Contents
3 Rabbi’s Message
4 Worship and Spirituality
5-7 Services and Events
8 Supporting Israel
9 Talmud Torah: Adult Education
10 President’s Message
11-13 History of WRT
14-15 Music of WRT
16 Women of Reform Judaism
17 Men or Reform Judaism
18 FreeBirds
20 Community
21 Engagement Director’s Message
22-23 Were You There?
24-25 Early Childhood Center (ECC)
26 Jewish Learning Lab (JLL)
27 Mazal Tov!
28 Condolences
29-31 Contributions

Cover Photos (starting top left to right):
(first row) WRT Clergy “reunion” for WRT@55 (2008); WRT@65 “Homecoming” Gala (2018)
(middle row) WRT@65 “Homecoming” Gala (2018); WRT’s festive 10th Anniversary Ball (1963)
(bottom row) WRT’s “60 Years in the Sixties” (2014); “WRT’s Got Talent” (2013)

Westchester Reform Temple is committed to the value of inclusion, and strives to make worship and programming fully accessible. Our building and bimah 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.

UIA-Federation of NY: We are grateful for a special grant to enable and empower WRT to be the most inclusive congregation we can be. UIA-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.

PROFESSIONAL / ADMIN. STAFF
Laura Rosen Apostolou, Philanthropy Director 723-7727 / Laura.Apostolou@wrtemple.org
Bree Candee, Special Events & Catering Manager 723-7727 / Bree.Candee@wrtemple.org
Danielle Feigenbaum, Director of Communications 723-7727 / 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 723-7727 / Eli.Kornreich@wrtemple.org
Amra Pasic, Accounting and Payroll Manager 723-7727 / Amra.Pasic@wrtemple.org
Natalie Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant 723-7727 / Natalie.Rodriguez@wrtemple.org
Amy Rossberg, Director of Congregant Relations and Pastoral Care 468-0522 / Amy.Rossberg@wrtemple.org
Mikayla Samlosky, Receptionist 723-7727 / Mikayla.Samlosky@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 723-7727 / Sharon.Stiefel@wrtemple.org
Andrew Yanchyshyn, Audio-Visual Production Manager 723-7727 / Andrew.Yanchyshyn@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
Daniella Kamis-Brown, JLL Assistant Director Rabbi.Citrin@wrtemple.org
Nancy Abraham, Lead Hebrew Educator and Learning Differences Specialist NancyAbraham@wrtemple.org
Patty Neiman, JLL Receptionist Patty.Neiman@wrtemple.org

ECC STAFF 914-723-5493
Rebecca Roseman, Director of Early Childhood Center Rebecca.Roseman@wrtemple.org
Jennifer Brauntuch, Assistant Director of ECC Rabbi.Citrin@wrtemple.org
Ellen Rosenberg, ECC Administrative Assistant Ellen.Rosenberg@wrtemple.org
Shir Ha-Ma’alot / A Song of Ascents.

1 When the Eternal restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like dreamers.
2 Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.
Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them,”
3 The Eternal has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.
4 Restore our fortunes, Eternal, like streams in the Negev.
5 Those who sow in tears will reap in songs of joy.
6 Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying their sheaves.

- Psalm 126

Perhaps T.S. Eliot was on to something when he wrote, “April is the cruelest month,” but for the Jewish people, springtime revives hope in the heart even as flowers must bloom out of the thawing ground.

Nature in its ever-flowing cycles is a great teacher. Winter must yield to spring. Despair cannot shut out hope forever. And those who sow in tears will reap in joy.

October 7th, that blackest of Sabbaths, was also a Jewish holiday, Simchat Torah, the day of rejoicing in the Torah. This holiday also carries agricultural significance, marking the start of the rainy season in Israel. On Simchat Torah and for the cold, dark months that follow it, Jewish prayers include verses petitioning God for strong winds and heavy rains to nourish the soil. These prayers give way on Pesach, the season of liberation, to prayers for warming sunshine and gentle dew. The cycle continues: the heavens cry and the heavens dry; the clouds are heavy and yet the sun dispels them.

I write these words in the coldest days of January but they will reach you as winter yields at last to spring. I hope that they will bring to your homes and hearts a spirit of renewed possibility, that our mourning might some day soon turn to dancing once again.

In these pages you will read of a great many congregational simchas, most especially our 70th Anniversary Gala on May 9th. Please plan to join us. Now more than ever, the Jewish People need us to show up radiantly, shining the light of our hopeful tradition into the darkness of a despairing world.
Avodah: Worship and Spirituality

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/
  - WRT Facebook - www.facebook.com/WestchesterReformTemple/
  - WRT YouTube - 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.

Shabbat In The Round
Saturdays, March 30 and May 11 at 9:00 am
Shabbat in the Round is an inclusive, musical congregational Shabbat morning service. Please join us!

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.

Tot Shabbat
Fridays, March 1 and May 31, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Saturday, April 6, 9:00 am (in collaboration with the JLL’s Sharing Shabbat)
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).

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)*
Special Shabbat speaker Orly Erez Likhovski
Friday, March 22 at 6:15 pm
Saturday, March 23 at 11:00 am
WRT is thrilled to welcome Orly Erez Likhovski, director of the Israel Religious Action Center. In this role, Ms. Likhovski is a tireless advocate for justice and a champion of Reform Jewish values in Israel, following proudly in the footsteps of her predecessor, Anat Hoffman.

Over the course of this Shabbat, she will address this critical and urgent moment in Israel’s history.

A Magical Purim
Saturday, March 23 at 7:00 pm
Prepare to be dazzled as we celebrate Purim with eye-popping magic performed by brilliant and talented illusionists, including headliner David Calamari, a professional magician and performing artist who grew up at WRT.

Festive food and drink will be served, with alcohol available for ages 21+ (ID required). An entertaining megillah reading will kick off an evening of wacky wonder.

Marjorie and Morgan z”l Miller Scholar-in-Residence Weekend and Installation of Cantor Isaac Sonett-Assor
Friday, March 29, 6:15 pm
Saturday, March 30, 9:00 am Shabbat in the Round
Join us for a moment of sacred transition, as we formally welcome Cantor Isaac Sonett-Assor as WRT’s Assistant Cantor. Cantor Sonett-Assor’s mentors and classmates, leading voices in the Jewish world, will join us to conduct the time-honored ritual of installation. The service will also feature WRT’s volunteer choir. A celebratory community oneg will follow our service.

