum and Barry Meiselman**

in honor of the marriage of their daughter Kimberly Meiselman to Joshua Azoff and in appreciation of Rabbi Baken

**Joanne and Duane Fiedler**

in honor of the marriage of their son Brad to Tessa Rubach and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Faye and Stanley Portnow**

in memory of their grandson Dylan Newman in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Marcia Helbling and Richard Tannenbaum**

in honor of their wedding and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Rose and Tony Peraza**

in honor of the marriage of Marcia Helbling to Richard Tannenbaum and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Andrea and John Brandt****Beth and Ben Cukier****Arline Gardner****Beth and Jeff Gelles****Dara and Jon Gruenberg****Margot and Daniel Milberg****Iris and Andy Morse****Cortney and David Peretz****Phyllis and Brad Perkins****Sue and Lew Rapaport****Nancy and Ken Rilander****Jill and Robert Serling****Cantors' Discretionary Fund****Gloria Goldstein and family**

in memory of Arthur Goldstein and in appreciation of Cantor Davidson

**Marcy Engel and Stuart Cobert**

in honor of the marriage of their daughter Emily Cobert to Dylan Gorman and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

**Stefanie and Howard Greenberg**

in honor of the marriage of their daughter Sara to Zach Kramer and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

**Joan and Michael Grant**

in memory of Nelson Salzman and in appreciation of Cantor Rodnizki

**Dana and Michael Broxmeyer**

in memory of Muriel Broxmeyer and in appreciation of Cantor Rodnizki

**Lori and Gary Gertzog**

in memory of Harold Kleinman, grandfather of Cantor Amanda Kleinman

**Sheryl Braun and Jim Aiello****Margot and Dan Milberg****Harriet and Doug Rachlin****Stacy Rifkin****Joey and Scott Silberfein****Hope and Eric Slepian****Loretta Stamler**

in memory of Jack Silver, father of Pam Rubin and Cheryl Bernstein

**Gail Hoffman**

in memory of Inez Panfiel

**Beth and Jeff Gelles****Dara and Jon Gruenberg****Stephen H. Merkel Fund****Marilyn and Arthur Master**

in memory of Ann Walfish

**TALMUD TORAH - LEARNING****ECC Fund / New Playground****Rachel and Guy Schaller****WRJ JLL Scholarship Fund****Gail Hoffman**

in memory of Phillip Panfiel

**Harriet Gruber****Beverly Miller****Ann Spindel****Edna Sussman****TIKKUM OLAM -  
REPAIRING THE WORLD****Food & Housing Insecurity Fund****Karen Levin and Yoel Magid**

in memory of Arthur Goldstein, husband of Gloria Goldstein

**Valerie Rein z'l**

in memory of her husband Alan Rein and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake and Cantor Kleinman

**Carla and Corrie Anders**

in memory of Marcia Bernstein, mother of Danny Bernstein

**Ann and Fred Price**

in memory of David Streger

**Julie and Bradley Cohen****Tracy and Larry Kohn**

in appreciation of Amy Rossberg

**Gary Haber**

in memory of his wife Ginny Haber and in appreciation of Rabbi Baken

**Anne Marie and Jeffrey Haber**

in memory of Ginny Haber, wife of Gary Haber

**Fran Scheffler and Steve Siegel****Barbara Sklar**

in honor of Karen Levin

**Mara and Brandon Steiner**

in memory of Edith Wagner

**Susan Klugman and David Gorobetz****Betsy and Mark Kleinman**

in appreciation of WRT Clergy Team

**Audrey and Richard Steuer**

in memory of Hilda and Rudolph Forchheimer

**Karen Campbell****Judy and Barry Lass**

in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

**Carol Tetenbaum and Barry Meiselman**

in honor of the marriage of their daughter Kimberly Meiselman to Joshua Azoff and in appreciation of Rabbi Baken

**Cynthia and Marc Samwick**

in memory of Elaine Nevin, mother of David Bunzel

**Roy Appel****Ellen and Bill Blumstein****Liane and Marc Carter****Liz and Steve Gruber****Ann and Fredric Price****Harriet Rader****Erika and Tony Radin****Sandie and Hal Samuels****Sandy and Paul Schiffman****Frank Tamarin****Social Impact and Community  
Engagement Fund**