Cantor Sonett-Assor’s mentor, Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller will also join us as our Scholar-in-Residence for Shabbat. Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller serves as the Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman Professor of Liturgy, Worship, and Ritual and Professor of Cantorial Arts at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, and as cantor of Bet Am Shalom Synagogue in White Plains, New York.
Annual Service of Responsibility
Friday, May 3 at 6:15 pm
Our entire community gathers each year around Yom Ha-Shoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, to honor the victims of the Shoah and to address antisemitism, genocide, and hate in our time. Our Sixth Grade Class will accept the responsibility to remember a child who perished in the Holocaust.

We will welcome guest speaker Dr. Alvin H. Rosenfeld, Professor of English and Jewish Studies, and Director of the Center for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism at Indiana University.

Dr. Rosenfeld will also be present on Saturday, May 4th, to continue teaching our congregation about the memory of the Holocaust in a post-October 7th world.

We Rejoice Together in celebration of our remarkable community as we work towards a bright and dynamic future and support our commitment to help rebuild Kibbutz Be’eri in Israel which suffered devastating losses and destruction on October 7, 2023.

Thursday, May 9th, 2024
6:30 PM
Westchester Reform Temple
255 Mamaroneck Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583

To learn more about how you can support WRT’s 70th Anniversary Gala, visit our website at www.wrtemple.org or contact Laura Rosen Apostolou, Philanthropy Director at Laura.Apostolou@wrtemple.org.

WRT Celebrates 70 Years with seven decades of powerful broadway music

Featuring:
Cocktails, Dinner, Dessert, and a Star-studded performance by our Clergy

Passover Festival Morning Service
Tuesday, April 23 at 10:00 am

Passover Yizkor Service
Monday, April 29 at 10:00 am
Thank You To Cantor Rodnizki and Rabbi Baken & Yom Ha’atzmaut Celebration
Friday, May 17 at 6:15 pm
Join us for a special Shabbat expressing gratitude to Cantor Danielle Rodnizki and Rabbi Sasha Baken for their loving and devoted service to WRT. We will also celebrate Yom Ha-Atzma’ut, Israel’s Independence Day. An Israeli-style Oneg will follow services.

Honoring our Youth
Friday, May 31 at 6:15 pm
At this annual Shabbat service, we recognize the recipients of the Tracy Kreisberg Award, given to an outstanding member of the Confirmation (10th Grade) Class, and the Bauman Scholars Award, given to a graduating High School senior who exemplifies a commitment to Jewish learning.

Celebrate Israel Parade (NYC)
Sunday, June 2
Save the date for the 2024 Israel Parade. Details will be announced in future eblasts. If you want to learn more about this historic annual event, go to https://celebrateisraelny.org.

Chai Society Shabbat
Friday, June 7 at 6:15 pm
Join us to honor members of long standing whose dedication and devotion to WRT has been so vital to its success. The first WRT Chai Society event was held in the fall of 2009. Now we look forward to our 15th year of honoring congregants who have been WRT members for 18 years or more.

Confirmation Service and Shavuot Yizkor Service
Tuesday, June 11 at 6:00 pm

Men of Reform Judaism (MRJ) Brotherhood Award
Friday, June 14 at 6:15 pm
Make a Donation to Support Israel

There are many worthwhile organizations that you may consider donating to in support of Israel, and choosing one can feel overwhelming. To help you navigate these options, WRT has identified 6 organizations that are addressing specific needs in Israel right now, including in the South. Visit our website at https://bit.ly/497FPId or scan the QR code at the bottom of the page for a more extensive alphabetical list.

Magen David Adom
Magen David Adom operates Israeli’s ambulance and Medivac units, runs its emergency dispatch system, dispatch system, trains its paramedics, and serves as the sole blood supplier for the Israeli Defense Forces. Michael Bloomberg has pledged to match all contributions.

United Hatzalah
Israel’s largest independent, non-profit, fully volunteer emergency medical service organization that provides the fastest emergency medical service throughout Israel, free of charge. They are currently conducting an emergency campaign for emergency equipment. You can make a monetary donation or donate specific medical equipment.

Friends of the Israeli Defense Forces
Gifts to the FIDF go toward temporary field hospitals, intensive care ambulances and hygiene kits, as well as other urgent needs identified by the IDF.

American Friends of Soroka Medical Center
American Friends of Soroka Medical Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Soroka Medical Center, Israel’s only major hospital in Southern Israel.

UJA NY Emergency Fund For Israel
UJA NY’s Emergency Fund is mobilizing urgently needed relief for the people of Israel, including emergency cash assistance for victims of terror trauma counseling, care for children in shelters, burial expenses, and funds to relocate people to safer areas.

NATAL
NATAL is the Israel Trauma and Resiliency Center. It is an apolitical organization providing multidisciplinary treatment and support to direct and indirect victims of trauma due to terror and war in Israel.

Additionally, the Rabbis’ Discretionary Fund of WRT is currently supporting critical organizations that are addressing humanitarian needs, support for Israel’s soldiers, and traumatized communities throughout Israel.


WRT Helps to Rebuild Kibbutz Be’eri
Proceeds from our annual Gala on May 9 will be split to support our local community and to help rebuild Kibbutz Be’eri. To learn more, contact Laura Rosen Apostolou, Philanthropy Director at 914-723-7727 or Laura.Apostolou@wrtemple.org.
Talmud Shiur with Rabbi Blake
Thursdays, March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9, 16 and 23
10:15 - 11:45 am (Zoom)

The Talmud tells us that Rabbi Akiva—the greatest Sage of his generation—didn’t begin his Jewish learning until the age of 40. It’s never too late! Young or old, neophyte or veteran: all are welcome to join Rabbi Blake’s popular weekly Talmud class online, where we discuss topics both timely (e.g., the Israel-Hamas War) and timeless (good, evil, life, death, and everything in between). “This class has been life-changing,” many have said.

All are welcome. No prior Hebrew/Talmud experience required.

Meditation Lab
Fridays, March 1, 22, April 12, 26, May 3 and 17
11:00 - 11:45 am (CJL Livingroom)

Are you curious about meditation? Are you wondering how meditation connects to Judaism? Believe it or not, meditation has been utilized by Jews for centuries, benefitting our ancestors (and us!) in mind, body, and spirit. Meditation can enhance calm, clarity, and creativity. You can try it yourself!

Come join Rabbi Baken, and congregant (and mindfulness meditation practitioner and guide) Norm Goldstein on Friday mornings to explore meditation and the ways in which Jewish life can inform this practice. Beginners (and more experienced meditators) are warmly welcome!

Rosh Chodesh 5784
Led by Cantor Amanda Kleinman and Cantor Danielle Rodnizki
Tuesdays, March 12, April 9, May 7 and June 4 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.

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.
President’s Message
Warren Haber

I’ve always been fascinated by the commandment to welcome strangers to our Passover Seders. This directive originates from the Torah, Leviticus 19:33-34, which states, “The strangers who sojourn with you shall be to you as the natives among you, and you shall love them as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.” For this reason, many families invite non-Jews to participate in their Seders to learn about our customs and familiarize themselves with our liberation story.

Over the years, I’ve had a number of acquaintances and friends of our children tell us how much they have enjoyed learning about our Passover rituals and traditions. I’m also struck by how each of the seders which I’ve been fortunate enough to participate in has enriched my understanding and insights into our faith.

Last year, I was invited to attend the WRJ Annual Women’s Seder entitled, “Truly, our cup runneth over.” As part of this beautiful Passover tradition, the participants reenacted the songs and rituals of the parting of the Red Sea as “the Israelite women sang and danced their way across to Freedom.” Not only did the experience reinforce the role of song and dance in extolling our liberation, but the Seder also included a variety of instruments which empowered participants to create their own unique musical song line.

I also had the opportunity to participate in the Men of Reform Judaism’s “Worldwide Seder” which compiled various historical Haggadot to inform the rich diversity of Passover practices. This Seder made me acutely aware of the different traditions which uniquely inform each family’s practices. The meal also exposed me to a variety of different foods and music which I had never before associated with Passover.

In attending the WRT-sponsored (and other families’) Seders, it allowed me to revisit the perspective of the “stranger.” Although many families interpret the “stranger” to specifically mean non-Jews, I’d like to suggest that Passover is an opportunity for us to all learn about new perspectives. Given the richness of the Jewish diaspora, there are a myriad of cultural traditions which have been carried forth.

For instance, Moroccans invite neighbors over to eat sweets while Ethiopians destroy earthenware dishes. Afghans purportedly whip each other with scallions while Poles re-enact the crossing of the Red Sea. In Spain, the Seder leader walks around the table and taps each guest on the head three times with the Seder plate while Syrians break Matzah into the shapes of Hebrew letters. (jewishfed.org)

Irrespective of your family’s traditions, I urge you to consider yourself the “stranger” for Passover this year and learn more about some of the rich traditions which have bequeathed our wonderful culture. Even if you don’t choose to participate in one of WRT’s enriching Seders, consider taking a moment to contemplate a different viewpoint which could invite more diversity and perspective into your traditions.

Chag Sameach!
From 1994 to 2024...

1994:
- ARZA membership presented to every B’nei Mitzvah.
- WRT selected as participant in Experiment in Congregational Education.
- Sorel Goldberg Loeb selected as second Early Childhood Center director.
- WRT selected as participant in Gift of Israel Program.
- Critical Issues Forum established.

1995:
- Bat Mitzvah of Dasha Schevtchenko from WRT’s Russian family.
- Ann Z. Finkelstein appointed second executive director.
- Congregation approves plans for creation of Center for Jewish Life.
- Congregation welcomes Rabbi Judith Schindler as fifth assistant rabbi.
- First Mitzvah Day
- First Emeritus Weekend

1996:
- Purchase of 253 Mamaroneck Road.
- Groundbreaking for Center for Jewish Life.
- Rabbi Jacobs leads congregational trip to Israel.
- Second day Rosh Hashanah Service held for the first time.

1997:
- WRT Board approves establishment of relationship with Kehillat Mevasseret Zion in Israel
- Experiment in Congregational Education Task Force evolves into Education Council.
- Marjorie L. Miller elected President.
- Cantor Merkel leads congregants on Eastern European Trip.
- Dedication of Center for Jewish Life.
- WRT adopts Kehillat Mevasseret Zion in Israel as sister congregation.
- Rabbi Schindler leads congregational trip to Israel and visits Kehillat Mevasseret Zion.

1998:
- Gala celebration of Cantor Stephen Merkel’s 10th anniversary at WRT.
- Israeli Fair in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Israel.
- Congregation engages Rabbi Kenneth Chasen as sixth assistant rabbi.
- Congregation engages Rabbi Laurie Katz Braun as first assistant rabbi for youth.
- Family High Holy Day Worship Services initiated.

1999:
- ECC receives day care license, allowing afternoon sessions for first time.
- Ruth Frankfurt, beloved teacher of 45 years, is honored on her retirement.
- Angela Warnick Buchdahl invested as Cantor.
- JrWRAFTY is created for children in grades 6, 7 and 8.
- Dual Sabbath Eve Services begun.

2000:
- Sorel Goldberg Loeb becomes Director of Education.
- Marilyn Master named Administrative Director of Education.
- Phyllis Shankman joins WRT as Director of the ECC.
- Rabbi Jacobs receives ARZA/WORLD UNION North America International Humanitarian Award.

2001:
- First WRT Women’s Seder is held for 120 women.
- Amy Lemle is elected President of WRT.
- Angela Warnick Buchdahl is ordained, named Assistant Rabbi/Cantor.
- Afternoon Havdalah B’nei Mitzvah ceremonies are begun.

2002:
- Greeters Initiative begins for Friday night Shabbat and festival services.
- WRT sends 100 to National Rally to Support Israel in Washington, D.C.
- Cantor Merkel teaches songleading to progressive congregations in Russia.
- Religious School Initiative develops proposals to re-invent Religious School with pilot classes beginning in the Fall.
- Congregation participates in county-wide Synagogue 2000 program to foster sacred community.

2003:
- Congregation buys house at 11 Saxon Woods Road for campus expansion.
- Rabbi Jonathan E. Blake joins WRT as seventh associate rabbi.
- WRT forms partnership with Edward Williams School in Mount Vernon.

2004:
- Rogers Marvel Architects selected for sanctuary & school design
- WRT celebrates 50th Year with theatrical performance The Five Pillars.
- Sue Tolchin is hired as Early Childhood Director.
- Yoel Magid begins as third Executive Director.
2005:
- WRT first welcomes Rabbi Dario Feiguin of Buenos Aires.
- Ellen Sunness is elected President of WRT.
- WRT sends truckload of food and clothing to Hurricane Katrina victims.
- Rabbi Jacobs travels to Chad to meet with Darfur genocide survivors.