Jeannie and Brian Rosenthal

## CHAVURAH - COMMUNITY

### Caring Community Fund

Wendy and Michael Cohen

Anne and Mark Ellman

Jill and Donald Miller

Stephie and Bill Miller

in memory of Arthur Goldstein,  
husband of Gloria Goldstein

Stephie and Bill Miller

in honor of the birth of their great-granddaughter  
Rayla Elle Guggendensch

Joan and Richard Toder

in memory of Ilse and Max Brenner

Phyllis and Harvey Jay

in honor of Ivie Rader

Tamar Stone

in memory of her father James Stone

June Costin

Mary Goldblatt

Judy Grosz

Janet Korins and Joe Kaufman

Daniel Korins

Ray Korins

Chris Napolitano

Harriet Rader

Deena Rosenthal

Louise and David Shulman

in memory of Bruce Steinberg,  
husband of Eve Steinberg

Sally Lebow

in appreciation of Yom Kippur Services

Joan and Andrew Frankle

in memory of Lawrence Bassett,  
husband of Charlotte Bassett

Carol Tetenbaum and Barry Meiselman

in honor of the marriage of their daughter Kimberly Meiselman  
to Joshua Azoff  
and in appreciation of Rabbi Baken

Faye and Stanley Portnow

in appreciation of Amy Rossberg

Nattalie Rodriguez

in memory of Elaine Nevin, mother of David Bunzel

Sandie and Hal Samuels

### Men of Reform Judaism Fund

Martin Epstein

Lee Goldsmith

Bill Miller

Richard Nadler

Norman Rosner

### Westchester Reform Temple Special Funds

What better way to celebrate, honor, and remember loved ones... than through a generous, tax deductible donation. Thank you for making a culture of giving to WRT an integral part of your Jewish life.

#### SUPPORTING ALL THE PILLARS OF OUR COMMUNITY

- **Inspired Giving (Annual Fund)** This is WRT's annual campaign and supports all events and activities throughout the year.
- **Security Fund**
- **The Rabbi Richard J. Jacobs and Susan K. Freedman Fund for Innovation in Jewish Life** Supports initiatives to live the lessons and traditions of Judaism, to learn and think deeply, to repair our world, to stand steadfastly with Israel, and to care for one another and the world around us.
- **Rabbi Jack and Priscilla Stern Fund for the Generations** WRT's Endowment Fund

#### AVODAH – SPIRITUALITY

- **Rabbis' Discretionary Fund** Supports needy individuals, organizations and worthy projects
- **Cantors' Discretionary Music Fund** Supports our music programs
- **Jewish Music and Spirituality Fund** Supports special programming, vocal artists, instrumentalists and technical support

#### TALMUD TORAH – LEARNING

- **Bauman Scholar Fund** Encourages, recognizes and celebrates the Jewish learning and identity formation of WRT's most academically inclined students, as exhibited by the fearless learning of Sam Bauman of blessed memory.
- **Morgan & Marjorie Miller Scholar-in-Residence** Supports the annual Scholar-in-Residence program
- **Norman L. Blumstein Memorial Fund** Helps children attend Jewish camps and programs
- **Vivienne Sulds Memorial Fund** Supports special lectures and adult education programs
- **WRJ Jewish Learning Lab Scholarship Fund** Jewish Learning Lab tuition support
- **The Eslyn Fund** To encourage, promote and support educational travel to Israel for the youth of WRT.

#### TIKKUN OLAM – REPAIRING THE WORLD

- **Food & Housing Insecurity Fund** Assists those who lack access to food and shelter here in Westchester County

#### CHAVURAH – COMMUNITY

- **Caring Community Fund Dedicated to Ann R. Miller** Support for the ill or bereaved

To make a contribution or download a pdf form, go to [www.wrtemple.org](http://www.wrtemple.org), click on the GIVE tab to access MAKE A DONATION.

## Did you know you can find us on social media?



[www.facebook.com/WestchesterReformTemple](http://www.facebook.com/WestchesterReformTemple)

[www.instagram.com/westchesterreformtemple](http://www.instagram.com/westchesterreformtemple)

[www.youtube.com/@WRTEmplesNY](http://www.youtube.com/@WRTEmplesNY)