2006:
- Sharing Shabbat celebrates 10th-year anniversary.
- Cantor Mia Fram Davidson joins WRT’s clergy team.
- Singer-songwriter Debbie Friedman begins year as Artist-in-Residence.
- Lech Lecha Renewal Campaign is publicly launched.

2007:
- WRT mourns the passing of Cantor Stephen Merkel z’l.
- With Men’s Club assistance, area homeless men shelter overnight at WRT.
- Cantor Jill Abramson begins as Senior Cantor, joined by newly-ordained Assistant Cantor Dan Sklar.
- Green Task Force is created.

2008:
- WRT mourns the death of Cantor Emeritus Joseph Boardman.
- WRT bids farewell to long-time accompanist Justin Bischof.
- Rabbi David Hartman delivers first memorial lecture in remembrance of Rabbi Jacob & Deborah Rubenstein of Young Israel of Scarsdale.

2009:
- Lisa Messinger is elected President.
- Rabbi Jacobs brings memorial stones from Israel for new memorial garden.
- Dedication held for new sanctuary and social hall.
- Jazz pianist & conductor Pete Malinverni hired as music accompanist.

2010:
- Torah written by congregants is dedicated to Sorel Goldberg Loeb.
- WRT joins area congregations to help unemployed members find new jobs.
- Taking actions to Stand with Israel is focus of Town Hall meeting.

2011:
- Rabbi Jacobs announces acceptance of Presidency of the URJ.
- WRT mourns the death of Rabbi Emeritus Jack Stern z’l.
- Community Visioning Conversations held to assist senior rabbi selection.
- WRT begins community organizing work with Westchester United.

2012:
- WRT mourns death of singer-songwriter Debbie Friedman z’l.
- Rabbi Jonathan E. Blake is installed as Senior Rabbi after national search.
- Rabbi David Levy becomes Assistant Rabbi.
- Rabbi Marcus Burstein is named Acting Associate Rabbi.

2013:
- WRT’s Got Talent features evening of congregational entertainment.
- Congregants lobby in Albany with Reform Jewish Voice of New York.
- Helene Gray is elected President.
- Rabbi Sara Abrams becomes Assistant Rabbi.
- Alan Halpern begins as fourth Executive Director.

2014:
- WRT joins other faith institutions in Gun Violence Prevention Shabbat.
- Project Grad Bag is organized to facilitate reuse of college dorm supplies.
- Rosh Hashanah Gift of Life Bone Marrow Drive nets 144 new donors.
- Inaugural Sukkah Slam features food trucks and outdoor live music.

2015:
- WRT establishes BBYO chapter for Jewish teens.
- Former cantorial intern Amanda Kleinman is named Assistant Cantor.
- Eli Kornreich begins as fifth Executive Director.
- WRT launches Zero Waste Program.
- iSing Shabbat program debuts for grades 1-4 and their families.
- WRT is recognized as Exemplar Congregation for its inclusion work.

2016:
- Family Shabbat weekend retreat held at Eisner Camp.
- Adult Choir performs Bonia Shur’s “Hallel Psalms.”
- Rabbi Daniel Reiser named Assistant Rabbi.
- New High Holiday prayer book, Mishkan HaNefesh, is introduced.
- Refugee Resettlement Task Force holds first meeting.

2017:
- Cantor Abramson selected as AJWS global justice fellow.
- Marcy R. Harris is elected President.
- Associate Rabbi David Levy is named Jewish Learning Lab Director.
- WRT’s reimagined religious school opens as Jewish Learning Lab.
- Cantor Kleinman introduces 2-year Adult Confirmation program.
### 2018:
- Rabbi Blake and Cantor Kleinman lead 24 high school seniors to Israel.
- Rabbi Levy wins Young Pioneer Award from Jewish Education Project.
- WRT celebrates 65th anniversary with tribute to past, present and future.
- Connections Membership is piloted for young families post-ECC.

### 2019:
- WRT pays tribute to Reform pioneer Isaac Mayer Wise on his 200th birthday.
- WRT mourns the tragic death of Rabbi Aaron Panken z”l.
- Cantor Kleinman begins as Senior Cantor.
- Melton Adult Education Program attracts new WRT learners.
- WRT resettles 2 refugee sisters from Central African Republic.

### 2020:
- Covid-19 pandemic forces worship, life cycles and operations online.
- ECC is only Westchester school open, in person, for entire school year.
- Newly-ordained Cantor Danielle Rodnizki begins as Assistant Cantor.
- Pre-recorded High Holiday services are offered remotely.
- Inspired Giving Campaign nets over $1 million for Covid relief.

### 2021:
- WRT holds its first drive-thru Purim-Palooza in the WRT parking lot.
- Warren Haber is elected WRT President.
- Rabbi Blake offers series of sermons honoring Bob Dylan on his 80th birthday.
- High Holidays tent services draw members back to WRT.
- WRT marks “Thanksgivukkah” with outdoor menorah lighting ceremony.

### 2022:
- Rabbis Levy and Reiser are blessed at weekend celebration.
- Rabbi Leah Citrin joins WRT as Associate Rabbi and JLL Director.
- Rabbi Sasha Baken begins as Assistant Rabbi.
- WRT holds its first Mitzvah Fair.
- The first year for WRT Delivers Thanksgiving, delivering 365 meals.

### 2023:
- Cantorial Intern Isaac Sonett-Assor is hired as Assistant Cantor.
- Sue Tolchin, beloved ECC Director, is honored upon her retirement after 19 years.
- ECC Associate Director Rebecca Roseman begins as ECC Director.
- Rabbis Blake and Baken bring 80 WRT members to Israel March in Washington, DC.

### 2024:
- Shabbat celebration honors Rabbi Blake’s 20 years at WRT.
- Gala Event celebrating WRT’s 70th anniversary.

---

WRT participants headed to the March for Israel in D.C.
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

The WRT Music Series is made possible by donations to the Jewish Music and Spirituality Fund at WRT.
Installation of Cantor Isaac Sonett-Assor
Friday, March 29, 2024
Our community will commemorate a moment of sacred transition, as we formally welcome Cantor Isaac Sonett-Assor as WRT’s Assistant Cantor with the time-honored ritual of installation. To offer blessings to Cantor Sonett-Assor, we will welcome leading voices in the Jewish world, Cantor Sonett-Assor’s cherished mentors, Cantors Gerald Cohen, Richard Cohn, and Benjie Ellen Schiller. This service will also feature WRT’s choirs. A celebratory community oneg will follow our service.

WRT@70 Gala/Broadway Night
Thursday, May 9, 2024
Save the date for a gala celebration of WRT at 70! Our program will feature clergy and beloved friends of our congregation singing Broadway classics spanning the seven decades of WRT. Stay tuned for more information!

The WRT@70 Gala includes: Cocktails, Dinner, Dessert and Entertainment.

Kick-off to Summer
featuring the Pete Malinverni Trio
Friday, June 28, 2024
Join us for a musical kick-off to summer! Following our Shabbat service and a festive oneg, stick around for a jazz concert led by our beloved pianist and conductor, Pete Malinverni.
Women of Reform Judaism

Writing Workshop with Barbara Josselsohn
Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30 pm
If Barbara Josselsohn’s latest novels Secrets of the Italian Island and The Lost Gift to the Italian Island, inspired you to examine your own Jewish heritage through the written word, then join us for this program. Open to anyone with the urge to write or journal, or try something new!

WRJ’s Annual Women’s Seder: Truly, Our Cup Runneth Over
Thursday, April 11, 6:00 pm
You don’t want to miss our Passover celebration, gathering as the daughters of Israel did to pray, sing, dance and eat. Led by Cantor Amanda Kleinman, Cantor Danielle Rodnizki, Rabbi Sasha Baken and Rabbi Leah Citrin.

WRJ Dinner and Discussion with Rabbi Blake
Thursday June 13 at 6:30 pm
(more details to be announced)
Men of Reform Judaism

The MRJ’s “World of Passover Celebrations” Seder
Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 pm
Join us for the MRJ’s 2nd Annual “World of Passover Celebrations” Seder. Led by Rabbi Jonathan Blake and Cantor Isaac Sonett-Assor, we will explore Passover traditions, songs, stories, and of course, cuisine from all around the Jewish world. We will celebrate the diverse faces of our WRT family and our global Jewish community as well as the common threads that bind us together.

Blood Drive
Sunday, April 14, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at WRT
Come save a life by donating blood at the MRJ’s annual blood drive. This year, we are teaming up with WRT’s annual Mitzvah Fair and 10th Grade Car Wash. Donate blood and get a free car wash!
FreeBirds

Cantors Happy Hour with the Freebirds
Sunday, March 3, 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Join the WRT cantors for a fun evening of joyous singing and enjoy some drinks and light bites! Bring your friends and meet new ones.

Game Night
Thursday, May 16, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
We've Got Game!! Join us for Canasta, Mahjongg or Bridge. Bring Your Own Group
For more information contact Iris Green at irg.green@gmail.com or Audrey Weinberg at drey52555@aol.com

Walking Tour of Jewish Harlem with Rabbi Blake and Free Birds
Sunday, May 19 (Depart WRT at 9:00 am)
Join the Freebirds as Rabbi Blake takes us on a walking tour of Jewish Harlem on May 19. We will have a tour of the Old Broadway Synagogue and brunch at a wonderful Ethiopian/Israeli restaurant as well as seeing the sights, secrets and tastes of the neighborhood with a fascinating Jewish backstory. Transportation included: round trip from WRT.

A Taste of The Jewish Food Society
Wednesday, June 5 at 7:00 pm
Rabbi Blake and Free Birds welcome to WRT Naama Shefi of the Jewish Food Society, author of the brand new cookbook, The Jewish Holiday Table.
A fireside chat with Rabbi Blake and Naama Shefi including themes and topics such as lesser known Jewish food traditions from around the world, family recipes and histories, Israeli food, food as an intergenerational connection and an audience Q&A.

The Story of JewBelong with founder, Archie Gottesman
Sunday, June 9 - 11:45 am - 1:15 pm
Join Rabbi Blake and Archie Gottesman, (the brilliant marketing executive behind the famously cheeky Manhattan Mini-Storage billboard campaign), as she shares the story of JewBelong, her marketing campaign that has blanketed NYC in messages that address antisemitism and provide a joyful, inclusive brand for Jewishness.
Evening Book Group
Tuesdays, March 19, April 16, May 21 and June 18
7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Interested in joining the evening book group? The group meets on a Tuesday evening of each month at WRT for review and discussion on the month’s selected title. For more information, please contact Lenore Rosenbaum at papoobeads@optonline.net.

Chair Yoga Series at WRT
Thursdays at 2:00 pm
Spring Session (continued) - March 7, 14, 21 and 28
Summer Session - May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20 and 27
We invite you to come and try this series to nurture your body and soul. RSVP via email to receptionist@wrtemple.org or call the temple office at 914-723-7727.
Community

Bereavement Group
Wednesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 pm
March 6, April 3, 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
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.

Both Bereavement Groups are 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. Meeting dates and information will be posted in the Weekly Eblast or you may send an email to Suzanne.Saperstein@wrtemple.org to learn more.

Living with Divorce: Support Group
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
March 13, April 17 and May 15
WRT is committed to embracing and supporting people as they live through divorce and single parenting, and find their new family rituals in the face of that change.

Rabbi Sasha Baken serves as the clergy partner in this endeavor, alongside Jane Slevin, LMFT (Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist from Westchester Jewish Community Service). Together, they lead our monthly support group. Wherever you are in the journey of divorce or single parenting, we welcome you and are at the ready to provide you with support and community. Meeting dates and information will be posted in the Weekly Eblast or you may send an email to Suzanne.Saperstein@wrtemple.org to learn more.
It is with great excitement that we officially announce the date of the 2nd Annual WRT Mitzvah Fair on April 14, 2024. The theme of our annual Mitzvah Fair is **Bring More Light into the World**.

“Doing a mitzvah is like lighting a candle before God — it is preparing a place where God’s glorious presence can dwell. By means of this you enliven your soul, the candle... The more light a person brings about in the physical darkness, through doing the mitzvot, the more that one will enlighten one’s soul from the light above” Rabbi Yehudah Leib Alter of Ger, *Sefat Emet, Parashat T’zavveh*.

I can think of no time more than now that we all could use a bit more light.

Last year, we brought Mitzvah Fair back to the WRT community with a new name, a new look, and a new concept. WRT welcomed onto its campus many local and regional non profit organizations to promote their work, encouraged our members to sign up for subsequent Mitzvah opportunities at regional facilities, and to participate in hands-on activities at WRT.

This year, we will continue to have these wonderful experiences, accompanied by food trucks, and live music with the addition of a few new surprises. And as Israel continues to be in our hearts and in our minds, we will seek to add an element of action specifically to benefit Israel and her organizations.

We hope to have an even larger turnout from both local organizations and our own members. We cannot do this without your help. Please consider volunteering to be part of the planning for this day. You can sign up by emailing me at sharon.stiefel@wrtemple.org.

Let us come together on April 14, enlighten our souls, and together drive out a bit of darkness in the world.

---

**Tzedeck, Tzedeck, tirdof:** Justice, justice, we shall pursue!

Sharon Stiefel  
Director of Social Impact and Community Engagement

---

"Tzedeck, Tzedeck, tirdof:* Justice, justice, we shall pursue!"  
Sharon Stiefel  
Director of Social Impact and Community Engagement
Early Childhood Center (ECC)

Our favorite time of year on our beautiful WRT Early Childhood Center grounds is undoubtedly spring. We begin to hear the birds chirping, we notice the buds on our tree-lined walkway, and we sometimes spot a beautiful butterfly joining us to play on our Gan playground. As we witness the physical growth and rebirth surrounding us, it is impossible not to reflect on the tremendous amount of development each of our children has undergone this school year.

Many of our 2s begin the year just starting to put words and short sentences together. We now walk into our 2s rooms, hearing purposeful chit-chat, and direct responses to questions their teachers have asked. Our 3s who began the year largely engaged in parallel play, are now forming close-knit relationships, and seeking each other out for intentional play. And our 4-year-olds who, by and large, began the school year not quite ready to write their names, are now well on their way to completing our Handwriting Without Tears curriculum.

The life of a preschooler is overflowing with developmental milestones. Like the crocuses beginning to sprout outside our classroom windows, our children’s speech and language is blossoming before our very eyes. We enter as 2-year-olds, unsteady on our feet, and graduate as 4 and 5 year olds running down our sanctuary aisle. Our fingers are initially not quite sure how to grasp a marker or a glue stick, but we leave here forming letters and cutting out shapes.

We’re entering the final stretch of our school year, and while we cannot believe how quickly the time is flying, we are overwhelmed with pride at how much our little ones have accomplished already this school year.
There’s so much more still to come!

**Monthly Tot Shabbats:**
Fridays: March 1 and May 31, 5:30 – 6:30 pm;
Saturday: April 6 at 9:00 am (in collaboration with the JLL’s Sharing Shabbat)
Experience the joy of Shabbat with children, parents, grandparents, siblings and friends. Designed for families with young children and led by WRT clergy.

**STEAM Extravaganza:**
Thursday, March 14 (Pi Day), 4:00 - 5:00 pm
ECC children have the opportunity to discover Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math challenges at the STEAM Extravaganza. Please join us for this special afternoon where children will circulate through investigation stations created by our ECC Teachers.

**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. This event is led by clergy and ECC staff.

**ECC Cocktail Party:**
Thursday, May 2
An evening event held at WRT for existing and incoming ECC parents. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres are served. This social gathering is a fabulous event for ECC parents in a fun and festive setting.

**New Family Welcome:**
Thursday, May 16, 5:30 pm
Families that are new to our school are invited to meet one another over pizza and dessert. Tours of the ECC are given and children get a first glimpse of their new school.

**Truck Day:**
Wednesday, May 22
All ECC children have an opportunity to view and explore trucks during their ECC school day. Trucks that often visit us are: a fire engine, a police car, a garbage truck, a backhoe, an ambulance, a mail truck and the ever popular ice-cream truck! (ECC children only)

**Summer Play Place Camp:**
Monday, July 1 - Friday, August 16
WRT’s Summer Play Place is an enriching experience for children entering our two and three-year-old programs. Each camp group is led by experienced preschool teachers, who provide warmth, understanding and support to campers and their parents.
Jewish Learning Lab (JLL)

JLL IS KINDLING A LIFELONG LOVE OF JEWISH LEARNING & LIVING

• 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.”

Lab Shabbat

Fridays, March 8, April 12, May 10, 5:30 -7:00 pm

An opportunity to welcome Shabbat with a family friendly service followed by a delicious and different dinner each time. Designed for families with children in Kindergarten through fifth grade, each Lab Shabbat will include participation by a particular grade to showcase their JLL learnings.

March 8: 4th Grade Participation
April 12: 2nd Grade Participation
May 10: 5th Grade Participation

Paint-a-Prayer

With generous funding from the Jacobs-Freedman Fund, we have engaged artist Jennifer Levine for this entire year to guide our students in the process of imagining and painting murals on the walls of the JLL. Jenn writes, “I developed Paint-a-Prayer as a way to deepen our connection with Tefilah. Though the method involves art making, I lean on my background in Jewish education and experience with Jewish meditation to center the experience, making the act of painting the prayer itself. The final product is wonderful, giving the participants a goal and the synagogue a testimony, but my focus is on setting the stage for a transcendence experience for the community.”

The painting is underway! Stop by the wall outside of classroom 9 to see the progress!

March
3/2: 8th/9th Grade Jew York City midnight run
3/14-3/17: 8th Grade Civil Rights Trip
3/24: PURIMPALOOZA (Family T’filah)
3/30-3/31: NO JLL CLASSES (long weekend)
3/31: RESCHEDULED 8th/9th Grade Jew York City Lower East Side Walking Tour

April
4/14: Mitzvah Fair! Confirmation Class fundraiser, Family T’filah
4/20-4/29: JLL Closed for Pesach Break

May
5/3: Service of Responsibility with 6th Grade dinner and Shoah Pairings
5/5: 8th/9th Grade Jew York City Museum of Jewish Heritage
5/19: Last Day of JLL Classes; Celebration of Learning
5/31: Honoring our Youth

June
6/11: Confirmation service
Mazal Tov!

Births
Amie Zhu and David Jaffe on the birth of their daughter Sophie Zahava Jaff
Alix and Jeffrey Anand on the birth of their son and daughter Julian Sage Anand and Liora Vivi Anand
Katharine and David Haber on the birth of their daughter Millie Elizabeth Haber
Ruth Friendly on the birth of her great-granddaughter Olivia Mayland Mark and to the parents Catie and Noah Mark
Diane and Lloyd Loft on the birth of their grandson Ethan Archie Elias and to the parents Jordana and Jonathan Elias
Penny Goldsmith and Bob Meyerson on the birth of their granddaughter Avery Elaine Goldsmith and to the parents Lauren Schwartz and Josh Goldsmith
Gabby (ECC Teacher and Social Worker) and Michael Felman on the birth of their daughter Goldie Elaine Felman
Carol and Kenneth Weiser Betsy Weiser and Eric Karp on the birth of their great-grandson/their grandson Lucas Ian Miller, and to the parents Emily Karp Miller and Derek Miller
Muriel Hahn on the birth of her great-granddaughters Lilah Finn and Lucy Sage Ginsberg, and to the parents Rebecca Dyckman and Nick Ginsberg
Amy (ECC 2s Teacher) and Steve Chussid on the birth of their granddaughter Scout Phoebe Chussid, and to the parents Talia and Sam Chussid
Jessica and Peter Heyer Mindy and Andrew Heyer on the birth of their son/their grandson Jacob Samuel Heyer
Robyn and Eric Grosshandler on the birth of their son Leo James Grosshandler
Ruth Raisfeld and Len Benowich on the birth of their grandson Matan Joseph Lahmi, and to the parents Sarah Benowich and Dan Lahmi
Iris Alper (ECC Teacher) on the birth of her grandson Dean Aston Alper, and to the parents Brittany and Evan Alper

Engagements
Vicki and Jay Elkins on the engagement of their daughter Sarah to Steven Siegel
Stephanie and Corey Tessler on the engagement of their daughter Marlee to Max Pollack
Beth and Uri Shabto on the engagement of their son Brian to Gaby Coetzee
Wendy and Howard Berk on the engagement of their daughter Chelsea to Jake Taub

Marriages
Celia and Larry Brown on the wedding of their daughter Meredith to Zachary Sheinberg
Jackie and Jeff Elsner on the wedding of their daughter Julia to Andrew Zalin

B’nei Mitzvah
Dana and Brian Hirsch on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Alexa
Paula Ramer and Jordan Brenner on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Eli
Betsy and Dan Rohtbart on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Billy
Samantha and Andrew Saperstein on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Mia
Jennifer Nogi and Adam Hirsch on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Lexi
Carrie and Marc Lieberman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Eli
Lauren and Bradley Bass on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Bryn
Tara and Jason Kaplan on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Jake
Lisa and Jeremy Gans on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Evan
Beth and Zach Altshuler on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Avery
Sheri Nemorofsky and Kevin Stockton on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Abigail
Ali and Greg Gordon on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Eli
Leslie and Evan Semegran on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Ella
Kate Solomon and David Wasserman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Solomon (Solzy)
Rebecca and Matthew Kirschner on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Alex
Amrita and Jade Rahmani on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Saira
Rachel and Jonathan Krisbergh on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Jordan
Debra and Jonathan Kolodner on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Ethan
Jamie and Joshua Camhi on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Talia
Sara and Brad Cetron on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Isaac
Genna and David Farber on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Avi
Samantha and Benjamin April on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Andie
Vivian and Eric Fishman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Eliza
Jonathan and Jayne Gasthalter on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Evan
Rachel and Michael Liebman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Alexandra
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, Director of Congregant Relations and Pastoral Care, at 914-468-0522 or email Amy.Rossberg@wrtemple.org.

Condolences

Lisa Alperin  
on the death of her uncle Yisroel Dardik

Jocelyn Sontag  
on the death of her father Steven Tainsky

Linda Feldman  
on the death of her sister Joan Youngman

Keely Mann  
on the death of her uncle Peter Young

Sheri Kaplan, Lois Schilling, and Fred Wadler  
on the death of their mother Phyllis Rand

David Landau  
on the death of his father Samuel Jacob Landau

Caroline Nussbaum  
on the death of her father Allen Greenberg

Ilona Pokoik  
on the death of her father Yuda Berger

Jennifer Nogi  
on the death of her father Jacob Nogi

Seth Plattus  
on the death of his mother Marian Plattus

Ali Gordon  
on the death of her father Richard Denmark

Jackie Hermann-Elsner  
on the death of her mother Marion Hermann

Leesa Suzman  
on the death of her mother Jean Chalk

Pauline Camras  
on the death of her brother Neil Glasgall

Abby Spivak  
on the death of her father Brian Coven

Dottie Levin  
on the death of her son-in-law Matthew Atwood

Judith Koch  
on the death of her husband Jerome S. Koch

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member Phyllis Rand  
and extends sympathy to her bereaved family.

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our members Brooke and Toby Cohen  
and extends sympathy to their bereaved family.

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member Marion Hermann  
and extends sympathy to her bereaved family.

The congregation of WRT mourns the death of our member Jerome S. Koch  
and extends sympathy to his bereaved family.
Contributions

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

**SUPPORTING ALL THE PILLARS OF OUR COMMUNITY**

**Fund for the Generations**
Barbara Ballinger and Family
in honor of Audrey Steuer and Family

**Rabbi Richard J. Jacobs and Susan K. Freedman Fund for Innovation in Jewish Life**
Susan Freedman and Rabbi Richard Jacobs
in honor of the inspiring clergy and staff of WRT

**Inspired Giving**
Sari and Jay Canell
Susan and Jeff Goldenberg
Ann and Arthur Grey Foundation
Tracy and Marc Jaffe
Betty Lappin
Sara and Andrew Levine
Allison and Michael Meltz
Harriet and Douglas Rachlin
Ivie and Bruce Rader
Nicole and Edward Risener
Sarah Stern and Mark Rosenblatt
Florence and Warren Sinsheimer
Joan and Laurence Sorkin
Audrey and Richard Steuer
Elaine and Alan Weiler
Mindy and Gregory White
Dana Oliver and Adam Wolfson
Mara and Brandon Steiner

**AVODAH - SPIRITUALITY**
Nancy and Stephen Karotkin
in memory of Helen Greene, mother of Michael Greene
in memory of Steven Getz, brother of Elise Flagg and Helene Getz
and in honor of the wedding of Rachel Arnold and David Carlin, son of Helene Getz and David Carlin

Suzy and Greg Harris
in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Noah Pokoik

Jill Baten
in memory of Henry Goodman, father of Debra Glassman

Beth and Danny Bernstein
in appreciation of the clergy and staff of WRT

Susan and Paul Friedman
in appreciation of Doug Birns

Linda Shapiro
in honor of Shemesh Shapiro’s birthday

Fran Scheffler Siegel and Steve Siegel
in honor of their 16th Anniversary

Anne and Mark Ellman
in memory of Marian Plattus, mother of Seth Plattus

Courtney and David Peretz
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Sydney

Karen and Michael Tannenholtz
in honor of the baby naming of Isabelle Gerber

Ruth Raisfeld and Len Benowich
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake’s History of Zionism Class

Amy and Craig Lemle
in honor of the naming of their granddaughter Chloe Levy
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Ilyse and Lyndon Tretter
in memory of Marion Hermann, mother of Jackie Hermann-Elsner

Karen and Bill Frommer
in memory of Ray Dardik Josell, mother of Lisa Alperin

Tracy and Michael Nathanson
in appreciation of WRT clergy

Gayle Lob and Jeff Simon
in appreciation of WRT clergy

Abby and Andrew Crisses
Amanda and Michael Schlappig
in honor of their granddaughter/niece Blake Crisses’ Bat Mitzvah
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Marcy Modica
Elaine and Irwin Zamore
in memory of Steven Tainsky, father of Jocelyn Sontag

Freddie Finkelstein and Family
in memory of her husband Martin Finkelstein and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Lauren and Craig Bender
in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Reed and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Poppy and Ronald Wurtzburger
in honor of Rabbi Blake

Sari and Jay Canell
in memory of his father Roger Canell

Stefanie and Marc Koch
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Carlie and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Ruth Friendly
in honor of the birth of her great-granddaughter Olivia Mayland Mark

Jill Baten
in honor of Rabbi Blake’s 20 years at WRT

Judy Chamlin and Family
in memory of her mother Rowena Goodfarb and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Arlene and Rich Josephsberg
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Gershuny, granddaughter of Sherry Wiener

Iris and Howard Burkat
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake’s History of Zionism Class

Linda and Seth Plattus
in memory of his mother Marian Plattus and in appreciation of Amy Rossberg
Contributions received from October 24, 2023 - January 11, 2024

Sherill Wadler Kaplan, Lois Schilling and Fred Wadler
in memory of their mother Phyllis Wadler Rand

Stephanie Merkado Weiss and Ron Weiss
in appreciation of WRT’s reciprocal tickets

Margaret and Laurence Smith
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Jonathan Gaines
in memory of his mother Marion Gaines

Amy and Craig Lemle
in honor of the naming of their granddaughter Chloe Levy
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Jenny and Bruce Brovender
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake for hanging mezuzahs

Nancy Segal and Richard Liebman
in honor of the marriage of their daughter Tracey to Andrew Shapiro
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Lauren Fields and James Fields
in honor of Chloe and Emily Fields’ B’not Mitzvah
and appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

Gail and Larry Dobosh
in memory of Marion Hermann, mother of Jackie Hermann-Elsner

Cantors’ Discretionary Fund
Myrna and Bob Getz
in memory of their son Steven Getz
and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

Esther Fendrick
Valerie, Jeffrey, Gabriel and Alexander Mutterperl
in memory of Alan Broadwin
and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

Abby and Andrew Crisses
Amanda and Michael Schlappig
in honor of their granddaughter/niece Blake Crisses’ Bat Mitzvah
and in appreciation of Cantor Rodnizki

Gail Hoffman
in memory of Inez Panfiel

Lauren and Craig Bender
in honor of Reed’s Bar Mitzvah
and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

Clarvit, Gelman and Healy families
in memory of their mother Joan Herfort Halpern
and in appreciation of Cantor Sonett-Assor
for her unveiling ceremony

Carol Kushnick, Andrew and Michael Mineroff
in memory of their parents Nancy and Saul Mineroff
and in appreciation of Cantor Sonett-Assor
for their unveiling ceremony

Stefanie and Marc Koch
in honor of Carlie’s Bat Mitzvah
and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

Linda and Seth Plattus
in memory of his mother Marian Plattus
and in appreciation of Cantor Kleinman

Lauren Fields and James Fields
in honor of Chloe and Emily Fields’ B’not Mitzvah
and appreciation of Cantor Sonett-Assor

Hermann-Elsner and Hermann-Weintrob Families
in memory of Marion Hermann
and in appreciation of Cantor Rodnizki, Amy Rossberg and Michael Rosenthal

Stephen H. Merkel Fund
Harriet and Douglas Rachlin

Jewish Music and Spirituality Fund
Lori and Brett Bernstein
in honor of Cheryl and Paul Water’s 50th anniversary

Joanne and Barry Citrin

Security Fund
Erika and Justin Lane

Prayer Book Fund
Gail Hoffman
in memory of Phillip Panfiel

TALMUD TORAH - LEARNING
Early Childhood Center Fund
Toby and Judah Schulman

TIKKUM OLAM – REPAIRING THE WORLD
Food and Housing Insecurity Fund
Marcia Goldfinger
for the speedy recovery of her brother Barry Polsky

Judy and Bruce Raphael
Nancy and Richard Steinberg
WRT Delivers Thanksgiving

Lisa and Mike Feiner
in appreciation of Rabbi Blake

Frieda and Howard Weitz
in appreciation of WRT clergy and staff

Helene Getz, Michael, David, Carly and Jaclyn Carlin
in memory of her brother Steven Getz
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake and Cantor Kleinman

Carole Princer Levy
in appreciation of Jane Klein, Lori Bernstein, Meredith Kent, Linda Shapiro, Karen Frommer and all of the WRJ volunteers for helping make the Holiday Boutique and Success

Jane and Charles Roberts
in honor of the wedding of Tracey Liebman and Andrew Shapiro

Anne and Mark Ellman
Erika and Tony Radin
Sue and Lew Rapaport

Jewish Poor Fund
Madelaine Pilpel
in memory of Russell Bennett

Global Refugee Initiative
Helene Getz and Michael Carlin
in honor of the marriage of their son David to Rachel Arnold
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake and Amy Rossberg

CHAVURAH - COMMUNITY
Caring Community Fund
Elise and Noel Flagg
in memory of her brother Steven Getz
and in appreciation of Rabbi Blake and Cantor Kleinman
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. Gifts to this fund support our general operating budget.
• Security Fund This fund enables us to support the many security needs of WRT, including equipment, resources, ongoing training and support for the law enforcement professionals who make up our security team at WRT.
• 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 Sustains and enhances WRT’s music programs, and supports worthy causes at WRT and in the wider community.
• Jewish Music and Spirituality Fund Supports special initiatives in music and worship, including guest artists and concert programs.

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 Fund 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
• Och Family Educational Fund to support need-based financial assistance on JLL tuition for our students.
• 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 in Westchester County

CHAVURAH – COMMUNITY

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

To discuss your philanthropic goals for WRT, please contact Laura Rosen Apostolou at 914-723-7727 ext. 8128 or Laura.Apostolou@wrtemple.org.
Did you know you can find us on social media?

www.facebook.com/WestchesterReformTemple
www.instagram.com/westchesterreformtemple
www.youtube.com/@WRTempleNY